

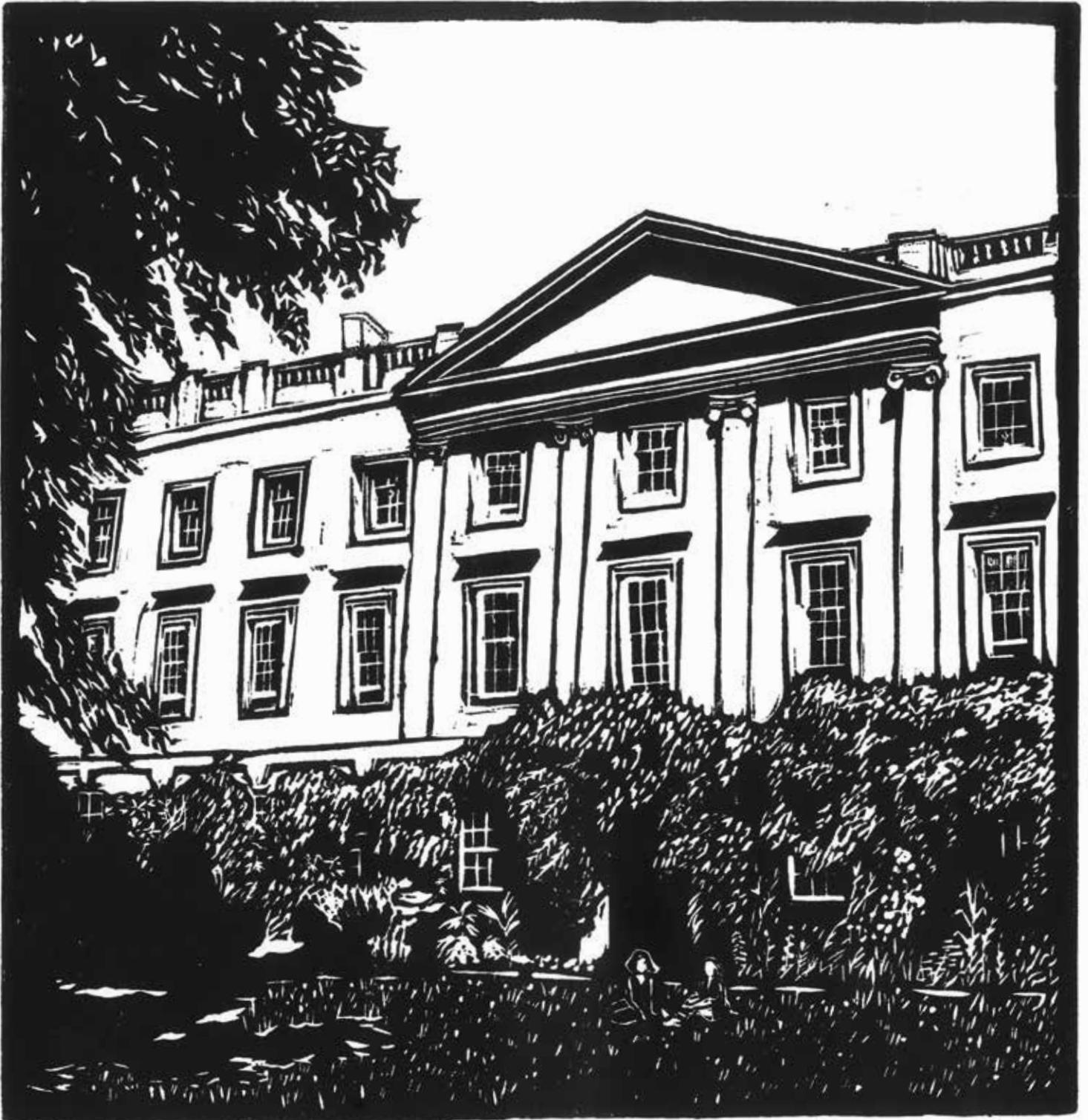
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Welcome

From the President
Professor Helen Moore



With the New Year comes this new issue of the *Sundial*, providing an insight into recent innovations at Corpus across the range of our practical, educational and research activities. As you will see from the Big Picture feature on pp. 8-9, the refurbishment of the Porters' Lodge was completed in the autumn of 2021, and we were delighted to learn that it has received an Oxford Preservation Trust award in the Small Projects category. Attendees at the Benefactors' Garden Party in September were among the first to admire its light and spacious feel, and in October both returning students and the new cohort of Freshers were able to take advantage of its enhanced storage for parcels and the very welcome introduction of individual, rather than shared, pigeonholes. Always integral to life in Corpus, the College porters have had a particularly important role to play for both our people and our buildings during the Covid-19 pandemic, being very much on the 'front line'; we are tremendously grateful for all they have achieved, along with the rest of the College staff, during the past nearly two years. Whether in the Lodge, the kitchen, IT, Library, housekeeping, administration, gardens or maintenance, the College staff have planned, re-planned and adapted with patience, creativity and resilience during the period since March 2020.

After so many months in which our own travel has been restricted, I hope that you will enjoy reading about the breakthrough discoveries made by Prof. Peter Hore, Fellow in Chemistry, and his collaborators, in respect of the long-standing scientific puzzle that is bird migration. The ability of the bar-tailed godwit to fly non-stop from Alaska to New Zealand in nine days is a remarkable feat in itself, and after years of research into the biophysical mechanisms that make it possible,

Prof. Hore's team with its cryptochrome hypothesis is edging ever closer to unlocking one of the great remaining mysteries of the natural world.

The research of another Fellow, Dr James Duffy, is also dedicated to making sense of large-scale phenomena, this time in economics, as on p.15 he explains how his work in econometrics illuminates the relationship between individual decisions and their implications for fiscal and monetary policy. James's Fellowship is named in honour of Andrew Glyn, Fellow in Economics from 1969 to 2007, and it is marvellous to be able to celebrate the fact that the target of raising £1m to endow the Fellowship was reached in late 2021. This endowment has been years in the planning and execution, and represents a landmark moment in the teaching of PPE at Corpus.

As the College archivist Julian Reid reveals, 2021 saw the 150th anniversary of the passing of the Universities Tests Act, which paved the way for the international and diverse body of students and Fellows that we are today (for the latest addition to the Fellowship, Prof. Beppe Pezzini, see the profile on p.5). In removing the requirement for religious tests, the Act began the slow process of reform involving a succession of liberalisations that finally culminated – a too-long century later – in the admission of women to Corpus. While formal barriers to full equality in the University have been dismantled, implicit disadvantages still remain in our broader society and the College is determined to play its part in advocating and enhancing equality for all members of our community: to this end, we have launched the Corpus Black and Minority Ethnic Student and Alumni Mentoring Scheme as described on pp.6-7. It has been an enormous privilege to work with students, alumni and colleagues in this collaborative and careful effort to promote meaningful change at a personal and institutional level: my thanks go to everyone who has committed their time, effort and energy to keeping the dial of change moving with this initiative, one small click at a time.

Helen Moore

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COVER: Fellows Building Linocut by DPhil student Tara Lee.

New Arrivals

Professor Beppe Pezzini
Tutorial Fellow and Associate Professor
of Latin Language and Literature

➤ Professor Beppe Pezzini has been awarded a 2021 Philip Leverhulme Prize in Classics. Only five prizes every three years are awarded in Classics.



Beppe Pezzini joined Corpus in August 2021 as Tutorial Fellow in Latin Language and Literature, and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Classics. After five years of teaching at the University of St Andrews, he has come back to Oxford, where he was postdoctoral fellow at Magdalen College Oxford from 2015 to 2015, and before then a DPhil student in Classical Languages and Literature. From 2010 to 2015 he worked as Assistant Editor for the *Oxford Dictionary of Medieval Latin*, a rewarding experience that, he says, helped him move beyond the classical horizon as traditionally defined.

Beppe says: "Teaching Latin at Corpus is an exciting, dizzying experience, as one is standing on the shoulders of many giants. These include especially my immediate predecessor Stephen Harrison, who played a key role in leading Latin studies into the postmodern age. This is a dream place for a Latinist, boasting one of the most vibrant Classics communities in the world. I will try my best to uphold this legacy of tradition and innovation."

His career has been enriched by a diversity of academic experiences, including research fellowships in Princeton and Leiden, a visiting professorship at the University of Turin in 2020, and a visiting period as a student at Corpus itself, back in 2006, where everything began.

He explains: "Classics is a discipline that has been taught in many different

countries, languages and societies, across many centuries: it can naturally claim to be profoundly diverse, with its range of cultural and social backgrounds and implications, its different methodologies, approaches, and questions. Classics has thus the potential to become a hub for dialogue between different cultures and worldviews, as well as present and past generations, thereby giving an important contribution to the challenges of the post-Covid era."

Beppe was trained as a linguist and philologist and has a special interest in technical fields such as metre and textual criticism, but has always tried to put his technical expertise at the service of broader issues, and investigate the mutual relation between the detail and the general picture. His main area of research is the language and literature of the Roman Republic (3rd – 1st c. BC). He says: "I have always been fascinated by this period, which is still largely approached from the biased perspective of canonical classical literature, even if crucial issues such as the relationship between Roman and Greek culture and identity, to name just one, are shaped at this time."

Beppe is currently finalising a commentary on a play by the Roman playwright Terence and working on two other major projects, on the special relationship between Pergamene Culture and Rome and on Lucretius' philosophical poem *De Rerum Natura*.



Teaching Latin at Corpus is an exciting, dizzying experience, as one is standing on the shoulders of many giants. This is a dream place for a Latinist, boasting one of the most vibrant Classics communities in the world. I will try my best to uphold this legacy of tradition and innovation.

Quantum birds

A radical sense of direction

Professor Peter Hore and colleagues in Oxford and Oldenburg have made a significant step towards unravelling the biophysical mechanism by which migratory birds detect the direction of the Earth's magnetic field as a navigational aid.



Research

Professor Peter Hore
Fellow and Tutor, Professor of Chemistry

Just for a moment, I would like you to put yourself in the shoes (as it were) of a bar-tailed godwit. You've spent the summer in Alaska but it's starting to get chilly and you need to fly south for the winter. Your destination is New Zealand, some 11,000 km away across the Pacific Ocean. That's not a problem because you can fly non-stop, day and night, at an average speed of 50 kilometres per hour so it should only take you nine days. But how do you know in which direction to fly? Although you don't have a global positioning system (GPS), you can use the sun and the stars when they're visible and your keen sense of smell will be useful in the home straight but what you really need if you are to stay on course is a *magnetic compass*.

Migratory birds are formidable navigators – not just godwits, but the billions of small songbirds that cover staggering distances every year travelling between their breeding and wintering grounds. It has been known since the 1960s that birds like the European robin can indeed detect the Earth's magnetic field. But, despite 50 years of research, relatively little is known about the biophysical mechanism of this intriguing sense. Trying to understand how magnetoreception works has kept me busy for much of the last ten years together with colleagues in the Oxford Chemistry Department and at the University of Oldenburg in Germany.

The avian magnetic compass sense is remarkable in several ways. First, it is light-dependent. When tested in the laboratory, birds require light in the blue region of the visible spectrum to be able to orient themselves magnetically. Under yellow or red light, or in total darkness, their compass doesn't work. Yet, most migratory songbirds fly at night under the dim light of the stars. Second, birds have an axial compass, which means that they would be none the wiser if the magnetic field they experienced suddenly inverted. This is clearly different from the magnetised compass needles humans used before we got magnetometers and GPS in our mobile phones to help us find our way around. Third, a bird's ability to sense the magnetic north-south axis can be disrupted by extraordinarily weak (radiofrequency) electromagnetic fields that reverse their direction several million times per second. And, finally, the Earth's magnetic field is pretty feeble – ten to a hundred times smaller than at the surface of a small fridge magnet – and interacts very weakly indeed with biological tissue.

We believe these remarkable properties could be explained by a mechanism first discovered in a different context in the 1970s – the *radical pair mechanism*. Radicals are reactive, short-lived chemical compounds. When formed in pairs, for example by the displacement of an electron from one part of a molecule to another, they exhibit some

unusual quantum mechanical properties that render them sensitive to magnetic interactions that would normally be considered a million times too weak to have any significant chemical effect. We think the molecules in which these processes take place are proteins known as cryptochromes. Cryptochromes are biologically ubiquitous (humans have them too, although there's scant evidence that we have in-built magnetic sensors) and are found in cells in bird's retinas where the sensors are known to be located. When a cryptochrome absorbs a photon of blue light, a radical pair is formed in less than a nanosecond as the result of an electron hopping along what is, in effect, a two-nanometer molecular wire within the protein. The electrons in these two radicals then undergo a complex quantum mechanical 'dance' for about a microsecond – the time needed to encode the direction of the Earth's magnetic field.

My colleagues and I have been exploring the cryptochrome hypothesis *in vivo*, *in vitro* and *in silico* by means of behavioural observations of songbirds in orientation cages, spectroscopic studies of purified cryptochromes in magnetic fields, and quantum mechanical simulations of radical pairs in computers. In our most recent publication¹, we showed for the first time that one of the six known avian cryptochromes (from the European robin) does indeed appear to have the properties required of a magnetic sensor. To do this, we modified the proteins to block electron hopping at each of the four staging posts within its 2-nanometer trajectory and studied the magnetic sensitivity of these mutants using bespoke laser techniques. Although there is still much to be discovered, we believe we are gaining a good understanding of the principles of this least understood of all sensory mechanisms.

So, what use is all this? In the last few years it has become clear that organic light-emitting diodes, not unlike those in mobile phone screens, exhibit changes in their light output that can be tuned by weak magnetic fields. It seems that the underlying physics is essentially identical to the radical pair mechanism, giving hope that 'bio-inspiration' gleaned from studies of the avian magnetic compass could lead to a new kind of magnetic sensing devices based on cheap, non-toxic, intelligently designed organic molecules. Some of our work on cryptochromes is funded by US agencies interested in alternative 'position, navigation, and timing solutions' for possible military use in environments where GPS is impractical, compromised or denied. But, like the godwits, there's a long way to go before we get *there*.

¹Xu et al., *Nature*, 594 (2021) 535–540.



OPPOSITE: Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)
Image: J. J. Harrison
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bar-tailed_godwit#/media/File:Limosa_lapponica_2_-_Taren_Point.jpg

Equality & Diversity

Mentoring Scheme

Black and Minority Ethnic Student and Alumni Mentoring Scheme

In the aftermath of the BLM protests in 2020, members of the Governing Body, the MCR and the JCR engaged in a series of discussions on how to improve diversity within the College and in academia more broadly. An outgrowth of these discussions was the establishment of the College's Black and Minority Ethnic Student and Alumni Mentoring Scheme.

This mentoring scheme connects current undergraduate and graduate students with alumni who have volunteered to provide personal and professional mentoring, to share experiences and advice, and to encourage and enable our students to fulfil their career aspirations.

In June 2021, after a year in development, the scheme launched with a virtual meeting. It was an inspiring event, and the keynote speech by Corpus alumnus Steve Douglas CBE highlighted to mentors and mentees alike their potential to make a difference in the long struggle to combat racism, why now was the time to get involved, and the hope that long-lasting change was imminent. Afterwards, mentors and mentees were introduced to one another in group sessions. Seemingly subtle but undeniably powerful, the hope is that this mentorship programme will continue to help Black and Minority Ethnic students for years to come, in the familiar close-knit Corpus style.



JOHN CHARRIS

Gaining new perspectives

Mentees describe meeting their mentors for the first time and reflect on what they hope to achieve from the Black and Minority Ethnic Student and Alumni Mentoring Scheme.

Zeinab Ali (Neuroscience, DPhil)
I would like to pursue a career in STEM. In the near future, this will include a postdoctoral position. However, I am debating between academia and industry. I hope to learn more about the pharmaceutical industry. I would like advice on how to make the most of my DPhil and time at Oxford and how to progress up the career ladder, networking and building lasting connections. I had a fantastic first meeting with my mentor. We discussed ways to navigate the STEM field. I gained valuable advice from someone who has an impressive career path in both academia and industry, and who I can relate to.

Faseeha Ayaz (Cardiovascular Science, DPhil)
They say an Oxford DPhil opens many doors but what are those doors? I am hoping this scheme will connect me with people who can provide some insight and a perspective on the workplace outside academia. I am seeking advice on next steps, learning about and from the experiences of mentors as I too try to find my path. I am very open to a career within or outside academia. However, having only ever experienced the academic setting, it is often difficult to envisage the opportunities outside academia as well as one's suitability to them. First meetings have been very motivational. My mentor is willing to listen to my experiences

Would you like to be a mentor?

We would love to hear from Old Members who are willing to offer mentorship and guidance to this and future generations of Black and Minority Ethnic students. For more information about the scheme please email sara.watson@ccc.ox.ac.uk.

The length of each mentorship is envisaged as being one year, after which mentors/mentees may continue or leave the scheme.

and share his own openly. His ability to identify my personal biases to allow me freedom from them, and challenge my reasoning process to illuminate new perspectives or ways of thinking, is something I find invaluable. After our meetings I felt I had grown a little taller and was inspired to reach a little higher.

Mipham Samten (PPE)

I am interested in a career in financial services, namely M&A with the longer-term goal of buy-side work, either in public or private markets. I would like to learn more about the value of an MBA and opportunities to enter postgraduate studies. Through the scheme I hope to gain insights into my chosen career paths by networking with experienced professionals, in order to enhance my understanding of the industry. My first meeting was an extremely insightful session. The opportunity to speak to an alumnus with such valuable experience is rare and I learned a great deal from my mentor who was incredibly accomplished and patient.

Sampada Sudheesh Venkatesh (Law)

I was born and brought up in Bangalore, a city in Southern India, and came to the UK for university. While the experiences of members of different minority communities are undoubtedly unique, I am certain that I will hugely benefit from learning about my mentor's journey both in, and post Oxford. I am currently choosing between pursuing a career as a solicitor in the City, and working in the legal policy field for an international public interest organisation. The first meeting with my mentor was insightful. It gave me a glimpse into her world of legal practice and how it differs from legal academia.

Equality and Diversity at Corpus

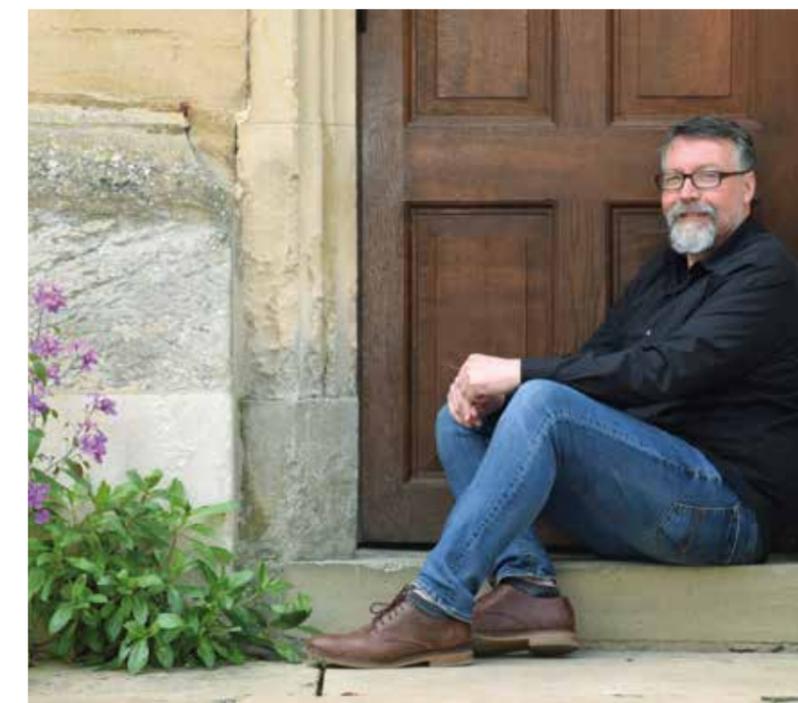
Professor Mark Wrathall describes the role of the College's Equality and Diversity Fellow.

As the Equality and Diversity Fellow at Corpus Christi College, I sit on the College's Equality Committee, and the Conference of Colleges Equality and Diversity Forum. The College Equality Committee oversees all matters of equality within the College, and considers all matters affecting the equality and diversity of the College as a community. The Committee meets once a term, and reports to the Governing Body. We review periodically the College's specific equality objectives – for instance, the requirement that all tutors attend implicit bias training – and we monitor progress in meeting those objectives. Other topics of discussion at our most recent meetings included the proposal that we provide professional Equality and Diversity training for Freshers (we're looking into it), and the renewal of an inter-collegiate Equality and Diversity Fund (this has supported a variety of initiatives in recent years, including a celebration honouring Black History Month and an LGBTQ+ club night).

As Equality and Diversity Fellow, I also participate in other College and University Committees where equality and/or diversity matters are being discussed. I took part last spring, for instance, in a series of workshops as part of the University's Associate Professor Inclusive Recruitment Project. These workshops were devoted to reviewing good practice in hiring and recruitment.

The Equality and Diversity Fellow is tasked with assisting in the achievement of Corpus's equality objectives for the whole range of protected characteristics, and in general serving as an advocate on equality and diversity matters. An important part of the role is to provide a link between the Governing Body and student representatives. I try to meet at least termly with the JCR Equal Opportunities Officer and the MCR Diversity and Inclusion Officer.

I, alongside the Governing Body, continue to be committed to seeking greater diversity and wider representation at all levels of the College.



NICK READ

The Big Picture

Building

Lodge refurbishment wins Oxford Preservation Trust Award

During the summer vacation, the Porters' Lodge enjoyed a much-needed facelift. The result is that Corpus now has an open and spacious area in which to welcome both members of the College and visitors as they step over the threshold. The reconfiguration of the Lodge provides it with a new waiting area, secure pigeon holes and a convivial office and kitchen for the porters. College Porter Trevor Greenaway says: "Working as a Corpus porter is a great job. Every day brings new challenges. The new space has transformed our working environment and given the Porters' Lodge a modern, light and airy feel." The College is delighted that the project has caught the eye of the Oxford Preservation Trust, whose awards celebrate the preservation and improvement of Oxford's environment. The Corpus project is one of only 12 certificate winners for 2021. In presenting the awards, the Trust said: "This year it is a particular pleasure to highlight the achievements of all those who managed to do all this in spite of the crisis caused by Covid." The refurbishment was recognised in the Small Projects category.



JOHN GARRIS

College Faces

THE ROMANCE OF READING



Professor Helen Moore's most recent book has been the recipient of two major prizes from the British Academy and the Sixteenth Century Society respectively. She told us about the inspiration for *Amadis in English: A Study in the Reading of Romance*.

What led you to *Amadis* as a subject? What is the story of *Amadis* about?

Amadis represents a genre of prose fiction that bridges the medieval and modern periods and that underpins the modern novel via Cervantes's *Don Quixote*, published in 1605, which is both a satire on and a homage to these kinds of books. As an Iberian derivative of French Arthurian romance, it displays the traditional interests of that genre in the supernatural, warfare and courtly behaviour, whilst also engaging with early modern debates about statecraft, personhood and the relationship between spiritual and secular values. I have always enjoyed reading everything, and thanks to having a job at Corpus that involves teaching medieval and early modern literature, I have spent years roaming across both, and later, periods. When deciding on the subject of my D.Phil. years ago, I was torn between early modern prose fiction and the radical novel of the 1790s, and writing this book has now allowed me to do both!

Your book is as much about the readers of *Amadis*, as it is about its specific story. Why do you think *Amadis* had such an extraordinary range of enthusiastic readers over space and time? How was it read, and made use of by so many different audiences?

I think it is essentially because it is a good story: plenty of plot, numerous characters through whom readers can experiment, like Don Quixote, with what I call in the book imaginative 'transforms of the self', and highly-elaborated

familial, erotic and political relationships. *Amadis* himself, for example, successively plays the roles of righter-of-wrongs, melancholy lover and poet, and ruler of a new world. There are exotic and magical locations, and an expansive willingness to embrace in literary form the issues of its day, many of which are themes of continuing human fascination such as the boundaries (or not) of individual autonomy, the ideal forms of human society, and the relationship between the human and the material worlds. Reading for pleasure and revelling in imagination is something that readers of all ages and in all ages have loved to do, and my book consciously celebrates that.



Reading for pleasure and revelling in imagination is something that readers of all ages and in all ages have loved to do.

***Amadis* is no longer a household name, but, as *Don Quixote*'s favourite book, it is central to Cervantes's very famous novel. Could you talk about the relation of *Amadis* to *Don Quixote*'s themes – about reality and fantasy, and how these two things get mixed up and confused, but also how they enliven each other?**

At one point in the book I refer to the moment when Don Quixote is described stretching painfully, and impossibly, to reach the floor whilst dangling from a hay-loft. It is one of the many moments of cruel physical comedy in *Don Quixote* that explore the limits and capacities of human aspiration: his stretching and yearning is both heroic and ridiculous, and is thus analogous to the core speculation of Cervantes's novel, that of becoming an all-powerful reader-author who can participate in and shape the very worlds of which one reads. This central conceit of *Don Quixote* allows it to function as an experiment in breaking down the distinctions between reality and fantasy, body and mind, sensation and precept – as the first modern novel, in other words.

In this fascinating biography of a literary work, one particularly important feature is the reception of *Amadis* in Latin America, and its contribution to the genre of magical realism. How did a thirteenth-century European romance come to inspire a twentieth-century movement in Latin America?

The key to this was the reputation *Amadis* had gained in Latin America by the mid-twentieth century as a book forbidden to New World readers by colonial Spain. The idea of *Amadis* as 'prohibido' (even though in many respects it actually wasn't) meant that, ironically, it became a symbol of Latin American resistance and independence. Many of the literary themes and methods of *Amadis* also appealed to a generation that was drawn, like Don Quixote nearly four hundred years earlier, to the idea of designing a world of lived reality that was more expansive, liberated and lavish than the 'real' world. That is why I don't read Quixote as a deluded madman, but as the articulator of the human desire to imagine a better way of being and to experiment with different versions of the self via the transformative possibilities that are not just permitted but actively encouraged by romance as a genre.

Your book wonderfully excavates the ways a literary text, seemingly forgotten by non-scholars, shapes the cultures we live in today. Could you comment on how you see *Amadis* living on in our own times?

The kind of fiction represented by *Amadis* is highly invested in the idea of the self as reflective and capable of emotional, social and political self-determination. As an aspiration, and a source of literary empathy, this has proved beguiling to readers for 500 years, and remains so today.



LEFT: Gustav Doré, 'A world of disorderly notions, picked out of his books, crowded into his imagination', from *Don Quichotte* (1863). *Amadis* can be seen in the bottom right hand corner.

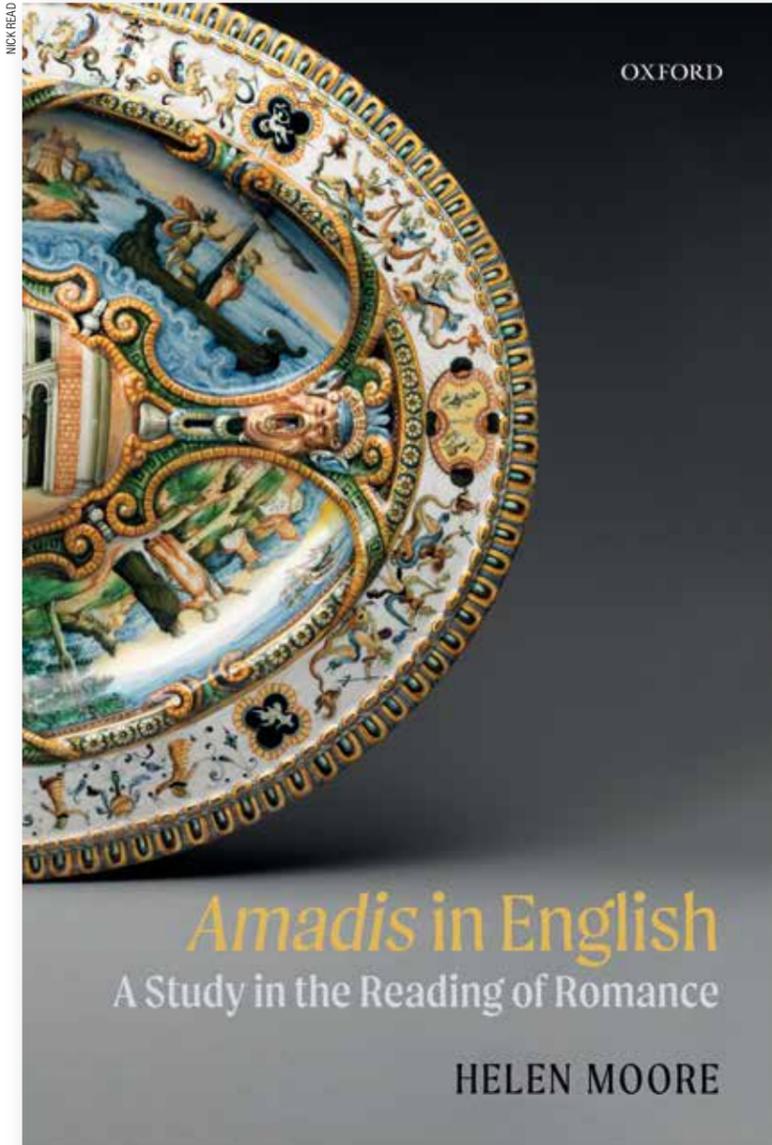
Prizes

Rose Mary Crawshay Prize

Each year the Prize is awarded by the British Academy for an historical or critical book by a woman, on any subject connected with literature. In 1888 Rose Mary Crawshay endowed a 'Byron, Shelley, Keats In Memoriam Yearly Prize Fund', whose administration was later transferred to the British Academy. First awarded in 1916, the Rose Mary Crawshay Prize is said by the British Academy to be the only UK literary prize specifically for female scholars.

Bainton Prize for Literature

Each year the Sixteenth Century Society awards four Roland H. Bainton Prizes for the best books written in English dealing with four categories within the time frame of 1450-1660: Art and Music History, History and Theology, Literature, and Reference Works. The criteria for selection are quality and originality of research, methodological skill, development of fresh and stimulating interpretations and literary quality.



The Corpus 15 Papers

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITIES TESTS ACT 1871

Julian Reid, *College Archivist*

The idea that a university is, or aims to be, inclusive, diverse and, perhaps above all, a place of intellectual enquiry, is today accepted as a given. But what might seem to us self-evident is actually a relatively recent development. Julian Reid describes the process of evolution and reform which has led through the centuries to the opening up of membership of the College in terms of race, religion and culture.

A cursory glance at the buildings of any Oxford or Cambridge college founded before the eighteenth century, in some cases even later (see Keble College, founded 1870), reveals their inherently religious, almost monastic, nature. As one enters the gates of many colleges the first building one sees is its chapel, vying with the hall for the place of pre-eminence.

That a chapel should be in so prominent a position is no act of chance, since religion, and more particularly Christianity, was at the heart of college and university life and education for over 600 years. When college founders endowed their academic communities with money and property with which to support their activities, they did so with the *quid pro quo* that, in return, those scholars would spiritually support their patrons and benefactors, both in life and in death, by their prayers.

When Corpus Christi College was founded by Richard Fox in 1517 it was for very specific purposes, including “the extirpation of heresy and errors, and the augmentation of orthodox faith”. Members of the foundation were to be male Christians in communion with the Roman church, and drawn from geographically defined parts of England, many of them associated with the life and career of the founder. Of the twenty fellows, upon completing their master’s degree nineteen were to study theology and eventually either be ordained to the priesthood or vacate the college. The twentieth was permitted to study medicine.

By 1540, almost half of the fellows, in addition to the President, were ordained. Even the junior members of the foundation, who might be admitted as young as twelve years of age, were required to attend chapel daily. They were also required to have taken the tonsure. That is, have the crown of the head shaved as an outward expression of a religious vocation. Notwithstanding Corpus Christi’s reputation as a humanist college, as the first college to have been established with classical Greek as part of the core curriculum, the primary purpose of the College was the training of clergy for the service of church and state, and praying for the founder and the College’s other patrons and benefactors.

Following the Reformation of the mid-sixteenth century, members of the University were required to conform to the teachings of the Church of England and from 1581 onwards had to swear an oath accepting the English prayer book, the 39 articles of faith, and the supremacy of the monarch over the English Church. These came to be known as ‘Religious Tests’. Notwithstanding various attempts in the later eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to broaden admissions to the university, to reflect the changing social and religious composition of English society, the make-up of both University and College remained essentially the same until the later nineteenth century.



BOTTOM LEFT: Three tonsured clerks, from a fifteenth-century book of psalms. Corpus Christi College MS 18, f.78v.

RIGHT: Corpus Christi College, 1946. The College included students from the USA, China, Sri Lanka, South Africa and elsewhere.



By the 1850s, the spirit of reform was already active in Corpus. John Matthias Wilson, elected Fellow in 1841, was the leader of the reformers both within the College and the University; following the passing of the Oxford University Act of 1854, he guided the drafting of new college Statutes approved the following year. One of these reforms was that nine of the 20 fellowships should now be held by laymen, although there was still a requirement that the President be in Anglican orders. By the late 1860s the movement for reform went further, and between 1868 and 1870 several attempts were made to remove the requirement of ordination for the remaining fellowships, although this aim was not fully realised until 1882. In 1868 Governing Body approved the abolition of compulsory attendance at Chapel, although the motion was amended to apply to weekdays only.

The Corpus of 1871 was therefore ready to accept the removal of religious tests, a readiness testified by the election of John Matthias Wilson as President the following year. The first student elected to a Scholarship known for certain to come from a non-conforming background was William Peterson, a Congregationalist educated at the Royal High School, Edinburgh, admitted in 1876. George Behrens, the College’s earliest identified Jewish student, was admitted in 1883. The German-born Felix Cassel who, under the old Statutes would have been disqualified on grounds of both religion and nationality, was admitted to a Scholarship in 1888. Stuart Stephenson and Arthur Rigg, both sons of Methodist ministers, were admitted in 1885 and 1889 respectively. A Roman Catholic, Arthur Joseph Walton from Stonyhurst College, was admitted in 1893, in defiance of an inhibition imposed by the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England on Catholic students attending Oxford.

It was during the presidency of the College’s first lay Head, Thomas Case (President 1904-24), that it admitted its first students from the Indian sub-continent: from Sri Lanka (1914), Madras (1920 and 1921) and Sindh (1923). Further students from India, including from what are now parts of Pakistan, and students from China, were admitted in the succeeding decades. The admission of women as graduate students at Corpus Christi was to wait until 1974, and as undergraduates until 1979. From the narrow membership prescribed by the founder’s Statutes, the half century following the Universities Tests Act of 1871, however, saw an opening-up of the membership of the College in terms of race, religion and culture. The diversity and inclusivity made possible by the removal of religious tests in 1871 remain at the heart of the Corpus community.

The Dial

NEW FUNDING FOR GRADUATES

With profound thanks to the generosity of John Dubuque and Baron Lorne Thyssen, two new graduate scholarships in the humanities are now in place for the next academic year. Their support is especially welcome as fundraising for graduate scholarships is one of our greatest needs.

The Dubuque Graduate Scholarship in Philosophy will support a student studying for a DPhil in Philosophy, which focusses on existential phenomenology or Post-Kantian European philosophy. Corpus has a long tradition in the study of Philosophy and is the only Oxford college to be associated with two established Chairs in the subject. The Sekyra and White's Chair of Moral Philosophy and the Wilde Professorship of Mental Philosophy are currently held by Professors Jeff McMahan and Mike Martin respectively. The College's two tutorial fellowships in Philosophy, currently held by Professors Mark Wrathall (Post Kantian) and Marion Durand (Ancient Philosophy), along with a Junior Research Fellowship, make Corpus a remarkably active centre of philosophical enquiry in Oxford.

The Lorne Thyssen Graduate Scholarship in Classics will support a student studying for a DPhil in Classics, including art and archaeology or antiquity and the reception of antiquity. Since its foundation Corpus has promoted the study of Latin and Greek and remains committed to exploring the classical world. The College was founded to teach its students Hebrew as well as Greek and Latin, making it a dynamic and unsurpassed centre of Classical and Scriptural study. This rich history of Classics tutelage and scholarship continues today.

➔ **Last academic year, approximately one in three Corpus graduates was entirely self-funded.**



We are enormously grateful for the continued support of so many of our alumni and friends. If you would like more information about our fundraising priorities or how to donate, please email beginia.cox@ccc.ox.ac.uk.

Fundraising



ANDREW GLYN'S LEGACY LIVES ON

We are delighted to report that we have recently reached our £1m target to endow the Andrew Glyn Fellowship in Economics. This initiative celebrates the legacy and spirit of a fondly-remembered Fellow and secures the future for tutorial teaching in Economics at Corpus. Thank you to all our generous Old Members who have donated to this Fellowship, and have thereby ensured that both the teaching of Economics and Andrew's memory will live on in the College for many years to come.

Andrew was appointed to a Fellowship in Economics at Corpus in 1969; he was an inspirational tutor and his death in 2007 was a cause of much sorrow to colleagues and students. He always had time for his students, well beyond his academic responsibilities, and alongside his devoted commitment to economics as a field of applied study this made him an inspirational tutor. It is clear from talking to many of Andrew's former students that he had a lasting impact on the life of his pupils.

The current Andrew Glyn Fellow is Dr James Duffy, who joined Corpus in 2016 following two years in Oxford as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Nuffield College. Dr Duffy received a PhD in Economics from Yale University in 2014. His research is in econometrics, that subfield of economics concerned with the statistical methods used to impose empirical discipline on economic models. He is particularly interested in the development of better inferential procedures for time series data that exhibit either non-linearities or a high degree of persistence, such as commonly arises in empirical macroeconomics and finance. His research is further described opposite.

A Fellowship Endowment Celebration is being planned for May. More details to follow.

Profile

Dr James Duffy
Andrew Glyn Fellow and Tutor in Economics

Dr James Duffy joined Corpus in 2016. His research is in econometrics, that subfield of economics concerned with the statistical methods used to impose empirical discipline on economic models.

Economics is routinely criticised in popular discourse for its recourse to simplistic models grounded in unreasonable assumptions. But the inherent complexity of the phenomena studied – the myriad of individual decisions that must somehow resolve themselves into the coherent behaviour of aggregate production and consumption, wages, interest rates, and prices – necessitates the use of models that deliberately abstract from that complexity, so as to focus attention on the main causal relationships that underpin the working of a market economy.

Economics has successfully developed a suite of models that describe a wide range of phenomena: at the microeconomic level, individuals' decisions about education, labour supply, consumption and savings; firms' decisions about hiring and investment; and at a macroeconomic level, on the impact of monetary and fiscal policy on inflation, employment and output; on the determination of asset prices; and on patterns of international trade. But these models are all purely theoretical: and so while they may describe *qualitatively* how the economy works, they do not produce definite, *quantitative* predictions.

This is where econometrics, a discipline that sits at the intersection of economics, mathematical statistics and data science, comes in. Econometrics is concerned with statistical procedures that use data to estimate the parameters of economic models – parameters that for instance regulate how individual labour supply decisions respond to wages, or the manner in which interest rates affect investment and saving decisions. These are parameters whose values we have no a priori knowledge of and which are not implied by any deep empirical regularities inferred from experiments, but which we can learn about from economic data. Econometrics exists as a field in its own right, rather than merely occupying a small corner of statistics, because many of the problems faced by applied economists are special to the field, or at least to the social sciences: most notably, the necessarily heavy reliance on observational, as



opposed to experimental, data, which makes the problem of disentangling causation from mere correlation particularly challenging.

Dr Duffy, who has been the Fellow and Tutor in Economics at Corpus since 2016, is the first econometrician to hold that post, though his predecessor, Andrew Glyn (in memory of whom the Fellowship is named), was an active user of statistical and econometric methods. He received a PhD in Economics from Yale University in 2014, where he worked under the supervision of Professor Peter Phillips, the founding editor of *Econometric Theory* and one of the leading econometricians of the age. The study of econometrics has a long and venerable tradition at Oxford, having been guided for more than forty years by Professor Sir David Hendry, who currently heads the Climate Econometrics group at Nuffield College. With ten permanent faculty currently working in this area, alongside several postdocs, Oxford has arguably the world's largest cluster of expertise in this area. It is a group that Dr Duffy was understandably keen to join when he first arrived in Oxford in 2014, as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Nuffield.

Dr Duffy's own work is particularly concerned with the development of better econometric procedures for

➔ **Andrew Glyn** was the epitome of somebody who cared for his students and their well-being. I count myself incredibly lucky to carry his name in my title.

macroeconomic and financial models that are estimated on time series data that exhibit either non-linearities or a high degree of persistence. Empirical macroeconomic modelling is an especially challenging branch of econometrics, owing to the fact that we observe only a single history of the economy under analysis. That is, while we observe, for example, how inflation and output evolves in the months following a policy decision by the Bank of England, we do not observe any counterfactual histories of what would have happened had the Bank made a different decision.

His current focus is on developing econometric models that properly account for the zero lower bound constraint on interest rates, which has important consequences for models that are used to gauge the likely impact of monetary and fiscal policy. This work is joint with his colleague Sophocles Mavroeidis and one of Corpus's recent outstanding PPE graduates, Sam Wycherley.

At Corpus, he currently provides tutorials in Prelims Probability and Statistics and Quantitative Economics. He also convenes and delivers the lectures for Quantitative Economics, and in recent years has lectured to graduate students on a range of advanced topics in econometric theory.

Listing

➔ **Did you know that we regularly send out College news and invitations to events by email?** Please email development@ccc.ox.ac.uk if your contact details have changed and you would like to keep in touch. More information about the Development Office can be found on the College website www.ccc.ox.ac.uk/alumni.

Corpus Christi College

Alumni events 2022

For more information on all these events please go to: www.ccc.ox.ac.uk/alumni/events-and-reunions

March 2022

Friday 25 March

Gaudy for 1986-1990

A very special night is assured. Invitations will be emailed out shortly.

April 2022

Saturday 2 April

Varsity Rugby Match

Come and support Oxford's men and women at Twickenham. More information to follow.

Friday 22 April

Frederick Pollock Law Society Dinner

Please contact the Development Office for further details.

Wednesday 6 – Friday 8 April Meeting Minds Global

The University's week-long virtual event series. More information to follow.

May 2022

Date TBC

Andrew Glyn Fellowship Endowment Celebration

Thursday 19 May

Virtual Legacy Luncheon

Gathering for friends and members of the Frost Society.

Saturday 28 May

Eights Week Lunch

More details of the annual riverside celebrations to follow. Booking to open in March.

June 2022

Saturday 25 June

Gaudy for 2000-2003

A midsummer night's dream. Invitations will be sent out in March.

Music

A musical gift

A sign that music is thriving at Corpus came with the acceptance of a generous donation from Merton College alumnus Glynne Stackhouse (holder of the first Music Postmastership at Merton, 1960-63) of a valuable edition of the complete organ works of JS Bach, to be used by the College's organ scholars. These works form the foundation of an organist's repertoire, and at any given time an organ student will be learning something of Bach. The works are possible to find on the internet, but there is no substitute for the actual sheet music, especially in such a fine and reliable edition. These editions are quite expensive, and many students can't afford them. Thanks to Glynne's generosity, we now have all of Bach's organ works in the chapel next to the organ, where they will be consulted several times a week by organ scholars present and future. Many generations of future organ scholars – and their teachers – will be grateful.



JOHN CARPIS

Linocuts

These three linocuts, together with the image on the front cover, complete the set of four available for sale on the College's website www.ccc.ox.ac.uk/alumni/merchandise.



Legacy

Leaving a gift in your will

Through the centuries, legacies and bequests have played a vital part in Corpus' success. Legacies have enabled us to endow Fellowships, establish bursaries and scholarships, renovate buildings and create new teaching spaces.

Your support makes a real difference. Whether large or small, every gift is valued and appreciated. And if you leave a legacy, you are entitled to join the Frost Society. For more details please contact Begina Cox at beginacox@ccc.ox.ac.uk.