Highlights:

Memories of David Fleming

Behind the lens: THwomen40 photographic portraits

A new Hall portrait

Brexit and UK Trade
New alumni benefits

We are pleased to announce the Trinity Hall Careers Network is expanding and private messaging is now available. The Network provides students and alumni the chance to interact on a professional level, offering advice, internships, jobs and networking opportunities.

As part of the Network, you can access our Careers Directory on THalumni.net. Many alumni have already kindly offered to provide careers advice to our current students. You can now get in touch with those in your interest areas for advice or to expand your network.

If you would like to join the Network and offer advice to students and alumni, please tick the relevant option in the ‘Business & Careers’ section of your THalumni.net profile. This will enable direct messaging between you and the rest of the Network. We hope that you will take advantage of this valuable benefit.

Thank you to all of those who continue support our students in this way.

Master’s Lodge guest rooms

On the top floor of the Master's Lodge on Central Site are five new double, en-suite guest rooms available for alumni to book. One of the rooms has a fully accessible wet room and all are accessible by both lift and stairs.

The rooms are £80 per night for two people including B&B. You can book a room through our Conference Office:
Email: rooms@trinhall.cam.ac.uk
Call: +44 (0)1223 764444

See all the alumni benefits available at www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/alumni/benefits
This summer has seen the release of the results of the first Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), yet another form of more or less covert regulation which parallels the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in operation for many years. The TEF uses three core ‘metrics’ to measure teaching quality – graduate recruitment rates, student retention rates, and indices of student satisfaction. Against a benchmark, universities are assessed and awarded gold, silver or bronze.

Predictably perhaps – and with some relief – Cambridge was awarded gold. That holds good for three years. But some other great institutions, such as the London School of Economics, got bronze or silver, and in a world in which people want simple answers, the idea will quickly get around that universities can be classified simply as gold, silver or bronze, with little attention to the contextual data, the internal complexities, and the many variables that have affected the outcome. The core metrics definitely measure something, and there will no doubt be good outcomes from that: universities now will have to pour much more effort into improving the student experience, career advice, and so on.

But the quality of teaching – and particularly the quality of learning – is not necessarily measurable. Take student satisfaction. Students often prefer less content, and less challenging assessment. Real education is often unsettling and demanding. I had a tutor at Oxford who taught by terror: he would never have rated highly on a student satisfaction index. But he transformed my view of the world, and changed me in a way almost no one else has apart from my family. It is probably only years on from leaving university that we can really look back and assess how good the teaching was, and that will always be a highly personal, subjective matter.

So I am not sanguine about this new regulatory regime. But in the meantime, let’s just continue to celebrate our own achievements as a College – the 100 plus undergraduates who collected their degrees this year at general admission, the steady flow of graduates completing through the year, the hugely impressive contributions my colleagues make to research in the sciences and the arts, the contribution of women to Trinity Hall over 40 years (I mention that specifically because we are in the throes of that celebration), and beyond that all the marvellous things our students and alumni do in the wider intellectual and cultural life of the world.
Memories of
DAVID FLEMING
1947–2017

David Fleming, who died on 10 March after a short illness, was one of a select but now virtually extinct species of Trinity Hall Fellows who were admitted as undergraduates, proceeded to the LLB, and then, after a postgraduate year in the US, returned to serve the College continuously and memorably – as Law Fellow, Tutor and finally Emeritus Fellow, for over 40 years. Born near Woolwich into an army family of eventually seven children, his earliest education was within the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) provision in Germany, followed by two local schools in Dover where his father, a Royal Engineer, had been posted to the Castle. At the first, as David recalled, “I didn’t learn much, except how to serve as an altar boy”, but at the second, the Boys’ Grammar School, his teachers were quick to identify and develop his outstanding academic potential. This led successively to an Entrance Scholarship in History (for Law) at Trinity Hall; First Classes in both Parts of the Law Tripos; an LLB (where a serious and protracted bout of arthritis reduced him to an Upper Second); the Squire Scholarship in Law; and a prestigious Bigelow Teaching Fellowship at the University of Chicago Law School. In 1970, still only 23, he became a Staff Fellow here and in 1972 a University Assistant Lecturer in Law. He also served on both the Parole Board and the body responsible for Education and Training at the Bar. He retired in 2008.

This bald summary gives few glimpses of David’s many-sided gifts. Most self-evident was his exceptional speed of thought, formidably retentive memory, the sheer breadth of his knowledge, and the rapid-fire clarity and precision with which he expressed himself; whether on some arcane legal problem or an under-researched episode in English 18th-century domestic politics (which fascinated him) or simply the recent fortunes of Kent County Cricket Club. Unsurprisingly, this made him a stimulating colleague and an outstanding teacher of undergraduates. He supervised, tirelessly and often brilliantly, across a daunting range of legal subject matter including Tort, Contract, Personal Property and Legal Theory. Unlike some others in his Faculty, he saw Law less as a cumulative accretion of relevant case studies and more as a functioning matrix of ideas within which philosophical constructs, social theory, jurisprudential reasoning, and even criminological research might fruitfully converge. Although David wrote very little (“I’m too much of a perfectionist”, he once told me), his influence on the thinking and practice of successive cohorts of his pupils was far from marginal. Both his teaching style – never robotically routine, nor intellectually patronising – and his gift for engaging directly with his students did much to draw the latter towards both the man and his view of Law itself.

This gift for outgoing empathy was equally visible throughout David’s tutorial career. Although bureaucratically very efficient, he was always a good listener – objective, shrewd, supportive and forgiving – whether when retrieving a hungover, if contrite, undergraduate from Parkside Police Station, reaching out to the seriously depressed or the parentally bereaved, or simply dispensing sound advice from atop his regular stool in the College bar. It also helped that his deceptively youthful appearance and regular dress code – usually a casual shirt, jeans and sneakers (once described by a visiting parent as, “more like a rock star than a Cambridge don”) – projected a friendly informality, which was never false or over-contrived. It was David! We remember him with affection and gratitude.

Graham Howes
Emeritus Fellow

Memorial service
There will be a memorial service for David on Saturday 7 October 2017 at 2.30pm at Great St Mary’s The University Church, followed by refreshments in College.

If you would like to attend, please book online at https://alumni.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/DavidFleming or call Liz on +44 (0)1223 332567.
Prayers long silent:
Famagusta and the complexity of Cypriot heritage

Where might an international group of experts on complexity theory and medieval manuscripts, international law and virtual reality, analytical chemistry and art history, art conservation and architectural interpretation, civil engineering and pedagogical sciences, converge on a single project? As unlikely as this may seem, the answer is in a small, ruined, Armenian chapel in the historic city of Famagusta in the northern part of the divided island of Cyprus. I have led the emergency intervention to protect it and its 14th-century murals for over a decade, in collaboration with the World Monuments Fund and the Municipality of Famagusta.

Famagusta was once the coronation place of the crusader kings of Jerusalem (Fig. 1) and one of the wealthiest entrepôts in the known world. It was corrupt too and for this reason mentioned by name in Dante’s Inferno and warned of eternal damnation by Saint Birgitte of Sweden. In 1571, it was the site of one of the most infamous sieges in military history and accordingly became the epitome of martyrdom as seen in Shakespeare’s Othello as it receded into history as an abandoned ruin.

Revitalised by British administration post-1878, it experienced two world wars and was the setting for Hollywood’s Exodus (starring Paul Newman) in the final days of the Palestine Mandate. Its large suburb of Varosha/Maras remains a ghost town to this day, after the events of 1974 divided the island. The historic core and its cultural heritage, the legacy of a millennium, is not benefitting from the political plight of the island.

I successfully nominated the city for inclusion on the World Monuments Fund Watch List of endangered sites globally (in 2008 and 2010) and led trust building measures between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot mayors of Famagusta with the assistance of the Swedish Ambassador to Cyprus. With the support of Michael Møller (now Director General of the United Nations in Geneva), I organised international conferences in Paris, Budapest and Bern to strategise ways out of the political cul-de-sac for the imperilled cultural legacy of this historic city. From 2011 to 2015, I led the emergency intervention to protect the mural of The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste (Fig. 2) in the 14th-century Church of Saints Peter and Paul, and the stabilisation of the interior decorations of the Armenian Church and St Anne’s, both from the same century (Fig. 3). Both projects are the subject of documentary films by Dan Frodsham and can be viewed on the WMF website.

It is a mark of the success of this interdisciplinary project, and to the importance of academic leadership in the face of political stalemate, that it was taken over by the United Nations Development Program at the request of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in 2015 and supported with a large budget from the European Union. It is important to consider the role of the international community in protecting delicate and endangered cultural heritage in areas that are beyond the reach of UNESCO.

Michael J K Walsh (1993)
Associate Professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
The first few minutes of a shoot, I spend scanning the subject, trying to draw them out whilst continually seeking out a relevant aesthetic backdrop. I do not rely on natural light (it’s far too distracting and naively optimistic waiting for the sun!), preferring instead to use fill-flash to lighten the shadows and freeze a moment.

For this assignment, I just worked with what I was given – the women in their context, no elaborate preparation. I watched the subjects watching me watching them…all the while their expression mellowing as they visibly relaxed in front of the lens. I derive a huge amount of pleasure from ‘seeing’ a portrait develop. I’m after the subject’s essence and how to convey it visually. But this is not only about how they look and how I see them, I need to understand how they are feeling as well. If I can’t sense how they are feeling, I am never going to do their portrait justice. Sometimes you have to click away, knowing you have not quite got the definitive shot yet, but giving confidence that, by simply releasing the shutter, the photographer is liking what she sees and then the magic happens.

All the chosen women were super professional, patient and accommodating. I was touched by the subjects’ vulnerability in giving themselves to the process of being scrutinised – after all the camera never lies [unless you make it!] The whole process didn’t take long: speed adds a vitality and energy. What struck me most about the women was their shared love for Trinity Hall and that they all trusted me to make an honest representation of them. Clearly, they wanted to celebrate THwomen40 and my job was to transmit this enthusiasm. Portraiture is like dancing; it takes two to tango and we had a ball!

Kiloran Howard
Photographer

Behind the lens: THwomen40 photographic portraits

It was wonderful to be asked to create ten photographic portraits for THwomen40. I wanted to capture each subject in their working environment or in a way that might reflect how they contribute to College life. I also imagined everyone having little time to spare from their work and/or studies.
The College commissioned Kiloran to collaborate with a working group, comprising a Fellow, an undergraduate student, a graduate student and a member of staff, to produce ten photographic portraits of women associated with Trinity Hall today. The photographs serve as a ‘snapshot’ of the life of women at College 40 years after their admission as students and Fellows. Women from all parts of College life – staff, students, alumni and Fellows – are represented in the project.

One photograph is displayed in the Dining Hall every two weeks during term time and is available to view on the website, along with a biography of the subject. At the end of the project, the full set of images and biographies will be permanently on display in College.

www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/th40
MAKING THEIR MARK:
Female merchants and tradespeople

Women have been playing important roles in the history of the College for hundreds of years: female monarchs, benefactors, tradespeople, servants, staff and wives have all made their mark. Although few records survive relating to the College’s early history, we can piece together an idea of what roles women played in College from what remains. Here we will be focusing on female merchants and tradespeople.

In medieval Europe, women often played an active role in their communities, participating in various trades including brewing, baking and textile manufacturing. Women assisted their fathers and husbands in their trades, but they were also capable of practicing their own trades. It is possible the College was employing and buying goods from women since its foundation, but the College’s earliest accounts only go back to 1587. These accounts rarely contain detailed information, such as people’s names, however, occasionally individuals are mentioned by name. From these rare glimpses, we can see that the College was purchasing goods from women as far back as the mid-17th century. By the 18th century, the records show that the College was frequently purchasing goods from female merchants, notably candles and wine from local chandlers and wine merchants, and regularly employing cleaners, bedmakers and a laundress.

Women were not only selling goods to the College but also shaping its very fabric. According to William Warren, a clerical fellow of the College from 1712 to 1745, the windows in the Great Hall were ‘glazed’ by a woman, Margarete Wynn. By Warren’s time, the windows were in a state of disrepair, but it was still possible to see her name engraved in several of the windows. It is unclear if she actually glazed the windows herself or if she provided the money for them to be glazed. In any case, when the Great Hall was renovated in 1743, the new windows were certainly glazed by a female glazier, Mary Belcher. Mary was also a plumber, so she was also employed to install new leaden gutters for the Hall. There is also recorded evidence that a female bricklayer, Elizabeth Preston, slated the north side of central court during the major renovation work done to College in the 1720s.

This is just one small look into an interesting and often overlooked aspect of the College’s history that demonstrates women have been involved with the College in various capacities far longer than most people realise. It is amazing what can be found in the Archive!

Alexandra Browne
College Archivist and Records Manager
A new Hall portrait

A highlight of the THwomen40 anniversary of women event on 1 July was the unveiling a new portrait of Trinity Hall’s first two female Fellows – Dr Kareen Thorne (Biochemistry) and Dr Sandra Raban (Medieval History).

In the portrait, created by BP Portrait Award 2017 winner Benjamin Sullivan, Kareen and Sandra are shown in their gowns sitting at a table with objects representing their respective academic disciplines. Both women joined the College as Fellows in 1976 and both went on to become Senior Tutor, Kareen being the first woman to hold the role.

The portrait is hung in the Dining Hall – please do take a look next time you are in College.

With thanks to the THA and Nigel Thomas for their contributions towards the portrait.
Four months after the Brexit vote in June last year, the House of Commons appointed the International Trade Committee (ITC) to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Department for Internal Trade and its associated public bodies. Dr Lorand Bartels, Fellow in Law, sits on the ITC as Special Adviser and is Senior Counsel at Linklaters, advising on trade law, particularly in the context of Brexit. Here, he discusses the impact of Brexit on UK trade.

Brexit was largely about immigration and sovereignty, but it will also have profound effects on the UK’s trade relationships. This poses some difficult challenges for a country that has traditionally been a supporter of free trade.

In the first instance, Brexit will result in the termination of a set of crucial free trade agreements. These are agreements that eliminate customs duties on almost all imports of goods and, to a lesser extent, reduce regulatory barriers on trade in services. The most significant of these agreements is with the EU, which is a market for around 45% of UK exports. But Brexit will also mean the end of the UK’s benefits under the EU’s free trade agreements with 50 other countries.

These outcomes can be avoided by the extension of the existing arrangements, or the conclusion of new arrangements. But that requires the agreement of all others involved, including the EU.

This does not portend doom and gloom in all respects. Many UK exports are exported duty free regardless of any free trade agreements. But others are subject to high duties – like ceramics, cars, alcohol and agriculture – and these will be less competitive in third country markets, and may be priced out of these markets altogether. In the short term, these products will saturate the UK market, which is good for UK consumers, who will benefit for lower prices, but bad for UK producers, many of which are likely to go out of business. With services, the situation is even worse. Exports of financial and professional services to the EU will take a significant hit, as EU regulatory barriers are raised.

In addition, many modern free trade agreements (such as the EU itself) abolish border controls on whether traded products meet domestic safety standards, leaving this to points of production and sale, as with domestic products. This does not apply to all products. It is enough for Apple to certify that iPhones meet domestic standards. But small batch or riskier products are subject to these controls, which is costly and time-consuming.

Exports of financial and professional services to the EU will take a significant hit, as EU regulatory barriers are raised.

The UK is also likely to raise barriers on imports of products and services from the EU that are currently imported without restrictions. This is not necessary, because the UK can unilaterally allow imports of products and services into the UK without restrictions. But if the UK
Autumn 2017

unilaterally liberalises imports, it makes it more difficult to conclude free trade agreements with other countries to benefit its exporters. This is because it has nothing new to offer them. The logic of trade agreements is reciprocity, which is undercut by unilateral liberalisation.

All of this means that it is of vital importance to work to ensure the continuation of free trade between the UK and the EU, as well as between the UK and third countries. The Government is currently working on ways to do this, most obviously with the EU, but also with others. But there are two problems. First, in particular with the EU, non-trade issues have a way of complicating the picture. It is not just the ‘bar tab’ or the status of EU citizens in the UK that threaten to upset trade negotiations, but also issues like the status of Gibraltar. The second is to do with trade. If there is no UK-EU FTA, third countries that export raw materials or components to the UK for processing and export to the EU27 will see their UK market dry up. That changes the reciprocity calculation for them, and they may wish to renegotiate rather than simply roll over existing FTAs.

All of this means that the UK is under significant pressure. It would be difficult to sort out these issues at any time. To do it before 2019 is a Herculean task.

Dr Lorand Bartels
Director of Studies in Law and University Reader in International Law

Many UK exports are exported duty free regardless of any free trade agreements. But others are subject to high duties – like ceramics, cars, alcohol and agriculture.
This year’s Telephone Campaign was a remarkable success; engaging conversations, the exchange of College experiences, alumni careers and over £178,000 raised to support our current students.

The funds so generously donated by those we spoke with will allow us to provide hardship grants and studentships, maintain the high quality of our teaching, continue our programme of refurbishment, support our access and outreach, and help nurture our students by bolstering our Clubs and Societies in the next academic year.

One of our callers this year was Genevieve, a 1st year English student, who has written about her experience of the Campaign:

Following two days of training – starting with the ideal but elusive ‘perfect call’ and then covering any and all sticky situations that may arise – I wouldn’t be telling the truth if I wasn’t absolutely terrified to begin the actual calling! Although we had gone through many scenarios; practised and rehearsed many times; undertaken multiple role-plays; repeated different versions of our written and prepared individualised scripts; learnt the overarching narrative framework... I was still a little nervous about speaking on the phone! Yet there was a part of me too, a tiny part, that couldn’t wait to get started, that anticipated the putting-into-action all of the practise and training that we had gone through over the past 48 hours.

And so it was this part of me that I harnessed when going through the information for my first call. Carefully I read the notes, made my preparatory introduction and dialled the number, waiting with bated breath for an answer. But, alas, no answer came. I felt a mixture of relief and frustration as I tried another number but, alas, to no avail. No one was picking up. Undeterred I moved on, anticipating the next prospect in a similar manner. Yet, again, no luck! After six unanswered calls my nerves strangely seemed to dissipate as I frantically hoped for someone to pick up the phone! Finally – yes – a voice on the other end! My call had been answered! A nice conversation followed, as I enjoyed talking about her year abroad in a patisserie in France, her current business and how it had evolved from her own experiences at Trinity Hall. Discussing Trinity Hall brought us together over the phone as we shared memories of June Events, undergraduate hobbies, friends, and the notorious ‘Vivas’ – now in a redesigned and updated bar and under a new name: ‘Crescent Room’. A long but pleasant conversation and although unable to give at this time, she was happy to offer advice. However, I persisted, reinvigorated at having had a genuinely nice chat, and after a few more calls I hit gold in more ways than one!

My next answer was golden in both senses of the word: a lovely, shining and bright personality greeted me in friendly tones over the phone and concluded in a generous annual donation! Although the donation did boost my spirits considerably as the bottle of wine reached my table, it was the conversation that I enjoyed the most. A friendly recent graduate, coming back for his MA celebration and reunion shared all his memories and fond happy times at Trinity Hall with me. His involvement in sport, his year abroad, his anecdotal tales of breaking into John’s May Ball... making me laugh over the phone as I re-imagined the stories of his undergraduate days – not so long before my own!

It struck me how College memories can bring would-be strangers together, how sharing reminiscences over past university experiences through the mutual lens of college life can enable conversation over any medium. Not for the first time, I thought to myself how lucky and privileged I am to be allowed to be a part of this wonderful and unique experience. It is what compelled me to take part in the Telephone Campaign and will definitely motivate me moving forward.
Matt, another of this year’s callers, had a fantastic chat with Dr Philip Fine (1989) during this year’s campaign and following their conversation Philip, now a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Buckingham, visited the College and met up with Matt on a sunny June day:

I met Dr Fine in a sun-drenched Front Court on a midsummer afternoon. The College was blissfully serene, no doubt because exams had finished the week prior. I introduced myself and Dr Fine replied with a smile, saying, “please, call me Philip”. We decided on a quick stroll around College, before heading to the Department of Psychology. However, we spent almost all of our time in Hall. Despite having graduated a quarter-century earlier, we quickly ran into an Emeritus Fellow from Philip’s cohort. Much might have changed recently, but it was clear that College has remained a rich tapestry of old and new. We strolled around Latham Lawn, watched the now-relaxed students punting along the Cam and then ventured into the Jerwood Library, built after Philip left. We ascended to the top level and commented on how lucky we were to call Tit Hall home. From there, we walked past the then library (Graham Storey Room), through Philip’s old JCR (Terrace Room) and to his old first year room, which is now the JCR Office. Serendipitously, we were let in by a JCR Officer preparing for May Week festivities. The room was filled with decorations, stash and similar such things. We chatted for a while about then and now, and then headed up to the Alumni and Development Office. Fortuitously, Rachelle Stretch was in – she offered us tea in her office; the perfect way to round out our afternoon in Hall!

A big thank you from myself and all of this year’s team; Genevieve, Emma, Katie B, Laurie, Katie W, Kimberley, Tian, Rhiannon, Matt and Dan for taking the time to chat and for all of your generous support, whether it be financial or by kindly offering careers advice. I look forward to working with another group of students next year and hope that you will take the time to speak with one of our callers in the future and enjoy a conversation as much as our students continue to.

James Adamcheski-Halson
Development Officer

The role is offered to all current students each year and is paid employment with the College. It comes with a number of perks and is designed to allow plenty of freedom for students to pursue their studies during the Easter break. To find out more about the Telephone Campaign and read blogs from some of the other callers, please visit https://alumni.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/telethon2017alumni.

Details about our Telephone Campaigns to date can be found at www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/supporters/telethon or by contacting James at telethon@trinhall.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 332563.
Celebrating the women of Trinity Hall

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO REPORT ON THE SUCCESS OF THE THWOMEN40 ANNIVERSARY EVENT, WHERE OVER 200 GUESTS JOINED US IN COLLEGE FOR WHAT WAS A TRULY MEMORABLE OCCASION.

The event featured an academic poster session, tours, panel discussion, drinks, four-course dinner and topped off with the Black and White Ball. We were thrilled to see our guests, who spanned from current students through to those who matriculated in the 1960s, enjoying the live music, sweet cart, casino tables and photo booth, which captured the spirit of the evening! Thank you to everyone who joined us to mark 40 years of women at Trinity Hall and a special thanks to our 14 volunteers, without whom we could not have created such a special event.

You can see photos from the event on Flickr at trinityhallcamb Watch the panel discussion at www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/th40

NEW RELEASES

The first women

This collection of memoirs, interviews and stories looks back on the first 40 years of women at Trinity Hall through the eyes of the Trinity Hall community. Collated and edited by Sandra Raban, one of the first two female Fellows, former Senior Tutor and Emeritus Fellow.

£8 (collection)
£9.95 (UK delivery)
£10.95 (Overseas delivery)

The English Orpheus

Trinity Hall Chapel Choir’s new CD features a wonderful variety of music by the great restoration composer Henry Purcell (1659–95). Recorded in the Chapel of Jesus College, the choir performed alongside the soloists, string-players and trumpeters of Trinity Hall’s professional Ensemble-In-Residence ‘Orpheus Britannicus’.

£12 (collection)
£13.50 (UK delivery)
£14 (Overseas delivery)

HOW TO ORDER
Visit: www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/giftshop Email: merchandise@trinhall.cam.ac.uk Call: +44 (0)1223 332567 Also available from the Porters’ Lodge on Central Site.
Next Vice-Master announced
Dr Nick Bampos will become the new Vice-Master of Trinity Hall on 1 October 2017, taking over from Professor Mike Hobson.

The Master said, “I am sure you will join me in congratulating Nick and wishing him well for his new role.”

“I would also like to express my gratitude to Mike for all his hard work over the last four years”.

From 2004–14, Dr Bampos was Trinity Hall’s Senior Tutor and has been a Fellow here since 1999. He is a Natural Scientist with interests spanning conventional organic, biological and inorganic chemistry.

Fellows’ research
MEMBERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP HAVE BEEN BUSY IN RECENT WEEKS PUBLISHING DIVERSE AND INTERESTING RESEARCH.

Dr William Skylark published on our perceptions of attractive scientists; Dr Andrew Murray and James Horscroft, PhD student, looked at Sherpa’s superhuman energy efficiency; Dr Paul van Pelt was part of a team that extracted the first complete genome data from ancient Egyptian mummies; and Dr Poornima Paidipaty focused on visionary work on the development of large-scale surveys of India’s rural population in response to the country’s drive to realign itself as an industrial force with global reach.

Read about their research on the University website: www.cam.ac.uk/affiliations/trinity-hall

May Bumps results ...
Keep up-to-date with all the latest action from THBC on their website and social media.
www.trinityhallbc.co.uk
@TrinityHallBC on Facebook and Twitter

DATA PROTECTION UPDATE
The privacy of alumni data has always been important to us. New legislation will take effect in 2018 to further protect your personal data and we may need to seek your consent to ensure we can still contact you. Further updates will follow. You can view our updated data protection policy online at www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/dataprotection
Twelve years with the THA

Colin Hayes reflects on his retirement as President

When Barry Lewis nobbyed me in 2005 to succeed him as Secretary of the THA I was newly retired and it sounded a worthwhile job to do for a few years. I live close to Cambridge and had become far more involved with the Hall, through the Year Reps scheme, than I had been for a good 20 years after I went down. Barry had been Secretary for 30 years; I expected my term to be three. Little did I imagine that I would still be in harness 12 years later, least of all as President.

These years, a sixth of my sentient life to date, have been profoundly enjoyable. The Association exists to celebrate and connect the Trinity Hall community worldwide and across the generations, bringing alumni together wherever we can. It has been a great honour to support that cause. The position of President is no longer honorific as it used to be; it’s a working role, and there’s always work to do. But as former President Sarah Webbe (1981) once said, “Basically, we hold parties”, and that is true. So I look back on a long series of happy social events, not just in Cambridge and London, but now all around the UK, from Cumbria to Cardiff, Portsmouth to Edinburgh, and many points in between. I have had the pleasure of meeting hundreds of alumni whom I hadn’t known previously, of all vintages; and these events have always been characterised by that amiability, informality and ease of conversation that just seems to happen whenever two or more Hall people are gathered together. There have been many highlights, too many to describe; but I have a precious memory of our London Event at Lambeth Palace in May 2015, where in some magical way the spirit of the Hall seemed to become palpable and grow to fill those glorious surroundings, so much so that one alumnus expressed his appreciation to us in verse; a very moving poem it was, too, later printed in Front Court.

The enjoyment has not just been from these interactions. Our Committee work has always been pleasant; so it should be, for all our members are volunteers, bound by the common bond of affection that we hold for the College. I have been especially lucky to have the support of our current Secretary Chris Angus (1967); he is a tower of strength, as is our Emeritus member Bob Ely (1950), a constant source of wise advice. But the THA could not do what it does without the support of the staff of the Alumni and Development Office who handle all the administration for our events. They too have been an absolute pleasure to work with. I shall miss my many visits to their office in Avery Court (right opposite my first-year rooms on G). I shall miss my interactions with the Master too, for both Martin Daunton and Jeremy Morris have given nothing less than 100% support to the THA.

None of this would have been possible had not Dennis Avery (1980) so generously endowed the THA in its own right. In fact, when faced in committee with a policy decision on something new, we often apply the litmus test: ‘Would Dennis have approved?’ One growing activity of the THA that he emphatically did approve is financial support for Hall students who plan to take part in humanitarian projects during the long vac or when they go down. We saw this as a good way of raising awareness of the THA among the student body, but it is far more than that. For 10 years now we have been helping students to embark on projects remarkable both for the range of activities they have undertaken, and for their spread right across the globe. It is so rewarding for the THA to help send the successful applicants on their way, and then to hear what they have done when they return.
They are the best of the best, with so much to offer in life. We are now expanding the scheme to provide support for interns in the UK as well.

For 10 years now we have been helping students to embark on projects remarkable both for the range of activities they have undertaken, and for their spread right across the globe

Quite different, and a one-off, is the donation we have made this year towards the portrait of the Hall’s first two female Fellows as part of the 40th anniversary of the admission of women. Our alumnae increasingly affect the composition of the THA, just as they do the College itself; we are reflecting this in their membership of the Committee too. I am so pleased that in my final year the THA has been able to signify its support for the portrait in a permanent way.

There are questions for the THA too. At a rough guess, I think that we have so far gathered in about 1,000 alumni to THA events. That’s good, but it’s only a start, as Trinity Hall alumni number more than 8,000. How can we persuade more of them to come, and what’s the best way to communicate, especially with the younger generation? We are grappling with this and are moving towards some new initiatives, led by Roger McKinlay (1979), who will succeed me as President, in tandem with the Alumni and Development Office. And should we now repeat our circuit of events around the UK, or do them differently? I shall follow developments with great interest.

In all of this, I am so grateful to my colleagues for their support both on the Committee and in the College. What fun it has been. But it’s not goodbye, or even au revoir. Thanks to Dennis Avery, all Hall alumni are members of the Trinity Hall Association for life. We shall meet again!

Colin Hayes (1962)
THA President, 2014-2018

THA EVENTS 2017

23 September | Cambridge Dinner | Trinity Hall
A drinks reception in the Master’s Lodge followed by a four-course dinner in the Dining Hall and drinks in the Aula Bar.

11 November
Regional Event | Penshurst Place, Kent
A drinks reception and dinner at the ancestral home of the Sidney family.
A day in the life of a Schools Liaison Officer

My role focuses on helping school and college students make informed decisions and aim high when applying to university. A large portion of my work involves running schemes that improve the progression of students from backgrounds with less tradition of studying at Cambridge or Oxford.

On a Monday and Tuesday in July, we hosted 100 sixth-form students and teachers at Trinity Hall as part of the University of Cambridge HE+ Somerset programme, which brings highly able students from 10 Somerset state schools together for three school/university-based events over an academic year. At each event, we help students learn more about universities such as Cambridge and Oxford; feel increasingly confident about the prospect of studying here; and become competitive applicants. This residential visit to Trinity Hall was the HE+ programme’s final event of the year; the previous two events were school-based, so it was the first visit to Cambridge for many students taking part.

Before the schools’ arrival on Monday, I spent the morning making last-minute preparations: imagine a lightning-fast, one-person system of stapling timetables and maps of Cambridge together into 100 individual packs and counting out meal vouchers for each school group. The students and teachers travelled to Cambridge in coaches, and after a one-hour delay caused by roadworks, everyone arrived in time for lunch. I rushed them into the cafeteria (it had been a long journey, so people were ravenous) and welcomed them to Trinity Hall as they tucked into their food.

An afternoon of subject-taster sessions then began, giving the students experience of university-style learning and demonstrating the breadth of subjects available at Cambridge. The students first had a choice of attending one of three sessions: Biological Physics with postdoc Dr Stephanie Hohn studying algae; Archaeology with Fellow Dr Tamsin O’Connell examining physical bone specimens; or Linguistics with PhD student James Baker experimenting with building languages. Next, they chose from sessions on Materials Science with Fellow Dr Thomas Bennett, Veterinary Medicine with Director of Studies Dr David Bainbridge, and English with PhD student Oliver Goldstein.

Later, students ate dinner, toured Trinity Hall with current undergraduates and explored the city centre. It was a beautiful summer’s evening, so they definitely saw Cambridge at its best! I slipped off home for a good night’s sleep ahead of day two, which included workshops on personal statements and interviews, and visits to other Colleges. The schools left after lunch, even more enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the benefits of aiming high with their university choices. As the Trinity Hall’s Admissions Team, we wish the students all the best for the future and hope we might see some of them at interviews in December!

Many thanks to everyone who has supported Trinity Hall’s access and outreach work.

Helena Blair
Schools Liaison Officer

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MILESTONE LECTURE 2017

Ways of Seeing a City: The Rooftops of Paris in Cinema

Dr Isabelle McNeill, Philomathia Fellow in French

This talk addresses questions of seeing and looking, visibility and opacity that are raised when cinema depicts urban space, with the rooftops of Paris as a particular and revealing example. The Parisian rooftops are familiar and touristic whilst also being marginal and liminal (traditionally the dwellings of the city’s poorest inhabitants, the limit between city and sky). They are therefore well suited to testing the way a cultural imaginary intersects with a complex and problematic reality. Emerging in the 19th century, a discourse of ‘charm’ has developed in relation to the rooftops of Paris that finds its natural expression in the cinema.

As an example, I will focus on Hiner Saleem’s Beneath the Rooftops of Paris (2006), analysing the film in relation to a historical understanding of the urban architecture of Paris and its representation in cinema. Saleem’s film invokes clichés associated with rooftop living, only to call them into question through its attention to impoverished perspectives and the embodied experiences of ageing and suffering in liminal areas of the city. In its engagement with cinematic history, notably by conjuring an intertext a much earlier film, René Clair’s Under the Roofs of Paris (1930), the film also offers a critical perspective on the cultural memory that develops and sustains a touristic ideal of the rooftops.

Dr Isabelle McNeill is a lecturer and researcher specialising in French and France-based cinema, with a particular interest in questions of memory and place. She is currently writing a book on the cinematic rooftops of Paris, which engages with questions of perspective, urban space and cultural history in relation to cinema. She also participates in the wider promotion of film culture in the UK through her work with the Cambridge Film Trust, which she co-founded.

EVENT CONTACT

For further information visit www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events or contact Liz Pentlow: alumni@trinhall.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 332567.
For University events go to www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/events.
Information correct at time of going to press.