



THE MARTLET

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OXFORD

ISSUE 17 | 2025

A FRESH CHAPTER

Univ North prepares to open

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

BODY MOVEMENTS AS BIOMARKERS

A new approach to autism screening

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Cross-gender names and naming traditions in Roman Egypt

CREATIVITY, IP LAW AND BEING HUMAN

Dr Christian E Mammen

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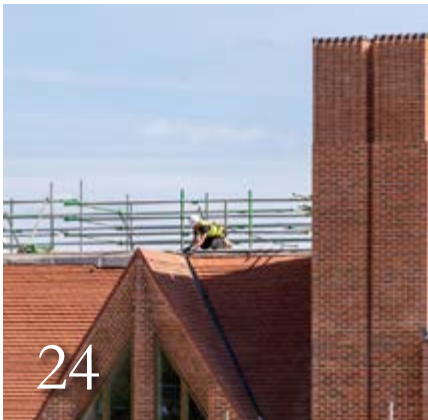
Features



**Creativity, Intellectual Property
Law and being human?**
Dr Christian E Mammen (1993, Law)



She before Sherlock
Dr Sara Lodge (1994, English)



A fresh chapter
Univ North prepares to open

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Cover photography of Water Court West - Ground floor gym with Rill and Bog Garden in foreground at Univ North by Philippa James philippajames.net
If you would like to share your view, please email: communications@univ.ox.ac.uk or write to us at the above address.

A large print version of this magazine is available on request.

“
Univ is an inspiring and elevating environment to be in. It pushed me in lots of ways, academically and socially.”
Natasha Edwards (1997, Economics)

“

My time as a Scott Family JRF at Univ changed my life. It was wonderful to be surrounded by such creative, kind and committed colleagues.”

Professor Liz Pellicano

Features



Welfare at Univ
Revd Dr Andrew Gregory



Body movements as biomarkers
Dr Connor Keating, Scott Family JRF



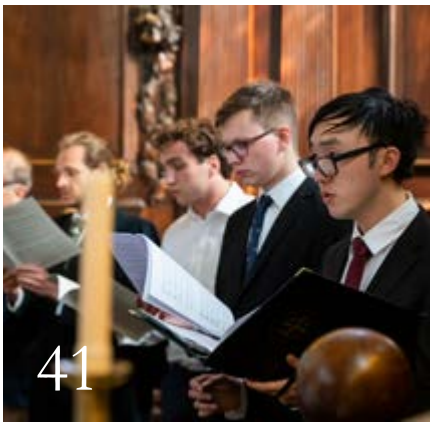
Sports and societies



Former Scott Family Junior
Research Fellows having an impact



The secret of my success
Univ entrepreneurs



Music at Univ

“

Univ North has the power to transform how we connect, collaborate and grow – both as an organisation and as a community.”

Lila Simms, Head of Conferencing and Events

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From the Master

With our 775th Anniversary year behind us, we look forward to the completion of the first phase of Univ North in 2026.

Univ North is the biggest expansion in the College's footprint since the 17th century.

The first four buildings of that expansion, the 54-place nursery, Water Courts East and West and the Woodstock Pavilion are being handed over to us as I write. They are beautiful and chime with our vision for the site and with the North Oxford landscape. The nursery will be run by Kids Planet, as part of the University of Oxford's overall provision, to give our students and staff the widest possible choice when making decisions about where to send their children. Students will move into the new accommodation in the autumn.

My thanks to our Old Members, friends and supporters who have made an invaluable contribution to the realisation of the vision for Univ North. From sitting on committees, participating in discussions about our intent, engaging with key stakeholders, attending and hosting events, giving through donations and legacies and being champions for Univ, you have helped us every step along the way. Over the next few weeks, the rooms will be made ready for occupation.

Last year, we celebrated the significant contribution and impact that Univ people have made in different fields locally, nationally and globally. We know, because our current students as well as our alumni have told us, that the quality and engagement of students in small group teaching prepares them to think critically and develop a deeper understanding of their

“We want to continue to attract the best to Univ and that is why our fund-raising focus now turns to how best to support and invest in our core mission of teaching.”

subject and related fields. This form of teaching requires significant investment in our Fellows and in our students. We want to continue to attract the best to Univ and that is why our fundraising now turns to how best to support and invest in our core mission of teaching. You will be hearing from us as we plan our next campaign.

Let me now turn to some developments during the year. We welcomed our new Domestic Bursar, Fran Wright, in April and our new Finance and Investment Bursar, David Land, joins us at the end of September as Andrew Grant's focus turns to the completion of Univ North for 2026.

It was a pleasure to meet so many of our alumni during the trips to Washington DC, New York and Boston in April, and San Francisco in December, and to welcome so many of you to online and in person events during the year. Those events have focused on a range of subjects showcasing the work of our Fellows. Our online talks and our new Spotlight Series are or will be available on the College website. Do continue to look out for new content on our social media platforms. Lyra, the College cat always seems to have a starring role.

My thanks again for your sustained support to Univ. It makes a tremendous difference.



Valerie Amos

Fellows' news

New appointments

Emeritus Fellows

Newly elected Emeritus Fellows:

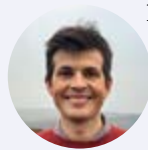


Professor David Logan, former Professorial Fellow and Coulson Professor of Theoretical Chemistry (2005-2024).

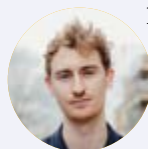


Professor Catherine Pears, former Old Members' Fellow and Praelector in Biochemistry (1992-2024).

Junior Research Fellows



Dr Tom Arnold-Forster, Sanderson Junior Research Fellow in History, researches the political and intellectual history of the modern United States.



Dr Connor Keating, Scott Family Junior Research Fellow in Autism at Univ, researches experimental psychology, emotion, social cognition, facial expressions and autism.

Afox Visiting Fellows

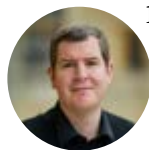


Dr Kwadwo Akuffo is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Optometry and Visual Science at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana.



Dr Lamin Jaiteh is a Consultant General Surgeon, Surgical Oncologist, and Senior Lecturer of Surgery at the University of The Gambia.

Stipendiary Lecturers



Dr Dominic Alonzi (Biochemistry) works in the field of glycobiology.



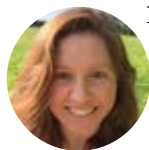
Dr Frankie Dunn's research is concerned with understanding the origin and early evolution of animals and how the fossil record informs our view of those events.



Ms Sanjari Kalantri is a DPhil candidate at Oxford whose research interests are microeconomic theory with a focus on information economics.



Mr Tommy Pitcher recently completed his DPhil studies, and now teaches a wide range of Physical Chemistry and Maths for Chemists across several colleges.



Dr Florence Smith has been appointed Stipendiary Lecturer in Modern History. She is a researcher of Twentieth Century British and Irish history, with interests in women's history and the history of education.



Dr Mark R Wormald (Biochemistry) runs the NMR spectroscopy and molecular modelling sections of the Structural Glycobiology Group within the Oxford Glycobiology Institute.

Other Appointments



Mrs Frances Wright has been appointed Domestic Bursar at Univ. Frances joined Univ on 9 April from Pangbourne College, where she was Director of Operations, prior to which she was Domestic Bursar at Balliol College.



The College has appointed a new Finance and Investment Bursar, **David Land**. David is the Head of Investment Strategy at Rothesay and was formerly a Managing Director at Goldman Sachs. He will join Univ at the end of September.

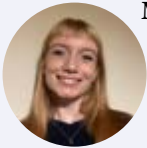


Dr Andrew Grant will remain in a role of part-time Project Manager for Univ North until its completion in 2026.

Junior College Lectureships



Mr Angus Ann's research interests are contract law, tort law, and equitable remedies.



Ms Grace Curtis is a doctoral researcher looking at solid-fluid interactions within the Oxford Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (OCIAM), Mathematical Institute.



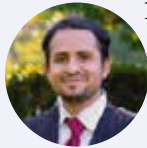
Mr Joseph Duthie is a Maths DPhil scholar at Oxford. His research is in the areas of differential geometry and geometric analysis.



Dr Victoria Kinkaid FRSA is an army doctor with a passion for women's health. Her research interests include global health, sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence.



Dr Rhiannon Ogden-Jones researches the legal history of National Parks.



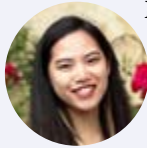
Dr Juan-Pablo Perez-Leon-Acevedo's second doctoral thesis is titled *Reparations for Mass Atrocities at the International Court of Justice*.



Dr Dixa Thakrar (2021, DPhil Population Health) is a specialist registrar in General Surgery.



Mr Giannis Tyrovolas (2018, Maths and Computer Science) is conducting research on Algorithmic Game Theory and Computational Complexity.



Ms Dilan Yang's research interests include industrial policy, political economy, the economics of China – urban and spatial, and trade.



Mr Jingjie Yang's (2019, Maths and Computer Science) research interest is computation theory with atoms.

Research Associates



Dr Debalina Banerjee is a Postdoctoral Fellow in theoretical condensed matter physics, and is interested in science outreach and communication, especially focusing on women in science.



Dr Sheila Byers is Drue Heinz Postdoctoral Fellow in American Literature at Univ. Dr Byers works on early American literature from the colonial period through the nineteenth century.



Dr Austin Gion's primary research interests involve the application of experimental geology to the formation of ore deposits, but also to the fields of volcanology, petrology, and mineralogy.



Dr Elena Racheva is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Sociology and contributes to the CrimGov project.

Senior College Lectureships



Dr Aylon Cohen is the Departmental Lecturer in Feminist Political Theory and works on topics in Democratic Theory, Early Modern Political History, Queer-Feminist Theory, and Affect Studies.

You can read more Fellows' news in the University College *Record* and on the College website.

College news

Prizes, archives and milestones



The Dr Michael Nicholson Prize

Current undergraduate student Tim Auth (2022, PPE) has won the inaugural Dr Michael Nicholson Prize with a garden project proposal that embraces both nature and community.

Launched for the first time in December 2024, The Dr Michael Nicholson Prize invites students to deliver a proposal for a project which promotes community within the College. Established in memory of Dr Michael (Mike) Nicholson, long-standing Tutorial Fellow in Russian at Univ, the prize has been generously funded by both Mike's friends and former students.

Tim's entry was a proposal for a community garden space, which aims to encourage any interested members of the College community to engage with nature by using or developing their gardening skills. The winning proposal highlighted the decline of pollinators such as bees, hoverflies and moths as well as a reduction in the general population's connection to nature. Tim's entry also drew attention to the benefits of gardening as an outlet for creative energy and as a way of improving mental health.



The project will be situated within The Bob Thomas Garden, named after Univ's former Garden Master, which is located between the back of the Examinations Schools and Merton Street. The new garden will be divided into two sections, with one part featuring plants such as lavender, verbena, salvia and herbs to attract pollinators, and the other being a shaded vegetable patch for crops such as beetroot, potatoes, radishes and runner beans. The design also includes bird boxes which aim to attract further wildlife to the garden. A new gardening society will ensure that the garden receives year-round attention both in and out of term time. The project will use the expertise of Univ's Head Gardener Tom Bartlett to inform and develop the garden space. There is also scope for using the College kitchen's close relationships with local suppliers and farmers to deliver a series of relevant talks and workshops. The garden is intended to be both a College community space and a springboard for building further networks between Univ and other gardens and gardeners within Oxford.



Online archives catalogue

Univ's Archivist Dr Robin Darwall-Smith (1982, Classics) has spent the last three decades cataloguing our Archives, and now he has overseen the creation of a new digital catalogue. The catalogue enables users to search easily for documents or items in Univ's archival collections and provides a useful reference point for those wishing to send an enquiry to the Archivist, or to visit the Archives in person. There are almost 26,500 archive records on the database, and over 8,000 names.

Our archives hold a remarkable collection of documents, photographs, and printed papers, going back over 800 years, which between them help tell the story of our College over its long history.

Scan the QR code to visit the online archives



or visit archives.univ.ox.ac.uk

Photograph (top right): From the photograph album of Bryan Todd-Naylor: Todd-Naylor (second from left) and other members of the Univ First Eight walk along the towpath during Eights Week 1914



Opportunity Oxford milestone

When University College, Oxford launched its *Opportunity Programme* in 2016, it provided 10 extra places at the College per year, filled through the University's normal competitive admissions process. Those places were targeted to students from backgrounds underrepresented at Oxford.

In January 2025, the University of Oxford made 339 offers to prospective undergraduate students under the *Opportunity Oxford Programme*, a programme modelled on the Univ programme. This is huge testament to the talent and ambition which has gone unrecognised in communities up and down the country. It is also a tribute to the hard

work and commitment of colleagues at Oxford to ensure that prospective students are given equal access and equality of opportunity. We are delighted that what started at Univ has expanded to become a successful, University-wide programme.

The Univ Opportunity Programme won a *Vice-Chancellor's Diversity Award* in 2018, and Opportunity Oxford won a *Vice-Chancellor's Education Award* in 2022.

Like the original Univ Opportunity Programme, Opportunity Oxford enables Admissions Tutors to recognise the educational and socio-economic disadvantage some students face in their education journey

and it also provides its students with an intensive academic bridging course, with both online and residential components, to support their entry into University education. Students receive an important academic boost prior to beginning their degrees, and they also have the chance to become part of a large and supportive community before the start of term.

The expansion from the original 10 places at University College in 2016 to 339 across the Collegiate University in 2025 represents a major milestone and demonstrates the continuing success and importance of the programmes.



My view of Univ

I never knew such a celebration existed before I joined the multinational family of Univ! This one has been my third Diwali celebration. When I learnt more about the festival itself, I realised that every nation should have something similar. Diwali is a celebration of the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance. No wonder we are happy to celebrate it in the College! It is very colourful and atmospheric, cosy and cheerful, full of little lights. It has this mysterious air of ancient legends coming to life.

Our Hall was decorated under the expert supervision of Sandhya from Nepal. Univ's Hindu community includes students from India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Australia and the UK, and we have staff members from India and Nepal.

You should see the wonderful saris that are worn to such occasions as Diwali!

Viktoriia Sediasheva, Treasury Assistant at Univ



Dates for your diary

Young Univ Drinks in London

1 AUGUST



Alumni Drinks Reception in Edinburgh

8 SEPTEMBER



Milestone Anniversary Reunions

Classes of 1954 and 1955 (Platinum),
1964 and 1965 (Diamond), 1974 and
1975 (Golden)
5 SEPTEMBER



Univ in the City

16 OCTOBER

2009-2012 Gaudy

27 SEPTEMBER

Autumn USPGA (Golf) Meeting

6 OCTOBER

Eldon Society Reunion Dinner

15 NOVEMBER



Advent Carols

6 DECEMBER



Christmas Service in London

12 DECEMBER

Winter Drinks at the Oxford and Cambridge Club

4 DECEMBER

Please check the website for updates: bit.ly/univ0169

Event highlights

Several events took place in 2024-25, connecting Old Members around the world. Here are some of the highlights. Follow the links to read reports, view photographs or listen to podcasts.

April 2024

Spring USPGA (Golf) meeting

All members of Univ were invited to the spring USPGA meeting on 22 April 2024 at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, kindly hosted by David Laycock (1970). bit.ly/Univ1636

Univ 775 In Conversation

The Master was in conversation with Emma Tucker (1986, PPE), Editor in Chief of the *Wall Street Journal* at the American Friends of Oxford (AFO) office in New York on 16 April 2024. bit.ly/Univ1637



Univ 775 Gala Dinner in Washington D.C.

Dame Karen Pierce DCMG, British Ambassador, and Baroness Amos LG CH PC, Master of Univ, invited Old Members and friends of the College to a Gala Dinner at the Ambassador's Residence in Washington D.C. on 20 April 2024. bit.ly/Univ1642

May 2024

Univ Giving Day

The College hosted its first interactive Giving Day between 30 April and 1 May 2024. bit.ly/Univ775

Hart Memorial Lecture

The 2024 HLA Hart Memorial Lecture took place on 16 May, given by Professor Anita L Allen, HLA Hart-JH Mance Visiting Fellow in Philosophy, Law and Politics at Oxford for 2024 on the topic of "Unconditional Love, Some Implications for the Law." bit.ly/Univ1638

William of Durham Luncheon

The annual luncheon for members of the William of Durham Club took place at Univ on 18 May 2024. The programme included a talk by Dr Scot McKendrick FSA (1978, Classics), Former Head of Western Heritage Collections at the British Library, followed by a discussion panel on Univ's manuscripts with Elizabeth Adams, College Librarian and Peter Kidd, researcher in medieval manuscripts. bit.ly/Univ1639

775 Univ Alumni Drinks in Bristol

Old Members attended alumni drinks with the Master on 30 May at the Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel. bit.ly/Univ1640

June 2024

775 Univ Online Talks

Dr Natalya Benkhaled-Vince, Sanderson Tutorial Fellow in Modern History at Univ, gave a talk titled "Turn on, tune in, don't drop out: 1960s students between protest and state-building" on 5 June 2024. bit.ly/Univ1641

Cricket Day

All members of the College were invited to bring a picnic and enjoy the annual cricket day, which saw Old Members take on current students, on 9 June 2024. bit.ly/Univ1643



Summer Eights

All members of Univ, friends and family were invited to join us at the Univ Boathouse to watch the racing on 25 May 2024. The weekend included the Boat Club Summer Eights Dinner, Martlet Regatta and UCBC 50-Year Reunion. bit.ly/Univ1644



Leander Lunch

Friends, current and former members of UCBC were invited to attend a lunch at Leander Club, Henley-on-Thames, on 9 June 2024, kindly organised by Ron Jordan (1963, History) and Richard Powles (1964, Geography). bit.ly/Univ1629



October 2024

Univ 775 Alumni Drinks in Dublin

Old Members were invited to attend alumni drinks with the Master in Dublin on 3 October 2024 at the National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin, by special arrangement of Dr Caroline Campbell (1991, History), Director of the Gallery. bit.ly/Univ1645



September 2024

Univ 775 Festival

More than 400 Old Members, students, Fellows and other academics, staff, family and friends celebrated 775 Years of Univ with a festival in College on 28 September 2024. The festival included guided tours, wine tasting, performances by the Oxcentrics jazz band, activities for children, tutorials led by Univ Fellows, a scratch choir, printmaking, exhibitions, a photo booth, a formal dinner hosted by the Master and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and a spectacular *son et lumière*. bit.ly/Univ775Festival



Event highlights

Univ 775 Online Talks

The Univ Online Talk series continued to engage our global alumni community with insights from Professor Trevor Sharp, Univ's Radcliffe Medical Fellow in Neuroscience, who gave a talk titled "Psychiatry Goes Psychedelic" on 17 October 2024. bit.ly/Univ1646

USPGA (Golf) Autumn Meeting

Old Members and friends, students and staff were invited to join us at Sundridge Park Golf Club on 18 October 2024, kindly hosted by Tim Low (1976, Chemistry).



Rebecca F Kuang at Univ

Univ in the Arts and the Shakespeare Society presented an evening at Univ with bestselling novelist Rebecca F Kuang (2019, Contemporary Chinese Studies), award-winning author of *Yellowface*, *Babel* and *The Poppy War* trilogy, on 21 October 2024. bit.ly/Univ1648

November 2024

Poetry Tour

Pireeni Sundaralingam (1986, Experimental Psychology), College Poet Laureate and Interdisciplinary Catalyst, led an interactive poetry tour of the College on 1 November 2024. bit.ly/Univ1647



775 London Dinner

The 18th Univ London Dinner on 23 November 2024 at The Royal Automobile Club (RAC), Pall Mall, celebrated 775 Years of Univ. The guest speaker was Ambassador Uran Ferizi (2003, Maths), the Albanian Ambassador to the UK and Ireland. bit.ly/Univ1649

December 2024

Advent Carols

Candlelit Services to celebrate Advent took place on 7 December 2024 in the College Chapel. All members of the College, their family and friends, were invited to attend. Mulled wine and mince pies were served in Hall after the services.

Univ 775 Alumni Drinks in San Francisco

Old Members and friends were invited to a drinks reception on 12 December 2024 in San Francisco.

February 2025

Univ Online Talks

Dr Aneurin Ellis-Evans, George Cawkwell Fellow, gave a talk titled, “Kleo Was Pregnant for Five Years: How Did Women Experience Medicine in Classical Greece?” on 10 February 2025. bit.ly/Univ1650



Neel Mukherjee at Univ

Univ in the Arts and the Shakespeare Society presented an evening at Univ with critically acclaimed, award-winning novelist Neel Mukherjee FRSL (1992, English) on 21 February 2025. Neel’s latest novel, *Choice* (2024), was shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize. bit.ly/Univ1651



March 2025

The George Cawkwell Memorial Lecture

The inaugural George Cawkwell Memorial Lecture took place in the Faculty of Classics on 6 March 2025. The lecture was given by Professor Paul A Cartledge, Emeritus AG Leventis Professor of Greek Culture at the University of Cambridge and former Salvesen Junior Fellow at Univ. bit.ly/Univ1652



Univ Football Day

The annual Univ Football Day took place on 15 March 2025 at the College Sportsground. Univ students, Old Members, friends, academics and staff battled it out for Univ’s coveted football cups – The Gerry Fitzsimons Cup and The Bill Sykes Challenge Cup. bit.ly/Univ1653

2005-2008 Gaudy

A Gaudy for those who matriculated between 2005 and 2008 took place in College on 22 March 2025. The event included afternoon tea in the Master’s Lodgings and Garden, and a black-tie dinner. bit.ly/Univ1654

April 2025

Boston Drinks Reception

An alumni Drinks Reception took place at the Somerset Club in Boston on 11 April 2025. We are very grateful to Bruns Grayson (1974, PPE) for supporting the reception.

May 2025

USPGA (Golf) Spring Meeting

The Spring USPGA meeting took place at Studley Wood Golf Club on 19 May 2025, kindly hosted by John Hyde (1970, English). bit.ly/Univ1655

Development news

The Development team at Univ has been working hard to enhance the College's resources and community engagement over the past year.



International Outreach

We seek to foster lasting connections with our global alumni and this year saw two visits to the USA. In Michaelmas term, the Master and Felice Nassar, Development Director, travelled to California, reconnecting with many alumni and attending a drinks reception hosted by Dr Christian E Mammen (1993, Law) in San Francisco. In Hilary term, the Master and Harriet Bayly, Deputy Development Director, visited Washington DC, New York and Boston, meeting Old Members and friends of Univ. Events included a family-style lunch hosted by Dr Emily Rose (1983, History) and a drinks reception at the Somerset Club hosted by Bruns Grayson (1974, PPE).

Student and Alumni Engagement

Hilary term began with the Univ telethon, where 10 student callers connected with over 1,800 Old Members, raising £150,000 in donations and having some amazing conversations about life at Univ past and present. This event highlighted the warmth and generosity of our alumni community, and we hope you enjoyed your call if you received one. Our thanks to all of you who donated, your support is always appreciated.

As we look ahead to the next 25 years, attracting the brightest talent and protecting our academic core mission remains a priority. Investing in our tutorial system is vital for Univ to continue inspiring and challenging students academically. We are seeking financial support to ensure the continuation of this unique system for the very long term. We have been working with our academics to support this endeavour, beginning with the inaugural George Cawkwell Memorial Lecture in March, delivered by former Junior Research Fellow, Professor Paul Cartledge, Emeritus AG Leventis Professor of Greek Culture at the University of Cambridge. The event celebrated the work of the legendary George Cawkwell and showcased Univ's strong track record of teaching. It also highlighted diverse career paths for Classics graduates. There was a lively dinner afterwards which brought some of the Univ Classics community together and underlined the importance of investing in the College's teaching. We are, of course, focused on supporting the full range of subjects taught at Univ.

Extracurricular news

We are pleased to announce that the newly renovated music practice room is now ready and in frequent use thanks to the generosity of donors at Giving Day last year. In June 2024 we also celebrated the success of the Univ Boat Club with the Leander Lunch thanks to the generous support of two Old Members. The

lunch offers a truly inter-generational experience in a more relaxed setting and was especially welcome after a frustrating season with much flooding on the river. The recent annual Football Day in March saw record participation with ten teams signed up. We hope to have an all-female team entry soon!

Univ North Development

The successful opening of Univ North is a key priority for the College. We have provided updates on progress at Univ North, both in-person and online, allowing alumni from around the world, including the UK, US, Canada, France, Netherlands and Norway, to engage with key project figures. Planning for the opening events is underway, where donors will see the impact of their contributions.

We would like to extend our gratitude to our alumni, donors, and friends for their unwavering support and generosity to Univ. We look forward to continuing our work to support the College's growth.

For more information please contact the Development Office via development@univ.ox.ac.uk or telephone +44(0)1865 276 674.

What's in a name?

Cross-gender names and naming traditions in Roman Egypt

Dr Maren Schentuleit, Lady Wallis Budge Fellow

Ancient Egypt, renowned for its monuments, also reveals fascinating insights through its texts written on stone, papyri and sherds, which offer a glimpse into the society's intricate naming traditions, including the existence of cross-gender personal names.



In the Graeco-Roman period, these names were a notable phenomenon in some settlements, especially Dime (Soknopaiou Nesos), located in the Fayum region. The use of cross-gender names – names employed interchangeably by both male and female individuals – is particularly surprising given that Ancient Egypt was a highly gender-differentiated society. This provokes research into the reasons behind this practice, exploring the linguistic, religious, and social influences that rendered these names so popular in Dime.

Egyptian personal names

In Egyptian culture, personal names generally have a meaning. Alongside personal names that make direct reference to the name-bearer and their family (eg Iuefaa “He will attain old age”), numerous names refer to a god (eg Merisekhmet “Loved by (the goddess) Sekhmet”), the ruling (or an earlier) king (eg Ramessunekhet “Ramses is victorious”), or some venerated individual (eg Tasheretiuefankh “The daughter of Iuefankh”). In some cases, the meaning is not obvious to us; names can, for example, be abbreviated comparable to Mel, Melly or Lanie as short forms of Melanie, a female name

with Greek origins meaning “black” or “dark”. An Egyptian example would be the popular name Peteosiris, meaning “He who was given by (the god) Osiris”, which appears barely recognisable when shortened to Pasis. Many names are gender-specific because they have an element that indicates the gender of the name-bearer, like the already mentioned “The daughter of Iuefankh”. There is also the group of gender-neutral names, such as the above-mentioned “Ramses is victorious”, names that at first glance reveal nothing about the gender of the name-bearer.

Dime: A unique case study

A case study on the onomastic material of Dime determines factors that classify a name as cross-gender. This settlement (see fig. 1), dominated by a large temple dedicated to the god Soknopaios and located on the northern shore of Fayum Lake, is particularly well-suited for such a study since cross-gender names were relatively common in the Roman period (30 BCE–3rd century CE), as evidenced by the extensive textual records in demotic, the second-to-last indigenous language and script phase, and in Greek, the language of the administration left behind by the sizeable priestly community.

Linguistic features

The group of cross-gender names in Dime consists of four names: Stotoetis “May they (ie the gods) avert the calamity”, Tesenouphis “(The) good nomos” or “The good sea-land (ie Fayum)”, Herieus “They (ie the gods) are satisfied” and the Aramaic-rooted name Satabous, of which the meaning is not entirely secure; originally possibly “Sister of the father” but this is far from sure. It is striking that the three Egyptian names lack gender-specific markers, underscoring linguistic neutrality as an important characteristic for using these names across genders. However, not all gender-neutral names were indeed used for males and females.

Religious roots of cross-gender names

A key factor driving the use of cross-gender names in Dime was their association with deified individuals who were worshipped as local gods. For the deified Tesenouphis, a statue was dedicated in Dime (I. Fayoum I 79, 30 BCE – 50 CE), and he is recognised as an oracle god of a Fayum town called Pernakheru (P. Hawara 4 a and 4 b, 220 BCE). Stotoetis the god, the great god is mentioned in unpublished demotic agreements relating to Gynaikon Nesos, one of the branch

sanctuaries of Dime in the western part of the Fayum and as an oracle god in an unpublished oracle question from Tebtunis (2nd cent. BCE). Satabous the god had a cult in the chapel of Isis Nepherses in Dionysias, another branch sanctuary of the main temple in Dime. Attestations for a deified Herieus are still to be found; a previously assigned votive inscription likely refers instead to the dedicatee of the statue (I. Fayoum I 80, 50 BCE–50 CE).

Social and familial traditions

Scholars noticed early on that Dime's onomastic repertoire was quite limited. This impression can now be confirmed statistically. Almost a third of all male name attestations are represented by six different names – among them all four cross-gender names – and seven different names represent a third of all female name attestations – among them two cross-gender names. This is due to the naming traditions in Dime and other priestly communities deeply rooted in family lineage and religious practices: Firstborn children were often named after their grandparents, the firstborn son after the paternal grandfather, the secondborn after the maternal grandfather, the firstborn daughter after the paternal grandmother, the secondborn

after the maternal granddaughter, and subsequent offspring were named after other relatives. An illustrative example is the family of a certain Satabous and his offspring who were eminent figures among the priesthood of Dime (see fig. 3). Satabous himself even shared the same name with his mother. The naming practice, together with the community's isolation and a strong emphasis on intermarriage among priestly families, created a limited pool of names within the priestly families, leading to frequent repetition. Thus, the large proportion of cross-gender names in the onomastic material from Dime results not only from the significance of deified individuals for the priestly milieu but even more so from social traditions.

A broader historical perspective

The phenomenon of cross-gender names in Roman Dime mirrors practices in some Roman Catholic regions, where names of eminent biblical figures like Maria or Joseph are used by both men and women (eg Carl Maria von Weber [1786–1826], German composer; Josemaría Escrivá [1902–1975], Spanish priest and founder of Opus Dei). In Dime, it reflects the interplay of language, religion, and social structure. While the practice was more pronounced in certain regions and periods, it offers a unique window into the complexities of Egyptian culture.

The study will be published as “Egyptian cross-gender names in Graeco-Roman Dime and beyond”, in: A Almásy-Martin and Y Broux (eds.), *Greek Personal Names in Egypt* (Oxford Studies in Ancient Documents, Oxford University Press, 2025).



Dr Maren Schentuleit, Lady Wallis Budge Fellow at Univ, Associate Professor of Egyptology and Coptic Studies in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and Director of the Griffith Institute



Fig. 2: Map of the Fayum (drawing by S. L. Lippert / M. Schentuleit)

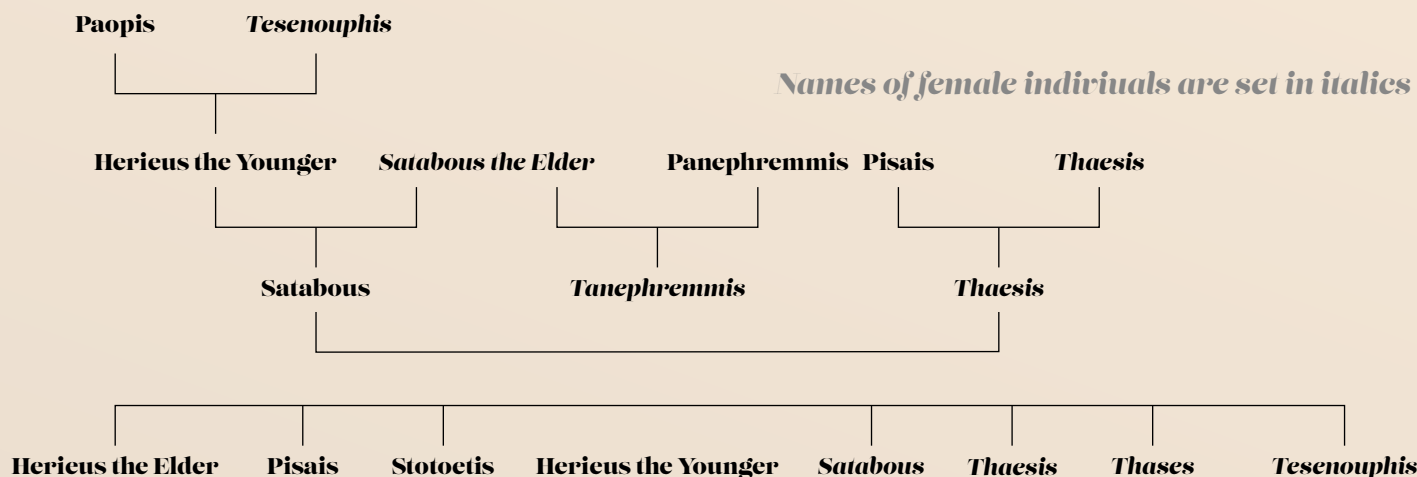


Fig. 3: Family tree of a priestly family from Dime (drawing by M. Schentuleit)

CREATIVITY, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW AND BEING HUMAN

DR CHRISTIAN E MAMMEN

What is creativity?

US courts have consistently ruled that authors and inventors under copyright and patent laws must be human. And many lawyers are familiar with the references to creativity in those rulings – as well as other cases involving authorship and inventorship. Similarly, we have an intuitive sense of what is (or is not) “creative.” But how many of us have taken a close look at what, exactly, makes something creative? And, if the requirement that authors and inventors be human is somehow tied to creativity, what aspects of creativity matter to IP law?

Last Trinity term, I took a deep dive into these questions with a multidisciplinary group of scholars. On a recent sabbatical from my law firm, I returned to Oxford as an Academic Visitor and convened a working group to discuss and debate these questions. Here is some of what we learned.

DEFINING CREATIVITY

We apply the term “creativity” to both artifacts – things or ideas – and to the mental process by which those artifacts are generated.

The creativity of artifacts can be referred to as external creativity. A standard definition of external creativity is that an artifact that is *new* and *valuable* is considered to be creative. (Sometimes, there is a third element to the definition – that the artifact is *surprising*). In other words, some things that are completely novel may be valueless gibberish and are not considered creative. The additional requirement that it be surprising is sometimes added because something new and valuable may nonetheless not be considered creative because it's predictable or derivative. If we focus solely on external creativity, the outputs of generative AI might be considered to meet the definition of creative – they are often novel (the image or string of words didn't previously exist), they are sometimes valuable (whether measured in monetary – early AI-generated images sold for hundreds of thousands of dollars – or broader cultural terms), and they can be surprising.

Creativity in the psychological sense is what we have in mind when we talk about ideas or thought processes. Sometimes psychological creativity occurs in a lightning-bolt of inspiration, and sometimes it comes in the form of insight earned after long and laborious effort. Creativity occurs in many fields, including the arts and the sciences. Based on recent scholarship in neuroscience and philosophy, we understand psychological creativity to be an interaction between the task-focused parts of our brain (the Central Executive Network, or CEN) and the daydreaming, free-association parts of our brain (the Default Mode Network, or DMN), mediated by some capacity to flag connections or combinations that are meaningful or relevant (the Saliency Network, or SN). All three play important roles in creativity. For example, the geneticist whose research is focused on finding the cause for a particular disease doesn't suddenly come up with a new symphony. Rather, the process is primed by domain knowledge (in this example, the knowledge of genetics) and the task-focus of the research. But key insights – perhaps combinations of ideas from other domains, or new ways of viewing the existing knowledge – may emerge from the mental wanderings of the DMN. The DMN throws off all kinds of random stuff; the good ideas are flagged by the SN, and the CEN can then refine them.

Looking closely at features of creativity, we realized there is a third important component: the social context in which creativity occurs. Considering the external aspect, to say that something is “valuable” requires that there be some social assessment, whether value is measured

"IS COPYRIGHT REALLY JUST FOCUSED ON THE EXTERNAL CREATIVITY OF THE ARTIFACT?"

monetarily or otherwise. Considering the psychological aspect, the salience function, where relevant ideas emerge from among other random, weird or nonsensical ones, also involves framing around social rules or boundaries. To be sure, avant-garde creativity may push the envelope of these rules or boundaries, but even the avant-garde is defined in relation to those societal norms.

With this understanding of creativity, we turned back to IP law. Is copyright really just focused on the external creativity of the artifact? Similarly, is patent law focused on the creativity of the invention – the actual reduction to practice or expression in the patent? Based on our analysis, we concluded that the psychological and social aspects also matter.

GAI DOESN'T MAKE THE CUT

Because the psychological aspect of creativity has no readily identifiable analogue in the current wave of generative AI models, we concluded that it is not correct to argue that generative AI outputs are deserving of IP protection even though they are sometimes “just as good as” IP-eligible human-generated artifacts. There is, of course, much more to be said on this subject, including future regulation of future AI. For more on that, you can read our White Paper here: ssrn.com/abstract=4892973



Dr Christian Mammen (1993, Law) is a partner with Womble Bond Dickinson in San Francisco.

Article first published on 5 August 2024 on ipwatchdog.com



SHE BEFORE SHERLOCK

The Mysterious Case of the Victorian Female Detective, a new book by Univ alumna Sara Lodge, reveals the surprising truth about real Victorian women sleuths.

Most dons are detectives at heart. We unearth clues to the authors of shocking deeds. We rescue bodies of work from the cruel river of time.

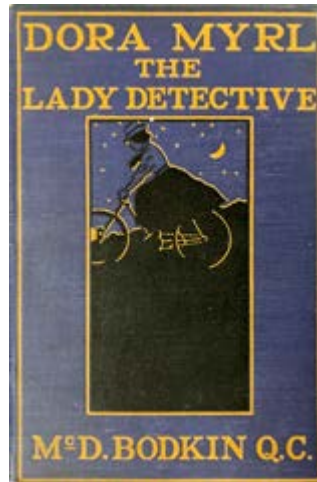
Sometimes, we take on cold cases that take years to thaw.

My tale begins, as many detective stories do, in a library. In 2012, the British Library reissued two books from 1864 that had puzzled literary historians. Both pulp fictions – *The Female Detective*, by James Redding Ware, and *Revelations of a Lady Detective*, by William Stephens Hayward – posed as casebooks by female private investigators who solved complex mysteries using forensic evidence, archives, undercover identities and subtle interview technique. The curious thing, as the introduction to one of these reprints proclaimed, was, there were no real female detectives in 1864. Moreover, the female detective as a literary character seemed to go underground after this, reappearing only in the 1890s.

Something, as they say at crime scenes, just didn't make sense. Why would two books appear in one year featuring a character with a job description that didn't yet exist?

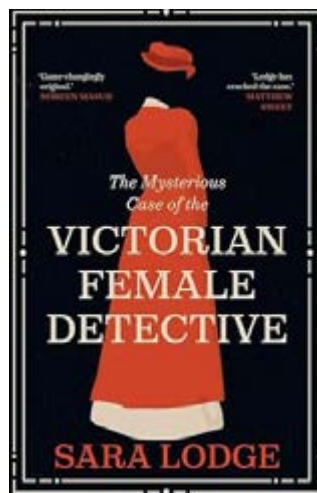
Provoked, I scoured newspaper databases, looking at the small ads. Almost at once, I found back-to-back ads in *The Times* for two London private enquiry agencies in the 1870s offering “experienced” male and female detectives. I was on the scent.

Over the next ten years, I built up an astonishing picture (well, astonishing to me) of Victorian women's routine involvement in crime-solving. I traced Elizabeth Joyes, born to a thatcher in rural Cambridgeshire, who became a “detective searcher” at St Bride's police station near Fleet Street, examining female suspects for stolen goods. She was “employed as a female detective” outside the station, too; in 1855 she captured John Cotton Curtis, a serial luggage thief at railway stations. Then there was Ann Lovsey, a “searcher” at Birmingham's Moor Street station for at least 36 years, from the 1860s to the 1900s. Lovsey became “well known as a female detective” in Birmingham, apprehending malefactors from spurious psychics to embezzling bus conductors. Women detectives were rarely involved in murder cases, but they did engage in risky sting operations to capture thieves, back-street abortionists and child abusers. From Glasgow to Dover, working-class women – often related to male police officers – were putting their bodies on the front line.



“

By the 1890s, magazines reported that even female graduates of Oxford and Cambridge University were becoming detectives. *Hearth and Home* conceded that “This is not an occupation that many ladies would like, but apparently there are some who think differently. We have heard of one, a University graduate, who engages in it simply because it has an irresistible fascination for her.”



Women were also working for private enquiry agencies, investigating everything from aggravated adultery to large-scale corporate fraud. Some ladies, such as actress-detective Kate Easton and multi-lingual entrepreneur Antonia Moser, ran their own agencies. As the chorus line in one 1890s musical about an all-female agency sang: “A bevy of lady detectives are we; Clever and cute as detectives can be.”

By the 1890s, magazines reported that even female graduates of Oxford and Cambridge University were becoming detectives. *Hearth and Home* conceded that “This is not an occupation that many ladies would like, but apparently there are some who think differently. We have heard of one, a University graduate, who engages in it simply because it has an irresistible fascination for her.” Fast, fictional “New Woman” detectives on their bicycles, including Lois Cayley and Dora Myrl, were on the trail not only of male malfeasance, but of equal rights.

Florence Marryat, a sensation novelist, invented a heroine who becomes a counter-terrorist agent in her 1897 novel *In the Name of Liberty*. Jane Farrell will discover that the Fenian terrorist who is about to blow up the Earl of Innisfale's London mansion is actually...her husband. This is a literally explosive development in the Victorian marriage plot. Marryat, who despised male political domination, also invented a future female don in 1893, Electra Thucydides of St Momus College, Oxford – who, in an imagined lecture of 1993, broadcast “telephonically” to over 200 female audiences, asked “What shall we do with our men?”

Where previous commentators had wondered why the fictional female detective “disappeared” between 1864 and 1890, my research uncovered her popular presence on the Victorian stage from the 1860s to the 1890s: a fist-swinging, ball-busting, often cross-dressing character who always got the better of villainous males.

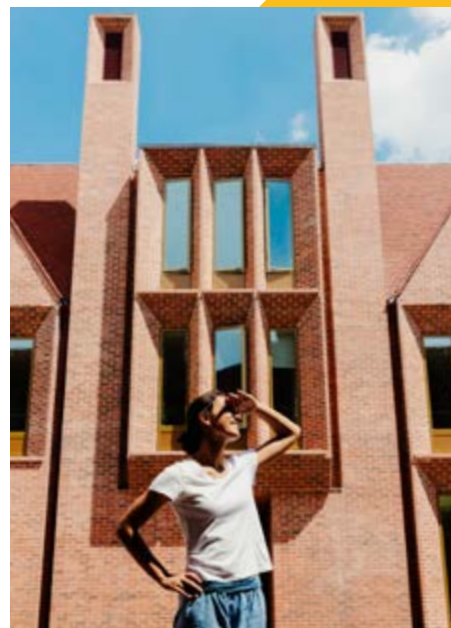
After cyber-crime crippled the British Library in 2023, I was grateful to be able to complete my book in the Bodleian. The aroma of old tomes and the sight of a student scribbling at his desk in full Edwardian dress hit me with a wave of nostalgia. It was satisfying to close the circle, looping back to my time as a doctoral student at Univ. Back then, I had no idea that I'd be investigating undercover Victorian sleuths, the shadows of a forgotten female history.



Dr Sara Lodge (1994, *English*), writer and Senior Lecturer in English at the University of St Andrews

A fresh chapter

Univ North prepares to open



“Univ North has the power to transform how we connect, collaborate, and grow – both as an organisation and as a community. It will significantly elevate our external business and conferencing capabilities, enrich the experience for attendees, and generate substantial financial benefits by creating new revenue opportunities. The on-site café will also serve as a vibrant, welcoming space. While we recognise there are challenges ahead as we bring this vision to life, we are confident in our ability to navigate them.”

Lila Simms, Head of Conferencing and Events

There’s a real sense of anticipation in the air as Univ North begins to take shape, with teams across the College coming together to prepare for the opening of our newest spaces.

We’ve just received the keys to the nursery, which will be run by Kids Planet, an experienced provider trusted by many at the University of Oxford. The nursery is set to open in January 2026 and will offer priority access for the children of Univ staff, academics, and students alongside the wider University. It’s a conversion of an existing building, thoughtfully designed with privacy and community in mind.

Our new accommodation, Water Courts East and West, and Woodstock Pavilion are set to open in Michaelmas term 2025. These beautiful, multifunctional buildings will provide high-quality student accommodation, study spaces and mark a big step forward in the expansion of Univ’s functional estate. Designed by Níall McLaughlin Architects, the buildings blend modern comfort with familiar touches, like wooden handrails that echo the charm of the High Street site. Inside, warm wooden features create a welcoming feel.

As the student spaces near completion, teams are working hard behind the scenes to bring them to life. Shane Pledge, Accommodation and Housekeeping Manager, is overseeing



Opposite page, images clockwise from top: Water Court West – West Elevation; Water Court East – first and second floor kitchen windows; Water Court West – second floor bedrooms/roof completion

This page, images (from top): Water Court West – corbelled “arrowhead” brickwork detail to second floor bedrooms; Water Court East – West Elevation



the final touches, from beds and mattresses to desk chairs and kitchen fittings. We’re also preparing our scout teams (our vital cleaning and operational staff), ensuring they’re equipped and ready for the unique layout of the new spaces.

One special feature is the kitchen tables, crafted by RAW Workshop, a local Oxford enterprise that supports people overcoming barriers to work. The kitchens have a flexible set of RAW tables big enough for every student on that floor to sit together, and we plan to include QR codes so that students can learn about the stories behind the furniture. It’s a small but powerful way to connect our community with something meaningful.

Another exciting addition will be the new Café, due to open in 2026, which promises to be a lively meeting spot for everyone on site. Fairfield Residential Home residents will have access during set times, and nursery parents might stop in for a coffee after drop-off. The Café will be an important gathering space, helping to bring our growing Univ North community together.

One of the people most looking forward to the new site is Angela (Angie) Carter, longtime Resident Caretaker/Porter at Staverton. Angie, whose family has a deep history with Univ, brings a wealth of knowledge and heart to her role. She’ll be instrumental in helping to shape the new Lodge operations and in supporting the team during the early stages.



“We’re incredibly proud of the new facilities at Univ North, which reflect our ongoing commitment to providing an outstanding living and learning environment for all our students. The site offers modern, comfortable accommodation, including specially-designed rooms with enhanced accessibility features to support students with disabilities. We’re very much looking forward to welcoming our students this Michaelmas term and watching this vibrant new community come to life.”

Shane Pledge, Accommodation and Housekeeping Manager



“Univ North has provided a fantastic opportunity to introduce a rich mix of species and planting styles. The macro-landscape, designed by Kim Wilkie, combines native and ornamental trees and offers plenty of space for my planting schemes. This will be a real asset for both the people using the site, who can enjoy and immerse themselves in the green spaces, and for wildlife, which will benefit from the diverse habitats Univ North offers.”

Thomas Bartlett, Head Gardener

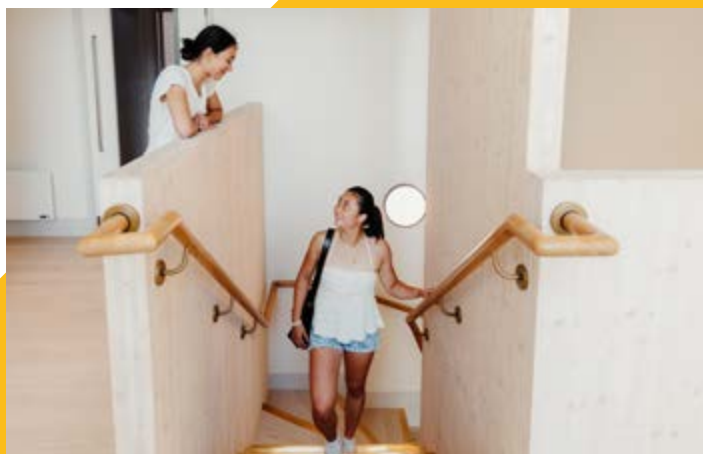
While parts of the site are still under development, students will start moving in from October. Pathways will guide them around as we move into the next phase: landscaping. Robbie Eason, Head of Grounds Maintenance, and Tom Bartlett, Head Gardener, are preparing to bring landscape architect Kim Wilkie’s designs to life. Although it will take time for the new trees and plants to flourish, the groundwork is already being laid for what promises to be a beautiful, green space complemented by gardens, orchards, lawns, and many mature and new trees.

Looking ahead, Univ North will initially house second-year undergraduates, but future plans include welcoming graduate students, early career Fellows, and Visiting Fellows. The new accommodation also includes accessible rooms designed to support students with additional needs.

Univ North represents a major step forward, not just in terms of space but in how we live, work, and connect as a College community. There’s a buzz of collaboration as we get ready, and while there’s still work to do, the energy and enthusiasm are unmistakable.



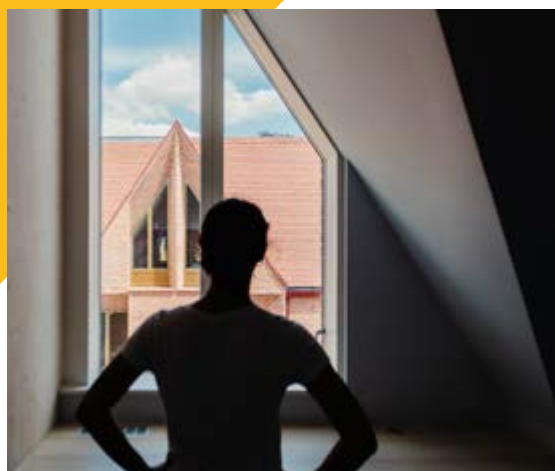
Frances Wright
Domestic Bursar at
Univ since April 2025



Images (left-right): Woodstock Pavilion – completing the external facade; Water Court West – first floor stairwell; Water Court West – second floor Study Bedroom

“Staverton/Univ North is a very peaceful place to live, with beautiful gardens and a rose garden. It does not feel like you are in the city living here and it is lovely hearing the birds sing. Univ North is coming along nicely, and I am excited to see the new gym up and running alongside study spaces for students and a café next year. It is going to make a huge difference to student life here and will be a lovely welcoming community.”

Angela Carter, Resident Caretaker/Porter at Staverton



WELFARE AT UNIV

Many people contribute to the welfare and wellbeing of students at the College in a range of ways that are intended to offer a positive and supportive academic environment in which students may flourish. Opportunities to establish relationships with tutors, effective teaching, well-resourced and accessible libraries, other academic support, good food and well-managed accommodation all play an important part, as do welcoming faces at the Lodge, in the Buttery, the Hall and elsewhere.

Taken together, these elements contribute to a person-centred and College-wide approach to student welfare and wellbeing that begins and extends far beyond the tailored individual support that we offer to students who face particular challenges or needs while they may be here. This approach starts by focussing on how best to support our teaching and research, since they are central to our academic purpose and self-understanding. But it also recognises that students learn best when they can focus on their studies, secure in the knowledge that their basic needs are recognised and catered for, and that other forms of support are also available, both in the College and in the wider University.

For some students, that will mean the opportunity to speak in confidence to a member of staff who will listen attentively as a student may figure out for themselves what they may need to do, or where they may need to go for a particular form of assistance or advice. It may mean receiving emotional support, information or advice on options open to them in the circumstances that they face, help with applying for reasonable adjustments for special educational needs or disabilities, financial assistance, or signposting towards support that may be available through the University

Counselling Service, the University Disability Advisory Service, the NHS or elsewhere. In some cases, one meeting or conversation may be all that is required for a student to decide what seems best for them. In others, a student may meet regularly with one or more members of staff for a longer period of time – possibly throughout the duration of their degree.

The College recognises that some students may feel more comfortable approaching one person rather than one another, so we have a range of people in our welfare team, and students are reminded of their names, roles and contact details on a regular basis. Two members of staff are full-time, and students can knock on their doors or make appointments in advance if they wish to talk about anything that may be affecting their welfare or wellbeing. One is **Andrew Gregory**, the Chaplain and Welfare Fellow, who leads the welfare team and is responsible for the development and implementation of welfare-related policies and chairs the panel which looks after financial support. The other is **Jo Hoskins**, our Student Disability and Welfare Officer, who co-ordinates support for students with disabilities and can advise on disability-related adjustments. Other members of the team include our College Nurse, **Victoria Manellari**, our College Counsellor, **Marigold Brown**, and our Adviser for International Students, **Jing Fang**. Junior Deans, who are senior graduate students with welfare-related training, also play an important role.

We hope that all students will feel able to approach a member of the welfare team should they wish to, to find support that works for them, and to be in a position to determine the best way forward in whatever circumstances they may face.

THE WELFARE TEAM



Andrew Gregory



Jo Hoskins



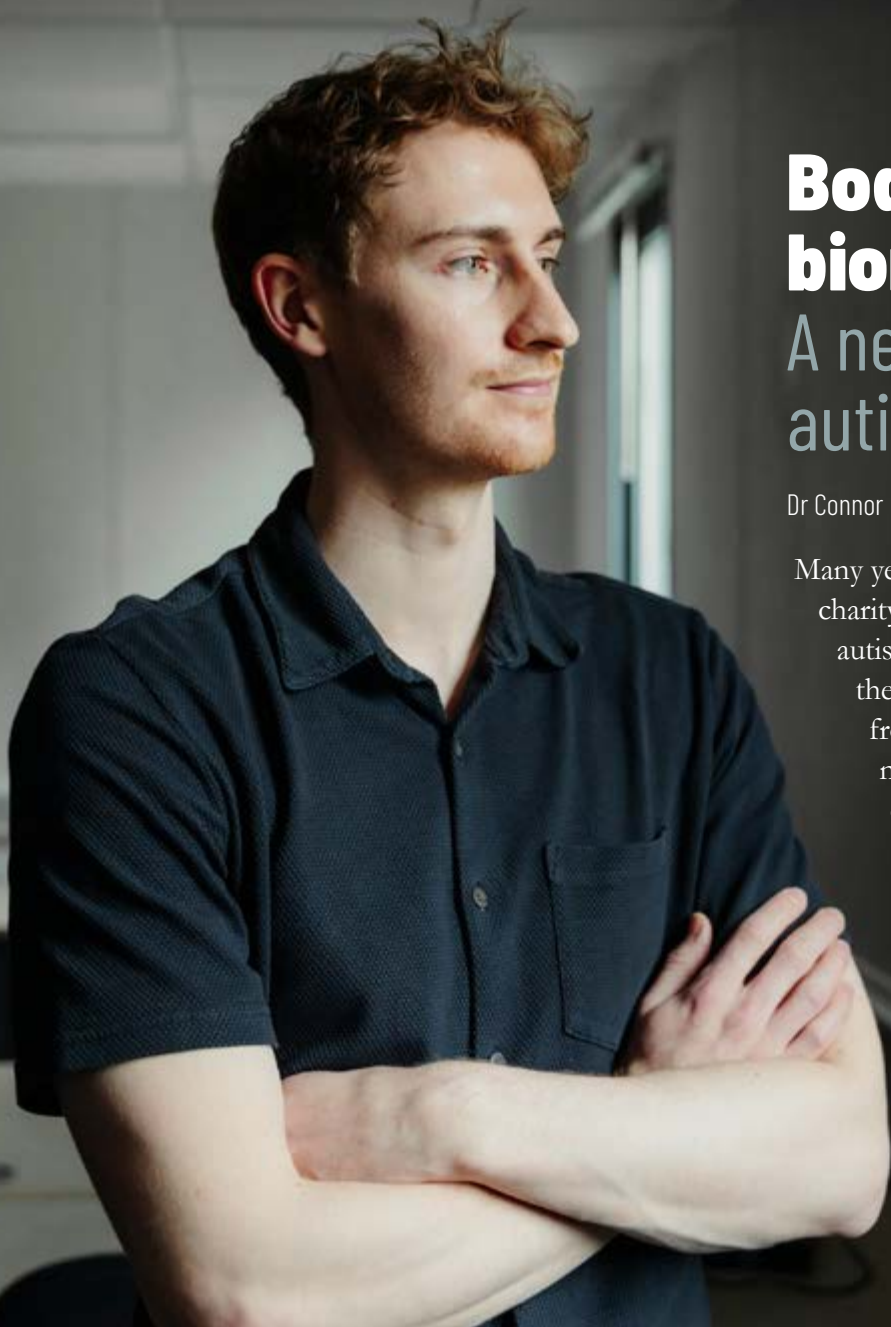
Victoria Manellari



Marigold Brown



Jing Fang



Body movements as biomarkers

A new approach to autism screening

Dr Connor Keating, Scott Family Junior Research Fellow in Autism

Many years ago, while volunteering for an autism charity, I noticed something intriguing: lots of the autistic people I was working with seemed to move their bodies in a way that was slightly different from neurotypical people. Although I could not quite put my finger on exactly what was different, their movements appeared slightly less smooth. This surprised me; although I had read and learned extensively about the social characteristics of autism, I was unaware of any movement differences.

Since then, a growing body of evidence has shown that certain movement differences are highly common in autism – appearing very early in development and continuing throughout life – and specific to autistic people. That is, these distinctive movement patterns are not observed in neurotypical individuals, people with ADHD or dyspraxia, or those with other movement-related conditions.

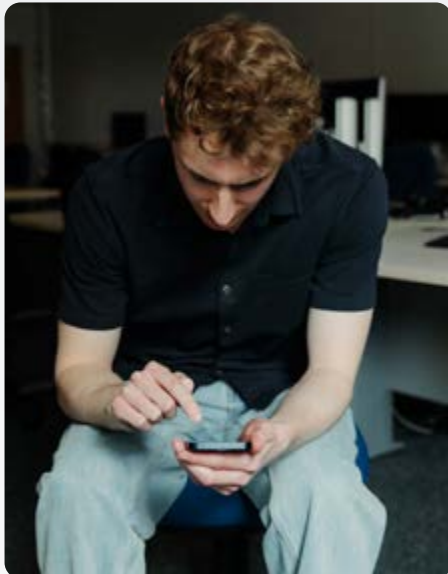
Contributing to this evidence base, during my PhD, my previous lab comprehensively characterised and compared the arm and face movements of

autistic and non-autistic adults, discovering striking differences. For instance, using a task in which participants trace different shapes, my colleagues found that autistic adults display a different drawing style; they more dramatically reduce their speed when encountering the curved parts of shapes. These autistic participants also moved their arm in a less smooth, more jerky fashion when tracing certain shapes, confirming my observations from many years ago.

In another study, we employed motion capture technology to track facial movements. Here, we uncovered further evidence supporting our earlier

observations: when prompted to express anger, autistic adults exhibited much more jerky mouth movements than their non-autistic peers. We also found that, when producing a happy expression, the autistic adults tended to display less exaggerated smiles that also did not reach the eyes.

In both recent studies, the specific movement atypicalities we identified in the autistic participants were highly prevalent and pronounced. This raises an exciting possibility; these particular movement features could serve as valuable indicators of autism, potentially enhancing current screening tools.



Current screening tools lack precision: around 85% of those flagged as suspected cases of autism do not ultimately receive a diagnosis. This over-identification leads to vast numbers of autism-related referrals to healthcare services every year, causing huge downstream costs and delays in diagnoses. These delays have escalated to such an extent that there are now more than 200,000 people waiting for an autism assessment in England alone – an increase of 27% from last year – and the average wait for an autism assessment is between three and three and a half years. To make matters worse, existing screening tools prove even less effective for girls and children of colour, leading to disparities in access to, and further delays in autism diagnoses for these groups. These prolonged waiting periods can have serious consequences. Without timely support, individuals face increased risk of mental health issues, suicidality, and abuse. These critical issues have led the NHS and autism community to call for more accurate, unbiased and scalable screening tools, thus enabling earlier support for autistic people and their families, ultimately improving outcomes and quality of life.

In response to these calls, recently, we trained machine-learning classifiers on the most common movement atypicalities seen in autistic people and then assessed how

well the classifier could separate autistic from non-autistic adults. Our results are remarkably promising: the classifier achieved exceptional accuracy (92%) and precision (89%). Put simply, our algorithm correctly classified 92% of participants, and when it predicted someone was autistic, it was right 89% of the time – a significant improvement over existing tools with 15% precision which wrongly flag potential cases 85% of the time. Importantly, our classifier proved highly effective across diverse subgroups, delivering 95% accuracy for women and 100% accuracy for Asian and Black individuals. These results suggest that movement atypicalities could serve as powerful, unbiased indicators of autism, enabling earlier identification and support for people from all backgrounds. But so far, our work has focused on the movements of adults. If we want to facilitate early identification of autism, it is important to examine the movements of children.

Therefore, as part of my Scott Family Junior Research Fellowship in Autism, we are now developing child-friendly smartphone games that allow us to capture arm and face movements. Our first game, “Seaweed City” immerses participants in an underwater world populated by poorly sea creatures. Players must trace various shapes to rescue each of them – for instance, drawing round a shark’s fin to bandage it with seaweed, or

tracing a jellyfish to restore its colour. In our second game, “EmoTopia”, participants enter a magical world where a wizard has stolen the inhabitants’ emotions. To help the characters “feel again”, players must travel through different lands, and demonstrate facial expressions of anger, happiness, and sadness.

With our digital worlds now taking shape, we are almost ready to get feedback from the true experts: autistic and non-autistic children. Their insights will prepare us for our next exciting step – inviting many autistic, other neurodivergent, and neurotypical children to play our games, creating a rich database of movement profiles. With each swipe and smile captured, we will be one step closer to understanding movement differences between these groups, and to building classifiers to identify autism in children. If successful, these smartphone games could provide a more accurate and equitable method of identifying autism, reducing unnecessary referrals and diagnostic delays, and enabling timely support for autistic people and their families. Watch this space for updates!

*Dr Connor Keating, Scott Family Junior Research Fellow in Autism, Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford
Co-founder of the U21 Autism Research Network*

Former Scott Family Junior Research Fellows having an impact

Edward W Scott Jr (1960, PPE), who serves on the Chancellor's Court of Benefactors of the University of Oxford, endowed a Chair in Psychiatry and two research fellowships dedicated to the study of the causes and possible treatments of autism spectrum disorders at Oxford – one of which is the Scott Family Junior Research Fellowship in Autism and Related Disorders at University College.

Scott also established a special programme at Univ for admission to the College of students with severe disabilities.

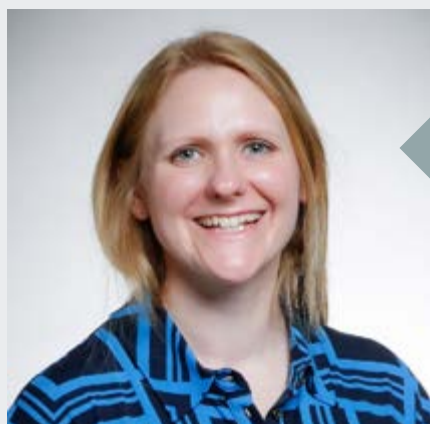
The Scott Family Junior Research Fellowship has played a key part in the early research and development of many academics in the field of autism research. Univ is proud to highlight a few of them here.



"The Scott Family JRF provided support at a critical point in my career, giving me the confidence and freedom to pursue my independent research. I will always be grateful for this fantastic opportunity."

Dr Alexandra Hendry

Dr Alexandra Hendry, former Scott Family Junior Research Fellow (2019-2022), is an Associate Professor in the Department of Experimental Psychology in the University of Oxford Medical Sciences Division, and an NIHR and Castang Foundation Advanced Fellow. Dr Hendry's research focuses on developing ways to identify and help children most likely to struggle with executive functions – the thinking and regulation skills that help us to plan, solve problems and control our impulses. She leads the START (Supporting Toddlers with a family history of autism/ADHD to develop strong Attention, Regulation and Thinking skills) early intervention programme (startproject.info). She also collaborates on the Oxford Early Executive Functions project – a longitudinal study of attention and executive function development from 10 months to preschool age – and the Social Distancing and Development Study (SDDS) and Born in Covid Year – Core Lockdown Effects (BICYCLE) studies which aim to understand the impact of Covid-19 lockdowns on early language and cognitive development.



"The Scott Family JRF allowed me to develop an independent research programme at a really early career stage and allowed me the time and thinking space required to apply for future funding fellowship applications."

Dr Cathy Manning

Dr Cathy Manning FHEA has been an Associate Professor in Psychology in the School of Psychology at the University of Birmingham since 2024. Dr Manning held the Scott Family Junior Research Fellowship at Univ from 2014 to 2017. She was also a Supernumerary Fellow in Autism and Related Disorders and Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellow from 2017 to 2021. Dr Manning's research focuses on sensory processing across child development, and in autism and dyslexia. She conducts research and impact work to make the world more inclusive for autistic and other neurodivergent people and leads the "Sensory Street" project (sensorystreet.uk). She has received numerous early career awards, including the British Psychology Society Developmental Section Neil O'Connor Award, the Applied Vision Association David Marr Medal, the Experimental Psychology Society Prize, Autistica's Reproducible Autism Science Award, and an Association for Psychological Science Rising Star Award. She is also an Editor at the journal, *Autism*. She was selected as a member of the UK Young Academy in 2024.

"I have come to view the Scott Family JRF as the foundational block in my career. Univ was an immersive lesson in a culture of excellence, community, compassion, and impact – and allowed me to channel these aims towards supporting autistic children and their families. It's a fire that still burns within me."

Professor Andrew Whitehouse



Professor Andrew Whitehouse is the Deputy Director (Research) of The Kids Research Institute Australia. He is also the Angela Wright Bennett Professor of Autism Research, the Director of CliniKids at The Kids Research Institute Australia, and the Research Strategy Director of the Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism (Autism CRC). Prior to joining The Kids Research Institute Australia, Andrew held the Scott Family Junior Research Fellowship at Univ from 2007 to 2009.

At The Kids Research Institute Australia, he leads a network of clinical centres (CliniKids) for children with neurodevelopmental differences that embeds clinical trials within everyday community practice. He currently presents an internationally syndicated video series called "60 Second Science", which has had over 2 million views. He is an advisor to State and Commonwealth Governments on policies relating to autism. He chaired the committee that generated Australia's first National Guideline for autism diagnosis and co-chaired the committee that developed Australia's first National Guideline for early therapies and supports for autistic children. He was a Western Australian of The Year Award winner.

"My time as the Scott Family JRF at Univ was one of the absolute highlights of my career so far. The post was crucial to my development as an independent researcher and gave me an opportunity to build connections with so many wonderful people – some of whom remain close collaborators even a decade later."

Professor Anna Remington



Professor Anna Remington, Scott Family Junior Research Fellow at Univ from 2012 to 2013, is a Professor of Autism Research at the Institute of Education (IOE), UCL's Faculty of Education and Society. She has been the Director of the Centre for Research in Autism and Education (CRAE) at UCL since November 2017. Professor Remington's research looks at whether autistic people see, hear and feel things in a different way from others. In particular, she focuses on superior abilities in autism, specifically with respect to attention and perception within the condition, and how these might translate into practical benefits such as employment success. She has received several awards for her work, including an ESRC Celebrating Impact Prize for Outstanding Impact in Business and Enterprise (Finalist 2020) and a UCL Knowledge Exchange Champions Award (2016). Anna's current research projects include working with autistic people in the family justice system, investigating autistic people's greater capacity to process information, and ways to promote autistic employment.



"My time as a Scott Family JRF at Univ changed my life. It was wonderful to be surrounded by such creative, kind and committed colleagues and to realise what a difference scholarship could make to the world. I met my husband at Univ too – which was a bonus!"

Professor Liz Pellicano

Professor Liz Pellicano is Professor of Autism Research in the Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology at University College London (since 2022) and was previously Professor of Educational Studies at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia (2017-2022) and before that Professor of Autism Education and Director of the Centre for Research in Autism and Education (CRAE) at UCL Institute of Education. Professor Pellicano held the Scott Family Junior Research Fellowship at Univ from 2004 to 2006. Professor Pellicano's most recent research, funded by a Future Fellowship from the Australian Research Council, identifies ways to bridge the gap between lab and life and open up research to greater involvement of Autistic people themselves, with the aim of generating scientific discoveries that bring real benefits to Autistic people and their families.

Our current Scott Family Junior Research Fellow is **Dr Connor Keating**, who joined Univ in October 2024. Read an article by Dr Keating on page 28.

THE SECRET OF MY. SUCCESS

PART FIVE: UNIV ENTREPRENEURS

Our entrepreneurs series showcases inspiring stories from established and emerging Univ entrepreneurs, where we ask them about their journeys, the challenges they have faced and where they find their inspiration.



🌐 thegarlicfarm.co.uk
📘 facebook.com/TheGarlicFarm
📷 instagram.com/garlic_farm

Natasha Edwards (1997, Economics and Management)

Managing Director of The Garlic Farm

The Garlic Farm potted history

My grandparents moved to the Isle of Wight in the 1950s. They were first generation farmers who bought the farm – land on the island was cheap at the time. They set up a mixed farm and my parents joined them the 1970s, so I grew up on the farm. My grandmother had been growing garlic in the kitchen garden and saw that it grew quite well, so when my parents moved back to the farm, they started growing their first commercial crops of garlic.



The Garlic Farm became its own brand when I was at university – but the business has had a big turnaround. We had been growing sweetcorn and garlic for supermarkets but that part of the business was sold in 1999. At that point we started selling garlic direct to the consumer from the farmhouse and that evolved into the farm becoming a specialist garlic farm, growing different varieties of garlic.

Mum started making chutneys and other things in the kitchen to sell in our little stable door farm shop that was at the bottom of the house. People would ring the bell and then one of us would dash down, serve the customers and then run upstairs and say, “I took 20 pounds!” excitedly. So that’s where it started. Since then, we’ve developed lots of products with garlic in them.

The Garlic Farm today

It’s still very much a family affair and we’re all involved in developing ideas. I’m Managing Director and I run the Garlic Farm side of the business with my husband, Barnes, while my brother and his wife run the holiday properties. My sister looks after

the sustainability of the Garlic Farm and my parents still live in the farmhouse.

We employ 100 people and now have a shop, restaurant, holiday properties and about 60 products under the Garlic Farm brand. We sell garlic, smoked garlic, black garlic, chutneys, sauces, relishes and butters to independent retailers all over the country as well as through our website. We have a production manager and a whole team that do daily tastings for customers in our farm shop. We’re close to our customers, and they give us feedback all the time.

We also have a garlic seed business, selling different varieties of garlic to amateur growers, and we encourage people to grow garlic at home. I have written two books about garlic, *The Goodness of Garlic*, 2016 and *Garlic: The Mighty Bulb*, 2012.

My husband looks after the off-island sales to independent retailers and via our website. We’ve changed our farming practices quite a lot in the last five years and he also looks after a lot of the farming side of things. We’ve become much more regenerative and our farmland is organic certified, and he’s been very much part of driving that change. I look after the

visitor side of things including the shop, the restaurant, events, on-site workshops and educational activities. I also oversee the financial side of things. The Garlic Farm is also BCorp Certified¹ meaning that we are verified as achieving high standards of environmental and social impact.

Arriving at Univ

I had completed my schooling on the Isle of Wight and attended the only independent school of the Isle of Wight at the time. The school didn’t have a relationship with Oxford, so I made an open application because I didn’t know any of the colleges. In hindsight, I was incredibly lucky to be allocated to Univ, and I remember going up for my interview. I’d been to Oxford once before when my Dad had taken me there for a wake, and it had stuck in my mind because the wake was held in one of the cricket pavilions in the parks. It was so beautiful, and I remember looking around and thinking that I’d like to spend time there. Coming from a relatively provincial place, it seemed like a big city to me.

¹Certified B Corporations, or B Corps, are companies verified by B Lab to meet high standards of social and environmental performance, transparency, and accountability.



Life at Univ

In my first two years, I played rugby, hockey, tennis and was in the Boat Club. Being on the Isle of Wight, I had done a lot of sailing, but I had never done any sculling before. It was brand new to me, but I went boots-in. When I first arrived, we trained for bumps, and I ended up carrying on and rowing in my second year.

Rowing training was on the morning after a big club night at Park End, the club that we always used to go to, so I'd stay up until 3am and then go rowing at 5am. I remember the incredibly early morning starts cycling in the dark up to Godstow. There was mist hanging over the river and it was gorgeous – a wonderful experience.

How Univ shaped me

Univ is an inspiring and elevating environment to be in. It pushed me in lots of ways, academically and socially, and I got involved in pretty much everything. There were lots of opportunities, but at the same time it felt very friendly and homely. That helped me make that transition from a small island to a place that was really a big deal.

Reverend Bill Sykes (College Chaplain 1978-2005) was amazing. I attended his reflection groups, and I still have one of his books. The reflection groups were one of the things that helped to make

the experience of being away from home comforting. There was comfort, but there were also challenges, and the comfort gave me a sense of security which enabled me to grow. One of my first memories of Univ was meeting Reverend Sykes as I came in through the Lodge and I was aghast that he knew my name even though we had never met. He had everyone's photo and knew everybody's name, where they came from and a little bit about them – I have always remembered that.

Having studied economics and management, the fundamentals of those subjects come back all the time, and the ideas and philosophies behind them remain useful in my work and life in general. These subjects are evolving a lot at the moment and there is a lot of new thinking in both areas that I'm still fascinated to learn about.

I also have an amazing network of great friends who I stay in touch with. They are all brilliant. I think that the Univ culture is quite accepting and accommodating of people from different backgrounds and I really appreciated that. I have got quite a diverse little group of friends who have all stayed connected and we see each other at least once a year. We've all gone off and done different things and everybody is very down to Earth, I would say. I call on

my friends when I have work or personal challenges, and we support each other. It's a valuable thing.

Advice for current and future students

You get out of it what you put in. That was the case for me. I got involved in college sports, which are accessible. You just have to go – it's fun and you get to meet people. You become part of a Univ family, which I think is lovely.

There are lots of other things to get involved in, such as the JCR. We used to manage various weird societies that people had dreamt up. I was president of the Anonymous Society at one point. The more you get involved, the more experiences you can have, and that is the unique thing about the College setup. Everything is very accessible, and you don't have to do things at university-level to have a go.

It's not difficult to get to the Isle of Wight and if anybody from Univ wanted to come and pay us a visit, we are open every day of the year. It is possible to do a day trip from Oxford, so visit us and make yourselves known – I will personally show you around as I'd love to meet any Univites who would like to see what we are up to.



Read the full interview here:
bit.ly/Univ1635



✕ twitter.com/causalhq
 ○ github.com/causalhq
 𐀀 linkedin.com/company/causalhq/

Lukas Koebis (2013, Mathematics and Computer Science) and Taimur Abdaal (2013, Mathematics and Statistics)

Co-founders of Causal

We met at Univ – two nerdy undergraduates building websites and side projects, bouncing ideas around late at night, and getting way too into tech trends. We were both part of Oxford Entrepreneurs, which gave us an early glimpse into the startup world and the sense that building a company wasn't just a Silicon Valley thing.

After graduating, we went down different paths – Taimur into data science, Lukas to WhatsApp in California – but the idea of starting something together stuck. In 2019, we both ended up back in London and decided to take the plunge.

We started building Causal with the idea that spreadsheets – especially for financial modelling – had not changed in decades.

Teams were relying on messy, error-prone tools to make important decisions. We set out to build a better way: structured like code, collaborative by default, and intuitive to use.

Over the next few years, we raised around \$25 million in venture capital, grew a small team, and served thousands of companies around the world. Earlier this year, we exited the company in a sale to Lucanet, a finance software firm based in Germany.

Our advice to any students thinking about starting something: just begin. Don't wait for the perfect idea or timing. Build something small, get feedback, and iterate. And if you can, find someone you enjoy working with – it makes the journey a lot more sustainable (and fun).



[linkedin.com/in/thomasvout/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/thomasvout/)

[youtube.com/@oxfordsemantictechnologies](https://www.youtube.com/@oxfordsemantictechnologies)



Thomas Vout (2016, Physics)

Knowledge Engineer at Oxford Semantic Technologies

Despite all the advice I had been given, the first four words of my personal statement read, “Physics is my passion” – a decision that led me to work with AI on millions of smartphones for a startup that would be acquired by Samsung.

At the time, although naive, I wrote those words because they were true. But over the course of my degree a new passion grew as Univ gave me even more than my subject had to offer. For the first time in my life, I found myself in an environment where everyone was an Entrepreneur, whether they knew it or not, free to challenge and encourage ideas in equal part. I fell in love. I knew this was the direction I wanted to take my life, and with the teaching, networking, and resources provided by Oxford, I was able to take my first leap into the world of startups.

At first it was incredibly challenging work. As an overly optimistic fresh graduate with grand ideas and no real experience, the lack of structure, training or guidance was as challenging as it was exhilarating. When I started, I spent as much time coding as I did producing marketing materials and working on sales. It was a small team, so we all had to be everything all the time. But the product was excellent – an AI that had spun out of the Computer Science Department. It was not a Large Language Model (LLM) statistical AI like ChatGPT – which has exploded into the

mainstream, but it was a different kind of AI entirely. This AI was not creative, but instead based on logic and knowledge, meaning it perfectly supported the shortcomings of LLMs, mitigating their failings like hallucinations and inaccuracy. This proved critical for enterprise, where consistency and accuracy are key. It was not long before the power of this kind of AI was realised and Samsung took notice. In the middle of last year we were acquired, and in just a few short months, we were mentioned in the launch of their latest flagship phone, the Galaxy S25.

When paired, our knowledge-based AI and LLMs form a solution known as RAG that offers a human-like interface to a custom data source of any kind, which I believe wholeheartedly is the future. There are endless possibilities for this technology but there are as many unanswered questions. Today I spend my time working on new RAG applications and educating the community, but I continue to draw from the Oxford ties that started it all. EnSpire have offered vital support and guidance, and Oxford Entrepreneurs Network have offered invaluable resources and mentoring, so much so that I now give back by leading events and programmes within the network. Oxford has never stopped giving, even years later it continues to open doors, and whether it is new connections, projects, or ideas, those opportunities are only growing.

tong.global
goyaso.com

TONG 通

YASO



James Campbell (2011, Chinese Studies)

Founder of TONG Global and YASO

James Campbell is based in London with his wife Louise (also a Univite) and their son.

I started my entrepreneurial journey in my third year of my four years at Univ and, 11 years on, I still feel like I am just getting started.

In 2014 I started TONG Global, a boutique China-focused digital marketing agency. My current focus is YASO, a tech startup I launched to provide an “operating system” for European cosmetics brands selling into China.

TONG Global is now 20 plus people and has worked with 120 clients. It has represented a cross-section of iconic British brands from fashion, heritage and luxury to sport: from Chelsea Football Club and the North Face to Anya Hindmarch and Fortnum & Mason.

YASO, founded in 2022 is a technology platform that has raised £3.5m in funding to manage the logistics, payments and store operations for cross-border ecommerce brands selling into China. We formally launched our platform in mid-2024 and have since scaled to 50k packages a month, hoping to double this by the end of the year.

I started my first business in my third year with a coursemate. After our year abroad in Beijing we had noticed that many British brands were unaware of their large audiences in China and thought we could help them reach this consumer group. We printed business cards, begged for free conference tickets and pitched to attendees. We only designed a website once we had our first customers and only hired our first employees after graduation.

YASO grew out of an insight from the agency: there was demand for British products in China and the ecommerce market was changing. Social media was melding with ecommerce and, increasingly, social distribution shaped consumption. We built a simple prototype which proved the concept and raised capital shortly after.

The collegiate atmosphere at Univ brought exposure to a wealth of ideas and new perspectives. The brilliance of my peers convinced me that academia was not for me, but the tutorial system instilled a confidence in synthesising information and pitching ideas that has stood me in great stead ever since.

My advice to prospective entrepreneurs is not to overthink it and just start talking to customers. If your idea has value, run with it and if not, change it. Your time at Univ is the ideal testbed for innovative ideas: in my experience prospects were happy to give a student their time and this was invaluable. I would also say to start as small as possible and only to raise funding when you have to. Equity is your control, exit value and non-renewable resource. Preserve it where you can.

My next focus is trying to build tooling for growth at YASO. At the moment we have more demand than we can launch – and we have a full pipeline of new partners to work with. Every day brings fresh challenge but also fresh interest.

Since those first steps at Oxford, entrepreneurship has been an enormously enriching rollercoaster for me. I am happy to offer what help and advice I can to any young Univ entrepreneurs. Please get in touch.

Sports and Societies

UCBC

Once again, college rowing was dealt a very wet Michaelmas term. Yet, despite the exceptionally limited water time – and cancellation of Tamesis Regatta, formerly Christ Church Regatta – our novices stuck it out to join senior and alumni crews at The Fairbairn Cup in Cambridge in December.

The unrelenting rain persisted into Hilary, and so Torpids ran only in half divisions. Our third boats were unfortunately benched, but the first and second boats had a solid week of racing to go +0 overall. M1 (now 4th) and W1 (now 3rd) are within touching distance of Headship, so keep a close eye out next year.



With a drier Trinity, we raced at Oxford City Bumps, BUCS Regatta, Bedford Regatta and, of course, Summer Eights. All our crews ended in excellent positions (M1 in 5th, W1 in 3rd, W2 the highest W2 on the river and M2 won blades), and we were the college with the most crews racing in Eights. It was a pleasure to welcome Old Members, friends and family to Summer Eights and our second ever Martlet Regatta! We hope to see even more of you there next year.

As always, thank you so much for your continued support. The Club wouldn't be where it is without you.

Louisa Boulton (2021, Medicine)
President of UCBC



RUGBY

Univ RFC has had a successful year on the pitch. The club, now allied with Trinity and Exeter colleges, reached last season's Bowl final against the Five Nation Army (Corpus, Catz, Mansfield, Merton, Somerville). After a tough first half, the team was within a score of the opponent. With the clock in the red, a drive over the line levelled the scores at 15–15. A dramatic conversion from the corner gave Univ a much celebrated and thrilling victory.

This season, the club has dealt with the cancellation of many league fixtures due to an ongoing player-number crisis across the whole of college rugby. Our dream of bettering last year's silverware was sadly ended by a valiant 19–7 loss to Teddy Hall in the first round of Cuppers, in which a few missed opportunities cost us.

The dream of back-to-back Bowls is



very much still alive, with a very winnable semi-final against Christ Church coming up soon. Following meetings to plan the future of college rugby, next season marks a significant change, with a new two-league

system and a recruitment drive designed to increase the number of successfully completed 15-a-side games.

Aidan Smyth (2021 Biochemistry)

NETBALL

Since the beginning of this year, our netball team has only grown stronger. We started off Hilary term in great shape with a 15-0 victory against Wadham and have remained unbeaten since. This means we have managed to win our league comfortably and move up into Division 2, a huge achievement since placing fifth in Michaelmas term!

This is all thanks to the enthusiasm of our newcomers who regularly attend all our matches, meaning we now have a lovely, bonded team, on and off the court. The budget has also meant that we can all celebrate our wins with free coffees after our matches.

We encourage people to get involved for Cuppers in Trinity, whether you have played before or are new to the sport. Given our clean sweep of victories in Hilary, it should be a great day for us!

Eve Emmanuel (2023, Chemistry) and Lola Coats (2023, English)
Co-captains

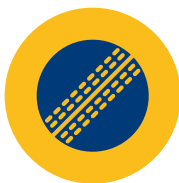


CRICKET

As I write this report, the 2025 cricket season is about to get underway – and April has (so far) been blessed with over two straight weeks of sunlight which seems unlikely to last until our first fixtures of Trinity term. These matches include our first-round Cuppers game against St Hugh's in Week 1, where Univ CC is hoping to move past last year's disappointing forfeit in the round of 16.

Surprisingly (if we exclude the forfeits), Univ CC achieved a 100%-win rate in completed games during the 2024 season, though admittedly, we only ended up playing 2 games. Had the combination of poor weather and availability issues not got in the way, this win record would almost certainly have been extended.

Our first win came against the mighty LMH team, who, on paper, appeared to be the better side due to their selection of Oxford main squad players. Nevertheless, Univ CC comfortably chased down their



respectable total of 154 runs inside 20 overs, losing only 4 wickets. This included tidy bowling performances from Ayman Ahmad and Zaghay Farhan, as well as an impressive (if I say so myself) 96* from Elishe Lim. Our second win was at the annual Old Members' game, which went right down to the wire. Univ CC posted a challenging total of 208-6, with an excellent

knock of 79 by Ayman Ahmad, but ended up winning by only 7 runs after a valiant chase from the Old Members.

This season, we are looking forward to playing many more matches, with hopes of extending our winning streak!

Elishe Lim (2023, Music)

Music at Univ

Music at Univ has continued to play an integral part of College life in the year 2025. Hilary term was blessed with the return of the Song Concert – this time on the theme of Hope and Love. The event was concluded with a sparkling piano duet between our resident organ scholars, Helen and Max, who took centre stage after having accompanied the Chapel Choir singers all evening. Another notable event

for the Chapel Choir last term was the Ash Wednesday service, where Univ joined forces with three other college choirs, singing *Missa O quam gloriosum* by Victoria and *Miserere* by MacMillan at the University Church. Despite the limited time given for rehearsal, Univ's singers delivered a "laudable" (as described by an anonymous choir member) performance to celebrate the first day of Lent.



At the time of writing, Trinity term is just about to start. Gig Nights, which have now become a termly event, are set to continue with an expanded line-up of music including solo acts, bands, and a DJ to close out the evening. Alongside this, UCMS has also planned to accompany Univ's summer Garden Party with some outdoor live music, which will surely complement the bouncy castle, ice cream truck, and range of other summery festivities our Entz reps have planned. One of the newest additions to Univ's musical facilities in 2025 is the Band Room; a rehearsal space for student bands and ensembles to practice. To accompany this space, brand-new instrument amplifiers and a drum kit have also been purchased – we anticipate this should result in a boom in Univ-based music groups over the next few years.

Elisbe Lim (2023, Music)

In memoriam

Fellows

Professor Edman Tsang, Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry, died on 20 May 2025.

Former Fellows

Professor Alexander (Alasdair) Chalmers MacIntyre, former Philosophy Fellow at Univ (1963-6) died on 21 May 2025 aged 96.

Dr Lisa Kallet, Emeritus Fellow and Former George Cawkwell Tutorial Fellow in Ancient History at Univ (2006-2021), died on 15 February 2025.

1940s

Allan Blaza (1943, History) died on 3 July 2024 aged 99.

John Michael Anthony Gurney (1946, History) died on 3 October 2017 aged 90.

Professor Roy McWeeny (1946, Chemistry) died on 29 April 2021 aged 96.

Dennis John Trevelyan FRSA FCIPD CB (1947, History) died on 19 July 2024 aged 94.

Michael David Neal (1948, Education, History) died on 10 May 2024 aged 97.

David Noble CBE (1949, English) died on 18 June 2024 aged 95.

1950s

Kenneth D Anderson (1950, Classics) died on 12 July 2024 aged 92.

John Poole (1950, Engineering) died on 7 February 2024 aged 93.

Lionel James Bunn (1951, Physics) died on 21 March 2025 aged 93.

Derek Reginald Chapman LLB (1951, Law) died on 23 April 2023 aged 90.

Dr Michael Robin Dunwell (1951, English) died on 5 May 2022 aged 90.

David Hurndall Smith (1951, Classics) died on 24 June 2024 aged 91.

Alan Alexander Burnett (1954, PPE) died on 27 November 2020 aged 88.

John Stuart Lowrie (1954, Classics) died on 25 September 2024 aged 89.

David Anthony (Tony) Viney (1954, PPE) died on 16 February 2024 aged 90.

Colin Robert Coulson (1955, Engineering) died on 23 May 2024 aged 89.

James Harvie Crockett (1955, Geology), died on 22 December 2020 aged 88.

The Reverend Timothy Jon Ganz (1955, Modern Languages and Theology) died on 16 February 2025 aged 88.

Peter Herrick (1955, Physics) died in February 2024 aged 86.

Neil Ellison Wilkie Huxter (1955, English) died on 29 May 2025 aged 91.

In April 2025 we were informed of the death of Stephen Sidney Ernest William Love (1955, Modern Languages, Education) aged 90.

Professor Martin (Marty) Cyril McGuire (1955, PPE) died on 26 February 2024 aged 90.

Robin Somervell Salvesen DL (1956, Engineering) died on 16 March 2025 aged 89.

Richard Derek Anthony Woode (1956, Chemistry) died on 20 October 2024 aged 86.

Stewart Dakers (1957, Theology) died on 15 December 2024 aged 85.

Robert (Robin) Trench Fox CBE (1957, PPE) died on 25 December 2024 aged 87.

Anthony John Arthur Green (1957, PPE) died on 13 April 2025 aged 88.

Malcolm Stuart Oxley (1958, History, Education) died on 10 May 2025 aged 86.

Ralph Robert Alford (1959, Oriental Studies) died on 20 July 2024 aged 84.

John Fox MBE (1959, PPE, Education) died on 11 March 2025 aged 86.

Dr Kenneth (Ken) John Mills (1959, Chemistry) died on 30 June 2024 aged 83.

1960s

Roger Michael (Mike) Davies FRCS (1960, Medicine) died in November 2024.

Iain Donald Spey (1960, Maths) died on 29 February 2024 aged 82.

Judge Michael Evered Buckley (1961, Law) died on 22 February 2025 aged 82.

Richard Marcel Jean Dammann (1961, Classics) died on 26 December 2023 aged 81.

James Norris Beaumont Cook (1962, Chemistry) died on 28 July 2024 aged 81.

Richard Hyde (1962, Chemistry) died in 2024.

Michael (Mike) Ronald Ratledge (1962, PPP) died on 5 February 2025 aged 81.

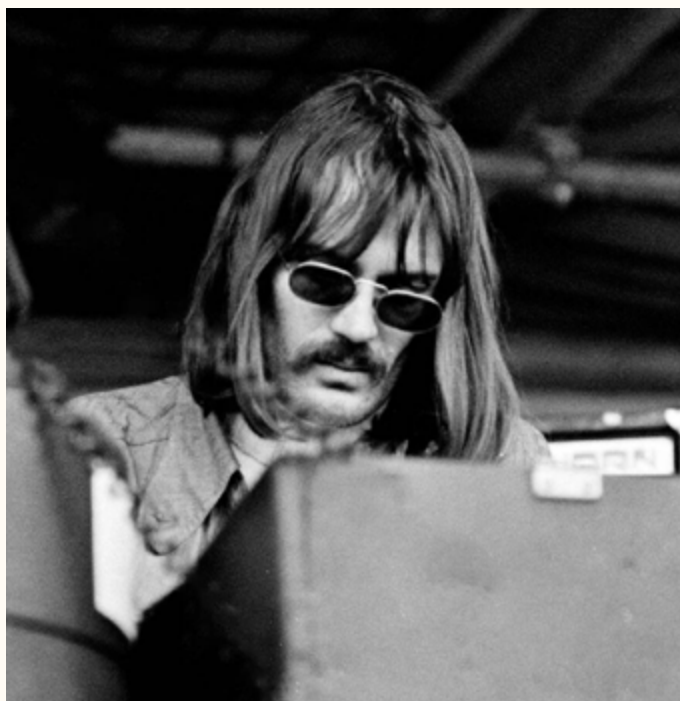
Jonathan Salis Daiches Seres (1963, PPE) died in 2024.

We were informed of the death of Michael Ralph Nicholas Roth (1965, Modern Languages) in June 2025.

Professor Dr Andrew Hamnett (1966, Chemistry) died on 20 May 2025 aged 77.

John Bussell Evans (1967, History) died on 21 August 2024 aged 76.

Peter Francis Arnold Knowles CB (1967, Law) died in January 2024 aged 74.



Robert David Jones (1968, PPE) died on 31 August 2024 aged 74.

Alan Peck (1968, Law) died on 27 June 2024 aged 75.

Dr John Flett Brown (1969, Geology) died on 7 January 2024 aged 78.

1970s

Robert Grenville Brockbank (1972, Engineering) died on 17 June 2024 aged 70.

We were informed of the death of Dr Jeremy Holland (1976, Biology) in May 2025.

Jonathan Cooper (1977, Psychology) died in March 2024 aged 65.

1980s

Howard Stanley Turner (1980, Physics) died on 25 May 2024 aged 63.

Simon George Carling (1983, Chemistry) died on 30 April 2025 aged 59.

Dr Andrew Mark Thornton (1983, Physics) died on 27 January 2024 aged 58.

Dr Clare Louise Yeoman (1984, Biology) died on 18 January 2022 aged 55.

1990s

Ian Martin Buckett (1992, Social Studies) died on 9 July 2024 aged 56.

Sophie Paraskevi Koveos (1998, English) died in 2018 aged 40.

Announcements

If you have news you would like to submit for the next issue, please email communications@univ.ox.ac.uk

1950s

The Colin Ford Lecture 2024 took place at the Weston Library, Oxford on 13 May, in celebration of the 90th birthday of **Colin Ford CBE** (1952, English).

Nick Schlee (1952, English) held an exhibition of oil paintings and drawings at the River & Rowing Museum in Henley in July 2024.

Michael Williams (1957, History) was selected for the Royal West of England Academy (RWA) Annual Open 171.

1960s

Professor Roderick McTurk (1960, English) was awarded the Knight's Cross of the Icelandic Order of the Falcon by the President of Iceland in 2007.

Alastair Lack (1964, History) led literary tours of Oxford colleges and landmark buildings during the Oxford Literary Festival in 2024 and 2025.

Herbert Knott (1968, PPE) completed a 120-mile Cardigan Bay charity cycle for St Michael's Hospice (Hereford) in August 2024.

In April 2024, **Robin Allen KC** (1969, PPE) published a Bill for the regulation of Artificial Intelligence in the workplace, commissioned by the Trades Union Congress.

1970s

Cllr William Perry (1970, PPE) was elected Chairman of Cookham Parish Council in May 2024.

Viscount Andrew Dunrossil (1972, Greats) received the National Tartan Day Award 2024.

Professor Mervyn Frost FKC (1972, Politics) was elected a Fellow of King's College London.

Hugh Watson (1973, PGCE) recorded a new album, *We're Free We're Rolling*, with country-folk-rock band Willie and the Correspondents.

Steven Hutchings (1975, Jurisprudence) joined the board of the Students' Union at Bournemouth University (SUBU) as a Non-Executive Director and Trustee.

Dr Andrew McCormick CB (1975, Geology) published a paper on "The Constitutional Status of Northern Ireland" in January 2024.

Dr Henry Nolte (1975, Botany) has curated an exhibition of Indian botanical drawings opening at Kew in October 2025.

Professor Julian Lindley-French (1976, History) was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Professor Colin T Reid (1976, Law) was awarded the prestigious Legal Pioneer Award by the Law Society of Scotland.

Dr Seán Lang (1979, History) launched BOATS (Based on a true story) theatre.

1980s

Professor Mortimer Sellers (1980, Law) was elected Honorary President of the International Association for the Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (IVR) in 2024.

Dr Paul Liu (1981, PPP) started PAX Therapeutics, a gene therapy startup.

John Ridding (1984, PPE) stepped down from the position of Chief Executive at the *Financial Times*, after 30 years at the FT in both editorial and executive roles.

The Honourable David Unterhalter (1984, Law) was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal of South Africa in July 2024.

Alastair Sim (1985, English) completed a five-star run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe as writer and performer of a show about Robert Burns.

Sally Duckworth (1986, PPE) was appointed Chair of the Government's Technical Advisory Committee for International Sustainability Standards in May 2024.

Fitzbillies bakery owned by **Alison Wright** (1986, PPE) was one of three finalists for Online Business of the Year at the 2024 Baking Industry Awards.

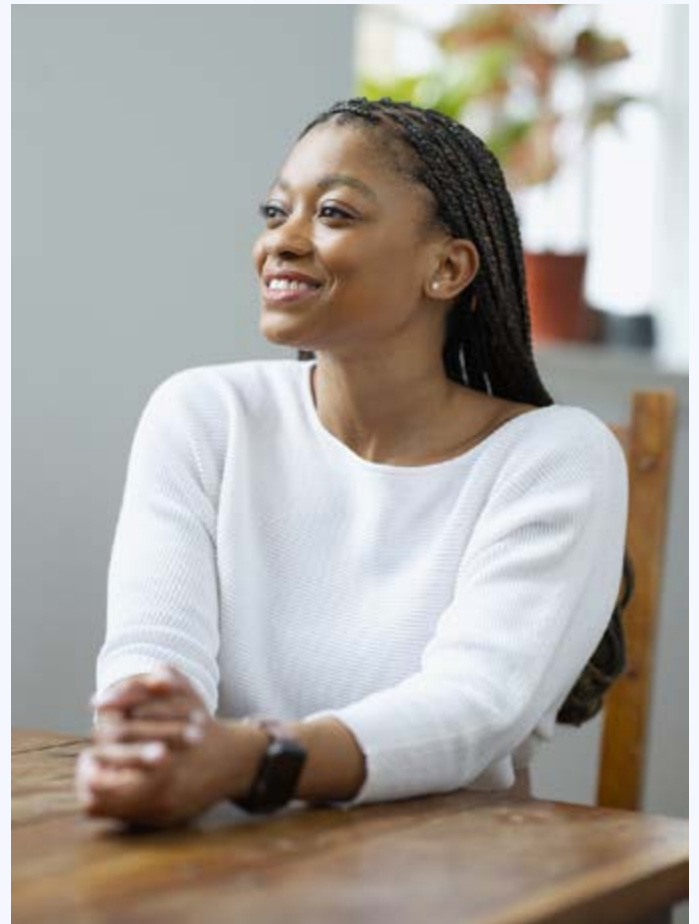
Dr Nick Screaton BM, BCh, MRCP, FRCR (1987, Medicine), was installed as President of the British Institute of Radiology (BIR) on 18 September.

Shomit Dutta (1989, Classics) won the Award for Best Scriptwriter for his original play *Stumped*, at the Eastern Eye Arts, Culture and Theatre Awards (ACTAS).

Simon Hitchings (1989, Classics) was appointed as a Research Fellow of the Craig Center at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia in early 2024.

Professor Fabrizio Nevola (1989, History and Modern Languages) launched an immersive new app, HistoryScapes, for the National Trust.

Wils Wilson (1989, English Language and Literature) directed *Macbeth* at the RSC, and the world premiere of David Greig's *Two Sisters* at Malmö Stadsteater.



Images (clockwise from top left): Andy Zaltzman, Nadia Odunayo, Isla Rardcliffe, Wils Wilson



1990s

Dr Frank Thurmond (1990, English) wrote and produced *The Forms of Things Unknown*, a compelling short film inspired by his experience with his mother's battle with Alzheimer's.

The President of the King's Bench Division appointed **The Hon Mr Justice Martin Chamberlain** (1991, PPE & BCL) as Judge in Charge of the Administrative Court List.

Matthew Grogan (1991, Engineering and Computer Science) co-founded a Web3 social media app called OpenChat.

Alastair Robertson (1991, PPE) produced *Songs of the Bulbul*, which won the Best Show award at the Edinburgh International Festival in 2024.

Neel Mukherjee's FRSL (1992, English Language and Literature) book *Choice* was shortlisted for The Goldsmiths Prize 2024.

The inaugural Tom Grass Spirit of Adventure Prize was launched on 1 October 2024, through the collective effort of friends and family in memory of **Tom Grass** (1992, History).

Harry Wallop (1993, Modern History) won the Foreign Press Association financial/economic Story of the Year award 2023 for a feature he wrote for the *Sunday Times Magazine*.

Poet **Monica Youn** (1993, English) was in conversation with Topé Folarin in a virtual event organised by the Rhodes Trust on 18 September.



Andy Zaltzman (1993, Classics) embarked on the biggest stand-up tour of his career to date, "The Zaltgeist."

RADM Michael Mattis (1994, English) was promoted to Rear Admiral in December 2023.

Professor Najib Rahman (1994, Medicine) was elected as Lead for the European Thoracic Society Oncology Assembly from September 2024.

Commotio, the chamber choir founded and conducted by **Matthew Berry** (1995, Music), held a 25th anniversary concert in Oxford on 28 September.

Jane Price-Stephens (1996, Experimental Psychology) was shortlisted for The International Design and Architecture Awards 2023.

Ben Williams (1996, Experimental Psychology) was awarded Honorary Membership of The Association for Business Psychology in 2023.

A chapter of a novel translated by **Jon Baines** (1997, English) has been published on wordswithoutborders.org.

The Garlic Farm, of which **Natasha Edwards** (1997, Economics) is Director, received a King's Award for sustainability.

Sam Zager (1997, Economic and Social History) was named 2024 Legislator of the Year (Maine Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics; Committee Award Maine Council on Aging).

2000s

Holger Nehring (2000, Modern History) was awarded a British Academy Innovation Fellowship to work on the history of Wilton Park, the executive agency of the FCDO.

Dr Kenneth Clarke (2003, English) became the Director of the Centre for Medieval Studies at York in July 2024.

Professor Stephen Fleming (2003, Psychology with Physiology) was awarded the Royal Society's Francis Crick Medal and Lecture in 2024.

Andrew J Clulow (2004, Chemistry) was promoted to senior scientist on the Biological Small Angle X-ray Scattering (BioSAXS) beamline at the Australian Synchrotron in 2023.

Dr Joseph Hewlett (2005, Physics) was joint winner of the ASME Journal of Computational and Nonlinear Dynamics Best Paper Award 2024.

Ed Hicks (2008, Modern Languages – Russian and Czech) was appointed a trustee of Pushkin House, the UK's oldest independent Russian cultural centre in June 2024.

Carys Roberts (2008, PPE) was appointed as a special adviser in the Prime Minister's policy unit – advising on key areas including climate, energy and the environment.

James Carroll (2009, English) was appointed the Prime Minister's Special Adviser for partnerships that support the UK government's missions and its Plan for Change.

2010s

Nadia Odunayo (2010, PPE) featured in Apple's UK App Store as part of their "Black, British and Brilliant" Black History Month campaign.

Professor Alessandro Sisto (2010, Mathematics) was awarded a Whitehead Prize for his outstanding contributions to geometric group theory.

Catriona Bourne's (2011, Music) debut album, *Triquetra*, launched on 11 October at Toulouse Lautrec Jazz Club in London.

Lewis Coenen-Rowe (2011, Music) took his fourth opera, *STUMPED*, to the Edinburgh Fringe.

Dr Thierry Hirsch (2011, Classics) was elected to the Consultative Commission on Human Rights of Luxembourg in 2024.

Risham Nadeem (2012, History) contributed a chapter "Inclusive Design and the Pursuit of Intimacy" to the *Design Museum Magazine* in January 2024.

Dr Robert Conway (2013, Medicine) received an Early Career Teaching Excellence Award from the Medical Sciences Division at Oxford.

Dr Alistair Sterling (2013, Chemistry) was appointed Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at The University of Texas at Dallas in August 2024.

Dr Cem Veziroglu (2013, Law) received the 2023-2024 Outstanding Teaching Award from the University Law School in Türkiye.

Alexandra Wilson (2013, PPE) delivered the University of Oxford Faculty of Law's Annual Equality and Diversity Lecture on 31 January 2025, based on her book *In Black and White*.

Isla Ratcliff's (2014, Music) second album, *The Scottish Four Seasons*, the follow-up to *The Castalia* (2021), will be released in November.

A podcast episode "Running as Medicine" by **Maria Ordovas-Montanes** (2015, Interdisciplinary Bioscience) was recognised by the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) in recent awards.

Na Li (2016, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies) was shortlisted for the 2024 BACS (British Association for Chinese Studies) Best Doctoral Thesis on China.

Aleksy Kwiatkowski (2017, Chemistry) was awarded an Industrial Fellowship by The Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 for his project "Closing the Loop."

Marko Supronyuk (2017, MSc Russian and East European Studies) has been named a 2024 NextGen Fellow by Business Executives for National Security.

Dr Mahan Ghafari (2018, Interdisciplinary Bioscience) was awarded the Wellcome Trust Early Career Research Fellowship, for a five-year position in the Department of Biology at Oxford.

Nayani Jensen (2018, English Literature) won the 2024 Bronwen Wallace Award for

Emerging Writers from the Writers' Trust of Canada for her short fiction piece "Like Rabbits."

Gloria Wai Shan Ma (2019, Experimental Psychology) had a paper "Social sharing of emotion during the collective crisis of COVID-19" accepted by the British Journal of Psychology.

UK General Election – July 2024

Andrew George (1980, Plant Sciences) was re-elected as the Liberal Democrat MP for St Ives.

Richard Fuller CBE (1981, PPE) was elected as the Conservative MP for North Bedfordshire.

Paul Waugh (1985, PPP) was elected as the Labour and Co-operative Party MP for Rochdale.

Roz Savage MBE FRGS (1986, Law) was elected as the Liberal Democrat MP for South Cotswolds.

Chris Philp (1994, Physics) was re-elected as the Conservative MP for Croydon South.

Calum Miller (1996, PPE) was elected as the Liberal Democrat MP to the new seat of Bicester and Woodstock.

Dan Tomlinson (2010, PPE) was elected as the Labour MP for Chipping Barnet.

Keir Mather (2020, MPP) was re-elected as the Labour MP for Selby. He was also appointed Assistant Whip, House of Commons on 10 July 2024.

Honourable Mentions

2025 New Year Honours

Professor Nandini Das (1997, English) was awarded an OBE for services to Interdisciplinary Research in the Humanities and to Public Engagement.

Professor Ros Rickaby FRS received an OBE for services to Biogeochemistry.

2024 King's Birthday Honours

Richard Fuller (1981) was awarded a CBE for Political and Public Service.

Jean-Christophe Gray CBE (1994, Modern History) was awarded an LVO as former Private Secretary to the Prince of Wales.

Armando Iannucci (1982, English) was awarded a CBE for services to Film and Television.

Dr Alexander (Xa) Sturgis (1982, History) was awarded a CBE for services to Culture.

2024 New Year Honours

Dr Andrew Stott (1977, Geography) was awarded an MBE for services to Nature and Climate.

Read the stories in full on the College website at: bit.ly/ufm130

Publications



Jon Baines (1997, English) published a translation of *The Diary of a Red Army Officer*.

Robert Ballingall (2007, Politics) published his first book, *Plato's Reverent City: The 'Laws' and the Politics of Authority* (2023).

Professor Peter Beresford OBE (1964, History and Social Studies) published *The Antidote: How People-Powered Movements can renew Politics, Policy and Practice* (2025).

Professor Jonathan P Bowen FBCS FRSA (1974, Engineering Science) published: *The Arts and Computational Culture: Real and Virtual Worlds* (2024).

Andrew Burnett (1970, Modern History) published *The Dutch Rediscover the Dutch-Africans (1847-1900): Brother Nation or Lost Colony?* (2022).

Robert Cioffi (2005, Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature) published *Egypt, Ethiopia, and the Greek Novel* (2024).

Dr Kenneth Clarke (2003, English) published *Dante's Divine Comedy: A Reading Guide* (2024).

Professor Barry Cooper (1966, Music) published *The Creation of Beethoven's Nine Symphonies* (2024).

George Crowder (1982, Politics) has a book forthcoming: *Isaiah Berlin in the Twenty-First Century* (2025).

Martin Davis FRSA (1962, Law) published *House of Sandys: Fragments from the Ombersley Court Archive* (2024).

Andrew Dow (1964, Theology) produced a small paperback called *Christianity Unwrapped - God's Rescue Pack Revealed*.

Dr Michael Ferguson (1964, Geography) published *Somerset and District Friendly Society Pole Heads* (2024).

Carsten Flohr (2007, Medicine) published the *Handbook of Skin Disease Management* (2023).

John Fox MBE (1959, PPE) published his fourth poetry collection: *Occasional remedies*.

Owen Frazer (1997, PPE) published *Reframing Peace Mediation: Overcoming Negotiation Impasses in El Salvador* (2024).

Jonathan Gaunt (1966, Mods and Greats – Literae Humaniores) published the 22nd edition of *Gale on Easements* (2024).

Peter Gillman (1961, PPP) published *Murder in Cairo*, a non-fiction account of the killing of David Holden in 1977 (2025).

Stephen Gaskell (1994, Physics) published *Shadows of the Endless* (2024).

Paul Gibbard published *The French Collector: Journal and Letters of Theodore Leschenault, Botanist of the Baudin Expedition* (2023).

Jules Goddard (1962, Geography) published *Letting Go of Logic* (2024).

Dr John Godwin (1973, Classics) published *Roman Verse Satires – Spleen and Ideal* (2024).

Fred Harrison (1970, PPE) is to publish *The Human Project* in 2025.

Richard Hilliard (1968, English Language and Literature) published *Plenty of Grapes*.

Robin Hillyard (1969, Engineering Science) has a new book, *Data Structures, Algorithms, and Invariants: a Practical Guide* (2025).

Stephen Hofmeyr (1979, Jurisprudence) is co-editor of *Carver on Charterparties*, 3rd edition (2024).

Professor Dr Michael C Jackson OBE (1970, PPE) published *Critical Systems Thinking: A Practitioner's Guide* (2024).

Geraint Jennings (1985, Modern languages) published the Jèrriais translation of *Le Petit Prince* (2023).

Annette Kern-Stähler (1988, English) published *Literature and the Senses*.

Colin Lang (1953, PPE) published *In My Time: a Personal Journey* (2023).

Professor Dr Karin Lesnik-Oberstein (1992, English) published an essay in *The Routledge Companion to Children's Literature and Culture* (2024).



Professor Julian Lindley-French (1976, History) published *The Retreat from Strategy* (2024).

Antonia Lloyd-Jones (1980, Russian and Ancient Greek) selected stories for and translated (from Polish) *Warsaw Tales* (2024).

Dr Sara Lodge (1994, English) published *The Mysterious Case of the Victorian Female Detective* (2024).

Paul McKechnie (1980, Literae Humaniores) edited *A Monument More Lasting than Bronze: Classics in the University of Malawi, 1982–2019* (2024).

Joanna McMillan (1986, Physics and Philosophy) published her third novel *The Accidental Immigrants* (2025).

Keith Miles (1959, Modern History) published *Spring Offensive* (writing as Edward Marston), (2024).

John Minoprio (1957, Law) published *Aachen Equestrian Beauty – Horse Show to the World* (June 2024).

Peter Morrell (1963, French and German) published a memoir *Reminiscences of a Nearly Somebody* (2022).

Stephen Morris (1986, Physics) published *The Foaming Deep: A Yorkshire Murder Mystery* (writing as M S Morris) (2025).

Neel Mukherjee FRSL (1991, English Language and Literature) published his latest book, *Choice* (2024).

Holger Nehring (2000, Modern History) co-authored *Cold War Scotland* (2024).

Julia Nightingale (1985, Medicine) published a children's story book, *Who am I?* (2023).

Thilo Offergeld (1990, Modern History) published *75 Jahre Universität des Saarlandes. Themen, Akteure, Orte ihrer Geschichte* (2023).

Reginald Oliver (1971, Literae Humaniores) has two books forthcoming: *This Haunted Heaven* (short stories – 2024), and *Wings of Night* (novel – 2025).

John Pike (1973, PPE) has several books forthcoming in 2025 including: *The Age of Firepower: Military Revolution 1600-1650*.

Joseph Pizza (2005, English) has published a chapbook of poetry titled, *Promissory Notes* and an academic monograph: *Dissonant Voices: Race, Jazz, and Innovative Poetics in Mid-Century America* (2023).

Andrew Robinson (1975, Chemistry) published *Einstein in Oxford* (2024).

Professor Sean Sayers (1966, Philosophy) published *The Making of a Marxist Philosopher: A Memoir* (2024).

Professor Mortimer Sellers (1980, Law) published the first full printed edition of the *Encyclopaedia of the Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy* (2024).

Lucy Steeds (2015, World Literatures in English) published her debut novel *The Artist* (2025).

Rick Stroud (1965, English) published *I Am Not Afraid of Looking into the Rifles: Women of the Resistance in World War One* (2024).

Jennifer Thum (2010 Oriental Studies – Egyptology) edited *Teaching Ancient Egypt in Museums: Pedagogies in Practice* (2024).

Professor Raymond Wacks (1971, Law) published *Animal Lives Matter: The Continuing Quest for Justice* (2024).

Olivia Walsh (2003, General Linguistics and Comparative Philology) edited *Historical and Sociolinguistic Approaches to French* (2024).

Michael Ward (1968, PPE) published *Unceasing War on Poverty, Beatrice and Sidney Webb and their World*, (2024).

Colin Whorlow OBE (1983, Mathematics) is the editor and co-author of the *Times Mindset Puzzles* book, published in 2023.

Nigel Wood (1972, English Language and Literature) published *Shakespeare and Reception Theory* (2022).

“The range of personalities and interests found at Univ fuels interdisciplinary exchange and creates an extraordinary atmosphere (both formal and informal). It’s this diverse and exciting community that I hope to support by remembering Univ in my will.”

Dr Jessica Ford (née Lazar) (2009, English)

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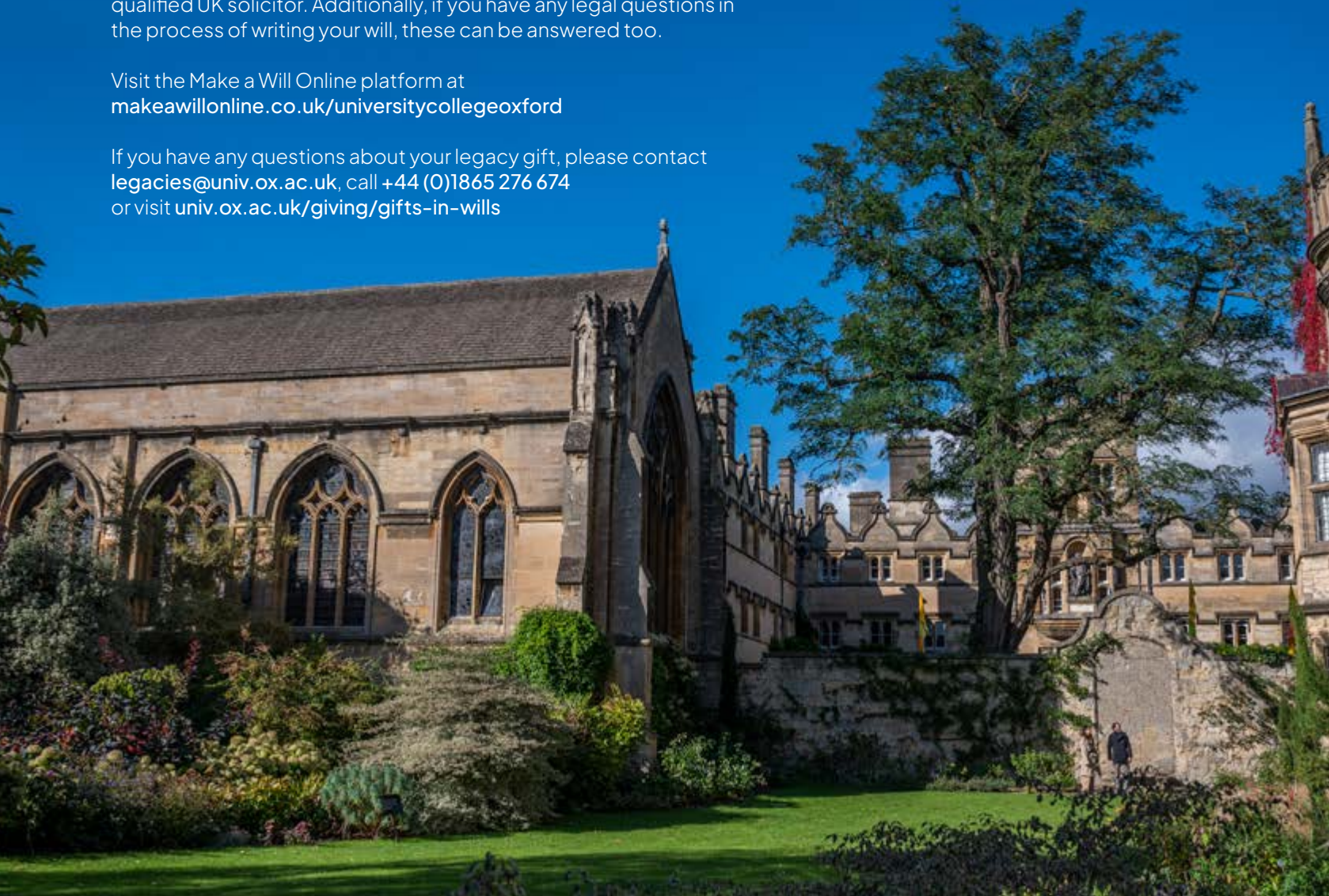
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THE GARLIC FARM RECIPE FOR OAK SMOKED DAUPHINOISE



From *The Garlic Farm Cookbook* (The Garlic Press, 2010), Natasha Edwards, Colin Boswell (authors), Paul Mulvey (Illustrator).

INGREDIENTS

1kg of waxy firm potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
500ml of full cream milk or mixed milk with cream
6 fat cloves of oak-smoked garlic
1 teaspoon of nutmeg
50g of butter
Sea salt and black pepper

METHOD

1. Pre-heat the oven to 190°C. Lay half the sliced potato in an oven-proof dish. Cover with a layer of seasoning then grate the garlic cloves on top.
2. Tip the rest of the potato slices into the dish; spreading them out evenly. Season again then pour over the milk and cream.
3. Bake until all the liquid has been absorbed and the top has browned, usually about 1 to 1 1/2 hours.



**“We’re incredibly proud of the new facilities
at Univ North, which reflect our ongoing
commitment to providing an outstanding living
and learning environment for all our students.”**

Shane Pledge, Accommodation and Housekeeping Manager