

# FRONT COURT



TRINITY HALL  
CAMBRIDGE

Highlights:  
Achievement and  
ambition in social  
enterprise

Decarbonising  
energy sources  
to tackle climate  
change

100 years of the  
Forestry Commission:  
an interview with  
Sir Harry Studholme

Issue 30 | Autumn 2019



# Telephone Campaign 2019

## We love talking with you!

Our students enjoy speaking with you. They aren't telemarketers – they want to hear about you, your recollections of time in College and find out a little about your career. This year's campaign marked a significant moment as our students spoke with more than 1,300 alumni. Remarkably, that is more than double the number of conversations we have had on any other campaign to date. This is incredible and a testament to your willingness to chat and share your experiences with this generation of students. Topics of conversation ranged from journalism and engineering to music and law, reflecting the huge variety of career paths taken by our alumni. The students spoke passionately about their studies, the activities they are involved in and their love of the College community. The team were beaming following each shift and this, I think, reflected on the quality of their conversations. Thank you to everyone who took a call from our students this year and in the past.

We ran the campaign entirely in-house for the first time this year and took the opportunity to refresh the experience for the callers and those being called. If you

received a call and have any feedback let us know by contacting [telethon@trinhall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:telethon@trinhall.cam.ac.uk).

Finally, a big thank you to those of you who so generously offered your support either financially or by giving up your precious time. We are thrilled to report that we were able to raise over £280,000 of which 21% was designated to Student Support and a further 8% to Access & Outreach, to be spent in the academic year 2019/20. Alongside this, more than 60% of those we spoke to kindly offered careers advice to our students and some joined our careers network as we prepare to launch our new online community, LinkHall.

Thank you for taking the time to speak with our students regardless of whether you felt able to offer your direct support; your conversations mean the world to them. We look forward to speaking with you again in the near future.

**James Adamcheski-Halson**  
Development Officer  
[telethon@trinhall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:telethon@trinhall.cam.ac.uk)



## About *Front Court*

*Front Court* keeps members and friends up-to-date with College and alumni news.

*Front Court* is produced twice a year. If you have any suggestions or articles for the next issue (Spring 2020), please contact the Editors.

All our publications are available as PDF files from our website:  
[www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/alumni/publications](http://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/alumni/publications)

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*Left to right: Tristan Rees Roberts, Cllr Katie Thornburrow, the Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Morris, Master of Trinity Hall, outside the Jerwood Library.*

## Message from the Master

I'm writing this in the week of General Admission, and I don't think I can ever remember such a time when the contrast between the turbulence and uncertainty of national politics and the settled, repeated rhythms of College life was so acute.

By the time you read this, we may have a new Prime Minister and a new government, and we may have left the EU. On the other hand, we may not. Who knows? There's no point in dwelling on the uncertainty. We all know it's not doing us any good and, of course, opinions amongst alumni will be as divided as they are in practically any circle. But spare a thought for our graduands, both postgraduate and undergraduate, as many of them head out into the world of work.

Spare a thought, too, for those sixth formers and equivalent considering applying to university, as the uncertainty about student funding continues. The Augar review has appeared at last, after months of apparent prevarication, and yet no one knows whether it will ever be implemented, either in full or in part. If in full, then its recommendation to reduce tuition fees to £7,500 p.a. will be welcome to future students, helping to reduce their long-term debt. But if its accompanying

recommendation to compensate for the loss of income to universities by increasing the direct teaching grant is not also implemented, then the financial squeeze for universities will be great. We will play our part in covering the shortfall for our students, should that be necessary, but not all colleges and universities are well placed to do that.

On to more cheerful things! Some of you may have noted the news that the Jerwood Library has been voted by Cambridge residents the best-loved building in central Cambridge built or restored in the last 50 years. That's a great tribute to the ingenuity of the design by Tristan Rees-Roberts (1967). Also, work has begun on the new WongAvery Music Gallery in Avery Court. With another year of academic success, and with success on the river (both first boats back in Division I) and in music and other fields, the College continues to thrive.



## The history of the lapdog in China: From Chang'an to Buckingham Palace

The diminutive Pekingese dog was first reported to have arrived on English shores after the Second Opium War in 1862. Queen Victoria herself was even given one such dog, named Looty, in 1865, giving rise to a surge in popularity for the breed among upper-class English women.

These dogs were seen to encompass China and were widely believed to have hailed from Dowager Empress Ci Xi's 慈禧 (1835–1908) own imperial collection.

However, are these dogs actually Chinese in origin? While many dog enthusiasts have argued for the illustrious history of these dogs as being the favoured pets of kings and emperors since at least the Han 漢 dynasty (206 BC–220 CE), this topic has largely been overlooked by academics. My PhD thesis centres on tracing the origins and history of Chinese lapdogs in order to ascertain when and how such dogs became 'imperial lapdogs.'

Evidence for lapdogs – that is to say small dogs kept purely for companionship and entertainment – can be traced back to the early Tang 唐 dynasty (618–907) when they suddenly appeared in official records as exotic gifts from abroad given in tribute to the Chinese emperor. By the 6th century, they began to appear in paintings and ceramics as the decorated diminutive pets of court women, and even appeared in manuscripts from the

frontiers of China in the late 9th century. As the pets of women and, increasingly, children, lapdogs represented a stark change in accepted roles for dogs which were, until that time, used primarily for hunting and guarding.

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**WHILE THESE DOGS WERE TO BECOME THE IMPERIAL PETS OF LATER CHINESE EMPERORS AND EVENTUALLY THE PEKINGESE BREED WE KNOW TODAY, WHEN THEY FIRST ARRIVED IN CHINA FROM ABROAD THEY WERE INSTEAD TRULY A WOMAN'S BEST FRIEND.**

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One Tang dynasty tale in particular swells with similar sentiments many of us feel towards our own pets. Taiping





Above: Close-up of the two dogs in "Ladies Wearing Flowers in Their Hair" 簪花仕女图, attrib. Zhou Fang 周昉 (c. 730-800); scroll, ink and colour on silk. (Liaoning Provincial Museum, Shenyang).



Left: Pelliot chinois 2598, Verso [section].

guangji 太平廣記 (Extensive Records Assembled in the Taiping Era) tells of a Madam Lu whose beloved lapdog Huazi 花子 (Flowery) goes missing and is killed. Madam Lu dies soon after, but Huazi seeks out her owner in the afterlife and, now in human form, wants to repay the kindness she received from Madam Lu by extending her life. As a result, Madam Lu lives for another twenty years and buries the dog with the same funeral rites as a child.

The association of such dogs with Chinese emperors can first be seen in the Northern Song 北宋 (960-1126) period, and as such I am deeply fascinated by the transitions and reconfigurations these diminutive dogs underwent to go from an exotic plaything of court women to an imperial lapdog deeply associated with Chinese culture and, eventually, even embodying China in a system close to 'panda diplomacy' under Ci Xi's regency.

Clarifying the contradictions and assumptions prevalent in current publications not only illuminates the history of the

lapdog in China's imperial courts, but also serves as a window into the changing conceptualisation of dogs, animals, and exotics in medieval China. A truly cosmopolitan time, this period also saw increased trade of glassware, silverware, perfumes and incense, as well as the arrival of foreign peoples, practices and religions. Within this context, the antecedents to the modern Pekingese symbolise the complexity and cosmopolitanism of China's history.

While these dogs were to become the imperial pets of later Chinese emperors and eventually the Pekingese breed we know today, when they first arrived in China from abroad they were instead truly a woman's best friend.

**Kelsey Granger (2012)**

PhD Candidate

# Punting traditions

College continues to adapt to the demands of the modern world but some traditions endure. We recently took delivery of a brand new Trinity Hall punt, hand-built by local punt craftsman Andy Lonnen.



Left to right: seat backs fitted (1, 2); deck beams fitted and bottom varnished (3); detail added in white paint (4); final coat of varnish to complete the punt (5, 6).

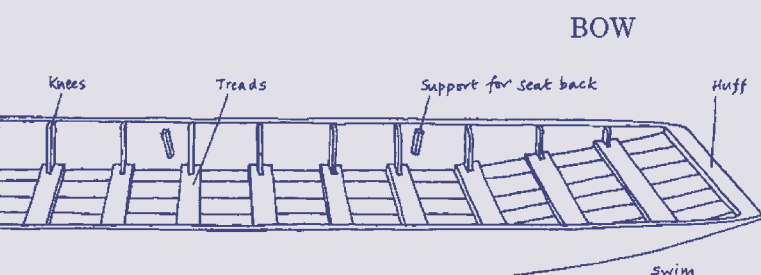
Punts were originally used in shallow waterways to transport cargo and for local trades such as fishing and reed-cutting in the Fens. Recreational punting became popular around 1860 on the Thames, arriving in Cambridge in 1903. Students, locals and tourists alike have spent countless hours winding their way up the Cam, with varying degrees of success.

According to Andy, the main building challenge is the jig setup. The jig sits in the middle and is the basis for the overall shape, so

it is worth spending time getting it right. The sides and ends are pulled in around the jig and fixed, and the huff is put in place to create the basic shape. The precise fit of joints and the order in which you build are also crucial. Once the structure is complete the punt is lacquered in water-resistant marine varnish and paint, with precise white accents and decorative carvings. An average build takes between 85 and 90 hours.

Our new punt is made mainly from a flexible 25mm West African mahogany called 'Kyha' and 12mm marine plywood, in a traditional design. Kyha is particularly good for punts due to its flexibility, close grain and density. Ours has been certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), ensuring the timber is traceable back to a sustainable and ethical source. Kyha, combined with plywood, creates a strong, robust punt that will provide many hours of enjoyment for members of Trinity Hall. The new punt has an expected lifespan of more than 30 years.

**Don't forget you can hire a Trinity Hall punt for £10 per hour between April and October. Call the Porters' Lodge on 01223 332500 to book.**



# Achievement and ambition in social enterprise

The inaugural Cambridge Social Innovation Prize, awarded by Trinity Hall and the Cambridge Centre for Social Innovation at Cambridge Judge Business School, highlights the positive social impact made by businesses across the UK. It is backed by a generous donation from Trinity Hall alumnus Graham Ross Russell (1953), an early leader in business incubation and social innovation in the UK.

The four 2019 winners of this new annual award, selected by a panel of six high-profile social sector leaders, represent the diversity of social

business. Each winner receives £10,000 to support their personal development as leaders and CEOs, and ongoing business advice from experts in the Cambridge Social Ventures programme at the Cambridge Judge Business School.

The prize is a key plank in a suite of activities launched by Trinity Hall this year to foster an interest in social innovation among our students through grants, mentoring, internships and by creating connections into the broader ecosystem of social innovation and entrepreneurship here in Cambridge.



## The winners

### **Susan Aktemel – CEO of Homes for Good, in Glasgow**

Homes for Good is Scotland's first social enterprise letting agency. They also own two property investment portfolios of 240 homes specifically for people who have limited housing choice.

The driving motivation is to give people dignity in housing. Susan is passionate about the impact homes have on people's lives.

To scale her impact, Susan wants to lead by example. Her goals in the next year include meeting with estate agents and social organisations across the UK to help them adopt a similar model.

### **Gareth Roberts, the Regather co-operative, in Sheffield**

Gareth founded this co-operative to allow space for community to flourish. Over time, that's settled into three main areas: food, including a vegetable box scheme; drink, through its own bar and microbrewery; and running events.

Gareth's five-year plan is to deepen the engagement between the community and its food systems by launching a community share offer and membership scheme, inviting the community to engage fully in the democratic governance and ownership of the Regather co-operative.

### **Sarah Neville, CEO of Birdsong, in East London**

Birdsong provides living-wage work to women from migrant communities in London using craft skills that they already have. The women Birdsong employ often face significant barriers to employment, such as language, lack of qualifications and childcare commitments.

Sarah and the team have also built a manufacturing process that is both local and lean and which gives them margins comparable to industry standards. They have provided 10,000 hours of paid work at the living wage to low-income women.

### **Will Britton, CEO of Autonomie, in Weston-super-Mare**

Will's vision is to make people with learning disabilities independent. The AutonoMe app helps people learn new skills through step-by-step videos and helps them self-evaluate their needs.

This helps carers understand where each individual is on their journey of independence, so they can make evidence-based decisions about their ongoing support needs. Autonomie is already operating in seven local authorities in south west England, and Will's ambition is to make this a mainstream part of social care nationally.

## The judges

### **Claire Dove OBE DL**

Crown Representative for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector, Chief Executive, Blackburne House Group, Patron of Social Enterprise UK.

### **Harriet Lamb CBE**

Chief Executive Officer, Ashden, formerly CEO International Alert and Executive Director of the United Kingdom Fairtrade Association, **Trinity Hall alumna.**

### **Faisal Rahman OBE**

Founder and Managing Director, Fair Finance.

### **Dame Barbara Stocking DBE**

President, Murray Edwards College, Cambridge, Former CEO Oxfam.

### **Dr Hosein Khajeh-Hosseiny**

Venture capitalist and philanthropist, Founding chair of UnLtd, the UK Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs, **Trinity Hall alumnus.**

### **Man-Sze Li**

Angel investor and tech entrepreneur.



# DECARBONISING ENERGY SOURCES TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

The United Nations recently declared that we are facing a grave climate emergency. Continuous ocean and atmospheric warming, heat waves and rising sea levels are some of the most common manifestations.



It is not an understatement that island and coastal nations will be disproportionately affected. The UK Committee on Climate Change has set an ambitious target to reduce greenhouse emissions to net zero by 2050. This must involve decarbonising the economy, the backbone of which is energy. A practical way to achieve the net-zero target is to run the country mostly on electricity, producing energy from renewable sources without burning much fossil fuel.

Wind power is among the established renewable energy technologies and has the potential to tackle many current technological and societal challenges, by providing a sustainable energy source and reducing air pollution. Wind power has been used for centuries for sailing ships, sawing wood, grinding grains and more. It is one of the oldest sources of 'machine' power. The invention of wind-powered sawmills by Dutchman Cornelis Corneliszoon van Uitgeest in the late 16th century helped Holland increase its ship production through automated wood cutting, outcompeting its European rivals who were relying on slow manual processes.

Modern-day wind power is harvested through wind farms, either onshore or offshore. A typical offshore wind farm can generate 1GW of power, approximately equivalent to two standard nuclear power plants. A single turbine typically produces 8 to 10MW of power. To generate 1GW of power, therefore, an offshore wind farm needs 100 to 125 turbines.

Wind farms like these are scalable and relatively easy (although not necessarily cheaper) to construct thanks to the existing sea routes and vessels available to transport parts from manufacturing sites to turbine locations. It is often said that wind does not blow all the time and when you need power, there may not be the desired wind. Conversely, when the wind is blowing at optimum speed, there may not be the need for the power. To combat these problems, technologists have developed systems that can store the wind in batteries, optimising with the grid. The combination of offshore wind and storage technologies such as batteries will become important to secure grid stability.

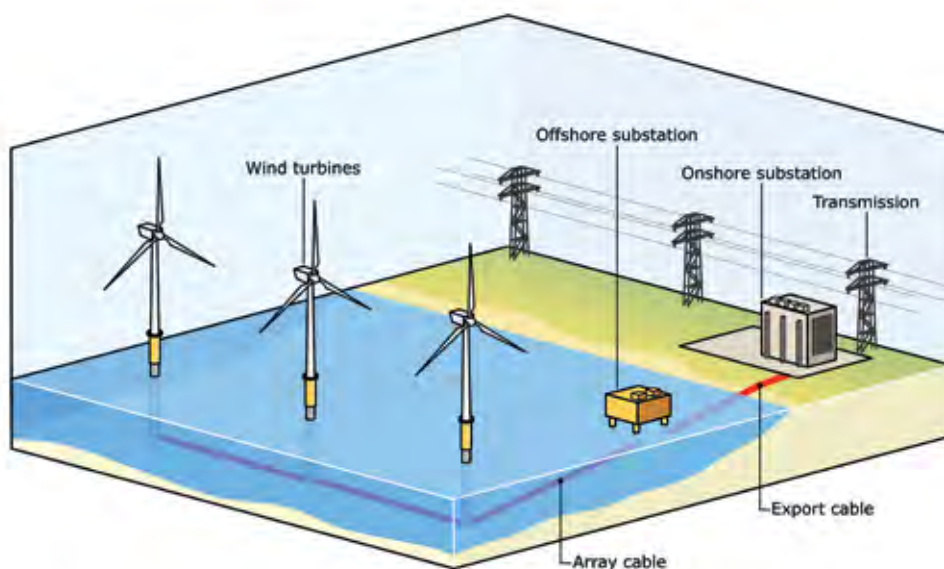
The 2011 Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant disaster was a watershed moment. As a result, many countries such



## FEATURE

Main image: Drone view of the Dudgeon wind farm. (Photo courtesy: Jan Arne Wold, Equinor).

Right: Layout of a typical offshore wind farm.



as Germany and Japan reduced their reliance on nuclear power and compensated with fossil fuels and renewables. In fact, Japan is addressing its reliance on nuclear power, along with its concerns about global warming and energy security, by aiming to become a carbon-free 'hydrogen society'. The idea is to generate hydrogen from water through renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and hydroelectricity. Japan has named it the Jidai concept.

The Jidai concept is a four-step process: (1) seawater is desalinated; (2) electrolysis is used to produce hydrogen and oxygen from water; (3) hydrogen gas is compressed to 700 bar to reduce storage volume; (4) high-pressure hydrogen gas is stored in a module-based tank system. Through the existing offshore infrastructure of pipe networks, hydrogen can be transported for distribution. With the advent of

hydrogen cars and trains, the economy can be transformed without the need for expensive metals that are needed for battery production. For example, lithium and nickel, unlike hydrogen, can be seen as a trading commodity like oil and gas.

Studies are being conducted to demonstrate that a 100% hydrogen gas network is as safe as the existing natural gas network. It is worth noting that burning natural gas to heat homes and businesses accounts for approximately a third of the UK's carbon emissions. Hydrogen-powered commuter trains are already available, and it has been reported in *New Civil Engineer* that 30% of the UK rail fleet could be suitable for running hydrogen-powered trains. In summary, wind power has the potential to carry the transition to low-carbon energy, transforming the fossil-fuel energy landscape to a more sustainable energy future.

#### Professor Subhamoy Bhattacharya (2000)

Chair in Geomechanics at the University of Surrey, Adjunct Professor of Zhejiang University (China), Guest Professor of Qingdao University of Technology (China), Chartered Engineer (UK) and Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers

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Sir Harry Studholme

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## 100 YEARS OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION: an interview with Sir Harry Studholme

To mark the centenary of the Forestry Commission, Sir Harry Studholme, Chairman and Trinity Hall alumnus (Engineering 1976) spoke to alumna Julia Davies (2016) about his career, the challenges facing forestry today, and what needs to be done to safeguard forests for another 100 years.

### WHAT WAS YOUR PROGRESSION FROM UNDERGRADUATE TO CHAIRMAN OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION?

When I left Trinity Hall I didn't know what I wanted to do. My father encouraged me to look at accountancy, so I became an accountant and really enjoyed it. Qualifying after three years, I went around the world for a year, and then worked in the North of England running factories. My parents died, shortly after I married, when I was in my early 30s and we came down to Devon to run the family farm and forest and raise children.

I came under pressure to be involved in organisations representing the rural economy, and by doing that I became involved in forestry and wider economic policy. In 2001 I was asked to join the board of the South West England Regional Development Agency and subsequently became its chairman. The agency was all about improving the economy and in our case this involved a focus on sustainability and the environment. Our work included investing in improving town centres, building science parks and new and creative ideas, such as the Eden Project in Cornwall. Before we were wound up under the Coalition Government I had become a Forestry Commissioner. Subsequent to the aborted disposal of the Public Forest Estate, in 2013 I became the chairman of the Forestry Commission.

### HOW MUCH WILL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AFFECT FORESTRY?

Problems are there to be taken on. My sense is that the climate change issue is not just real, but probably a bit worse than many people imagine. It is a massive challenge that we've got to address, on a global basis. I am concerned about the oversimplification of what we're doing and trees for example are not a quick fix.

However, one shouldn't get overwhelmed by the scale of the problem because if we do not try to solve it, it will be worse. If things keep going the way they are, we will see at least a 2°C temperature rise, which doesn't sound like much but at 1°C we're already experiencing some pretty alarming problems. One example in my area is increasing plant disease. Part of this is that warmer winters allow more pathogens to survive and disease-spreading insects that might not fly at one temperature may happily fly when the temperature is half a degree warmer. What we are taking on is enormous: we have to do it practically and incrementally. The 100-year lesson of the Forestry Commission is that long term change is possible and as you go along you meet barriers that you didn't expect, which can be opportunities as well.



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### WHAT ARE THE OTHER ISSUES FACING FORESTRY, AND DO THEY HAVE SOLUTIONS YET?

We need to think about the species of tree we plant. The limited number of native timber trees like elm, ash and oak that we passionately love are all under threat from plant diseases. Additionally, while planting is relatively straightforward, growing trees to maturity is very difficult as a consequence of invasive mammal species. Deer are an increasing problem, and grey squirrels ring-bark broadleaf trees so that they struggle to grow into tall trees.

Biodiversity is important but we also need to think about what type of wood we need for a sustainable economy and if we are growing trees to absorb carbon that this is done most effectively with faster growing species. If, as we expect, the world population continues to rise, this puts pressure on the limited resource of productive land. It is a global responsibility to try to ensure that land is used efficiently. To do otherwise is to encourage deforestation elsewhere in the world. Additionally, with global trade moving pathogens around the world and temperatures rising, the threat of foreign pests and diseases is also growing. The solution to all these problems is to look very hard at what trees we plant, including investigating and using the many non-native species we have in our landscapes and arboreta to broaden the range of trees that we grow.

Also, while we need and want to plant more trees, we should recognise that we will get forces saying they don't want it. At its most extreme, this issue came up

for the Forestry Commission in the 1930s when people started to say, 'we don't want the Lake District or Wales covered in coniferous timber, and we don't want trees at all'. Since the 1960s, we have worked with landscape designers to ensure good forest design but we will get similar problems again if we start to massively afforest, unless there is public buy-in to the changing appearance of the landscape and loss of culturally significant farmland.

### WHAT HAS THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION BEEN?

Forestry is multipurpose so it's invidious to say what the greatest thing the Forestry Commission has achieved is. We've created an extraordinary public asset as the biggest provider of outdoor recreation in the country, with 24 million users and more than 200 million visits each year. In Britain as a whole, we've created a large and modern timber industry from what had been pretty negligible after the First World War. In 100 years, we have supported a two to threefold increase in the forest cover in Britain to 3m hectares. That's an extraordinary achievement.

### IS BALANCING THE MANY NEEDS AND AIMS OF FORESTRY DIFFICULT?

There is a frequent failure to really understand the multiple agendas of forestry, because people tend to focus on one thing at a time. We tend to either think we need to plant 100,000 hectares of trees in the next 30 years to absorb carbon, or we like to think woods are a great recreational or biodiversity resource. The economic aspect of our forests is also important as it pays for the management.

We want the right sort of trees to provide a mix of benefits that will survive in a future environment, but as a society we're not very good at discussing the conflicts.

### HOW NATIVE ARE THE TREES WE THINK OF AS NATIVE?

During every ice age, the flora of the British Isles was swept clean, so in previous interglacials there would have been different species here. What we now call natives are the ones that arrived here in the last 11,700 years or so from Spain, or other refugia, after the most recent ice age. They've been here for a blink of an eye in evolutionary terms. What people call ancient woodland habitats are the woods that have retained the same species mix as when they were managed by man, before they became uneconomic in the mid-19th century. In this country virtually all our forests are man-made.

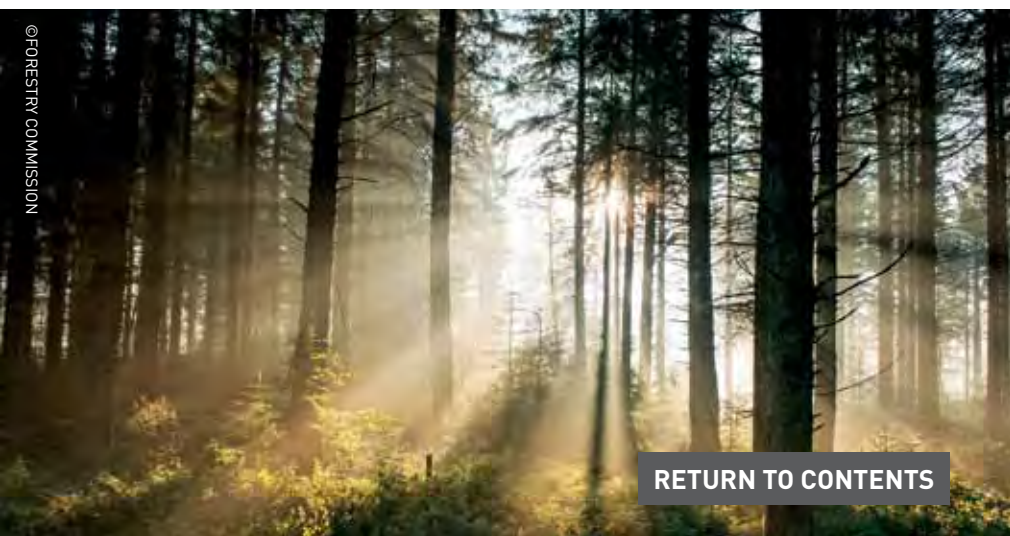
### WHAT IS YOUR ASPIRATION FOR THE NEXT CENTURY OF FORESTRY?

Thriving, useful forests which have a natural synergy with people, providing recreation, raw materials and, crucially, supporting a biodiverse environment. Encompassing people and society, stretching into towns and cities and up people's roads, all over the place: a living social forest ecosystem.

### FINALLY, WHAT IS YOUR FONDEST MEMORY OF YOUR TIME AT TRINITY HALL?

One of my best memories of Trinity Hall was actually rowing. I'm a tall man, and quite strong, and I was good at rowing. Although I thought it was pretty silly going backwards down a river, being shouted at.

*Bellever Woods, Devon.*



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FEATURE

## THE STUDENT VIEW: JCR & MCR GREEN AND ETHICS OFFICERS



The past few terms have been very exciting for green and ethics within the College. As JCR Green and Ethics Officer, I've been doing a number of different things: continuing previous years' initiatives, starting some of my own projects, and helping out with ideas suggested by the wider student body.

One of the most successful things in recent years has been the Trinity Hall branded KeepCups. More than 70 have been sold this year, helping to reduce coffee cup waste and disposable usage in general. Another brilliant initiative from previous years has been Fairtrade Week, including Fairtrade (and sustainably-sourced food) Formal. This has been very successful at promoting Fairtrade and sustainable food as the default option within College. Additionally, the cafeteria has adopted 'Meat-free Mondays', which is helping to promote vegetarianism and veganism as alternative lifestyles. This has been well supported by the catering staff and kitchen, who have been receiving much positive feedback for their meat-free dishes. Favourites include cauliflower dahl, three-bean enchilada and vegan lasagne.

Inspired by Robinson College, I set up a 'Trinity Hall Community Fridge' Facebook group. This allows students to share any spare food they have that would otherwise go to waste. This has been very successful in reducing food waste, as well as helping people find some delicious leftovers. Similarly, another student has set up a 'Trinity Hall Thrift Shop' group for sharing non-food items, in the same spirit of reducing waste. Both of these will hopefully be very useful in helping to minimise waste in College, as far as is possible.

Another group of students ran a charity campaign in May Week raising money for Winter Comfort, to provide an ethical and wholesome end to the year.

Looking forward into next year, there are several projects that I and others are planning. These include writing a 'Green Guide' about how to live sustainably and ethically within College, and discussing carbon footprints with the College.

**Jacob Smith (2018)**

JCR Green & Ethics Office 2018/19

Creating awareness of sustainability and the environment and also offering educational opportunities for members of the MCR community has been the focus of my work as MCR Green Officer over the past year.

A large proportion of greenhouse emissions, pollution and resource exploitation can be associated with the consumption habits that people our age and of our background have – we enjoy travelling (mostly relying on air traffic), buy a new smartphone far more often than necessary, and enjoy the benefits of cheap clothing or furniture that usually doesn't last very long. Hence, making the MCR community aware of their impact on people and planet is important for tackling the global environmental crisis that is threatening the lives of our children.

Furthermore, graduates from Trinity Hall are likely to thrive in their careers, where their decision-making could determine the agendas of companies and governments that crucially impact on environmental issues. It is therefore important that students take more from their time at Trinity Hall than what they learn in their degrees, and think more carefully about the moral implications of their actions and how we want to shape the world of tomorrow.

That said, it isn't always easy for MCR members to join the Green Officer's activities and engage with the sustainability opportunities available. Managing a Cambridge degree, committing to various club and society activities, attending social events, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle can be hard enough.

However, I am proud that the MCR has nonetheless managed to launch successful sustainability-themed events this year, which were enjoyable and well attended. A green-themed social event in Easter term saw students enjoy a pub quiz around environmental issues, resource saving competitions and pantomimes featuring students in polar bear costumes, all in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. I look forward to further occasions of combining fun leisure activities with opportunities to learn more about how each of us can do our share in saving the planet!

**Philipp Verpoort (2016)**

MCR Green Officer 2018/19



# SUSTAINABLE CATERING

As the College's Conference and Catering Department we recognise that we have a responsibility to reduce our environmental impact wherever possible. The actions that we take now will have an effect on the future of the planet and the future of our students.



A recent study by WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) estimated that the annual food waste from the hospitality and food services sector is 1 million tonnes, costing £2 billion per annum and producing 2.5 million tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The education sector contributes approximately 10% of this. As a member of the University of Cambridge Catering Managers Committee (CMC), we collectively realise that by making changes to the way we purchase, what we produce and how we monitor our environmental impact, the Colleges and University can make a positive contribution to reducing this.

The College has adopted a policy that commits us to incorporating environmental and socially responsible considerations in selecting suppliers and contractors to minimise negative environmental effects and to promote sustainable practices. Working with preferred suppliers who are audited for their green and environmental initiatives – such as using rainwater to wash their vehicle fleets or donating split bags of sugar to local beekeepers – we are working together to progress the sustainability agenda.

One of our most important activities is monitoring where our food comes from, to make sure we are using seasonal ingredients and supporting local producers where possible. It is imperative that we adhere to animal welfare standards for all eggs, poultry, meat and

dairy and we only serve fish that is listed as sustainable on the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) 'Fish to Eat' guide.

This has allowed us to be creative in the menus that we produce. Our external guests can now choose a 'Best of British' summer buffet menu, which includes British charcuterie, English quinoa and locally smoked fish. Our monthly dining menus highlight the best of the season allowing us to showcase ingredients available for a short period of time such as Jersey Royal potatoes, wild garlic and English asparagus.

**We have seen a rise in the number of members of our community 'voting with their forks' and choosing to follow vegetarian and, increasingly, vegan diets.**

The positive impact on the environment of reducing the intake of meat (particularly ruminant) and dairy is now widely understood and we have reviewed and changed our cafeteria menus accordingly. Our chefs have also embraced the opportunity to learn new skills to produce vegan dishes that rival the more traditional ones found in cafeteria and at Formal Halls. However, this does mean that we now need to provide more choice in the cafeteria and cook a greater variety

of dishes at Formal Halls, which can, without careful monitoring, result in an increase in food waste.

This is why we will be working with PhD students to determine if carbon footprint labelling on dishes and computer modelling can assist us with forecasting the popularity of dishes and allow us to have greater control in our procurement processes, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and food waste.

We had already addressed single-use plastics before the rise in global awareness, and had phased out all plastic cups in favour of Vegware products. All other disposable products including take-away coffee cups, paper bags and cutlery have now been replaced with biodegradable and compostable products derived from plants. We have also stopped buying drinks in single-use plastic bottles and are working with suppliers to replace packaging with more environmentally friendly alternatives.

By engaging with the College community on our sustainable activities, listening to the concerns and ideas of the different constituents and keeping up to date with research and scientific evidence, we will continue to work to minimise the impact of our conference and catering operations on the environment and promote sustainable and ethical practices.

**Fiona Simon**  
Head of Conference and Catering Services



A third year undergrad reading Classics asked this question at our annual careers panel event a few years ago when they were uncertain of what to do after graduation.

We answered the question by speaking about the transferrable skills you learn from a Cambridge degree: the ability to construct an argument, problem-solve and think on your feet. The supervision system – whilst it may be terrifying at the time – does prepare you for whatever you want to do in the real world.

Some students will know what they want to do when they graduate, but for many they are unaware of what career opportunities are available and what a wide variety of possibilities exist in the world of work. More than 50% of students register with the University Careers Service within their first year; such is the pressure to undertake internships and work placements during the Long Vacation.

Many firms do of course come to Cambridge to recruit, but it is often through making connections with alumni that students learn about the wide-ranging options that lay before them with a degree from Cambridge. Many alumni also welcome the opportunity to advise current students, telling them what they wished someone else had told their 21-year-old self...

### What do our students say?

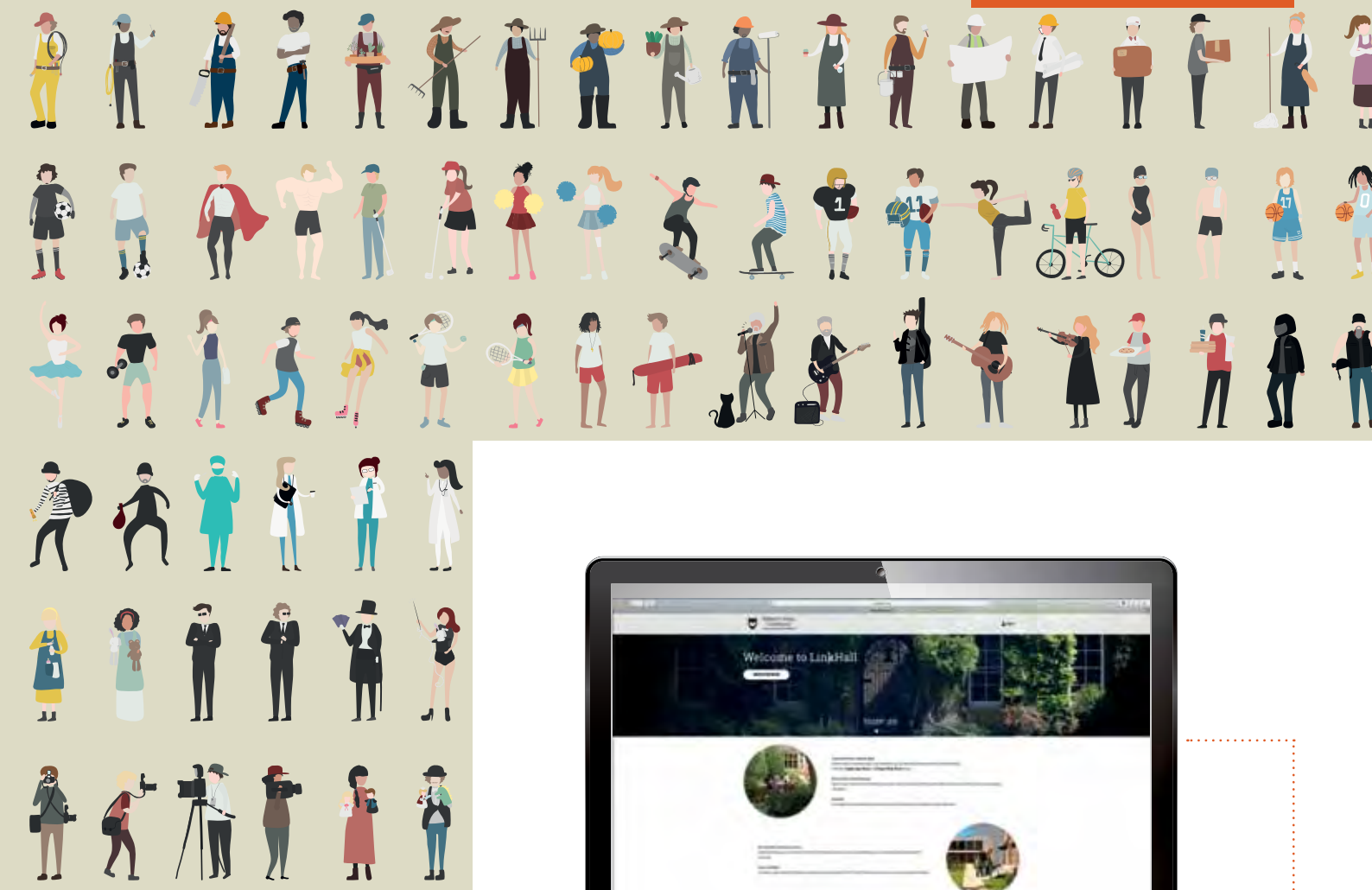
"I have received some sincere and helpful advice about work, life and travel, and am feeling a bit less scared to graduate and move into the world beyond university." **Mary**

"Alumni have been exceptionally supportive, and been willing to talk to me on complex issues that concern me and my future career, such as the realities of being a woman in the law." **Jess**

Over 1,000 alumni have expressed an interest in giving back by helping our students in this way and we are very grateful for their support. Learning from others' experiences can make a huge difference in a young person's life.



## MAKE A DIFFERENCE



WE ARE EXCITED TO LAUNCH **LINKHALL**, OUR NEW ONLINE ALUMNI COMMUNITY.

Features and benefits:

- Keep in touch with your peers
- Reconnect with friends
- Organise events and gatherings
- Join an interest group
- Develop your professional network
- Get advice on your next career move
- Share your expertise

LinkHall members can search the community for alumni in specific professions or locations and send a private message to ask for help. The improved functionality of LinkHall also enables members of the community to post vacancies and opportunities.

But it's not just about careers! The flexibility of LinkHall means you can use it for any networking purpose, whether that's arranging an informal meet-up or posing a question to the community.

[www.linkhall.org](http://www.linkhall.org)

# Jerwood Library celebrated as Cambridge city centre's favourite building of last 50 years

The library won a competition organised by Cambridge City Council and the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service to mark the 50th anniversary of the central conservation area in Cambridge.

The award for the Jerwood Library was announced at a celebratory event at the Guildhall in February and was handed over to the Master and Tristan Rees Roberts (1967) at a short ceremony in College in June.

The Jerwood Library was designed by architects Freeland Rees Roberts, founded by Trinity Hall alumnus Tristan Rees Roberts, and officially opened in 1999. It topped a shortlist of buildings either built, refurbished, extended or conserved since 1969, when Cambridge's historic city centre conservation area was introduced.



Members and friends of Trinity Hall and Cambridge County Council outside the Jerwood Library.

## FROM CAMBRIDGE TO CAPITAL: Engineering an Olympic sport

In the first of our London lecture series 'From Cambridge to Capital', we enjoyed a fascinating and lively talk by Professor Tony Purnell, Head of Technical Development at British Cycling and Fellow-Commoner in Engineering at Trinity Hall. Tony delved into the benefits of taking an engineering approach to

sport and how Cambridge academics contribute to the success of the British cycling team. 'From Cambridge to Capital' is our new lecture series, bringing the expertise of a College Fellow to London. The lecture is annual and we hope you can join us for the next one in the spring.



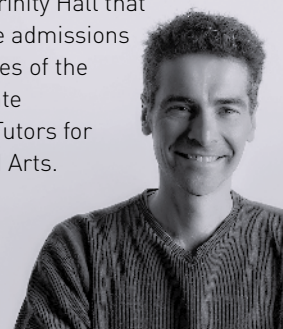
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### NEW DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

Dr Marcus Tomalin took up post as Director of Admissions on 1 September this year. Marcus joins us from Downing College, where he was a Fellow and Admissions Tutor.

As Director of Admissions, Marcus will fulfil a crucial role in College by managing the undergraduate admissions process and leading initiatives to encourage applications from under-represented demographic groups. He will also take responsibility for postgraduate admissions.

The Director of Admissions is a new role at Trinity Hall that combines the admissions responsibilities of the Undergraduate Admissions Tutors for Sciences and Arts.





## WongAvery Music Gallery groundbreaking

At the beginning of July, we welcomed trustees of the Avery-Tsui Foundation to College to mark the start of building work on the WongAvery Music Gallery.

The archaeological survey and basement excavation were completed this summer and the structure is now rising from Avery Court as contractors Barnes Construction create the new building.

The Avery-Tsui Foundation has kindly made a donation to support the construction of the Music Gallery.

© PHIL MYNOTT



Members of the Avery-Tsui Foundation and Trinity Hall on the WongAvery Music Gallery building site.

## Fellows recognised in student-led teaching awards

Trinity Hall Fellows Dr Nick Guyatt (History), Dr Isabelle McNeill (MML) and Dr James Wood (HSPS) have been recognised for their excellent teaching by Cambridge students.



**Dr Guyatt** was commended in the Lecturer category of Cambridge University Students' Union's (CUSU) Student-Led Teaching Awards.



**Dr McNeill** was commended in the UG Supervisor (arts, humanities and social sciences) category of the CUSU Awards.



**Dr Wood** was awarded Best Supervisor 2018/19 by Department of POLIS students.

The CUSU and POLIS awards are voted for entirely by students.

## Success in May Bumps



M3 post bump on day 2.

THBC bumped on 16 occasions over the four days, with M1 and M3 also earning their Blades.

Both M1 and W1 are now securely in the top division of the Mays for the first time since 2012 and the future looks very bright.

It was a great effort from all seven of our crews who rowed with great spirit, enormous effort, excellent technique and with the very best sportsmanship.

In the Michell Cup, which ranks all the colleges by their performances throughout the year, Trinity Hall ranks second, beaten only by Gonville and Caius.



### NEW ELECTRIC VAN

**As part of the College's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint, we took delivery of a new electric van this summer.**

The van is used to transport equipment between College sites.

# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF the Alumni Officer



IT IS A BIT OF A CLICHÉ, BUT ALSO FAIR TO SAY THAT NO DAY IS THE SAME IN THE ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. WE NEVER KNOW WHO WE ARE GOING TO SPEAK TO OR WHO MAY POP IN TO SEE US, OR INDEED WHAT QUESTIONS WE ARE GOING TO BE ASKED.

Event days are especially busy and Friday 12 July was no exception as we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the 1959 year group arriving in College.

There was a full programme of events, starting at 11am with coffee in the Master's Lodge. Before we even got to that point I had been visited by an alumnus who was donating a print of the old Combination Room to us, and an alumnus who had flown over from New Zealand to join the celebrations. Alumni are always very welcome to pop into our office on I staircase. If you're not feeling sprightly enough to negotiate the two flights of stairs up to the top office we are more than happy to meet you in the College grounds.

Alumni started to arrive at 11am and I was on duty, handing out name badges and welcoming them to College. The wife of the 1959 Year Rep helped me out and did a fabulous job of keeping people topped up with tea and coffee.

Next on the programme were tours of the Old Library, led by our Head of Library Services, Jenni Lecky-Thompson. Some alumni had never seen the Old Library before and one had brought his wife who was an expert on the history of the book and former Director of the British Library. She was able to offer new insight into some of the book bindings in the College's collection.

Following a drinks reception, everyone moved to the Graham Storey Room for lunch. We had a full turnout, which is always a relief as last minute changes to seating plans can be tricky! I was sitting with two alumni who had travelled from the other side of

the world to attend the lunch. One of my favourite parts of being an Alumni Officer is hearing stories from when alumni were students, as well as what they have been up to since they left. In the case of the diamond anniversary lot that covers almost 60 years!

Once lunch was over we arranged for a group of alumni to visit the Boathouse with Paul Townshend, Head Rowing Coach & Boathouse Manager. While we waited for the taxis to arrive I got the opportunity to learn more about student life in the early 1960s – stories I will not commit to print! Once the group was safely en route to the Boathouse I was free to check that everything was in order for the Reunion (for 1964, 1965 and 1966) which was happening the following day. Last-minute changes are common and not always straightforward, but luckily all seemed to be in order.

It had been a long and tiring day but incredibly satisfying, and even after 18 years I still feel a sense of achievement after a successful event. People often ask me what I do for a job. I tell them I organise events for alumni of a Cambridge College – not a bad way to earn a living!

If you have any questions that you think I can help with, please drop me a line on [alumni@trinhall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@trinhall.cam.ac.uk). I am here to help with anything related to the College and if I can't deal with your enquiry then I can put you in touch with someone who can.

**Liz Pentlow**  
Alumni Officer





## DO YOU FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

Don't wait for print to find out what's going on at College. All the latest news, events and, of course, beautiful photos, will be on our feeds first.

   @TrinityHallCamb

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# Events 2019–20

## September

17	Kuala Lumpur dinner
18	Singapore dinner
20	Hong Kong drinks reception
27-29	University Alumni Festival
28	THA AGM & Cambridge dinner
28	THA lecture from Professor Sir Peter Knight

## October

12	Master's Circle dinner (by invitation)
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## November

2	THA regional event, Liverpool
9	Milestone Lecture by Dr Rachel Clement Tolley, John Collier Fellow and College Lecturer in Law

## December

7	Supporters' Festive Drinks (by invitation)
12	Varsity Rugby, Twickenham

## January

11	Parents' lunch (by invitation)
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## February

2	Commemoration of Benefactors (by invitation)
8	Engineering Society dinner
6	Paris
15	Concert

## March

6	Law Society annual dinner
7	THA regional event, Belfast
21	MA Ceremony and Reunion (2013 undergraduates)
TBC	Aula Club dinner
TBC	Events in New York and Toronto

## April

4	10th Anniversary dinner (2010)
24	Regional event at University College, Oxford



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# Supporters' events

Every year we enjoy a special event in College with supporters who have generously given £100 or more in the previous financial year.

This December we will welcome those supporters to the Master's Lodge for festive drinks and nibbles to the sound of the Trinity Hall Chapel Choir singing carols around the Christmas tree. The Supporters' Festive Drinks is a wonderful, seasonal occasion and it is a delight to

welcome many of our supporters back to College. In summer 2020, we will be holding a Supporters' Summer Garden Party for those who have donated £100 or more in the financial year 2019/20. The events are free of charge as a thank you for your support.

Over the past 12 months gifts of £100 have helped us to support:



A Choral Scholarship



Diagnostic assessments for a student



Support for medics on their elective



Support for the CUSU shadowing scheme

If you are considering making a gift to College you can donate quickly, easily and securely online at [www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/online-giving](http://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/online-giving)

Alternatively, call James on +44 (0)1223 332563 or email [development@trinhall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@trinhall.cam.ac.uk)

Thank you for your support



## EVENT CONTACT

For further information visit [www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events](http://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events) or contact us on: [alumnioffice@trinhall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumnioffice@trinhall.cam.ac.uk) or +44 (0)1223 332550. For University events go to [www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/events](http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/events).

Information correct at time of going to press.