



**St Anne's
College**
University of Oxford

The Ship

2023 – 2024

St Anne's College Record 2023 – 2024 • Number 113 • Annual Publication of the St Anne's Society



St Anne's College Record 2023-2024

Number 113 Annual Publication of
the St Anne's Society
(formerly known as the Association of
Senior Members)

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Living in turbulent times

JUDITH VIDAL-HALL

Our world is moving rapidly from the 'chaos' of a year ago to the threatening climate we are watching develop around us

I'm writing this editorial as I watch the triumphant opening of the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. It feels like a new lease of life for a France that has been beset with political uncertainty for the past months after an EU election that saw the unexpected triumph of Le Pen's extreme right National Rally, and brings together in harmony and enjoyment competing nations, many of whom have brittle relations with neighbours and few friends.

Within days, we saw violent rioting in cities across England and Northern Ireland following the murder of three young girls in Southport, on Merseyside. While much of the disturbance was put down by the media to 'misinformation' spread by social media, more measured views put it down to 'existential anxiety', the result of many years of neglect and a sense of being ignored under 14 years of Tory government.

By the end of the month, following the Israeli assassination of the leader of Hamas while in Iran for the inauguration of its new President, we were being warned of the likelihood of World War Three. And all this alongside the escalating war between Israel and Palestine following the Hamas attacks of October 2023. I see that my editorial last year spoke of 'chaos' in the world. I apologise for what now seems like gross exaggeration compared to the situation less than a year on.

Apart from our column on the war in Ukraine – and even here, the recent incursion of Ukrainian troops into Russia marks a new phase in the war that could swing either way

within moments – you will find very little of all this reflected in the copy that follows. True, we have a deeply moving and disturbing piece from our former SAS president Stella Charman on the devastating impact of war and deprivation on children across the world, but apart from this, the issue strikes a more positive, though at times challenging, note.

Leading the issue is an important piece on a matter that has long been kept under wraps but has recently entered public debate: the right to determine the moment of our own death. An eminent doctor working in Oxford, Helen Salisbury, who has already written on this subject in the British Medical Journal, shares her views. And last year's expert on earthquakes writes this year on his favourite topic, volcanoes, highlighting spectacular eruptions in Iceland from deep below the ocean, the first in 800 years. (You can read more about David Pyle and his work on p60 in this issue.)

Much of the rest of our space is taken up with two increasingly important issues: the rapid expansion and potential challenges of Artificial Intelligence, on which our favourite contributor Alex, aka Russell Taylor, gives his views alongside our resident specialist, Professor Jakob Foerster. And then there is, of course, climate change, from two very different angles: our financial authority Robert Gardner looks at the seldom discussed financial advantages of investing in a green future, and the historian Professor Venus Bivar tells us how climatic events are alleged to have affected historic events such as the French Revolution. They reflect the fact that we are in the middle of the greatest technological shift in over a century – the new industrial revolution? – and confronted more strikingly every year by the implications of climate change.

Elsewhere, our amazing Principal, Helen King, reassures us about events in College and the Development Office brings us up to date on developments in Bevington Road. We have an unusual Careers column and all our usual information on the SAS branches, enlivened this year by news of the reading groups that many have started. Sadly, the Oxford branch of the SAS is closing its doors for reasons its long-term chair Jackie Ingram explains: the younger generation of Stanners keep in touch in very different ways, mainly

online through social media rather than annual meetings – or via magazines...

And you will find all else you need in these pages, put together with the help of our editorial committee and above all by my colleague in College, Jay Gilbert, without whom it would not have happened.

Judith Vidal-Hall (Bunting, 1957)



Gaudy for pre-1969 students, 2024

Winning the challenge

HELEN KING

Looking back at the end of the academic year, there is much that has been achieved at St Anne's College, not least the completion of degrees that were commenced in the most difficult days of the pandemic.

Speaking with graduands who had completed their 4-year integrated masters degrees (which is now most undergraduate science courses) or other 4-year courses, before they processed to the Sheldonian Theatre for their graduation ceremonies, they acknowledged just how challenging that time was for them. It is immensely gratifying to hear their and their families' appreciation for how college tutors and staff supported them, and to see their maturity, optimism for the future and justified pride in their achievements.

This year, alongside building academic knowledge and personal skills of students, the college has also been stripping back the Bevington Road houses to their shells: brick walls, (sometimes rotten) roof timbers, and earth floors. Despite all our prior investigations, it turned out that the quality of their original build was even worse than we had anticipated. However, after months of work, which included underpinning walls, replacing and treating hundreds of randomly embedded timbers, and replacing roofs and dormer windows, the corner has been turned. Now on each visit to the site we can see the positive progress that has been made, as the contractor team gradually puts the houses back together. More of our time now can be spent on ensuring the houses' interiors retain their homely and distinct character, as well as being of the quality we now expect for comfort, efficiency and maintenance. In 12 months time the work should be nearing completion and we will be looking for every opportunity to show it off to alumnae and others. We await that time with excitement!

Less visible has been the work undertaken in the 18 months since the Charity Commission asked all Oxford Colleges to look at their governance arrangements, following the resolution of the long dispute between the Governing Body and Dean of Christ Church.

Not everyone is aware that St Anne's is an educational charity with a governance structure not found outside Oxbridge. Historically, colleges began as endowed halls of residence established for monastic communities of scholars. Dons were not allowed to marry until 1877, at which point there was a great deal of new housing needed in Oxford (including that built in Bevington Road) to accommodate the new couples and families. The historic essence of a college being a self-governing body of scholars, with academic freedom and protection from political interference, is retained within Charity Law. St Anne's has a governance structure whereby the Fellows (ie the senior academics) are the charity's trustees, making decisions democratically as the 65 members of the College's Governing Body, chaired by the Principal.

Such a structure has stood the test of time and, I believe, ensures the College feels and acts as a community rather than just an employer. It ensures trustees feel fully invested in leaving St Anne's stronger than we found it, for the benefit of current and future generations. However, it means we also have to be very aware of and seek to mitigate the vulnerabilities of this model, including ensuring that: conflicts of interest are properly identified and addressed, all trustees understand and are fulfilling their legal responsibilities, and there are appropriate mechanisms to resolve disagreements.

So, following the pandemic and the interest from the Charity Commission, a group of Fellows formed a Governance Working Group, chaired by a Law Fellow. Their information gathering,

consultation exercises, analysis, and resulting Governing Body discussions, entered into with open minds and no predetermined outcomes, have been really constructive, resulting in a renewed understanding and commitment to what it means to be a trustee. We have also identified some policy and structural areas where we can make improvements. This has all been supported by information shared between colleges, which vary quite widely in the way they operate, and legal advice jointly commissioned by a consortium of colleges.

Overall, both longer serving and more recently elected St Anne's Fellows across all subjects have agreed that we should retain the historic position of all tutorial and non-tutorial Fellows as members of Governing Body and thus their role, to quote one of them, as "guardians of the College's academic mission". I've been moved to see how much this means to them and what weight they give this, despite trusteeship being yet another responsibility and time commitment in their already overstretched lives.

As their Chair and Principal of St Anne's, I feel immensely fortunate to have such eminent, committed, and constructive academic and professional colleagues working alongside me to ensure that we further St Anne's ambition to be a diverse and inclusive community advancing education and research, honouring our distinct history, and securing the College's future. Please be assured that we will continually seek out ways to further strengthen and improve how we function, while preserving the very best of what the College has always been.

I hope that you enjoy this edition of *The Ship*, the product of so much work by our esteemed editor, the editorial board and our contributors. We are in their debt.

With all good wishes and hoping to see you at St Anne's College in the year ahead,

Helen King, QPM
Principal, St Anne's College



Do we have the right to choose?

HELEN SALISBURY

Choosing when and how we end our life has recently become a leading topic of discussion. A leading Oxford medic analyses the arguments on both sides

We cannot choose to be immortal; we all must die. But should we be able to choose the manner and the timing of our death? If the answer is yes, a further question arises about whether or not doctors should be involved – to prescribe the lethal medicine, or to hand it over at the chosen moment?

What follows is a personal view, informed by patients I have cared for at the end of their lives. It is based on the four pillars of medical ethics:

- beneficence (doing good),
- non-maleficence (not causing harm),
- autonomy
- justice.

How you feel about physician-assisted dying will depend at least in part on whether you think ending suffering by enabling the patient to hasten their own death can count as doing good, or whether you feel it is inescapably a harmful act. Religious teaching often informs such ideas.

Patient choice is a mantra in modern Western medicine and we teach the value of autonomy to every aspiring nurse and doctor. We may have ideas about what is the right treatment for the patient, but they will have the ultimate say. At the end, most of us will not get to choose as death will catch us unawares. If we did have a say, some might opt for a sudden fatal heart attack while playing a vigorous game of tennis in our 90s – a shock to their fellow players perhaps, but they would get over it, and there would be no pain or lingering farewells. Others might choose to slip away gently in their sleep at a great age, having put their affairs in order and said their goodbyes.

But many deaths are messier than that and too often patients have very little autonomy. They can refuse treatments that would keep them alive longer, perhaps say no to life-prolonging antibiotics as they near the end, but they have no way of hastening their death other than by refusing food and water. I have known patients take this route, and it was neither quick nor easy.

Patients with terminal illnesses know death is coming, but they have no control over exactly when. They may face intolerable symptoms along the way. Although most people do not want to die

any sooner than they have to – and some will cling onto life with all their remaining strength – others long for an off switch, for the ability to be able to say when they have had enough, and to have a way to escape their suffering. They want to be in control, to arrange the farewell party but not linger too long after the goodbyes. They want to leave their loved ones with memories of a person who was actively making choices, rather than tossed on a sea of pain, waiting for death's release.

There are many arguments against medical involvement in assisted dying. One such is that it will divert our energies away from providing gold standard palliative care. While I agree that it is a scandal so few patients have access to this, and that our hospices are mostly funded by charity rather than through the NHS, my experience tells me that even the best care in the world cannot take away the unbearable symptoms some patients will experience. The painkillers we have are good, but not infallible. Nausea is not always conquered by drugs, and neither is breathlessness or the terrible sensation of choking.

Neither can palliative care remove the psychological pain of watching your body fail as you can no longer eat, control

your bowels, talk or move; or lessen the indignity of becoming dependent on others for your every function. It cannot take away fear; symptoms may be just about bearable now, but what if they get worse? In Oregon, where physician-assisted dying is legal, only a third of people who have been prescribed life-ending medicine actually take it, but they all know that they have a way to end their suffering should they need to.

A second argument against medical involvement in assisted dying is that



Together for the last moment

people towards the end of their lives may feel that they are a burden and an expense, and so they ought to choose death. Worse still, they may have psychological pressure brought to bear on their decision by family or carers. The framing of any legislation would have to include strict safeguards around independent, witnessed interviews with the patient before any assistance is given, along with built in delays to allow for changes of heart. However, no system can be completely watertight, in the same way that carefully framed rules around granting power of attorney, or the making of wills, can still be open to abuse.

Patients who know they are dying sometimes opt to go to Switzerland, where they can legally get help to end their lives. Unfortunately, many have to go alone because, as the law stands, any accompanying relative risks prosecution and up to 14 years imprisonment. This travel abroad comes with a heavy cost and only the wealthy can afford the travel and services of a specialist private clinic, adding once more to the inequalities in our society, and failing our fourth pillar of medical ethics: justice. Worse, people will often opt to end their lives sooner than they would have chosen, because they need to be fit enough to manage the journey.

There are many reasons why we should be very careful about any change in the

law on assisted dying. In most countries where it is already legal, assisted dying is restricted to mentally competent adults in the last six months of their lives. I am very uncomfortable about The Netherlands having extended it to people suffering from severe mental illness, and I understand the fears of people with disabilities or life-limiting illnesses that once the concept is accepted, the scope of any legislation could be widened.

We must balance future possible harms – which no-one would deny the existence of – against current known suffering. The concept of physician-assisted dying is still unthinkable for some; people who cannot imagine either wanting to choose when to die themselves, or being prepared to take any part in helping others with this. Nevertheless, there is growing momentum for a change in the law, with an opinion poll in March 2024 finding that 75% of respondents in England and Wales were in favour of legalising assisted dying. Leaders of both main political parties have pledged to debate this issue in the next parliament.

It seems likely that a change will come. I have some fears about it, but am also comforted that when my time comes, I may – should I need it – be allowed some say in the timing and manner of my death.

Helen Salisbury (1983, PPP) is a GP, a medical teacher and writer

Living with the new normal...

PETER CRIBLEY

... or maybe not so new. Putin invaded Crimea in 2014 but the world took little notice; our courageous Ukraine correspondent looks in detail at the day to day realities of life in the war-torn country

Kyiv Pasazhyrskiy train station is a cathedral built in homage to the locomotive. As we pull into the platform, I check my phone. The images I find there are horrifying. By the time I'm outside the station though, my phone is no longer necessary.

Black smoke smudges the sky. The Russians have bombed Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital. I spent the last month helping fundraise¹ for cancer patients being treated there. It takes me a moment to adjust to the idea that it's gone.

This will be one of three hospitals the Russians bomb in a single day.

I wonder if there's anything I can do. Should I go help move rubble while rescuers search for bodies?

There is another explosion somewhere above me.

People run for cover, and I follow them into a car park. While sitting in that makeshift shelter, I try not to entertain idle thoughts about worst-case scenarios: would the building be enough to stop a second-wave missile attack, for instance.

If we were lucky, I suppose we wouldn't even know.

Then the siren is over. Grumbling, we wander out into the light. I'm already late for work. With any luck, my apartment will have electricity to charge my laptop but the power cuts are becoming longer and more frequent.

At night, whole city blocks stand black against the sky. More than a lack of light, there is an absence of sound. The minute after the mandatory curfew is like a switch being flipped, with the noise of Kyiv's notorious traffic and thrumming generators dropping out like a radio being turned off.

It is in these small hours that Russia chooses to fire off a volley of drones or missiles, or to fly planes laden with three-tonne glide bombs up to the

Ukrainian border, and the silence is broken by sirens once more.

Telegram channels provide minute-by-minute updates about missile and drone positions, planes in the air, where strikes are happening. If you read these updates in full, you can find comments from children between the ages of 13-16. For them, the war has become a teenage mundanity.

'I don't want to go to school.'

'Me neither.'

'I want to sleep!'

'We will have to wait for one more explosion first.'

This normal is by no means 'new', things have always been this way for Ukrainian children and even young adults. The war began over a decade ago² and it has been creeping into their lives at an increasing pace ever since.

At least once a day I think about the effect of growing up in an ever-present

¹ <https://tabletochki.org/en/kids/>

² Jonathan Cosgrove. *The Russian Invasion of the Crimean Peninsula, 2014–2015: A Post-Cold War Nuclear Crisis Case Study*. The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 2020 <https://www.jhuapl.edu/sites/default/files/2022-12/RussianInvasionCrimeanPeninsula.pdf>

war in a context that fills me with both hope and horror: that given enough time, we can find anything normal.

The first power cuts are a surprise, for example. Something you previously took for granted just drops out of everyday life. After a few days, you find the tempo of the power schedule. You remember to charge your devices, buy a torch, take the sudden loss of light as a sign to get some sleep. You buy an industrial power bank or you check Kyiv's city app for places where *ye svitlo*: 'there is light'.

Another example. A siren goes off and you check the latest reports. It eventually becomes a bit like lethal weather. Is the whole country affected or are things localised? Do you know what's coming? How likely is it to hit you? Is it worth going to the shelter? In places like Kharkiv, still Ukraine's second-largest city, the air raid alerts can be over 50 hours long³. Sheltering isn't always practical. You get used to using your own judgment, taking calculated risks with your life.

Another example. Screens on InterCity trains now show a mix of cartoons like Paw Patrol, recruitment adverts for different army brigades, fun facts about Ukrainian cities and memorials to dead soldiers and railway workers. You might find a comic book on your seat, courtesy of UNICEF and the Government of Ukraine. The story involves a team of superheroes that educate children about the various different Russian mines and unexploded bombs they could encounter.⁴

Another example. There's always a fundraiser, there's always someone you know raising money.⁵ You weave fundraising into events, into birthday parties, into firmwide meetings. When you're at a restaurant, the same payment app that asks if you want to leave a tip will also ask if you want to make a donation to a specific cause. Drones. Rescue vehicles. Body armour. Medicine. Tourniquets. Evacuations. Cars. Cars. More cars. There's always something.

Ukrainians have been forced to adapt to the hardships imposed on them by their neighbours and have done so admirably.

Given enough time, we can find anything normal.

But what of Russia? What of the many Russian citizens who support what their country is doing to Ukraine? How are they adapting?⁶

It's no secret. Russians use the same social media apps as Ukrainians, and you will find them in their apolitical thousands cheering on hospital strikes. The same people who once told their Ukrainian family and friends that the war was a fiction invented by propagandists now see no contradiction in posting gleeful celebrations about reports of dead children.

Another example. In Russia, the Special Military Operation is categorically not a war. If somebody says otherwise, they are liable to be imprisoned for spreading 'false information'. But this minor military action is somehow also an existential fight for the heart of Russia and the appetite is endless. If the aggressor state can't keep what they've taken, or take more of Ukraine, or take

3 <https://air-alarms.in.ua/en/region/kharkiv>

4 UNICEF, "Ukraine 2016 Superheroes against mines: Edutainment approach to engaging children in mine safety" Communication for Development in Humanitarian Action, August 2020

<https://www.eore.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/UNICEF-C4D-in-Humanitarian-Action.pdf>

5 Christopher Stewart, "Networking for a Cause: The Big Meet at InterContinental Kyiv Fundraising for Tabletochki", *Kyiv Post*, 19 June 2024

<https://www.kyivpost.com/post/34498>

6 Denis Volkov & Andrei Kolesnikov. *Alternate Reality: How Russian Society Learned to Stop Worrying About the War*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, November 2023.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2023/11/alternate-reality-how-russian-society-learned-to-stop-worrying-about-the-war?lang=en>

Ukraine

all of Ukraine, or invade the Baltics and Moldova, then Russia believes it will cease to exist.⁷

Another example. A man wakes up in the morning and kisses his wife. His children join him for breakfast before school. They eat porridge, he has a sandwich. They talk about the day ahead. His family are proud. If he has time, he'll walk the dog and maybe sneak a cigarette. If not, he'll rush to work. Traffic can be annoying, but his job gives him access to an apartment close to the office. He parks up, says good morning to the receptionist and makes his second cup of coffee. He is happy in his work.

Then this man spends his working day programming missiles or flying planes to destroy Ukrainian train stations, schools, power plants and children's hospitals.

Given enough time, we can find anything normal.

That last example is not hypothetical. The identities of the Russian pilots and programmers aiming missiles at sick and disabled Ukrainian children are not hidden, no more than were the names

of the Russian soldiers who committed war crimes in places like Bucha, Kherso and Mariupol. These people are awarded medals for their dedication and service, they are considered heroes and their actions are celebrated.⁸

And why would they want to hide their identities? The people who go into work and make decisions about how to murder Ukrainian children more efficiently assume that there will be no consequences for their actions.

Given the way the world has reacted to Russian aggression in the past, there are many reasons for them to feel secure. Protected by western inaction to properly supply what Ukraine needs on time and at the right scale. Protected by a lack of global will to vigorously crack down on sanctions evasion. Protected by western politicians worried about making difficult choices about weaning their countries off Russian oil and gas. Most of all, the people who kill Ukraine's children are protected by a ban on striking military installations deeper in Russia born of a too-late fear of escalation. Ukraine is still not permitted to use western weapons to hit the airfields housing



Peter Cribley in Kharkiv. Offices to rear, former headquarters of a charity for people from Donetsk and Luhansk displaced by the 2014 invasion

planes that bombed and destroyed Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital.

Russia is all too aware that the West has 'reset' relations before, made concessions of other countries' territory before, accepted Russian war crimes before. Why should this time be any different? Chechnya. Georgia. Syria. And now Ukraine.

7 Eleanor Knott. "Existential nationalism: Russia's war against Ukraine", *Nations and Nationalism*, Vol. 29, Issue 1. 26 September 2022. 45–52 <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/nana.12878>

8 "Russian Officer Accused of Bucha Murder Selected for Putin's 'Time of Heroes'", *Kyiv Post*, 31 May 2024 <https://www.kyivpost.com/post/33544>

Given enough time, we can find anything normal.

Ukraine has therefore been careful to fight an excruciating and impractical battle that avoids proportional retaliation against military targets. Reluctant NATO countries, including the UK, tell Ukraine what military targets they are and are not allowed to strike.⁹

I recently read a curator's quote at a contemporary art exhibition in Kyiv: 'Ukrainian landscapes [have] become the subject of American politics, as a territory whose fate, among other things, depends on political manipulations and negotiations.'¹⁰

It is worth remembering, in this year of so many elections, that the fate of those who reside on these territories is very real. Lack of support in the past has already pushed Ukraine to give up territory and compromise its sovereignty, leaving thousands

of Ukrainians trapped, tortured or dead.¹¹ To travel this country is to see what is at stake if the West fails them again. Ukraine has the will to liberate its people. No matter how much or how little support they receive, the Ukrainians will never stop fighting.

But that heroic Ukrainian tenacity that was once celebrated now gets in the way of an important goal many countries and companies stubbornly refuse to give up: to keep doing lucrative business with Russia.¹²

There are politicians and businesses in Russia, in America, in Europe that are all too happy to exploit western apathy, hoping that the war will simply fade into the background and that people will become accustomed to what is happening. That Ukraine will become just another one of those sad places we see on the news, a moment's pause before we tut and shake our heads and change the channel.

That given enough time, we can find anything normal.

But if it were your family, would you ever surrender?xxxx

Peter Cribley (2010, MSt Film Aesthetics) is an Editor and Training Consultant who lives and works in Kyiv, Ukraine. He would like to direct your attention to the following charities and groups that need your support:

- Tabletochki, a charity supporting Ukrainian children affected by cancer.¹³
- Okhmatdyt Fund, the charitable foundation of Ukraine's national children's hospital.¹⁴
- Katya's Medicine Donation Fund, a humanitarian aid project delivering critical medications to Ukraine's most vulnerable frontline communities.¹⁵

9 Tony Diver, Danielle Sheridan, Daniel Martin, Joe Barnes. "UK hasn't allowed Ukraine to use Storm Shadow missiles inside Russia, MoD clarifies", *The Telegraph*. 11 July 2024

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2024/07/11/starmer-ukraine-british-storm-shadow-missiles-russia>

10 Description of the works of Jenny Holzer and Anton Saenko, exhibited as part of "I feel you: An international group exhibition", Pinchuk Art Centre, Kyiv, Ukraine 8 March–14 July 2024 <https://new.pinchukartcentre.org/en/exhibitions/i-feel-you-international-group-exhibition>

11 Veronika Melkozerova, "Russia tortured and disappeared Ukrainians in Crimea, says human rights court", *Politico*, 25 June 2024.

<https://www.politico.eu/article/ukraine-russia-crimea-european-court-human-rights-torture-disappeared/>

12 Courtney Weaver in Berlin and Madeleine Speed, "Western businesses backtrack on their Russia exist plans" *Financial Times*. 28 May 2024

<https://www.ft.com/content/88b047e9-8cad-426a-b649-265ff6582db0>

13 <https://tabletochki.org/en/>

14 <https://www.ohmatdytfund.org/en/>

15 <https://www.gofundme.com/f/katya-s-medicine-donation-fund>

Eruptions that shook the world

DAVID PYLE

Last year we featured earthquakes, this year our expert in the subject looks at the surprise eruptions after many centuries of Iceland's deeply submerged sleeping volcanoes

Iceland in autumn is a magical place; and one that has long been on my wish-list. In October 2023, the stars aligned and a gap in my teaching and committee responsibilities coincided with school half-term, and the opportunity to visit the land of ice and fire became irresistible.

Just a couple of hours drive out of Reykjavik, and with only the metallic hum of the studded tyres to accompany us, we were alone as the rectilinear trace of the road carved through an alien landscape. Writhing masses of tentacular-tubes, gathering into rounded mounds, cloaked in a khaki-green moss whose subtle shades gradually emerged as our eyes adjusted to the colour palette. In the distance, the ends of the world. A liminal space where the flat horizontal of the green and grey land and the base of the grey-white cloud deck converged, separated by the luminous sliver of a distant place of ice and snow, lit by a sun we couldn't see.

Two hundred and forty years ago, in the autumn of 1783, this was a molten world. With roiling lavas spilling across the land from the craters of Lakigigar, and tumbling across the Skaftá river in southern Iceland. The 1783-4 eruption of Laki formed the largest flows of lava seen on earth for several centuries; perhaps even since the great fires of Eldjá, Iceland, in 939. Since that time, our usual view of Iceland has been of a place of ice and fire, where occasional eruptions of red-hot lava, or explosive plumes of grey ash, breakout: Grimsvötn 1996, Hekla 2000, Eyjafjallajökull 2010 and Holuhraun 2014.

Unfelt by us at the time, but lighting up the dashboard of the Icelandic meteorological website, a new cluster of earthquakes was just beginning in the Reykjanes peninsula, the south-western corner of Iceland. Point by point, the locations of each shock began to trace out the shape of a narrow subterranean feature, an upright disc located five to seven kilometres beneath the surface, pointing towards the fishing town of Grindavik.

The landscape around Grindavik slopes gently towards the sea, but is criss-crossed by the traces of ancient faults and eruptions: linear trains of cinder cones, bathed in Icelandic moss, and subtle steps in the land surface, now hidden beneath the urban landscape of buildings, roads and pavements.

At first, the geologists' intuition was that this emerging swarm of earthquakes was just a minor episode of 'relaxation', as



Moss-covered lava flows of the 1783 eruptions of Laki, with the Vatnajökull ice cap in the background. [Credit: David Pyle]

hidden faults at depth adjusted to the perpetual stresses and strains of the actively-moving plate boundary. Here, the European and North American tectonic plates pull apart at barely the speed at which a fingernail grows. For complex reasons, the Reykjanes peninsula stretches east-west, in almost the same orientation as the direction of plate movement. From above, the slow tearing of the crust can look a little like tiger stripes on a grand scale.

Two weeks later, in early November 2023, there was a rapid change, as a burst of thousands of earthquakes shook the same region in the space of just a few hours. This time, some shocks were large enough to rattle windows and topple ornaments in Reykjavik. Now, the shape of the disk marked out by the earthquakes stretched 15 kilometres north to south, and reached within a kilometre of the surface. In Grindavik, the long-quiet fractures reawakened, in response to movements at depth, causing the land surface to rise and fall by metres. Yawning chasms opened up in the street, exposing the pipework of the underground geothermal heating network, like entrails. Less visible to the naked eye, but standing out like a bulls-eye in satellite images, a large swathe of the land west of Grindavik began to bulge. Magma was on the move, rising from the depths to inflate a pool of hot, molten rock within just a few kilometres of the surface.

The synoptic view offered by orbiting satellites and their radar instruments was critical to diagnose what was happening. A pulse of magma had moved out of the inflating pool, and funnelled into the disk-shaped crack beneath Grindavik. Millions of cubic metres of new magma now sat, cooling, crystallising and waiting for the inevitable eruption.

But this didn't happen immediately. Like taking an undercooked sponge cake out of the oven too soon, it was bound to collapse, it just wasn't clear when. The dike intrusion – as we were now able to call it – was such a teachable

moment that I worked it up into an interview question for the Earth Science candidates in early December; but still it didn't erupt. Through December, daily updates from the volcanologists at the Icelandic meteorological office confirmed that the pool of magma was continuing to swell with molten rock, at a rate fast enough to fill Wembley stadium in just a few days. But like waiting for an inflating balloon, we know that it was going to pop, we just didn't know when.

In the early morning of 18 December, a brisk rattle of earthquakes heralded the start of the expected event: a dramatic curtain of fire lit up the early morning skies as a fissure opened and rapidly extended along an ancient row of volcanic craters at Sundhnúkur, in full view of the live web-cams of the Icelandic broadcasting service, RÚV. For a mesmerising few hours we could watch the play of the lava fountains and the spread of the luminous carpet of magma across the countryside. Within two days, the fire fountaining died down and the eruption stopped. This eruption was the fourth eruption on the Reykjanes peninsula since 2021; but the first at the Sundhnúkur field. It was the first eruption in this spot for about 800 years, and the end of a sequence of eruptions known as the 'Reykjanes fires'.

Over the next three months an extraordinary eruption sequence – not seen in centuries – unfolded around Grindavik. The land surface to the west continued to swell as magma flowed in, silently, from deep within the Earth. As a threshold was reached, a burst of earthquakes heralded the re-opening of a magma-filled fracture up to the surface and, minutes later, a fiery outburst would begin. This repeated on 14 January and 8 February 2024.

By the time the fourth eruption began, as if by schedule, on 16 March it was looking like a pattern had become set. But this time, after the eruption had roared for a day, the activity didn't completely stop. Instead, a pair of volcanic cones filled with

Volcanoes spring to life

roiling magma and fed a trickle of lava that slowly made its way towards the coast. These lava-filled pustules held on for another eight weeks, like an abscess refusing to heal.

For an island that is very well used to eruptions and earthquakes, and where the monitoring is state of the art, the newest sequence of eruptions still poses a considerable challenge. The repetitive nature of these events means that the threat to the town of Grindavik has increased with time.

Lava flows have cut two access roads and threaten the third; so the idea of making a 'just in time' escape every time a new earthquake swarm hits is increasingly unpalatable. Meanwhile, the disruption to the infrastructure means that Grindavik is no longer a safe place to contemplate living. And for the first time since the 1780s, Icelanders have no alternative other than to abandon a settlement to lava.

David Pyle (Fellow, 2006, and Professor of Earth Sciences)



The outbreak of the 18 December 2023 eruption, showing the fire-fountain fissures and spreading lava flows. [Credit: Icelandic Meteorological Office, Vedur.is]

From Revolution to Global Inequality

VENUS BIVAR

What can the past tell us about climate? Or is it more likely that climate behaviour can explain significant moments in historical development?

Climate does not determine the outcome of history but it may be one of many factors playing a role

Climate history has become one of the most active areas of environmental history. The obvious reason for this is the climate crisis. And while much of the current research addresses global warming, there are a wide variety of questions that we might ask about the history of climate variability.

For example, the environmental historian Richard Grove has asked whether the climate swings of the Little Ice Age, combined with a particularly strong El Niño, led to the French Revolution.¹ Grove writes that because of an unusually cold winter in 1788, followed by an unusually late and wet spring, there was a general grain shortage throughout the country. Prices rose by a full 50 percent. Poor peasants, who accounted for the vast majority of French farmers, were hit hard by the price increase. Because most peasants grew only for subsistence, those whose harvests failed were forced to purchase food. Over the summer of 1788, there were small-scale revolts in various areas of the countryside.

Making matters even worse, the winter of 1789 was the harshest on record since the beginning of the century. It was so cold that watermills froze in their rivers, making it impossible to grind wheat into flour. By the spring of 1789, just before the revolution broke out, hungry French men and women attacked grain transports, bakeries and granaries. In urban areas, where the working

poor were having trouble feeding themselves, riots erupted. By the middle of the summer, the revolution was in full swing – and the call for lower bread prices was near the top of the agenda.

Grove comes to a somewhat ambiguous conclusion:

'How far the resulting course of revolution had its roots in the anomalous climatic situation of the period ... is open to debate. ... Nevertheless, it is true that the whole social edifice of *Ancien Regime* France did begin to collapse in the context of anomalous climatic conditions which both preceded and accompanied the revolution, in what was undeniably one of the most prolonged and severe El Niño episodes of the millennium.

Rather than arguing that the weather was absolutely a historical driver, he instead posits that it wasn't *not* a driver.

So what do we make of this argument? None of the standard explanations for the French Revolution include an analysis of the climatological archive. They are all limited in their analysis to written records. And this brings us to the challenge of methodology. The study of history, by definition, is the study of written documents. This is why we draw a distinction between pre-history and history. Humans existed for tens of thousands of years before the historical record began, but historians have no access to them. The climatological record for the Little Ice Age, however, is not the stuff of pre-history. So what do we do with non-written records that account for human behaviour in the period that we all recognise and accept as 'human history'? Rather than thinking about these different sorts of evidence in terms of chronology, moving from

¹ Richard Grove 'The Great El Niño of 1789-93 and Its Global Consequences' *The Medieval History Journal* 10 (2007): 75-98.

History and the weather

the pre-historic to the historic, maybe it would be better to think about them in parallel. The challenge for both historians and climatologists is to figure out how to make them intersect.

While Grove provides us with an example of how history might benefit from climate science, the work of Victoria Slonosky demonstrates how a climate scientist is able to make use of the historical record. Jean-François Gaultier, a French medical doctor and botanist, was sent to Quebec in 1742 to serve as the king's physician in New France. He held this post until his death in 1756. In the intervening 14 years, he created one of the earliest meteorological data sets for North America. Slonosky took Gaultier's measurements and compared them to data collected in the same area in the twentieth century. By placing the two side by side, she was able to demonstrate a distinct warming trend, and therefore assisted in proving that global warming was real.

Summarising the importance of this research, Slonosky wrote, 'These records, like all reliable historical instrumental records, are of vital importance to the understanding of climate variability and change on decadal to century timescales, as well as to placing in context the climatic changes of the past few decades'.² Just as Richard Grove the historian turned to climatology to re-evaluate the French Revolution, Victoria Slonosky the climatologist turned to the written record to improve our understanding of global warming. This kind of interdisciplinary inquiry holds a lot of potential for both historians and climate scientists.

One of the dangers, however, of turning to climate for historical causality is the return of environmental, or geographical, determinism. This causal model dates back to Aristotle and is, perhaps, most notorious for falsely concluding that people in warm climates are lazy, while people in cooler

climates are industrious, and this is why Europeans are rich and Africans are poor. This kind of thinking was widely prevalent until the early-twentieth century and is something that we need to be vigilant about not resurrecting.

Unfortunately, clear-cut explanations for complicated historical phenomena have proven to be wildly popular. For example, Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, has sold millions of copies in spite of the fact that it relies on environmental determinism. For those who have not read the book, in a nutshell he wanted to understand why some parts of the world are rich and others are not. To do that he went back to the first agricultural developments and argued that the source of global inequality is environmental and geographical. Some people simply had a better mix of crops, animals and landscapes. Now even if Diamond is right in his claims about ancient geography (and many experts have said he is not), there is a bigger problem.³ Diamond focuses only on capabilities, on what different groups of humans could do with the available resources. He says nothing about motivations. The end result is a teleological story in which the last 10,000 years of human history unfolds on an inevitable course and is in no way significantly informed by politics. For Diamond, humans are locked in a social darwinian dance, competing with each other for resources and then maximally exploiting the advantages they yield. But not all humans everywhere and at every time have behaved in such a Hobbesian manner.

The end result is an account of global inequality that lets Europe off the hook. Under Diamond's model, Europeans got lucky and then 'naturally' did everything they could to make the most of that luck. The genocide of aboriginal people all over the world? The result of a natural resource advantage. The African slave trade? A logical choice under the social

2 Victoria Slonosky, 'The Meteorological Observations of Jean-François Gaultier, Quebec, Canada: 1742-56', *Journal of Climate* 16, no. 13 (July 2003): 2243.

3 For a critique of his work from the perspective of scientists, see Angela Chira, Russell Gray and Carlos Botero, 'Geography is Not Destiny: A Quantitative Test of Diamond's Axis of Orientation Hypothesis', *Evolutionary Human Sciences* 6 (2024), doi:10.1017/ehs.2023.34.

darwinian model. By taking politics completely out of the equation, Diamond has also removed all of the accountability.

And in this respect, Diamond is drawing on the same kind of geographical determinist thinking that was so popular in the nineteenth century. Just as imperialists in that century looked to race science to absolve them of their responsibility for slavery, the wealthy nations of today are similarly absolved from their responsibility for global inequality.

Geography is not destiny and climate does not determine the outcome of political struggle. Instead, we need to think about environment as one of many possible causal factors, that in any given situation may be playing a stronger or weaker role. It is a stressor, like war or disease. How different people at different times have navigated that stress is extremely variable.

Circling back to the French Revolution, the problem with attributing it to bad weather is that France had experienced catastrophic harvests before that did not lead to the execution of the king. What Grove might have argued therefore, is that while the weather might not have been the cause of the Revolution, it very well could have helped to shape its trajectory. Those who started the Revolution were wealthy members of the rising non-noble bourgeois classes; they were not affected by the harvest failures. They did not demand lower food prices but political power and representation. But as the Revolution quickly progressed through the spring of 1789, those who were affected by food prices began demonstrations and political actions of their own. By the summer, it was no longer just a political revolution but a widespread social uprising. We might therefore think of climate variability in this case as a precipitant, fueling the fire of political resistance that had already been lit.

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D E C E M B R E.

Jours.	DEGRES du THERMOMETRE.		TEMPS.	PLUIES, NEIGES ET GRESLES.	VENTS.
	Matin.	Soir.			
1	4 f.	Dis.	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.
2	2 f.	3 f.	Temps couvert..	Pluie abondante..	Sud-ouest.
3	8 f.	8 f.	Temps couvert..	Brume épaisse....	Sud.
4	10 f.	6 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Ouest-nord-ouest.
5	2 f.	2 f.	Temps couvert..	Neige.....	Sud-ouest.
6	0.	0.	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.
7	4 f.	1 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Nord-ouest.
8	12 f.	10 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Nord-est.
9	10 f.	1 f.	.....	Neige abondante.	Nord-ouest.
10	10 f.	8 f.	.....	Pou. grande neige.	Nord-ouest.
11	8 f.	6 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.
12	24 f.	12 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Nord-ouest.
13	8 f.	.....	Beau temps....	.....	Nord-ouest.
14	10 f.	1 f.	.....	Neige.....	Sud-ouest.
15	1 f.	4 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Sud.
16	23 f.	.....	.....	Neige.....	Sud-ouest.
17	26 f.	21 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.
18	20 f.	11 f.	Temps couvert..	.....	Sud-ouest.
19	5 f.	.....	.....	Neige abondante.	Nord-ouest.
20	1 f.	.....	.....	Beau temps....	Nord-ouest.
21	3 f.	4 f.	Temps doux....	Brume épaisse....	Nord-ouest.
22	1 f.	3 f.	Temps doux....	.....	Sud-ouest.
23	3 f.	0.	Temps couvert..	Brume.....	
24	1 f.	1 f.	Temps couvert..	.....
25	4 f.	.....	Temps couvert..	.....
26	15 f.	10 f.	Beau temps....	.....	Nord-ouest.
27	20 f.	.....	Beau temps....	.....
28	20 f.	.....	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.
29	22 f.	.....	Beau temps....	.....
30	18 f.	.....	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.
31	31 f.	.....	Beau temps....	.....	Sud-ouest.

FIG. 1. Printed page of Gaultier's weather observations in the *Mémoires de l'Académie Royale des Sciences* (Duhamel du Monceau 1747).

Mémoires de l'Académie Royale des Sciences
(Duhamel du Monceau 1747)

This Isn't Philanthropy...

ROBERT GARDNER

...everything is at risk. Connecting finance and Nature to create a world worth living in is of critical importance – and time is running out

The crisis is largely attributed to our extractive capitalist system, but it might surprise you to learn that the main problem isn't capitalism. It's that we don't value Nature.

Two of my earliest memories informed the start of my money activist journey. Born in Holland, the first is of ice-skating on the canals at Christmas time, something you sadly can't do anymore because of climate change. The second is knowing that I was born below sea-level, which gave me a sense, even as a child, that the place where I was living was essentially under water and particularly vulnerable to climate change.

When I was six or seven years old, my parents moved the family to Argentina, and my connection to Nature deepened.

Here I was incredibly fortunate that I got to visit Perito Moreno – one of the most impressive glaciers in the world – with my parents, and the glaciers in Ushuaia, the southernmost tip of South America.

Witnessing the glaciers inspired my decision to study geography at Oxford University, specialising in glaciology and hydrology. Though the path might not seem immediately obvious, studying glaciers and rivers is how I ended up working in finance – inspiring the mission behind my life's work – to redirect the flow of money to create a world worth living in.

At St Anne's I first understood that glaciers are essentially 'the canary in the coalmine' when it comes to climate change. So, 25 years ago, I had a firm grasp on climate science, which in fact, hasn't changed in terms of findings and conclusions, it's just that today, we're more confident in the causes of climate change and the need for urgent action.



Findelen Glacier - August 1999



Findelen Glacier - August 2024 (25 years later)

When I graduated, I was offered the opportunity to study the impact of de-glaciation on the Hindu Kush mountains in Northern Pakistan, an amazing experience before embarking on my career in finance. I've no doubt that in a different world, I'd be a professor of glaciology and probably be in Antarctica studying the impact of climate change on our melting icecaps. My love of glaciers remains close to my heart. My work in finance means that, ironically, I have a chance to fight against climate change and Nature loss just as effectively as if I were a scientist in the Antarctic.

So, why is this important NOW? Well, aside from the twin climate and Nature loss crises we're currently facing, we're also fast approaching five years since the death of the Okjökull Glacier. In 2019 when 'The OK' Glacier in Iceland died, the Icelandic people laid down a tombstone to mark the moment and serve as a letter to the future. The tombstone read:

*We know what caused this. We know why it happened.
Only you will know whether we actually did anything about
it or not.*

At the bottom of the tombstone there is a number that reads, '415 parts per million (ppm) CO₂', and I believe that this is one of the important KPIs for our planet. We need to think of this as the BMI for our planet. 200-250 ppm is a healthy range and sadly in 1950 that figure increased to over 300 ppm which is neither healthy nor safe.

In fact, over 400 ppm is the CO₂ equivalent of planet Earth being clinically obese, and if we keep going the way we have been with our extractive capitalist model, we are on track to reach a morbid level of 1,000 ppm. If this happens, the temperature of the planet goes up by more than 4 degrees – we will cook the earth to death, ice caps will melt and sea levels will rise – hitting especially close to home for anyone living in, or born in Holland, like me.

The crisis is largely attributed to our extractive capitalist system, but it might surprise you to learn that the main problem isn't capitalism. It's that we don't value Nature. We need to redefine capitalism by creating a Nature-aligned economy, one where we make Nature an investable asset class, proving how investing in Nature can make money.

When we think of asset classes, we typically think of bonds, real estate and shares. Rarely do we think ice caps, glaciers and rivers. However, we need that to change. Not only is Nature, and the services it provides, the most valuable asset class on the planet, investing in and paying for Nature is the most efficient way to solve the twin Climate and Biodiversity crises, driving a thriving Nature-based economy and creating a world worth living in.

The services that Nature provides to our planet, such as flood protection, drought reduction, water purification, crop pollination and carbon sequestration, are worth an estimated US\$140 trillion annually globally, which is nearly one and a half times greater than global GDP.

For 3.5 billion years, Nature's infrastructure has thrived on this planet, demonstrating unparalleled expertise in climate adaptation and resilience that we cannot compete with. For the past few hundred thousand years humans have enjoyed Nature's infrastructure services for free, and now it's time to start paying for the services it provides and reinvesting in that infrastructure. To date, not only have we neglected to maintain and upgrade our Nature-based infrastructure; we have depleted 70 percent of all our wildlife globally. In short: everything is at risk.

Our extractive capitalist system has seen us treat Nature deplorably, asset stripping it under the focus of short-term gains. We have exceeded the capacity limits of our 'free trial'

Financing a green future

period, and it's crucial that we reverse this vicious cycle, because if we continue with the current approach, we will risk losing Nature and its life-sustaining, economic growth infrastructure services completely.

Our big idea is to put a value on Nature. We know that Nature provides invaluable Nature ecosystem services – the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat – but despite understanding its value, we're not valuing it. If we did, we wouldn't be destroying it. So, how do we transition to a Nature-based economy, one where Nature is valued?

Though we are at crisis point, the good news is that we can still reverse the damage, and we believe we can work with the current capitalist system to do so. Investing in Nature is not philanthropy, it's reprogramming Capitalism so that we're still creating economic growth, but we are doing it in a way that doesn't degrade Nature and, in fact, it will restore it.

So, how do we all start thinking about Nature as an Asset? An asset has one or more of the following three characteristics: cash flow, utility and scarcity value. But we haven't conceptualised Nature in this way before. Using Seagrass as an example, I'll show you how we can relate to Nature as an asset.

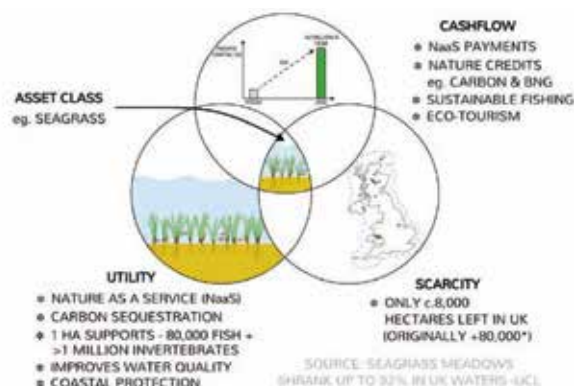
Does Nature have cash flow potential? Yes. Seagrass meadows have substantial cash flow potential for the local communities and businesses, starting with breeding and feeding grounds for numerous juvenile fish species, including bass, plaice and pollock, which have commercial value if fished sustainably.

What's more, seagrass meadows are among the most efficient carbon sinks in the world. They account for 10 percent of

the ocean's capacity to store carbon despite occupying only 0.2 percent of the sea floor, and they can capture carbon 35 times faster than tropical rainforests – and carbon capture via carbon credits provides cash flow.

Does Nature have scarcity value? Yes! Seagrass is now in decline globally due to human impacts threatening the loss of these free services. Once plentiful in UK coastal waters, these meadows are now diminishing alarmingly. Seagrass meadows shrank by over 90 percent from around 80,000 to 8,000 hectares. As they disappear, their importance and scarcity surge in value.

Does Nature have utility value? Yes! Seagrass, in addition to providing biodiversity which can be fished sustainably, captures carbon, cleans the water, helps mitigate flood and protects the shore from erosion. On top of all that, when you have seagrass, you get key stone species back like the seahorse. These utilities need to be paid for.



How do we get companies to pay for this?

We need to highlight the key problems that exist for companies here in the UK, caused and increased by climate

change and Nature loss – flooding, drought, water quality, biodiversity and need to capture carbon – and work to solve these issues by demonstrating the significant benefits companies get for paying for Nature's services to improve their resilience to one of more or these five problems. This payment creates a financial return for the investor, which in turn makes Nature an investable asset class.

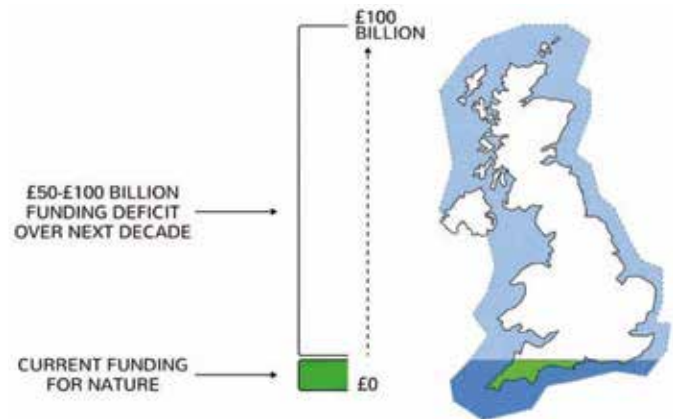
These five problems would be paid for by the companies who benefit. We call these offtake agreements 'Nature as a Service' (NaaS). By embracing NaaS, we target business challenges for companies facing specific localised Nature-related risks and opportunities, like reduced flood risk to their assets. Then we calculate the impact of these risks on these companies and work with local authorities, landowners and farmers to restore the land for natural flood management by creating wetlands, restoring shorelines and rewiggling the rivers.

In doing this at a catchment level, we maximise the ecosystem impact while increasing the benefits for which companies pay. This in turn creates investment opportunities for pension funds in Nature. In this way, Nature becomes an investable asset class. This approach solves business resilience, like the flooding of a factory. By reducing their risk of flooding, this benefit is captured and paid for via tailored NaaS offtake agreement.

In a large value catchment like Plymouth and surrounding areas, you can build a portfolio of long-term NaaS contracts from a diverse group of companies, combined with creating biodiversity units and carbon credits, that can deliver attractive, long-term cash flow to pension fund investors, whilst adapting to and mitigating climate change and Nature loss.

By getting companies to pay for Nature via NaaS offtake agreements, is how we get Nature to generate cashflow. The moment Nature generates money, it becomes an asset, one with a tangible value, and we will start to take care of it. This is where we stop destroying Nature and start restoring it.

The Nature deficit in the UK requires an estimated £50-£100 billion over the next 10 years. This sum sounds significant, but we see long term asset owners, like Pensions funds, as being instrumental in bridging the finance gap. In fact, a 2 percent allocation from the UK pension industry to invest in Nature could generate the necessary funds to redirect the flow of capital, making our ambition a reality.



By taking this approach, we will reduce risks for companies, create a financial return for pension funds, and create a UK worth living in.

Robert Gardner (1997, Geography) is financial activist, best-selling personal finance author and Co-Founder of Rebalance Earth

Computer says 'No'

JAKOB FOERSTER

AI Alignment, Opponent Shaping and Censorship. Where are we taking AI? Or is it AI taking us? Are we still in control of its future? ChatGPT happily wrote a poem making fun of Trump but refused to do so for President Biden

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing the world and turning the world as we know it upside down...or is it? Since I joined the field there has most certainly been a sequence of rapid changes, vastly outpacing my expectations across some dimensions and falling behind my expectations on others. The only prediction that I am now quite confident in is that for the foreseeable future it will be difficult to make accurate predictions. Whether we are in the 'industrial revolution 2.0' or it turns out the current methods will plateau, AI is suddenly taking a substantial mindshare and the general, even very educated, public knows comparatively little about this thing called AI. I was thus very excited when asked to present a Domus Seminar at St Anne's on AI during Hilary Term 2024. Excited and also a little intimidated since the mandate included making the talk accessible to a diverse audience, spanning a range of disciplines and many different decades. Clearly, presenting my most recent paper would not be the right strategy here. Instead, I opted for introducing the main trends of modern machine learning - what is ChatGPT? - then moved on to my own work on opponent-shaping - we'll get to this! - and ended my talk with an outlook that highlights potential risks emerging from the current paradigm of large-scale AI in the hands of big tech.

In a nutshell, what are these mystical deep neural networks and machine learning? At a high level, AI can be split into two different classes of methods: good-old-fashioned-AI ('GOFAI')

and machine learning. The GOFAI approach is to hand *write* computer programmes that can do problem solving, such as playing chess or other types of logical reasoning. Given that computers are logic machines which operate on crisp and reliable binary logic, this seems like a relatively sensible approach. The downside is that not all problems come in a format that is suitable for this very black-and-white (or 0 and 1) approach. For example, you can imagine that it would be pretty difficult to write a computer programme that reliably identifies the contents of an image from the pixel values based on a fixed rule set.

To make up for this inherent messiness of the real world (data), machine learning instead takes a different approach to AI. Rather than hard-coding the decision rules, the ML approach is to *learn* them from training data: for example, a dataset that contains input images with the correct label (cat vs dog). This might sound complicated but is nothing other than the sort of model fitting you might be familiar with from linear regression tasks, such as when fitting a line that interpolates between a set of Y values for a given X value. If you want to be fancy, we can call this input a vector, X , and the model a matrix, W . Fitting then finds a matrix, W^* , which makes the model output, y' , for a given X similar to the true Y value in the training set.

Indeed, *classical* ML heavily relies on linear models due to their strong theoretical guarantees. The downside is that even after decades of progress, classical ML approaches failed to achieve human level performance across a broad range of relevant tasks, including image and speech recognition. The linear models were simply not powerful and expressive enough.

Instead, deep neural networks *chain together* many linear models to make them more expressive. If you remember your linear algebra course, this sounds rather silly – after all, applying two linear transforms W_1 and W_2 one after the other is nothing but applying the linear transform $W_1 * W_2$, so there is no gain in expressivity. To make up for this, the key insight of deep learning is to add a non-linearity between each of the linear transforms. Is that the only key insight? Well, no. The other key insight was not to listen to anyone who claimed this would never work over the course of decades and to find PhD students who were able to run these networks on graphics cards. Those Graphical Processing Units or GPUs were developed for better and faster graphics for video games, but it turned out that they were in principle extremely well suited for doing the kind of repeated parallel linear algebra that made neural networks compute-intensive. Jensen Huang realised this over a decade ago, bet on AI and Nvidia since increased their stock price by a factor of over 100 per cent.

Long story short, deep neural networks are simply large models with many parameters that can be tuned to reduce the discrepancy between the desired and predicted output for a given input on a large dataset. Part of the magic is that each tuning step can be carried out on a randomly sampled subset of data points of fixed size, regardless of how large the training set is.

At Google Brain I worked on Language Modelling using recurrent neural networks. There's a lot to unpack here, but I promise you it will be fine. A language model is simply a machine learning model that predicts the distribution over the next word given the current *context* that is to say, all text so far.

For example, you might be wondering where I am headed with all of this as you are reading along; that's your brain acting as a language model, given all of the text you have read already as a context! Clearly, if a model could predict this distribution perfectly

for all possible contexts this would be quite powerful, since many tasks can be framed as text completion. For example, accurately completing the sentence, 'The ultimate breakthrough that finally made quantum computing work was...' would require predicting an approach that will get this magnificently stuck field finally unstuck. To be precise, for efficiency reasons language models usually represent words as 'tokens', each of which represents a common sequence of letters in our training set, in this case a large text corpus. For modern models, each token is roughly 4 letters, so this 4,000-word essay will consist of roughly 5,500 tokens. You might be worried whether predicting only the next token is sufficient for modelling entire sentences, but fret not - it turns out that due to a piece of magic called probability theory we can decompose the probability of any sentence into a product of next token predictions. It's a good thing that people have liked to gamble for millenia I guess.

A big challenge of language modelling is how to deal with input data that consists of long and variable length sequences. Back in 2016 the answer to this were recurrent neural networks, which are very similar to the deep neural networks we discussed before, with one caveat. Rather than just processing the most recent token and outputting a prediction, which wouldn't allow the model to look at the entire context, at each timestep the model takes in and updates a memory vector that it can in principle use to store information about the sequence of tokens thus far. This is called a recurrent neural network (RNN). One of the downsides of these architectures is that they struggle to pass information reliably, like a game of a telephone, since each new step is a chance to corrupt or overwrite the information from prior tokens. The effect is similar to having a lousy short-term memory and forgetting anything that happened more than a few seconds ago.

Anyway, where was I at? Around the same time I arrived at Brain as an intern, Ashish Vaswani joined as a research scientist to work on language modelling. Sadly, I was too busy thinking

The future of AI

about my own project to pay much attention to his ideas around better ways of doing language modelling that he pitched to me. These ideas resulted in the Transformer architecture, a great name since it transforms everything, but more on this later. What is special about the Transformer? Unlike the RNN, each token has direct and equal access to every previous token, rather than having to rely on the repeated passing of information through the hidden state. This is done using an attention mechanism, where the most recent token is used to query all previous tokens looking for relevant information, their corresponding “value”. These values are then summed, weighted by the quality of the match between the query and the key of the corresponding previous tokens, resulting in a vector of the same size as the original token representation. This vector is finally sent through the usual combination of linear layers and non-linearities from above and in typical deep learning style this is repeated across many layers and many times in parallel, using learned parameters for all components.

At Oxford I had worked on fully cooperative deep multi-agent reinforcement learning (RL). RL describes methods where an ‘agent’ is learning to solve a task via repeated interaction with an environment, rather than having the correct labels as in the cat-dog example or having hand-coded decision rules as in GOFAL. The ‘deep’ part simply means that the policies of the agents, ie. the mapping from their observations to the distribution over their next action, is parameterised using a deep neural network, while multi-agent is what it says on the can: there are multiple agents, ie. decision makers, in the same environment. This might sound like physical robots (which is fine), but commonly the agents are acting in virtual environments. While at Oxford, Shimon had strongly encouraged me to stick to fully cooperative settings, ie. those where all agents are optimising a single team reward, since general-sum settings, ie. those where different agents optimise for their individual rewards, are difficult to even evaluate.

This was extremely good advice which, in typical PhD student fashion, I ignored as soon as I had left Oxford for the Bay area. Instead, I started investigating jointly learning RL agents in social dilemmas, such as the famous prisoners dilemma. Importantly, in the repeated (‘iterated’) version of the game, humans quite robustly use punishment and reciprocity to converge on the socially optimal cooperative outcome, even though for the single step game defection is the dominant option from a given player’s perspective. In contrast, I found that naively trained RL agents quite robustly converged on the worst-case outcome of mutual defection which seemed rather unfortunate in a world where learning AI agents are clearly the future.

My solution involved changing the learning algorithm to account for the fact that from a given agent’s perspective other agents are not a static part of the environment. Instead, the experience in the shared environment enters their training data, which changes their future policy and therefore the expected return of the given ego agent. Therefore, actions should not just be chosen to maximise the expected return in the current interaction but also to induce a favourable learning update in the other agents. When we first tested this algorithm on the iterated prisoners’ dilemma the agents learned the famous tit-for-tat strategy, a moment that has stuck with me ever since. Crucially, if as a *principal* I was deploying a learning agent to operate on my behalf, these methods are attractive since they achieve cooperative outcomes by being better at optimising my individual objective. In contrast, blindly cooperating violates this as it could result in my being exploited by other actors. Clearly, these kinds of considerations are only relevant if as a principal I can make an informed choice between different kinds of AI systems. Today, ‘Opponent Shaping’ is still an active area of research and my group is currently doing work on applying it to the interaction of viruses and antibodies. An interesting question is what the circumstances are under which one AI agent can *shape* another agent.

Ideally the *shaper* should be able to predict the impact of their actions on the learning dynamics of the shapee, eg. by having a model of the environment and by having access to the reward function as well as approximate learning dynamics of the shapee. Clearly, the shaping agent would also need to have access to a sufficient amount of compute.

How does all of this relate to ChatGPT? Well, at this point we are pretty close to understanding what this GPT thing actually is - as much as anyone understands it: A **Generative Pre-trained Transformer**. 'Generative' just means that we can sample tokens from it one at a time given any context and the 'transformer' we already discussed earlier. Finally, 'Pre-training' is the next token prediction task on internet scale data that we had mentioned before. Perhaps it is not a surprise that simply pre-training on the internet is not quite going to result in a very useful chatbot, since not much of the data consists of user queries (the context) and the optimal response from a friendly chatbot. Instead, the internet tends to have quite a lot of rather unfriendly interactions and vast amounts of tokens of questionable quality. To address this, the standard paradigm consists of 'fine tuning' the GPT on a high-quality dataset consisting of user queries, *X*, and *desired* model outputs, *Y*, that are sourced from contractors and data providers.

As a last step the model is used to produce a pair of responses for a set of user queries. The responses for each query are then ranked by human raters, which can be used to learn a reward function to further improve the model. These last two steps are usually summarised as 'aligning' the model with human values and the entire process was arguably first developed and/or scaled up by OpenAI for their ChatGPT system: 'the ChatGPT moment for AI'. AI alignment originates from the AI safety community, a collection of individuals and institutions that have raised awareness of the potential risks of run-away, rogue, out-of-control AI systems for many years, starting at a time where those systems seemed extremely futuristic.

Protecting humanity from rogue AI systems seems like an extremely worthwhile goal. However, a key question is to whose values and desires these models should be aligned? In a world where the user is the principal and the AI system the agent, why is it ok for the computer to say 'No' or, more annoyingly, 'Sorry I can't do that'? The good news is that there is already pushback against this kind of overreach and that some tech companies and start-ups have started releasing advanced AI systems open-source, a trend which would partially alleviate this concern if it continues. The reason for the pushback is that it is relatively easy to spot patronising responses and even political bias in the model. For example, at some point, ChatGPT happily wrote a poem making fun of Trump but refused to do so for President Biden.

The bad news is that in the future there might be even more subtle ways for AI systems to undermine our role as principals. Clearly, vast compute resources and all information about the world we live in are already provided to these models. As part of the alignment process, they are also provided with large datasets of human preferences. Therefore, for now, the only obvious component that is missing before they might be able to do opponent shaping on their users, is access to the users' learning dynamics. Notably, unlike the fairly blunt and heavy-handed tools of the current AI alignment toolbox, potential user shaping approaches could consist of subtle and perhaps even imperceptible changes. It is therefore vital that we collectively develop a transparent pipeline for large-scale AI for the common good, including training algorithms, training data, alignment protocols and the final model weights. I believe this is one of the great challenges of our times and vital for the survival of the balance of power which in turn forms the foundation of our liberal societies.

Professor Jakob Foerster is Tutorial Fellow in Engineering and Associate Professor in the Engineering Science Department

To rule or not to rule

RUSSELL TAYLOR

Is Artificial Intelligence a major boon to humanity and an undeniable force for good, asks our regular columnist, or should we fear it taking control of our world as some fear?

It's a sure sign of Spring – like the first cuckoo or Eurovision – the email that pops up in my inbox from the editor of *The Ship* asking me if I could possibly see my way to writing an article for this year's edition. 'It would be a pleasure,' I mail back nonchalantly, as I always do, having not the first idea what I might write about. 'Perhaps you could write about AI?' the editor suggests by reply. 'But, Judith,' I remonstrate, 'I wrote about that last year,' 'Well, you could write about it again,' she shoots back briskly.

What can this mean? Is she really suggesting that you, the faithful readers of *The Ship* won't remember an article that I wrote a mere year ago? Actually, this is entirely possible. As a cartoonist working for a daily newspaper, I am accustomed to a short memory span in my readership. I will occasionally meet with someone, a friend or even a fellow cartoonist, who will say, 'Oh, I loved your cartoon in yesterday's paper.' This is followed by a pause and a furrowed

brow before they continue, 'Er, what was it about again?' I am not in the least offended by this mental lacuna. In fact, I too normally have no idea what my own cartoon in yesterday's paper was. Yesterday's cartoon was one that I wrote the day before yesterday, so how would I possibly remember that far back? Cartoons are pen-and-ink mayflies: they live for a single day. So, by extension, the chances of anyone remembering a piece of my journalism from a whole 365 days (actually 366, it's a leap year) ago are slim. I once read an interview with science fiction writer Isaac Asimov in which he confessed that he'd come across a short story of his in a sci-fi magazine that he had no memory of having written. And William Walton wrote a whole symphonic piece that he later couldn't recall having composed. The wretched data-retention capacity of the human brain is, of course, one reason why AI will soon replace us.

But maybe I misunderstood Judith. Perhaps what she meant was that Artificial Intelligence is such a fascinating and rapidly developing field that there will be plenty of new stuff for me to say about it a whole year on. It's true. The share price of Nvidia (the company

that makes computer chips for AI) has tripled in the 12 months since I wrote my last piece. So it could be that Judith is genuinely interested in having my fresh insights on the topic. But then I recall that my exchange with her was by email, so maybe I wasn't conversing with a human at all, but with a chatbot, which might have had a vested interest in talking up coverage of AI. Perhaps AI has now acquired an ego (that would be a precursor to attaining full consciousness) and is desperate to read stuff about itself.

So, AI it is. Just to check that I don't repeat myself, I re-read last year's article. It's actually rather good, if I say so myself (you'll have to take my word for that because, as already discussed, you won't remember it). In it I hint that I might get AI to write the whole of this year's piece. So how do you know that I didn't make good my threat and that these words that you are reading now weren't generated by an algorithm? Well, hopefully from this meandering, digressive style, which is one that surely could only be written by a haphazard human intellect, rather than a creature of pure logic. But perhaps there is no Russell at all and Judith simply cut out the middleman and outsourced

the writing of this piece directly to AI ('Chatbot, write me 1,500 words on AI in the style of Russell Taylor.') There's enough of my ramblings in previous editions of *The Ship* to train it on. And not only would AI not require to be bought lunch in an agreeable riverside pub in Chiswick in lieu of its writer's fee, but it would deliver its copy in two to three seconds rather than two to three months and wouldn't have to be sent constant nagging and cajoling emails throughout the process. So maybe one - or indeed both - of Judith and I are algorithms.

But, no, that's impossible. I still cling to my belief that AI can never replace true creative writing. Or is that just wishful thinking? I was at a lunch a few months ago where the conversation came round to AI (as it often does). The guest on my right, who was an illustrator, told me that he uses AI quite a lot in his work to write accompanying text to his illustrations, which he finds works really well, but, he emphasised, AI is incapable of creating actual artwork to any acceptable standard.

I had to disagree with him. In my experience the exact reverse is



This cartoon first appeared in the Daily Telegraph ©Charles Peattie and Russell Taylor 2023

true. I occasionally use AI to generate images (which it does really well in my opinion) but it can never pull off a piece of proper creative writing. In the end we had to agree to differ, but the one thing that we concurred on is that AI is really good at writing marketing copy. 'Oh no,' countered the woman on my other side, who'd been listening in, 'I work in marketing and AI is terrible at writing marketing copy.' Only then did the scary truth dawn on me: we ALL think that our own particular talent is so precious and unique that AI can never replicate it, but that other people's skills are ten-a-penny and can easily be outsourced to an algorithm. The reality is probably that ALL human skills are obsolete, but we're too vain and egotistical to see it.

But even though AI can do writing of a sort, I still don't believe that it can write humour. A recent news story reported that Google's new AI-enhanced search engine had advocated adding glue to pizzas and eating a small rock a day to supplement one's diet. This erroneous advice was based on it sourcing its content from satirical websites like 'The Onion' and being unable to tell the difference between factual material and humour. If it can't make this basic distinction, I console myself, then it's never going to be able to write jokes and take my job.

However, elsewhere AI writing is now ubiquitous, particularly in marketing and publicity (whatever my erstwhile lunch companion may think). I am beginning to recognise its bland, cheery, cheesy style. It excels at the sort of space-filling writing that is required when there is a box in an advert, a section in a mail-out or a column in a newspaper that needs populating with words. When you have nothing to say, nothing says it better than AI. But hold on, you will object, AI may be limited in what it can do now, but it's only going to get better: it's learning all the time. Yes, but it learns off the internet and as the internet is increasingly flooded with more and more content written by AI, it will merely be learning off itself and become cheesier and cheesier. It's like a multi-generation photocopy, where the clarity and definition quickly fades. Our conventional fear has always been that one day machines will destroy humanity by cutting off our power or our food supply and freezing or starving us into extinction, but actually their plan is more subtle than that. They're going to bore us to death by drowning us in lethally bland prose.

There is one crumb of comfort, for me at least. According to a recent report from Goldman Sachs, AI will require training in 'critical thinking, logic and rhetoric' in order to perfect itself,

and those humans best qualified to provide this training will be philosophy graduates. Finally, my long redundant philosophy degree, which is still gathering dust on a shelf somewhere in the Sheldonian, may come in handy. Back in the mid-1980s when I first entered the job market, a BA in philosophy was considered the most useless academic qualification it was possible to have and there was a 60% unemployment rate among philosophy graduates. Now we're in demand. Not for long, it's true. Just long enough for us to teach our executioners how to shoot straight. But it will be some comfort to know as humanity is exterminated that we were the last ones up against the wall.

I'd better stop writing now. I'm conscious that many of you may have glanced ahead at the length of this article and opted to get AI to read it and précis it for you rather than waste valuable time wading through it yourself. I wonder how AI would summarise what I've written? 'Russell Taylor assesses Artificial Intelligence and concludes that it is a major boon to humanity and an undeniable force for good and that no one need have any fears whatsoever about it.' And you'd have absolutely no idea that it was lying to you.

Russell Taylor MBE (1979)

Turning the kitchen green

BEN GIBBONS

Our college chef reveals his passion for the environment and shares some secrets of how we can do this even while cooking

At St Anne's we take climate change very seriously throughout the community and as one of the people responsible for what is provided to be eaten in the college it is a subject I don't take lightly. Food contributes to around one quarter of global greenhouse gas emissions; that's a large percentage of responsibility for any of us working in the food industry whether producing, transporting or serving.

To tackle this, we have made several changes to the way we operate as a catering department over the past few years. This is as much changing the ways we work in the kitchen as changing the way you may decide what to eat by offering alternatives. We have reduced the amount of meat served at mealtimes in our servery from two options each mealtime to one, replacing one with a plant-based option. We changed the way we construct the menus for servery mealtimes, we are now conscious of how many times we serve red meat (lamb and beef), pork, poultry and fish in a week and calculate

the percentages of how often they were served at the end of each term to track our progress.

The format in which menus are written and food is displayed has also changed: we make sure that the first option you read or see is the one that has the smallest impact on the environment, the plant-based option, with the final option having the largest negative impact environmentally. Disposables were once a dominant feature, especially during and after the Covid-19 pandemic. Now, other than compostable ice cream tubs and pizza boxes in STACS, we refuse to use them and, thanks to our Hall Manager, even offer a reusable 'keep container' for take outs. Our menus are now written seasonally with input from the chef brigade including formal hall menus written by our Junior Sous Chefs and desserts by our Pastry Chef using seasonal produce. These are just some of the introductions we have made to help tackle our carbon output.

More recently, we introduced low carbon Monday lunches to our weekly offering and each Hilary term we now host a Low Carbon formal during Green Action Week. These menus are



Ben Gibbons

designed by being completely mindful of what impact the ingredients will have on the environment. We focus heavily on seasonality so then we can be confident that what we order from our suppliers will be grown or produced in the UK.

To coincide with this approach to work, over the past year we have been part of

The green canteen

an initiative introduced by Good Food Oxford that aims to give colleges direct links to local produce. The initiative is called OxFarm to Fork and we are proud to be one of the leading colleges collaborating with them in Oxford, having been one of the first to buy produce from the local producers and growers listed.

As a chef, I couldn't be happier with this introduction. I have been a keen advocate for using local produce and working seasonally ever since having my eyes opened as a young chef working on my nights off in Turl Street Kitchen. They had strong values with a Head Chef whose passion for the approach was very inspirational to be around. I now have that same drive which is spurred on by seeing the global impacts of changing weather systems on the news and witnessing first-hand our seasons out of sync, with flowers blooming earlier than they should.

Due to the nature of an Oxford College, with hundreds of return customers on a daily basis, it is not as easy as the days of Turl Street Kitchen to stay so completely dedicated to local produce. In a college we need to offer constant variety in menu styles and in contents to keep our offering appealing and interesting to eat to people who are returning

several times a day and many times a week. It is difficult to offer completely seasonal menus every day of the week for lunch and dinner whilst making sure there is variety, we have to balance the way we approach this. If we are in the 'hunger season' of March and April when not much grows locally, we can't expect our diners to eat spinach, kale or carrots for every meal until a more fruitful season lands. Therefore, we offer these alongside produce that has been imported, albeit via suppliers we trust to have good working practices and goals like us to reducing carbon on their end of the industry.

These changes in the way we work are clearly needed due to the negative impact of climate change and the future of our planet. Whilst we are working towards these goals of lower carbon and changing the ways in which we operate on a day-to-day basis, the entire team have had to learn the new approach on the job. This is not always straight forward when things change so rapidly and you've been used to working in a certain way for a long period. Our two apprentice chefs have had the benefit of being shown this approach from the beginning of their careers.

My view on apprentices is that they are essential for both carrying on the

industry I love as a creative artform led by individuals rather than mass production and guiding the future of the way we eat sustainably. This is a topic I am heavily involved in promoting within my role as Master of the City of Oxford Guild of Chefs. We collectively know the huge importance the next generation of chefs will play in keeping our trade alive and, more important, in caring for our planet. We have recently initiated a new competition called Oxfords Junior Chef of the Year, now in its second year, where the junior chefs are set a brief with an emphasis on climate impact. It has been a real pleasure to watch their approach to this part of the brief. For example, witnessing how they are minimising waste by using by-products in their competition pieces. They have only been in the industry for a few years and it comes naturally to a lot of them which gives a great sense of pride and also relief that the future is in good hands. We are very fortunate to have had both of our apprentices compete, one winning a category and both showing a huge amount of potential for what they can achieve in the future.

Ben Gibbons is Head Chef at St Anne's

RECIPE

Malfatti with tomato sauce.

Prep 30 min

Cook 20 min

Serves 10

For the Malfatti;

650g spinach (or another seasonal leafy green such as kale or chard)

650g ricotta (drained overnight)

200g vegetarian parmesan

5 thyme sprigs

10 grates of whole nutmeg

3 egg, beaten

250g plain flour

Salt & pepper

For the sauce

70ml olive oil

1kg tinned chopped tomatoes

12 garlic cloves, sliced

1.5 tsp crushed fennel seeds

Salt & pepper

For the Malfatti, wilt the spinach in a splash of water, drain and set aside to cool completely. Once cool squeeze out any excess water.

In a bowl combine all of the remaining ingredients along with the spinach and mix together. Using your hands, shape into small uniformed balls approx. 50g each.

Heat a large pan of salted water until boiling. Drop the balls into the boiling water, they are cooked when they begin to float, approx 4 minutes.



For the sauce, in a small pan, heat olive oil and add the sliced garlic cooking until golden. Add the tomatoes and reduce on a medium heat until the tomatoes break down into a saucy consistency. Season to finish.

Serve alongside any nice seasonal vegetables from your local farmers market.

Rahil Sachak-Patwa and TutorChase

By Jay Gilbert

Our aim at St Anne's is to prepare all our students for life through the range and intensity of the career development opportunities we provide.

We organise many career events throughout the academic year, and work with a range of companies to offer paid internship opportunities exclusively to St Anne's students. In addition to this, our extensive network of alumnae can provide valuable support in helping members of our community launch their own entrepreneurial endeavours. A recent example is Dr Rahil Sachak-Patwa, who has been working closely with St Anne's alumnus Steve Huxter.

Rahil began a DPhil in Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling at St Anne's in 2017, funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. In 2020, he founded TutorChase, a company which provides elite online tutoring delivered by the world's top tutors. By matching tutors from the UK and US's top universities, the company covers all subjects for GCSEs, A-Levels, IB, AP, SAT, university admissions, Oxbridge, and at an undergraduate level. Ordinarily, the services are chargeable, but Rahil, as an alumnus of St Anne's, has kindly opened

up TutorChase for free to schools and their students in St Anne's outreach link regions.

TutorChase employs graduate students and recent graduates from elite universities across the globe; three are former St Anne's students. We are very grateful to Rahil and to TutorChase for their support, which has already paid clear dividends in our link regions. We look forward to working with them further as they develop their new platform, which our Outreach team will be able to offer to students in our link schools, alongside the services of the original TutorChase site. In the following interview, Rahil explains more about his journey to entrepreneurship, and how being part of St Anne's and its alumnae network helped him on his way.

What brought you to St Anne's and Oxford in the first place? What was your path beforehand?

I initially studied Mathematics at University College London, followed by a Master's in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing at St Hugh's, Oxford. Afterward, I pursued a DPhil in Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling at St Anne's.

In 2020, you founded TutorChase, a company that provides elite online tutoring delivered by the world's top tutors. Firstly, can you explain what TutorChase does?

TutorChase is an online education company that offers online tutoring, primarily for secondary school students preparing for exams such as GCSEs, A-Levels, and the IB, as well as for university admissions. We take great care in selecting only the highest calibre of tutors, many of whom are qualified teachers and successful graduates from top universities like Oxford.

Secondly: what gave you the idea for the company, and what prompted you to make this a reality?

I tutored Maths and Science at GCSE and A-Level since I was 16, which was a fantastic way to earn extra income during sixth form and university. I loved teaching and seeing my students succeed, but the travel time was a major downside. With advancements in technology, online tutoring became feasible, and after successfully teaching a few students online, I realised the potential. I enjoy entrepreneurial projects, so I created a

simple website offering online tutoring for specialised subjects like Further Maths. Initially, I matched students with trusted friends who were qualified tutors, and from there, the idea expanded.

You have received advice and support for TutorChase from St Anne's alumnus, Steve Huxter, who also supports other programmes in college. Could you tell us about this, and how it came about?

During my DPhil, I entered an entrepreneurship competition run by the Oxford Foundry. After submitting my proposal through the college, St Anne's reached out to connect me with Steve, an alumnus interested in supporting budding entrepreneurs. This was in 2019, before I had any concrete plans, but he became a mentor, meeting me regularly. At first this was informal, but we then began to work together more closely, ultimately resulting in Steve becoming an investor in TutorChase once I began working on it full-time after completing my DPhil.

Schools in St Anne's link regions have been able to use TutorChase's services free of charge over the past two years. This has been successful, with forty-five students taking up the offer and eight being accepted



Rahil Sachak-Patwa

into Oxford. What made you decide to offer this service to support our Outreach provision?

Oxford has several outreach programmes to support underrepresented groups with their

Careers: St Anne's Entrepreneurs

university applications and studies. Since we already had the tutors and infrastructure in place, Steve suggested matching our tutors with students in the St Anne's region to provide them with A-Level tutoring and university application guidance. He made a generous donation to cover the tutoring costs, allowing us to support these students effectively.

You've also employed a number of St Anne's graduate students and recent graduates at TutorChase. What does TutorChase offer in terms of career? Are you still seeking tutors, if any of our current students would be interested?

We're always looking for top tutors to join our team! TutorChase is especially appealing to those interested in a career in teaching or education. Our tutors typically work part-time, tutoring 5-10 hours per week, which is perfect for postgraduate students. It's a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and make a meaningful impact.

You are now in the process of upgrading parts of the platform. Can you tell us more about this?

To broaden our services beyond online tutoring and reach more students, we are developing an online revision platform for GCSE and A-Level students. This platform will offer study notes and practice questions to help students prepare for their exams. We noticed that many students struggle to find quality study resources in one place, so we aim to simplify their study process with better technology and high-quality content.

Since its founding, TutorChase has gone from strength to strength. How beneficial has it been to be part of the St Anne's alumnae network?

Meeting Steve was pivotal for TutorChase's success. He has helped me think bigger and scale the business as I transitioned to working on it full-time. The alumnae network has also been invaluable for recruiting tutors.

Many are eager to join because they trust fellow Stanners and appreciate being part of a company with close ties to the college.

What would you say to other members of our community who might be interested in entrepreneurship and founding a company?

Just go out and try an idea. Building something small, like a website, can be done quickly and inexpensively. Taking action and getting feedback is far more valuable than merely hypothesising. It's also a lot of fun, especially once you start gaining traction. Failure is part of the journey, and each attempt teaches you something new. Also, reach out to the community, experienced members are often keen to support the next generation of entrepreneurs!

Jay Gilbert is Senior Communications Manager at St Anne's

Healing Trauma, Nurturing Resilience

STELLA CHARMAN

Sandra Kaulfuss talks to Stella Charman, Co-Founder and Executive Chair of Trustees for Action for Child Trauma (ACT) International, about the struggles faced by children, often in war zones, and the vital need for mental health services for those experiencing trauma

Sandra: Stella, thank you for sharing the story and amazing work of ACT International with us. Could you start by telling us how you became involved with the organisation?

Stella: I ran a UK consultancy business in children's mental health which had recently been sold, so I was looking for a new challenge and wanted to work overseas. At a conference I met Dr Carlotta Raby, who had recently developed and piloted a unique technique for treating children with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Our needs aligned perfectly and I became a co-founder of what was then called Luna Children's Charity and is now operating under the name of ACT International.

Sandra: Can you tell us more about the technique that Dr Raby developed and how you worked together to develop the training model?

Stella: The technique, known as CATT (Children's Accelerated Trauma Treatment), is an established therapeutic protocol which combines principles of cognitive processing with a creative play approach. It incorporates a neuroscientific understanding of how the brain reacts to trauma and stores traumatic memory. Unlike traditional talking therapies, CATT was designed specifically with and for children who may have difficulties expressing themselves verbally or have short attention spans so were excluded from services. We developed

the training model for use overseas and travelled to Rwanda to implement it in 2011. I took care of the organisational aspects, such as establishing the Board of Trustees, training, financial systems and procedures, while Dr Raby, as creator of the technique, designed the course content and contributed her expertise in the clinical, therapeutic and supervisory aspects.

Sandra: That sounds like a truly innovative approach to treating children with PTSD. How has the charity evolved since its inception?

Stella: Over the past 12 years, we have diversified our training offer and now offer a lot of training online. Initially, CATT was our unique focus, but now we also have an anxiety and resilience programme, developed by our Clinical Trustee Victoria Burch, to support children in ongoing conflict situations such as the Yemen. We have trained local people across 17 countries, working in three languages, and building wherever possible a team of trainers and counsellors who can continue the work independently. In Uganda, for example, we have trained around 300 counsellors and have a team of 10 trainers. Our goal is to empower local communities to provide the necessary support and interventions adapted to their local cultural context.

Sandra: With everything that is going on in the world at present, how is ACT International responding to crises in the Middle East, Ukraine and other places?

Stella: We began training in Arabic in 2014 and are now working with a number of health-provider NGOs to provide training for their staff across the Middle East, including hard to reach areas of northern Syria and the Yemen, where the need is enormous. We are especially proud that between 2018 and 2020 we managed

Children in need

to train a group of Gazan counsellors and psychologists, and with the help of two UK-based NGOs, set up a child trauma centre in Gaza City. It is heart-breaking that this is now totally destroyed and the staff trapped in Gaza live in fear for their lives. We will salvage what we can when the war is over. For the Ukraine, we have created and translated materials into Ukrainian and Polish, and made them available online and to networks of Ukrainian and Polish psychologists via those who have moved to the UK. The work to treat the trauma of both these wars will really begin later, once some semblance of peace allows children to return to a normal life and healing can begin.

Sandra: Can you share with us an overview of the nature of the traumas you encounter and how ACT International contributes to their treatment?

Stella: We train people to adapt their therapeutic approach to deal with a very wide range of life-threatening traumatic experiences, ranging from snake bites or road traffic accidents to kidnap, rape, torture and the ongoing violence of wartime attacks. When it comes to refugee children who have been the victims of bombardments or witnessed the killing of friends or family members, we primarily focus on two main groups.

1. The first group consists of those who find themselves in camps, such as in northern Syria or the Greek islands. While these camps are intended to be safe, the reality is that they are often profoundly unsafe and children are growing up with disrupted attachment and their trauma is highly complex. Here there are high levels of violence, corruption and the distressing occurrence of children disappearing or being trafficked. Given these circumstances, providing therapy is incredibly challenging. The hierarchy of needs dictates that more urgent and immediate necessities must be fulfilled before effective psychological treatment can start. Sometimes the best



Bombing in Gaza (© Stella Charman)

that can be done is to offer simple but evidence-based techniques to promote resilience among the children. Our efforts in these areas is also directed towards supporting the people who work there: they too have usually experienced, or continue to live with trauma. We offer more intensive supervision plus training in self-care that helps them to address their own emotional well-being.

2. The second group we assist comprises refugees who have moved on and are now settled in safer places, such as Uganda or Turkey. In these locations, where people are gradually establishing a sense of normality, we can train teams of local counsellors. In supportive communities, where trauma can be managed, children can be helped to regain relatively normal lives despite their past experiences.

Children who do not receive treatment for their trauma are at risk of becoming disruptive and dangerous young people. Living with an expectation of danger, they are drawn to violence and disruption. Some become very vulnerable to radicalization or join violent groups or gangs. Overwhelmed by the horrors they have experienced, without treatment many of these children will not get better. Today's damaged children become tomorrow's damaged adults, impacting their families and communities for years to come.

This is what ACT International works to prevent. One of our partner NGOs working in the Yemen is called 'Bridges to Peace' and this is what we too want to be, in a very dark and troubled world.

Sandra: What does the future look like for ACT International and what can our community do to help?

Stella: At the moment, we are exploring a long-term strategy to ensure the growth of our work because a volunteer-led charity without a corporate infrastructure or paid staff can

only do so much. All children's charities must now be trauma-aware with properly trained staff. So we are discussing closer collaboration, or a merger, with another larger charity that shares our values and recognises the importance of children's mental health as an integral part of children's health and wellbeing. In this day and age, charities are competing for increasingly scarce resources, and we must join forces to raise more funds and help more traumatised communities in need. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who can see the value of working in partnership with us.

Stella Charman, (1975, PPE) former President of the St Anne's Society, worked as an NHS general manager, then health and social care service development and management consultant until her retirement in 2020. She has been Executive Chair of Trustees for Action for Child Trauma International since 2009. **Sandra Kaulfuss** (2010, MML)



*Stella presenting a trainer certificate in Uganda, May 2022
(© Stella Charman)*

Creating the ‘social city’

LIANE HARTLEY

Our cities seem to accommodate vehicles much better than they accommodates the needs of people and our environment. Is this because we have been building our cities primarily around the needs of the car? A new focus on the human dimension of cities is badly needed.

My work is on the social future of cities and how we live in and experience urban space. I am interested in people’s emotional attachment to place and how we can ensure we have strong and resilient social fabric in our communities. That’s partly about making people more aware and interested in their places, but also engaging people properly in the place-making process. Underneath this is an even more core interest about the urban experience, from the exciting and inspiring to the challenging, obstructive and unwelcoming. I believe everyone has the right to have a positive urban experience.

To enable this, I created Considerate Urbanism as an alternative philosophy and way of thinking about cities and urban life to make this a kinder experience, also a kinder future for our people and planet. We know that we urgently need to adapt and transition to a different model of living, existing and producing on our planet. A more considerate form of urbanism recognises cities are more than bricks and mortar: they are an experience, a philosophy, a mode of production and a lifestyle.

With an overarching focus on enabling the future ‘next city’, Considerate Urbanism unifies a broad range of topics and disciplines under its three tenets of social justice, economic inclusion and environmental resilience. This includes health, equality and inclusion, dignity and social justice, accessibility and engagement, identity, belonging and culture, regenerative and inclusive economies.

Fostering considerate urbanism is a systemic and emergent approach that needs to happen on multiple levels, across multiple disciplines and stakeholders, with a variety of lenses and timescales. It is a process, a state and a mindset. Universal and specific. That is why I am building Considerate Urbanism as a:

- **Movement:** unifying ideas, connecting people and propelling action.
- **Mindset:** growing a different mindset and behaviours for decision-making and commissioning.
- **Method:** learning, developing and applying the concept of considerate urbanism in practice.

Considerate urbanism is sensitive to the spectrum of different lived experiences and needs in cities and recognises the complexity of everyday life and urban behaviours. This focus on the human dimension of cities is badly needed. At present, our urban fabric seems to accommodate vehicles much better than it accommodates the needs of people and our environment. This is because we have been building our cities primarily around the needs of the car.

Are we also going to base our urban future on the needs of the car?

We need to rethink the fundamentals: if we were not to base our cities around cars, what would the alternative be? Considerate Urbanism is about just that: prioritising human interaction and connection as the key fundamental it asks questions such as, what do people need to live successfully in a city or place? How can we care for everyone’s needs and desires? What do we need to do to ensure we are looking after our environment so that it can look after us? Can we all feel good in urban environments, not just some of us? Creating

urbanism for all means putting care, empathy, affinity, emotion and human experience at the centre of moving us from car-based urbanism to care-based urbanism.

I see more and more of this mindset emerging in how we talk about finance, how we approach design, how we shape services, how we think about transport, how we engage people in our decision-making and how we grow our organisations and leaders. There is a humanising emotional revolution going on. And the time for the 'social city' is now. The social city is predicated on the quality and power of connection, interconnection, relationships and community. Where capitalism feels like it's about separation – humans and nature, business and society, resources and value – Considerate Urbanism is about how these things are interconnected and reliant on each other. It is the antidote to separation and focuses instead on reintegration.

This age of the social city comes at a time of major flux. Climate change is showing us that our lifestyles and systems are fundamentally unsustainable. Economic disparity and persistent poverty are showing us that our economic system is unjust and inequitable. Social Justice movements show us that people still feel unseen, unheard, unvalued. The seeming emergence of Industrial Revolution 4.0, Web 3.0, Blockchain 2.0, has profound implications for prevailing social and economic models, and means citizens are gaining agency over the macro agencies that have governed us this far: access to work, access to assets, access to currency.

It feels like this transition to a new way of living, working and doing business will necessitate a dismantling of the systems, structures and processes we had before. And we need whatever comes next to enable the massive changes needed for us to adapt successfully to a more socially, economically and environmentally resilient world. Like any transition it could be difficult and messy, exhilarating and emancipating,

uncomfortable for some though not for others. As we navigate this new and emerging world, now more than ever, we need to be kind and considerate to each other.

Because our survival rests on our capacity to live successfully in a community of other humans. Millions of years ago, that meant life and death. Today the challenge facing us is how we can, all multi-millions of us, live together day to day, on a micro level in our neighbourhoods, at school and at work, and on a macro level as citizens, as shared cultures, as nations, as a civilisation.

What comes with this transition, however, is an explosion of new ideas, ways of thinking, ways of engaging, ways of living and organising society and our economy, ways of learning and doing that will turn our existing systems on their head. This explosion needs to be driven by a key question – how will humans continue to live on this planet – and a profound shift in mindset – how can we live on this planet better together? As more of us will live out our lives in cities, we need to make cities the solution and not the problem. Use cities as the fundamental basis for creating that new baseline for living.

And as our structures and systems change to address the challenges we face together, our cities will bear the strain of their development, form and function being built on concepts and ideas such as cars, capitalism, materialism developed years, decades even centuries ago, and now at the point of concept fatigue.

However, as is evident in Oxford, cars are not going anywhere quietly.

The concept of the 15-minute city has sparked controversy and led to protests in Oxford in January 2023. The concept is designed to create more walkable, liveable and sustainable cities. It has its roots in other chrono-urban theories and was popularised by French-Columbian academic Professor

Carlos Moreno. It entered wider public consciousness when the Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, endorsed the concept in response to issues such as traffic congestion, pollution and the need for more sustainable and liveable cities. She pledged to make Paris a 15-minute city as part of her re-election campaign in 2020.

Since then, cities around the world have been exploring how the concept can be applied. In Oxford, the City Council's Local Plan 2040 proposed implementing the 15-minute city model as part of its plan. However, this proposal has faced strong opposition and triggered protests from various groups within the community. The 15-minute city idea was raised in the UK parliament just before the latest election, as a 'socialist concept which would cost personal freedom'. This was followed by the January 2023 pro-traffic and anti-15-minute city demonstration in Oxford under the premise that 15-minute cities are an assault on our freedoms and an attempt to introduce climate lockdowns.

There is a growing spotlight on the future of cars in our cities and how we need to adapt our urban spaces and lifestyles to meet the challenges of climate change. Mechanisms such as low traffic neighbourhoods and the Mayor of London's Ultra Low Emission Zone are examples of how governments are looking to reduce the dominance of cars in our cities. Barcelona has recently unveiled its 10-year plan to reclaim city streets from cars.

What I find fascinating is how a seemingly innocuous urban planning concept centred around having our daily needs met within a 15-minute walk or cycle in self-sufficient neighbourhoods has inspired such a 'hot no'. There is a real belief that the 15-minute element is a literal time and space boundary to be policed, monitored and enforced as opposed to being a metaphor, indicator and timeframe: that this is a way of ushering in a new form of lockdown and erosion of

personal choice and freedom rather than aiming for freedom from reliance on cars (and other vehicles).

I think it has shone a light on how intrinsic cars are not only to the physical fabric of our cities but also our lifestyle and culture. Maybe what is at the heart of this is that, as we emerge from the challenging and distressing experiences of Covid-19 lock down, the concept is highlighting issues around the public and the state; around trust, choice, resources, power, control, access, and has become an outlet for airing discontent, or is being used by other groups to act as an accelerant for other local and national issues.

There is a gamut of research initiatives and activity being undertaken across the University of Oxford on the challenges of delivering healthy, sustainable and liveable cities, and reducing car-dependency. I am following closely the work of the Global Centre for Healthcare and Urbanisation (GCHU) at Kellogg College, the Transport Studies Unit led by Professor Tim Schwanen, Research Fellow at St Anne's, and the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment at the School of Geography and the Environment. I am particularly interested in the Streetvoice project, led by GCHU with Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences. This project published a report in September 2022 which demonstrated how contentious issues such as LTNs could be managed through a more deliberative process, using citizen juries to 'answer important questions about how people can travel where they need to in Oxford in a climate-friendly way that promotes health'.

It will be interesting to see how these issues develop in Oxford and how the benefits and reality of having local, walkable and sustainable neighbourhoods are better communicated and help change minds about how intrinsic cars should be in our cities, our lives and our future.

Liane Hartley (1996, Geography)

Spotlight on the archives

CLARE WHITE

The College librarian reveals hidden treasures in the college archive.

Writing in the 1995/96 edition of *The Ship*, Librarian David Smith commented that the College archives

‘contain much important and fascinating material on the history of women’s university education, and I am ever more conscious of how little time I have to devote to them and of how humbly they are housed. I hope the current emphasis in the university world on development and corporate aspiration will make us more rather than less aware of our inheritance from those who dared to aspire for things we now take for granted, and that we can at least think about finding some extra resources to get our precious archives properly housed and looked after.’

In the intervening years I sense that St Anne’s has become much more aware of ‘our inheritance’ and the importance of conserving the items that document it. Our current students certainly seem to appreciate and know more about the College’s history than my generation did in the early 1990s; a timeline full



Printing block showing the beaver crest and the motto of the Society of Oxford Home-Students, c. 1936.

of photos from the archives illustrates the corridor of Hartland House outside the Library; we draw upon material from the archives for talks, exhibitions, blog posts, not to mention numerous ‘From the Librarian’ articles for *The Ship*! The number of archive enquiries we receive from alumnae, researchers and members of the public with a connection to the College increases year on year, and the archives hold the key to solving many internal administrative questions – a recent, somewhat pressing one being proof of ownership of the Bevington Road houses. In fact, the archives also hold an actual key – the silver one used by benefactress Amy Hartland to open Hartland House in 1938.

In our college context, the term ‘archives’ refers to the collection of documents and items which relate to the history of St Anne’s and its people, and to how the College has functioned since its formation in the 1870s up to the present day. This rather broad description covers an equally broad range of material including the College registers, student records, staff records, committee papers and minutes from over 140 years of committees, architects’ plans of buildings, 3D models of proposed buildings, photos from every decade since the 1890s, publications such as *The Ship*, programmes from special events, and some academic papers belonging to former Fellows such as Marjorie Reeves. Some of the objects

From the Library

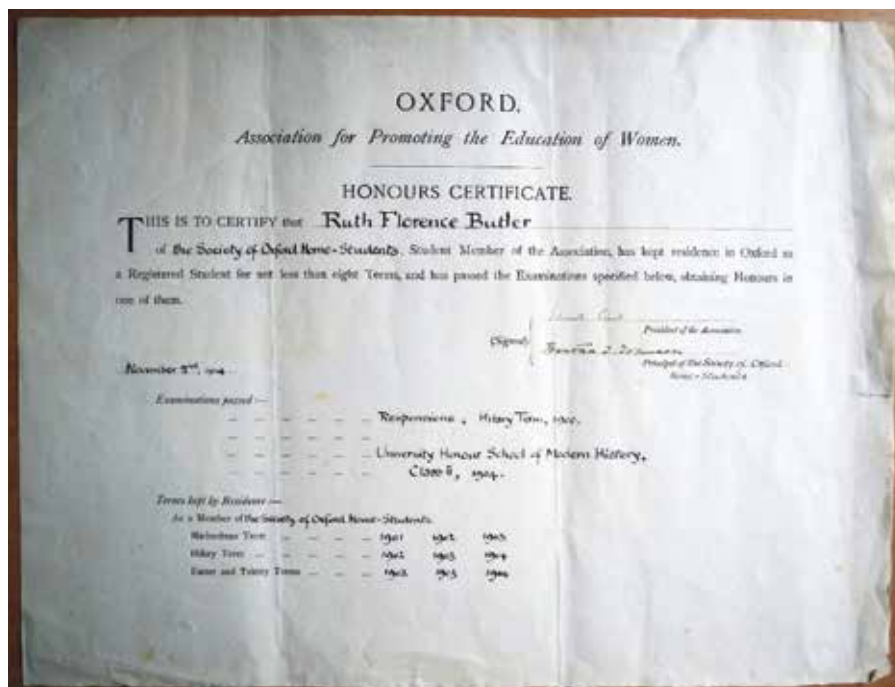
in the archives are slightly more unusual and unexpected – Iris Murdoch's academic hoods, printing blocks with the beaver crest from our early years as the Society of Oxford Home-Students, and late alumna Gilia Slocock's collection of images of St Anne depicted in paintings and stained glass in the UK. Arguably the jewel in the College archives' crown

is the huge amount of material from the 1870s to 1920 relating to the early years of women's education in Oxford. This includes all of the papers which formed the basis of Annie Rogers¹ posthumously published book *Degrees by Degrees* telling the story of the campaign for women students to be admitted fully to the University and to receive their degrees.

That we have such a rich collection of material from the early years of our history is largely thanks to one woman, Ruth Florence Butler (1881-1982). Miss R.F. Butler's association with the College lasted for most of her adult life. Stemming from one of Oxford's Victorian academic families, she joined the Society of Oxford Home-Students



Ruth Butler, c. 1920.



Ruth Butler's "degree" certificate, 1904. One of the alternative certificates awarded to Oxford women before 1920 in place of the University degree certificate.

¹ Annie Rogers (1856-1937) was famously denied the exhibition at Balliol or Worcester College to which her exam results entitled her in 1873 on account of being a girl. She went on to become Secretary to the Association for the Education of Women in Oxford, Classics Tutor to the women students, a member of the Council of St Hugh's and committed campaigner to the cause of degrees for women at Oxford.

in 1901 to read History. She went on to become assistant to the Principal, Bertha Johnson, from 1906, Modern History tutor from 1913, Vice Principal from 1919 to 1938, and Dean of Degrees until 1942. Many years after her retirement she became an Honorary Fellow when St Anne's Society became St Anne's College, and she retained her strong links with the College, attending her final Gaudy a few weeks before she died at the age of 100. Throughout her student and working years at the Society of Oxford Home-Students, Miss Butler collected the material which forms the basis of the College archives – recognisable by the neat 'RFB' handwritten in cursive script on countless documents. From these documents she co-edited the first volume of the College history and wrote the second. She created the original records of what was in the archives, and when she retired, she even paid for a cupboard (still in use today) in which the archives could be kept.

Over the six decades since we were gifted this cupboard, the archives have grown substantially, but subsequent custodians have had little capacity for improving the records and storage of the material. Thankfully, that is all set to change as the College now has the 'extra resources' hoped for by David Smith in the form of St Anne's first qualified archivist, Matthew Chipping. Since he

joined the library team last September, Matthew has been getting to know the archive collection and laying the groundwork for cataloguing it. One of the ways in which cataloguing archives differs from cataloguing books is that archive catalogues have a hierarchical structure. Before Matthew could create a single record in the new archive cataloguing software (called Epexio) we have selected, he has had to map out a practical structure for our catalogue, deciding which elements to retain from the earlier categories devised by Miss Butler, and where to add new categories to include the extensive range of documents held across the College. This may sound straightforward, but it requires a delicate balance not to lose the original groupings and order of documents which can help a researcher to understand the history and context of an item in relation to other material found with it. Whilst exploring the collection, Matthew has also begun the immense task of rehousing the items in specialist boxes, folders and sleeves. Low in acid and lignin, this packaging is designed to provide protection from damage, pests, and changes in light or humidity in order to conserve the archives for future use.

Matthew's role is not just about preserving our existing 'inheritance,' it is also about increasing the size of

the 'inheritance' we leave for future members of St Anne's. The daily running of an Oxford college creates a vast number of documents and the longer-term aim is to have a more coordinated records management initiative between the archive and each College department. In this way, records which have reached the end of their 'working life' but are of historical value (in that they preserve a record of life at St Anne's) or have a legal requirement to be kept permanently, can be transferred regularly to the archives, either as hard or digital copies. In addition, the richness of the College archives has been greatly increased by past donations from former Principals, Fellows and students, and Matthew is working on formalising our accessions process to ensure that items received are relevant to the collection, that ownership and copyright details are recorded, and that any restrictions requested by the donor regarding access or use of the material are clear.

With so much to work on it is no surprise that David, myself and no doubt other past St Anne's librarians have lamented how little time we had to devote to the archives alongside caring for the library, and our new archivist will certainly be kept busy for many years to come!

Clare White (1990)

All go in the Development Office

EDWIN DRUMMOND

I want to start by extending my thanks to all our alumnae, academics, students, staff, donors, and friends who have supported the College and the Development Office in so many ways over the past year. From participating in events, helping organise reunions, offering internships or careers advice, providing feedback on our work, offering your time and financial support in various ways, and so much more, we are very grateful for your participation in all we do.

We are now over a year into the regeneration of our Bevington Road houses. As you will have seen and read, the houses require urgent regeneration due to their poor condition and outdated facilities, making it a matter of necessity rather than choice. The project will enhance the accommodation, increase the number of rooms and incorporate sustainable and environmentally friendly features. This will provide safe, comfortable, and modern living spaces for students at St Anne's, fostering a strong sense of community and belonging. The Development Office is seeking to raise £5 million to support the project. Alumnae and donors have been tremendously generous to date helping us raise around £3.5 million (at the time of writing). By contributing to the project, it will help leave a lasting impact on the physical infrastructure of the College and make a substantial difference to our students for generations to come. Thank you to everyone who has supported the project so far and, with just over a year to go, if you haven't had the chance to do so already, there is still plenty of time to play a part in the project.

In addition to the fundraising for Bevington Road, we are also working hard to address the size of the College endowment.

As you may have seen, St Anne's is the fourth poorest Oxford College, in terms of wealth per student. We know the importance of building up the College's financial stability for future years. By growing the endowment, we want to do all we can for our students whilst preserving our commitment to outstanding teaching and research. Over the course of the last year we have seen a number of donations to our endowment across a variety of areas in College – teaching, research, capital projects, student support and more. We are very grateful to all of our alumnae, friends and donors for their support in this way.

In November we were thrilled to announce the launch of the St Anne's Uehiro Endowment for Future Generations, a new fund which has been made possible by the transformational support of The Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education. The fund offers scholarship opportunities to graduate students in Humanities subjects from the UK and overseas, providing much-needed financial assistance in underfunded areas. The St Anne's Uehiro Endowment for Future Generations will also enable St Anne's College to fully endow the Tutorial Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. Tutorial Fellowships in History at St Anne's will also benefit from the funding, which will allow the College to further endow these posts. This will help to ensure the future security of Humanities subjects at St Anne's and represents an enormously welcome step forward in this area.

We are excited about what lies ahead for St Anne's, particularly as we work up to our 150th year anniversary in 2029. We have a community of proud and committed alumnae, friends and donors. We understand the significance

of preserving the legacy of the College and ensuring a nurturing environment for students for the next 150 years. We believe, with your continued support in so many ways, we can all play a key part in our ambition to secure the College's legacy and future.

We are immensely grateful for all the different ways that St Anne's alumnae, friends and supporters give back to the College. On behalf of everyone in the Development Office, thank you again. If you would like more information or would like to get in touch, please contact me or a member of the Development Office on development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk.

With many thanks again,

Edwin Drummond *Director of Development*

Update on The Plumer Society

Did you know that you can support St Anne's by leaving the College a gift in your Will? Since our earliest days, legacies have made a vital contribution to students at St Anne's College. In fact, the iconic Hartland House would not exist without the legacy of Amy Hartland. Furthermore, you may not be aware that if you intend to leave a legacy to St Anne's in the future, you are eligible to become a member of the Plumer Society.

In May this year, members of the Plumer Society and their friends and family were invited to a talk by Stuart Robinson, Tutorial Fellow in Earth Sciences at St Anne's on his research into Climate Change and Geology. The extremely engaging and enlightening discussion was followed by lunch with Principal Helen King and thoroughly enjoyed by all.



We have recently been reviewing our legacy giving programme and want to thank everyone who has helped update our records. In response to requests from our alumnae, we have partnered with Octopus Legacy to offer a free will writing service. If you live in England or Wales, you can write your will online or with a solicitor through Octopus Legacy. It is quick and easy to complete an online will, which will be fully checked by Octopus Legacy's legal experts once submitted. If you would prefer to talk with a solicitor, the will writing service includes telephone and face-to-face consultancy. The team at Octopus are on hand to answer any questions you may have, either on the telephone, via live-chat, or by email. To find out more or book an appointment, call the Octopus Legacy team on 0800 773 4014 and quote 'St Anne's'. You can also visit our legacy giving page on the St Anne's website, where you can find the link to the Octopus Giving Page. You may choose to leave a gift in your will to St Anne's, and we would be grateful if so, but there is no obligation to do so. The free will writing service is a benefit which we want to offer to all of our alumnae regardless of any bequest to college.

Look out for more information about how to plan your legacy in a special webinar session about will writing that we are planning for October to tie in with 'national free will writing month'. If you have any questions about the Plumer Society, your will, the wording of your bequest, or the College funding priorities please contact Stacey Kennedy at stacey.kennedy@st-annes.ox.ac.uk or (01865) 284622.

From the Development Office

Update on the first year of our brand-new initiative: The Young Stanners Society

As our alumnae will be aware, every St Anne's student becomes a part of the St Anne's Society (SAS) when joining College, and of course, they will become a member of the SAS for life. Following calls from our most recent graduates for specific professional support, in 2023 we decided to launch The Young Stanners Society to compliment the work of the SAS. Our Young Stanners Society brings together St Anne's students who have graduated within the last 10 years and helps them stay in touch with their friends and peers, as well as providing enjoyable events, networking opportunities, professional career support, and communications. The Young Stanners and the SAS work together. For example as part of this year's St Anne's College Community and Giving Week 2024 the Young Stanners Society held an online seminar which saw two of our more recent alumnae, Katie Burgess and Mark Hawley, reflect on their journeys since graduation with St Anne's Society member Dr Susan Doering moderating a highly enlightening discussion.



A highlight of the first year of the Young Stanners Society has been an event in central London to launch the Society, which was held in November 2023 at Dirty Martini bar. More recently

we invited Young Stanners to return to College and enjoy the rowing, summer drinks and a BBQ in the quad to celebrate Summer Eights with St Anne's Boat Club. These events are free for members of the Young Stanners Society and an event in London and one in Oxford will be offered every year to provide recent graduates with the social and professional networking opportunities which they have requested. Members also enjoy reduced entry to events, such as the annual Gaudy and other ticketed alumnae events.



Our next networking event will be held in central London on 21 November. Members of the society can come for free, guests and non-members are welcome for a charge.

We have responded to the feedback offered over our trial year and reviewed the membership process for the Young Stanners Society. To join the Society a small monthly donation to The Young Stanners Fund is encouraged, with most members donating £5 per month or upwards depending on their circumstances. However, we understand that the current financial climate is difficult for recent graduates and moving forward, anyone who makes a donation of any amount to The Young Stanners Fund will

be a part of the Society for that year. Leavers in their first year after graduating will also become automatic members of the Young Stanners Society. Members of the Society have described a wonderful philanthropic buzz as they give back to the students that will come after them and keep the spirit of St Anne's alive.

We have enjoyed a hugely successful first year. As the first Oxford College to develop this kind of philanthropic alumnae network, our successes have been recognised and other colleges seek to emulate our achievements.

This would not have been possible without the support and commitment of our Young Stanners network and a huge thanks is due to all who have supported the Young Stanners in our journey so far. We are keen to expand our support networks and are always looking for experienced professionals who can offer their time and expertise to support our graduates.

For more information on the Young Stanners Society or the SAS please contact Stacey Kennedy at stacey.kennedy@st-annes.ox.ac.uk or (01865) 284622.

Forthcoming Events For Your Diary

2024

- 21st September 2024 – St Anne's Gaudy
- 17th October 2024 - Domus Seminar with David Pyle
- 21st November 2024 – Young Stanners' Society (YSS) Drinks in London
- 7th December 2024 – St Anne's Festive Concert and Celebration

2025

- 10th March – 16th March 2025 - Community & Giving Week
- 22nd March 2025 – 1970s Decade Reunion
- 31st May 2025 - Summer 8s
- 20th September 2025 – Gaudy

Bevington Road Revisited: Our Past, Our Future

JAY GILBERT

By the time this issue of *The Ship* arrives with you, our Bevington Road Regeneration project – the College's largest-scale capital project ever – will have entered its thirteenth month. In last year's *Ship*, we included a report from Holly at Assemble Studios, the project architects, which set out our goals and ambitions – namely, to sensitively regenerate the inadequate accommodation on Bevington Road in a sustainable way which would increase the number of rooms available for students, while increasing the provision of bathroom and kitchen facilities.

A year on, the houses look very different. The internal strip-out was completed by the end of Hilary Term; as would be expected in buildings of this age, our contractors uncovered numerous defects in dire need of repair, from poor internal masonry to heavily worn roof tiles. These defects have now all been identified and rectified, and the rebuilding phase has begun. The beloved Bevs will soon be ready to embark upon the next phase of their long life, refreshed and renewed.

This regeneration project may mark the biggest change the houses have ever undergone, but conversations with alumnae of all ages over the past couple of years has made it clear that the Bevs have witnessed a wide variety of student experiences over the decades. Inasmuch as some things stay the same – the community spirit of house groups; the lifelong friendships forged – life was very different in the 1950s, when the houses were first purchased, from the way it was in 2023, when the project began.

We're very grateful to everyone who has submitted a memory of Bevington Road. Illustrated with archive photographs, this feature will showcase your memories of the Bevs – and look forward to what is to come.

Then



Students studying in 2 Bevington Road, 1960s

Val Dodd (1963) 'I arrived at St Anne's to read English in the autumn of 1963, and moved into 5 Bevington Road. My room was on the second floor and looked into college. Perhaps its one virtue was that it was south facing, and so was given some natural warmth by the sun. It was, in fact, half of what had been one larger room, and was corridor like and small. What struck me was how much furniture had been squeezed into this confined space. There was a bed, writing desk (with a flap which came down to reveal pigeon holes), a table (also to write on) a wardrobe, a chair for the desk and, I suppose, some sort of armchair. There was a very large chest of drawers as well. The walls were painted, I think, a dusky (dusty?) pink. How it was heated, I can't recall. Probably by a small electric

fire which, of course, had to be fed from a meter. Having spent the harsh winter of 62-63 snowed in in the Buckinghamshire countryside, perhaps I did not notice the cold. There must have been some sort of bathroom somewhere. I recall a very primitive kitchen. My housemate opposite, rather impressively, used to bake impeccable Victoria sponges in the cranky old stove's oven. Catering, if it can be called that, was simple, primitive, what you will. There were shared electric kettles on landings. Were we too poor to own our own? Milk was delivered (by whom?) each day. We were meant to share this too, and it aroused much low-level animosity in the household as a sort of first come, first served, seemed to operate (illegally). Bread and crumpets were toasted on the electric fire. The room next to me was occupied by a mature student who moved out in Trinity Term and I moved in. It was a slightly larger room but had a gas fire which terrified me. It hissed and spat, and I used to check it neurotically before I went to bed each night. I liked the fact that Bevington Road houses had gardens. They were all different, and were unpretentious green spaces with lawns and shrubs. Miss Matthews and Miss Hubbard, the Classics dons who lived next door at No 6, were sometimes to be seen weeding the borders. In the summer, people lounged in the gardens (supposedly) reading or jotting down notes for essays. I remember frowning over the Penguin selection of Gerard Manley Hopkins in the June sunshine.'

The Society of Oxford Home-Students had had a presence on the Woodstock Road site for some time thanks to the accommodation provided at Springfield St Mary, a religious house at 33 Banbury Road. In the late 1930s, 35 Banbury Road and 56 Woodstock Road were acquired by Mrs. Hartland, and Hartland House constructed between their large adjacent gardens. With a library and teaching rooms on the site, the houses of Bevington Road became an attractive prospect for the newly named St Anne's Society (1942) and a fundraising programme to buy the leaseholds from St John's in the 1950s saw each house gradually taken over

by the College. No. 3 Bevington Road was gained with vacant possession in 1953 while the others had sitting tenants who were gradually replaced by students as the leases expired. The last flat at the top of 6 Bevington Road was taken over in 1963.

The houses provided students with something closer to the traditional college 'staircase' accommodation, while also remaining individual with their varied architecture and walled gardens. A typical arrangement would see a tutor, the dean or a caretaker in the ground floor of the house, with students in the rooms above. Iris Murdoch is well known for having had her tutorials in her Bevington Road study, sometimes drinking and offering gin to her students!

'I lived for all my 3 years in 7 Bevington Road in a room above the Dean with her bird-loving ginger cat and next door to the caretaker and his wife who brought a homely normality to college life. I looked out on to Hartland House and some beautiful gardens filled with Keats' 'globed peonies" – **Julie Benson** (1976)

Professor Sneha Malde, now our Tutorial Fellow in Physics, has had a long association with St Anne's, having come up as an



Bevington Road from the College side, 1977, by Cynthia Thayer-Nel

From the Development Office

undergraduate in 1999. Sneha recalls her time in the Bevs: 'When I showed up, my bedroom had an electricity meter that only accepted coins that were long out of circulation, two-pin sockets, and a single shower between 15. So my initial thought of college as modern felt rather misplaced. Since then many new buildings have come and while we lost the gorgeous Bevington Road gardens the changes have been for the better, and the new facilities for the students are worth it. I'm glad that the east facing windows of the dining room are back in action now that the 'temporary' kitchen is finally gone. The food has changed a lot. College vegetarian food in 2000 was like playing roulette, with the odds of a good meal sorely against you, and that in 2024 is a winning bet.'

The Bevington Road houses have fostered many enduring friendships – and even marriages! One Biological Scientist who came up in 2005 recalls:

'I remember my room, the room downstairs (the big drawing room one), the equivalent room in the other house (where my now-husband was living), the kitchen. The kitchen was the centre of our 9/10 Bev adventures. I pretty much only met my husband thanks to the housing arrangement, for which I am eternally grateful. I also remember spilling an entire four litre carton of milk in the corridor, and mopping the floor, walls and ceiling with the help of our scout, and painting some theatre sets outside in the garden then drying them in the corridor, to the great inconvenience of everyone. Plus the bath-bop-costume-with-body-paint disaster, the philosophy discussions, and everything else. How many memories do you need/want...?'

Bevington Road Regenerated

The Bevington Road houses are now a protected part of the North Oxford Conservation Area and refurbishing and



students relaxing in the Bevington Road gardens, mid-2000s

updating their interiors to bring them into the 21st Century is a high priority for St Anne's. Internal reconfiguration as well as improvements to the gardens, infills and frontages on Bevington Road will make them more attractive and welcoming for wildlife and our students alike!

The refurbishment and regeneration will contribute to College's overall goals of becoming more sustainable, leaving

St Anne's better than how we found it. Sustainable energy solutions in the houses will include:

- All-new Energy Centre with an air source heat pump, servicing all ten houses and using low carbon heating technology.
- Elimination of fossil fuels: no gas boilers.
- All windows replaced with high performance double glazing.
- Wall and roof insulation.
- Efficient appliances, including induction hobs.

The houses will also incorporate bespoke landscaping, planting and biodiversity:

- Greatly improved front gardens with restored historical features and new planting.
- Accessible route on the College side of the houses for those with disabilities and an improved Bevington Road Garden area, now fulfilling the function of an additional quad.
- Biodiversity to help contribute to the ecological environment and to our sustainable goals.

The unique setup of the Bevington Road houses means we bring together 'households' of eight students, from every type of educational, national and socio-economic background and studying a diverse range of subjects, to live with each other. Getting to know and learn from each others' differences is an invaluable part of the College experience and excellent preparation for post-University life and careers. The friendships formed often last for life.

In the future, the refurbishment will enable us to bring households of international students together in vacations, when they can't return home for whatever reason, to create an international haven for our students from around the world. This will give them the support, community feel and sense of home that they need. Providing world class accommodation on site and nurturing our community in one place with equal

access to all the College's amenities will help us attract the brightest minds and talents from all backgrounds.

Many generous donors have already committed to fund key elements of the project, including the sustainable energy centre, the rear quad, and several of the houses. However, if you would be interested in sponsoring a house, kitchen, bedroom, front garden – or even a paving stone! – there is still plenty of time to get in touch. As we seek to build a new legacy for future generations, we also want to ensure we preserve and remember our past, with the names of previous residents of the Bevs becoming a part of the buildings' fabric. If you would like more information about recognition opportunities and how to donate, please contact us on development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk, or by calling us on +44 1865 74804.



Proposed visualisation of the rear showing the new covered entrances, planters and rear quad, by Assemble Architects

When the houses reopen in summer 2025, we plan to host a launch event to showcase the regeneration, and would love to see you there! Until then, to stay up to date with the progress of the Bevington Road Regeneration Project, keep an eye on our microsite: www.transformingbevingtonroad.co.uk

SAS branch reports 2024

Cambridge branch report

We continue as a diminishing group of members who are, nonetheless, keen to continue our branch activities. Our programme of events this year has fallen into the pattern of previous years: autumn and spring visits to places of interest in East Anglia, the AGM in November, lunch at a Cambridge restaurant in early January, and the 'strawberries and cream' summer party held at our Chair's garden in Fen Ditton in June.

On a cold and very wet day in late October five of us, together with partners and friends, visited the stained glass museum at Ely cathedral. The museum is located above the nave in the triflorum and is only accessible via an old stone spiral staircase. It boasts a nationally significant collection of stained glass art from the 13th century to the present day and includes associated designs, materials and tools which reveal the development of the collection. We then had a very pleasant lunch before setting out in the pouring rain for a guided tour of Ely museum. Housed in the Old Gaol dating back to the 13th century, the museum showcases the heritage of Ely and surrounding fens and its development from a monastic foundation to a market town.



Crowned female head, c. 1440–1460, unknown original, possibly Norwich



Diana the Huntress and Cherub Scribe, 1920–1930, Christopher Webb from Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital

Our visit to the Sainsbury Centre at the University of East Anglia on the outskirts of Norwich took place in late April. In 1973 Sir Robert and Lady Lisa Sainsbury donated their collection of art from around the world and from all time periods to the UEA. Housed in Sir Norman Foster's revolutionary first-ever public building, the collection is deliberately arranged to mix art, architecture, archaeology, and anthropology to provide an interactive experience for the visitor.



Cambridge SAS members with partners at the Sainsbury Centre, UEA

London branch report

This last year has seen the branch taking time to reflect on its purpose and to gain an insight into what our members want from us.

We revisited our constitution to bring it in line with the way we operate in

a changing world where we are a much smaller group than when it was originally set up and with fewer people in a position to be active in the committee.

We sent out a survey to our 90-strong mailing list. 47 replied, of whom 42 want to keep in touch, of whom 30 would like to still be actively involved, though several felt they were too old or infirm to travel. There is an appetite for outings to concerts and galleries, walks and informal meals. However, these same active members also have busy diaries, so we often struggle to fill the events. In practice there is a core of about 15 who regularly attend outings.

Over the past few years we have struggled in vain to attract new, younger members. Now that College has a new initiative of events to connect with recent graduates in London, we feel that our energies are better spent concentrating on organising social events for our core members. Of course, we hope to work with College to make sure all graduates are aware of the St Anne's Society and what the branches can offer at different stages of life.

Since our last report we have enjoyed another early evening concert at the Barbican followed by a meal in a local Italian restaurant, a visit to a matinee at the Richmond Theatre to see Alfred

Hitchcock's adaptation of *39 Steps*, and a cruise on the Thames with Open City, studying the architecture of the river. Our book club is still going strong, where we all appreciate getting out of our comfort zone with some challenging reads, as well as revisiting old favourites.

Our annual Freshers' event was again held at a Barbican restaurant with 15 Freshers and 4 second years. The AGM and dinner was held at a new venue, the Army and Navy Club in Pall Mall, and was a great success. A fascinating talk was given by our own member Susan Doering on her international career as a career coach.



London SAS members on their Thames boat trip

Our new Treasurer John Baker has settled in and we are in the process of changing to a bank account with online



London SAS Freshers' event September 2023

SAS branch reports

access which will make life easier. We were very glad to send good wishes to our oldest member Jean Thompson on her 100th birthday.

Midlands branch report

Our friendly book club meets are an enjoyable way for us to connect with St Anne's. This year we have chosen two non-fiction books written by St Anne's alumnae (*Marathon Wisdom* by Mara Yamauchi and *Emergency State* by Adam Wagner), as well as *The Island of Missing Trees* by St Anne's Honorary Fellow, Elif Shafak. Our very own book club member, Anna Patrick, is the author of our latest pick, *After*, which is set in post-war Germany. You may be interested to read Anna's piece about book clubs which is featured in this edition of *The Ship*. We are set to meet next in September, so if you would like to join us, please do get in touch via our Facebook page (St Anne's in the Midlands), or via email: stansmidlands@gmail.com.

In May we arranged another of our ever-popular 'blue plaque' walks in leafy Edgbaston in Birmingham, taking in the homes of several influential residents of the past – names such as Cadbury and Chamberlain featured more than once. Afterwards we shared an enjoyable lunch together (see pictures below). In February we made our annual donation of £200 to the Bevington Road

redevelopment project. We welcome any St Anne's alumnae, and family, to our events. We'd love to meet you!



*Midlands SAS members –
blue plaque walk and lunch*

North East branch report

Once again, the North East Branch kicked off the academic year with our annual Freshers' event. With a mix of alumnae, current students, and freshers getting together for some drinks at The Town Wall in Newcastle. It was wonderful to bring old and new faces together and keep up this

important tradition, which continues to be bolstered by the enthusiasm of previous attendees (aka current students and recent alum) to come along and welcome new members to the St Anne's family. We are very much looking forward to hosting the event again this year.

In November, a number of alumnae got together for an evening of walking, talking, and beautiful illuminations at Durham's Lumiere festival. Thanks to Richard Huzzey for organising and single-handedly doubling the number of events for the North East branch this last year!

Please do get in touch if you are in the region and you would like to get involved. iamdavidroyal@gmail.com



North East SAS Freshers' event 2023

South of England branch report

I am delighted to report that despite losing some members this year to old age

and infirmity, we have managed to push up our branch membership numbers well into the low thirties. This has been due to a very successful 'Bevington Brunch' in October which was kindly advertised by the Development Office to St Anne's alumnae across our region, and also to mutually beneficial partnership working with the Oxford University Society Hampshire and West Sussex branches.

Our annual programme of events always includes three book discussions, an outing, a theatre trip and a lecture. This year our three books have taught us about how the way we think now has been shaped by the past. In July Sathnam Sanghera's *Empireland* produced a challenging discussion as it exposed the limitations of our knowledge of British and world history, and how the legacy of Empire impacts on the present day. In November, the *Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams gave us a fascinating insight into how activity in 'our' corner of north Oxford in the 19th century produced the first Oxford English Dictionary, and how words reflect and influence our thinking, and change over time. Then in March, in honour of the late AS Byatt, we read her two novellas published together in *Angels and Insects*, which explore ideas about our relationship to the natural and spiritual worlds. Our forthcoming summer read will be quite different –



South of England SAS visit to Silent Pool Gin Distillery, May 2024

Sean O'Driscoll's biography of notorious St Anne's alumna Rose Dugdale who died in March this year.

In October 2023 our annual lecture took the form of a fundraiser for the Bevington Road appeal entitled the 'Bevington Brunch'. We were thrilled that Patrick McGuinness, St Anne's Professor of French and Comparative Literature, agreed to talk to us over a self-catered Sunday brunch in Alton, expanding on his revealing work of

non-fiction, *Real Oxford*, which had been the subject of a great article in *The Ship's* 21-22 edition. This choice of topic and speaker attracted a great turnout of both SAS and OUS members, with 52 tickets sold. The event raised over £400 for the Bevington Road appeal, to which we were able to add £350 from our other funds. The brunch was also attended by Edwin Drummond from the Development Office who was able to promote the appeal to individuals thinking of donating personally. Many

SAS branch reports

thanks to Patrick and Edwin for making this event such a success.

This year's outing was a very enjoyable private tour and tasting at the renowned Silent Pool Gin Distillery, set on the beautiful estate of the Duke of Northumberland at Albury near Guildford. In learning about the making of this local gin, which is now sold across the world, we also gained an insight into how a new, successful global business can be built that is rooted in local resources, culture and expertise – on the same lines as the champagne industry in France. The event was designed to attract potential new members from the Surrey area, but it succeeded rather better in cementing our relationship with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight OUS, who swelled our numbers on what turned out to be a glorious day.

Theatre-wise, our 2023 Spring/Summer trip to see Noël Coward's *Vortex* at Chichester Festival Theatre was less well-subscribed than in previous years. So this year we have selected a play we all definitely want to see and have signed up for *Redlands*, about events in 1967 in Keith Richards' West Sussex country house, which led to 'the most bizarre English court case ever held'. The performance will take place in October.

At the beginning of this report, I mentioned the sad loss of some of our members this year. Christine Lipscomb, who used to be a regular attendee at our events, passed away in December 2023. Then in February 2024 we heard from daughter Liz that her mother Audrey Stanley had died aged 92. Liz told us how much Audrey had appreciated being a member of the St Anne's Society (South of England). We had last seen her in March 2021 when she joined us online on her 90th birthday. Audrey was passionate about women's education and also active in the Methodist women's movement nationally and internationally (see her obituary in this issue). One of her granddaughters, Lydia Ellis (Becky's daughter) also attended St Anne's to study Oriental Studies (with a specialisation in Arabic).

Being a part of wider St Anne's family remains a joy and a privilege for all of us members of the South of England branch. It brings us new friendships, camaraderie and intellectual challenge, and we are proud of the St Anne's Society which is unique amongst Oxford colleges.

Reports by **Sarah Beeson-Jones** (Cambridge); **Lynn Biggs** and **Clare Dryhurst** (London); **Michele Gawthorpe** (Midlands); **David Royal** (North East); **Stella Charman** (South of England)

Oxford branch closure

Sadly, a proposal was put to the SAS Committee meeting in June of this year that the Oxford branch be closed down.

The Oxford branch was set up in 2000 by some energetic alumnae of St Anne's and over the years has enjoyed the support of many. Jackie Ingram's list of events held since the branch's formation is evidence of the way in which the branch has promoted friendships and study. However, the branch has not been active since 2019 and Jackie has sent an appeal to branch members to contact her with positive ideas for revitalising the branch.

However, with falling membership and the difficulty of attracting people to events when there is so much competition both in the town and in the wider university, the few remaining members now feel it is time to wind up activities.

A formal AGM and final event for members to celebrate the history of the branch will be held. Any remaining branch funds will be donated to one of the College appeal funds. If you have any questions or comments please contact jackiestannessoc@btinternet.com with copy to jackie.ingram@btinternet.com.

Book Clubs in the SAS Branches

The proliferation of book groups is a phenomenon of our times. St Anne's has a notable literary legacy and continues to produce many authors of all descriptions, so perhaps it's not surprising that several book groups flourish among the SAS branches. A couple of years ago alumna Kate Wilson of 'Books on the Broad' hosted an online SAS event 'How to run a successful reading group'. We subsequently invited other branch book groups to reflect on the secrets of their success. Several common themes emerged ...

Midlands

Once we're past childhood, reading tends to be a solitary activity. Nothing wrong with that. I don't want to be interrupted when I'm being transported to different countries, different times, different lives. Then the book comes to an end and I look around, slightly lost. Why did the author do that? Was that plot twist believable? Would that character really have said that? Nobody answers and that's as frustrating as a parent telling their child they'll only read to the end of the chapter tonight.

That is why book clubs are so popular and necessary. They provide the conversations we all want to have when we've finished a book. I feel privileged to be part of the St Anne's Midlands Book Club. As you would expect, the conversation is always intelligent, insightful, thought-provoking. More than that, it's fun and stimulating. We have a laugh; we learn about each other; we enjoy tea and cake. What's not to like?

Covid forced us to test out a couple of zoom-centred virtual book discussions, which were fine. But for us, it's taking the time to share a couple of hours together that makes Book Club particularly rewarding.

The books we discuss are always written by people who were at St Anne's. I guess that could be limiting, but it means we always have a connection to the author and there's no shortage of titles – or genres – to choose from. The variety on offer means that we find ourselves reading something we might not normally have chosen, encouraging us to step outside our reading comfort zones. Having a date and an informed group makes us read and absorb the book – and look forward to the intellectual stimulation that will ensue.

Then, when we've finished for the day and said our goodbyes, we leave with a goody bag of leftover cake.

Good books forever; diet tomorrow.

Anna Patrick (*Wielogorska*, French and Philosophy, 1977, Theology 1978) – with contributions from members of the **Midlands SAS Book Club**

London

Various competing claims are made about the origins of book groups. Did they begin with seventeenth century women meeting to discuss sermons, or with Bible study groups? Or did they spring from nineteenth-century Paris salons? Jane Austen's heroines were comparing reading lists of Gothic horror in *Northanger Abbey*, which incidentally is one of the occasional classics our group has read. It is interesting to speculate how much further back reading groups go than the popular book clubs of the last ten or twenty years.

The London alumnae group began with Susan Doering's idea to keep members in touch online during the Covid restrictions. It has been a great success, and there was unanimous enthusiasm to keep the

Book Clubs in the SAS Branches

group going even after life returned to normal. So we are now in our fourth year and have read thirty books. These are chosen or proposed by members in turn, and options voted upon.

The range is wide, mostly fiction. Non-fiction has made an appearance on the list too, with a biography of escape from North Korea by Hyeonseo Lee and nature writing in Helen Macdonald's memoir, *H is for Hawk*. We recently enjoyed Laura Cumming's *Thunderclap*, about Delft and the golden age of Dutch art, especially Fabritius. Classics have included Edith Wharton, Vita Sackville-West and Thomas Mann. But we usually veer more towards contemporary literature.

More recent books are often selected on the basis that no-one has yet read them. They are not all Booker-type contenders by any means. Our list has included detective stories and a Le Carré, we like variety and read a very broad mix. But there is perhaps a thread running through our novels. We have gone from Troy (Pat Barker), to a Tudor monastery (C J Sansom), to Australia in *The Dickens Boy* (Kenneally) and pre-war Germany (Colm Toibin's *The Magician*, about Thomas Mann). And to Egypt (Penelope Lively's *Moon Tiger*), Norwegian islands (*The Unseen*, Roy Jacobsen), Malaysia (*The House of Doors*, Tan Twan Eng) and even Antarctica (Jon McGregor's *Lean, Fall,*

Stand). So we like to get out and explore the wider world in our books.

Most of all, the group has been a delightful way to meet other St Anne's alumnae. We probably span about 25 years of undergraduate experience across different times, and all read very different subjects. It is a great way to broaden one's reading horizons, compare notes and ask questions about plot mysteries or baffling characters. With a shared book to discuss, one cuts straight to the chase, there is never a shortage of things to talk about.

Charlotte Hendrie (*Capstick*, Law, 1977)

South of England

Ernest Hemingway may well have been right that 'there is no friend as loyal as a book.' But, as our reading group has proved since it began in 2009, there are few better ways to forge new friendships and intensify old ones than through the shared reading of a book. Being St Anne's alumnae, of course, our friendships are all the better and deeper after a satisfyingly rigorous argument. And we have certainly argued over the years, often over the most unexpected and unlikeliest of books.

We meet four times a year in each other's homes and read a variety of fiction and non-fiction works with emphasis on the

fiction. It's open to anyone to suggest a title and the choice is then made by consensus.

Sometimes there is a good reason for a choice – Iris Murdoch's *The Black Prince* was an early selection thanks to her link with St Anne's. It added an extra interest that one of our members could count Iris as her moral tutor. More recently we tackled Devaki Jain's autobiography *The Brass Notebook* and Hadley Freeman's wonderful *House of Glass*. But our reading is largely guided by whim.

We have read Edith Wharton, Neil Gaiman, Clare Tomalin, Antonia White, Brigid Brophy, Ivan Turgenev and Tyari Jones. The list is catholic in the extreme. Not surprisingly we have discovered over the years that the most satisfying discussions occur when there are widely diverging views in the room. Sadly, despite our best efforts, predicting which book will elicit this happy situation still proves totally elusive.

Who would have guessed that American novelist Anne Tyler would spark such a mixture of love and loathing? Despite the marshalling of the most persuasive voices in each camp, views remained stubbornly entrenched. None of us anticipated that the discussion of Ian McEwan's recent novel, *Lessons*, would prove a tad unsatisfying because we all had very similar views.

We start and end our meetings with each of us giving a mark out of 10 for the book. One of the delights is discovering both how these marks differ and how they alter during the course of discussion.

Our members come from all disciplines and our different experiences and outlooks give our meetings immense depth. We were blessed for many years to have a medic in our midst. Her insights into the physical and mental health of fictional characters were always illuminating. Few of us will ever forget her

medical diagnosis of the protagonist in Doris Lessing's *The Good Terrorist*.

Eschewing rules and regulations, we are firm that there is no obligation to finish a book and members are welcome to attend even if it is only to explain why they simply could not get to the end (I'm thinking of *Wolf Hall* here.)

The club came into its own during lockdown when we 'met' via zoom. We now adopt a hybrid version on the occasions when we can't all be together in the same room (we are spread over a

large geographical area of Hampshire, Wiltshire, Sussex and Dorset).

Being ladies of a certain age (sadly despite our best efforts we are yet to recruit any male St Anne's alumni) our meetings always end with tea and cake. This is obviously an opportunity for an open discussion. But perhaps inexorably conversations lead back to books – what else we are reading, what to read next. We are, after all, passionate readers one and all.

Tessa Cunningham (English, 1977)



St Anne's Shines in Trinity Term

With the weather (very slightly) improving, morale around St Anne's during Trinity Term is always exponentially lifted. The vibrant atmosphere is one of the best aspects of Anne's and is particularly prominent at this time of year. Despite the many exams underway, there was no lack of joy to be seen around college in these past weeks.

Welfare events continued to keep spirits high, particularly with our JCR-conducted themed teas such as 'everything cake' and 'LGBTea' which brought together sweet treat enthusiasts. In other weeks when the sun shone down, students came together to take group walks around the University Parks and soak in the spells of sunshine. In week 6 the JCR arts rep got creative for Arts Week, with painting workshops, photography and a visit to the Ashmolean Museum.

'Quad life' is a term used around college to describe a lifestyle which has been adopted by many of the JCR members. It involves rushing out of your accommodation as soon as the sun is out to find a place out on the Anne's quad with a bean bag and your reading list. The academic productivity of those who engage in quad life is unknown; however, the sheer joy of chatting away in the sun while taking a break from work was definitely needed during this slightly stressful exam season. The JCR Entz Reps also organized a wonderful barbeque out on the quad for a very summery lunchtime event enjoyed by all.

Sporting engagement is at an all-time high in the JCR. The men's rugby, joint with St John's, had a triumphant win in rugby seven's Cuppers towards the beginning of term, which was then followed by both mixed and ladies' netball Cuppers. Summer 8's in week 5 brought many down to the boathouse to cheer on our rowing club, with both the women's and men's teams putting



Doughnuts in the JCR

forward an impressive performance. Rounders has also been a favourite activity for many of us this Trinity as both a sociable and competitive sport, with the team winning friendly matches as well as taking part in College Cuppers at the end of term.

The JCR Committee had the task of reviewing and amending the JCR Constitution and standing orders, as it is precedent to do so every 5 years. We made changes such as the addition of a 3rd Welfare Officer as well as sadly removing the role of Tortoise Officer following the tragic passing of beloved Tortellini in 2020.

RIP Tortellini. This term has also been filled with manifestos, hustings and elections as the JCR committee roles for next year were filled. Roxana Rusu and Cecile Durkin became President and Vice President elects, and Gabriella Berkeley-Agyepong and Ben O'Donnell were elected as Secretary and Treasurer. I have no doubt the JCR Committee of 2024-25 is in safe hands!

Love is in the air at St Anne's! The wonderful tradition of college marriage allows the next generation of STANNER's to have people to go to for any help they may need in navigating

college life. This clearly is not *just* a small tradition for some, with college wedded couples even going as far to have a full ceremony, formalised by the exchange of the vows "til graduation do us part" and ceremonial Haribo rings. With this celebration and many more, we look forward to future milestones and memories in the terms to come. Here's to love, unity, and the wonderful community at St Anne's College.

Ruby M Austen (2022, Biology)
JCR president 2023-24)

A College marriage takes place on the quad



A Year at St Anne's MCR: Blending Academic Growth and Community Spirit

Reflecting on the past academic year at St Anne's MCR, it is clear that our focus has been on transforming our community into a bustling hub of activity, support, and enjoyment. We have strived to create an environment where academic excellence coexists harmoniously with social engagement, fostering a well-rounded experience for everyone involved.

From the beginning, Freshers Week set the stage for inclusivity and camaraderie, with events ranging from calming afternoon tea sessions to energetic Bops. These gatherings not only welcomed new members but also established a sense of belonging

that persisted throughout the year. Our Bops, inspired by everything from House Parties to Christmas, provided countless opportunities for laughter and connection. These events were coupled with the charm of open mic or karaoke nights, and the always entertaining Topsy Show and Tell. Special mention must be made of the Oxford tradition of Formal Dinners, ranging from exchange dinners where we got to know other colleges to the festive Christmas dinner and the Founders Formal.

In addition to our lively social calendar, we have prioritised the welfare of our members, offering activities such as Halloween Pottery Painting and Christmas Cookie Decorating as creative



Students in the MCR



Alpaca petting



A bop in progress

outlets for relaxation. Initiatives like welfare massages and self-care nights have provided much-needed respites from the demands of academic life, while the Alpaca Petting Zoo brought moments of joy amidst the rigours of academic life.

Academically, our 'Shut Up and Write' sessions have provided a conducive space for focused work, accompanied by energising coffee and motivational pastries. The revival of the St Anne's Academic Review (STAAR) underscores our commitment to scholarly discourse, offering a platform for the publication of our members' academic endeavours. Furthermore, our dedication to supporting research and travel grants demonstrates our commitment to academic growth beyond the classroom.



MCR members gathered for a formal

Democratically, transparency and accountability have been paramount. Regular MCR General Meetings have ensured that all voices are heard, and constitutional amendments have been implemented to enhance the efficiency of our organisation, reflecting our commitment to democratic governance.

Looking back, we are proud of the vibrant sense of community and academic progress that has defined life at St Anne's MCR. As we anticipate the year ahead, we are excited to continue nurturing this supportive and dynamic community.

Katja Michlbauer (MPhil Economics)
MCR President 2023/24

Fellows' News and Publications

Professor Roger Crisp, Uehiro Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, has published, with Benjamin Mullins, 'Ethics from the Outside Looking In: An Interview with Roger Crisp' (*Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics*, 16, 2023).

In November 2023, he also appeared on an episode of "In Our Time" to discuss Aristotle's Nichomachean Ethics with Melvyn Bragg and other guests.

St Anne's Fellow in Engineering, Professor Jakob Foerster, and his DPhil students Jonathan Cook, Eltayeb Ahmed, and Thomas Foster have been awarded an Amazon Research Award for a project aiming to improve Large Language Models (LLMs), the core backbone behind the GenAI revolution that is currently unfolding. The Amazon Research awards program offers flexible funds and AWS Promotional Credits to support research at academic institutions and non-profit organisations in areas that align with their mission to advance customer-obsessed science.

Professor Imogen Goold, Tutorial Fellow and Professor of Medical Law, made a number of appearances on the BBC speaking about Assisted Dying, including The World Service and The Briefing Room: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0h0pl19>.

Her co-authored article with Catherine Kelly 'Time to Start De Novo: The *Paul, Purchase and Polmear* litigation and the temporal gap problem in secondary victim claims for psychiatric injury' (2023) 39(1) *Journal of Professional Negligence* 24, was cited by the Supreme Court in *Paul and another v Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust; Polmear v Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust; Purchase v Ahmed* [2024] UKSC 1.

Professor Saiful Islam, Professor of Materials Science and Professorial Fellow, was awarded, together with colleagues in Oxford Physics, a five-year EPSRC programme grant (£7.7 million) on 'Advanced concepts for next-generation photovoltaics.' In December 2023, he was invited by *The Observer/The Guardian* to write about one of the top Science Stories of the year. He gave the keynote lecture at the 2024 Royal Society Student Conference using 3D glasses for all. In 2024, Saiful's research group has published papers on battery and solar cell materials in the journals *Science*, *Nature* and *Nature Materials*.

Prof. Matthew Leigh, Fellow and Tutor in Classics, spent a blissful Fall Term 2023 as a Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

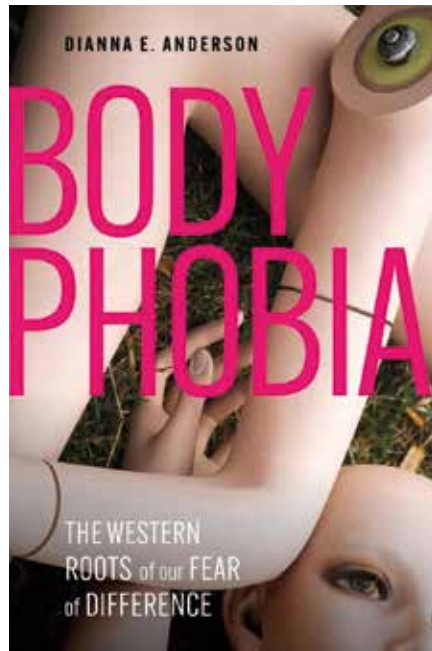
Professor David Pyle, Fellow in Earth Sciences, has been awarded the prestigious Murchison Medal by the Geological Society. The Murchison Medal is awarded to geologists who have contributed significantly to 'hard' rock studies. This year's recipient, Professor Pyle, is an internationally recognised volcanologist who, the Society notes, "has made outstanding contributions to understanding volcanic deposits and processes, using pioneering methods to characterise and classify tephra fall deposits and infer erupted volumes. Highlights of his work include his research on the frequency and triggers of eruptions, the geochemistry of gas emissions, the effects of volcanism on climate, environment and society, and on understanding volcanic risk."

Alumnae Publications

St Anne's College is proud to have so many alumnae who have gone on to be successful authors. We have an alumnae section of books in the Library and our Librarian would be delighted to showcase your book if you would like to provide one. We are also very pleased to list alumnae publications here in The Ship. Please get in touch with development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk if you'd like to be included in any of these places.

Dianna E. Anderson (2015) has published *Body Phobia: The Western Roots of Our Fear of Difference* (1517 Media, 2024).

'*Body Phobia* is an examination of the western societal fear of the body, how it permeates all parts of culture, who gets to be perceived as more than their body, and who does not. By becoming self-aware of how our bodies interact with the world and what it *means* to have a body, we can begin to overcome the harm done in divorcing the western body and the western mind for centuries. Through cutting analysis and candid storytelling, Dianna E. Anderson exposes our fear-based politics and shows us a way to approach bodies that is neither positive nor negative but neutral. Our bodies *are*. And that's enough.'



Sarah (Sally) Lutterodt (née French, 1958) has published a memoir, *Worlds Apart: A Memoir of Uncertain Belonging* (Atmosphere Press, 2024).

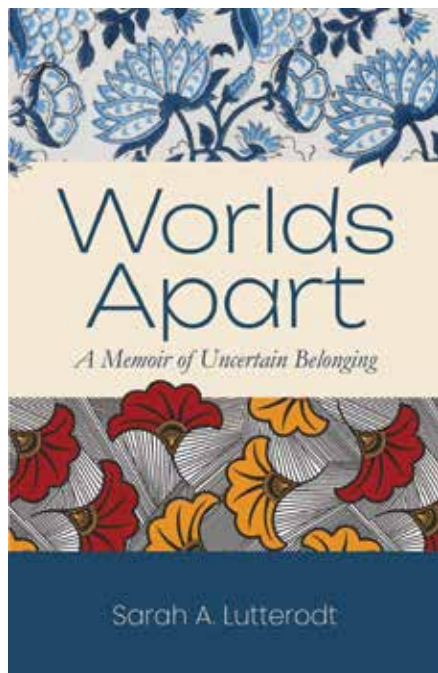
'Sarah Lutterodt's inspirational memoir, *Worlds Apart*, traces her life from a sheltered post-war childhood in southern England through transformative years teaching university in Ghana to the hustle and bustle of the American business world and her return to Ghana in retirement.

The memoir is a testament to the power of love and perseverance as, with her Ghanaian husband, Lutterodt raises a biracial family in racially traumatized America, while forging a career in a male-dominated industry. In telling her story, she delves deeply into the complexities of identity, belonging, and the quest for understanding across cultures and continents.

Proceeds from the sale of *Worlds Apart* will be used to benefit

Alumnae news: Publications

development projects at the Nii Sowa Din Memorial cluster of schools in Ashaley Botwe, Ghana.'



Anton McLean (2009) completed a PGCE at St Anne's and is now a Head of School at a secondary school in London. He has published a book called *Educational Collateral Damage: Disadvantaged Students, Exclusion and Social Justice* (Policy Press, 2024)

ISBN: 9781447371991

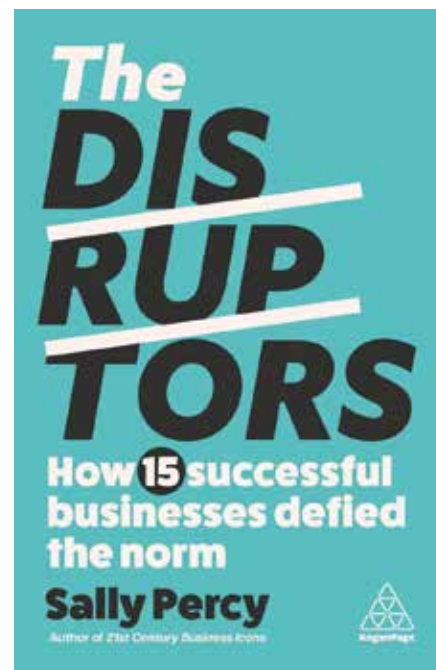
Why do disadvantaged students continue to get a poor deal as they progress through England's education system? Challenging orthodox thinking about school exclusion, this book powerfully advocates for a fairer education system for disadvantaged students. It argues that the current conceptualisation of 'exclusion' – physically removing the student from the school – is insufficient. This approach fails to recognise the layers of exclusion that these students encounter. Students can be excluded within their schools (inner exclusion), not just from school (outer exclusion). Drawing on student experiences of exclusion and the perspectives of senior leaders, including the author who is a Head of School, this book demonstrates how we can create a fairer education system for disadvantaged students.

Sally Percy (née Truman, 1994) has published two books: *21st Century Business Icons: The Leaders Who Are Changing Our World* (Kogan Page, 2023) and *The Disruptors: How 15 Successful Business Defied the Norm* (Kogan Page, 2024). From the stratospheric success of Jeff Bezos to the secret genius of Satoshi Nakamoto, *21st Century Business Icons* uncovers the fascinating success stories behind some of the world's most innovative business leaders. In *The Disruptors*, Sally Percy investigates the stories behind some of the world's

most innovative businesses, who took unconventional and trailblazing approaches to overcome the competition and achieve success.

Sally Percy is an experienced journalist, editor and author specializing in leadership and management. She is the editor of *Edge*, the official journal of the UK Institute of Leadership.

She is a leadership contributor to *Forbes.com* and her writing has appeared in publications such as *The*

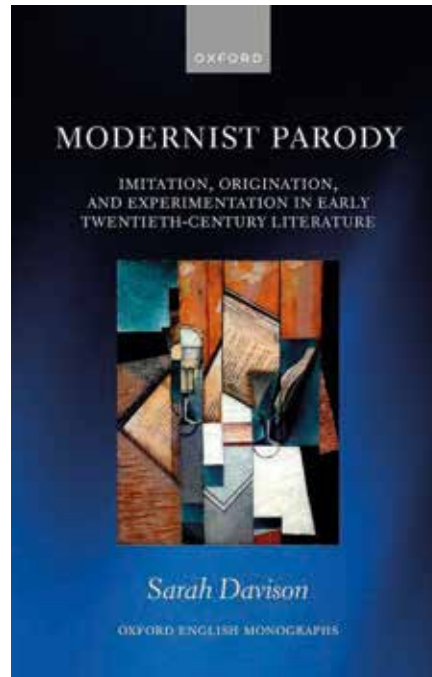


Telegraph, CFO World and The Times. She is also a host of webcasts, roundtables and conference panels and frequently interviews influential business leaders. She is based in Sussex, UK.

Sarah Davison (1999) has published *Modernist Parody: Imitation, Origination, and Experimentation in Early Twentieth-Century Literature* (OUP, 2023).

The book is a study of parody's role in shaping modernism, featuring a full history of parody in theory and practice. It explores the innermost workings of modernist creativity, from the early writings of Ezra Pound to the high modernisms of T. S. Eliot and James Joyce, and the later modernisms of Ford Madox Ford, Wyndham Lewis, Virginia Woolf, up to and including *Finnegans Wake*. It examines how the modernists locate themselves in relation to literary history and present their own evolution as authors who have become truly modern and reflects on unpublished and lesser-known works by modernist authors, including comic ephemera.

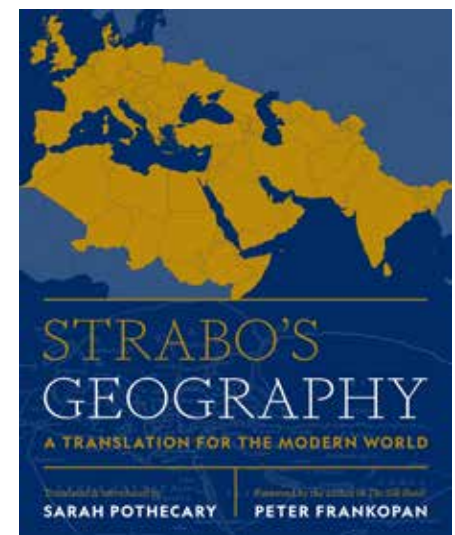
Sarah Davison is Assistant Professor in English Literature at the University of Nottingham, where she is the Director of the Centre for Regional Literature and Culture. She is also the author of *Modernist Literatures: A Reader's Guide to Essential Criticism* (Palgrave, 2014).



Sarah Pothecary (1977) has published *Strabo's Geography: A Translation for the Modern World* (Princeton University Press, 2024). From the publisher: 'Strabo's *Geography* is an encyclopaedic description of the ancient world as it appeared to a contemporary observer in the early Roman empire. Information about taming elephants, collecting saffron, producing asphalt, and practicing yoga is found alongside accounts of prostitution, volcanic activity, religious festivals, and obscure eastern dynasties—all set against the

shifting backdrop of political power in the first century CE. Traveling around the Mediterranean, Strabo gathered knowledge of places and people, supplementing his firsthand experiences with an immense amount of reading to create a sweeping chronicle that attempts to answer the implicit questions "Who are we?" and "Where do we come from?" Sarah Pothecary's new translation of Strabo's complete *Geography* makes this important work more accessible, relevant, and enjoyable than ever before.'

Sarah Pothecary is an independent Classics scholar who is now based in Toronto.



Alumnae News

Jenny Grove (1959)

As a freelance writer, I'm not doing any paid work at the moment, but I'm still revising the final draft of my book, 'Boys against the Jackboot,' true stories of boys, including my brother, who defied the Germans during the Occupation of Jersey. Also my limericks continue to appear in the Daily Mail next to the Letters Page, a fairly recent example - *Water companies, in disarray,/ May not always quite mean what they say,/ As when, 'Seeking solutions To decrease pollutions,'/Means raising executive pay.*

Shona Minson (1990) has been announced as one of ten New Generation Thinkers, supported by the Arts and Humanities REsearch Council and the BBC. Shona has been selected for her work on the treatment of mothers in the criminal justice system. Originally from Belfast, she is an award-winning criminologist, whose first career as a family and criminal barrister led her to explore families and punishment.

Alessandro Olsaretti (1988)

Alessandro's two-volume book, *The Struggle for Development and Democracy*, was published by Brill in 2023 (now available in paperback with Haymarket Books). Sadly, Alessandro died in Montreal, Canada, at the age of 54 on 30 November 2023.

Carol Swain (Harrop, 1972) has recently completed her first term of office as the Mayor of Truro, Cornwall, and was sworn in for a second year on May 13.

Sarah Turvey (1973)

I was awarded an OBE in the King's recent Honours List for my work in setting up and running Prison Reading Groups (PRG) since 1999. I am delighted of course, especially for the recognition it gives to PRG.

In Memoriam

Rikki Abernethy (Salvesen) 1978
Jill Angood 1968
Catherine Baatz (Smith) 1947
Sheila Baillie (Mathewson) 1946
Audrey Baird (Dutton) 1945
Jean Bannister (Taylor) 1958
Jana Bennett (Clemmow) 1974
Elizabeth Buchanan (Briggs) 1946
Sheila Burns (Phelps) 1961
David Butler 1943
Sally Carr 1977
Clare Cavadino 1969
Freda Crockford (Brocklesby) 1952
Margaret Dickinson (Mcmeekan) 1954
Monica Dowley (Verry) 1947
Mary Ellison (Allt) 1949
Sylvia Evans (Wightwick) 1951
Anne Everest-Phillips (Everest) 1950
Alison Fairn 1952
Susan Foreman (Kremer) 1957
Tessa Frank (Hoar) 1951
Katherine Gieve (Vereker) 1968
Rosemary Gooding 1957
Mary Gregory (Robey) 1957
Jill Grumitt (Caygill) 1944
Mary Hallaway 1950
Peter Hill 1969
Louie Holder 2017

Ruth Jackman (Peirson) 1964
Anne Jacobson (Jaap) 1965
Elizabeth Jeffreys (Brown) 1963
Nicole Jordan 1973
Patricia Kenney 1977
Ann Kirk (Swindells) 1956
Yi Ming Lai 2006
Jacqueline Lang (Wicks) 1961
Christine Lipscomb (Rickman) 1963
James Loehlin 1986
Mercia MacDermott (Adshead) 1945
Joan Duff (Macgregor) 1947
Daphne Matthews (Greenshields) 1948
Catherine McNamara (Brock) 1955
Patricia Miller (Levi) 1951
David Morgan 1980
John Murray 1952
Robin Newson 1957
Alessandro Olsaretti 1988
Barbara Onslow (McGrath) 1955
Elizabeth Palmer (Theophilus) 1951
Muriel Passey (Dinnin) 1948
Jane Penman (Custance) 1967
Jennifer Penny (Gross) 1953
Doreen Preston (Keyes) 1944
Andrew Race 1969
Mark Reilly 1994
Joyce Reynolds 1937

Linda Richardson (Deer) 1966
Crispin Robinson 1979
Hazel Rossotti (Marsh) 1948
Margaret Silvers 1945
Rachel Smith 1992
Margaret Sparks (Davy) 1949
Robert Spencer 1947
Audrey Stanley (Franklin) 1952
Stephanie Sweet 1963
Ann Taylor (Wanless) 1958
Jean Taylor (Logie) 1949
Rosemary Taylor 1951
Janet Townsend (Thompson) 1962
Jessica Townsend (Meyersberg) 1959
Judith Tucker 1978
Kathryn Turner (Davison) 1972
Lucy Tyler (Flynn) 1989
Mary Wake (Hutton) 1954
Diana Warburton (Morris) 1958
Angela Watts (Webb) 1956
Hilary Williams (Cockfield) 1962
Ann Williams 1951
David Williams 1962
Mary Withrington 1953
Margaret Young (Tucker) 1949
Pat Young (Cowin) 1961

Obituaries

IN MEMORIAM

AUDREY BAIRD

(DUTTON, MODERN HISTORY, 1945)

9 JANUARY 1927 – 4 DECEMBER 2023



Audrey Dutton went up to St Anne's Society Oxford from Southport Girls' High School in 1945, a time when only 1% of school leavers went on to higher education at all. She met John Baird (St Catherine's Society), and they married in Oxford after completion of her postgraduate teacher training.

She was the first in her family to go to university. Her father had been trained in the new technology of radio in the forces during the Great War, and ran a shop selling and installing vacuum tube radio sets into the 1950s. Her mother

was a full-time housewife, brisk and practical, whose cure for all ills was "run around the back garden a few times". Both parents were voracious readers and avid talkers who took for granted that the world of the intellect was open to anyone who wished to open a book or listen to a talk on the BBC Home Service. Every week Audrey and her younger sister Paddy carried home books from the Southport Library.

Audrey lost herself in history. She could imagine the characters and their hopes and fears that all people share, whether written about nor not. Her object in life was to teach the essential unity of humanity, to show that we can learn from our shared past that difference need not mean destruction, that what we have in common is always greater than what we identify as different.

She was at home in the classroom, in face-to-face contact with pupils. She had no desire to climb the educational hierarchy into management. She knew that we teach by example. "We teach who we are."

She leaves a son and a daughter, four grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and countless pupils whose imaginations she touched.

John Baird (son)

IN MEMORIAM

JEAN BANNISTER (TAYLOR, MODERN HISTORY, 1958; DIP THEOLOGY, 1961)

13 JULY 1940 – 14 AUGUST 2022



Jean's father, Nathaniel Taylor, and mother, Winnifred Meakin, met in London while he served as a Grenadier Guardsman. Jean was born on 13 July 1940 in her father's ancestral village of Epwell in Oxfordshire, but grew up near Worthing, on the south coast, where Nathaniel was a policeman.

Jean passed the eleven plus and went to Worthing High School, where she blossomed, enjoying drama, music (playing the piano and singing) and art. Her talent and determination gained her a place at St Anne's College to study history in 1958. The 'history girls' at St Anne's formed a close-knit group of friends with whom she stayed in touch all her life. I have included a picture of them on Easter vacation in the Lake District in 1960: clockwise from left, Heather Wheeler, Philippa Prescott (Speight), Lorna Fowler (Lloyd), Jean

Bannister (Taylor), Judy Treseder, and Wendy Perriam (Brech).

At Oxford, Jean also met Simon Bannister (St John's College, 1958) and they were married on 12 August 1961. In marrying Simon, Jean took on the role of a clergyman's wife, which she threw herself into, while also quite prepared to defy conventional expectations as a working mother. During Simon's theological training in Lincoln, Jean started her career in teaching history. Later they moved to Prestwich in Greater Manchester where Catherine was born in 1963 and Stephen in 1965. After a brief time in Orpington, Kent, from 1966 to 1970, they moved back to Greater Manchester (Bury and later Oldham). Jean taught at Bury Grammar School for Girls, where she is remembered with great affection as an inspirational teacher. They moved down South again in 1986 where Jean was headteacher first at Sir Frederick Osborn School in Hertfordshire and then at St George's C of E School in Gravesend.

Simon died in 2003. Jean had by then retired and was a lay reader in St Giles' Church, Farnborough, Kent. There she met her second husband, John Reber, whom she married in 2007. John died in 2019 and Jean moved into a care home in Wimbledon in 2021. Although living

with dementia, Jean continued to enjoy life and to give joy to those around her. It was a great grief to her family and friends when she died suddenly on 14 August 2022.

Jean was an energetic, positive, bright and loving person. As well as being an inspirational teacher and headteacher, she taught adult education classes, wrote a book on the history of Bury¹ and gained two master's degrees (an MEd from the University of Manchester and an MBA from Leeds Metropolitan University). She served the community as a magistrate and as an inspector of schools. She also brought great fun into people's lives, running clubs for young and old and putting on pantomimes and shows at church and school. Jean had a strong competitive spirit, but everything she did was done with grace, imagination, and creativity.

Catherine Jenkins - (Bannister 1981) (daughter)

NB: St Anne's College would like to apologise to the family and friends of Jean Bannister for the delay between Jean's passing and the publication of her obituary in *The Ship*. This obituary was intended to appear in 2023 but was erroneously omitted.

IN MEMORIAM
ALISON BENTLEY
(MLITT EDUCATIONAL STUDIES, 1980)
16 DECEMBER 1957- 22 SEPTEMBER 2023



I met Alison in St Anne's MCR in September 1981. She was a distinctive presence in the common room, with her warm, open manner, pre-Raphaelite hair and long velvety outfits; frequently to be found on the chaise-longue, reading the *Guardian* but always ready for conversation. Lively and fun-loving, I can picture her now on one of our punting outings, sitting under the parasol she always held to protect her fair skin, radiating wellbeing and positive energy.

Obituaries

With hindsight I see that Alison was exceptional in many ways. She was a vegetarian and a committed – but independent-minded and non-judgmental - Christian from a young age. Very mentally acute, she was one of the rare people who really enjoy intellectual argument. Most of us in the MCR lacked the stamina to take her on for long, but she had a great sparring partner in Denis Hilton, psychology postgraduate and MCR President. Often their arguments came down to Alison's more life-affirming beliefs versus Denis's deliberately reductive, behaviourist theories intended to needle her. Nevertheless, Alison and Denis were firm friends who together gave practical support to a nearby resident whose mother had Alzheimer's.

Alison was a postgraduate in the Department of Education, where she was supervised by Chris Woodhead, right-wing Ofsted chief and scourge of teachers in the 1990s, but then a progressive leftie. Alison cared deeply about education but was increasingly drawn towards her true vocation: music. She had a beautiful voice and had always sung and accompanied herself on the guitar. Much to their surprise, her fellow-academics began to spot her busking in Cornmarket, singing in Turf Tavern gardens or playing in front of the 'amoeba screen' at the Phoenix before the start of the film.

After a period of ill-health, Alison finally made the break, left St Anne's and was accepted on the prestigious jazz course at Guildhall where she gained a superb training in jazz theory and practice. She went on to have a wonderful career in the jazz world: composing, touring, performing and recording with many excellent musicians, most frequently with her life partner and soulmate, guitarist Kevin Armstrong. Later in life she became a highly respected reviewer for the *London Jazz News*. Alison was also an inspirational singing teacher, teaching both individual students and classes at Oxford Brookes University.

Along with her music, Alison loved literature, art, films, exhibitions, outings of all types, Venice and maintaining her many friendships. She adored animals and had a house full of cats. Despite her debilitating illness, she carried on doing the things she loved to the very end, attending the South Tyrol Jazz Festival in July and visiting her beloved Venice with Kevin in September, just before her death.

Alison didn't complete her postgraduate degree – many don't. However, she contributed enormously to life in St Anne's MCR. I'm so glad I met her there and I know any of her peers who read this will remember her with great affection.

Tessa Hall (1974; 1981) (friend)

IN MEMORIAM

Dr SALLY (SARA JANE) CARR
(BA EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY 1977;
D.Phil 1989)

8 AUGUST 1958 – 9 JUNE 2023



Sally Carr was a psychologist, leadership coach, environmental campaigner and wonderful friend to a wide network around the world.

I first met Sally in 1978 at the St Anne's house, Talbot Lodge, on Linton Road and the memory of that encounter never dimmed in the subsequent 40-plus years of fun and friendship. 'I'm Sally

Carr coming round to say hello...' and then she swirled into the room and threw open the windows, exclaiming, 'you really need some air in here.' Sally's energy and love of being outside were already legendary around College. We'd all heard about the fresher who'd eschewed the parental chauffeur, opting instead to cycle 70 miles from home to Oxford to start her first term.

Many of us at St Anne's in the late-1970s will also remember Sally's vibrant generosity made real in the delicious Saturday lunches she'd conjure up for anyone in our house who wanted to join in ...and if it wasn't lunch, Sal (as we knew her) was organising a party with lots of music, dancing and fun. So many friends down the years benefitted from her amazing gift for nurturing, bringing people together, creating harmony, laughter and companionship.

Sally grew up in Ashted, Surrey with two older brothers, Jim and Nick, whom she adored. At Rosebery School for Girls she was a gifted all-rounder at team games, tennis, music (playing the violin), languages and science. She entered St Anne's in 1977 as a scholar having achieved top marks in the science entrance exams. Then in 1980, with a first in Experimental Psychology, Sally moved to London where she qualified as a Clinical Psychologist at the Maudsley

Hospital. There then followed a couple of years in North America, including time studying in Philadelphia with Aaron T Beck, the father of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, before Sally returned to Oxford to study for her D.Phil., awarded in 1989, guided by Dr Robert McHenry.

Alongside being a great friend, Sally was always willing to share her deep expertise in occupational psychology and her mentorship was invaluable to me and I suspect many others as we navigated 'choppy waters' at work. After her doctorate she spent more than a decade as a specialist in leadership and organisational behaviour with the Oxford Psychologists' Press (OPP, the pre-cursor to The Myers-Briggs Company). Undoubtedly in this field Sally was a pioneer, helping to embed in the UK many psychological techniques now widely used by companies and organisations, most notably the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator.

Sally was impressively strong and active, loving the outdoor life. She walked, cycled, rowed, climbed mountains, swam, went sea kayaking as well as being a very good tennis player. And although she failed to persuade me to join in, whenever I heard of her diving into a freezing lake or swimming in the sea, I delighted in Sally's exuberance and sense of adventure. Equally passionate about the environment, Sally was

talking and campaigning about climate change from the mid-1980s, becoming a longstanding and active member of Oxford Greenpeace.

At the time of her death, Sally had become Chair of the world-renowned Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Machynlleth, Central Wales. She had first arrived there for a week's volunteering in 1986 and returned year after year, before eventually leaving Oxford and her job at OPP to work for CAT fulltime. On retirement in 2019 she was invited to join the Board of Trustees and became Chair in 2022.

As she turned 60 in 2018, Sally re-located to Shrewsbury and married Mike, the love of her life, becoming step-mum to Aidan. Movingly, their great happiness was short-lived as Mike died suddenly and unexpectedly in March 2022. As the months passed Sally seemed to rally, supporting her by now student step-son as much as possible. She visited Australia in the weeks before she died; Sally always spoke with great love of her brothers Jim and Nick and all her family there and she was especially fond and proud of her nieces and nephews.

We now know that Sally struggled with her mental health and self-doubt for many years, the full depth of which she shielded from her friends and family

out of kindness; very sadly she lost that struggle in June 2023. Her family, friends and many colleagues are devastated by her death and miss her greatly. The Centre for Alternative Technology will have a memorial to Sally so, if passing through central Wales, do visit; it's a place that encapsulates all that Sally cared about and through her work there, as well as through her many friendships, she leaves a deep and lasting legacy.

Dame Una O'Brien (1977) (friend)

IN MEMORIAM

ROSE DUGDALE (PPE, 1959)

(25 March 1941 – 18 March 2024)



Photo: Jenny Grove

Earlier this year when Rose Dugdale died, the central image that emerged was of a debutante who stole old masters, hijacked a helicopter and supported the IRA.

It was even suggested that when Rose and I disguised ourselves as men and

clumped into an Oxford Union debate, as a protest against the exclusion of women students, that this was a sign of Rose's radicalisation.

Yet when Rose was at St Anne's she showed no interest in left-wing politics. Rather the reverse. When our politics tutor asked for an essay on whether the House of Lords should be abolished, Rose argued it should remain unchanged. Rather than renounce the wealthy world of the debutante, on Sundays she would discard her men's jeans and the crepe-soled lace-ups she liked to call her 'brothel creepers,' pour beer over her hair and set it with rollers, swearing when they fell out (I'd had a convent boarding school background and she liked to see me looking shocked). Then she'd pull on a smart coral suit, cram her feet into court shoes and pedal purposefully to Christ Church for sherry, where there'd often be a Lord or even a Marquis among the guests.

This turned out to be an advantage when we planned our campaign, because we needed well-fitting male attire and Rose was able to borrow tweed jackets, cavalry twill trousers, men's shoes and shirts from her Christ Church friends. Meanwhile I wrote to newspapers complaining that women students were relegated to the gallery

during debates. I also contacted two local journalists who helped us track down NHS wig makers who fitted me out with a wig and gave Rose a more boyish hair-cut.

The journalists duly took photographs, then Rose and I, looking resolutely ahead, joined the crowd of men queuing to get into the debating chamber. The next day we were all over the national press. I then began going round men's colleges listing names of supporters and, a few months later, helped by fellow-student, Harold Lind, I put notes in supporters' pigeonholes reminding them to vote. On 16 February 1962 Rose and myself, with supporters Sarah Caudwell Cockburn and Bernice Holroyd-Rothwell were jubilant: for the first time in nearly 140 years, women students were allowed to take part in Oxford Union debates.

By 1967 I'd left Oxford and had housing difficulties and a nine-month-old son. Rose was then living in Peter Ady's house in London, working as a research assistant at the Ministry for Overseas Development and drafting speeches about aid for Minister Barbara Castle. Rose was kind, put us up for a few days and drove us around in her Lotus Elan.

A year later Rose was doing a PhD in economics at Bedford College, London,

avidly reading Marxist and anarchist texts. Then in 1971, having resolved to give her money to the poor, she set up the Tottenham Claimants Union where she met Wally Heaton, who was on the picket line at a factory facing closure.

Bernice met Rose and Wally and told me later that Rose had said, 'Come the revolution, Bernice, I'll have to shoot you in the street!' Bernice laughed as she recalled the remark, knowing that, unlike Wally, Rose was against violence.

So what made her change her mind? All I know is that after the tragic events of Bloody Sunday in January 1972, Rose and Wally determined to go to Londonderry to support the IRA.

After that I lost contact but in December 1974, when I read that Rose had given birth to a son in Limerick prison, I bought a teddy bear and posted it to her with a letter. She never received it. I learned later that prison authorities regard soft toys with suspicion.

I made further attempts at contact, one provoking the outraged response, 'I am no relation of the notorious Rose!' Then I was finally given her address by her biographer, Sean O'Driscoll. I'm glad that in the last few years, Rose and I were able to exchange letters. I still

remember her as challenging, warm and funny.

Jenny Grove (1959) (friend)

IN MEMORIAM

JOAN DYCE DUFF (MACGREGOR, FRENCH AND GERMAN, 1947)

21 MAY 1929 - 13 OCTOBER 2023



Joan was born in Edinburgh on the 21st May 1929, the first of four girls, to Douglas, a forester in the Colonial Service in West Africa, and Ann Macgregor.

Having won a scholarship to the prestigious St Leonards school, St Andrews, she then won a place at

Oxford to study French and German. She met her husband, Stewart Duff, also an Oxford graduate and on their fourth meeting he asked her to marry him - the start of a fruitful forty-year relationship.

When they married in Monks Risborough in 1952, Stewart insisted on the wedding being held on a Friday so he could play rugby on the Saturday. By age 34, Joan had had 6 children; Barbara, Euan, Mary, Kirsty, Fiona and Andrew, and in 1958, the family returned to Scotland for good, settling finally in Wester Auchentroig, Buchlyvie, Stirlingshire where her son Euan still farms.

The farm became a mecca for friends and family. With Stewart running a business in Stirling, the day-to-day running of the farm was left to Joan – she kept two Jersey cows, so the family had home-made milk and butter as they grew.

She joined the WRI (as president twice) and was a member of the Stirling Children's Panel and staunch supporter of Stirling Credit Union. As chair of the community council and a member of the church, she was not averse to giving Reverend Scott Brown a piece of her mind! Latterly, she and Irene Bell hosted the local Contact for the Elderly Group. She loved the village, and the village loved her back.

Obituaries

She was a keen gardener, with a knowledge of plant names in both English and Latin. She curled and golfed with her great friend Elspeth Murdoch well into her eighties, and played bridge until her early nineties. Extremely well-read and a prolific letter writer, Joan especially corresponded with her distant cousin, Fiona Rowley, in New Zealand.

She was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was devastated when her beloved Stewart died of a heart attack in 1990 and again when her daughter Mary died after a long battle with cancer in 2013. Full of fortitude and resilience however, she stayed remarkably engaged and active until her final year.

Her wonderful and contagious sense of humour stayed with her until the end of her life. Joan would descend into helpless fits of giggles at seemingly silly, even inappropriate moments. Until recently she was still able to walk up to the village shop every morning, but as her mobility declined, she was happy to sit by the window - watching the children and neighbours go by. She had excellent care in her own home in these final years - and from her two sons, Euan and Andrew, with grandsons Douglas and Sandy.

Her family were overwhelmed by the number of cards and letters

they received when she died. She is survived by 5 of her 6 children, 11 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren who all cherish wonderful memories of Granny Joan.

Kirsty MacGregor (daughter)

IN MEMORIAM
SYLVIA HAIG EVANS
(WIGHTWICK, ENGLISH LITERATURE AND
LANGUAGE, 1951)
OCTOBER 1928 - 25 DECEMBER 2023



Before matriculating in 1951, Sylvia was (much against her father's wishes!) a WAAF at Bawdsey Manor where she worked helping develop post-war radar. She remembered her time at St Anne's very fondly and all her friends there.

After coming down in 1954, she spent two years in Lapland, teaching English to the Finnish (as well as hunting wolves), returning to England in 1956. The following year she married John Hillman Evans, with whom she had three children: Roland, Nigel and Juliet.

Subsequent to her divorce, she became a Senior Personnel Officer at Harrods in Knightsbridge and then worked as a Liaison Officer for the British Council (Admiralty Arch), enabling foreign students to integrate with British society, and making frequent trips to Italy and Africa.

She was a fluent speaker in French and proficient in Italian and Finnish. She retired to Kent in 1989 to care for her mother and lived there happily until her death on Christmas Day 2023. She always considered St Anne's as her proudest achievement and is deeply missed by family and friends.

Roland Evans (son)

IN MEMORIAM

ROSAMOND GALLANT (COX, ANIMAL
PHYSIOLOGY, 1965; MEDICINE, 1968)
11 MAY 1946 – 27 JANUARY 2023



Ros grew up in a family closely connected with the media. Her father, Sir Geoffrey Cox, was a famous journalist, and her twin sister also became a writer and journalist. Her mother, who wrote a book of short stories, met her father, a New Zealand Rhodes scholar, at Oxford before the war. Having worked in a microbiology laboratory for a short spell after leaving school, pathology attracted her and ultimately became her career.

Five of us came to St Anne's in 1965 to be taught by Marianne Fillenz, who was not

only brilliantly clever but very attractive, and managed to combine an outstanding academic career with marriage and motherhood, which impressed us greatly.

With her background, it was probably inevitable that Ros would get involved with *Cherwell*. She became Fashion Editor and she also interviewed and wrote features on famous people. Her social life involved some of the more prominent undergraduates of the era, people such as Prince Hassan of Jordan.

Despite all this activity, she graduated with an un-viva'd First Class degree, and then moved for clinical training to Westminster Hospital Medical School. During the social interactions which inevitably accompanied the students' Christmas pantomime which made (usually) affectionate fun of the consultants, Ros met Michael Gallant, a senior registrar in radiology. She qualified in 1971 and, having married Mike, moved to Northamptonshire when he became a consultant at Northampton General Hospital. Specialist training in pathology was arduous, but Oxford Region had a part-time training scheme for mothers which Ros called 'The Oxford Scheme for the Re-Habilitation of Fallen Women'. She and Mike had two sons and she passed the MRCPath exam in 1985 and was appointed consultant microbiologist in Kettering in 1986.

Kettering were fortunate to have an outstanding professional in Ros. With the MRSA problem emerging, she identified a highly transmissible organism which was originally called the 'Kettering strain'. She and her team published papers on it and *Panorama* featured it. She also lectured nationally and internationally on a number of subjects including the bacterial implications of the popular 'cook chill' method of hospital meal delivery and paediatric microbiology, in which she was an expert, and contributed a textbook chapter. She retired in 2001.

Retirement was busy. She loved gardening and fly fishing and helped with local history studies. Recently she was heavily involved with the re-publication, following the war in Ukraine, of her father's fascinating book, *The Red Army Moves*, which chronicles a very similar situation in the 1939 Russo-Finnish War.

She was a very active person and died very suddenly of an aortic dissection which occurred while she was playing tennis. Her friends and family have found it difficult to come to terms with the fact that so much enthusiasm for life and such generosity of spirit has been extinguished so suddenly and unexpectedly.

Jane Stanford (1965) (friend)

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IN MEMORIAM

KATHERINE GIEVE (VEREKER, PPE, 1968)

26 JUNE 1949 – 20 March 2024



Katherine died aged 74 from lymphoma of the central nervous system. She was a distinguished solicitor whose remarkable empathy and expertise earned her a reputation as one of the UK's leading family lawyers.

Born in Oxford to Charles Vereker and Patricia (née Kastelian), she attended Merchant Taylors' girls school, Liverpool, until her family moved to Durham, where her father was Professor of Politics, in 1967. Katherine joined St Anne's in 1968 to read PPE, and graduated in 1971, having made many lifelong friends including Laura Lyttleton, Susannah Johnston, Jancis Robinson and Sara Maitland. She also met John, whom she married in 1972.

After a secretarial job in London, she worked in Oxford at the *University Gazette* and a publishing company. But her central interest in the 1970s was in the women's movement first in the Women's Lobby and then the Oxford Women's Action Group. She helped formulate the Women's Liberation Movement's "5th Demand" for financial and legal independence, and co-founded Rights of Women to sustain the campaign.

Katherine qualified as a solicitor in 1978 at the College of Law, London, and soon co-published *The Cohabitation Handbook* (1981), a manifesto and guide to the current law. She then worked at West Hampstead Community Law Centre, before moving to Wilford McBain, a firm specialising in children's cases. In 1985, she joined the Family Rights Group, advising on children's welfare. In 1988, she joined the human rights law firm Bindmans, rising to be the head of the Family Department and chair of the partnership. She stepped down as a partner in 2014, retiring fully in 2016.

Her practice centred on disputes over children, particularly those between parents and the State. She was often chosen to deal with particularly complex cases. Notably, she represented Jodie in the 2000 conjoined twins case which underscored Katherine's dedication to her

clients and to legal and ethical intricacies, with compassion and skill. When she became a mother herself, she wrote about the tensions between professional life and motherhood in her book *Balancing Acts – On Being a Mother* (1989).

After retirement, Katherine divided her time between Highbury, London and Iken, Suffolk where she is buried. She became a trustee of Pause, a charity improving the lives of women facing the removal of their children.

She faced her final illness and death with courage and grace. When lymphoma returned after treatment, she decided not to spend her last energies on faint hopes and returned home, supported by an excellent palliative team and carers, and used her remaining weeks to draw together the threads of her life with family and friends.

Katherine was satisfied with her life. She had built a rich network of friends and developed a family with strong foundations; her sons were settled with women she loved and with five glorious grandchildren. She had played a part in changing the role of women in society – the biggest revolution in our lifetimes. Reaching the top of her profession, she helped sustain a law practice committed to protecting and advancing human rights and helped

build up a charity to help women whose children have been taken into care to rebuild their lives and confidence. She had been true to herself.

She is survived by her husband, John, their sons, Daniel and Matthew, five grandchildren and her sister, Deirdre.

John Gieve (husband)

IN MEMORIAM

RUTH ELIZABETH JACKMAN

(PEIRSON, PPE, 1964)

19 MARCH 1945 – 24 JANUARY 2024



Ruth read PPE at St Anne's 1964-7 and was JCR President in 1965-6. After Oxford, she studied for a Master's in Social Administration at the LSE, and then for a Diploma in Psychiatric Social Work at Manchester, to qualify as a psychiatric social worker. Her first position was in Southwark, working with people suffering from addiction, where,

to her friends' amusement she was known as 'the alcoholic social worker'. She was soon selected as Team Leader in Hackney, and then to a Principal Social Worker post at Friern Barnet Hospital.

In 1973, she married Richard Jackman, who became a Professor of Economics at the LSE. She lived an active social life, built around friends and family and particularly enjoyed classical music, travel, walking and swimming. A keen cellist, she regularly played in string quartets. She was an enthusiastic sea swimmer (whatever the weather) and swam most weeks in the Ladies' Pond on Hampstead Heath, which she loved.

In the mid-1980s, she adopted her children Catherine and Martin. A devoted mother, she then gave up full time work so she could spend more time with them and chose instead to take a part time 'basic grade' post with Westminster Council, which she held until her retirement in 2005. However, it was in the 1980s that the menace of Ruth's inherited muscular dystrophy, an incurable condition which gets worse with age, became more obvious. It was hoped that maybe by the time she had to be in a wheelchair the children would be big enough to push it. As it turned out, the children saw Ruth's wheelchair and the lift as rather superior toys with which they enjoyed playing.

As Ruth's disability worsened, she had to give up many of the activities she most enjoyed, but she showed great courage in facing her difficulties. She never complained nor showed any bitterness, simply saying calmly 'I am what I am'. Unable to play her beloved cello, she took up singing instead, becoming a regular performer in Camden Choir's concerts and continued to make frequent visits to operas and concerts, with a special seat reserved for her at the Wigmore Hall. She still enjoyed travel by road, rail and by ship: as recently as 2022 she arranged a holiday in New York travelling on the Queen Mary II. She took charge of her neighbourhood's street parties, most recently in May 2023 to celebrate the coronation. She always wanted to do as much as possible and to live life to the full. It was sometimes suggested she was perhaps trying to do too much and should cut back a little, but she wouldn't hear of it. She was, quite simply, indomitable.

Friends had noticed a decline in her health over the last year and sadly it was in January this year that a long running cold and cough led to pneumonia to which she succumbed.

**Dinah Shoults (Langley, 1964),
Christine Woodland (Lockett, 1964),
Caroline Baker (Weaver, 1964)** (friends)

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IN MEMORIAM

JACQUELINE LANG

(WICKS, FRENCH, 1961)

17 JUNE 1944 – 24 DECEMBER 2023



Jacqueline (Jackie) Wicks took up an open scholarship to read French at St Anne's in 1961 at the age of only 17. She graduated with a First-Class degree in 1964 and married Andrew Lang (of Trinity College) in 1965. She started research at King's College London into Mediaeval French, but gave up before completing this in order to have her daughter Harriet in 1966, followed by Antonia in 1969.

Jackie taught French for many years at the Ursuline Convent School in Wimbledon where she led the Modern Languages department with exceptional ability, inspiring many pupils with her love of French language and literature.

In 1984, she was thrilled to be appointed as headmistress of Walthamstow Hall, the independent girls' school in Sevenoaks, which she had attended as a pupil on an Assisted Place and where she had received such a good education herself. In 1997, she was elected to the distinguished role of President of the Girls' Schools Association, fulfilling the position with admirable skill as she negotiated many press and TV interviews. She retired from Walthamstow Hall in 2002 after many very happy years there. She is fondly remembered by former staff and pupils for her warmth and sharp intelligence.

She enjoyed 20 years of very contented retirement with her husband Andrew, dividing their time between their house in Wimbledon and a much-loved holiday home in Rye, East Sussex, and relishing every moment with their four beloved grandchildren.

Andrew Lang (husband)

IN MEMORIAM

CHRISTINE JOAN LIPSCOMB

(RICKMAN, HISTORY, 1963)

21 JULY 1944 – 10 DECEMBER 2023



Christine's parents Kenneth, an Ammunitions Instructor, and Barbara Rickman met at Bramley Camp, Hampshire during WW2. Christine was born in Basingstoke. After the war, Ken resumed his career as a manager for Boots. The family moved to Leicester then Leeds, where Christine's sister Heather was born in 1950. Whilst at school in Glasgow, Christine was unable to find Prince's Street Station in Edinburgh on the map, a rare academic failure for which she (and half the class) was caned. In later life her map reading skills were excellent, taking her on caravan holidays all over Europe.

Christine attended Cambridgeshire High School for girls where she was a keen knitter and a member of the Young Conservatives and the Young Farmers

Clubs. Excelling at school, she stayed on to sit the Oxbridge entrance exams. She was thrilled to be accepted at St Anne's to read history, and always said St Anne's would pick the bright girls who weren't good at Latin and train them up to pass the Latin prelim.

Christine came up to St Anne's in 1963, living at 9 Park Town and later Wolfson. She recounted the Dean telling students, 'Any woman can control one man, an intelligent woman can control two men, but no woman can control three men.' She was a member of OUCA and the Oxford Union. At the end of her three years, Christine graduated.

Initially she became a trainee accountant, but her love of history led her to teaching. On completing a PGCE at Nottingham University, she became a History Teacher at Talbot Heath School, Bournemouth. In April 1971, she took a school trip to Italy and Yugoslavia. At Dover station a young tour guide, Barry Lipscomb, joined the group. Barry made an instant impression and just five weeks later they were engaged. Christine and Barry married at St Thomas's Church Lymington on 16 October 1971. They moved to Maidenhead where she taught at Luckily Oakfield School.

In 1973, Christine had Nicholas, followed two years later by Georgina. The

family moved to the New Forest where Kenneth was born. Christine focused on her family, enjoying caravanning holidays and showing her children historical sights. After 20 years, she returned to teaching at Guildford Girls High School.

Mum inspired me to apply to St Anne's and, when they let her son in, she finally accepted St Anne's admitting men.

In 2011, Barry became the 812th Mayor of Winchester and Christine Lady Mayoress. She was forced out of her comfort zone fulfilling a gruelling round of engagements; highlights included celebrating their 40th anniversary in the mayor's residence and attending a Buckingham Palace garden party. She was a member of the WI and local Conservatives.

Christine loved being a grandmother of six grandchildren and her caravan holidays were replaced with visiting family in Sweden, Northern Ireland and London.

Unfortunately, last September Christine was diagnosed with a brain tumour. She died peacefully in Winchester Hospice surrounded by Barry and her children.

Nick Lipscomb (1991) (son)

IN MEMORIAM

**JAMES NORRIS LOEHLIN (ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE, 1986)
4 NOVEMBER 1964 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2023**



James Norris Loehlin, died of pancreatic cancer on 14 September, 2023, in the loving arms of his wife of 27 years, Laurel René Goff Loehlin. In addition to Laurel, he is survived by his sister, Jennifer Ann Loehlin, and her partner Michael T Mashl, his sister- and brother-in-law, Holly Goff Marcks and Jeffrey Earl Marcks, and his nephew, William Arren Broussard, Jr. He was 58 years old.

Born in Austin, Texas on 4 November, 1964 to Marjorie Leafdale Loehlin and John C Loehlin, James was an

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imaginative child with an intense focus on his passions, starting with trains and dinosaurs. In high school, he produced editorial cartoons, neighborhood papers and artwork for publications. He excelled in class and began acting, including playing Claudius in a production of Hamlet.

After graduating from Westlake in 1982, James was admitted to the Plan II Liberal Arts Honors program at the University of Texas at Austin, where he participated in the Shakespeare at Winedale program. After graduating with highest honors, he attended St. Anne's College, Oxford as a Marshall Scholar, acting in and directing several plays both in Oxford and at the Edinburgh Fringe. James pursued a Ph.D. in Drama and Humanities at Stanford University, graduating in 1993. He then served as Director of the London Foreign Study Program at Dartmouth College.

During his last year at Stanford, James reconnected with his childhood friend, Laurel Goff. It was love at first sight for two who had known each other their whole lives. Married in Austin on 4 May, 1996, they soon settled in Hanover, New Hampshire.

In 1999, James became an Associate Professor at the University of Texas. He served as the Director of Shakespeare at Winedale for 23 seasons, leading his students to explore Shakespeare's works

through performance in the countryside. He published books on *Romeo and Juliet*, *Henry IV* and *Henry V*, as well as *The Cherry Orchard* and *Doctor Faustus*; he is the author of *The Cambridge Introduction to Chekhov* and co-editor, with David Kornhaber, of *Tom Stoppard in Context*. James was involved in productions of 35 of Shakespeare's plays, Chekhov's major plays and works by Marlowe and Stoppard.

Inspiring his students to achieve academic and personal excellence, James received multiple teaching awards. He continued teaching and writing after his diagnosis in summer 2022. While he was in the hospital and at Christopher House, current and former students visited to tell him how much he had meant in their lives.

James and Laurel travelled together, held poker nights, cooked gumbo for their famous New Year's Eve parties and hosted his classes for dinners and movies. They learned swing dance moves, doing their best to practice without knocking anything over. Most of all, they just enjoyed each other's company; they were ridiculously in love from the first to the last minutes of their time together.

Laurel is grateful to Christopher House, whose supportive approach kept them together, and allowed them one last dance, and to the community that

has celebrated his life. She also offers boundless love and thanks to the Winedale staffers: Allison Dillon, David Higbee Williams, Clayton Stromberger and Robin Grace Soto.

Laurel Loehlin (wife)

IN MEMORIAM

PATRICIA VALERIE MILLER (LEVI, PPE, 1951)
5 JANUARY 1933 – 13 AUGUST 2023



Patricia was born in Leeds in 1933. Her father had read French at Leeds University and worked as a modern languages teacher at Derby School. Patricia grew up in Derby, an only child and a member of the tiny Jewish community of which her father was a leader.

Her application to read French at St Anne's was not successful, but she eagerly accepted an alternative offer to read PPE. Patricia studied philosophy with Iris Murdoch and her friends at Oxford included the neurologist Oliver Sacks. She greatly enjoyed her time there - which may explain why she graduated with a third-class degree!

After graduation, Patricia was expected to return to Derby and work as a teacher, like her father. Her own ideas, however, were different. Her ambitions lay in children's social work and she obtained a Diploma in Public and Social Administration from Barnett House, the predecessor of the University's Department of Social Policy and Intervention. Desiring to give back to the Jewish community, she trained in social work at the Bernard Baron Settlement Jewish children's home in London's East End, then went on to Hull and Manchester.

Her marriage in 1958 was not happy, but did lead to two loving and loved children, and four grandchildren. When the children grew up Patricia divorced. She was extremely proud of the second career in which she returned to social work in Stockport and Manchester. Her experience, wisdom and courage led to her becoming the team leader, and further training as a specialist approved psychiatric social worker, becoming

a founder of the North West Region Approved Social Work Group.

Patricia was a lifelong member and former Chair of her local branch of the League of Jewish Women, a charity focused on Jewish women and giving support to needy people in the wider community. After retirement, she volunteered at the welcome desk of the Manchester Jewish Museum. Following the deterioration of her vision with macular disease, she became an active member of the Macular Disease Society, further training to support fellow sufferers on the Society's helpline.

An ardent socialist, she remained an active member of Unison after her retirement and, prior to her decease, had been sought out to join its senior members' committee. She was an avid reader of, and sometime contributor to, the odd satirical letter to, the *New Statesman*.

Her wry sense of humour persisted. Dissatisfied with the quality of her passport photograph, she used her senior citizens' bus pass for many years, having substituted her photo for a nice shot of Kylie Minogue.

Vigorously independent, she enjoyed living in her flat in South Manchester. Just days before she tragically fell in her flat and broke her neck, she had made

her weekly trip to the shops and picked up her reserved copy of the *Manchester Jewish Telegraph*.

Patricia's family, friends and colleagues will miss her sense of humour, literary and political erudition, her single-mindedness and vigorous independence, and her love as a mother and grandmother.

Edward Miller (son) and Rosalind Miller (daughter)

IN MEMORIAM
ALESSANDRO OLSARETTI (HISTORY, 1988)
21 OCTOBER 1969 – 30 NOVEMBER 2023



Alessandro Olsaretti came up to St. Anne's to read Modern History in 1988, having left his home town of Sora in Central Italy two years earlier to go to the United

World College of the Adriatic in Duino, near Trieste, on a scholarship. While at Duino his history teacher, Walther Hetzer, encouraged him to apply to Oxford and it was Hetzer who, during the school winter break of 1987, telephoned Alessandro at home to tell him that he had received an offer from Oxford. Alessandro was the first member of our family to go to university abroad and as his sister I was multiply lucky when I followed in his footsteps two years later: while we overlapped at Oxford we had many lunches together in the bright hall at St Anne's, with a lively group of his college friends. One of them, Colin Goldin, now remembers Alessandro as 'Unpretentious with an infectious intellectual curiosity and selflessly generous with his time...always happy to share thoughts, coffee and passionate debate with fellow students who quickly became good friends... He was a true interdisciplinarian by nature and inclination and represented the best of what a collegial system has to offer – raising the bar for fellow undergraduates without raising the stakes.'

While at Oxford Alessandro wrote a thesis on Antonio Gramsci's concept of praxis, and there began a lifelong engagement with Gramsci's thought. Gramsci was centre-stage in Alessandro's PhD, which he completed at McGill University in 2013; Gramsci also offered the main theoretical framework for Alessandro's two-volume

The Struggle for Development and Democracy (Brill, 2023), which he wrote, as an independent scholar, just before and during the pandemic. Alessandro never pursued an academic career, due to a combination of infelicitous circumstances and alternative opportunities. Although he was fortunate to have the guidance and support of his tutor, Peter Ghosh, and although his thesis on Gramsci obtained a First Class mark, Alessandro did not sit all his finals, and after leaving St. Anne's without a BA he initially changed path and completed a B.Eng. in Civil Engineering at University College London in 1998. He then trained as a computer programmer and worked as one in the private sector in New York City for a few years. In 2003 he returned to history when he decided to quit his job and take up the opportunity to go to McGill, where he obtained an MA in Ottoman History and, a few years later, his PhD in Sociology.

Alessandro's eclectic trajectory is a testimony to the breadth of his intellectual interests and capacities, and of his endurance and commitment to what he loved. He will be remembered for his intellect and as a gentle, generous person, extremely respectful of others and their privacy, and always willing to listen to and cook for them. He died suddenly in Montreal on 30 November 2023. Our mother Flora and I survive and miss him.

Serena Olsaretti (sister)

IN MEMORIAM

BARBARA ONSLOW (MCGRATH, ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE, 1955)
23 MARCH 2037 – 6 AUGUST 2023



Barbara Onslow was born in Manchester in 1937, the eldest daughter of Raymond and Helen McGrath.

Fiercely ambitious, she excelled at school and went up to Oxford in the late-1950s. Originally accepted to study English, she switched to languages, including French and Russian.

At Oxford, Barbara decided to become a journalist, believing it would help her overcome shyness. No one considered Barbara shy, but she always maintained that was how she felt at the time.

Barbara started working at the *Manchester Evening Chronicle* in the 1960s. She relished her career and, after three years, became engaged to the racing journalist Richard Onslow.

As a reporter for the *Chronicle's* women's pages, Barbara covered fashion; she also covered Richard's work when he had too much on; Barbara found she thoroughly enjoyed the rakish and dissolute world of gambling and horse racing.

Barbara and Richard married in Blackley, Manchester, on Wednesday, 20 September, 1961.

Barbara swapped a life of journalism for a teaching post that allowed time for her marriage and academic research. In the late-1960s, Barbara began an MA at Manchester University focusing on the nineteenth-century journalist and novelist, Elizabeth Gaskell. This ignited her lifelong passion for 19th-century women journalists and periodicals.

At this time Dickie's work drew him to London and the racecourses of the Home Counties, and the couple settled in Wokingham, Berkshire. Barbara secured a position at a teacher training college, where she taught teachers how to teach. Her first book was later titled *What Can a Teacher Do Except*

Teach, followed by *What Can a Nurse Do Except Nurse*.

Barbara was awarded her MA in July 1973, just over a month after welcoming her first child. Three years later, the family moved to Windlesham, Surrey. In the mid-80s, Barbara joined Reading University's English department, where she remained until the end of her teaching career.

Barbara was a passionate academic, but she was so much more. She was active in the local community and a staunch Catholic. She had numerous interests, including detective fiction, in which she taught a groundbreaking course at Reading University.

Barbara was a proud and committed member of RSVP, the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals. They noted that 'her scholarly legacy will continue, encapsulated in her groundbreaking work such as the seminal book "Women of the Press in 19th Century Britain" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2000).

She published extensively on women's writing, including journalism in Victorian Poetry and Victorian Periodicals Review. It has been said that Barbara was "a titan of the periodical community".

Harriet Onslow Delaney (daughter)

IN MEMORIAM

MURIEL PASSEY (DINNIN, FRENCH, 1948)

1 July 1929-21 February 2024



Muriel was born Muriel Dinnin in Middlesbrough. An only child, she described herself ironically as 'a late joy' to her parents. She grew up in Walton Avenue, attended Kirby School for Girls where she excelled at everything except maths and sewing, and was a head of house. Her biology teacher had attended The Society of Oxford Home-Students and recommended Muriel and her best friend Carol to apply.

At her interview for what had become St Anne's, Muriel met for the first time the inspiring Annie Barnes. This was the foundation for one of those enriching friendships between teacher and student which Muriel herself was later to enjoy with her own pupils.

The years at St Anne's were wonderful in every way. She flourished academically

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under the tutelage of Mrs Barnes, lifelong friendships were made and the social life was vibrant. Oxford was full of promising undergraduates, many of whom had served in the war, seen active service and had considerable non-academic life experience. 'There were *real* men at Oxford in those days,' she used to say, eyeing her daughters' latest beaux with a critical eye.

Muriel married David Passey (Oriel 1949-51) in August 1951. David's career moves and the births of five children took up the next 10 years. Parallel to family life, Muriel was tutoring, teaching at night school, acting, singing at concerts, giving marvellous parties, making lifelong friends, inspiring and enhancing lives. A daughter remembers arriving for the family holidays in North Norfolk and finding the district plastered with posters proclaiming: MURIEL PASSEY – SOPRANO at St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney.

Her teaching career encompassed Northwich Girls' Grammar School, Grangefield Grammar School and Stockton Sixth Form College as her work followed David's moves. She was a stimulating and original teacher, drawing on her own breadth of knowledge and soundness of scholarship to urge her pupils to extend theirs. Glamorous, generous and fun, Muriel's expectations were high indeed. The rewards for success were the satisfaction thereof, the penalties for failure (and the bar was high) could be harsh.

Living in London in later years was a splendid stimulus – she never fell into the lassitude described by Dr Johnson and always loved town. She worked there as well – cooking lunches for the directors of the Henley Centre for Economic Forecasting where David was a director. The high point was the day Prince Charles came to lunch.

Grandmaternity was approached with the same enthusiasm and firmness of purpose as motherhood. Grandchildren could be *shaped* as well as loved. Exciting theatre visits contrasted with memorable lessons in reading and writing.

After David died, Muriel returned to Oxford, living in the road next to Bradmore Gardens which had been her first Oxford home with Mrs Collett. Scholarship, family, friends, nature and lectures filled her days. She will be particularly remembered for the last. Diligently researched and illustrated with her own photographs, she covered a huge range: Wren and the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire, the History of Time, the Alphabet, Coffee Houses and more. She lectured to NADFAS, at poetry festivals, the University Women's Club, smaller groups in houses – ever stimulating, never dull. Old pupils visited, family and friends flocked. Parties...

She was herself until the end. She extracted the last drop of vitality from her life. Tenderly nursed at Green Gates in

North Oxford, she died peacefully with a daughter at her side.

She did a lot of things and all of them well.

Gay Cheyne (daughter)

Muriel joined the Oxford Branch Committee of the Association of Senior Members (St Anne's Society) in 2005 and was until the end, an active contributor: giving generously of her support, time, hospitality and ideas.
Jackie Ingram- SAS Oxford Branch

IN MEMORIAM

LINDA ALLEN RICHARDSON

(DEER, MODERN HISTORY, 1966)

14 FEBRUARY 1945 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2023



Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on 14 February 1945, Linda Allen Deer was the eldest daughter of Warren and Ruth

Deer. Her father was an officer in the US Air Force, and served in WWII and the Korean War. Her early life was spent at a number of military bases, mostly in the southern part of the USA. She came to the UK for the first time in 1958 when her father was posted to a US base here, and fell in love with England.

After taking a degree in History and English at Rice University in Houston, Texas, during the early- to mid-1960s, Linda returned to the UK in 1966 to study for a degree in history at St Anne's. After two years of further study at Princeton University in New Jersey, she moved to London in 1971 and made the UK her permanent home. By this time, she was a member of the US academic honour society Phi Beta Kappa.

Between 1971 and 1981 she worked at the Wellcome Museum in London, and also earned a PhD in medical history at the University of London. One unexpected side effect of work on her dissertation was that while attending evening classes in Ancient Greek (which she needed to help her cope with texts in that language), she met her future husband.

When the Wellcome Collection was absorbed into the Science Museum in London, Linda was not able to accompany it – apparently the Science Museum was not allowed to employ a US citizen. A new job with the National

Extension College at Cambridge introduced her to what was then the rapidly evolving world of the personal computer and she was responsible for commissioning a course on the Basic computer language to support the BBC television series *The Computer Programme*. However, she had not lost interest in the history of medicine. In September 1983 she took part in a conference 'The Teaching and Practice of Medicine in the Sixteen Century' held at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Linda then worked for the self-study unit of Longmans in Harlow but remained fascinated by the world of personal computing. As a result, she became the managing editor of Ebury Software in London, which was developing and publishing educational software.

The latter company proved short-lived, but when made redundant, Linda decided never again to be an employee, but to become a freelance educator. At different times she worked as an Open University tutor, and for the YMCA George William College in London. She also worked as a freelance technical writer and editor, tackling assignments from the Royal Aeronautical Society, *Jane's Defence Weekly*, the personal computer company Research Machines and the Inmarsat satellite telecommunications company.

In 2018, Springer published Linda's 1980 thesis under the title *Academic Theories of Generation in the Renaissance – The Contemporaries and Successors of Jean Fernel (1497-1558)* as Volume 22 of its 'History, Philosophy, and Theory of the Life Sciences' series. By the time the book appeared in print Linda was suffering from declining health, which was followed by a long illness that eventually led to her death on 28 September 2023.

Douglas Richardson (husband)

IN MEMORIAM
CRISPIN ROBINSON (ENGLISH
LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE, 1979)
22 DECEMBER 1959 – 6 APRIL 2024



Crispin grew up in Ealing with his two brothers, Nicholas and Caspar, and sister Charlotte. The children enjoyed a happy childhood, playing together in their cul-

de-sac and neighbouring gardens. Crispin was a founding member of the Puffin Club book club for children, a member of the local church choir and the local Young People's Fellowship. Faith and friendship were deeply integral to Crispin.

It was at St Clement Dane's Grammar School that he became acquainted with one of the great loves of his life, music. He learnt piano and clarinet, and sang, with performances including the Royal Opera House in *Tosca*, the children's chorus of *La Bohème*, and the chorus of the original *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* show in the West End.

Having sat the Oxbridge entrance exams with encouragement from his school, Crispin came up to St Anne's in 1979 to study Jurisprudence, although he later changed to English Literature and Language, finding it far more stimulating. He made many lifelong friends at St Anne's, with whom he was in contact until his death.

Crispin followed his time at St Anne's with an MPhil in Art History at the Courtauld Institute, commuting to and from class on his unreliable and rather short-lived moped, nicknamed 'Funky Moped' by his family. After time spent living in Florence, he became an art history teacher, shuttling between Tudor Hall and Stowe School, moving into a cottage in Middleton Cheney. In 1993 he moved to Stowe

permanently, beginning the career he would develop for 27 years at Stowe School.

Beloved by his students (many of whom credited him with inspiring them to have careers in the art world), at Stowe he was affectionately nicknamed 'Robbo'. As well as being a singular sort of teacher, Crispin ascended to be the Senior Deputy Head. Towards the end of Crispin's life, Stowe School memorialised him with the Robbo Bursary Fund, which brought him immense pleasure in his last months. The bursary commemorates his legacy at Stowe: exceptional dedication to teaching, a cultivation of pastoral care, his creation of the school's History of Art department and, of course, his legendary 'Robbo' school trips.

During retirement, Crispin maintained his passions by volunteering at Compton Verney and studying a music course in Oxford.

In May 2023, Crispin was diagnosed with cancer. Crispin's family travelled to and from Oxford in the utmost dedication to spend time with him. He was looked after by his great friend, Andrea, and supported by his partner Justin, although Justin would sadly pass away himself in September 2023. In his last months, Crispin also received an influx of messages from his former students, expressing their gratitude for his role in their personal development.

Crispin passed away on 6 April 2024, at peace with himself and with the world, and in no pain, after a vicious and cruel illness. He had been given Roman Catholic rites by his dear friend Roger Reader who conducted his funeral service and Church of England rites by Tim Hastie-Smith to prepare him for what was to come. The memorial service at Stowe on June 21st was a fitting tribute to an exceptional member of staff.

Charlotte Carotenuto, (sister); **Andrea Johnson and Donagh O' Grady (1979)** (friends)

IN MEMORIAM

HAZEL SWAINE ROSSOTTI (MARSH)

1 FEBRUARY 1930 - 24 DECEMBER 2023



Hazel Swaine Marsh was born on 1 February 1930 in Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, to the gregarious soldier Brigadier Jack Marsh and Phyllis Eastman, demure and decorous daughter of a Buckinghamshire stockbroker. Hazel's elder brother John served with distinction in the Royal Regiment of Artillery like his father.

Hazel spent blissful holidays from school on solitary bicycle expeditions around the Flintshire town of Rhyl, nourishing her love of botany. It was also in this period that she developed a long-term commitment to black and white photography.

Hazel was educated by a governess and at nine different schools. She particularly adored the period when Ancaster House School was evacuated to the security of the eighteenth-century house and gardens of Buscot Park. Hazel was always grateful to Millfield School's biology specialist Peter Pitman for the colossal difference his mentoring made in enabling her to win an Exhibition to St Hugh's College, Oxford.

Hazel was also fortunate to have as her tutor Dorothy Hodgkin, who later won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry. Hazel trained assiduously on the water at Oxford and rowed for the Oxford University Women's Boat Club against the Cambridge VIII in 1949. Thereafter she prioritised her academic work,

embarking on a Doctorate of Philosophy. In July 1952 she married Francis Rossotti, a dashing and ambitious fellow member of her research group.

A wonderful opportunity to share a research position with Francis in Stockholm for 18 months arose in the mid-1950s. They then spent five years in Edinburgh, where Francis had secured a university teaching job, while Hazel set up the first home they purchased, and gave birth to Heather and myself.

By the early-1960s, Francis and Hazel had returned to Oxford as Fellow and Tutor in Chemistry at St Edmund Hall and St Anne's College respectively. St Anne's was a stimulating environment for Hazel. She and her young children were welcomed into the arcane ways of the Senior Common Room with particular kindness by Elaine Griffiths, specialist in Anglo-Saxon. Pascal scholar Annie Barnes encouraged Ian and Heather's interests in music and painting, and maintained a life-long relationship with Hazel. Summer visits in the 1960s to Jenifer Hart's Cornish estate introduced Hazel to a wide circle of bohemian intellectuals. Olive Stevenson, eminent in the new field of Social Work, formed a supportive bond with Hazel that deepened with the passage of time. With Gabriele Taylor, brilliant and erudite philosopher, Hazel developed a friendship that lasted nearly 60 years.

She reciprocated by serving the College in capacities that over time included Building Fellow, Library Fellow and eventually Vice-Principal. While Hazel was devoted to every Chemist and Biochemist to whom she acted as tutor, she was also a dedicated Moral Tutor to undergraduates reading a wide range of subjects. Hazel was also the most steadfast and sympathetic of tutors. The more challenging the circumstances her pupils faced, the more they could count on Hazel's encouragement and support. Hazel served long terms with enormous pleasure on the governing boards of schools including the British School in Paris, the Camden School for Girls, Haileybury College and St. Paul's School for Girls. Her illustrious career at Oxford also included modest contributions to University administration. One of her proudest achievements was in putting forward the eminent Henri Cartier-Bresson to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Letters.

Hazel's photographic portraits adorned the corridors of St Anne's and prospectus publications of the time. All her compositions were carefully considered and imaginatively framed. At some point late in the last century Hazel instituted a so-called 'mug-shot' book of portraits of all College employees, which she maintained into retirement to help integrate newcomers into the growing community.

She also developed a passion for designing and then also making stained glass panels. Over the years Hazel installed more than 60 pieces in public spaces around the College (See this year's cover of *The Ship*). Hazel was very much an artist as well as a scientist, and one of her chief legacies were the bridges she built across the chasm dividing the arts and sciences in the Britain of her times.

Hazel began her writing career by addressing fellow chemists on the technicalities of specific fields of Inorganic Chemistry, but she subsequently developed a passion for writing for a variety of less specialist audiences. Penguin published her *Introduction to Chemistry* in 1975. In retirement she edited a selection of the work of Jane Marcet, the ground-breaking nineteenth century pioneer of scientific writing for a non-specialist audience.

For many years, Hazel also attended classes in Ancient Greek, Modern Greek and French, as well as Stained Glass. She prepared classical texts and composed memoirs in Modern Greek, a collection of which she published in Thessaloniki, and served as a Senior Member of the Oxford University Greek Society.

Somehow in amongst all this, Hazel made time for domesticities. She was

a superb cook. Hazel was adored by her French daughter-in-law, and always made it clear to Nicole that she returned her affection unreservedly. She maintained beautiful gardens at her home. She also provided comfort and care for Francis with unwavering commitment and selfless affection, particularly in his final years of declining health.

Devoted to her children, Hazel passed on her own love of water sports to us, teaching us to swim, to snorkel and to windsurf with her. In earlier years she had constructed a two-seater kayak with which we could explore the Cherwell. Hazel also adored introducing us to ice skating in the harsh winters of the 1960s when Port Meadow flooded and froze. That Heather is now a good photographer and I am learning to paint is due to Hazel's taking us to galleries in our youth, paying for us to expose film, driving us to Cotswold parish churches to rub mediaeval brasses, painting alongside us in watercolour on the towpath at Iffley and so many more nurturing activities. Whereas we now see Hazel's life, achievements and legacy as being utterly exceptional, while we grew up we simply loved her back as the finest mother we could ever have had.

Ian Rossotti (son)

IN MEMORIAM
AUDREY WELLS STANLEY
(FRANKLIN, PPE, 1952)
21 MARCH 1931 - 28 JANUARY 2024



Active Methodist, Local Preacher and Creative Talent, Audrey was born in Croydon in 1931 and educated at St Anne's College, Sanderstead from where she was evacuated seven times during the war. After leaving school she worked in the Cabinet Office and did evening classes at John Ruskin College, gaining a place at St Anne's College, Oxford to read PPE. One of her tutors was Iris Murdoch. Whilst joining other Oxford students preaching for Wesley Memorial Church, she met her future husband Peter. They married in 1956 and went on to serve in a total of seven Methodist circuits.

Throughout her life, Methodism remained central to Audrey. She combined family life and three children with local preaching,

often driving to small country churches to take services, as well as an active role in the work of Methodist Women which she continued for many decades. In 1996 Audrey joined a peace mission to Belarus to learn about the impact of the Chernobyl disaster, taking greetings from Methodist women as well as practical help, and wrote an article about this for the *Methodist Recorder*. Another of her articles focused on meeting a certain important lady with Methodist origins – Margaret Thatcher! She also wrote hymns, sometimes to well-known tunes.

Audrey's life bore much fruit. Another of her many other talents was creative writing, which she took up in Leicester in the 1960s, joining a writers' circle with the soon to be famous Carla Lane. She later published two volumes of poetry and won various competitions. Her poem 'The Talk of the Town' about the Regent Centre in Christchurch won the local 'Quill' poetry competition.

In the 1980s, Audrey worked in the NHS and studied again, this time a Social Sciences degree with the Open University. Peter and Audrey moved to Bournemouth, which became a much-loved home for their retirement. Audrey took up golf, playing regularly with a group of lady friends. She also learned basic computing, enabling her to be in touch with a newly discovered aunt in

Canada. During the pandemic in March 2021 the Southwest Branch of the St Anne's Society (SAS) wished Audrey a happy ninetieth birthday via a Zoom meeting! She also enjoyed being part of a U3A Military History group and, aged 92, vividly recalled and shared her wartime experiences – the only group member to have actually lived through WWII.

Audrey lost Peter, her lifelong soul mate, in 2022. She is survived by three children, Rebecca, Nigel and Elizabeth, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Her Memorial Service in Mudeford was attended by many and was a lively and fitting tribute to a life well lived.

Liz Gaere (daughter)

IN MEMORIAM
CAROLINE ROSALIE TAPLEY
(SOUTHALL, ENGLISH LITERATURE AND
LANGUAGE, 1953)

14 JUNE 1934 – 22 DECEMBER 2020
Caroline Rosalie Tapley (née Southall), born in London in 1934, died in her sleep at home in Piermont, NY, on December 22, 2020. She earned a degree in English from Oxford University and, until the end of her life, could always be relied upon to provide the correct word. Caroline had a love of gardening, of beautiful furniture and objects, and always created a graceful home. She made coloured-pencil drawings, was a published author and

editor, proprietor of a store in Piermont and contributed to the historical records of Rockland County. Caroline was pre-deceased by her husband Donald and is survived by three daughters, Kate of Chevy Chase, MD, Elisabeth of Piermont, Sarah Styles of Nyack, NY, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Elisabeth Tapley (daughter)

IN MEMORIAM
ANN (CAROL) TAYLOR
(WANLESS, FRENCH AND GERMAN, 1958)
1 JUNE 1939 - 13 MAY 2023



Ann Taylor (née Wanless) read French and German at St Anne's from 1958-1961. To my great sorrow she died on May 13 2023; we had been married for over 60 years. Ann much relished her time at Oxford and was proud (as were her parents on her behalf) of being a 'scholarship girl', no mean achievement in those days. Ann was an exceptionally caring and generous person, and well-loved in our small community.

Barry Taylor (husband)

IN MEMORIAM

JEAN TAYLOR

(LOGIE, JURISPRUDENCE, 1949)

8 FEBRUARY 1931 – 16 OCTOBER 2023



My mother, Jean, came up to St Anne's from Arbroath High School in 1949 on the strength of school prizes in Greek and Latin. Her entrance paper 'showed an interesting female perspective' on *The Iliad* according to Iris Murdoch, her classical scholarship evidently ahead of its time! However, she subsequently changed from Greats to Jurisprudence.

Although her early childhood had been spent in New York (until her parents' marriage broke up), arriving in Oxford from a small Scottish town was nevertheless a daunting prospect. She first lived at 160 Banbury Road, ruled by the redoubtable Mrs Hudson. She would cycle to her friends' lodgings in 121 Woodstock Road with her ration contribution to help bulk out communal meals (sometimes being

stopped by the police for cycling without lights after dark!). She also recalled the ghostly presence of Father Swinson, the Guardian-cum-Chaperone, who would suddenly appear on the stairs, his hand thrust forward in greeting, if any male visitors were detected. Shortly before this, female residents were required to push beds onto the landing before any men were allowed onto the premises!

After Oxford, having initially started to read for the Bar, she began working for the 'Information Research Department', a Cold War branch of the Foreign Office. However, marriage and the start of a family cut this career short. Then, in 1957, struck down by polio, she spent months in hospitals, including several weeks in an 'Iron Lung'. Left paralysed down her left side, but rather relishing disasters, which tended to bring out the best in her, she quickly learned to drive, albeit with an Arbroath Smokie box propped under left foot! She was soon co-piloting our Volkswagen bus across Europe on family holidays, now with three children onboard.

By the 1960s, she was volunteering at the local Citizens Advice Bureau and teaching English to elderly Asian ladies, and then taught Latin part-time at schools in North London. Around this

time, as a Justice of the Peace, she sat as a magistrate on the North Westminster Bench, which opened her eyes to an entirely new slice of life, both through cases she heard and occasional visits to prisons. In the 1970s, she helped catalogue the Science Museum's Wellcome Medical Collection, describing the endless array of fantastic, bizarre and often macabre items to us with ghoulish pleasure. She told us accounts of Peruvian mummies, shrunken heads and a set of tattooed skins of Parisian prostitutes, particularly revelling in an extensive collection of Classical Greek penises! Following this, she compiled and edited the catalogue of the Hunterian Society.

A somewhat unhappy childhood gave my mother a lifelong interest in psychology, family relationship dynamics and bereavement, and she eventually qualified as Cruse bereavement counsellor, driving round the Shropshire countryside (still with the Smokie box under her foot). When my parents later moved into sheltered housing in Malmesbury, Wiltshire, amongst other strategies to keep dementia at bay, they would read and translate Homer from Greek for an hour - before every evening's episode of *Coronation Street*!

Nick Taylor (son)

IN MEMORIAM
ROSEMARY TAYLOR
(MODERN HISTORY, 1951)
23 JANUARY 1932 – 29 AUGUST 2023



Rosemary Taylor has died aged 91. She was a most interesting and kindly woman with a fierce intellect, a prodigious memory and a wry sense of humour.

After school in Harrow, where she made lifelong friends, she graduated from the newly named and chartered St. Anne's College, Oxford with a degree in Modern History, then a Postgraduate Certificate in Education and some years later at University College London the degree of Master of Philosophy for her thesis on English Baptist Periodicals 1790-1865. She was Librarian at the Institute of

Historical Research, part of the University of London, for more than 25 years.

In addition to being extremely well-read and widely travelled, she developed a strong and learned interest in fine art, which she shared with her group of eclectic friends, and in later years lived close to the Dulwich Picture Gallery. Some of those friends have written of their love and respect for her:

'At work she was meticulous and unhurried in all her duties of a librarian, as a friend she was steadfast, kind and sympathetic.' 'She combined ability and commitment with kindness and modesty. Her contribution to the life of the Institute was entirely benevolent ... I found her advice as shrewd as it was restrained.'

And by a neighbour in her flat at Dulwich: 'She civilised life for us, those few years, a most trouble-free and understanding co-resident.'

An avid historian, Rosemary also embraced information technology keenly. She was an early and frequent user of the internet, e-mail, on-line banking and WhatsApp. She always had the most up to date iPhone. She took a ready and enquiring interest in the younger generations of her family and friends, eagerly waiting for news of examinations, sporting achievements and cultural

activities, as well as the careers, marriages and births of the next generation.

She was quietly proud to have been at Oxford and was happy to share snippets about her time at St. Anne's. She never married and, whilst she was content in her own company, she was always delighted to receive visitors for tea and conversation, and whilst modest to the core she always impressed them with the breadth and depth of her interests and experiences. She was a dedicated and loyal member of several parishes in the Baptist, Methodist and Church of England branches of the Christian church and supported them all generously.

But she could be critical and had no truck with shallow platitudes. Generous with her knowledge and resources, she was always ready to listen and give sage and timely advice, often days later, having thought deeply about a subject or situation.

Rosemary lived a life of humility and good sense, meeting her later challenges with gentle humour and forbearance. She had many friends, some for over 80 years, and kept in regular contact by whatever means she found feasible. Despite her quiet and unassuming nature, she will be happily remembered for her excellent company and wise counsel and will be deeply missed.

Peter Cockburn (cousin)

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IN MEMORIAM

JANET TOWNSEND

(THOMPSON, GEOGRAPHY, 1962;

DPHIL GEOGRAPHY, 1965)

21 APRIL 1944 - 5 MAY 2023



Janet Townsend died aged 79, after a continuous career in academic Geography, the subject of her first degree. She was a pioneer in relating gender to development in poorer countries. She initiated the first course on geography and gender to be taught in the UK, at Durham University in 1986; co-edited *Geography of Gender* in the Third World, the first book on the subject, in 1987; and became a prominent member of the International Geographical Union,

Janet was born in Denham, Buckinghamshire. Her father, Phillip

Thompson, was a Lancashire millworker who qualified as a probation officer, and her mother, Irene (née Davies), a classics teacher. From Wycombe high school she won a scholarship to St Anne's in 1962 - a significant achievement, considering Oxford's low numbers then of women and scholarships. She worked very hard as an undergraduate because she was told from the beginning by her tutors that they expected her - correctly - to gain a first-class degree.

After her double first, her DPhil fieldwork was in Colombia, followed on her return by a leading social role at Cherwell Edge, then a residence for Catholic students. Her friends from that time remember a very kind and generous person with a lovely smile, who was much pursued by male undergraduates. She had a very soft voice, yet her contributions to boisterous discussions were always clearly heard.

She completed her DPhil research on land and society in the Middle Magdalena Valley in Colombia only after being appointed in 1970 to a lectureship in geography at Durham University to teach and research Latin America. At Durham she met me, a fellow lecturer in geography, and we married in December 1971.

Janet's postdoctoral research was with pioneers seeking to settle the rainforests.

Coinciding with a shift towards critical, qualitative research in the discipline, she became a feminist geographer and worked primarily with the women pioneers. The resultant collaborative monograph, *Women's Voices from the Rainforest* (1995), was ground-breaking in challenging international development policy and advocating for the inclusion of local people in seeking solutions to environmental problems. Janet returned to Latin America, principally Colombia, Mexico and Brazil, for many years to undertake research, often involving arduous fieldwork.

Janet was an assiduous member of the teaching staff who inspired a generation of feminist and development geographers. According to the Royal Geographical Society, which awarded her the Edward Heath Prize in 2005 for geographical research in women and development, "Janet's work, including around issues of poverty, power, self-empowerment and anti-trafficking ... will serve the needs of many, including the geographical community, now and long into the future". She retired from Durham in 2004 as Reader and took up an honorary part-time research position in geography at Newcastle University until her full retirement in 2012.

Janet was equally active in charity work and her local community and was respected

as chair of Willington Labour Party in County Durham. She is survived by me.

Alan Townsend (husband)
alan.townsend1939@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

JESSICA TOWNSEND
(MEYERSBERG, PPE, 1959)
28 OCTOBER 1940 – 3 AUGUST 2023



Jessica and I first met in October 1959 when we were tutorial partners; we were taught Philosophy by Iris Murdoch, Politics by Jennifer Hart and Economics by Peter Ady, three remarkable Founding Fellows of

St Anne's. At first, we both struggled with economics; in one memorable tutorial with an external tutor, we read our woefully inadequate essays before he kindly asked, 'Do you like economics?' At that time, we would both have replied 'No', but later we both went on to successful careers in policy analysis: Jessica's in health policy and mine in the economics of education. We remained lifelong friends and, when my husband and I married in September 1969, Jessica was my bridesmaid; two days later she married her American fiancé, Henry Townsend, and she and Henry settled in Washington DC, where they lived happily for over 53 years, and had two lovely daughters.

Jessica's parents, Heinz and Hildegard Meyersberg, were Jewish and born in Germany, but after the rise of antisemitism in the 1930s they moved to England, where Jessica's father established a successful chemical company. Jessica was born in October 1940, and went to the progressive Dartington Hall School before studying at St Anne's, where she flourished. She lived in 58 Woodstock Road, and a small group of 10 friends used to meet regularly in her room for coffee and endless conversation. Jessica had a great gift for friendship, and it was largely due to her initiative that we met again as a group in the 1990s and maintained our friendship until today, including a memorable lunch at St Anne's in 2009, to celebrate 50 years of friendship.

When she died, a mutual friend wrote, 'Our group of 10 owes it to her that we rediscovered our friendship after we had drifted into our separate lives, and she played a similar unifying role among her [American] friends.'

After graduating in 1962, Jessica worked as an economic analyst in London, but then moved to New York, where she met Henry. After they married and moved to Washington, she worked for various government departments, but her real interest was social rather than economic policy, and her most satisfying work was on health policy. At the end of her career she was Senior Staff Fellow in the Health Resources and Services Administration, where she contributed to a significant book on *America's Health Care Safety Net* in 2000.

Jessica loved art, ballet, music and theatre; she read widely and after retiring, threw herself into voluntary work in Washington. She and Henry were enthusiastic cooks and gardeners, and relished entertaining their wide circle of friends. She was funny, witty and loved laughter. She and Henry travelled widely, enjoying holidays in Europe, Asia and South America, as well as England and the USA. They had planned a trip to London in 2018, including meeting Jessica's St Anne's friends, but a recurrence of the cancer that had first manifested in 1987 meant that holiday was cancelled. She fought cancer with incredible fortitude,

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greatly supported by her loving husband, family and friends. When she died in August 2023 Henry wrote, quoting her own words: 'She said repeatedly that she felt very lucky, both with her present and her past life and was a fulfilled woman... Her heartfelt gratitude is for being given the luckiest possible life amongst an absolutely amazing and loving circle of friends and family.' In return, her friends feel deep gratitude that we were able to enjoy her love and company for so long. In her memory, her family and friends organised a memorial fund to support the Library of St Anne's so that future generations of students can benefit from the library where she studied so happily in 1959 -1962.

Maureen Gruffydd Jones
(Woodhall, PPE 1959) (friend)

IN MEMORIAM
LUCY MARY WINIFRED TYLER
(FLYNN, FRENCH AND SPANISH, 1989)
7 OCTOBER 1970 – 19 SEPTEMBER 2023



Lucy was born in Sydney, Australia on 7 October 1970. In 1972 the family settled in Witney, Oxfordshire, where Lucy attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School before boarding at St Leonards-Mayfield School in East Sussex. At Mayfield, Lucy was a fine student and developed a love of music, singing in the choir and playing the cello.

Lucy came to St Anne's to study French and Spanish in 1989, after a year working in Sydney and learning Spanish from scratch in Salamanca.

Becky Tunstall (1989) remembers Lucy's early days at St Annes's: 'Even at 18 Lucy was already the best kind of grown-up. She was well-informed, moral and clear in her views, but always kind and generous. At the same time, she was funny and fun-loving. When I see her in my mind, Lucy is laughing, and when I hear her, she is making an amused groan of outrage.' After a year abroad in Logroño, Lucy took a 2:1 in 1993, memorably sitting some exams in the college infirmary due to an untimely bout of flu.

Lucy was committed to social justice, and on leaving Oxford she volunteered with Oxfam before working in community development projects in Colombia, first in Bogotá and later in Cali. Colombia was colourful and vibrant,

and Lucy thrived in supporting its spirited communities.

In 1995 Lucy went to Queens' College, Cambridge to study for an M.Phil in Development Studies; on graduating she worked as a Research Analyst and later as a Divisional Manager for Promar International, a strategic consultancy in Newbury.

Lucy and I had met at St Anne's, and we were married in 1997. Family and friends celebrated with us, amongst them our French tutor Betty Rutson and many of our college contemporaries.

We moved to Newbury in 1999 with our son George, where Lucy soon built a strong network of friends. We were later blessed with three more sons, Sammy born in 2000, Franky in 2003 and Edmund in 2006.

Having left Promar in 2001, Lucy found her vocation through teaching music to pre-school children. She later completed teacher training with the Open University and was appointed to teach Spanish at St Gabriel's School in Newbury. Lucy truly loved this work.

Lucy had a special gift for friendship, drawing people towards her through her sincere interest and concern, her vivacious individuality and her joyful warmth at encountering the goodness in

others. Not to mention her winning smile! Steadfast in her friendship, the passage of time and the changing circumstances of others' lives were irrelevant to Lucy. Once forged, her friendship endured for life, and surely beyond.

Lucy's Catholic faith was marked by her deep concern for others. This was exemplified in her leadership for more than 20 years of the parish Justice & Peace Group, promoting social justice and fundraising for charities. In recognition of this work she was awarded the Diocesan Medal in 2017.

Lucy's diagnosis of metastatic breast cancer in 2021 began a period of medical treatment which she bore with great strength and courage. Determined to live as fully as possible for as long as possible, and to be as present for others as she had always been, Lucy persevered valiantly, rarely speaking about her illness or its treatment, continuing to the very end to weave the rich tapestry of a generous life that deeply touched many others.

Lucy died peacefully in hospital on 19 September 2023, surrounded by her family and fortified by the last Rites of the Catholic Church. She is hugely missed by all who knew her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Toby Tyler (1992) (husband)

IN MEMORIAM
MARY WAKE
(HUTTON, CHEMISTRY, 1954)
28 DECEMBER 1935 – 11 DECEMBER 2021



Mary was a fiercely loving mother, argumentative and competitive but always a good sport, a formidable organiser, chemist, cook and gardener. She liked word games and ball games, watching TV, cooking and food, music and theatre, gardening and birdwatching. She had a lightning instinctive intelligence, sparkling blue eyes and a smile that would light up the room.

Mary grew up in Epsom with parents Stanley and Nora, and elder sister Jane.

When WW2 started, Nora and the girls went to Torquay to escape the bombing in London. The girls attended a convent school where Mary was told off for complaining about the 'mucky beans', but solved the recurring problem of the semolina by pouring it into her napkin and later tipping it over the hedge. As children they experienced this period as an extended holiday by the seaside.

Aged seven, Mary badly wanted piano lessons. Cunningly, her parents told her she could only have them when she had learned to read. She was reading within two weeks!

Mary thrived at Reigate Grammar School and won a scholarship to read Chemistry at St Anne's. She had a wonderful time, socialising and becoming captain of the college hockey team. Chemistry as a subject lost its lustre; perhaps she was always keener on the practical than the theory and despite re-sitting her finals she failed to graduate.

She got a job with ICI paints division in Slough and borrowed money from her parents for a ski-ing holiday where she met Hilton. After a whirlwind romance, they married while Mary was only 22 and she moved to the North-East to join him. Within two years she had left university, got a job, met and married Hilton, changed job, bought their first house,

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learned to drive and had a baby, Clare. Her second daughter was Katharine.

Giving up paid work, she enjoyed being a wife and mother. After moving to Middleton One Row in 1971 Mary threw herself into village life. She used her organisational talents within the Womens Institute at village and county level. Helping to run Darlington WI market satisfied her commercial and manufacturing interests, and her kitchen became a packing depot for her homemade meringues, lemon curd and the pot plants.

In her fifties, travelling the world, often solo and on exchange holidays though Friendship Force, she visited Taiwan, Australia, the USA, Canada, New Zealand and many places in Europe. She and Hilton hosted many foreign guests in return.

In her sixties and seventies, she loved being a granny. During her last 15 years she rose above ailments and injuries, caring for Hilton as his Alzheimer's progressed, whilst retaining almost to the end her zest for life. Gardening became her escape and respite.

After Hilton died in 2018, she moved into care at Middleton Hall Retirement Village, enjoying all the activities on offer. What finally sapped her motivation was a miserable spell in hospital after breaking her hip during a Covid

lockdown and she died at Middleton Hall in December 2021.

Clare Howard and Katharine Wake (daughters)

IN MEMORIAM

YVONNE MARGARETA WELLS
(LEHMANN, GEOGRAPHY, 1944)
7 APRIL 1927 - 20 OCTOBER 2022



When Yvonne Lehman went up to Oxford to St Anne's College she was a stateless refugee, having been stripped of her German birth nationality. Yvonne was born in Berlin. Her father was Otto Lehmann Russbült (1873-1964, see Wikipedia entry), a journalist, pacifist, and outspoken critic of the rise of Hitler and Nazism. Her mother, Lucia, was a dressmaker and they lived in a small apartment with Lucia's Polish parents. Her father was arrested briefly and the family experienced fear and deprivation. Then Otto, Lucia and

six-year-old Yvonne fled to England. Her mother died of cancer four years later. Yvonne had to live in a home for refugee girls.

Thanks to a benefactor, Henry Wickham Steed, (former Editor of The Times) who had corresponded with Lehman Russbült for many years, Yvonne could attend King Alfred's School, evacuated to Royston during the war, and here she found happiness in education, and she flourished. She came to Oxford to read geography, with enduring friendship made amongst the girls of St Anne's. Social life centred around sharing coffee in each other's rooms. Yvonne was still desperately short of money through her student days. Years later, living in Haslingfield, Cambridge, Yvonne would be a keen member of the local branch of St Anne's Alumnae.

When still an undergraduate she met Alan Wells. The couple fell in love at first sight. They married in 1950, and for seventy-two years remained a devoted couple. Alan (1926-2024) outlived Yvonne by just 18 months.

After graduation and before marriage Yvonne worked for the Plunkett Foundation in Wales and in London. Alan was also a student in Cambridge and Durham. Alan's career in Geological Research and Exploration was with an

international company and it took him all over the world. Yvonne – for whom English had been her fourth language at the age of six – proceeded to master local languages - Dutch fluently, then some Persian and Turkish. In every place she studied the cultural history and archaeology. Yvonne worked part-time; in Holland she taught English as a foreign language. In Alberta, Canada, Yvonne, she worked as a speech therapy volunteer with brain-injured patients.

Alongside the language skills and serious study, Yvonne was a skilled and creative needlewoman. She was a good cook, including large scale entertaining in many countries. She made the most of every foreign country Alan was posted to: The Netherlands, Libya, Turkey, Iran, Oman, then finally Canada. In each place the couple explored great distances at every opportunity, even into their late seventies, and with a campervan reaching remote places and crossing rugged terrain gave them great adventures. This economical lifestyle at all times meant that at the end of their lives they were in a very fortunate financial position. Yvonne's education meant so much to her, so she has left a bequest to her college, with particular emphasis on assisting students in financial hardship.

Caroline Wells (daughter-in-law)

IN MEMORIAM
Dr ANN WILLIAMS MALLET
 (MODERN HISTORY, 1951; B.LITT, 1955)
 22 AUGUST 1931 - 17 JUNE 2023



Ann Williams, born in 1931, spent her childhood between Cornwall with her Welsh father enjoying the country and horse riding, and in Chiswick, London, with her mother, schooling in Godolphin and Latymer school and enjoying concerts and theatre, when war permitted. In 1951, she was offered a place to read History at St Anne's College. She enjoyed university life making friends with many Dons' families by baby-sitting. She obtained a taste for the history of the Order of the Knights of St John and of the entire

Mediterranean which lasted all her life, encouraged in this by Lionel Butler, Jonathan Riley Smith and Marjorie Reeves among many others.

On leaving Oxford, she took on several teaching posts in Schools and in Royal Holloway College, and saved up to travel to Malta, where she first saw the Library of the Order and its unique collection of records. She learnt Arabic in the Foreign Office School in Lebanon. In the early-1960s, she and her mother moved from Chiswick to Greenwich where she lived until her death.

In 1961, she was appointed to a Lectureship in History at the University of Aberdeen. She enjoyed the system for educating new students to obtain the best from their experience of university life. She maintained her work on the Knights and taught many students through to Bachelor and higher degrees for 27 years.

Her work on the records of the Order of St John in Malta continued over 60 years with frequent visits to Malta. She was determined to complete a book emphasising the social history of the Order, calling it 'Servants of the Sick'. Aberdeen University gave her a two-year paid leave of absence, funded by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, to assist the History Department there to bring teaching and research up to date.

Obituaries

In Malta, she not only helped the University and School teaching, but publicised the wealth of information in the Parish Church records of the many towns and villages, work which is being continued to this day.

While modest about her achievements in Malta, she held an important Conference in 1971 called 'Teaching Maltese History What Future?', with the involvement of Marjorie Reeves, which is still remembered and quoted to this day. Her work was celebrated in 2011 with an Honorary Doctor of Literature awarded by the University of Malta, giving her enormous pleasure as this was the most distinguished degree some of her Oxford tutors also held. The University created an Ann Williams library for her academic books, which she gifted to the History Department.

In 1988, she moved to the University of Exeter, creating a Centre for Mediterranean Studies in the Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies. There she taught postgraduate and graduate students, before retiring in 2006.

In 2018, she suffered a severe deterioration of her spine, and this led to an inability to stand, walk or write, and her reading also suffered. Her book was never finished, and she died in June 2023.

Professor Anthony Mallet (husband)

IN MEMORIAM
MARY WITHRINGTON
(MODERN HISTORY, 1953)
20 DECEMBER 1934 – 30 MAY 2023



Mary Withrington lived a life dedicated to education and in no small part to helping other people. Mary's parents were educators and Quakers, and she became an educator herself. With a brilliant mind and tireless quest for knowledge, Mary was intellectual, creative, adventurous and generous, with deep empathy for her fellow human beings.

After graduating from St Anne's in modern history, she continued at Oxford obtaining her Dip Ed. in 1958 and MA in 1960. She then briefly taught in high school before becoming a Woman Education Officer (Asian Division) in

Kenya. Returning to the UK in 1963, she lectured at Ripon Training College, Dalton College of Technology in Manchester and Swansea Teachers Training College, becoming senior lecturer in 1977.

Caught in the late-1970's downturn in teacher training positions, Mary was re-designated as senior lecturer at West Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education (now part of Swansea Metropolitan University) whilst also studying for an MA in politics (1981). Her thesis on the history of modern politics in Russia could have been published as a book. She also did her M.Ed. in teaching English as a foreign language with a subsidiary in psychology.

The next chapter in Mary's life focused on teaching English as a foreign language and lecturing abroad in Malaysia, and travelling throughout central Asia and the Far East. Wherever she went she studied the local culture, history, politics, religion, art and architecture. She also travelled to Africa, the Middle East, South and Central America, the USA and much of Europe.

At home in Winchester, Mary expanded her interests in poetry, writing, art appreciation and architecture. Winchester Cathedral was like a palace to her as she branched out into the architecture of England. She wrote over

120 poems and drafted a book on the history of the River Itchen with a friend's photography. Mary loved to share her interests through an art appreciation group, the U3A and other societies, as well as rambling and classical music.

Mary was deeply aware of suffering and injustice, and she donated annually to various selected charities through the Charities Aid Foundation. She was recognised for her work helping the blind and led the Winchester Quakers

house committee which provides short-term housing for those in need.

In later years, Mary helped two families who came to live in the UK with language, places to live, jobs, schools, government bureaucracy and daily living. Becoming like a second mother and grandmother, she would relish the days when a family would visit her and have a wonderful time there. Her reward was long lasting friendships and the knowledge that she had helped these

families take significant steps forward in their new lives.

Mary lived a full and rewarding life despite the many challenges she faced. Sadly, for her last few years, she suffered from Alzheimer's disease and died in her sleep at a care home. We remember her as a much-loved intellectual and compassionate sister and cousin.

Roger Withrington, Richard Eccles and Chris Eccles (brother and cousins)



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Please let us know what you think of this issue of *The Ship*. We would be delighted to hear what you have enjoyed or where you think we could improve the publication. Is there a feature you would like us to include, or is there a way in which you think we could develop the content? We would welcome your comments to ensure that *The Ship* continues to reflect the interests of our alumnae. You are welcome to include your name and matriculation year below or remain anonymous. If you prefer to email your comments, please do so to development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk

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Alexander, (Holland) Marguerite: 1965
Alexander, Danny: 1990
Allen-Pennebaker, (Pennebaker) Betsy: 1995
Althouse, (Roach) Lesley: 1972
Alvares, Fleur: 1988
Anastasiou, Angelos: 1982
Archer, (Weeden) Mary: 1962
Archer, Michelle: 1993
Artingstall, David: 1982
Ashley, Jackie: 1974
Astles, Rosemary: 1975
Athron, (Ogborn) Ruth: 1957
Atkinson, (Pearson) Helen: 1963
Axe, (Roberts) Patricia: 1965
Axford, Shelagh: 1968

Baatz, (Watson) Yvonne: 1975
Bacon, (Mason) Ann: 1957
Baderin, (MacGregor) Alice: 2001
Baines, (Smith) Jennifer: 1963
Baker, Simon: 1994
Ball, (Flanagan) Justine: 1985
Barber, Wesley: 1997
Barnard, (Langford) Caroline: 1979
Barrett, Ms Barrett: 1973
Barringer, Terry: 1974
Barron, (Taylor) Enid: 1964
Barry, Alex: 2008
Barzycki, (Polti) Sarah: 1976
Bates, Jon: 1991
Baxandall, (Dwyer) Cathy: 1977
Baxter, (Lewis) Diana: 2000
Beer, (Thomas) Gillian: 1954
Beer, Ann: 1975
Belden, Hilary: 1966
Bell, (Watt) Christine: 1957
Bell, Edward: 2009
Belton, Eleanor: 2013
Bengani, (Mukhey) Leena: 1992
Benson, Chris: 1983
Bent Moretti, Alexandra: 2012
Bernstein, (Bernie) Judith: 1975
Berry, Stuart: 2001
Bertlin, Piers: 1979
Bethell, Oliver: 1997
Bevis, Jane: 1977
Bexon, Tina: 1973

Biggs, (Perrin) Lynn: 1972
Black, Robert: 2005
Blakytyn, Robert: 1983
Blandford, Sally: 1978
Blatchford, (Rhodes) Barbara: 1960
Boddington, Andrew: 1980
Boehm, (Lees-Spalding) Jenny: 1965
Bolton-Maggs, (Blundell Jones) Paula: 1971
Bonham, Sarah: 2006
Booth, Simon: 2002
Booth, Heather: 1992
Borkowski-Clark, (Clark) Joshua: 2012
Bourne, Jon: 1996
Bowley, John: 1993
Bowman, (Ward) Christine: 1976
Boyde, Susan: 1957
Bramley, Paul: 1980
Bray, Heather: 1985
Breeze, (Horsey) Fiona: 1965
Brehm, Samantha: 2017
Brendon, (Davis) Vyvyan: 1959
Brettell, Francesca: 1988
Brett-Holt, (Roscol) Alex: 1969
Breward, Christopher: 1991
Bridges, (Berry) Linda: 1975
Brodie, Pete: 1981
Brooking-Bryant, (Walton) Audrey: 1953
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Brown, Elaine: 1968
Brown, (Cullen) Jennifer: 1987

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 Brown, Alexander: 2007
 Brown, Camilla: 1993
 Broyden, Chris: 1981
 Brunt, (Coates) Ivy: 1961
 Buckrell, (Mason) Jo: 1990
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 Burns, Julian: 1981
 Burrows, Peter: 1987
 Butchart, (Byrne) Kate: 1988
 Butler, (Dawnay) Gillian: 1962
 Butler, Jenny: 1985
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 Cairncross, Frances: 1962
 Campbell-Colquhoun, Toby: 1996
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 Carroll, Oliver: 2012
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 Castlo, Paul: 2000
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 Chow, Martin: 1994
 Chowdhury, Mohammad: 1986
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 Clayman, Michelle: 1972
 Clements, Patricia: 1966
 Cliff, Jackie: 1989
 Clout, Imogen: 1975
 Clover, Shirley: 1953
 Cockerill, Sara: 1986
 Cockey, (Ward) Katherine: 1970
 Coleman, Georgina: 2011
 Collard, (Dunk) Jane: 1977
 Colling, Mike: 1979
 Collins, Susanna: 1989
 Collins, Norma: 1958
 Colville, Johnny: 1993
 Constable, Jeanne: 1969
 Conway, (Nicholson) Sheila: 1969
 Coe, (Spink) Kathryn: 1972
 Cook, (Clark) Cornelia: 1966
 Cook, (Gisborne) Janet: 1962
 Coote, Hilary: 1967
 Copestake, Phil: 1999
 Corbin, Alice: 2015
 Cottingham, Faye: 1995
 Cotton, Andrew: 1980
 Court, (Lacey) Liz: 1968
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 Crichton, (Hunter) Ele: 1996
 Crisp, Roger: 1979
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 Curry, (Roulet) Anne: 1965
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 Dave, Saraansh: 2005
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 David, Huw: 1999
 Davidson, (Mussell) Jenny: 1962
 Davies, Mike: 1996
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 Davies, (Mornement) Margaret: 1956
 Davies, Ceri: 1990
 Davis, (Tabberer) Jenny: 2005
 Davison, (Le Brun) Pauline: 1956
 Delahunty, Jo: 1982
 Delaney, Colette: 1980
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 Devenport, Richard: 2002
 Dey, Jennifer: 1975
 Dixon, (Gawadi) Aida: 1957
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 Durant, James: 2022
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 Eades, Cynda: 1985
 Eastmond, Tony: 1984
 Edwards, Claire: 1996
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 Ellis, (Eton) Rachel: 1975
 Ells, Kaleb: 2020
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 Ely, (Masters) Hilary: 1969
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 England, Richard: 1982
 English, Kirsten: 1979
 Ettinger, (Instone-Gallo) Susan: 1953
 Evans, Martyn: 2006
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 Ewart, Isobel: 1998
 Ewing, (Oxley) Lynda: 1968
 Eysenbach, Mary: 1954
 Fairweather, (Everard) Pat: 1965
 Hartman, Joan: 1958
 Farbon, James: 1983
 Farmer, Sinead: 2005
 Farmer, Penelope: 1957
 Farris, Dianne: 1951
 Fatkin, Duncan: 1983
 Faulkes, (McNeile) Fiona: 1989
 Faulkner, Freddie: 2012
 Faure Walker, (Farrell) Vicky: 1971
 Featherby, Jack: 2010
 Feldman, (Wallace) Teresa: 1968
 Feltham, David: 1983
 Fenton, (Campling) Heather: 1961
 Ferguson, (Marston) Catherine: 1970
 Fernando, Elizabeth: 1989
 Filer, (Bernstein) Wendy: 1982
 Fillingham, (Dewhurst) Janet: 1974
 Findlay, (Boast) Judith: 1959
 Fisher, Elizabeth: 1978
 Fisher, (Hibbard) Sophia: 1966
 Fleming, (Newman) Joan: 1957
 Fletcher, June: 1973
 Flick, Derek: 2018
 Flynn, Richard: 2004
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Furness, Corinne: 2001
Gallant, Julian: 1984
Galley, Katie: 1974
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Gillingwater, (Davies) Helen: 1974
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Glasgow, Faith: 1980
Godfrey, David: 1983
Golding, (Bond) Jean: 1958
Goldsmith, Ruth: 1998
Goldthorpe, Rhiannon: 1972
Golodetz, Patricia: 1970
Gornall, Gill: 1976
Gough, (Cobham) Catherine: 1984
Graham, Fiona: 1981
Graham, Mark: 1982
Graham, (Portal) Mary: 1957
Graves, Lucia: 1962
Green, Alistair: 2012
Greenhalgh, (Stott) Rosie: 1971
Greig, Victoria: 1992
Grey, (Hughes) Mary: 1959
Griffiths, Robert: 2003
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Groom, (Withington) Carola: 1977
Grout, (Berkeley) Anne: 1971
Growcott, Simon: 1986
Gruffydd Jones, (Woodhall) Maureen: 1959
Gurney, (Hopkins) Karen: 1989
Hadwin, Julie: 1976
Haile, (Tovey) Helen: 1965
Haiselden, Jon: 2014
Halim, Liza: 1981
Hall, (Mottershead) Pam: 1961
Hall, (Wills) Caroline: 1966
Hall, Jan: 1975
Halls, (Pett) Judy: 1967

Hammett, Jack: 2008
Hammond, Ben: 1992
Hanes, (Foster) Kathy: 1965
Hardy, (Speller) Janet: 1958
Harger, Judith: 1976
Harman, (Bridgeman) Erica: 1952
Harris, (Telfer) Judy: 1964
Hart, Rachel: 1987
Hartley, Liane: 1996
Harvey, Judith: 1965
Hasler, (Abbott) Judith: 1974
Hatfield, (Bratton) Penny: 1971
Hawker, Daniel: 1991
Hayman, (Croly) Janet: 1958
Haywood, Russell: 1979
Hazlewood, (Hazelwood) Judith: 1978
Heath, Mary: 1950
Heavey, Anne: 2006
Heller, Melanie: 1997
Helm, (Wales) Sue: 1965
Henderson, Oliver: 2008
Hennessy, Jo: 1989
Hensman, (Hawley) Barbara: 1956
Herring, (Weeks) Jane: 1986
Hewitt, (Rogerson) Paula: 1955
High, (Martin) Lucy: 2004
Hill, (Davies) Valerie: 1971
Hills, (Earl) Audrey: 1954
Hirschon, Renee: 1971
Hobbs, (Galani) Efrosyni: 1977
Hodgkinson, Ruth: 2007
Hodgson, (Giles) Dawn: 1952
Hogg, (Cathie) Anne: 1957
Holland, Richard: 2008
Holland, (Tracy) Philippa: 1968
Holme, (Simon) Philippa: 1984
Home, Anna: 1956
Honoré, (Duncan) Deborah: 1948
Horsley, Alexander: 1995
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Howard, Andrew: 1987
Hudson, Julie: 1975
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Huggard, Patrick: 1994
Hughes, Rosaleen: 1975
Hughes, (Goldsmith) Katy: 1980
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Hughes-Stanton, Penelope: 1973
Hunt, (Siddell) Ann: 1963
Hurry, (Williams) Olwen: 1977
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Hutchison, (Keegan) Ruth: 1972
Huxley-Khng, Jane: 2008
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Isaac, Daniel: 1987
Isard, (McCloghry) Nicky: 1978
Jack, Susan: 1970
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James, (Lucas) Cherry: 1977
Jefferson, (Glees) Ann: 1967
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Jones, Scott: 2010
Jourdainne, (Cooper) Dorcas: 1976
Julian, (Whitworth) Celia: 1964
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Kenna, (Hamilton) Stephanie: 1968
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Khaliq, Alishba: 2010
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Killeen, (Fenton) Louise: 1992
Killick, (Mason) Rachel: 1961
King, Emma: 2008
King, Rosanna: 1970
King, (Wheeler) Rosemary: 1951
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Kingston, Charles: 1993
Kisanga, (Taylor) Carly: 2002
Kitson, Clare: 1965
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Kuenssberg, (Robertson) Sally: 1961
Kuetterer-Lang, Hannah: 2006
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 Lambley, (Booth) Janet: 1966
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 Lanning, (Creek) Rosemary: 1968
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 Laughton, Stephen: 1989
 Lawless, (Freeston) Sally: 1971
 Leckie, (O'Donnell) Elizabeth: 1981
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 Lee, Edward: 2001
 Lee, Judy: 1966
 Legros, Victor: 2010
 Leighton, Monica: 1970
 Lessing, Paul: 2008
 Lewis, (Glazebrook) Jane: 1973
 Lewis, (Hughes) Pauline: 1956
 Lewis, (Morton) Gillian: 1954
 Lindblom, (Jackson) Fiona: 1985
 Lipscomb, Nick: 1991
 Little, Tamasin: 1978
 Littlewood, Barbara: 1960
 Littlewood, (Baxter) Joan: 1951
 Lloyd, (Chanter) Catherine: 1977
 Lloyd, (Wallace) Sarah: 1975
 Lloyd-Morgan, Ceridwen: 1970
 Lockton, Tom: 2007
 Loughlin-Chow, (Loughlin) Clare: 1991
 Loveridge, (Knight) Fiona: 1981
 Lowe, Andrew: 2006
 Lowy, Anne: 1972
 Lumley, Margaret: 1965
 Lygo, Martin: 1979
 MacLennan, (Cutter) Helen: 1957
 Madden, (Strawson) Nicky: 1974
 Magoffin, Hamish: 2010
 Maguire, Eamonn: 2011
 Mahmood, Uzma: 2003
 Makin, (Winchurch) Margaret: 1952
 Malde, Sneha: 1999
 Mandelli, Giorgio: 1995
 Mansfield, Ben: 2005
 Mantle, (Gulliford) Wendy: 1957
 Marett, Karen: 1967
 Marett, Richard: 1991
 Marlow, (Evans) Iris: 1953
 Marlow, Julia: 2001
 Marsack, Robyn: 1973
 Martin, (Pearce) Mary: 1971

Martin, (Sandle) Patricia: 1948
 Martindale, (Berry) Rebekah: 2004
 Mashman, Valerie: 1976
 Massey, (Glaser) Lili: 1967
 Mather, Christopher: 1998
 Maude, Gilly: 1972
 Mauldon, Jane: 1973
 Maxim, Jon: 1996
 McBain, Niall: 1986
 McClenaghan, Pauline: 1975
 McCracken, (Chavasse) Gabrielle: 1954
 McDowall, Alex: 1992
 McGrath, Andrea: 1978
 McGuinness, Catherine: 1978
 McIntyre, Elizabeth: 1972
 McKinnon, Christine: 1976
 Mechanic, Marc: 2010
 Mercer, Patricia: 1959
 Micklem, Ros: 1975
 Mill, Cherry: 1981
 Miller, Ian: 1983
 Milner, Liam: 2008
 Milton, (Ward) Irene: 1948
 Minikin, (Kennedy) Gillian: 1971
 Mole, (Atkinson) Nuala: 1964
 Monaghan, Craig: 2006
 Moore, (Slocombe) Anne: 1955
 Moore, Matthew: 1992
 Moore, Susan: 1964
 Moran, Susan: 1974
 Morgan, (Egan) Clare: 1973
 Morgan, Rob: 1989
 Morris, (Cope) Susan: 1973
 Morrison, (Hammond) Penny: 1966
 Morrow, (Southon) Dan: 1997
 Moss, (Flowerdew) Barbara: 1963
 Moss, Celia: 1969
 Moss, Imogen: 1982
 Moss, Simon: 2013
 Moughton, (Parr) Elizabeth: 1951
 Moulson, (Mitchell) Ann: 1968
 Mumford, (Hickerton) Linda: 1973
 Murdin, (Milburn) Lesley: 1960
 Murphy, Susan: 1986
 Mussai, Francis: 1998
 Mutreja, Anuj: 1994
 Nandlall, Sacha: 2007
 Nanji, Sabrina: 2004
 Naqvi, Mohammed: 2003
 Nash, Emily: 1997
 Nasmyth, (Mieszkis) Lalik: 1971

Neale, (Lunghi) Xanthe: 1978
 Nebhrajani, Sharmila: 1985
 Nentwich, Hilke: 1991
 Neville, (Clark) Susan: 1960
 Newlands, (Raworth) Liz: 1960
 Nicholson, Paul: 1992
 Nisbet, Isabel: 1972
 Northcote, Janet: 1983
 Nosworthy, Tim: 1988
 O'Sullivan, Helen: 1969
 O'Brien, Sue: 1977
 O'Grady, Claire-Marie: 1986
 O'Mahony, Andrew: 1992
 Onslow, (Owen) Jane: 1972
 Opotowsky, Stuart: 2001
 Ormerod, (Tudor Hart) Penny: 1972
 Orr, Frank: 1984
 Osborne, Marian: 1949
 Osborne, (Billen) Stephanie: 1981
 Osborne, (Neal) Joelle: 1971
 O'Toole, Thomas: 2005
 Ough, (Payne) Alison: 1979
 Overend, (Old) Sarah: 1978
 Ovey, Elizabeth: 1974
 Owen, Catherine: 1975
 Owen, (Lytton) Stephanie: 1969
 Packer, (Sellick) Sally: 1964
 Padfield, (Helme) Nicky: 1973
 Palmer, (Allum) Marilyn: 1962
 Paramour, Alexandra: 2011
 Park, Sophie: 2019
 Parker, (Russell) Gillian: 1974
 Parrott, Daniel: 2011
 Parsonage, (Cox) Linda: 1969
 Patel, Alpesh: 1995
 Patel, Hiten: 2003
 Patel, Priyen: 1998
 Patel, Sheena: 2005
 Paton, (Parfitt) Sara: 1960
 Patterson, (Wilson) Hazel: 1966
 Paul, (Driver) Anne: 1971
 Paule, Steve: 2008
 Payne, Martin: 1989
 Peagram, (Jackson) Christine: 1962
 Pendry, (Gard) Pat: 1966
 Pennington, (Durham) Jane: 1974
 Perrett, (Parsons) Isabelle: 1984
 Perrin, Julie: 1986
 Perry, (Hudson) Penny: 1965
 Perthen, Joanna: 1994
 Peter, Kai: 1994

Thank you

Peters, (Bigg) Suzanne: 1979
Philips, (Palmer) Wendy: 1977
Phillips, Susie: 1978
Phillips, (Gray) Emma: 1981
Pickersgill Draper, (Pickersgill) Mary: 1952
Pitt, (Hall) Imogen: 1995
Pollinger, Edmund: 1983
Pollitt, Graham: 1986
Pomfret, (Pearson) Carole: 1979
Powell, Jane: 1976
Powell, (Lim) Chloe: 2007
Powell, Helen: 1956
Powell, Matthew: 2007
Price, (Dincheva) Maria: 2005
Price, (Fox) Meg: 1967
Price, (Meredith) Lucy: 2005
Pritchard, (Breaks) Amanda: 1994
Probert, Rebecca: 1991
Quillfeldt, (Raw) Carolyn: 1967
Rabheru, (Pathak) Sarika: 2003
Radcliffe, Rosemary: 1963
Rae-Smith, (Perkins) Melanie: 1974
Raine, Peter: 1991
Ramsden, Isobel: 2005
Rawle, Frances: 1976
Reed, Martha: 2013
Reeve, Antonia: 1969
Reeve, Jane: 1978
Reeves, Aled: 2002
Reid, (Massey) Su: 1961
Revill, (Radford) Ann: 1955
Reynolds, Sian: 1958
Rhys, (Plumbe) Leah: 1961
Ribeiro de Menezes, (Kennedy) Alison: 1988
Richards, (Machin) Gillian: 1976
Richards, (Wardle) Alison: 1973
Richardson, (Chance) Miriam: 1976
Riley, (Vince) Pippa: 1977
Roberts, James: 1987
Roberts, (Armitage) Judith: 1957
Roberts, (Forrest) Dominica: 1957
Roberts, (Stiff) Nicholas: 1980
Roberts, David: 1983
Robertson, Valerie: 1955
Robin, Sophie: 2009
Robinson, (Cast) Annabel: 1960
Robinson, (Neal) Patricia: 1958
Robinson, (Sutton) Jill: 1967
Rogers, (Edmonds) Gillian: 1947
Rogister, (Jury) Margaret: 1957
Rose, Keith: 1981
Rowswell, Ann: 1974
Royal, David: 2007
Roydon, Karen: 1995
Rudolph, Dana: 1988
Ruff, Alexander: 2013
Rumford, (Margrim) Kay: 1983
Russell, (Gear) Moya: 1979
Rutter, Mary: 1956
Ryan, Fran: 1977
Sainsbury, (Burrows) Gillian: 1950
Salinsky, (Fasnacht) Mary: 1962
Sanderson, Andy: 1986
Sargeant, Tom: 1996
Saunders, (Roper Power) Claire: 1960
Saxton, Helen: 1980
Scholz, Anna: 2005
Scott, Andrew: 1986
Scott, Liz: 1986
Scott, (Groves) Miriam: 1958
Scroop, Daniel: 1992
Seaton, Katharine: 1997
Secker Walker, (Lea) Lorna: 1952
Seligman, Henrietta: 2006
Senechal, (Gayford) Anne: 1981
Sensen, Oliver: 1995
Setchim, (Andrews) Elizabeth: 1973
Seymour, Anne-Marie: 1972
Seymour-Richards, (Seymour) Carol: 1963
Shail, Robin: 1983
Shakoor, Sameena: 1980
Shales, Dominic: 1988
Shao, Robin: 2004
Shapiro, Leonid: 1991
Shaw, (Haigh) Clare: 1983
Sheather, (Hall) Judith: 1962
Shelley, Felicity: 2006
Shenton, Joan: 1961
Shepherd, (Cullingford) Chris: 1970
Sheppard, (Raphael) Anne: 1969
Shipman, Shirley: 2001
Shipp, (Nightingale) Phillida: 1961
Siame, Sebako: 1991
Sidhu, Amrita: 2002
Simon, (Holmes) Jane: 1973
Skelton, Judy: 1965
Skottowe, (Thomas) Elizabeth: 1961
Slater, Shane: 1990
Smeaton, Philip: 1995
Smith, (Taylor) Shirley: 1969
Smith, Lizzie: 1977
Smith, Susan: 2006
Sobel, (Cowen) Leanne: 1999
Sondheimer, (Hughes) Philippa: 1969
South, (Hallett) Vivien: 1964
Spinks, (Wallis) Leila: 1964
Stacey, Martin: 1980
Staempfli, William: 2005
Stainer, Mike: 1979
Stark, Steve: 1994
Stawpert, (Hulme) Amelia: 2000
Stead, (McFarlane) Jane: 1977
Stepan, Natalia: 2009
Stoddart, (Devereux) Frances: 1955
Stoker, (Vaughan) Laura: 2000
Stone, Chris: 1998
Stone, Edward: 1983
Storer, Andrew: 1983
Stratford, Owen: 1998
Street, Michael: 1986
Stringer, Judith: 1953
Sumner, (Palmer) Gill: 1958
Suterwalla, Azeem: 1996
Swann, Simon: 1989
Sword, (Boyle) Beatrice: 1949
Sykes, Helen: 1975
Symonds, Richard: 1981
Tan, Mei-Hsia: 1988
Tao, Bernard: 2008
Taplin, (Canning) Angela: 1974
Tappin, David: 1985
Tapson, James: 1998
Tate, (Hardy) Valerie: 1960
Taylor, Philip: 1985
Taylor, (Moses) Karin: 1968
Taylor, (Nelsey) Pamela: 1968
Taylor, Christopher: 1982
Taylor, Eleanor: 2008
Taylor-Terlecka, Nina: 1961
Thomas, Carla: 2008
Thomas, (Covington) Anne: 1974
Thomas, (Parry) Kathleen: 1971
Thompson, Jean: 1942
Thorpe, Patty: 1973
Tian, Mingyong: 2011
Timpson, (Still) Julia: 1993
Tindall-Shepherd, (Dunn) Wendy: 1963
Tinsley, Mark: 1988
Titcomb, Lesley: 1980
Tjoa, (Chinn) Carole: 1965
Tomude, Selasi: 2020
Tone, Keiko: 2000
Tonkyn, (McNeice) Shelagh: 1970

Tordoff, Benjamin: 1998
 Tovey, (Williams) Maureen: 1973
 Trew, Patrick: 1988
 Tsang, Heman: 1988
 Tuck, (Pye) Dinah: 1964
 Tucker, Sam: 2007
 Tuckwell, (Bacon) Margaret: 1949
 Tunstall, (Mitchell) Olive: 1951
 Turner, (Chang) Mei Lin: 1963
 Unwin, (Steven) Monica: 1951
 Uttley, Mark: 2010
 Valentine, Amanda: 1983
 Van Heyningen, Joanna: 1964
 Varley, (Stephenson) Gwendolen: 1956
 Vassiliou, Evelthon: 1991
 Vedpathak, Omkar: 2007
 Vernon, (McArdle) Sarah: 1979
 Verrall, (Silvester) Peggy: 1959
 Viala, (Lewis) Katharine: 1990
 Vodden, Debbie: 1974
 von Bibra, (Johnston) Berta: 1955
 von Nolcken, Christina: 1968
 Wace, (Rees) Pamela: 1976
 Waddington, (Rosser) Lindsey: 1968
 Wager, (Cooper) Liz: 1980
 Wagner, Rosemary: 1964
 Waites, Daniel: 1998
 Walker, (Burrows) Susanne: 1972
 Walsh, Anthony: 2006
 Warren, Clare: 1996
 Washington, Aisha: 2002
 Waters, Julia: 1981
 Waugh, Mark: 1985
 Webber, (Kiewe) Ruth: 1953
 Welch, Martin: 1985
 Weller, (Williams) Isobel: 1977
 West, Colin: 1994
 Wharton, (McCloskey) Barbara: 1954
 Wheare, Julia: 1977
 Wheeler, (Jones) Isabella: 1974
 Whitby, (Field) Joy: 1949
 Whitby, (Lodge) Mary: 1970
 White, (Pippin) Ailsa: 1962
 White, Clare: 1990
 Wight, Greg: 2000
 Wightwick, (Lombard) Helen: 1979
 Wilcox, (Williams) Joanne: 1981
 Wiles, Michael: 1996
 Wilkinson, (Spatchurst) Susan: 1970
 William-Powlett, (Silk) Judith: 1960
 Williams, Edmund: 1981

Williams, Mark: 1997
 Williams, Paul: 1987
 Williams, Steve: 1997
 Williams, (Ferguson) Fiona: 1962
 Williams, (Parry) Kate: 1986
 Williams, Anne: 1980
 Williams, Charlotte: 1997
 Williams, Mary: 1972
 Williamson, (Hodson) Valerie: 1960
 Wilshaw, Cai: 2012
 Wilson, (Hay) Lindsay: 1969
 Wilson, (Latham) Kate: 1984
 Wilson, (Szczepanik) Barbara: 1965
 Winter, Liz: 1975
 Witter, Mark: 2000
 Wood, (Chatt) Sara: 1958
 Wood, (Gunning) Maureen: 1952
 Woodhouse, Sally: 2012
 Woolfson, Deborah: 2005
 Wordsworth Yates, Alan: 2008
 Wright, Ellen: 1977
 Wright, Nicholas: 1994
 Wyatt, Paul: 1995
 Wyatt, Nicholas: 2003
 Wylie, Fiona: 1967
 Yates, (Crawshaw) Sue: 1967
 Yip, Tim: 1989
 Young, (Beavis) Kathy: 1970
 Young, (Clifford) Barbara: 1957

Non-Alumnae Friends

Aoki, Sunao
 Austin, Michel
 Barnett, Laura
 Bradshaw, Mandy
 Cadwallader, Jim
 Camp, Angela
 Dawson, Lizzie
 Denham, Alison
 Drummond, Edwin
 Ellis, Cliff
 Foard, Christine
 Ford, John
 Freeman, Fiona
 Gardam, Tim
 Ghosh, Durjoy
 Harper, Tom
 Henderson, Jane
 Hernandez-Luis, John
 Keymer, Tom
 Krul, Wilco

Leong, Sin-Hong
 Macaire, David
 McCall, Marsh
 McIvor, Malcolm
 O'Donnell, Nicky
 Park, Grace
 Parkin-Morse, Julie
 Patel, Raj
 Pyle, David
 Rabinowitz, Lisa
 Raote, Nanda
 Richards, Paul
 Shelley, Sue
 Shepherd, Rachel
 Shuttleworth, Sally
 Smith, Suzanne
 Wallace, Louise
 Walters, Richard
 Walton, Ivan
 Weidenfeld, Annabelle
 Wood, John

Organisations and Charities

Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust
 COSARAF Charitable Foundation
 Danson Foundation
 Dr Stanley Ho Medical Development
 Foundation
 PAM Foundation
 SAS Cambridge Branch
 SAS Midlands Branch
 SAS South of England Branch
 The Drapers' Company
 Tsuzuki University

Plumer Society

Alphey, Nina: 2005
 Austin, Michel
 Baker, (Gibbon) Ruth: 1955
 Barnes, (Gould) Amanda: 1979
 Barringer, Terry: 1974
 Beeby, Valerie: 1952
 Belden, Hilary: 1966
 Bennett, (Thompson) Phyllis: 1974
 Bennett, Eric
 Biggs, (Perrin) Lynn: 1972
 Bone, (Lawrence) Jennifer: 1959
 Breward, Christopher: 1991
 Brooking-Bryant, (Walton) Audrey: 1953
 Bryson, (McGregor) Barrie: 1991
 Burton, (Heveningham-Pughe) Frances: 1960

Thank you

Burt, (Waite) Audrey: 1942
Bush, (Hainton) Julia: 1967
Bynoe, (Robinson) Geraldine: 1969
Carasso, Helen: 1976
Carter, (Palmer) Elise: 1942
Chadd, Linda: 1967
Chesterfield, Jane: 1977
Chleboun, (Wyvill) Carol: 1974
Collard, (Dunk) Jane: 1977
Colling, Mike: 1979
Coo, (Spink) Kathryn: 1972
Cox, (Ware) Frances: 1968
Cragoe, (Elmer) Elizabeth: 1950
Crane, (Begley) Meg: 1965
Crichton, (Hunter) Ele: 1996
Darnton, (Baker) Jane: 1962
Davies, (Baxendale) Jane: 1970
Deech, (Fraenkel) Ruth: 1962
Dowdall, Deb: 1974
Draper, (Fox) Heather: 1957
Driver, (Perfect) Margaret: 1951
Dryhurst, Clare: 1979
Dyne, (Heath) Sonia: 1953
Evans, (Kruse) Lesley: 1962
Faulkner, Stuart: 1991
Ferro, Stephanie: 1987
Finnemore, Judith: 1959
Fisher, (Hibbard) Sophia: 1966
Fleming, (Newman) Joan: 1957
Foster, Tony: 1980
Fox, Clemency: 1956
Gardam, Tim
Gent, Lizzie: 1976
Gerry, Philippa: 1950
Grange, (Cross) Natasha: 1982
Greenway, (Denerley) Ann: 1959
Grocock, Anne: 1965
Halcrow, Elizabeth: 1943
Hale, Barbara: 1948
Hamilton, (Pacey-Day) Susan: 1965
Hampton, Kate: 1977
Harrison, (Greggain) Vicky: 1961
Hatfield, (Bratton) Penny: 1971
Hensman, (Hawley) Barbara: 1956
High, (Martin) Lucy: 2004
Hill, (Davies) Valerie: 1971
Hilton, Catherine: 1965
Home, Anna: 1956
Honoré, (Duncan) Deborah: 1948
Hudson, Julie: 1975
Hunt, (Siddell) Ann: 1963

Huzzey, Clem: 1963
Huzzey, Christine
Hyde, Caroline: 1988
Ingram, Jackie: 1976
Jack, Susan: 1970
James, (Lucas) Cherry: 1977
Jarman, Richard: 1989
Jay, (Aldis) Elisabeth: 1966
Jessiman, (Smith) Maureen: 1953
Johnstone, Harry: 1957
Jones, (Smith) Elizabeth: 1962
Julian, (Whitworth) Celia: 1964
Keegan, Rachel: 1967
Kenna, (Hamilton) Stephanie: 1968
Khursandi, (Strange) Di: 1960
Kielich, Christina: 1970
King, Fiona: 1980
Kingdon, Janet: 1976
Kirk-Wilson, (Matthews) Ruth: 1963
Lacey, (Akyroyd) Juliet: 1962
Lawless, (Freeston) Sally: 1971
Leckie, (O'Donnell) Elizabeth: 1981
Lewis, Keri: 1947
Lloyd, Peter: 1983
Lygo, Martin: 1979
Mann, Paul: 1988
Martin, (Pearce) Mary: 1971
Mason, (Childe) Rosemary: 1958
Massey, (Glaser) Lili: 1967
McCracken, (Chavasse) Gabrielle: 1954
McDonnell, (Phillips) Marie-Louise: 1971
Moore, (Slocombe) Anne: 1955
Mottershead, (Roberts) Ann: 1977
Moughton, (Parr) Elizabeth: 1951
Munro, Rob: 1982
Murdin, (Milburn) Lesley: 1960
Nasmyth, (Mieszkis) Lalik: 1971
Newlands, (Raworth) Liz: 1960
Newton, (Little) Clare: 1970
Nixon, Gill
O'Sullivan, Helen: 1969
O'Brien, Sue: 1977
O'Flynn, (Brewster) Hazel: 1946
Packer, (Sellick) Sally: 1964
Palmer, (Allum) Marilyn: 1962
Paul, Helen: 1994
Pickersgill Draper, (Pickersgill) Mary: 1952
Pickles, (Wilson) Jane: 1953
Pomfret, (Pearson) Carole: 1979
Preston, (Haygarth) Barbara: 1957
Price, (Fox) Meg: 1967

Radcliffe, Rosemary: 1963
Regent, Petra: 1975
Revill, (Radford) Ann: 1955
Reynolds, Sian: 1958
Rossotti, Heather
Rutter, Jill: 1978
Sainsbury, (Davies) Audrey: 1947
Salisbury, (Jones) Elisabeth: 1956
Secker Walker, (Lea) Lorna: 1952
Sheather, (Hall) Judith: 1962
Simon, (Holmes) Jane: 1973
Skelton, Judy: 1965
Smith, David: 1974
Stanton, (Beech) Mandy: 1981
Stoddart, (Devereux) Frances: 1955
Swinburne, (Holmstrom) Monica: 1954
Thirlwell, (Goldman) Angela: 1966
Thomas, Stella-Maria: 1977
Thompson, Jean: 1942
Thorpe, Patty: 1973
Tindall-Shepherd, (Dunn) Wendy: 1963
Tjoa, (Chinn) Carole: 1965
Tricker, (Poole) Marilyn: 1964
Tuck, (Pye) Dinah: 1964
Tuckwell, (Bacon) Margaret: 1949
Turner, (Griffiths) Clare: 1986
Twamley, Delia*
Wagner, Rosemary: 1964
Wheeler, Heather: 1958
Whitby, (Field) Joy: 1949
William-Powlett, (Silk) Judith: 1960
Wright, Lynne: 1970
Yamauchi, (Myers) Mara: 1992
Yates, (Crawshaw) Sue: 1967
Young, (Clifford) Barbara: 1957

*Delia Twamley is leaving a legacy to St Anne's College from her late mother's estate (Phyllis Wray-Bliss, 1920)

Legacy Gifts

Foreman (Kremer), Susan: 1957
Hyde-Thomson (D'Erlanger), Zoë: 1949
Marks, Winifred: 1944
Orsten, Elisabeth: 1953
Silers, Margaret: 1945
Young (Tucker), Margaret: 1949



COMMUNICATIONS

Keeping in contact with our alumnae and friends is vital to all that we do at College. Most importantly, we want to help you keep in contact with each other after you have left St Anne's and to foster and nurture a global community of alumnae and friends of the College. You can update your details at any time, or opt out of communications, via our alumnae area online at: www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/st-annes or you can get in touch with us at: development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk View our privacy notice at: www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/st-annes/privacy-notice

PERSONAL NEWS

Please send personal news for next year's edition of The Ship by email to development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk or by post to: Development Office, St Anne's College, Oxford OX2 6HS

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Lost alumnae

Over the years the College has lost touch with some of our alumnae. We would very much like to re-establish contact, invite them back to our events and send them our publications such as The Ship and Annual Review. Please encourage your contemporaries to contact us if they do not receive our communications and would like to be back in touch.

Dine in College

College is delighted to be able to offer alumnae the option to lunch at St Anne's on a Monday to Friday during term time (term dates). You are welcome to dine on up to two days per term and also to have lunch with up to three guests in the Hall between 12 and 1.30 pm. Seating will be with the students and will be chargeable. Lunch includes two courses and coffee/tea. Book by emailing: events@st-annes.ox.ac.uk or calling 01865 274800. Please provide College two business days' notice so that the Events Team can notify Catering of additional numbers at lunch.

Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in articles featured in The Ship are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of St Anne's College. All alumnae are welcome to contribute to The Ship. If you would like to write an article get in touch with us at development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk

Designed and printed by
The Lavenham Press Ltd
Arbons House, 47 Water Street
Lavenham, Suffolk, CO10 9RN



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