

Issue 34 | Autumn 2021

Front Court

Trinity Hall Cambridge



HIGHLIGHTS

Keeping the
ball rolling

Branding:
bloodlines and
bureaucracy

Get In
Cambridge



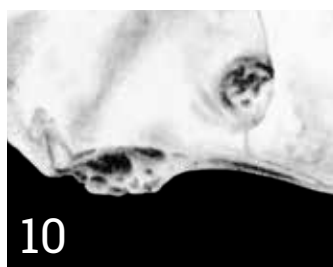
TRINITY HALL
CAMBRIDGE

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Welcome to your new look *Front Court* magazine. We have listened to your feedback and immersed ourselves in current design trends and timeless classics. The result: a *Front Court* for the 2020s.

While our 25-year-old magazine now looks very different, we are keeping all the things you tell us you love about it. It will still be called *Front Court* and it will continue to include your favourite content such as recent research, College news and pieces authored by members from across the College community. Thank you to everyone who has shared their views with us over the years to help shape your magazine.

We hope you like *Front Court's* latest incarnation and welcome your comments.

With very best wishes,

Kathryn and Rachelle
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Front Court is produced using paper fibres derived from pre- and post-consumer waste and is FSC® certified. It is printed with vegetable-based ink and sent to you in biodegradable, compostable film derived from potato starch.

Cover image: Alice, dusty after a day's branding

The College's experience of the pandemic: a set of unprecedented and difficult circumstances have showcased the commitment and fortitude of the Trinity Hall community.

Message from the Vice-Master

by Dr Daniel Tyler

As students, alumni and visitors return to College after the long vacation or a period of absence caused by the pandemic, many will see for the first time the new WongAvery Music Gallery in Avery Court. This state-of-the-art facility provides College with exciting opportunities for piano concerts and musical performances. It is a striking architectural triumph and has transformed its immediate surroundings, revealing new sight-lines and creating a more open and attractive Court. Although the Music Gallery's completion was delayed due to the effects of the pandemic on the construction industry, it would not have been fitting formally to have opened the new building during the previous, Covid-disrupted, academic year when so many students were out of residence and the College choir was unable to perform. As it is, things have worked out well, and the Music Gallery will be opened in the new academic year when the College community can make the most of it.

To some extent, this example of emerging well from adversity reflects the College's experience of the pandemic: a set of unprecedented and difficult circumstances have showcased the commitment and fortitude of the Trinity Hall community. Students showed impressive resilience and kindness to one another throughout, also achieving very good exam results that saw Trinity Hall placed strongly in relation to other colleges; staff adapted resourcefully to new ways of working; Fellows

quickly adjusted to delivering virtual lectures and supervisions; alumni generously contributed to a pandemic support fund, greatly appreciated by students and the College more broadly.

The other predominant challenges of the last eighteen months have arisen as a result of allegations made in the media about the College's handling of certain student complaints. As readers of *Front Court* will know, the independent, external Inquiry led by Gemma White QC has reported to the Governing Body and a 'Report for Publication' will be made available in due course. Subsequently, the College received the resignation of the Master, the Reverend Canon Dr Jeremy Morris, after seven years of service as Master and nine as Dean; we wish him well for the future. The search for a new Master is now under way.

The Inquiry process will produce many beneficial outcomes for the College. It will be a catalyst for review, and where necessary renewal, of our culture and procedures. The Governing Body has agreed to act on all the recommendations of the Inquiry. It has begun by establishing a Working Group to carry out a cultural survey as the basis for further review of policies, procedures and training.

As we approach the new academic year, the striking WongAvery Music Gallery is an emblem of a new start as College emerges from the challenges of the pandemic months with renewed resolve, optimism, and a refreshed commitment to excellence and mutual support in all areas of College life.



> Lee Davidson on
Eden Park's roof,
Auckland



© Lee Davidson

Any spectator at a major sports event never really knows the effort that has gone in beforehand to make it happen, or the challenges that have been overcome. Let me lift the veil a little on the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™.

Keeping the ball rolling

Preparing for the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™

by Lee Davidson | 1993, History | FIFA Safety & Security Manager, FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™



© Lee Davidson

> Adelaide Stadium team



© Lee Davidson

> The team in Auckland

The host countries for the football tournament were appointed in June 2020 but Covid restrictions meant our planning and delivery project team was unable to travel until almost 12 months later, after “visiting” the stadiums and building working relationships via early morning and late night online meetings.

Flying out, our 17-strong team was nervous about how we would cope with the strict managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) regime in New Zealand: 14 days in a hotel room with enough PCR tests for nostrils to feel like pin cushions. But we got lucky: our hotel rooms had balconies and we could exercise outdoors a couple of times a day and we had plenty of online meetings to keep us busy in between.

“It exemplified the best parts of working at a major sporting event”

Our first full day of freedom involved a traditional Maori welcome with singing and a haka. This set the tone for an excellent first leg of the inspection in the four New Zealand host cities.

And then everything changed.

Thanks to the Covid outbreak in Sydney, we suddenly found ourselves flying to Perth instead and over the following week our timetable changed on what sometimes felt like an hourly basis. Fortunately, events people are used to rolling with the

punches, and we were brilliantly supported by colleagues in Australia and back at HQ. Despite everything, the inspection team made it to all stadiums except Sydney Football Stadium – which is still under construction and in the heart of one of the Sydney covid clusters.

The purpose of this first site inspection was to evaluate the spaces and facilities available at the stadiums for each different functional area (teams and referees, spectators, VIP and hospitality, marketing, media, broadcast and so on) to get a sense of how we will use the stadiums and to determine what overlay (ie temporary) infrastructure may be needed. In my case, it also meant meeting with government and police representatives to discuss safety and security operations at a FIFA world cup and understand each other’s expectations. A site visit like this is also about relationship building with our local FIFA teams in the host countries and with the stadium and host city representatives.

Neither the preparations nor the challenges end with this first site inspection, and even though it didn’t go quite as expected, in many ways it exemplified the best parts of working in major sports events – a team of professionals coming together in the face of challenging circumstances to deliver what will be a phenomenal event. Be there!

FIFA Women’s World Cup 20 July – 20 August 2023:
Adelaide, Auckland, Brisbane, Dunedin, Hamilton, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Stadium Australia, Wellington.



EXPERIENCE

Long Covid

by Dr Lee de-Wit | Fellow in Psychology and
Dr Ian Frayling | 1977, Medicine & Medical Sciences |
Genetic pathologist

At the beginning of the UK's coronavirus outbreak in March 2020, Lee and Ian caught the virus. More than a year later they were both still suffering. Here they discuss their experiences of Long Covid.

Lee: Should we start at the beginning? I think it'd be interesting to start with when you thought you caught coronavirus.

Ian: It was very early on. I was infected on the day the first case in Wales was officially admitted to, 40 kilometers away from where I live. And hence, there was some doubt as to exactly what I did have.

On the 28 February I'd gone to Cardiff on the train so I'd gone through ticket machines, past people returning from holiday, I'd used an ATM. I got my ears checked and found out later that the audiologist hadn't got infected. Then I bought a sandwich, so I suspect it was on my fingers and it went in my mouth that way, which is unusual because we now realise it's all mostly breathing in rather than surfaces, but that's after a year and a half's experience with this beast.

So that's probably how I caught it.

I managed to cut my knee quite badly in the garden doing the hedge on 1 March. I went to A&E and was told to go home, take painkillers and rest up. Over the next few days I felt increasingly, drastically tired. Coffee started to taste

disgusting. The next week I had my stitches out and I still felt a bit hot and didn't feel like eating. And then on Friday 13 March, it hit me like a ton of bricks. I just stayed in bed, and I was hit with terrible waves of fever, freezing hot and boiling cold. It was really, really bad over that weekend. I had the demons, the gremlins, coming over the hedge at me. I had all sorts of weird thoughts. There were times when the coughing was so bad everything would go blue and yellow and I would pass out.

Lee: It's funny that you mentioned Friday 13 because that was the first day that I started self-isolating with symptoms. Way worse than any regular flu or anything like that. I've never had anything disrupt my ability to breathe before and that was quite scary. But I had a distinct gap. I thought I was better and I went back to work, and I went on some long cycle rides and then my breathing got massively worse. How was your breathing?

Ian: Later on that weekend I noticed that my breathing was in the pattern of alternating hypo and hyper ventilating. And that put the fear of God in me. As a medic you know that is a very, very serious sign that your brainstem isn't controlling your blood gases properly.



“I had the demons, the gremlins, coming over the hedge at me. I had all sorts of weird thoughts. There were times when the coughing was so bad everything would go blue and yellow and I would pass out.”

I told my wife at one stage if this keeps coming at me I'm done for, I can't fight this. She advised me well and said, "Why don't you ring the GP?" So I rang the GP and I was her first Covid patient.

Lee: Fascinating. I talked to my GP and I was also one of the first patients she had. She saw how my breathing was and sent me straight to Addenbrooke's. How did it progress for you?

Ian: About a month later, so we're talking probably end of April, I saw my next-door neighbour, who's a senior army medic, over the fence. And he said, "You don't look well," and I said, "I'm glad you said that because I feel really bad but I can't put my finger on it. I just feel non-specifically awful."

He suggested I might have chronic fatigue so I managed to look it up and I had everything except the headache and joint pain. It got a bit better over a week or so and then it came back, which was soul-destroying. Then I realised what it was doing: it was relaxing and remitting, as it does. And I was getting all sorts of other symptoms like a random fast heartbeat and being desperately short of breath for no good reason. I could barely manage to walk or run the lanes and I would get terribly tired if I over-exerted. It took me two and a half months to get back to sort of alright.

It came as soon as it went, it went as soon as it came, or it could take ages to come and go, and all the time it was variable on top of variable.

Lee: I had the joint pain, the chest pain, the fatigue. Like chronic fatigue, it isn't just like being tired, it is so much more debilitating.

Ian: Like a blanket of lead. You can't even contemplate getting up.

I gave evidence in early March (2021) to the Welsh Government on Long Covid through the Health and Social Care Committee and a couple of days later, the secretary of our consultant doing a Long Covid clinic here reached out to me and said would I like to be seen in their clinic? I saw her a week later and they attached me to all the wires and physiology testing. The first thing they did was check my blood pressure and pulse lying down and then got me to sit up and the numbers went relatively haywire. I hadn't noticed that I was getting postural hypotension; my blood pressure was dropping inappropriately when I stood up and my heart wasn't reacting.

That was the first physical proof I'd actually got Long Covid.

At some point during this, I started tweeting and found people on Twitter who had similar experiences to me. We all found each other and now I'm heavily involved in the Long Covid Wales group, endeavouring to get the need for dedicated Long Covid clinics recognised.

Excerpt from a longer interview to be released digitally at a later date. Keep an eye on the website for more.

> Ian donated his plasma to a facility in Bristol to help find novel ways of treating the virus



@ Ian Frayling



FEATURE

Branding: bloodlines & bureaucracy

by Alice Whaley | 2016, English | Equestrian travel writer

“Everyone wants a one-iron brand, but those hardly exist anymore.” I warm my hands over the fire while the cowboy talks. He wipes his hand on his leather chaps and turns over the irons in the flames, “This your first branding, England?”

When I graduated from Trinity Hall a year earlier, a vegetarian with cats named after the Brontë sisters, I never expected my answer to that question to be “No.”

My research into cultures of horsemanship had taken me to the branding of Spanish cows a few months earlier; horned cattle, no lassos, fewer hats, more hair. Both Spain and the USA require cattle to be branded by law. My feelings on the practice are mixed but, to cowboys and vaqueros alike, branding is more than hot bureaucracy.

www.alicewhaley.com

> Alice Whaley at
Sankey Pro Rodeo





© Mary Peters

© Alice Whaley

> Roping calves,
Colorado



The Spanish cattle farm has been handed down from father to son since 1848. This generation, there are five daughters and one son, and the son's not interested in cattle. 24-year-old Marta is. The day of the herradero, the air is thick with tradition and the smell of burning hair. There's no ceremony, but to Marta, the brand means everything; the capital M topped with a cross stands for the descendants of farmers raising the descendants of cattle, the pride of a family in a mark on skin. A brand. The whole family gathers; José the father gives the vaccinations, José the son gives the vitamins. Marta takes hold of the long iron pole, her hoop earrings swinging, and brands the cow, then Carmen – a sweet, fashionable young cousin of 20 – goes over the wounds with a healing spray. The wounds turn silver.

In Colorado, I watched a dad branding with his daughter on his shoulders, her blonde plaits swinging against dad's dusty cowboy hat as he leant over. All the friends and neighbours start the day on horseback, gathering cows over acres of dusty scrubland and bringing them into the pens. Then, the calves are lassooed ('roped') by their heels, held, and branded. It doesn't matter who you are or what you look like, if you throw a nice loop, you earn the admiration of the moustachioed old cowboys, sipping lukewarm beer in the shade of a trailer. That's why a good cowboy won't rope at the branding of his own cows; there's a quiet humility to this time-honoured culture of the wild.

Branding hurts, it's true. We all wish there wasn't blood in talk of bloodlines. The pain doesn't make the day more special, the tradition more proud or worthy. But these men and women love their cows, and for them the value of these practices is more than just skin deep. There's room for change in cattle farming, and in branding, too. When we ask ourselves what's worth taking into the future, the value of farming communities goes far beyond the charm of a life wrought in dust and smoke, it's deep in the grit and generosity of a life spent caring.



FEATURE

Galbreath's awful fossil

by Dr Robert Asher | Fellow in Natural Sciences and Curator of Vertebrates, Museum of Zoology



Figure 1.
Fragment of a rostrum
of the fossil rodent
Heliscomys tenuiceps, first
described by Galbreath in
1948. Specimen is about
15mm in length, slightly
larger than *H. ostranderi*
from Flagstaff Rim.



Palaeontology is, by definition, a field of investigation in which lots of data are missing. We can never directly observe most behaviours and almost never have soft tissues or molecules. Usually, all we've got are fragmentary bones and teeth.

Figure 1 shows an example: a tiny, partial skull from Colorado, about 33 million years old, named *Heliscomys tenuiceps* by Edwin Galbreath in 1948¹. He claimed that among the many millions of branches on the evolutionary Tree of Life, this little fossil belonged with heteromyid rodents, a North American group consisting of species like kangaroo rats

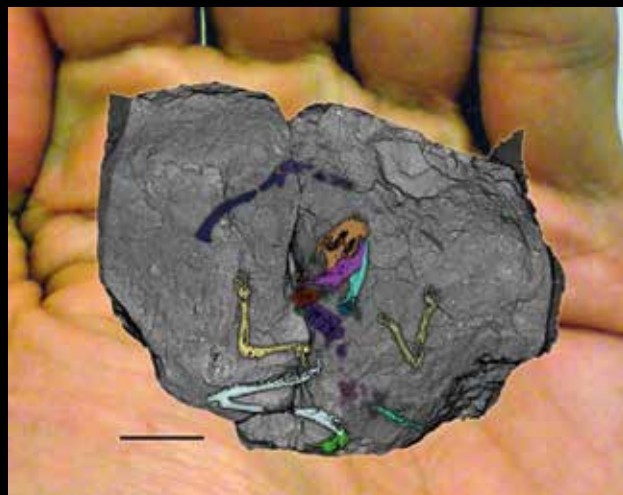
and pocket mice, all distant relatives of the true mice and rats (murids). Galbreath turned out to be right, but how could he have known in 1948, given the sorry state of this little fossil? How can anyone be sure of any historical claim, dependent as they often are on old and decayed bits of evidence?

One strategy is to use the living world to test ideas about the past. Despite its fragmentary state, Galbreath's fossil has several features in common with living species. If such features are informative about the Tree of Life, then we should be able to infer, using only those features, where a living squirrel or guinea pig (for example) belongs on that Tree. We should also be able to estimate what still unknown parts of a given fossil's skeleton will look like, once they're eventually found.

Figure 2. Skull and skeleton of *Heliscomys ostranderi* encased in a block of matrix from Flagstaff Rim, Wyoming, roughly 35 million years old, as revealed by microCT scanning. Scalebar at bottom left is 10mm; palm-of-hand is mine (Robert J. Asher).

In both cases, it turns out we can. In the early 1970s, while working in the badlands of Wyoming, my colleague Robert Emry, Curator Emeritus of Paleobiology at the Smithsonian Institution, found a small rock exposing a few bits of bone. Exactly what these bones were remained a mystery until 2015, when he kindly sent me that rock and others to be scanned in the Zoology Department's then new microCT facility. In one exciting moment that I'll never forget, a nearly-complete skeleton of this tiny little animal, with a skull around 15mm long, stared back at me from the scanner's flatscreen monitor. It turned out to be another specimen of *Heliscomys*, geologically older than Galbreath's fossil, with a complete lower jaw, limb girdles, and fore- and hind-limbs (Fig. 2). While not identical to any living kangaroo rat or pocket mouse, the anatomy of its skull and skeleton showed several of the key features that distinguish heteromyids from other species, just as Galbreath claimed.

With the help of Bob Emry, recent PhD (and Trinity Hall grad) Aime Rankin, fellow palaeontologist (and Clare College alumnus now at the University of Durham) Martin Smith, we published our study in 2019 in *Royal Society Open Science*². We used each unique set of anatomical characters in *Heliscomys* plus about 40 other fossils to try and estimate the evolutionary affinities of living species, treating each experimentally as if it were a fossil with only information about bones and teeth. We found that even the limited information in awful little fossils like Galbreath's *Heliscomys* usually did a good job at

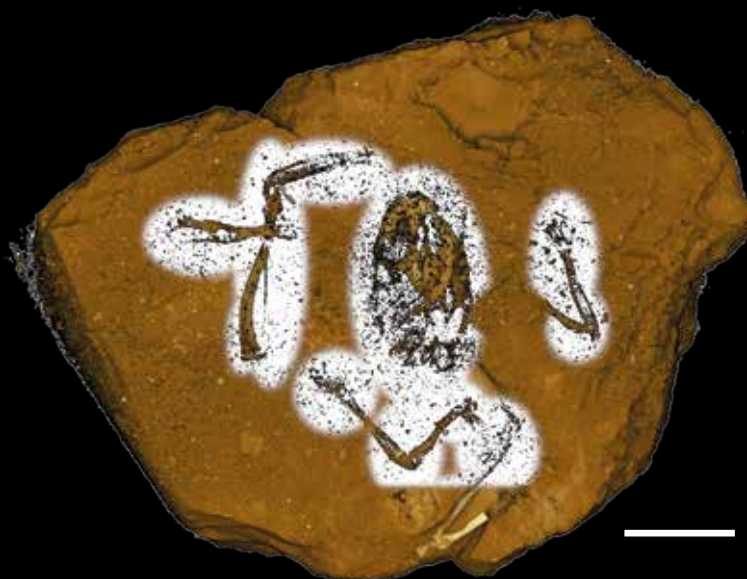


establishing where living species belonged on the Tree of Life. Fossils will never offer as much information as living species, and many distant branches will likely remain ambiguous. Nonetheless, their hard tissues retain a lot of valuable information and show, among other things, that rodents related to living pocket mice have been around for well over 30 million years in North America, and that palaeontologists have a good chance at reconstructing fossils on the Tree of Life.

1. Galbreath EC. 1948. A New Species of Heteromyid Rodent from the Middle Oligocene of Northeast Colorado with Remarks on the Skull. *Univ Kansas Publications of the Museum of Natural History* 1(18): 285-300.
2. Asher RJ, Smith MR, Rankin A, Emry, RJ. 2019. Congruence, fossils, and the evolutionary tree of rodents and lagomorphs. *Royal Society Open Science* 6: 190387. <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsos.190387>

Another view of the block containing skeleton of *Heliscomys ostranderi* (USNM 720183) from the late Eocene of Wyoming, virtually dissected to reveal elements of the skull, vertebral column, and limbs.

Scale bar = 10mm.





FEATURE

Combatting the global threat of antimicrobial resistant pathogens

by Ruchita Balasubramanian | 2020, Veterinary Medicine

The emergence of antimicrobial resistant (AMR) pathogens is an alarming global threat worthy of immediate attention. Namely, the unmitigated over-prescription of antibiotics coupled with its overuse in farming industries have introduced a selective pressure allowing AMR pathogens to thrive.

Antibiotics have been instrumental in curing common infections in both humans and livestock since their inception in the early 20th century, when they propelled the world into the age of modern medicine. But our recent overdependence on antibiotics as treatments in human healthcare settings and as growth promoters in agricultural settings has collectively spurred the rise in drug-resistant infections that cannot readily be treated by these life-saving medications. This has resulted in two immediate problems in the pharmaceutical landscape. Firstly, as resistance continues to mount, bacterial infections caused by resistant pathogens have become increasingly difficult to treat by first and second-line drugs. Secondly, the antibiotic production pipeline is not keeping pace with external pressures for new drugs caused by this rise in resistance. Barriers that disincentivize further antibiotic production tend to be economic, regulatory and scientific in nature, as the extensive cost and low profit margins involved in identifying, developing and seeking approval for

safe antibiotics make pharmaceutical companies less likely to invest in these pipelines. In turn, there is an increased reliance on drugs of last resort, including Vancomycin and Linezolid, thereby driving up their cost. In this self-perpetuating cycle, in areas where access to these drugs is economically feasible, resistance to available antibiotics will continue to mount, soon rendering them ineffective. Conversely, more economically disadvantaged areas simply will not have access to these antibiotics that could be critical for treating life-threatening infections.

To counter this, UK policy makers have increased scrutiny over the growth promoter use of antibiotics in farming industries, but they are still often used for the treatment of disease. As antibiotics remain critical from a livestock health perspective, this, in turn, vitally motivates the investigation of AMR in agricultural settings and the effects of continued therapeutic uses of antibiotics on AMR spread. The microbiome (all the bacteria in the gut) of livestock,



© Stephen Bond

specifically pigs, acts as an excellent platform to pursue this question in more depth because it is a known repository of AMR genes. As such, my work leverages innovative and powerful Hi-C metagenomic sequencing technology that sequences all the bacterial DNA in the microbiome and also allows us to assign particular resistance genes to a bacterial species. By doing so, we can understand which resistance originated in which bacterial organisms, in order to then ask

questions about how these resistance genes spread between organisms. By collecting pig fecal samples prior to and following antibiotic administration, I can gain insight into how AMR genes mobilize within bacterial communities in response to treatment. Through this work, I hope to gain a deeper understanding of the relationship between resistance spread and external treatment, as a small step towards combatting the global threat of AMR.

Give TogetHER took place in November 2020 and raised £343,012 from 568 donors. A portion of the funds raised will support Trinity Hall's first Rowan Williams Scholar in the academic year 2021/2.

The Rowan Williams Cambridge Studentship was established in 2018 by the Cambridge Trust to support students who face severe barriers in coming to study in Cambridge. It is a full-cost award available to undergraduate and postgraduate students.



> Rogie Perez at the graduation ceremony from De La Salle University, February 2019



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Supporting progressive and equitable policies

Rogie Perez's upbringing in one of the Philippines' poorest provinces galvanised her pursuit of higher education and a civil service career to enable her to contribute towards a more progressive and equitable Philippines. Soon, thanks to your support during our Giving Day, Rogie will arrive in Cambridge to study for an MPhil in Public Policy.

We spoke to Rogie this summer as she prepared to start her studies.

Hi Rogie. We're looking forward to welcoming you to Trinity Hall! Can you introduce yourself? What are the three main things we should know about you?

I am a Filipino student from Quiapo, Manila in the Philippines. Coming from a relatively low-income background, both of my parents barely finished college. So I am the first in my family (and entire clan) to even pursue a graduate degree.

Since I finished my economics undergraduate degree in Manila, I have been working in the civil service. I currently work at the Central Bank of the Philippines, where I do research on macroprudential analysis and financial stability policy.

Aside from public service, I am also a university lecturer. I teach undergraduate courses in economics at my *alma mater*, De La Salle University.

Why do you want to study public policy?

Coming from a low-income family, I have first-hand experience of how massively inequitable Philippine society is. Working in the civil service and in economic policy made me realize that this inequity is more than the failings of specific aspects of governance, but a systemic issue that needs to be addressed by rethinking policy designs. I am here in Cambridge to learn the art of responsive and inclusive policymaking, so that in

due course, I can contribute towards a more progressive yet equitable Philippines that leaves no Filipinos behind.

What are you looking forward to most about studying at Trinity Hall?

Student life and culture in the Philippines is very different to the traditional English style, so I am very excited to immerse myself in the full Cambridge experience at Trinity Hall. I look forward to attending the formal dinners and meeting people from the College. Trinity Hall has been home to some of the world's greatest minds, so who knows what more revolutionary ideas are currently brewing within those old walls?

What does it mean to you to be the first Rowan Williams Scholar at Trinity Hall?

It feels surreal to not only be the first Rowan Williams Scholar at Trinity Hall, but also the first from the Philippines. I am very grateful to Cambridge and the Trust for this life-changing opportunity.

As an orphan from Manila who was only able to pursue college education through a fully-funded academic scholarship, attending graduate studies overseas has always felt improbable. So now, studying as a scholar in one of the best universities in the world, I also hope to reiterate a point: the disadvantaged, when given the right opportunities, can thrive and deliver. I am proof of that, and there are more of us. And we deserve to take space.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Four Masters students to receive Get In Cambridge Studentship

The awards are for disadvantaged students from ethnic minority communities that are under-represented at the University of Cambridge.

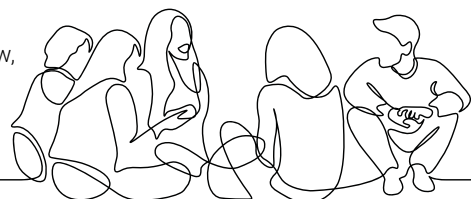
Thanks to donations from alumni, four postgraduate students have been awarded the Get In Cambridge Masters Studentship and will be joining us for the new academic year. These studentships help the recipients with the cost of course fees and maintenance. The Get In programme has been designed to tackle the perception that Cambridge "is not for me", as well as to provide financial support at both undergraduate and postgraduate level to encourage

members of under-represented ethnic communities to apply for and take up offers to study at the University.

Two of the awards were made possible thanks to the generous support of Trinity Hall alumnus Iain Drayton (1991), who is one of the founding benefactors of the initiative. Here's what he has to say about the importance of supporting students through Get In Cambridge:

"At university, I learned a lot from talking with people who were doing other subjects, and from listening to how they approached things. So for me having people from different backgrounds has to be the basis of bringing different perspectives to bear, and to drive new, original and innovative thought."

Increasing funding for Masters students from under-represented ethnic minority backgrounds is crucial if we are to address under-representation at Cambridge. A greater diversity at Masters level will consequently build representation in PhDs, postdocs and eventually higher level posts. It is also expected that the programme will help improve social mobility and minority ethnic representation across the UK's major employers – including the University of Cambridge itself.



© istock.com/Tetiana Garkusha

Here are a few words of appreciation from our new Get In Cambridge studentship recipients:

"I'm delighted to have been awarded the Cambridge Get In Studentship. While I am one of the first recipients of this studentship, I am extremely optimistic about how this opportunity can lead to meaningful outcomes for many others in the future."

Nicholas, MPhil in Development Studies

"Coming from an under-represented background saw me face unprecedented challenges. By receiving this prestigious studentship, I will have the opportunity to immerse myself in the complete Cambridge experience without worrying about my financial liability."

Fazl, MPhil in Advanced Chemical Engineering

"I am filled with gratitude for this opportunity. I hope that it raises the confidence of other prospective students like me that graduate studies and enrolment at Cambridge is really possible, despite any seemingly daunting extrinsic barriers to entry."

Saif, MPhil in Theology, Religion and Philosophy of Religion

"After failing my first attempt at university, I applied as a mature student to SOAS University of London. It was there that I, who had not achieved any As growing up, graduated with first-class honours. Believe in yourself. It is never too late."

Umar, MPhil in Development Studies



© David Vainisky

Your Alumni Benefits

Whether you're looking to book an overnight stay in Cambridge with a river view, reconnect with friends or punt your family down the Cam, as a Trinity Hall graduate you can access a unique range of alumni benefits.

Visiting College

If you're feeling nostalgic for Trinity Hall we would love to welcome you back. You could book a bedroom on W staircase overlooking the Fellows' Garden and river, reserve a seat for High Table dining, or simply take a wander around Central Site with a drink from the Coffee Shop.

And don't forget, if you're planning a celebratory dinner, anniversary or wedding, our experienced Events Coordinators can help plan the perfect event for you at Trinity Hall. We also offer alumni a 5% discount on all bookings and waive private dining room hire on catering events. Find out more: conferences.trinhall.cam.ac.uk

More benefits

Punts

April – October

LinkHall

online connections and benefits anytime

CAMCard

discounts on food, rooms and shopping

Available from the University Development and Alumni Relations office

Visit trinhall.cam.ac.uk/alumni-benefits for more information.



News in Brief

Read more at
trinhall.cam.ac.uk/news

STUDENT LIFE

A return to in-person graduations

The summer of 2021 saw the first in-person graduations since restrictions were imposed in March 2020. More than 90 graduands lined up in Front Court and processed to the Senate House over the course of the summer, cheered on by staff, fellows, friends and family where possible.

Congratulations to all our graduands and a warm welcome to the alumni community.

© Lloyd Mann, University of Cambridge



> Trinity Hall graduate Theodora Jeje exiting the Senate House

AWARDS

Celebrating pioneering social entrepreneurs

Three social entrepreneurs pioneering new approaches to health, law and community development have been recognised with the 2021 Cambridge Social Innovation Prize, awarded by Trinity Hall and the Cambridge Centre for Social Innovation. As we move from crisis into the rebuilding phase, the winners are changing the way we approach the delivery of vital services, making them affordable, accessible and embedding social purpose at the core of business. This Prize is supported by a generous donation from Trinity Hall alumnus and Honorary Fellow, Graham Ross Russell (1953).

The 2021 winners are: **Kim Griffin** of GriffinOT making occupational therapy (OT) accessible and affordable by training teachers and parents in OT tools and strategies to support children.

Sashy Nathan of Commons Legal which prioritises social justice, ensuring representation is provided at police stations, in courts and at appeals.

Lisa Stepanovic of Social Ark which has trained and mentored hundreds of marginalised young people from under-resourced East London communities.



STAFF

ALUMNI OFFICER CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY AT TRINITY HALL

Liz Pentlow is familiar to many of you. She organises reunions, anniversaries and MA events for Trinity Hall alumni and celebrated her own milestone in July – 20 years as part of the alumni team.

"I feel incredibly lucky to have built such good relationships over the years. We have some amazing alumni. It's so rewarding to reconnect and fun to see them reverting back to their former student selves, sometimes quite mischievously, when reunited with their old College friends."

> Liz Pentlow in the Alumni & Development office





> L-R: Lisa Stepanovic,
Graham Ross Russell,
Sashy Nathan, Kim Griffin

© Chris Page



> Anna Clunes

MEMBERS

Welcoming new members to College

This October we are excited to welcome 105 undergraduate freshers, more than 70 new graduate students, a number of postdocs and 13 new Fellows. We are delighted to welcome British Diplomat Anna Clunes CMG OBE (1991) and Professor of Creative Writing Francis Spufford (1982) as Honorary Fellows.

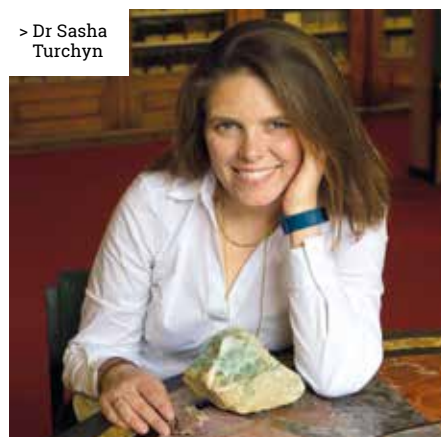


FELLOWS

Fellow awarded lectureship for “exceptional ability” in her field

Congratulations to Graduate Tutor Dr Sasha Turchyn who has been chosen as the recipient of the 2021 R. Berner Lectureship. The Lectureship, which was presented at the Goldschmidt 2021 conference, is awarded to scientists who show an ‘exceptional ability to define globally important biogeochemical processes, develop new understanding, and significantly advance the corresponding area of research’.

> Dr Sasha Turchyn



Climate Change event series



Cambridge academics are well-known for tackling the world's most complex challenges. Now, many of our brilliant minds are looking closely at the world and our impact on it as our environment changes at a rapid pace.

In 2019, Cambridge Zero was established to bring together research to advance a zero-carbon world and in October 2020, the University announced its aim to cut its greenhouse emissions to zero by 2038.

Trinity Hall recognises its responsibility to reduce its environmental impact and takes its commitments seriously. Last year we announced our new divestment policy; our Conference and Catering department continuously review their processes and engage with the College

community on sustainability activities; and the Green and Ethics Officers are spearheading the development of lots of innovative student projects. You may also have seen the sustainability credentials of this magazine on the inside front page.

To coincide with COP26, the UN Climate Change Conference taking place in Glasgow this November, we are launching this event series to take a wider look at some of the research and action the Trinity Hall community is taking. We hope you will join us.



Diary dates

21 October

Harriet Lamb in conversation with Dr Lee de-Wit following the launch of Harriet's new book, *From Anger to Action*.

27 October

Paleoclimate and ocean nutrients: learning from Earth's geologic record. Webinar with Dr Emma Kast, Research Fellow in Geography, Geology and Geophysics.

1 November

A catalyst for action: how innovation and the energy of entrepreneurship can be a powerful force against climate change. Panel discussion.

9 November

Profit versus protecting the planet: can we provide courageous business leadership in the face of climate change to deliver both? Panel discussion.

10 November

From climate conflict to climate justice in Africa. Webinar with Dr Adam Branch, Philomathia Fellow in African Politics.

Please check the website for more information and to book: trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events.



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