<table>
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<td>Commemoration of Benefactors Lecture, Service &amp; Feast</td>
<td>Sunday 19 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Christmas Carol Service (6pm)</td>
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<td>Choir singing Carols in City Hall, Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Choir singing Carols at Victoria Concert Hall, Singapore</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 December</td>
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<td>Lent Full Term begins</td>
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<td>Development Campaign Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Lent Full Term ends</td>
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<td>Master and Master Elect visit to Australia and New Zealand</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 – Saturday 14 April</td>
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<td>Telephone Campaign begins</td>
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<td>Easter Full Term begins</td>
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<td>Stephen Hawking Circle Dinner</td>
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<td>Caius Club May Bumps Event</td>
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<td>Caius Choir UK concert tour</td>
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<td>Alumni Weekend</td>
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<td>Annual Gathering (up to &amp; including 1966)</td>
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<td>Development Campaign Board Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday 25 September</td>
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<td>Michaelmas Full Term begins</td>
<td>Tuesday 2 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commemoration of Benefactors Lecture, Service &amp; Feast</td>
<td>Sunday 18 November</td>
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**Events and Reunions for 2017/18**

*Once a Caian*

Our First Woman Master-Elect
A New Boathouse for CBC
A fourteenth Nobel Prize for Caius
Speeding up McLaren & Rolls-Royce

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From the Master

This is really the ‘women’s issue’ of Once a Caiian... because for the first time we have more stories about women Caians than men. The good news is that, for the first time in 670 years, from October 2018, we will have a woman Master. The best news is that the Master-elect is Dr Pippa Rogerson (1986).

As Pippa herself told The Daily Telegraph, ‘it shouldn’t be a big deal – but it obviously is!’ For myself, I can now rest easy in the knowledge that Pippa will be a wonderful custodian of Caius and will, I am sure, take the College to new heights of excellence in education and research.

There are other reasons for celebration – the Nobel Prize in Physics won by Professor Michael Kosterlitz (1962), the third Gas Turbine Award won by Professor Rob Miller (2001) for his work in developing the jet engines of the future for Rolls-Royce, and the opening of our splendid new Boathouse – but we have also suffered many sad losses this year – Sir Douglas Myers (1958), one of our greatest benefactors, (see Once a Caiian... Issue 15, pages 14-15) Sally Yates, executrix of the estate of Lord Peter Bauer (1964), and a number of Caians who have left extraordinarily generous bequests, Professor Patricia Crone (1990), Derek Ingram (1974), John Chumrow (1948), another Nobel Prize winner, Professor Roger Tsien (1977), Jonathan Horsfall-Turner (1964) and several more. Their gifts will add enormously to the College’s options in the future.

We have commissioned a small team of experts to take a close, analytical look at our future. They asked students, staff, Fellows and friends of the College to outline their vision for our 700th year and they have produced a thought-provoking report, Caius2048, which will be considered by the General Meeting of Fellows in October.

At a time when governments all over the world seem to be more concerned with their own survival than the future of the planet, it’s surely appropriate for responsible academic institutions like ours to seek to fill the gap with a little intelligent planning and forecasting of our own.

The bottom line, as they call it, is refreshingly positive. In addition to the significant bequests already mentioned, Dr David Secher (1974) and his team in the Bursary and James Howell (2009) and his team in the Development Office have been doing a magnificent job in building an Endowment to future-proof the College.

I shall enjoy my final year as Master of Caius in the knowledge that our College is in good heart and rising above the financial challenges we faced in the early years of this century. For that, we are enormously grateful to you, our loyal Caian supporters. Once a Caiian... is a small token of our appreciation.

Alan Fersht
Professor Sir Alan Fersht FRS (1962)
Master

“Your gift to Caius also counts towards the Dear World... Yours, Cambridge Campaign”
Once a Caian...
On Sunday 20 November 2016, the day of the College’s Service and Feast for the Commemoration of Benefactors, the Hon. Dr John Lehman (1965) officially opened the new College Boathouse.

John has always enjoyed the peculiar logic of his career trajectory from Captain of Boats at Caius 1966–67 to Secretary of the US Navy 1981–87 and he was pleased to find it recorded for posterity on a beautifully carved stone plaque on the wall.

The new Boathouse maintains aspects of the façade and exterior style of the Victorian structure of 1879 – but the interior has been designed to suit the twenty-first century needs of a club that has consistently set new standards of excellence in College rowing. Eighteen Headships in the May Bumps in the past thirty years is a record that will be hard to match. CBC’s benefactors, who raised all of the £4.5 million required, can be very proud of their own achievement.

Many were there on the day, including our tireless President, Martin Wade (1962) and all three of the Senior Treasurers who have led CBC to the Headships of the modern era: Professor Simon Maddrell (1964), Revd Dr Jack McDonald (1965) and Dr Jimmy Altham (1965). Caius was also Head of the River in the May Bumps of 1840, 1841 and 1844, but the Senior Treasurers of those years were unaccountably absent. We draw a discreet veil over the years of 1840, 1841 and 1844, but the Senior Treasurers of those years were unaccountably absent. We draw a discreet veil over the years of 1840, 1841 and 1844, but the Senior Treasurers of those years were unaccountably absent.

In front of the benefactors’ plaque, Jimmy, Martin, Peter English (1975), John, Alice Cheng (2013), Bill Packer (1949), Mavis Gray, widow of Peter Gray (1956), Andrew Pock (1967), Ivor Samuels (1954), Nigel Blanshard (1976) and Anne Lyon (2001) said, ‘this new Boathouse is Jimmy Altham’s legacy to the College he’s loved and served with such energy and enthusiasm, in so many different ways, for more than fifty years.’

As well as state-of-the-art facilities for Caius oarsmen and oarswomen, the Appeal funded the renovation of six self-contained flats for graduate students next door at 28 Ferry Path, now named ‘Alice Cheng House’ in recognition of the exceptional generosity of its leading supporter. Alice Cheng (2013) herself was the guest of honour at the official opening by the Master of the building herself. After the event, Anne Lyon mused on the diverse personalities of Martin, John, Jack, Jimmy and others, who each brought something unique to the campaign and united to achieve a common goal, just as a rowing eight finds its rhythm and harnesses the strengths of all its members.

‘To the huge credit of Caius Boaters’, when it came to raising the funds required, they dug deep and covered all of the costs out of their own pockets or purses. Martin Wade joked that he and Anne Lyon (2001), then Director of Development, used a ‘pincer movement’, sitting on either side of a prospective donor until the required cheque was signed. Anne and John Lehman carried out similar manoeuvres with American donors in New York City. It’s safe to say that every one of them is now pleased and proud to have played their part in realising what Jimmy Altham called ‘the Head Boathouse on the Cam’.

The names of eighteen major benefactors to the new Boathouse are recorded for posterity on an engraved stone plaque, mounted on the building. The old Victorian boathouse served the College well for 135 years to come. After the event, Anne Lyon mused on the huge credit of Caius Boaters, when it came to raising the funds required, they dug deep and covered all of the costs out of their own pockets or purses. Martin Wade joked that he and Anne Lyon (2001), then Director of Development, used a ‘pincer movement’, sitting on either side of a prospective donor until the required cheque was signed. Anne and John Lehman carried out similar manoeuvres with American donors in New York City. It’s safe to say that every one of them is now pleased and proud to have played their part in realising what Jimmy Altham called ‘the Head Boathouse on the Cam’.

After the event, Anne Lyon mused on the diverse personalities of Martin, John, Jack, Jimmy and others, who each brought something unique to the campaign and united to achieve a common goal, just as a rowing eight finds its rhythm and harnesses the strengths of all its members. “Above all” she said, “this new Boathouse is Jimmy Altham’s legacy to the College he’s loved and served with such energy and enthusiasm, in so many different ways, for more than fifty years.”

We wish them well.
It’s not Rocket Science or is it?

by Mick Le Moignan (2004)

It’s helpful to identify your field of study as early as possible. Fortunately for Professor Rob Miller (2001), Roger Ainsworth, an Oxford Teacher of Engineering, spotted his aptitude after he wrote to him as a sixth form student. Roger invited Rob to visit him at St Catherine’s College, took him for a stroll in the College gardens and told him about his research on jet engines. As a result, Rob’s career has flown higher and faster than he ever imagined.

His parents were teachers with an Arts background. From Shavington Comprehensive he went to South Cheshire Further Education College to do his “A” levels. All sorts of vocational courses were on offer from bricklaying to beauty therapy! But Rob chose Further Maths and Physics and had ‘great teachers’. He wrote to Professor Ainsworth, who invited him to Oxford and took him for that ultimately life-changing walk around the College gardens.

The young Rob had no special interest in jet engines and wasn’t sure what he was going to do, but he enjoyed the drinks parties students had with their supervisors, where he often heard Ainsworth enthusing about his research. At an Engineers’ dinner in Rob’s third year, the Professor said “Would you like to come and work for me for the summer?”

I’ve got an exciting project with Rolls-Royce.”

So I spent that summer in the lab and we developed some new instrumentation for Rolls-Royce; and I sort of got hooked. I remember cycling back to College, thinking about problems that no-one had ever solved before! Undergraduate life is fun, but getting to grips with these real problems was strangely addictive. For a 20-year-old from a comprehensive in Crewe, that’s quite a heady position to be in.

At the end of the summer, Ainsworth invited him to do a PhD sponsored by Rolls-Royce. Rob’s research has been partly funded by that company ever since. I was slowly aware that the transition only occurred because he was living and working in the collegiate world;

“Roger Ainsworth is now Master of St Catherine’s, Oxford. He’s spent his life at the very highest level of science, but then he’s also a very college-based person – I think if I’d gone to any other university, other than Oxford or Cambridge, I wouldn’t have had that opportunity. That allowed me, as an 18- or even 17-year-old, going up to meet him, to interact with an exceptional human being. I don’t think other universities offer that sort of connection at such a very young age.

And he taught me fluid dynamics and thermo-dynamics once a week throughout my first two years in College. He’d always bring in jet-engine analogies and bring to life why we were studying what we were studying. It’s a very human connection: without him, I wouldn’t be here.

Thermodynamics and fluid dynamics, Rob explains, are the subjects that underpin jet engines. Fluid dynamics is the study of the flow of gases or liquids, involving anything from the way liquids flow through a pipe to air flows over Formula One cars. Thermodynamics involves changing the temperature or pressure of a fluid sufficiently enough to change its energy, such as boiling water in a kettle.

Historically, Cambridge has played an important part in the development of both fields. For instance, Peterhouse, developed the jet engine as Cambridge’s Chair in Aerothermal Technology. Rob is also Director of the Rolls-Royce Whittle Lab University Technical Centre, which is the world-leading research laboratory on turbomachinery. All his research is about transferring energy into or out of flows using rotating blade-rows. In the fan at the front of a jet engine, for example, energy is transferred from the rotating shaft of the engine into the air, raising its pressure and then using this to propel the aircraft, whereas in a tidal turbine, energy is extracted from the water flow, converting it into shaft power and ultimately electricity.

Rob and his team work closely with Rolls-Royce on jet engines, with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries on power stations, Siemens UK on domestic products such as vacuum cleaners, and Dyson on the turbomachinery in domestic products such as vacuum cleaners. He is passionate about the practical applications of this work, holding eleven patents jointly with industry.

The aim of Rob’s research is to reduce the fuel burned and greenhouse gases emitted by jet engines and power other devices. One of his recent research successes has been to develop a number of technologies to improve the three-dimensional shape of the blade. This understanding was then used to design a new style of three-dimensional blade shape with improved performance.'

Rob and his team’s success can be measured not only in terms of the successful industrial application of technologies but also in terms of academic prizes won. His publications have been awarded the Institution of Mechanical Engineers Thomas Hawksley Gold Medal 2010, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Air Breathing Propulsion Best Paper Award 2008, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Turbomachinery and Heat Transfer Committee Best Paper Award, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Most impressively, the publications of Rob and his co-authors have received the most prestigious international award in the field, the Gas Turbine Award, in 2010, 2014 and 2015. This award has been made annually since 1963 by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in recognition of the most outstanding publication on the subject of land-based gas turbines or jet engine propulsion, published anywhere in the world. Rob is one of only three people who have won the award more than twice. The Master, Professor Sir Alan Fersht (1962) has observed that such US awards are often far less likely to be awarded to non-Americans.

At the risk of embarrassing him, it has to be said that Rob is universally liked and admired. His personal style is open, friendly, modest and self-deprecating; he behaves in exactly the same way with first year students as with leaders in academia or industry.

Like his mentor, Professor Ainsworth, Rob’s supreme loyalty is reserved for the College. Holder of the 1969 College Lectureship, endowed by Caians who matriculated in that year, he still supervises first and second year students in fluid dynamics and thermodynamics. He has served on the College Council (twice), on the Health & Safety and Finance Committees, as an Examiner of Accounts and is currently Chair of the Dining Committee, fired by a determination ‘to ensure that dining remains a central part of Caian culture for the next 20 years’ for all areas – students, staff, Fellows, alumni and guests at conferences and events. Failure is not an option: it’s probably not even a word in Rob’s vocabulary.
Once a Caian...

Professor Michael Kosterlitz (1962) at the presentation of his Nobel Prize in Physics, accompanied by Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, heir apparent to the Swedish throne.

The Senate House Leap completed by Michael Kosterlitz is from the ledge above the gargoyles in Caius to the ledge running around the Senate House.

“Five weeks before Finals, I didn’t know what the syllabus was. The exams were a nightmare: the only questions I could attempt were the few I understood. I got an Upper Second, but it wasn’t good enough to get me into the research group I wanted.” He took Maths Part III to get his career back on track. He passed, but not well enough.

About the same time, Michael fell ill and realised his climbing career was over. The initial diagnosis was either a brain tumour or multiple sclerosis. Fortunately, it was the latter and turned out to be slow to develop and treatable. Michael was deeply depressed at first, but “with Berit’s encouragement. I found I could move around and travel and enjoy myself. I can’t emphasise enough how important Berit was. Without her, I would have been a crippled invalid.”

In 1981, he was offered a resident Professorship at Birmingham with funding for a new research centre – or a position at Brown University. Margaret Thatcher’s government withdrew the funding for Michael’s project and he accepted the American offer: “I thought, I’ll show you – and I left!” He and Berit have lived there happily ever since.

He still has a Physics problem he’s working on and hasn’t solved yet: “I know what happens experimentally, but I can’t explain why it happens.” It might not take much to find the answer: just one more intuitive leap of faith...

They received little recognition for several years, then in the late 70s, an experiment was done that proved their theory to be correct. They won the Maxwell Medal of the Institute of Physics in 1981 and for the rest of that decade, “the number of citations our papers got just exploded.”

About the same time, he discovered rock climbing. So he accepted an invitation to do post-doctoral research at Birmingham University. He says: “It was the last place I wanted to go because it was a large, flat, industrial city with no mountains in sight!” Nevertheless, he and Berit moved from the Italian Alps to Birmingham and it was there, aged 30, that he did the work that won him and two colleagues the 2016 Nobel Prize in Physics, 43 years later.

Michael had science in the blood. His father, Hans, “wasn’t much to look at, but he was a pretty amazing guy.” A physiologist and father, Hans wasn’t much to look at, but he was a pretty amazing guy. A physiologist and a self-taught neuropharmacologist, Hans left Hitler’s Germany with Michael’s mother in 1934, joined Aberdeen University and stayed there till his retirement. He tried to work out what morphine does and reasoned that there must be something already in the brain which performs the same function. This led to the discovery of enkephalins and endorphins, for which he won major awards in 1977 and 1978. Aberdeen’s Kosterlitz Centre was named after him in 2010.

His father’s research had quite an impact on Michael. Visiting his lab, aged ten, he found a dead cat in a wastepaper basket, with its brain exposed. Michael chose Physics. He found his father surprisingly supportive, “because he wanted to do Physics himself, but his father would only pay for him to study Medicine.” Hans sent Michael to Edinburgh Academy so he could take English ‘A’ levels. He sat the Cambridge Entrance Exams and won a Scholarship.

‘Caius was an eye-opener. I had complete freedom! Nobody kept track of whether I went to my classes or not, and it was often quite difficult to get up at nine after a night drinking beer, so I got up later and later.’ About this time, he discovered rock climbing and he found he was quite good at it. ‘It became an obsession and I climbed as much as I could.’ He spent every weekend in Derbyshire, the Lake District or North Wales and summers in the French Alps. The Master, Professor Sir Alan Ferstel (1962) was an exact contemporary and delighted 500 guests at the May Week Party with a story about Michael trying to climb around his College room, hanging on to the picture rail and not touching the ground.

Michael had heard about the famous ‘Night Climbers of Cambridge’ but didn’t join them, because he thought it was too dangerous – not because he feared falling, but because of the risk of getting caught. A friend had been spotted on the roof of King’s College Chapel, and had to run for it and hide in a freezing ditch on the Backs. It reminded Michael of wintry walks home in a kilt ‘in the land of horizontal rain’.

One climbing challenge he couldn’t resist was the famous ‘Senate House Leap’. His friend, Glyn Hughes (1960) had a room overlooking Senate House Passage, at the narrowest point. They treated it like rock climbing, with a proper safety rope, but it was still quite scary: ‘I knew it had been done before and I could see it wasn’t a difficult jump, but a fall might be fatal. So I made sure there was enough slack in the rope and jumped – but I jumped so far and I left! He and Berit have lived there happily ever since.

For any modern day Caians thinking of emulating the feat, we would like to emphasise that (1) Michael was an expert climber and used proper safety ropes, (2) detection would result in being sent down and (3) a fall would almost certainly be fatal.

Professor Sir Alan Ferstel (1962) was an exact contemporary and delighted 500 guests at the May Week Party with a story about Michael trying to climb around his College...
Most of the truly transformative gifts received by the College through our long history have been bequests. Naturally, they tend to be larger amounts, strategically designed to have a lasting effect. The donors have usually made a carefully considered decision to devote their worldly goods to a totally altruistic purpose when they no longer need them.

Over the centuries, the College has had several significant bequests from women. Curiously, for an institution that excluded women for the first 631 years of its existence, Caius has been remarkably fortunate in the generosity of its female benefactors. Around 1950, Dame Anne Scroop, the last surviving member of the Gonville family, left the College eight acres in West Cambridge. It would take half a millennium for the true value of this bequest to become clear. In 2000, the Fellowship agreed to lease a part of the land to the Law Faculty, in order to secure the magnificent Cockerell Building just across Senate House Passage as our College Library. Six years later, the Stephen Hawking Building was opened on the West Road site.

Towards the end of the sixteenth century, Dr Caius’ friend and patient, Joan Traps, and her daughter, Joyce Frankland left very substantial legacies to the College. The latter had lost her only son in a riding accident and took comfort from the thought that her gifts to Caius would give her ‘sons in perpetuity’. The names of both women are still recalled in the litany of thanks at annual events of the College. The true value of these gifts became apparent in 2000 when the new Cockerell Building was opened across the road from our Senate House Passage. Six years later, the Stephen Hawking Building was opened on the West Road site.

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The portrait of Joyce Frankland which hangs beside that of Dr Caius above High Table.
John Chumrow (1948) won an Entrance Exhibition to Caius to come up to read French and German in our 600th year. He excelled as a sprinter and an opening batsman, becoming Secretary of the College’s Athletics Club in his second year and Captain of Cricket in his third year. He took a Certificate of Education in 1952. On leaving Caius, John auditioned as a singer at Covent Garden. He was offered a place but was warned that he would probably not get the top parts. So he accepted a position with the specialist paper manufacturers, Wiggins, Teape & Co. He became a Director in 1965 and continued as Group Executive Director, Research & Development, until 1982. Music was always important to him and he joined the Philharmonia Chorus in the 1960s and served on its Council for many years, as Chairman from 1981 to 1994. He became Chairman of Waltham Forest Housing Action Trust in 1991 and was awarded an OBE in June 1999 for services to the regeneration of Waltham Forest.

It was his honour that led him to contact the College in January 2002. It had been incorrectly recorded that he had been awarded a CBE in 2001, so he asked for his record to be amended, adding modestly: ‘I do not wish a correction to be made the College to benefit by a further £7’. She also wished his wife a speedy recovery and sent him, under separate cover, the Caius Legacy Brochure.

Now that he was a donor, John was invited to the May Week Party in 2004. He wrote to Anne, saying he felt he was on the guest list under false pretences, having simply allowed the College to keep his contribution towards the costs of the dinner and concluded: ‘I am glad therefore to redress the balance by sending my first, and certainly not my last, proper contribution. This will be supported by a legacy in my will on which I hope to write to you further in the coming months.’

Anne wrote to John to thank him most warmly for his generous gift total, explaining that, since he had kindly completed the Gift Aid form in 2003, the College would automatically be able to claim an additional £64 of basic rate tax that he had paid. She invited him to join her for coffee or tea at the Oxford & Cambridge Club in Pall Mall to discuss his plans to include a legacy to Caius in his will.

No meeting took place but John clearly enjoyed the May Week Party, since he attended again in 2005 and told Anne that he had arranged to leave a legacy of £50,000 to Caius. She wrote to thank him and informed him that, since he was now a member of the Edmund Gonville Society for intending legators, he would be invited to the May Week Party every year. John replied that ‘under the convincing influence of the Master’, Neil McKendrick (1958), he had decided to increase his legacy to £75,000.

Anne sent thanks again and invited John to the Farewell Dinner for Neil in September 2005. The long-awaited meeting at the Oxford & Cambridge Club took place in March 2006. John told Anne that he and Margaret had no children but ‘don’t regard it as a tragedy as it has enabled them to do other things in their life’. He said that Margaret tired easily, having had surgery a couple of years earlier, and so might not have the energy to come to Cambridge for the May Week Party or the Feast for the Commemoration of Benefactors, but he said she was very pleased that he was supporting Caius. He explained that, for the next couple of years, the main part of his charitable donations were committed to the refurbishment of the Music School at his old school. After the meeting he did, however, write to say that he was increasing his legacy to Caius to £100,000.

Over the following two years, John received a number of communications from Caius, which he courteously acknowledged. He liked the Christmas cards from the College and wrote to Anne to say how much Margaret appreciated being included in all the Christmas card invitations. He informed Anne that it was Margaret who had first encouraged him to give to Caius, as a way of supporting excellence. He enjoyed the photographic book, A Portrait of Gonville & Caius College, and sent his congratulations. Knowing his interest in music, Anne spoke to him about the possibility of supporting the Caius Choir: and when he read the College’s appeal brochure, Transforming Tomorrow, he decided to fund a named Choral Scholarship. True to his word, once his commitment to his old school was completed in June 2008, he wrote to confirm his intention to donate £50,000 + Gift Aid to set up the John Chumrow Choral Scholarship. Anne wrote back to tell him that this gift had qualified him for membership of the Stephen Hawking Circle, an honour which he accepted with pleasure. Regrettably, when he attended the celebratory dinner in College with Professor Hawking, Margaret was still not well enough to attend, but he enjoyed the occasion and was pleased to take home a special copy of A Brief History of Time, ‘signed’ with Stephen’s thumb-print, duly authenticated. Anne also sent him some photographs of himself with Stephen, taken by Professor Yoo Liang (1963) as a further memento. John had what he called a ‘fascinating struggle’ to understand the nature of the cosmos and the relationship between space and time, as outlined in the book. After the Dinner, he walked past Samuel Pepys’ alma mater, Magdalene College, and recalled that the Cromwellians had once proposed to abolish the universities of both Cambridge and Oxford. He told Anne that he took this as: ‘a reminder that we alumni must continue our vital work — which I shall practice with great pleasure under your guidance.’

In September 2012, he wrote a sad note to say that his beloved wife, Margaret, had passed away at the end of August and asked that her name should therefore not be included in any future invitations.

At the Feast in November, he enjoyed meeting the second John Chumrow Choral Scholar, Nicholas Doig (2012), and hearing from Geoffrey Webber about the Caius Choir’s recent tours, which his fund had facilitated. He was disappointed not to get home and find he had lost his miniature OBE, which had become detached while he was in the Hall — but Jenny Naseeman of the Development Office located it and sent it back to him.

The picture conjured up by John’s letters is one of increasing involvement with the College, probably greater than at any time since his graduation — and it was clearly a source of great pleasure and pride to him.

This was not the end of John’s generosity to Caius: in 2014, he made another substantial donation, this time to pay for a Lay Clerk to sing with the Caius Choir and to provide other assistance with managing and promoting the Choir. The award was to be named the Margaret Chumrow Lay Clerkship, in memory of John’s wife.

Despite intermittent bouts of ill health, John was well enough to attend the Commemoration Feast in November 2014, where he had a conversation with Anne about becoming a Gonville Fellow Benefactor. She wrote to him later, to advise that a further £35,000 would bring his total lifetime donations to the required amount. Depending on his tax liability for that year, with Gift Aid, that could be achieved by further gifts amounting to £268,000. In reply, John promised to donate at least that amount and said he was delighted to do so.

What Caius gave me was even more precious: a lifetime desire to read and learn.’ By 2015, it became apparent that John was not fit enough to travel to Cambridge for the ceremony in Chapel and so plans were made for the Master, Anne Lyon and James Howell (2009) to visit John in Hampstead to confer the honour of Gonville Fellow Benefactor on him. Sadly, John passed away on 26 November 2015, before that could take place – but his bequest and lifetime gifts to Caius total almost £4 million and rank him as one of the most generous benefactors in the College’s history. And rank him as one of the most generous benefactors in the College’s history.
Caius has presented Professor Stephen Hawking (1965) with a specially commissioned piece of music, composed by a Caian and performed by the College Choir, to mark his 75th birthday. Stephen, a Fellow of Caius for 52 years, welcomed the gift, saying the piece, inspired partly by NASA space recordings, ‘captured the vastness of space’ and helped him to understand what makes the universe exist. The cosmologist, who celebrated his 75th birthday earlier this year, heard the world premiere of the ethereal choral work, ‘Beyond the Night Sky’, a celebratory dinner in Hall.

To mark the milestone birthday, Caius commissioned composer Cheryl Frances-Hoad (1998) to help her to understand the music of the universe. The cosmologist, who attended a specialist music school and never even took a science GCSE, threw herself into research, reading Stephen’s famous book, A Brief History of Time. In a short film telling the story of the commission, sung by our marvellous Choir, the College website.

The resulting four-minute composition, performed by the College Choir conducted by the Precentor, Dr Geoffrey Webber (1989), is an ethereal work full of evocative harmonies and textures, including whistling and ‘shh’ sounds inspired by listening to NASA’s recordings of space, that seeks to convey a musical sense of wonder in the face of a seemingly infinite universe. Scientific thought, both ancient and cutting-edge, influences the music, with harmonies altering, first as if affected by gravitational waves and then soloists singing ‘Everything’ in rapid-fire, at many different speeds. The work was inspired by Newton’s Theory of Corpuscular Light. In the last section, Cheryl also hid two (only slightly altered) quotes from Happy Birthday, sung to Stephen’s words as a nod to his famous sense of humour.

At the College premiere of the music, performed by the Choir during a dinner for students and Fellows, Stephen said the music ‘takes us all on a mental journey around the universe. I probably won’t need to take up my promised place on Richard Branson’s spaceship now’. The physicist concluded: ‘It puts into lyrical form one of my quotes, “Try to make sense of what you see, and wonder about what makes the universe exist.” Perhaps I can be forgiven for saying that tonight I am wondering no longer.’ In a short film telling the story of the birthday composition, Cheryl says receiving the commission was ‘an unbelievable honour’, which also sent her into a panic over her lack of advanced science education. She consulted Will Handley and read widely, finally moving away from scientific texts and coming upon the poem, Universe. ‘It talks about the farthest reaches of the mind and the last word is “Everything”.’ It just seemed so immediate and touching, and I hope it conveys something of a sense of the wonder of the universe.’

Geoffrey Webber said he and the choir had greatly enjoyed learning and performing the birthday tribute to Professor Hawking: ‘It was a surprise to find myself auditioning the choir members to find the best whistlers, but Cheryl’s clever use of non-singing sounds at the start and end of the piece is crucial in setting its atmosphere, reminding me of the magical sound-file of the Huygens Probe descending through the atmosphere of Titan a few years ago. ‘Cheryl’s music is always highly original and powerful, and in this piece she gives a wonderful chance for us all to contemplate the fundamental questions posed by Stephen in A Brief History of Time.

‘The circular refrain sung to the words “Sun, moon, stars” forms a perfect background to the questions sung by the trio of soloists, and it is brilliant that she manages to incorporate a fragment of Happy Birthday without disturbing the unique atmosphere of the composition.’

The Master, Professor Sir Alan Fersht (1962) said: ‘This beautiful piece of music, which almost gives a feeling of touching the stars, is a wonderful way for Caius to honour one of its longest-serving Fellows. Stephen’s ideas have given the whole world a sense of the wonders of the universe, and Cheryl’s composition, sung by our marvellous Choir, offers a soundtrack to accompany his theories.’ Beyond the Night Sky received its public première on Friday 26 May 2017 on BBC Radio 3’s In Tune programme, in which Cheryl was also interviewed about the commission.

Links to a short film about the creation of Beyond the Night Sky, and to the Caius Choir singing the composition, can be found on the College website.
Ownership of magnificent, irreplaceable, Listed Buildings can be a huge privilege but it is also a virtually endless drain on the College’s limited resources.

Perhaps the most alarming article we have ever published in Once a Caiian... came out ten years ago. In our sixth issue, at Michaelmas 2007, Professor Paul Binski (1975) wrote enticingly:

‘Standing in Caius Court and looking toward and beyond the Gate of Honour, we can see all the important European architectural styles – the Tudor Renaissance of Dr Caius’ gates, the Romantic Classicism of our Library, not to mention the Roman grandness of the Senate House and the ultimate Gothic splendour of King’s. This superlative vista shows how Cambridge’s buildings all hang together with very little formal planning.’

So far, so good, but Paul went on to explain that funds were urgently needed to carry out repairs to the College’s own architectural treasures, which had been put on hold, while, first, the Cockerell Library was extensively renovated to house six centuries of books and manuscripts. Next, the spaces vacated by the old College Library were re-equipped for new purposes and transformed into fine combination rooms. Then the Stephen Hawking Building was constructed on West Road. There was much to be proud of in the new facilities but still an alarming backlog of conservation work to be done on the older buildings.

With graphic illustrations, Paul drew attention to broken and decaying carvings, crumbling plaster and stonework damaged by rusting iron in the Gate of Virtue, rotting cornices in Caius Court, stonework lost and damaged in Alfred Waterhouse’s extrovert Tree Court’ and gargoyles ‘crumbling or actually tumbling down with near-lethal consequences’!

It later transpired that the overall picture was even bleaker than Paul could have known. The Waterhouse Building, both inside Tree Court and outside it, down Trinity Street and at the entrance to Senate House Passage. Irremovable photographic aspirations may have been thwarted, but a six-year programme of repairs and renovation is on the point of completion.

Waterhouse’s roofs are no longer liable to cave in during a rainstorm, flooding the precious paperwork and possessions of the occupants of the upper storeys; his stone stairways, corroated by the constant tread of students’ feet, are now level once more; his masonry, carvings and statuary have been lovingly restored to their original splendour; even his famous gargoyles have been re-carved, replaced and fixed more safely than before, with stainless steel stays instead of iron.

Of course, there is more restoration work to be done. The price of maintenance, it seems, is that some part of Caius will always be a building site, but for those who remember how bleak the prospect seemed in 2007, the completion (for the time being) of work on Tree Court is a real cause for celebration and congratulations.

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Once a Caian...

n our fundraising brochure, Caius to the Future, the Senior Bursar, Dr David Secher (1974) wrote of our aspiration to more than double the Endowment, increasing it to at least £150 million. It seems an ambitious target – but the purpose of the Endowment is to support our activities in education and research in perpetuity and to secure Caius against any future political or financial turbulence. This is more than an insurance policy: it is the lifeblood of the College.

In our solicitation letter to the Caius2048 Fundraising Committee and David Secher.

The property investment portfolio has been an important part of this success story. Having been at the helm of the College’s finances for the past five years, David believes it is time to develop an overall plan for the whole estate, both operational and endowment, to guide the College over the next thirty years or so.

Accordingly, in March 2016, Council set up a Steering Group to review the College’s likely needs, in terms of buildings, over the period leading up to our 700th anniversary, and commissioned Allies & Morrison, a firm of architects and planners, to coordinate and guide the process of consultation, under the umbrella title Caius2048. The resulting report will go to the General Meeting of Fellows for consideration in October 2017, so its recommendations are along the lines of what, in politics, would be called a Green Paper, a document that is by no means prescriptive, but intended to canvass opinion on a wide range of possibilities.

The Caius2048 report examines many options, which it condenses to four possible estate strategies. These range from maintaining the status quo to a radical redevelopement of the College’s substantial holdings in West Cambridge, where the University itself is currently expanding. That option would see all Caius students gathered from their present locations around Cambridge and congregated in two campuses, the Old Courts and ‘Caius West’. The properties no longer needed would be used to generate income to pay for the new facilities.

Caius2048 makes no recommendations, merely presenting alternatives and analysing costs and benefits. Its underlying philosophy is that it is wiser to plan ahead than to risk being caught unprepared for whatever changes the future may bring.

Fortune is said to favour the brave. Every time we walk from Tree Court into Caius Court, if we look up at the carvings on the Gate of Virtue, we will see Dr Caius’ message to us: the twin stone figures of Fortune carry, on the left, a palm and a laurel wreath, signifying worldly fame and reputation; and on the right, a purse and a cornucopia (or horn of plenty) symbolising financial success. Both are attested literally through Virtue, which bears the date 1567, making it 450 years old.

Our College has made many bold decisions that have paid off handsomely. Edmund Gonville could have been accused of reckless idealism for founding a house of religious education in 1348; it was a miracle that it survived. For William Bateman to keep Gonville Hall separate and not fuse it with his own Trinity Hall was a foolhardy gesture of loyalty to his old friend. John Caius spent all his vast fortune in the remote hope of perpetuating his idiosyncratic beliefs and ideas about the fundamental nature and value of education for the young. What an investment that has proved!

Subsequently, the Masters and Fellows who commissioned the Waterhouse Building, the Aston Webb and Murray Eaton Buildings, Harvey Court, the Cockerell Library and the Stephen Hawking Building all went out on a limb, investing College funds on recognised present and future needs and risking the censure of more conservative colleagues.

As ever, we need a balance between continuity and change. Caius2048 is intended to promote discussion among all sectors of the Caius community, Fellows, students, staff, alumni and friends of the College. Between us, we have considerable intellectual firepower to apply to the central question: what vision do we have for our College in the future?
Dr Harold Ackroyd (1896) VC, MC, MD is one of the most heroic figures in our long history. Remarkably, Harold won the Victoria Cross, not for taking lives, but for saving them. He was long thought to be the only Caians VC, but a perusal of the Biographical History (Vol. VI, p.118) by the College Archivist, James Cox, has revealed another:

In 1897, Brigadier-General Edmund Costello (1933) was a 23-year-old Lieutenant in the Indian Army when he won the VC for rescuing a wounded colleague under fire.

After the First World War, he was Commandant of the Cambridge University OTC (1923-30) and Director of Military Studies (1924-1933) and joined Caius when he retired.

A True Hero
by Christopher Ackroyd (1961)

Harold’s grandson, Christopher Ackroyd (1961), a consultant orthopaedic surgeon, has written this memoir of his grandfather to commemorate the centenary of his death in action on 11 August 1917.

At the start of the First World War, Britain had a professional army of 80,000, facing a German army of over 1,000,000 men. After initial reverses, Britain and France pushed the German forces back to eastern France and Belgium, to the stalemate that became the Western Front. The long, vicious war of attrition left several million men dead and countless more severely injured, both physically and mentally.

In 1916, after the Battle of the Somme failed to achieve a breakthrough, Allied High Command started planning a second major campaign, further north on the Ypres salient. On 31 July 1917, the third battle of Ypres began four months of slaughter, all for the sake of taking a few square miles of Belgian territory. It resulted in over 245,000 British and Commonwealth deaths and serious injuries in what became known as Passchendaele.

Harold Ackroyd was born on 18 July 1877 in Southport. He went to Shrewsbury School before coming up to Caius to read Medicine and qualified at Guy’s Hospital in 1904. After resident jobs at Guy’s, Birmingham General and Liverpool Northern Hospitals, we think he may have taken a post at the Strangeways Research Hospital in Cambridge, where he met his future wife, Mabel Smythe, who was the Matron. They married in 1908 and had three children.

That same year, Harold won a three-year BMA research scholarship and immersed himself in academic work, first in Professor WE Dixon’s laboratory in the Pharmacology Department, on the Downing Street site, and then in the Department of Agriculture’s newly-formed Institute for the Study of Animal Nutrition, where he collaborated on research with Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, the first Professor of Biochemistry. Harold published six papers on purine metabolism, the last in 1916 with Sir Frederick.

By early 1915, army recruitment had reached fever pitch. Harold was now 37, with no recent acute accident or medical experience, but he volunteered, joined the Royal Berkshire Regiment as Medical Officer and sailed for France in July. After numerous actions in 1915, it was at the Battle of Delville Wood, in July 1916, early in the Somme campaign, that Harold first showed conspicuous courage. This ‘stooping, grey-haired, bespectacled man’ treated over a thousand casualties, British, South African and German. He received eleven commendations for bravery and was awarded the Military Cross. Exhausted by continuous bombardment and probably injured, Harold was sent home in August on sick leave, but within two weeks he was demanding a return to the Regiment. The Medical Board insisted on him taking six weeks’ leave. In a letter to his brother Edward, Harold described them as ‘an awful lot of old fossils’.

He returned to the Regiment in December 1916 and they moved up to the town of Ypres to prepare for Passchendaele. In the action to secure Glencorse Wood, on 31 July and 1 August, Harold repeatedly rescued injured men in the front line on the Menin Road. At the end of the action, he received 23 separate commendations for bravery, which resulted in the award of the Victoria Cross. Sadly, ten days later, when Harold was attending to casualties in a shell hole in Jargon trench in no-man’s-land, he was shot in the head by a German sniper and died instantly.

By 1904. After resident jobs at Guy’s, he returned to the Regiment in 1913 and was appointed Medical Officer of the RAMC since 1956, but I took possession of them and put them on display in my consulting rooms in Bristol. By 2003 they had risen considerably in value and, after much debate within the family, we decided to sell them to an anonymous purchaser and donate the proceeds to Caius to fund a four-year Medical Scholarship and an annual Medical Lecture. So far, fourteen Harold Ackroyd Scholars have been elected, the most recent being Sahib Sarbjit Singh (2016). Thirteen lectures have been given by distinguished medical scientists, including six Nobel Prize winners.

In 2006 Lord Ashcroft revealed in his book, Victoria Cross Heroes, that Harold’s medals were part of the Ashcroft Trust collection and would be exhibited in a new gallery at the Imperial War Museum. In November 2010, the Princess Royal opened the Lord Ashcroft Gallery and graciously accepted a posy of lilies of the valley from Harold’s six-year-old great-great-granddaughter, Mia Pearlman.

Harold’s extraordinary story will be an inspiring legacy to the Caius medical students of the future.
Always a Caian

In September 2006, Patricia came to a very convivial Caius reception in New York City, at the Fifth Avenue apartment of Professor Peter Walker (1960) and his wife, Wuiliang. It was the first opportunity for US Caians to meet the new Master, Sir Christopher Hum (2009). Bright and vivacious, she charmed everyone she met at both events.

She said she was glad Caius was now so well in our sister publication. One thing he omitted to mention there is that he once wrote to invite her to consider standing for the Mastership. Her reply speaks volumes about her character:

Dear David, It touches me deeply that you think me so well in so many years of the study that she thought might be worth about £600,000. Patricia had an exceptionally strong life force and relentless energy. I didn’t expect to see her legacy pledge fulfilled for a very long time, if ever. But she was also an inveterate smoker. As Professor David Abulafia (1974) wrote, in a warmly affectionate obituary in the latest issue of The Caius (2014-15): “Perhaps... tobacco was in her blood, as her father Thomas was chief executive of the Scandinavian Tobacco Company.” It still seems terribly sad that the lung cancer it caused should have robbed her of so many years of the study that she found utterly fulfilling. I won’t attempt to summarise Patricia’s life and work here, as David has covered it so well in our sister publication. One thing he omitted to mention there is that he once wrote to invite her to consider standing for the Mastership. Her reply speaks volumes about her character:

Dear David, It touches me deeply that there are still people in the College who remember me and would like me back, and I still miss England in general and Cambridge in particular. But there is no way round the fact that I was not cut out to be the master-mistress of a college, all I really hanker for is non-stop research, it is getting worse with age, not better! So much as my heart leaps at the idea of going back to Caius, and to so prestigious a position too, I have to say, no, sorry, that position is not for me. But many thanks for asking, even that was a great honour. I hope you find somebody who can do the College proud. With all good wishes, Patricia

As it turned out, Patricia’s bequest to Caius has amounted to almost £3 million and her name is now carved in stone on the Benefactors’ Wall. She would give a very smile at that honour, but she would be absolutely delighted by the way the College Council has apportioned her bequest.

The will of Professor Stanley Cook (1891) dated 1947, set up a fund to support the S A Cook Bye-Fellowship in a wide range of studies, including the Bible, Ancient Eastern Languages and Literature, Comparative Religion, Philosophy, Law, Anthropology and Sociology. William Frend (1952) was the first S A Cook Bye-Fellow and Dr Carly Crouch will become the nineteenth in January 2018.

The first request of Patricia’s will was to bring the Cook Fund up to “an amount which, in the opinion of the College, will ensure that there is always a Cook Fellow receiving the Fund, without interruption.” Her second request “without imposing any obligation on the College” was to add to the potential range of subjects for study “The History and Social Anthropology of Asian Especially Near and Middle Eastern Societies Before the Advent of Industry.” She devised any balance to the Master and Fellows for ‘general use and purposes’.

Council approved increasing the Cook Fund to enable it to appoint Bye-Fellows in perpetuity and chose to set up a further, very important fund that will commemorate Patricia’s own name. One of the yardsticks by which the Caius Fellowship judges itself is the number and calibre of Research Fellows appointed each year (usually four). These are usually young, stellar academics at the start of their careers and the competition for appointment is extremely keen. Earlier this century, shortage of funds meant that, for a while, the College could only appoint two or three Research Fellows each year.

Now, thanks to the new fund, there will always be a Patricia Crone Research Fellow at Caius. She will be following in the footsteps of a slightly built Danish woman who was a most engaging person, an intellectual giant and an incredibly loyal friend to this College.

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Patricia Crone, full of life at all ages...

Patricia in a pale blue jacket, left of front row, attending the Caius reception in New York City in September 2006

by Mick Le Moignan (2004)
William Tapp also left the College what is probably our most unusual bequest, the use in perpetuity of ten seats in the finest Box in the Grand Tier at the Royal Albert Hall. Members of the Court of Benefactors can reserve the Box for performances year-round and Fellows and students in residence share the majority of tickets for the annual Prom season.

The construction of the Albert Hall was funded by public subscription. The original £1,000 paid by Tapp’s father or grandfather 150 years ago on 8 April 1867 has probably provided in excess of 240,000 seats for performances, or one old penny per seat, with any number still to come.

The Caius Box holds twelve seats, but the College only has rights to ten of them. Periodically, the managers of the Albert Hall ask if we would like to purchase the two remaining seats, but we have not yet done so.

Professor Wei-Yao Liang (1963), former President of Caius, with Sally Yates

A

mission to Caius at all levels of study is strictly on merit, so far as it can be assessed. No fear, no favours. The College’s aim is that no student or researcher who reaches the high academic standard required shall be prevented from attending simply because s/he cannot afford it.

Achieving this deeply held ambition requires a complex and flexible system of bursaries and scholarships. There are many different sources of funding, apart from the UK government-owned Student Loans Company. Prospective students, particularly postgraduates, who are proactive about searching for support generally fare much better than those who sit and wait for sponsors to seek them out. The distinction between the two awards is that scholarships are given on merit and bursaries are based on need. In either case, it is wise to apply as soon as possible, not because funds are awarded on a ‘first come, first served’ basis (they aren’t) but because of the diversity of opportunities to be explored.

Caius is fortunate to have a substantial number of bursary funds to distribute, notably one left to the College in 1936 by W M Tapp (1877), who asked that half of his original £1,000 paid by Tapp’s father or grandfather be added to the College’s Endowment, but that the interest and capital should be ‘spent down’ within ten years. He was careful not to tie the College’s hands completely, in case future changes in legislation should make the funds unusable, nor to preface the bequest with words which he feared might be copied by Caian legators many times since. ‘Without imposing any binding trust or obligation on the College, I wish...’ Peter Bauer understood that if his gift was invested as part of the Endowment, it would increase, so as to maintain its 2002 value in real terms, and would allow the College to draw down an appropriate amount each year to spend on bursaries and scholarships in perpetuity. He chose not to do that, but to give immediate assistance to more students over a shorter period. The interest earned by the fund was added to it and by the time it was exhausted, £176,000 of bursary support had been provided.

Sally Yates, in blue in the centre of this picture, always the life and soul of the May Week Party, with a cheerful crowd of benefactors

Typically, prospective postgraduate students are asked to furnish the College with a financial guarantee, certifying their ability to cover all the costs of what may be a three or four-year course. So that a place can be confirmed, Caius often promises to support students with a bursary if they cannot find alternative funding for themselves. If the student receives an offer of sponsorship from industry or one of the research councils, the Caius bursary funds can then be made available for another student. Such creative use of our resources means that the same pot of money is sometimes used to provide effective support for two or more students, instead of one.

The consequent rapid changes in the names of likely recipients can be confusing for benefactors. Sally Yates, who was a close friend of Lord Peter Bauer (1934) and executor to his estate, only learned late in January 2017 that the College was using money bequeathed to her friend to support students in perpetuity. She was a loyal and enthusiastic supporter of Caius, coming to do her PhD in Newnham, and later to do her M.Phil in European Literature and Culture, edited by Lorraine Byrne Bodley, based on the research he completed at Caius. Only last September, Mark arranged a special concert in London to commemorate Sally’s seventieth birthday. She remembers her with great affection: ‘I first met Sally at Caius. In the sunshine of the Master’s Garden I described to her my research on Goethe and how his relationship with music influenced his writing, particularly his novel Elective Affinities. Sally was very interested and made me promise to tell her more at a later date. We soon developed a close relationship and I learned about the late Lord Bauer, from whose Bursary I had benefitted. We found we had a lot in common despite our age differences! She became a devoted supporter of my fledgling musical career as a conductor and my Faust Chamber Orchestra in particular.

The Bauer Bursary enabled me to study European culture in a way that has proved invaluable for my work as an opera conductor, where familiarity with languages and historical contexts is essential. I am equally grateful for the chance to have met Sally, an extraordinary lady, whose zest for life, love of culture and sense of fun have been very inspiring. I am very glad to have enriched her life in a small way with my music-making."

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Thank You!

Gonville & Caius College Development Campaign Benefactors

The Master and Fellows express their warmest thanks to all Caians, Parents and Friends of the College who have generously made donations since 1 July 2013. Your gifts are greatly appreciated as they help to maintain the College's excellence for future generations.

"There are now 591 members of the Ten Year Club. I am extremely proud of the fact that Caius achieves a higher rate of participation in benefaction than any other college – and immensely grateful to you all."

James Howell (2009) Fellow and Director of Development

The Director of Development was delighted to accept the generous bequest of Alan Green (1942) from Alan's daughters, Joanne Cormie, Liz Ellson and Katy Degan. The Master watches as Ms Tess Silkstone (2016) signs her name in the Register of Gonville College Benefactors.
The Master addresses a large crowd on Saturday 17 June 2017 in Caius Court at the annual May Week Party for Benefactors
The Stephen Hawking Cirea Dinner on Saturday 15 March 2015 Sadly, Professor Stephen Hawking (1965) was hospitalised that morning and unable to attend, but Stephen Hawking (1965) was hospitalised that morning and unable to attend, but Stephen Hawking (1965) was hospitalised that morning and unable to attend, but Stephen Hawking (1965) was hospitalised that morning and unable to attend, but...
Launch of the Lady Marilyn

For many, punting is an indispensable part of summer in Cambridge and by the start of the year, the Development Office had received enough donations for this purpose to commission a new Caius punt, which has been named Lady Marilyn, in honour of the Master’s wife.

Launching the craft, Dr Jimmy Altham (1965), who has added Keeper of Punts to his onerous duties as Senior Treasurer of the Boat Club, said he was delighted to pay tribute to the Master’s wife for her considerable contribution to life at Caius over the past five years: ‘Marilyn has been the nearest of exemplary support for the Master and... a great member of the College.’

The Boatman, Simon Goodbrand, manned the pole to take the Master and Lady Fersht on the maiden voyage of Lady Marilyn, the College’s splendid new punt.

A Dog’s Life


In the basement kitchen, there is a cooking spit driven by a treadmill, consisting of a wheel above the hearth, into which a small dog was supposedly placed (giving rise to the expression ‘dog tired’). The brochure claimed the dog treadmill had been invented by the famous Dr Caius of Cambridge. The room guide overheard my sceptical remarks to my teenage son and severely rebuked me, saying it was all true, it was written in a book and Dr Caius had made so much money from his invention that he had founded a college!

Alas, I am unable to ask Christopher Brooke (1945) about this story and can find no reference to it in his History of Gonville & Caius College. However, a search of the internet reveals that Dr Caius wrote A Treatise on Dog Breeding in Latin in 1570, translated by Abraham Fleming in 1576 and republished by Vintage Dog Books as recently as 2005 ©Read Books. Dr Caius refers to ‘turnspets’ dogs working in kitchens but does not claim the invention as his own.

Fast Fellows in Engineering

Hot on the heels of the Rolls-Royce jet engine research of Professor Rob Miller (2001) (pages 6-7) comes a sixtieth birthday tribute from McLaren to Professor MC Smith (1990) for keeping their cars up to speed.

McLaren sent their £250,000 supercar, the 720S, to Caius for the day, to coincide with a special sixtieth birthday symposium on Malcolm’s work, arranged by the Department of Engineering and hosted by the College. As Professor of Control Engineering and a McLaren consultant for the past 30 years, he helped to develop the car’s semi-active suspension system, designing an algorithm to maintain the optimum balance between comfort and handling. The new car has a top speed of 217 mph but, somewhat to Malcolm’s relief, heavy traffic prevented them reaching it on a test drive around Cambridge.

A modest, self-deprecating man with exceptional abilities, Malcolm appreciated the honour, saying ‘What’s really nice is that McLaren has recognised an academic contribution. Companies don’t always do that.’

Professor Malcolm Smith (1990) enjoying the compliment of having a McLaren supercar parked inside the Great Gate to thank him for helping them to show their opponents a clean pair of wheels.

Thirty Years On

One of the penalties of success is that, after a while, only gold medals are good enough. Both Caius First VIs, Men’s and Women’s, finished in the bronze medal position in the May Bumps this year. They will be ideally placed for a couple of bumps in the right direction next year.

Meanwhile, the victorious Men’s crew of 1987, the first to win the Headship for Caius for 143 years, came back earlier this year to recapture the rapture and inspire their successors. George Budden (1984), who was Captain of Boats in the glory year, was quick to point out that ‘the efforts of the 1986 crew were absolutely pivotal in getting to the Headship, so both crews were invited to the reunion. Sadly, Nick Taifider (1983) has passed away, Steve Kinkpatrick (1983) was at Ladies’ Henley and Adrian Johnson (1984) was stranded on the West Coast of the USA, but otherwise all oarsmen and both coxes, John O’Connor (1982) and Catherine Lister (1985) attended, together with the Senior Treasurer of the time, Professor Simon Maddrell (1964) and Peter English (1975), one of the four coaches, with Tony Baker, Peter Gray (1956) and Martin Blakemore.

‘The remarkable thing,’ said George, ‘was that we all remembered quite different parts of our Henley days – and trying to work out which parts we had all forgotten. Above all, we were amazed to discover that, despite our different levels of fitness, we could still row a boat!’

Inspired by the sight of the 1967 Eton crew, who rowed over the course at Henley in 2017, the Caius crews have decided to try and organise a similar get-together every five years, and see how long they can keep going. They paid warm tribute to the current CBC members, who could not have done more to make them feel welcome. Their pioneering achievement deserves no less.

The 1986/87 reunion boat reaching the tranquil waters in front of the new Caius Boathouse in 2017.

Vintage Port Label

At the Caius Club Dinner in London, James Howell (2005), our Director of Development, was startled by a loud exclamation of surprise and delight. Caius Club events are famous for their conviviality, so such emanations are commonplace, but this one was loud enough to draw attention.

The College Port was just starting to circulate when Katherine Scarfe Becket (1995) shrieked: ‘Oh my God! I designed that!’ No, Reader, it was not the port speaking: it transpired that, way back in the last century, Katherine had won a competition to redesign the label for the Caius Port. She didn’t expect to see it still adorning bottles of Caius Port in 2016, but on reflection and after a couple of glasses of the blushful Hoppencore, she concluded that the continued use was the sincerest of compliments.

Katherine Scarfe Becket (1995) with a bottle of Caius College Port still bearing her prize-winning label.
When Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah (2014) endowed two Fellowships at Caius, he included an additional sum to cover the costs of bringing the two Jeffrey Cheah Fellows to Malaysia each year to give lectures at Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur (KL). Professors Kay-Tee Khaw and John Todd have already visited KL, and the new Jeffrey Cheah Fellow, Professor K-J Patel, will be speaking at the 2nd Sunway Biomedical Symposium Stem Cells: From Biology to Therapy in November this year.

The agreement also allows other College entities, such as the world-famous choir of Gonville & Caius to visit Sunway from time to time. In the first of these collaborative ventures, the Choir put Sunway at the centre of their summer tour. The tour coincided with the visit of the Master, Professor Alan Fersht (1962) and the Director of Development, James Howell (2009), who were able to attend.

At Sunway the Choir performed at a gala for 2,000 guests in aid of the National Kidney Foundation of Malaysia, to whom the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation presented four new dialysis machines and a cheque for 400,000 Malaysian Ringgits.

In addition to performing at Sunway, the Choir sang in four concerts with the Malaysia Philharmonic Orchestra, which is based in KL’s iconic Petronas Towers. Whilst in Malaysia, Patrick Helson (1985) took the Choir to a refugee centre in KL and they also travelled to Penang to take part in the George Town Festival.

The second half of the tour was arranged by Christine Nigam, who has strong ties to the College through her husband, Arun (1964) and son, Stefan (2011). Christine’s company promoted the concerts in Bangkok, Singapore, Hong Kong and Mumbai, and covered the cost of travel and accommodation after KL.

Geoffrey Webber (1989) said the value of touring was ‘to give the Choir the opportunity to develop a repertoire outside Chapel music. We rotate the soloists to give everyone a chance to develop their vocal range, and experience performing with other choirs and orchestras’.

When in KL, the Choir performed in front of the Petronas Towers.

### Choir Members

**Gonville & Caius Choir**
Director: Geoffrey Webber (1989)

**Sopranos**
- Fiona Cheng (2016)
- Caroline Daniel (2016)
- Malinda Farmery
- Emily Myles (2015)
- John Chumrow Choral Scholar
- Caius Fund Choral Scholar
- Poly Furness (2015)
- Cleo Newton (2014)
- Caius Fund Choral Scholar
- Aleksandira Wiltshire

**Altos**
- Katherine Curran (2015)
- Fiorella Fuller (2016)
- Caius Fund Choral Scholar
- Tristan Selden (2015)
- Alice Webber (2015)
- Caius Fund Choral Scholar

**Tenors**
- Sebastian Blount
- Max Poot (2015)
- Sir Keith Stuart Choral Scholar
- Piers Pan (2015)
- Matthew Hills Choral Scholar
- Edan Umrigar
- Owen Winter Margaret Chumrow Lay Clerk

**Basses**
- Aaron Fleming (2015)
- Caius Fund Choral Scholar
- Brian Mummert
- Caius Fund Choral Scholar
- Robert Smith (2014)
- Humphrey Thompson (2014)

**Organ Scholars**
- James Pitman Choral Scholar
- Michael Hove (2016)
- Wilfrid Holland Organ Scholar

**Choral Scholarship**
- Kavi Pau (2015)
- Peter and Therese Helson Choral Scholar
- Edan Umrigar
- Margaret Chumrow Lay Clerk

**Choir Tour to Asia**

**Tour Itinerary**

**AUGUST**

- **Tuesday 8** To Kuala Lumpur (via Delhi & Singapore)
- **Saturday 12** Beethoven’s Ninth with MPO at Petronas Towers
- **Sunday 13** Matinee repeat of yesterday’s concert
- **Thursday 17** Choral Serenade to Music with MPO at Sunway
- **Saturday 19** Choral Serenade to Music with MPO at Petronas
- **Tuesday 22** To Penang
- **Friday 25** To Bangkok
- **Saturday 26** O for the Wings of a Dove in the lobby of the Peninsula Hotel
- **Tuesday 29** To Singapore
- **Saturday 30** To Mumbai

**SEPTEMBER**

- **Friday 1** O for the Wings of a Dove at the National Centre for the Performing Arts Theatre
- **Saturday 2** To London

**Photos: Alan Fersht, James Howell and Joseph Phoon**