



Wolfson College  
Cambridge

# The Wolfson Review



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# #49 The Wolfson Review

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# From the President

**W**hat better time to start out as President of Wolfson College than in the year of its landmark 60th birthday? This year, we celebrated this milestone in tremendous style. For me, the stand-out event of the year was the glittering dinner for our alumni and donors held

at the Lord Mayor of London's official residence, Mansion House, in April. The occasion was a befitting look-back, as the event was hosted by the Lord Mayor, Alastair King, son of the late Jack King, Wolfson's former Bursar and later Vice-President. Jack King did much to secure the College's finances in the 1970s. During this wonderful evening, we all marvelled at the fact that Wolfson College, although a later addition to collegiate Cambridge, had one key advantage: the admission of female Fellows and female students from day one, with no restrictions whatsoever. We continue in this tradition with a clear focus on making sure that every single College space is open to all of our staff and members. The egalitarian ethos envisaged by our founders is clearly in evidence in everything that we do today.

The Mansion House party was not the only party that we had. We held a fabulous birthday party for Wolfson in June, with live music, provided by the Sam Miles Quartet jazz ensemble and Casa del Funk, a popular music band – the latter fronted by our very own superstar Fellow and obvious polymath, Professor Giles Yeo. The music was a continuum of crowd pleasers, turning a summer's evening into a Wolfson disco, with the youngest person on the dance lawn only eight years old and the oldest a sprightly ninety-three years old. I know, because I checked. A rousing 'Happy Birthday Dear Wolfson' topped the night and everyone left with a huge smile on their face.

But this year wasn't only about parties. In Michaelmas Term we enrolled 447 students, made up of 49 undergraduates (of which four were Foundation Year students), 344 master's students, and 54 PhD students. Our current students originate from 84 different countries and are studying 232 different subjects. Our Senior Tutor, Dr Judith Bunbury, and I, met all of our new students at our wonderful matriculation events, and I had the time of my life chatting with our latest intake. Their backstories were as diverse as you could imagine, but the one thing that united all of our matriculating students was this burning desire to succeed in Cambridge and then go out and shake up the world.

Our students really do bring change to the world through the things that they go on to do after Wolfson. This global impact is neatly exemplified by His Excellency Tharman Shanmugaratnam (1981), the President of Singapore, who won a landslide election victory in 2023 and with whom I had the chance to meet when I visited Singapore in April. I also met Esther Chan (2009) in Hong Kong in April. Esther runs the Yew Chung Yew Wah Education Network in China, and I was so impressed with the impact that her work is having on the region. The world is full of such Wolfson examples.

As well as admitting students to College, we also graduated many of our students. As I write, this academic year, we have so far presented 43 undergraduate, 262 master's, and 56 PhD students for graduation. We congratulate and are immensely proud of our graduates and are especially proud that 67% of our final year undergraduate students gained a first-class honours or second-class upper division degree.

Our students organised yet another edition of our excellent annual Wolfson Research Event, and this year we got to hear of some amazing multi-disciplinary research from over thirty of our students. I really enjoyed hearing about work to uncover the genetic determinants of Type 2 diabetes, the historical origins of Eastern European attitudes towards the current conflict in Ukraine, and the philosophy underpinning the descriptions of the various actors in ancient Greek and Roman texts. What a fascinating day.

This has also been a bumper year for fundraising, and our Development team, led by Development Director, Simon Crookall, has raised a whopping £7 million. Part of this came from our inaugural Giving Day, held in May. Our Giving Day really resonated with our community, and we received over 400 donations and raised a staggering £125,000. We say a huge and heartfelt thank you to all of our donors for securing the future of so many of our students. Our fundraising helped us buy two new houses and so we have increased our estate footprint and the number of available student bedrooms.

Our Fellowship continues to thrive, and I am delighted to say that I have met every single one of our Fellows in over 120 one-to-one meetings, which has been a real pleasure. The thing I enjoyed most was hearing about our Fellows' groundbreaking research. I learnt about new visual methods for predicting as well as determining the cause of a stroke, how valuable data leaks from computer hardware, how to design safer batteries, the importance of the rule of law at sea, and how little gender politics have changed over the past 400 years. Wow!

As you will see from other areas of the *Review*, our Fellows have also won prestigious awards for their work. Professor Gordon Dougan was awarded the Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to Vaccines and to Global Health in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours. Professor Lloyd Peck was awarded the SCAR Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research in 2024, and Dr Nick Evans was awarded the Pilkington Prize for outstanding teaching at the University of Cambridge in 2025.

Wolfson members have all delivered the most amazing year and I very much look forward to telling you how well we have done next year.

**Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu**  
**DBE FMedSci HonFRSC**  
President

Photo by Phil Mynott



# Tutorial Report

*“Welcome to Wolfson” rang in my ears when I arrived here, and it has indeed been a warm welcome to the College.*

**A**s I step up to the role of Senior Tutor, succeeding Susan Larsen, I have been incredibly impressed by the commitment of the team to supporting our students and helping them make the most of their time in Cambridge.

The more than a thousand students who make up this year’s cohort have certainly made the best of their time, and early indications are that the results for our undergraduates are as strong as ever – we will have to wait a little longer to hear how our large contingent of master’s students have fared, but the positive energy around the Library and the Club Room as dissertations are submitted makes me optimistic.

College life is about much more than academic performance and our students have thrown themselves into a variety of activities and events through the year. They have served on committees, taken up rowing and football, enjoyed crafting, and explored ways to improve the College’s sustainability. And, of course, they’ve partied!

After fourteen months of renovations on the kitchen, the new dining facilities and the Club Room re-opened at the end of the Lent term with pizza and a live student band. Since then, Formal Halls have been busy, with a footfall through the Club Room for drinks and snacks throughout the day. The Club Room’s expanded multi-use space is as popular for partying as for studying, with laptops out during the day and bands and the Wolfson Howlers in the evening.

WolfWorks, run by our dedicated Library team, continues to be popular, with large turnouts for the ‘Write Here, Write Now’ writing retreats. Sadly, we say goodbye to key members of the team this year: Alberto Garcia has moved to take the Librarian role at Murray Edwards and Laurence Smith retired at the end of August. We wish them both well, and they will be much missed! Laura Jeffrey, Wolfson’s Librarian, already has plans to recruit to the vacancies and we look forward to welcoming a Graduate Trainee Librarian and a new Academic Skills Librarian in time for the next academic year.

This year, the College also celebrates sixty years since its foundation, and we’ve had a chance to look back at what a busy

sixty years they have been. The Library team’s recent exhibition of the building of the Library (which you can read more about on page 9) unearthed many photographs that demonstrate how much we have grown and developed over the years. And our growth continued this year with the addition of two more houses to our estate, which will provide valuable extra accommodation from the beginning of the academic year onwards. These new houses will help us towards our goal of providing on-site accommodation for all those who wish to live in College.

The additional land will also add to our beautiful gardens, with their mixture of mature trees and wonderful flower displays. Curated by our Gardens team, they are such an important contribution to the wellbeing and sustainability of Wolfson, with many of the flowers finding their way onto tables at special occasions. As part of this synergy, Kierstin Brown – who joined the Wellbeing team as the Student Wellbeing Advisor maternity cover for Kiran Bhatti – brought in a group of goats just before exams started, so students could de-stress while taking these new furry friends for a walk around the lawns.

In the spring, our Admissions team hosted an outreach workshop, generating ideas that resulted in a £49k grant for mentoring of new students in collaboration with Hughes Hall and St Edmund’s College. Our Wellbeing team has also been strengthened by the addition of a new role, also funded through a grant: the Community and Leadership Impact Co-ordinator (CLIC). We are delighted to welcome Simona Obeng to the position.

Thanks to other donations, we have been able to increase the number of scholars we support, and we are grateful to the Development Office and the generous donors who have helped us move closer to our goal of providing more studentships and enabling more scholars to study at Wolfson.

Being Senior Tutor at Wolfson this year has been a delight. I have enjoyed being in the front row watching our students develop and becoming part of the wonderful team at Wolfson. I’m already looking forward to next year.

**Dr Judith Bunbury**  
Senior Tutor



## ADVOCATING FOR POSTGRADUATE WIDENING PARTICIPATION

Over the past 15 years, the Aurora Education Foundation has supported over 250 graduate students in exploring study in the UK, with 60% of students applying to a university visited and 93% receiving an offer. Aurora has supported almost 50 Indigenous Australian students in attaining a post-graduate degree from Cambridge and Oxford, with a 100% graduation rate.

In November 2024, the Aurora Education Foundation visited Wolfson as part of their UK Study Tour Programme.

The UK Study Tour is specifically designed to help bright prospective postgraduates better understand the opportunities and realities of international study. During their Wolfson stay, the group toured College with current students, attended a student experience panel session, enjoyed a Wolfson Formal Hall, and sat down with the College’s President, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu.

“The opportunity to stay at Wolfson College was an incredibly important experience for our students, many of whom had no prior knowledge of the collegiate system,” explained Deputy CEO of the Foundation, Tamara Murdock.

During the student experience panel session, the group had honest and inspiring conversations with our Wolfson student ambassadors, tackling everything from homesickness and finding a community here in Cambridge, to making contact with a supervisor or research group and communicating the things that help you learn effectively.

“Applying to Cambridge is daunting for everyone, but I love helping to showcase the diverse range of experiences and backgrounds of students at our University,” reflected MPhil student ambassador, Sudina Thapa. PhD student ambassador, Sally Zeidan, added, “It was rewarding to connect with the prospective

students and inspire them to embrace the endless opportunities for growth and connection here at Wolfson.”

One of the Aurora Study Tour participants commented: “I had no real understanding of the collegiate system until I arrived in the UK. Staying at Wolfson for an entire week allowed me to experience what life is like as a student at Cambridge. I now know that I would thrive, not just survive, at Cambridge if I was fortunate enough to be part of a community like the one fostered at Wolfson. A highlight for me was going to Formal Hall with current Wolfson students. I’m grateful they gave up their time to share their stories and advice with us.”

On the final day of the UK tour, the Study Tour students sat down with Ijeoma, who generously shared the joys and challenges of her own academic journey in the sciences. Ijeoma answered some brilliant questions from the group about making a positive impact on the world through research and narrowing down a field of study.

“It was an incredible moment,” said one of the participants. “Throughout the Study Tour, I connected with academics in fields I aspire to pursue – an inspiring and daunting experience as I reflect on the magnitude of my goals. Meeting with the President, however, had a particularly profound impact on me. Her story of resilience and determination was the push I needed to strengthen my own resolve to pursue my aspirations. It was truly a moment that I’ll carry forward with immense gratitude.”

We are excited to follow the Aurora Study Tour students as they embark on their academic journeys and look forward to welcoming the Foundation back to Wolfson next year!

**Caroline Banerjee**  
Student Recruitment Officer

## The Aurora Education Foundation



# Librarian's Report

## All change!

**At the end of a busy and productive year, the Library has seen a number of staffing changes this summer.**



**Alberto Garcia**, who has been at Wolfson for four years, left in May to take up the role of Librarian at Murray Edwards College. As Assistant Librarian – Academic Skills, Alberto

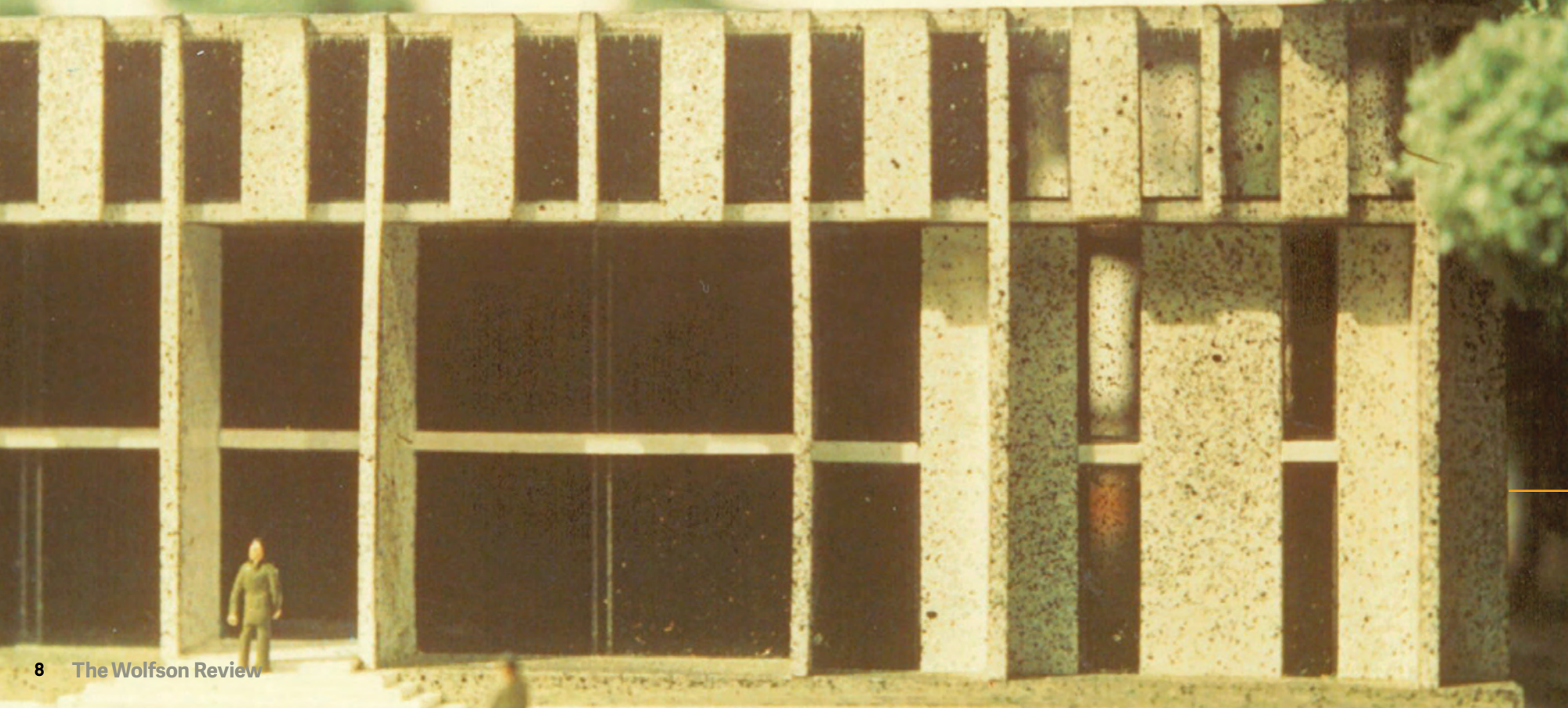
expanded our range of services, particularly in academic writing. He developed the Wolfson Writing Centre, introducing weekend retreats and peer-led writing consultations. He worked to bring part-time students and full-time researchers together to support and learn from one another. Alberto was also keen to embrace change and developed a LibGuide on responsible use of AI, a resource that is widely referenced across the University; he visited several Colleges and departments to share his experience and expertise. We wish him well in his new role.



**Laurence Smith** has long been the face that greets visitors to the Lee Library. He has been a key member of the team for 15 years but retired at the end

of August. He was core to keeping our study spaces in excellent order, processing printed resources needed for study and research, managing the Karen Spärck Jones Room, and putting many of our collections into a browsable online format. He also created an online exhibition for the Library's 30th anniversary. What many people don't know about Laurence is that he is also an active researcher and travels widely several times a year to conduct archaeological research, most recently in Sudan and Ethiopia. Laurence has been a much-loved figure around Wolfson and he reassures us he'll be back in College as much as possible!

**We look forward to welcoming new staff into the Library in Michaelmas Term.**



Great Seal of Elizabeth II from the Wolfson College Foundation Charter, 1977.  
Archive ref: WCGR/1/1pt



## Exhibition explores Wolfson's early years

In March we hosted an archive exhibition, 'Founding Wolfson College', as part of the Cambridge Festival. Our College Archivist, Jude Brimmer, assembled a fascinating array of papers, photos, plans, and other material from the archive which document the early years of the College: from its foundation as University College to its renaming as Wolfson College. Exhibits included the original Foundation Charter, a menu from the 1965 inaugural dinner, film footage of the Queen performing the official opening in November 1977, design drawings and construction photos showing the development of the College site, and the wonderful original model of the final scheme by principal architects Ferrey & Mennim.

We welcomed over 60 visitors of all ages through the afternoon, including College staff and students as well as Cambridge Festival-goers. A highlight was hearing from some of our longest-serving members of staff as they looked through the archive photos and re-lived memories of the old days.

Close-up of the architectural model made by Peter Brennand for Ferrey & Mennim, 1977.  
Archive ref: ACCBKLGO50pt

“

### Our College Archivist said:

“We've been fortunate to inherit such a wealth of material from the College's early years, and it was a pleasure to welcome so many visitors to see some of it in situ here in the Lee Library. The task of excavating the archive is ongoing and we hope to have other opportunities in the future to share more of what's being unearthed!”



If you would like to know more about our collections, please scan the QR code to visit our webpage, where you can find links to an online version of the exhibition and other archive material.

### Contributing to the Archive

We are always on the lookout for more material from the early years at Wolfson or University College, particularly relating to events and life in College. If you would be willing to donate any of the following, we would be delighted to hear from you:

- > posters, programmes, photos, flyers, tickets, adverts, press cuttings, reviews, menus, and any other promotional materials
- > May Balls, Amalgamated Clubs (later WCSA), drama productions, music performances, sports clubs and societies, and any other College events

If you are interested in contributing, please do get in touch: [archivist@wolfson.cam.ac.uk](mailto:archivist@wolfson.cam.ac.uk)



“ We are very grateful to the City and Guilds students for their skilful work in repairing these volumes so that they can be used for centuries to come.”

Rare books given new lease of life



Laura Jeffrey  
Librarian

Earlier this year, we worked in collaboration with Jim Bloxam and Sara Lennox-Cook, tutors on the BA Conservation of Books and Paper course at City and Guilds of London Institute.

One of the last paper conservation courses in the UK, the tutors were looking for rare books in need of some TLC to teach their students a groundbreaking technique in reattaching book boards. This non-invasive procedure<sup>1</sup> was taught to second-year students on the course by visiting tutor, Lizzie Willetts, from the Cambridge Colleges Conservation Consortium.

They borrowed four volumes from our small collection of rare books: *Quinti Horatii Flacci Opera: ad optimorum exemplarium fidem recensita* (1699); *Physico-theology or, a Demonstration of the Being and Attributes of God from His works of creation* (1716); *The Adventures of Telemachus* (1728); and *The housekeeper's instructor; or, Universal family cook* (ca. 1795). The students produced detailed condition and treatment reports documenting the process of reattaching the boards and carrying out other minor repairs. They also hand-crafted storage boxes to ensure that the books remain in good condition back at Wolfson.

We are very grateful to the City and Guilds students for their skilful work in repairing these volumes so that they can be used for centuries to come, and we hope that they enjoyed working with our collection.

<sup>1</sup> Emma Fraser (2023) *An elegant method of book board reattachment*, Journal of the Institute of Conservation, 46:2, 149 160, DOI: 10.1080/19455224.2023.2202412



Navigating the AI landscape with Directors of Studies

Higher Education is changing rapidly with the advent of AI, and Wolfson Library is at the forefront of libraries in Cambridge who are seeking to support staff and students to understand the implications of using these tools in their work.

Building on our presentation at last year's Cambridge Teaching and Learning Forum, Laura and Alberto ran a workshop for Wolfson's Directors of Studies. This was in response to the Russell Group universities' statement that staff should be equipped to support students to use generative AI tools effectively and appropriately in their studies. The University of Cambridge has consequently recommended that students should speak to their lecturer or supervisor for guidance on using AI. Therefore, it was appropriate that we created a space for our own Directors of Studies to reflect on how they might respond to such an enquiry and to formulate their own position. This was a really productive workshop, which stimulated discussions between different disciplines revealing alternative perspectives to consider and debate. Subsequently, Alberto and Laura visited Murray Edwards, Girton, and Emmanuel Colleges, as well as the Faculty of English, to deliver the workshop and encourage discourse on the topic within these communities. These workshops for academic staff complement the College's online guide to help students use AI ethically and responsibly.





Photo by Ian Olsson

# 60 Years of Wolfson College 1965 – 2025

Founded as University College in 1965, Wolfson has undergone a period of tremendous change – from a postgraduate College located in a single house, to a nine-acre site with more than 1000 undergraduate and postgraduate students from around the world, with a thriving international community of Fellows, staff, alumni, and members.



Photo by Owen Billcliffe

From the construction of the Club Room in 1970 and the launch of the Wolfson Press Fellowship in 1982, to the opening of the Chancellor's Centre in 2004 and the renovation of the Porters' Lodge in 2020, Wolfson continues to grow and evolve to meet the needs of the changing fabric of our community. This year, for instance, saw the completion of the multi-million-pound kitchen refurbishment project, putting sustainability at the forefront of our future.

But through sixty years of change and progress, Wolfson has also retained what makes us unique among collegiate Cambridge, and this year we've celebrated all that Wolfson has continued to strive for since 1965: to be a place of lifelong learning, nurturing the non-traditional routes to education that many mature learners take; to welcome debate and diversity; and to continue to foster the egalitarian, open spirit that defines the College.

The events planned for this anniversary year were about celebrating everyone at Wolfson – the community that is and has always been at the heart of what makes our College so special.







## Mansion House Dinner

In April, over 200 members of the Wolfson community gathered in London to celebrate the College's 60th anniversary at a special black-tie dinner hosted by the Rt Hon. Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alastair King. The Lord Mayor – son of the late Jack King, Wolfson's former Bursar and later Vice-President – welcomed guests to Mansion House, his official residence, located in the heart of the City of London.

After a drinks reception and sung grace, Wolfson alumni, staff, students, Fellows, and members sat down for dinner amidst the soaring columns of the building's grand eighteenth-century architecture.

Between courses, guests were treated to a performance by the renowned King's Men, the acapella group of the Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, as well as speeches from the Lord Mayor and Wolfson's President, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu.

"A fabulous night," said Ijeoma, "I chatted to virtually everyone as they left, and they all said how much they enjoyed the event. A few were even emotional as they spoke to me!"

Photography by  
Owen Billcliffe



## Wolfson's 60th Birthday Party

On Friday 27 June, the College hosted our 60th birthday party. From the incredible food, to dancing under the fairy lights, to our very own birthday cake – we couldn't have asked for a better evening. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate six decades of Wolfson, and all the people who make our College so special. The photos speak for themselves!

Photography by  
Alice Boagey







**Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate six decades of Wolfson, and all the people who make our College so special."**



**Much of my report last year was taken up with reporting on the kitchen refurbishment project, which was in full swing at the time.**



I am very pleased to say that the project has now been completed; the kitchen, Dining Hall, and Club Room are all back in action and the temporary kitchen set up in the Betty Wu Lee Garden is long gone. And since the Gardens team have miraculously managed to restore the lawn, you would never know that it had hosted eleven portakabins for the previous fourteen months.

The refurbishment project has been a huge success. Not only have we eliminated gas from

the kitchen, we have also introduced air source heat pumps and a heat recovery system, as well as significantly improving the ventilation. A small extension to the back of the building has allowed us to improve internal circulation and access,

through a new back-of-house goods lift, as well as increasing storage capacity throughout.

The Club Room now has a much-extended bar which allows us to provide a wide range of hot drinks and snacks during the day and increased space for relaxation and events in the evening. I hope you can see from the pictures in this edition of the *Review* the substantial improvement that has been made to both the kitchen and the Club Room – and that the pictures will inspire you to come and visit our stylish new facilities as soon as possible. You will be very welcome.

The 2024-25 academic year has not, however, been just about the kitchen project. We have been in acquisitive mode and have purchased two residential properties situated on our boundary on Barton Road and Barton Close. As you may recall, our Estate Master Plan identified a small number of properties on our perimeter that were considered strategically important enough in the

long term for us to make all reasonable efforts to acquire them should they become available. We had not anticipated that not just one, but two, such properties would come up for sale within six months of each other. Just like buses...

After carefully reviewing our financial resources and receiving a very generous capital grant from a donor, we resolved that we had sufficient reserves to purchase and refurbish the two properties. This has enabled the College to increase its footprint significantly, providing potential development space for our successors in the long term and more accommodation and garden space for our students in the shorter term.

While perhaps not so glamorous, we have also been focusing on maintaining the physical infrastructure of the College and planning to decarbonise as and when we get the opportunity and funding. The very large lead roof on one of our accommodation blocks (MNOP) has started to leak and is currently under scaffolding. Throughout the summer, work will continue to replace the lead with a more durable material (TTCS) and to install photovoltaic panels across the whole of the roof. PV panels are also being installed on the two new properties we have purchased and gas heating will be replaced with electricity. Our IT team is also replacing all the switches to support our wired network and to enable improved Wi-Fi coverage across the site in the second phase of the project.

As you can see, we have been busy. We will take a brief moment to recover from these major capital projects after the summer but we are already looking to the future. The next big project is planning and modelling the financing for much-needed additional student accommodation. We are investigating our options for this next phase of the Estate Master Plan and I hope to report on our progress next year. Watch this space!

**Jo Cheffins**  
Bursar

# Bursar's Report





The Wolfson Bar in 1977  
Photograph by Martin Pick



Photography by  
Richard Fraser

# Kitchen refurbishment marks new chapter for Wolfson food and dining



In March, Wolfson was thrilled to finally reopen our newly renovated kitchen and dining spaces, marking the end of a major refurbishment project that has been in the works since early 2022, with construction beginning in December 2023.

Coinciding with a year of 60th anniversary celebrations, the completion of this ambitious undertaking has ushered in a new era of sustainable and accessible dining for the Wolfson community – a testament to the College’s commitment to decarbonisation and enhancement.

The centrepiece of the renovation is the new kitchen, with efficiency and sustainability underpinning all elements of the design.





Photo by BJF Rowe



“

**A lot of people have put a huge amount of work into getting us to where we are today. I am extremely grateful to everyone who has participated and for the patience and support of Wolfson members.”**



“The technical aspects of this renovation are truly impressive,” says Neil Newman, Clerk of Works. “We’ve implemented induction appliances throughout the kitchen, improved access with a new back-of-house lift, increased storage capacity, and totally removed all gas equipment as part of our sustainability initiatives, with the added technology of heat recovery with a revolutionary ventilation system. These changes not only make the spaces more functional but also significantly more sustainable.”

The refurbishment project has also transformed the dining areas, with a focus on improving the overall experience for students, Fellows, staff, and guests.

“It’s not just an update,” says Darren Smith, Domestic Bursar. “The renovation is a reimagining of how we can create a vibrant, efficient, and environmentally conscious hub for our College.”

Tim Hurst, Wolfson’s Head Chef, did significant work with his team to develop updated menus for the renovated spaces, including new and delicious offerings in the Club Room’s

modernised coffee bar. “The renovation has given us a highly efficient space with top-quality, durable equipment,” says Tim. “Food and dining are an integral part of the Wolfson experience, and the team has enjoyed getting to know and work in these new spaces as we refine our food offerings for the Wolfson community.”

“This has been a long, sometimes challenging, and often loud process,” says Bursar, Jo Cheffins. “We started a feasibility project in the spring of 2022 and kicked off the formal project in February 2023, with building work starting over the winter vacation later that year. A lot of people have put a huge amount of work into getting us to where we are today. I am extremely grateful to everyone who has participated and for the patience and support of Wolfson members. We are thrilled to re-open the doors to some of the most essential spaces of the College; places where our students, staff, Fellows, and members gather together for the wide-ranging events and diverse conversations that define our interdisciplinary community.”





Tulip 'ballerina' and forget-me-nots in front of Chadwick House  
Photography by Will Greenfield

Tulip 'Spring Green' and Honesty (*Lunaria annua*) in Norton Garden

# Gardens' Report



It's been another busy year in the Wolfson gardens, with lots of exciting changes coming alongside collecting data and information from our site. When the kitchen refurbishment project came to an end earlier this year, we were given back the Betty Wu Lee lawn, which re-opened in August for everyone to enjoy. The lawn had died while the temporary kitchen sat on top of it for fourteen months, so we worked hard at rotavating, levelling, and re-seeding with a drought tolerant seed. Thankfully the lawn is now lovely and healthy, and the roots are growing deep.

We've also seen the new introductions of two new properties to the Wolfson site, both of which join into other existing gardens. There is plenty of opportunity to plan, and we're open to ideas from the College community about what everyone might like to see! We hope to create spaces where everyone can relax and enjoy themselves, and where we can hopefully grow some produce to take home, and where biodiversity is still at the forefront.

Regarding keeping our spaces biodiverse, we ventured into new projects this year. I've been taking a bee-keeping course in the hopes of having hives on site soon – and Wolfson honey eventually on sale in the Buttery! We also decided to create dead hedging in the inconspicuous areas of the College using a lot of our woody material that we usually shred for wood chips. This allows us to reuse our waste and create habitats for all sorts of creatures that will, in turn, help with the food chain and increase our numbers of insects, mammals, and birds. We are pleased with our progress so far and plan to carry out more hedging during the winter months.

It's also been another year of elemental testing in the gardens. We've seen a decent amount of rain in the last few years, with 738.6 mm falling in 2024 and 821.3 mm in 2023. Working with Neil Newman, the Clerk of Works, we planned and implemented the addition of water gauges to every tap to show how much water is used when a hose is required. This information gets added to our database so that we can compare it yearly and against the 16,000 litres of rainwater we store. As of mid-July, we have only seen 172.9 mm. We always strive to collect data as it helps our department to plan sustainable actions and forecast future developments.

As the College celebrates its 60th anniversary, many of the trees on site have seen every day of these years. We had a tree inspection this year and are fortunate to have 384 trees on site. This number will continue to grow as we work out how to diversify our species of trees and create habitats and shaded areas. Our team really enjoyed creating a tree carbon report, which looked at the value of each tree individually and collectively.

Number of trees:

384

Oxygen production:

6.438 tonnes/year

Carbon avoided:

50.2 kg/year

Most common species of trees:



Taxus baccata



Acer platanoides



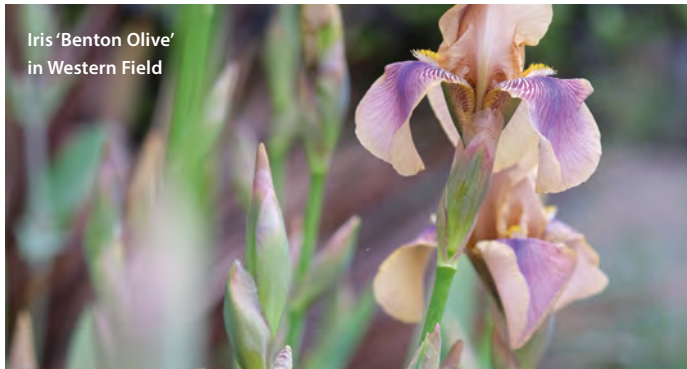
Carpinus betulus

What we achieve in a year wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for the team we have. Philip De Luca is celebrating 25 years as a gardener at Wolfson, as you'll read about on the following pages. Philip has made incredible contributions to the gardens, and his knowledge surpasses more than that of many gardeners I know. We are very fortunate to have him within the team. This year, we were also joined by our new apprentice, Tyla Harris-Vane. Tyla works part-time in the publishing industry in London while also doing her training in the gardens.

We're proud that the gardens here at Wolfson are spaces where people can unwind and enjoy the outdoors, and it's been wonderful to have a few staff volunteers join us in their free time. We've been able to share our knowledge and show off the beautiful intricacies of the gardens that most people miss, but mostly as a team we are grateful to have the extra help and support. We hope to help our volunteers develop skills that they can take away and use elsewhere in their lives.

All in all, a very full and exciting year, and the team and I are looking forward to future years!

Oscar Holgate  
Head Gardener





# Garden Memories

## with Philip De Luca



**Wolfson is all about the people, and to me it feels like a family. At first it seemed like a big place. It doesn't feel like that now."**

Photo by Richard Fraser

If anyone knows Wolfson in all its seasons, it's gardener Philip De Luca, who celebrated his 25th anniversary at Wolfson this year.

"When I first arrived," says Philip, "it felt quite daunting. Wolfson was the biggest place I'd ever worked at, and I thought: how am I going to remember everyone's names? There was little of interest in the gardens around the College – everything was well-maintained, but the Head Gardener at the time was more into the lawns and such."

Philip, who started at the College in the summer of 2000, says it wasn't until the next Head Gardener arrived that students began to spend time in the gardens, as the focus shifted from tending the lawns to cultivating new plants, like the wisteria pergolas and the mulberry tree. "We used to have a chef who would go out and pick the mulberries," says Philip. "He'd make tarts and desserts."

Twenty-five years on, Wolfson's gardens are a riot of colour and diversity, with Philip and the rest of the team under Head Gardener Oscar Holgate spending much of their time looking at biodiversity and sustainable practices, to ensure that the gardens continue to thrive.

When Philip was a child growing up in Sawston, just south of Cambridge, he used to watch and record all the birds he saw, and still now watches the blue tits and wrens come to the boxes he's got set up for them at home. And Philip has noticed, as the climate changes, that the number of birds has declined.

"I've also noticed over the years how all the plants and trees have been getting stressed," he says. "With summers getting dryer and winters getting warmer, we've been growing plants that are more adaptive, like limiting plants that really need water. When you're growing a plant or growing gardens, you're benefitting the world. So many habitats have been destroyed, and gardens are so important. It's nice to think even in a small way I've done something for wildlife and insects and the world."

As someone who, in small ways and large, has done his own growing up among the gardens, it's not surprising that Philip has noted all the ways in which they've changed. But that's also part of what makes Philip such a good gardener, and such a good colleague: he's attentive and thoughtful, with a talent for creativity that goes beyond the gardens.

"I play the cello," he says, "in an orchestra where people who have other jobs play on Thursday evenings. I've actually played the cello since I started secondary school." Philip also was one of the poets included in last year's *WolfWords*, Wolfson's annual poetry anthology, writing about his memories of the Wolfson gardens. "I thought I'd give it a go and see what happened," says Philip. "It was my first poem!"

In his poem, Philip writes "When I first started working at Wolfson / Outside in the beautiful gardens / I never did imagine / I would still be gardening here / Twenty three years on."

And yet here Philip is – now twenty-five years on. So, what's made him stay?

"There's more to Wolfson than just the job I do. When I was furloughed during the pandemic, my confidence went downhill. Then Oscar came and it was almost like I'd come back full circle, just the two of us again, and now we have a very good team. I'm not a very confident person but I find it helps being here. Wolfson is all about the people, and to me it feels like a family. At first it seemed like a big place. It doesn't feel like that now."

Philip's poem, "Garden Memories", from the 2023/2024 edition of *WolfWords*:

*When I first started working at Wolfson  
Outside in the beautiful gardens  
I never did imagine  
I would still be gardening here  
Twenty three years on*

*I've endured the cold winters  
Sweated out the hot summers  
Watched all the trees in time and place  
From blossom through to leaf fall  
And finally to silhouettes  
Hide away the memories  
Of my time spent in the gardens*

*The future looks uncertain  
With our winters getting wetter  
Summers getting dryer  
But one thing I know is certain  
I will still be gardening here  
Twenty three years on  
Writing another poem  
About my time spent in the gardens*





# SPORTS

## BLUES

Name	Sport	Blue Category
Alex Amann-Schmitt	Basketball	Full blue
Tads Ciecierski-Holmes	Modern Pentathlon	Full blue
Danny Collins	Rugby	Full blue
Otto Copping	Running Second Team	Half blue
Carmen Embil	Rugby	Full blue
Shinta Hircatanu Romadewanti	Handball	Half blue
Ethan Kuhn	Clay Pigeon Shooting	Half blue
Justin Lau	Lacrosse	Half blue
Jess McConnell	Rugby	Full blue
Andrew McLarnon	Golf	Full blue
Tom Petty	Rugby	Full blue
Mason Rodriguez	Basketball	Full blue

Congratulations also goes to Wolfson's James Pierson and Oliver Chua, who played for the University's LX Club (the men's second rugby team).



Photo by Dik Ng

## Tads Ciecierski-Holmes wins Sports Personality of the Year

**W**olfson's Tads Ciecierski-Holmes won Sports Personality of the Year at the 2025 Cambridge University Sports Awards. Tads was selected as the winner by a panel of senior University staff, after his nomination by the Cambridge University Modern Pentathlon Club.

"Tads is the most loved member of Cambridge University Modern Pentathlon Club," said the statement his team put forward, "and our club is a success because of him. Tads advocates for the sport, encourages beginners to give it a go, and entices pathway athletes who have lost the love of the sport to come back to it and be part of the fantastic community. Tads is the life and the soul of the club and deserves recognition for everything he does."

Alongside his win at the Sports Awards, Tads was part of the six-swimmer team that took on Oxford in the bi-annual Varsity relay swim. In an incredibly close race, the Cambridge open water swimming team achieved their fastest Channel crossing in over a decade. They were narrowly beaten by Oxford, who arrived on the French coast just fifteen minutes earlier.

# SPORTS

## TENNIS

**N**ewly formed in Lent Term, the Wolfson College Tennis Team entered into the College Tennis League. Despite being a new team, we quickly found our footing, competing in matches against Downing's 2nd team and Sidney Sussex's 1st team. We finished a commendable 3rd in our division – a strong showing for a team in its first term of play. We also took part in the annual Cuppers Tournament, where we unfortunately faced an early exit after a match with St John's 1st team. Nevertheless, we have laid the foundation for a promising future and are looking forward to building on this momentum in the coming year.



**T**he Wolfson-Clare Hall Badminton Club welcomes players of all levels with beginner-friendly sessions and competitive teams in the college leagues. This year, we celebrated back-to-back Cuppers championships and hosted a lively joint match with Trinity College. With weekly games, great vibes, and plenty of energy, we keep our society active and connected!

## BADMINTON





# FOOTBALL

This year, the Wolfson College Football Club (WCFC) enjoyed great success during the 2024/25 season. No matter the weather, Thursday evenings throughout the year were always something to look forward to. Although we finished fifth in the MCR league and were unlucky to lose to the eventual winners, St Edmund's, in the MCR Cup, the team's spirit never faltered. We rounded off the year with a well-earned end-of-season dinner, at which outgoing captains Seán Cardiff and John Henning handed the armband over to the new captains, Joe Payne and Matt Anderson. Roll on the 2025/2026 season!



# SWIMMING

The Wolfson College Swim Club, also affectionately known as the 'SeaWolves', is a new student society established in Lent Term 2025. It provides a platform for current and associate members of Wolfson to come together and enjoy non-competitive swimming. The society was established through the collaborative efforts of Jonathan Rutherford (Treasurer), Niamh Barry (President), and Aarushi Ganguly, following several discussions in the Dining Hall. With the support of WCSA, the SeaWolves are now a fully recognised society, arranging weekly swimming sessions at Parkside Pools during the winter and at the Jesus Green Lido during the summer. We are proud to offer every member who swims a £5 reimbursement per session to keep swimming affordable

and accessible. This year, several of us entered the Swim Cuppers Competition – a friendly swimming competition between Cambridge colleges – and came fifth overall with the other postgraduate colleges. Highlights include Tads coming first in the men's/open 100m individual medley (IM) and men's/open 50m freestyle, and Aarushi coming fifth in the women's 50m breaststroke. As we head into summer, we are looking forward to lots more lido sessions and to welcoming lots of new SeaWolves to the club. If you would be interested in joining us in the pool sometime, please get in touch with Jonny via [jar219@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jar219@cam.ac.uk)!



L-R: Niamh Barry, Aline Van Driessche, Tads Ciecierski-Holmes, Jonathan Rutherford, Aarushi Ganguly

# BOAT CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

In June, the Boat Club's W1 and M1 crews took to the water at the prestigious Metropolitan Regatta at Dorney Lake, Windsor, a venue that played host to the London 2012 Olympics. As one of the UK's premier regattas, the Met draws elite university and club crews from across the country and beyond. W1 impressed early in the day with a strong performance in the time-trials, clocking just three seconds behind the next fastest crew. Their pace earned them a place in the G Final, a commendable result in such a high-calibre field.

M1 had their sights set on a more modest, but no less meaningful, objective: to avoid the lowest final. They were successful, finishing ahead of Pembroke, the other Cambridge College in attendance. In the H Final, the men's crew executed a powerful surge at the 1k mark to hold onto second place, before the field crept up on them in the final 500 metres. While the competition was fierce, this was the first time many of the rowers, and their cox, had competed in an 8-lane regatta-style race.

Earlier in the season, the Club also made its mark in other key races. At the Champs Eights Head and the Cambridge 99s Spring Regatta in May, the crews continued to demonstrate their determination. At the latter event, W1 claimed the Plate Winners title for Women's Band C, and W2 mirrored that success in Women's Band F, meaning both crews were the second fastest in their respective heats.

Internationally, WCBC was invited to the Aviron De Vinci Race in Paris for the second time. This year, the Club was able to send three crews (W1, W2, and M2), with M2 and W1 both advancing to the semi-finals. The trip included a mini training camp on the Friday before the races. M1 also represented Cambridge at the 2025 Henan Longzhu Lake Rowing Regatta in China for the third time. The crew participated in the 5km and 1km sprints, where they received



silver medals for both events, coming second to the Oxford University Blues Boat alumni crew.

The season culminated with M1 vying to qualify for the Temple Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta, one of rowing's most iconic stages. In a fiercely competitive field and under tough conditions, M1 battled through a strong cross headwind to finish the 2112m course in 7:13. Their time placed them ahead of Christ's and Clare Hall, and just 0.02 seconds behind Clare, an incredibly narrow margin.

From first-time regattas to near-miss photo finishes, this season has been filled with moments of pride, promise, and perseverance for WCBC.

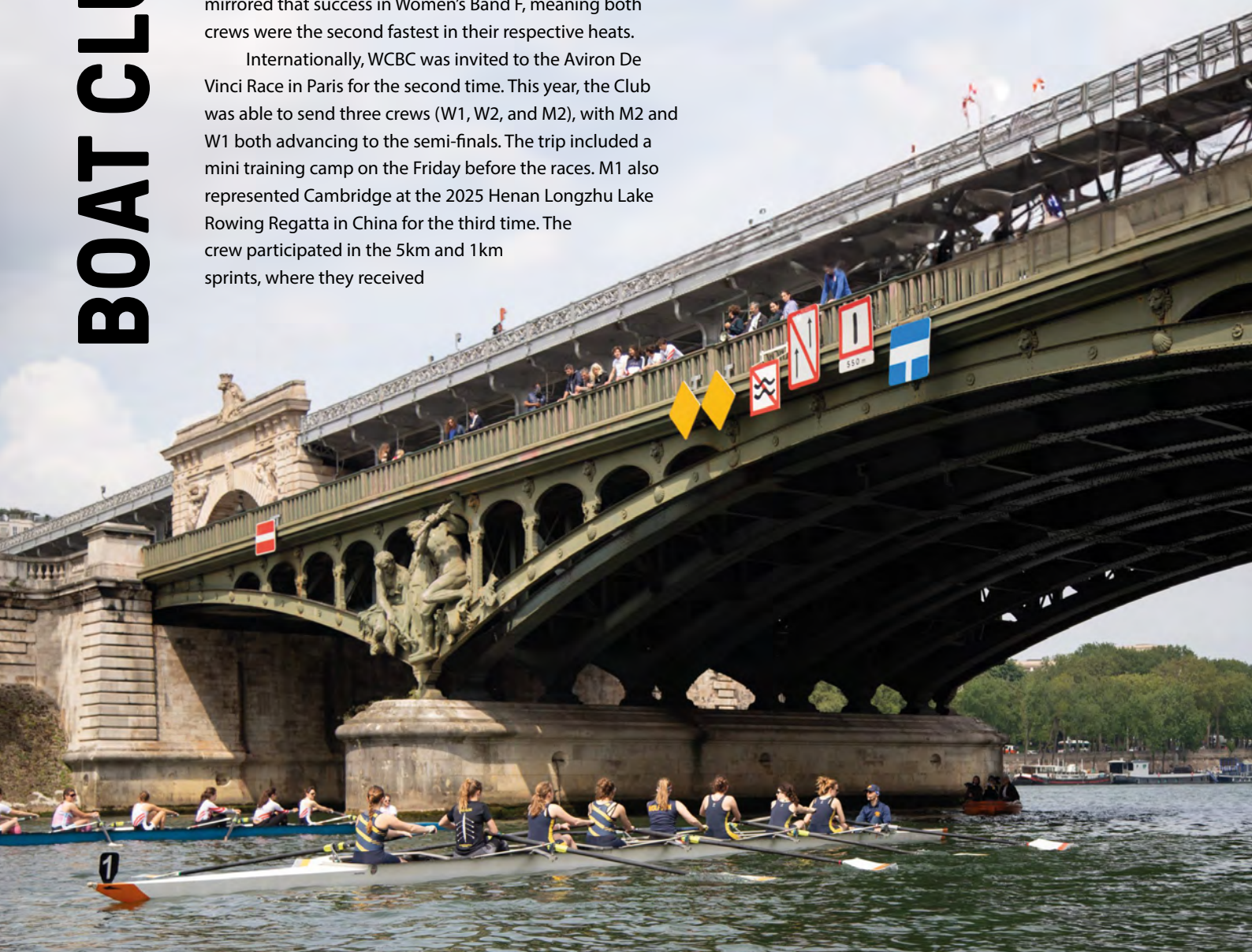


Photo courtesy of Poletech



# ACROSS THE COUNTRY

with David Wright



It's just over 1000 miles from Britain's most south-westerly point, Land's End in Cornwall, to the village of John o'Groats at the north-eastern tip of Scotland. Wolfson's Deputy Head Porter, David Wright, spent eighteen days of May cycling from one end to the other.

Known as 'Lejog' or 'end-to-end', this iconic long distance ride travels the length of the country, with many cyclists making the journey to raise money for charity. David made his ride to raise money for Asthma + Lung UK, in honour of Wolfson's late Head Porter, Andrew Fowles.

Andrew, who passed away suddenly in February 2024, lived with asthma his entire life, and was a long-time supporter of Asthma + Lung UK.

"Andrew had the best sense of humour," says David, "and he made me laugh every day. Andrew loved his life and his job at Wolfson, and he loved his holidays and always talked about where he went and the things he enjoyed. He shared that with everyone and inspired people to go places and enjoy life. That's my abiding memory of Andrew, how much he loved life, and that's what's motivated me to take on this challenge and to make the most of each and every day."



David and his wife, Lesley

David's original goal was to raise £1,965 for charity – a nod to Wolfson's founding. "I love working at Wolfson!" David said, before he set off on his journey. "Who doesn't? I've wanted to do this bike ride for a while and having recently turned 63, it's kind of a now or never moment. I know it's going to be a physical and mental challenge, but I've been encouraged by my family, friends, and the Wolfson community, which I'm really proud to be a part of."

While on his journey, David shared updates and pictures, many with his wife and two daughters, each of whom joined him on a six-day leg. And as the miles climbed, so did the money. By the time David reached John o'Groats, he'd raised £5,239 for Asthma + Lung UK – over 250% higher than his original goal.

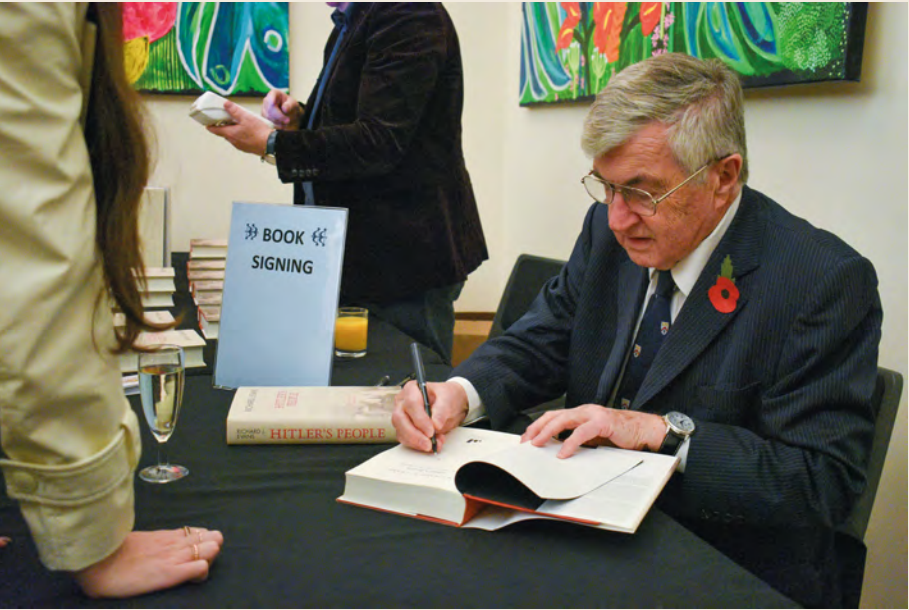
"Cycling 'Lejog' was just the most amazing experience and one of the best things I've ever done. Of course, there were ups and downs (pun intended) but having the support from family, friends, colleagues, and the Wolfson community was what kept me going and I am so grateful to everyone for this," says David.

"We raised a glass most days in memory of Andrew and he was never far from my thoughts."

## Professor Sir Richard J Evans – Book Talk

30 OCTOBER 2024

Wolfson's former President, Professor Sir Richard J Evans, returned to Wolfson to deliver a talk on his Sunday Times Bestseller, *Hitler's People: The Faces of the Third Reich*. In this major new work, Richard examines the life stories of prominent Nazis and regime supporters, with a view to challenge the veneer of legend surrounding them and present a more realistic view of Nazi perpetrators.



# EVENTS

## 2024/2025

## Women of Wolfson

7 MARCH 2025

Our new President, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, hosted this year's Women of Wolfson event in celebration of International Women's Day. She was joined on stage by a panel featuring five inspirational Wolfson alumni from different careers, who discussed their academic and professional journeys as well as their thoughts on the future of women in the workplace.







## Talk Like an Egyptian

20 MARCH 2025

Wolfson's new Senior Tutor, Dr Judith Bunbury, is also Deputy Mission Director of an archaeological project in Egypt's Theban Mountain area, which unearthed the lost tomb of pharaoh Thutmose II. As the first royal tomb to be found since the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922, the discovery of the Eighteenth Dynasty pharaoh's tomb rocked global news, and during Lent term, Judith gave a talk about the project and her work as a geologist.

## Arts

'ON BEING ONE' – 20 OCTOBER 2024 - 19 JANUARY 2025

'FEEL THE RHYTHM' – 26 JANUARY - 27 APRIL 2025

'WOLFSON AT 60' – 4 MAY - 12 OCTOBER 2025

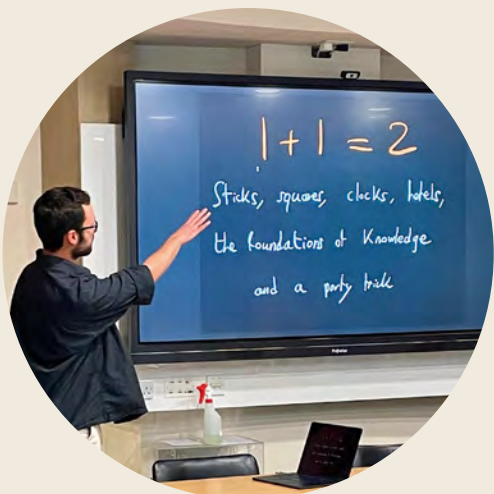
The Wolfson Arts Committee continued to bring art to Wolfson, with a series of engaging exhibitions adorning the walls of the Combination Room and the Gallery this year.

Our first exhibition of the year, 'On Being One', featured photography by visual artist Sophy Rickett. Curated by Phillip Lindley, the collection brought together works from several different series she had produced over the last fifteen years.

During Lent Term, the winner of this year's prestigious Wolfson College Royal Academy Schools Graduate Prize, Fungai Benhura, displayed his artwork in an exhibition entitled 'Feel The Rhythm'. His paintings are made up of multiple layers of different and often found materials; some of the more unusual

items that Fungai has used in his work are bottle caps and beer cans.

Finally, to mark the College's milestone anniversary, the Arts Committee put together a celebratory 'Wolfson at 60' exhibition, featuring a selection of artwork highlighting the range of artistic disciplines and styles that have made up our exhibitions over the past sixty years.



## Science Society

The Science Society returned to College life this year, with lots of engaging and interactive events taking place each term. Highlights included a stargazing hour in the Sundial Garden, a lively Humanities vs Science quiz, as well as fascinating talks – including one by Ijeoma, who shared how she is using cutting-edge nanoparticle technology to revolutionise drug delivery to improve efficacy, reduce side effects, and offer safer treatments for patients with chronic conditions.

## Poetry

POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP – 5 FEBRUARY 2025

WOLFSON POETRY WEEK – 17-23 MARCH 2025

WOLFSON POETRY NIGHT – 20 MARCH 2025

WOLFWORDS LAUNCH AND POETRY READING – 27 JUNE 2025

Throughout the year, the Wolfson community continued to enjoy both reading and writing poetry, with a special Wolfson Poetry Week taking place in March to coincide with World Poetry Day. Led by our resident poetry enthusiasts, Wolfson Fellow Debbie Pullinger and Student Recruitment Officer Caroline Banerjee, College members had the opportunity to play with words at a creative poetry-writing workshop and to share their favourite poems at our annual Poetry Night.

We had another successful open call for poetry to be included in the third annual *WolfWords* anthology, which brings together poems from across the entire Wolfson community. Entitled *press play*, the collection came to life at our launch event in June, with several of the contributing poets performing their work.



## Wolfson Research Event

8-9 MAY 2025

This year's WRE was full of new and exciting multi-disciplinary research, showcasing the work of more than thirty students. Topics ranged from birdsong in Borneo to breaking down barriers in Bradford, with themes and speakers from all areas of the world – a testament to a student body that represents over 90 countries.

## Humanities Society

As ever, the Humanities Society continued to host a series of weekly talks during term time, featuring guest speakers from across the University and beyond. Topics this year included marginalisation in music education; Italian immigrants' experiences of birth, death, and ill health in post-war Britain; and perceptions of weather in ancient Egypt.





# A Year of Music

This past year was the busiest yet, as interest in music at Wolfson continued to thrive.

Craig Ogden  
Photo by Evan Dawson

Michaelmas Term began with PhD student Achintya Prahlad leading a lecture about Indian Classical Singing, and Wolfson's newest Arkansas Fellow, Dr Jeffrey Murdock, inspiring us all with his Introduction to Gospel Workshop. Gospel developed as an unofficial theme for the Wolfson Choir this year: our Michaelmas term concert was 'A Gospel Christmas', and the Choir was invited to join Jeffrey for a special performance at London's Cadogan Hall, as part of Vox Anima London's European premiere of *Requiem for Colour*. Some other key performances from this year included Wolfson's 60th birthday Choir alumni reunion concert, focused around 'Myths and Legends', with virtuoso piano accompaniment by Peter Ng, Ian Cross Instrumental Scholar, and French coaching by Apolline Gouzi. Wolfson Chamber Singers, a smaller auditioned group from the main choir, performed at the prestigious Thaxted Festival Mass with our Brian Moore Accompanist Scholar, Tom Williamson, playing the historic Lincoln Organ. The College also said a musical farewell to Matthew Woolhouse (former Wolfson Chamber Singer) at the end of May with a moving memorial concert, for which a number of musical alumni returned to College.

Left: The 2024/25 Choral Scholars  
Middle: Wolfson musicians past and present at the Matthew Woolhouse Memorial Concert  
Right: Susie Triffit, Choral Scholar



With the many talented students at Wolfson, we held lunchtime concerts galore, including tenor Ferdinando Cocco's recital of 20th century Italian art song, and a performance by Choral Scholars Ditta Demeter and Jessi Rogers at the LGBTQ+ Formal. Student musicians directed musicals at the ADC Theatre, performed at the Edinburgh Fringe, and played in University orchestras, and I welcomed Wolfson musicians as volunteers at children's concerts in King's College Chapel and West Road Concert Hall.

Music and Madeira concerts continued to be popular, and my personal highlight was the inaugural Brian Moore Guitar Recital featuring classical guitarist Craig Ogden.

We rounded up the musical year with the College's annual Garden Party, with entertainment by the steel drum band Steel Invaders in East Court before everyone moved to the Lee Hall for a Choir performance accompanied by Tom Williamson. The Choir was preceded by the CB Mentoring Chorus, led by Jeffrey, who ended the party with the whole Lee Hall and both choirs joined in a gospel song. That evening saw the Mary Bevan Recital, which treated us to performances by finalists from the Cambridge University Concerto Competition. And Wolfson's 60th Birthday Party on the 27 June ended with a fantastic set by Casa del Funk, led by Wolfson Fellow Professor Giles Yeo – as well as a lot of dancing from Wolfson guests!

**Lynette Alcántara**  
Director of Music



Dr Jeff Murdock with massed choirs at Cadogan Hall  
Photo by Ben Tomlin



# Redefining the Research Networks

The collegiate system at the University of Cambridge has long offered researchers the opportunity to transcend the limitations of working within narrow disciplinary boundaries. As a mature College, Wolfson brings together a diverse community of individuals from all walks of life, creating a truly unique group of scholars, researchers, and students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines. The College promotes interdisciplinary interaction through its Research Networks, academic events, and collaborative initiatives, encouraging individuals to explore new perspectives and tackle complex problems. This ecosystem is built on a foundation of academic excellence, creativity, and shared learning, making it an ideal setting for research and academic development. The principal activity of the Research Networks within this environment is to deliver a wide-ranging intellectual programme of events for the College community.

In 2024, the Research Networks and Hubs underwent a reorganisation to establish a sustained vision aligned with the evolving needs of the College community, and to offer a unifying framework that supports research excellence. Going forward, the Networks and Hubs will be consolidated under a single entity, the Wolfson Research Networks, with the Hubs operating as distinct research strands. The Networks will serve as a guiding force, providing clear leadership and direction while fostering innovation and the exchange of knowledge. Each research strand will continue to pursue its core objectives while actively encouraging interdisciplinary engagement, ensuring that we retain the advancements made by the Research Hubs since 2018. This structure will also support closer collaboration with existing groups like the Humanities, Science, and Law Societies, and will reinvigorate the Medics and Education Society.



**The College promotes interdisciplinary interaction through its Research Networks, academic events, and collaborative initiatives, encouraging individuals to explore new perspectives to tackle complex problems.”**

## Events Recap

This year, the Research Networks Office partnered with WCSA and Junior Research Fellows to support student and academic needs while fostering vibrant interdisciplinary exchange through Fellows-led initiatives across Wolfson and the University. Michaelmas Term got off to a great start with the annual Research Networks and Hubs Meet and Greet event, as we introduced the Networks to incoming students and announced the appointment of the new Research Networks Manager to the broader College community. A series of fascinating talks and workshops continued throughout the term, on topics as diverse as planetary health to queer-feminist explorations of sports law. Michaelmas also saw the launch of the ‘Conversation with Fellows’ series, designed to showcase the research and outreach work done by Wolfson Fellows. In the Lent Term we kept up the momentum, beginning with a special talk on ‘Research and its role in Society’ by the newly appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research at the University of Cambridge. Other highlights included the 5th Annual Sir David Williams Law Society event which featured panel discussions on Corporate Law and International Law. We launched the ‘Cine Asia Encounters’ series in Lent Term, which featured screenings of three short films by the Chinese director Jing Zhao, followed by a conversation moderated by film critic and Wolfson alumnus Cici Peng (2020, Film and Screen Studies). In keeping with our focus on

the visual arts, we marked International Women’s Day with a film screening and a panel discussion about the ‘No City for Women’ project. The research team conducted interviews with women of different generations to gain insight into the new forms of patriarchy and hierarchy that have emerged in urban settings in the Global South. Finally, in Easter Term, the Networks focused on Wolfson talent within the University. We collaborated with the Centre of South Asian Studies to host the Annual South Asian Public Policy Event, a panel discussion on ‘Afghanistan’s Fragile Frontier: Navigating Aid, Rights, and Governance’, chaired by Sir Laurie Bristow, the President of Hughes Hall. Wolfson College was also one of only two colleges, alongside Hughes Hall, to participate in the inaugural Community Day organised by Cambridge Zero, showcasing our efforts in sustainability and conservation. Looking ahead to next academic year, we have some exciting live events, workshops, conferences and podcasts in the works to showcase the groundbreaking research being done by the Wolfson community. We will also have our continuing events series – ‘Conversations with Fellows’, ‘Cine Asia Encounters’, and public policy talks – where ideas, insights, and global perspectives come to life.

**Prajakti Kalra**  
Research Networks Manager



# Entrepreneurship Hub



A range of workshops were offered to students and alumni this year to support them in the run-up to the 2025 Wolfson Entrepreneurship Competition. Highlights were ‘How to build your Network’ in Michaelmas with Dr Chris Coleridge (Wolfson Fellow and Wolfson Entrepreneurship Hub Steering Committee Chair) and ‘The Art of the Pitch’ in Lent with Simon Hall (Course Leader in Compelling Communication Skills at the University of Cambridge and member of the Intellectual Forum at Jesus College). At the end of Michaelmas term, entrepreneurially-minded alumni and students were invited to a panel discussion, led by members of the Wolfson Fellowship, to hear about making a smooth career transition into entrepreneurship. The post-discussion dinner marked the official launch of the 2025 Wolfson Entrepreneurship Competition. This year’s entries to the Entrepreneurship Competition were particularly strong, and nine teams made it through after a fierce contest. More than half of the entries were from Wolfson students or alumni.

At the Competition final in March, the judges awarded RapidX Bio (represented by Nipun Sawhney and Mohammed Rammal) the top prize. This team has developed a rapid pathogen detection device using plasmonic PCR technology. Peter (headed by Wolfson alumnus Jonathan Fisher (2023, MPhil in Industrial Systems, Manufacture, and Management) and current Wolfson PhD candidate Campbell Wolford) won the prize for Global Health, with their wearable device designed to improve mobility for Parkinson’s patients. Wolfson’s President, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, acting as one of the judges, said, “We were impressed by the quality of the pitches and the clear route to profitability displayed by some of the applicants.” This year also saw the first Wolfson Entrepreneurship Hub Shark Tank, which offered unsuccessful entrants to the competition a space to pitch their idea and get feedback from a panel of judges. We look forward to what the next year brings for entrepreneurship at Wolfson!

Dr Tineke Harris-Martin

# Sustainability and Conservation Hub

The Sustainability and Conservation Hub maintained momentum and community spirit by building on its existing initiatives, including the Living Lab and the Sustainability Thinking Space. The eighth Living Lab project, ‘Wolfson Bird Watching and Habitat Mapping,’ participated in the University’s Green Week during Easter Term, leading a biodiversity mapping walk and hosting a vegan formal that showcased the College’s low-impact dining. Our Research Networks also curated the ‘Careers in Sustainability’ closing panel at the annual Wolfson Research Event, where alumni discussed how Wolfson’s interdisciplinary environment had influenced their professional journeys. Storytelling and outreach found a digital platform through the Wolfson Sustainability Podcast. Hosted by alumni Richard Manlove (2013, MSt in Sustainability Leadership) and Elizabeth Wild (2013, MSt in Sustainability Leadership), the podcast launched its first episode, highlighting how Wolfson’s President will work towards a sustainability legacy. Celebrating key environmental dates remained central to Hub programming. An expert panel, ‘Adaptation vs Mitigation: Sustainability Views from the Global South and COP 29,’ underscored indigenous knowledge and local policy innovation, and a World Wildlife Day celebration turned the Gatsby Room into an invertebrate showcase, with attendees getting up close and personal with a variety of creepy crawlies. On World Environment Day, a representative from Cambridgeshire County Council outlined local strategies against plastic pollution, before a special Formal Hall. Finally, in partnership with Green Impact and the WCSA Green Officer, the Hub showcased student research, conservation projects, and Living Lab findings at the Cambridge Zero Community Day 2025, highlighting Wolfson’s commitment to collaborative climate action and setting the stage for another successful year.

Sheila Owang



Neil Basu QPM

# REACH

The REACH Hub had another successful and exciting year. One of our key tasks was evolving the Hierarchies of Racism series launched in 2023-2024, with this year’s focus on policing and criminal justice. Highlights from this series included a powerful talk by Neil Basu QPM – the UK’s highest-ranking police officer of colour – who shared his lived experience of racism and leadership within the Metropolitan Police. In February, Colin Burton and former police officer Shawn White joined an ‘In Conversation’ session to explore the challenges and possibilities of reforming policing from within. Our other events this year included a Black History Month celebration with the REACH ambassadors, the Blacktionary Roadshow held by the I-cubed consultancy group, and an engaging seminar delivered by Wolfson College Research Associate, Dr Akeem Sule, entitled ‘What ‘The Wire’ Teaches About Social Inequality and Mental Health’. Wolfson Bye-Fellow Jenni Skinner, joined by Professor Vicky Avery, led a tour of the popular ‘Rise Up, Resistance, Revolution, Abolition’ exhibition at the Fitzwilliam Museum. REACH member and Wolfson Fellow, Dr Anna Dempster, also curated an exhibition in College, ‘Life Within Landscapes’, showcasing work by three Cambridge-based female artists inspired by their Caribbean heritage. Looking ahead, we are delighted to announce the Inaugural annual REACH Lecture which will be delivered by Wolfson’s President, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu. Next year’s ‘Hierarchies of Racism’ series will focus on racial discrimination in education spaces, examining how race continues to shape access, curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, and institutional culture. At a time when educational equity is both politically urgent and conceptually contested, this series will explore the persistence of racialised barriers and the transformative power of educational practices.

Dr Kenny Monroe



Thomas Geffner



# Student Success

## Shagun Garg

Congratulations to Wolfson PhD student, Shagun Garg, who has been selected as a Geospatial World Rising Star 2025, an international recognition awarded to early-career professionals using geospatial technology to address global challenges. "Receiving the Geospatial World Rising Star was a wonderful moment," says Shagun, "but what made it truly special was standing alongside such inspiring people doing incredible work in the geospatial world. It motivates me keep doing more to contribute meaningfully in this field."

## Thomas Geffner

Thomas, a Wolfson MPhil student, was shortlisted for Academic Rep of the Year at this year's Cambridge Students' Awards. These annual awards, nominated by students and staff of the University, celebrate the achievements of Cambridge students who volunteer across the University and the wider Cambridge community. Thomas' category recognises students who are committed to student voice across the University, and have a track record of working to ensure the student body is represented in their academic spaces. When Thomas started his course, he quickly noticed that the three cohorts within Land Economy – environmental policy, planning, and real estate finance – largely kept themselves separate from each other. "Each MPhil was very siloed, and in fact, more than that, I think each MPhil draws different groups of people. Within each one, there was an attitude of 'our way is the best, and we don't understand those people over there.' I wanted to help people understand that we could all work together across these disciplines. Creating great places and building cities requires the input of all three of those practices."

## Tiancheng Hu

Tiancheng, a Wolfson PhD student, is one of only twenty-one global scholars to be awarded one of the Apple Scholars in AIML PhD fellowships. Scholars are nominated by their universities and are selected for the programme based on their innovative research, leadership, and commitment to advancing their fields. Tiancheng's PhD research focuses on building AI systems that can genuinely simulate human behaviour at both group and individual levels, with the goal of creating AI that can truly understand and adapt to diverse human perspectives globally. "Language models are everywhere now and we need to make sure they understand all kinds of people and perspectives, not just some of us."



Language models are everywhere now and we need to make sure they understand all kinds of people and perspectives, not just some of us."

# Trophy Cabinet Awards

# Wolfson attains Green Impact Excellence Award

Wolfson's Green Impact project, "Making sustainable living visible to Wolfson's diverse student community", was awarded the highest accolade available at the University's annual Sustainability Showcase.

Green Impact is the University of Cambridge's internal environmental awards programme, supporting and encouraging departments and Colleges across the University to reduce their environmental impact. Excellence Projects are year-long undertakings, and any team that achieved a Silver award in the previous year is eligible to participate.

The judges were particularly impressed with the scale and creativity shown throughout Wolfson's project, showcasing many exciting developments that embed sustainability into the life of the College.

Project achievements included providing 26 weeks of sustainable advice in the 'What's On' newsletter, improving communication on sustainability with new students, introducing pledge cards in student kitchens, creating A-Z Green Impact videos for social media, and

enhancing the existing recycling scheme.

Oscar Holgate, Wolfson's Head Gardener and Green Impact Lead, said: "It was quoted that 'Institutional commitment requires engagement on all levels.' That is true to this year's Wolfson Green Impact. Our students, staff, and Fellows came together with passion and purpose to make Wolfson greener and more sustainable than ever before. Their dedication is why we are proud recipients of the Excellence Award. I am deeply grateful to lead a team that is not only hardworking and motivated, but also truly passionate about creating an environmentally conscious place to live, study, and work. To everyone who played a part – thank you. Because of you, Wolfson has reached new heights."

Ijeoma congratulated the team, saying:

"We are incredibly proud that our Green Impact team has won the University of Cambridge's Green Impact Excellence Award 2024-25. Their project showcased the amazing work that Oscar Holgate and his team carried out all year for the benefit of our community. What a brilliant achievement for our College."

# Long Service Awards

At the Annual Staff Meeting in July, the College celebrated those staff members who have been at Wolfson for more than a decade. We are incredibly grateful to them for their long service!

## 25 Years

Philip De Luca, Gardens  
Dawn Robinson, Housekeeping  
Helen Trundle, Kitchens

## 15 Years

Erika Farkas, Housekeeping  
Sally Maccallum, Nurse  
Laurence Smith, Library

## 10 Years

Thomas Cullen, Kitchens  
Alana Healy, Housekeeping  
David Long, Maintenance





# New Fellows

**Mr Scott Dunleavy**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

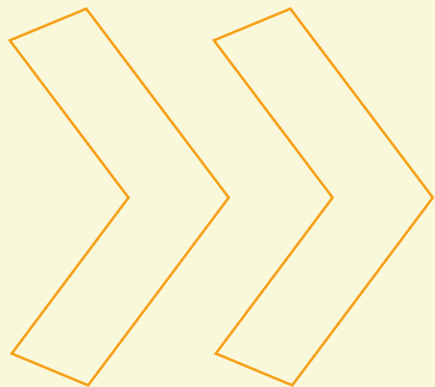
Scott is a Research Associate on the ENTANGLED Project, which is based at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research. As a historian by training, Scott’s research within ENTANGLED is focused primarily on the analysis of early Portuguese written documentation, alongside the collection and utilisation of oral histories and traditions relating to south-central Mozambique. He explores the global and regional connections of south-eastern Africa during the Global Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period using historical, archaeological and ethnographic research methods. He has a particular interest in the social aspects of trade and commercial activity, as well as cross-cultural consumption. He first came to Cambridge to study for an MPhil in World History, subsequently continuing to a PhD in History; in both cases, he was a member of Wolfson College.

**4 Dr Mohamed El-Zeadani**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Mohamed is an 1851 Research Fellow in the Department of Engineering, where he is working to enhance the ductility of connection joints for the safe design of timber structures. He holds an MSc in Structural Engineering and a BEng in Civil Engineering from Universiti Putra Malaysia, and was a President’s PhD Scholar in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Imperial College London. His current research investigates the ductility and energy dissipation performance of a promising new method of constructing timber connections using screwed-in threaded rods and steel links. These connections are important for various applications, such as tall timber buildings, which may be subject to extreme winds or earthquakes, and timber bridges, which may carry large loads from oversized vehicles.







**6 Dr Sun-Woo Kim**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Sun-Woo is a condensed matter theoretical physicist specializing in quantum materials through ab initio computational methods. His recent work includes studies of superconductivity, with investigations into recent claims of room-temperature superconductivity. Originally from South Korea, Sun-Woo completed his BSc and PhD in Physics at Hanyang University. He joined the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy at the University of Cambridge as a Research Associate in 2022. He is currently the Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in the same department, a role he began in September 2024.

**5 Dr Tsen Vei Lim**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Tsen Vei is a ‘Society for the Study of Addiction’ Academic Fellow at the Department of Psychiatry. As a cognitive neuroscientist, he is interested in understanding the neurocognitive dysfunctions associated with substance use disorders. He earned his BSc in Psychology from the University of Bath in 2017. Driven by his passion for neuroscience and mental health, he went on to obtain a PhD in Psychiatry from the University of Cambridge. For his doctoral research, he used computational modelling to investigate the nature of reinforcement learning impairments and aberrant habit formation in cocaine use disorder. In 2022, he was appointed as a Research Associate in the Department of Psychiatry, where he has continued to apply computational models of cognition to understand the mechanisms underlying addictive behaviours. In 2024, the Society for the Study of Addiction (SSA) awarded him a Griffith Edwards Academic Fellowship to study the computational and biological substrates of risky decisions in cocaine use disorder.

**Dr Lars Schaaf**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Lars’s research focuses on using machine learning to speed up physical simulations and gain a deeper understanding of processes at the atomic scale. This knowledge can then be applied to design new materials and enhance existing ones, as well as develop more effective medications. Lars originally studied Theoretical Physics at the University of Birmingham, focusing on Astrophysics. During his internship at the Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics, he first encountered scientific computing while working on a high-energy camera designed to observe X-rays emitted by cosmic particle accelerators. Moving to the University of Cambridge for his master’s degree, he began to specialise in condensed matter physics. It was here that Lars discovered his passion for computational modelling at the atomic scale. During his PhD, he worked on using machine learning to accelerate simulations and understand catalytic reactions. The ultimate aim is to discover new materials that can accelerate reactions and reduce global energy consumption.

**Dr Zixing Song**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Zixing is a machine learning researcher who specialises in graph data mining and has developed applications for multiple disciplines. His current research focuses on deep generative models in molecular science, particularly the development of structure-based drug design. Zixing received his Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science from Southeast University in China. He then moved to Hong Kong to continue his academic studies at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, completing his doctoral research in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. He is currently working as a postdoctoral research associate in the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge, where he continues to push the boundaries of machine learning.

**1 Dr Noah Steuri**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Noah is a Swiss prehistoric archaeologist. He specialises in Neolithic burial practices and megalithic structures, using innovative methods such as virtual reality and bioarchaeological insights to shed new light on prehistoric rituals and community interactions in Alpine and Western European contexts. His dissertation at the Institute of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bern, conducted in collaboration with the universities of Geneva and Cambridge, was funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). He was awarded the University of Bern’s prize for the best PhD thesis in the Humanities for the 2023–24 academic year. He is also the archaeological partner of an ongoing SNSF research project at the University of Bern’s Department of Forensics, which focuses on ancient DNA and isotope analyses of human bone samples extracted by Noah in the context of his dissertation. Noah has also been awarded a Swiss Polar Institute (SPI) grant to conduct an archaeological field project in northern Alaska.

**Dr Alice Turner**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Alice is an earthquake seismologist. Her research focuses on understanding what causes earthquakes on Earth and the Moon by analysing data from the seismic waves that are created during an earthquake. During her PhD at the University of Oxford, Alice studied repeating earthquakes on the Earth and the Moon. She then took up a research fellowship at the University of Texas Institute for Geophysics, where she continued to work on earthquakes on other planets. This work aimed to understand better the causes of quakes on other planets, which will help to improve our knowledge of their interior and evolution. Alice joined the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge as a research associate in January 2025, where she will be working on a project to understand earthquakes and seismicity in India better.

**2 Dr Yichen Wang**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Yichen is a computational biologist focusing on understanding the normal ageing process as well as early cancer development. Yichen graduated from Peking University, China, with a BSc in Biological Science and Applied Mathematics. She then pursued a doctorate in Computational Biology at the University of Cambridge (funded by the Wellcome Trust), and a part-time online Master’s in Computer Science with the Georgia Institute of Technology. Her PhD explored mutational processes in normal human tissues. She is now a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Cancer, Ageing and Somatic Mutation Programme at the Wellcome Sanger Institute.

**3 Dr Robert Westbrook**  
**JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

Rob is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology and the Cavendish Laboratory. His ongoing research focuses on using different types of microscopy to develop next-generation semiconductors for broad applications across optoelectronics. Rob studied for his MSci in Chemistry & Molecular Physics at the University of Nottingham and carried out the research leg of his master’s at the University of Copenhagen, where he developed graphene derivatives for applications in transparent conductors. He received the King Memorial Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Research for his master’s research. He then conducted his doctoral studies between University College London and Imperial via the Centre for Doctoral Training in Advanced Characterization of Materials, using advanced spectroscopy techniques to develop next-generation hybrid organic-inorganic solar cells. He was a Mistletoe Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Washington, where he used ultrafast spectroscopy to understand the role of solid-state packing in determining charge generation and air-sensitivity in organic semiconductors.



# Press Fellows

**W**olfson's prestigious and long-running Press Fellowship programme welcomed a new cohort of five journalists this year, including three journalists from Malaysia and two joint recipients of the 2025 Derek Ingram Press Fellowship. Run in association with the Commonwealth Journalists Association (CJA), the Derek Ingram Press Fellowship is open to established journalists from any Commonwealth country, with all costs and fees covered by the programme for those selected.

“One of the nicest things about running the Press Fellowship is that I get to welcome talented journalists who arrive in College every Easter term as strangers and depart as friends – both of one another, and also of the College. They get a lot from their sojourn with us. But we also get a lot from them as they bring their distinctive perspectives to bear on their projects. This year, for example, they made me think about: the role of editorial cartoons in politics and democracy; the deadly risks that Indian journalists now face as they try to do honest reporting; the tensions implicit in Malaysia's transition to EVs; how to find a responsible way of incorporating AI in newsrooms; and the impact of our media ecosystems on the mental health of those who work in corporate communications. As we worked together on these questions, the thought that often came to mind was that the traffic in ideas engendered by the programme goes both ways. And in that sense it's symbolic of the openness of Wolfson to ideas from outside academia that was signalled 43 years ago when the programme was founded.”

**Professor John Naughton, Director of the Wolfson College Press Fellowship programme**

L-R: Reena, Kaiser, Msanii, Ameerul, Niam, and Michelle Searle

“Cambridge wasn't just a destination – it was a revelation. As one of the 2025 Commonwealth Journalists Association UK/Derek Ingram Press Fellows, I arrived with an overweight suitcase, a boarding pass to Shanghai (true story), and a head full of questions about the role of cartoonists in democracy. Wolfson College welcomed me with warmth and humour. Our fellowship cohort – from Kashmir to Malaysia – quickly bonded over dinners, seminars, and the shared disbelief at how fast ten weeks could fly. Cambridge taught me in unexpected ways: that you apply to one of 31 Colleges, not the University itself; that Oxford is only referred to as “the other place”; and that even historic institutions can feel like home when the people are kind. My project focused on Kenyan cartoonists and their role in constitution-making. I honoured giants like Terry Hirst, Maddo, Gado, and Celeste, whose pens have poked holes in power for decades. Their work reminded me that satire isn't just clever – it's critical. Beyond the project, the greatest gift was the people. I'll miss breakfast conversations with Professor John Naughton – always thoughtful and witty. I came back with better insights to tech but more importantly a new perspective and appreciation of AI. And not to forget his partner, Fiona: the dinners at their home were special. I made great friends: Michelle Searle – exceptional and endlessly kind; Kevin Greenbank – whose travel tales and love for Aston Villa were infectious; Simon Crookall – who made our church visit unforgettable; and my fellow Fellows – Kaiser, Ameerul, Niam, and Reena. I also met brilliant Kenyan and African students whose energising conversations reminded me: the continent's future is in very capable hands. Dr Laura Zucconi, who joined us at the tail-end of the Fellowship, blew my mind with her insights of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia. A heartfelt thank you to the Commonwealth team – Raymond Whitaker, Rita Payne, William Horsley, Martin Lumb, and others at CJA – for keeping this noble project alive. My deep appreciation also to Nick Hall, my brother from another mother, who helped me understand Derek Ingram's vision more fully. I later discovered Ingram's passion for African comics. With Nick and Alison, whose past work in Kenya shaped liberation struggles, I felt seen, understood, and encouraged. Their faith in this work reminded me: it may seem small, but it matters. And yes – this time, my boarding pass said ‘Nairobi’”

**Msanii Kimani wa Wanjiru, Team Leader/ Curator-in-Chief, Kymsnet Media Network, Kenya**  
2025 Derek Ingram Press Fellow

“Of all the best moments in my life, finding myself among brilliant minds full of talent and experience at Wolfson College is unmatched. As a Derek Ingram Fellow, my time at Wolfson taught me countless lessons, both personal and professional. From exploring the use of AI in newsrooms to attending sessions arranged by John on topics like LLM models, OSINT, and how mineral resources shape global geopolitics, I gained new perspectives and approaches as a journalist covering such issues. As a journalist from Kashmir – a small land marked by decades of grief and suffering, my professional journey has been profoundly shaped by these struggles. Yet, at Wolfson, my growth was nurtured, and my work was given recognition that will undoubtedly influence my future path. Wolfson has given me an unforgettable, enriching experience, one that will guide me in all my future endeavours.”

**Kaisar Ul Haq Andrabi, Independent Journalist, India**  
2025 Derek Ingram Press Fellow

“As a journalist constantly chasing deadlines and always on the lookout for the next story, my time at Wolfson, though just ten short weeks, felt like a quiet escape that offered a much-needed break from my packed daily schedule. Thanks to the short break, I was able to complete my research on the development of electric vehicles in Malaysia, something I had long sought answers for. Immersed in the intellectual vibrancy of Cambridge and surrounded by brilliant minds from around the world, the daily conversations I had, whether with Professor John Naughton, Press Fellows, or students, inspired me and undoubtedly sharpened my writing. That, along with books recommended by John, helped me reconnect with journalism's core purpose: to tell meaningful, in-depth stories that truly serve the public. Wolfson offers more than just a College. It is a place where ideas flourish and people grow, and I will always treasure this dream-come-true experience.”

**Niam Seet Wei, Assistant Editor, BERNAMA Economic News Service, Malaysia**

“Being in the journalism industry has always had me in a busy, stifling routine as I go about my days. I often catch myself wishing for a break, an escape from this cycle of uniform monotony. That came to me in the form of the Wolfson Press Fellowship, ten weeks in the highly prestigious University of Cambridge. Throughout that time, I had the luxury to reflect on many ideas I often pondered but never really had the time to delve into. I had access to the vast resources and facilities of Cambridge but, most importantly, I met and shared insights with some of the brightest people I've met: experienced academicians, and students whose ideas will one day shape the future. It is one of my greatest pleasures and honours to have partaken in the Wolfson Press Fellowship programme, an experience I will treasure for a lifetime.”

**Ameerul Eiman, News Editor/Producer, Radio Televisyen Malaysia, Malaysia**

“What an experience Wolfson College was! As someone who did her postgraduate studies locally in Kuala Lumpur, being part of the Press Fellowship Programme at Wolfson felt like that was the closest experience to studying abroad. Living the campus life was exciting and eye-opening, something I'll carry with me for life. I met so many brilliant people from different cultures and backgrounds. It reminded me just how much of the world I still want to learn about, especially when it comes to people. My key takeaways? I learned to see AI beyond its editorial use. I discovered tools and platforms I hadn't explored before and ones that I can now apply in my day-to-day work. Having spent thirteen years as a journalist before moving into Government Relations and Corporate Communications, I've been wired to report, plan, collaborate, and craft narratives. But something shifted during my time at Wolfson. John shared a story about a dignitary who once asked her interviewer a simple but powerful question: What do you think? That stuck with me. I came into Wolfson wanting to research a topic, but I was still carrying the mindset that it had to be balanced, practical, and politically correct. After that conversation with John, I dropped the filter. For the first time in a long time, I wrote a paper that was entirely about what I think: my view, my take, my voice. I didn't try to balance it or make it neutral. And honestly, it felt liberating. That, for me, was the biggest gift from Wolfson.”

**Reena Raj Telkeras, Vice-President of Corporate Communications, Khazanah, the Malaysian Sovereign Wealth Fund, Malaysia**





# Fellows' News



## Newest Honorary Fellows celebrated at Wolfson

In March, the College hosted the annual Fellows' Night Dinner, at which we welcomed our two newest Honorary Fellows: Lord David Sainsbury, former Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, and Professor Jane Clarke, Wolfson's former President.



## Wolfson Fellows recognised in 2025 New Year Honours

The Wolfson Fellowship made a big splash in this year's New Year Honours List! Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, Wolfson's seventh President, was made a Dame Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (DBE), and Wolfson Former Fellow and Honorary Fellow, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, was awarded Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire (GBE). The honours system, presented by or in the name of the reigning monarch, recognises those who have made achievements in public life and have committed themselves to serving and helping the United Kingdom. Ijeoma was honoured for services to the Chemical Sciences and to Inclusion and Diversity, while Boris – who also served as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge from 2010-2017 – was recognised for his services to cancer research, clinical research, medicine, and charities.

## First Book Prize goes to Wolfson Junior Research Fellow

Congratulations to Wolfson Junior Research Fellow Dr Farhana Afrin Rahman, who received the British International Studies Association's L.H.M. Ling Outstanding First Book Prize for her book *After the Exodus: Gender and Belonging in Bangladesh's Rohingya Refugee Camps*. Farhana said of her award: "This recognition is a deeply meaningful affirmation of the stories and struggles at the heart of *After the Exodus*, which was born from time spent listening, witnessing, and learning in Bangladesh's Rohingya refugee camps. It also underscores the importance of bringing refugee perspectives and feminist analysis to the centre of global politics."





Professor  
Gordan  
Dougan  
made CBE

Professor Gordon Dougan, a Fellow of Wolfson and Emeritus Professor in the University's Department of Medicine, was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours. Recognised for his services to vaccines and global health, Gordon said of the award: "I am delighted to receive this important recognition for my work and the people I have worked with and for. Applying science to the benefit of people and health is what I have been working toward throughout my career. I can recommend this path to anyone."



Dr Steve Hoath  
receives 2024 Johann  
Gutenberg Prize

Steve, an Emeritus Fellow of Wolfson, was awarded the 2024 Johann Gutenberg Prize for his groundbreaking publications and books on high-speed inkjet droplet formation and for influencing the incorporation of these understandings of jetted fluid dynamics into products and printing machines on the market. Steve is a chartered engineer, physicist, and scientist who served as Director of Studies for Engineering at Wolfson from 2011 to 2018. He is also the Chair of the Carbon Reduction Committee and an active member of the College's Green Impact team.

Dr Leo Liu  
promoted  
to Associate  
Professorship

Congratulations to Leo, who was recently appointed to an Associate Professorship in the University's Department of Land Economy.

Fellow's Profile



For the 2024-2025 academic year, Wolfson welcomed Dr Jeffrey Allen Murdock as the College's new Arkansas Fellow.

Jeff – an American conductor and musician – spent his early days here adjusting to life in the UK, including the inclement weather.

"Lots of things about the culture here are different. I can walk to the city centre very quickly, and my sons are learning to ride bikes everywhere. I thought it would be a much bigger adjustment, but it hasn't been too bad." Even queuing for a coffee in Wolfson's Club Room, Jeff adds a new word to his British lexicon. "I just learned 'quid' today!"

The Arkansas Visiting Fellowship began at Wolfson in 1988 in partnership with the Fulbright Program, allowing the College to welcome an academic from the United States in any discipline for one year. Jeff is an award-winning music educator whose research interests include culturally responsive pedagogy in the choral classroom, music in urban schools, and social justice in music education.

Jeff was a high school teacher in Memphis, Tennessee for eleven years, where he learned a lot about disparities in music education. "Music classrooms in the more affluent communities had the best pianos. They had sheet music and the best teachers, because the better teachers wanted to go to those schools. Schools that were in the inner cities were left with second-hand, hand-me-down sorts of things. Morale was low in those schools. I wanted to explore the phenomenon of why music seemed to be more accessible in some places and less accessible in others."

Jeff started his PhD work on bridging the gaps in these communities, seeing how gospel music, rap, and R&B could help students to develop an appreciation for Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven – known as culturally relevant pedagogy. "It's building on

what students know," he says. "Building upon a gospel tune, for example, and then using that to teach solfège – Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, Do – with a gospel song and then be able to transfer that to Handel."

An accomplished classical musician, Jeff is also a skilled gospel musician. He has served on the conducting staff of the National Baptist Convention and has collaborated with Gospel recording artists including Donnie McClurkin, Richard Smallwood, and Mary Mary.

"Gospel music has only recently become a staple in academic communities and has become worthy of study in academic spaces," he explains. "I just built a master's degree programme around Black sacred music, and it's the first one of its kind in the United States."

Jeff describes gospel music as being rooted in the southern United States: a meeting of blues, jazz, hymns, and spiritual songs. "Gospel music is all about feeling. It's very easy to just sing the words in a very sterile way, but I think the emotion is also very much a part of the performance practice. When I'm teaching gospel music to an audience or to a group of people for whom the music is unfamiliar, or for those who maybe like the music but who have never experienced it, I encourage a deep dive. Go to a Black church. Go experience that. Try to connect with some of the social movements behind the gospel music, like the protest songs of the 50s and 60s. Being able to understand the history, I think, helps people to better appreciate the music and the spaces from which it comes."

In addition to his career as a high school teacher and an academic, Jeff is also the Founding Director of the Arkansas Center for Black Music at the University of Arkansas. Among its acquisitions, the Center houses the largest collection of published and unpublished works from Black composers Florence Price and William Grant Still – "It's really become kind of a one-stop shop, so to speak, for all things Black music."

In recognition of his teaching, Jeff was put forward for a Golden Tusk Award by his students at the University of Arkansas in 2018, awarded to an outstanding faculty member.

"Just the idea that the students value the work that I do so much was just validating. It helps me to know when days get tough, that I am touching the lives of students."

Jeff says that a pinnacle of his career was winning a Grammy Award for Music Education in 2021. "When I won, it was surreal. The Grammy has helped me to be able to disseminate what I do on a worldwide stage, and that's been, I think, probably the biggest change for which I'm thankful. Also, it allowed me to meet lots of cool people. As an introvert and as someone who's typically a shy person, being able to live and to move in those spaces has been different. I'm thankful that people see and celebrate and reward what I do."

Photo by Ben Tomlin



# Development Director's Report

Over the past year, we have seen continued growth in support for Wolfson by alumni and others, particularly for our students. During this period, we have been able to introduce a number of new scholarships, including the Professor Jane Clarke Scholarship for Women in STEM, the Richard Chancellor's Journey Scholarship in Slavonic Studies, the Shoman PhD Scholarship, and the FEIBI PhD Scholarship. Three of these also attracted matching funding from the University Contribution Scheme, enabling us to establish scholarships that are endowed in perpetuity. In addition, our group of Boyce Family MPhil scholars continues to expand, with three new scholars joining in the past year, and one more set to join in 2026.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Wolfson is proud of our ability to support students from all over the world in their studies at Cambridge. Our goal is to remove all barriers to study, and to enable our students to fulfil their potential and realise their dreams. Last year, over £2.5 million was awarded to Wolfson students, with over half of that funding coming from partners like the Cambridge Trust.

We also received two major gifts towards the College estate, including a substantial gift from Madam Wei Wang towards the purchase of a house on Barton Road which will accommodate six students.

At the other end of the scale, Wolfson held its first ever Giving Day this year, attracting support from nearly 500 donors and raising more than £125,000 to support general needs within the College. You can read more about this on the next page.

Overall, we raised over £7 million during the year, more than doubling our total from the previous year.

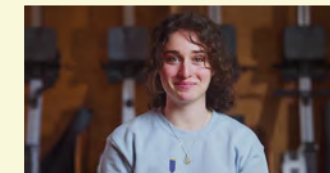
Over half of Wolfson's alumni live outside the UK in more than 150 countries across the globe. We had the pleasure this year of visiting some of our former students in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, the UAE, and across the United States, in New York, California, and Washington, DC. It was wonderful to meet so many of our former students, all of whom have fascinating stories to tell and exciting futures ahead. In the UK we held our annual alumni reception at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, as well as a number of events in Cambridge, including dinners for Medics and Lawyers and a celebration of the May Bumps. A highlight of the year was our dinner at Mansion House as part of our 60th Anniversary celebrations.

Wolfson College is indeed fortunate to have such a supportive and engaged community of alumni worldwide. Thank you for being part of it and we look forward to welcoming you back to Wolfson soon.

**Simon Crookall**  
Development Director



*"Last year, over £2.5 million was awarded to Wolfson students, with over half of that funding coming from partners like the Cambridge Trust."*



# Giving Day

Thanks to our global network of alumni, students, staff, Fellows, and friends, Wolfson's inaugural Giving Day raised over £125,000 from a staggering 471 donors.

"We were overwhelmed by the success of Wolfson's first ever Giving Day," says Simon Crookall, Development Director.

"A huge number of people stepped up to support the College, and we were delighted by the many supportive comments we received from alumni and friends from across the globe. This was a tremendous demonstration of the strength of the Wolfson community, and we are grateful to everyone who participated."

Over the course of 36 hours, donations poured in from all over the world – a remarkable display of generosity and Wolfson pride, with every donation a testament to the strength and reach of our incredible College family.

As the names and donations stacked up on the donor wall, so did the heartfelt messages of how Wolfson has made a difference in the lives of so many of its members:

Funds raised will support everything from student wellbeing and academic research to future-proofing the College site, ensuring that Wolfson remains a thriving and welcoming home for scholars and members of all backgrounds.

Summing up this year's Giving Day, Ijeoma said:

**"All that remains is for us to say a heartfelt thank you – your support during this day has helped to transform lives."**

"In appreciation for the extraordinary support Wolfson offers to mature students. The belief in our potential, the encouragement, and the space you provide for us to thrive don't go unnoticed. Thank you for making us feel seen, capable, and inspired – especially when the journey feels uphill." – **Olivia Rizzo (2020)**

"Grateful for the vibrant, truly cosmopolitan community at Wolfson College, and for a transformative experience that profoundly shaped my intellectual journey. Proud to support its future!" – **Mohamed Nanabhay (2009)**

"Thanks, Wolfson College, for creating such a welcoming and supportive place to study. From the porters to the librarians, academic fellows to the gardeners, the team has shaped a special culture and environment I hope future students enjoy as much as I did." – **Elizabeth Reynolds (2021)**





# Reading between the rings with Charles Norman

For Charles Norman, a PhD student at Wolfson, trees tell us a lot more than we think they do. “My lab works on the premise that we recreate past climates using tree rings and trees,” says Charles, who specialises in a field called dendrochronology within the Department of Geography. “We can take samples from trees in an area and look at the rings and use them to reconstruct climate to a very high annual and inter-annual resolution.”

It turns out that some of the tree rings that Charles examined during his master’s degree had quite a lot to say. “There are very old oak records for western Britain, and I started noticing this very significant anomaly in two particular years: 364 and 365 CE. These were the lowest growth years in the entire 2000-year recorded history of the oak trees.” The historical record provided little information and there was almost no archaeological material, but Charles did some digging and discovered that a pivotal event in the history of Roman Britain had taken place in the spring and summer of the year following this era of drought, as evidenced by the tree rings. With Roman defences weakened by the abnormally dry summers, the Picts, Scotti, and Saxons attacked the Romans in 367 CE in an event that would become known as the ‘barbarian conspiracy’, with order only being restored two years later. Charles is quick to point out that, while the drought itself wasn’t the cause of the conflict, it’s a very clear example of climate acting as a catalyst – a significant finding that has been covered by various news outlets, including *The Guardian* and *The Telegraph*. “The tree rings allowed us to develop a theory

of what happened,” says Charles. When he’s not looking at tree records, Charles spends as much time as he can outside with real ones. “I grew up outside and come from a family of farmers,” he says. “My dad is a farmer, and is heavily involved in the Green Party, so from a young age we were all taught to be environmentally minded with everything we do. Long term in the future I see myself returning to farming and sustaining myself from the land, although short term I’m considering a career in academia.” Charles – who is currently a recipient of the John Hughes PhD scholarship – was the first recipient of Wolfson’s Hoath Family Scholarship, which supports an MPhil student in a field related to sustainability and conservation. Although Charles is still trying to find the wild places in Cambridge, he is happy to have found Wolfson, especially the outdoor spaces and the gardens. “I kind of fell into Wolfson, but I really love it here. I started rowing at Wolfson and I met my partner here, at the Howler. It was our very first evening at the College and we were sitting next to each other.” He laughs. “I guess I owe Wolfson that as well!”

# Giving in numbers



Total cash received:

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last year  
£3,006,117

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Total student support awarded:

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10 gifts of at least six figures in 2024/2025

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Photo by  
Robyn Rose



# A 25 Year Partnership:

## The Gates Cambridge Scholarship Programme and Wolfson

**Top L-R:** Olivia Rowe, Taryn Adams, Ceren Canşe  
**Bottom:** Professor Alessio Ciulli



The Gates Cambridge Scholarship programme – one of the world’s most prestigious postgraduate awards – celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, marking a quarter-century of supporting talented students who are passionate about improving the lives of others. Established in 2000 with a landmark donation from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the scholarship has brought over 2,000 Gates scholars from over 100 countries to the University of Cambridge, building a vibrant global network of leaders.

And for the 25 years of the Gates Cambridge programme, Wolfson has played an important and enduring role. Dr Gordon Johnson, President of Wolfson from 1993-2010, was the first Provost of the Gates Cambridge Trust.

“It’s difficult to imagine a more creative gift to the University than the \$21 million given by the Gates Foundation in 2000 to provide full-cost support for international students to study in Cambridge,” says Gordon. Sir Alec Broers, the then Vice Chancellor, saw the need to involve people with experience of handling international students to make sure things ran smoothly. He asked me, as President of Wolfson, to take on the role of Provost, overseeing complex relationships within Cambridge and with the Gates Foundation in Seattle.

The first scholars came to Cambridge in October 2001 after going through an additional selection process once they had been offered a place. For the next ten years, Wolfson provided a local base for the programme while separate administrative offices were set up and the Gates Room in the University Centre was made ready. The College hosted several social events for Gates Scholars and entertained the Trustees at their annual Cambridge meetings. The programme has evolved in interesting ways since the first decade, but as the 25th anniversary celebrations have shown, the benefaction is more than meeting its objective. By October 2025 there will

have been 2156 Gates Cambridge Scholars, and Wolfson has been the College home for 107 of them. They have added to the intellectual distinction of the College and have helped fulfil its purpose of excellence in education and research.”

From the 2024/2025 cohort, three scholars joined Wolfson from Turkey, South Africa, and the United States.

American-born Olivia Rowe, who swapped Cambridge, Massachusetts for Cambridge University, will complete her PhD in Medicine at Wolfson. “Brain injury research at Cambridge University is amongst the top in the world, and there’s an incredible network of people and resources. And with the support of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship there’s an even broader community of individuals who share this drive to help others through their research.”

When asked why she picked Wolfson, Taryn Adams – who comes to the College from Johannesburg to do an MPhil in Bioscience Enterprise – said: “I want to interact with professionals from all backgrounds, not only the sciences. Wolfson emphasises the entrepreneurial culture, and that’s my goal. I want to meet people who think differently and come from different backgrounds.”

Ceren Canşe, who grew up in Istanbul, studied medicine in Turkey before coming to Cambridge. During her Gates-funded PhD, she’ll use the essential lab techniques she learned during her master’s, which focused on primate embryonic development and amniotic sac formation utilising a microfluidic-based human stem cell model. “I love Wolfson, and love the community,” says Ceren. “It’s an amazing place for a postgrad student – the College is made for postgrads to have support in an academic and social sense.”

From its beginnings to now, Wolfson’s relationship with the Gates Cambridge Scholarship Programme continues to flourish. This year, not only will the College welcome a further four scholars, but

Wolfson alumnus Professor Alessio Ciulli (1999, Chemistry) is the first Gates Cambridge Scholar to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

“I am deeply grateful for the opportunities I’ve had during my studies at Cambridge, through both Wolfson College and the Gates Cambridge Scholarship,” says Alessio, who is the founder and Director of the University of Dundee’s Centre for Targeted Protein Degradation. “Wolfson’s unique international and diverse environment made it such a vibrant and engaging community, especially for an overseas student like myself. Its strong representation of postgraduate, master’s, and mature students created a relatable and welcoming atmosphere that truly resonated with me. Having spent my Erasmus year abroad at Wolfson, it felt like a natural and meaningful choice to return for my PhD studies. It was inspiring to see many Gates Scholars from my cohort also at Wolfson, and knowing that the College President, Dr Gordon Johnson, was also one of the Gates Trust Provosts, fostered a real sense of community and shared purpose. The College’s beautiful, green, and immaculate site, combined with the kindness and friendliness of its people, made my time here unforgettable – a place where I’ve grown both academically and personally. I cherish long-lasting, vivid memories and lifelong connections from my time at Wolfson that will stay with me forever.”

Scholarships are an investment in the next generation of academic leaders and this milestone for the Gates Cambridge programme highlights its long-term impact on individuals and academia. Alongside University-wide programmes, the College is working with partners and supporters to develop Wolfson’s capacity to offer scholarships. To explore ways you can become involved, please contact the Development Office at [development@wolfson.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@wolfson.cam.ac.uk)



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Dr Yair Litman (2022)  
Dr Janet Littlewood (1984)  
Mr Haochen Liu (2023)  
Dr ZhaoYang Liu (2019)  
Mr Ying Jun Liu (2007)  
Mr Gareth Lloyd-Jones (1990)  
Ms Chiaw Pen Lo Siong Shou (1993)  
Mr William Logan (1992)  
Professor Justin London (2004)  
Ms Tze Lin Loo (2006)  
Mr Jonathan Louth (1997)  
Dr Marie Lovatt (1980)  
Dr Eric Yu-En Lu (2003)  
Mr ZiYin Lu (2019)  
Dr Phumzile Ludidi (1997)  
Mr Chi Yin Wilson Lui (2019)  
Dr How Ling Khong (1985)  
Professor Lo Luo (1996)  
Mr Robert Lyford (1976)

**M**  
Ms Wai Lin Ma (1992)  
Professor Christopher Macann (1986)  
Dr Don MacDonald (1994)  
Dr Mary MacDonald (2007)  
Ms Jane MacFarlane (1975)  
Dr Alexis Macintyre (2016)  
Dr Lesley MacVinish (2004)  
Ms Leela Madhava Rau (1985)  
Mr John Magill (1984)  
Mr Marco Magnani (1978)  
Mr Omar Majid (2018)  
Mrs Sheila Major (1974)  
Dr Maria Makris (1985)  
Ms Sara Mandoki (2017)  
Mr William Manion (2011)  
Dr Andrea Mann (2005)  
Professor Michael Mantle (2002)  
Mr Massimo Marelli (2001)  
Ms Mira Margaretha (2022)  
Professor Ivana Markova (1995)  
Ms Elizabeth Marshall (1970)  
Dr Josef Martens (1988)  
Mr Jon Marti (2007)  
Mr Alexander Martin (2011)  
Mr Andrew Martin (1998)  
Dr Timothy Massingham (1999)  
Dr Mark Maybury (1986)  
Dr Pam McAuslan  
Dr Patrick McCabe (2012)  
Mr John McClenahan (1986)  
Mr Christopher McDermott (1975)  
Dr Ian McFadzean (1983)  
Professor Thomas McGinn (1978)  
Mrs Sara McKenzie (1983)  
Professor Frank McKinney (1992)\*  
Marjorie McKinney  
Mr Matthew McKinnon (2014)  
Mr Andrew McLean (1990)  
Mrs Siobhán McTigue Reardon (2002)  
Mr Jeremy Meek (2009)  
Dr Justin Meggitt (2009)  
Dr Karyn Mégy (2008)  
Mr Matthew Mercer (2024)  
Dr Barbara Metzler (1990)  
Dr Charalampos Michalakakis (2015)  
Dr Paul Mignanelli (2010)  
Mr John Miller (1990)  
Mr William Miller (2009)  
Mr Samuel Millward (2024)  
Dr Victor Milman  
Dr Louise Mirrer (1974)  
Ms Sumiyah Mohammed (2008)  
Mr Eric Monkman (2015)  
Dr Anna Montanari (2008)  
Professor Brian Moore (1976)  
Mr Richard Morgan (1971)  
Dr Steven Morrison (2008)  
Mrs Marilyn Motley (1991)  
Dr Dawn Muddyman (2001)  
Dr Thomas Mullen (1976)  
Ms Iris Müller (2007)  
Mrs Lesley Mordin (2005)  
Professor Paul Mordin (1990)  
Professor Gillian Murphy (2002)  
Mr Tomi Musto (1993)\*  
Mr Arun Muthirulan (2005)

**N**  
Professor Ronjon Nag (1984)  
Mr Mohamed Nanabhay (2009)  
Dr Guillaume Nataf (2017)  
Rev Dr Stacey Rand  
Professor John Naughton (1989)  
Dr Virginia Newcombe (2004)  
Mr Neil Newman  
Dr Peter Newman (1985)  
Dr Peter Neyroud (2010)

Mr Ruben Nijk-Siebert (2017)  
Dr Nikolay Nikolov (2008)  
Mr Gilbert Nkpeniyeng (2023)  
Mr Charles Norman (2022)  
Mr Peter Norman (2007)  
Dr and Mrs Matthew and Tatiana  
Norris-Silva (2017)  
Professor Celia Nyamweru (2004)

**O**  
Dr Nadezda O'Brien (2008)  
Dr Darren O'Byrne (2020)  
Dr Adrian Ochs (2016)  
Mr Ifeoluwa Oduguwa  
Dr Edmund Oh (2002)  
Mr Bernard Oldfield (1988)  
Professor J Oldham (1981)  
Dr Christopher Oldstone-Moore (2007)  
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Dr Alan O'Leary (2001)  
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Professor Susan Oliver (1998)  
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Mrs Sara O'Neil-Manion  
Dr Tolullah Oni (2019)  
Ms Finola O'Sullivan (2015)  
Mr Michael O'Sullivan (1984)  
Dr Karen Ottewell (2004)  
Mrs Patricia Outen (2004)  
Mrs Frances Owens (1970)

**P**  
Dr Stefan Paetke (2010)  
Professor Susan Pancho-Festin (1998)  
Dr Panayota Pantzou (2001)  
Professor Julian Parkhill (2021)  
Dr Angel Pascual Ramsay (1996)  
Mrs Karen Pearce (2000)  
Ms Sylvia Pearce (1979)  
Professor Lloyd Peck (2017)  
Dr Xin Peng (2022)  
Ms Hilary Perrott (2009)  
Ms Kelly Phelps (2002)  
Mr Alastair Phillips (2013)  
Mr Peter Phillips (2010)  
Mr Stewart Piggot (2003)  
Dr Rob Pilsworth (1975)  
Mr Roberto Pistorelli (1978)  
Dr Graham Pluck (2008)  
Dr Clara Podmore (2008)  
Dr Joseph Powell (2023)  
Dr Susanne Prankel (1994)  
Dr Jocelyn Probert (1998)  
Dr Thomas Pulimood (2017)  
Dr Deborah Pullinger (2014)

**Q**  
Mr Hassan Qarra (2015)  
Professor Xiaoguang Qi (2011)  
Mr Zira Quaghe (2019)  
Mr Joel Quek (2011)

**R**  
Dr Farhana Rahman (2022)  
Dr Aaron Ralby (2005)  
Dr Kandalat Raman (2010)  
Dr Ramana Ramaswamy (1986)  
Dr Mahesh Ramchandani  
Professor Paul Ramchandani (2019)  
Professor Teresita Ramirez (1974)  
Dr Dakshata Rana (2006)  
Rev Dr Helen Siedel (2010)  
Ms Vicki Raphael (1973)  
Dr Dorrie Rapp (1973)  
Ms Habda Rashid (2023)  
Dr Reehana Raza (1990)  
Mr Paul Smedley  
Mr Charles Reese (2008)

Mr Andrew Reid (2000)  
Dr Charlotte Rendina (2023)  
Dr Daniel Renner (1976)  
Mrs Elizabeth Reynolds (2021)  
Dr Helen Reynolds (1984)  
Dr Rachael Rhodes (2019)  
Dr Emma Richards (2002)  
Dr Sandra Richards (1968)  
Mr Stephan Richards (1987)  
Dr John Richards (1968)  
Mr David Richardson (2021)  
Dr Alan Rickard (2005)  
Mr Thomas Ridgman (2016)  
Mr Luigi Rizzo (2022)  
Ms Olivia Rizzo (2020)  
Dr Anne Roberts (1976)  
Chief Supt David Roberts (1993)  
Dr Alexander Robertson (2012)  
Dr Brian Robertson (2012)  
Professor Susan Robertson (2017)  
Ms Mary Robinson (1976)  
Mr Henry Rogers (1974)  
Mrs Janet Rolfe (2013)  
Dr Marius Roman (2012)  
Dr Hartmut Rosel (1988)  
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Dr Raymond Rowe (1985)  
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**S**  
Ms Joan Sadler (2014)  
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Professor Henrik Salje (2020)  
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Mr Jonathan Samuel (1992)  
Dr Andrew Sanchez (2021)  
Miss Katherine Sanders (2016)  
Mr Theodor van Sante-Kenley (2011)  
Mr Barry Saunders (1986)  
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Mr Ted Schisler  
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Professor Henrik Schoenefeldt (2006)  
Dr Susan Schroeder (2013)  
Dr Burkhard Schwab (2008)  
Mrs Michelle Searle (2007)  
Dr Johanna von Seggern-Lukate (2012)  
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Mr Richard Senior (1999)  
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Mrs Alicia Shaw (2015)  
Mr Robert Shaw (2008)  
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Dr Margaret Shepherd (1985)  
Dr Jay Shieh (1998)  
Dr Liron Shmilovits (2020)  
Ms Aysha Shoman (2008)  
Mr Omar Shoman  
Dr Hannah Short (2005)  
Mrs Stefanie Sidortsova (2013)  
Rev Dr Stacey Rand  
Mr Ivan Simpson-Kent (2017)  
Mr Ian Skeate (1998)  
Mrs Carol Smedley  
Mr Paul Smedley  
Miss Rachel Smedley

Mr Ian Smith (2011)  
Professor James Smith (2003)  
Mrs Jennifer Smith (2008)  
Dr Laurence Smith (1985)  
Mr Robert Smith (2013)  
Dr Anna Snowdon (1968)  
Dr Zixing Song (2024)  
Professor Danuta Stasik (1987)  
Mr Walther Steinhuber (2008)  
Dr Nadia Stelmashenko (1991)  
Ms Karen Stephenson (2007)  
Mr David Stevens (1981)  
Dr Monica Stevens (1980)  
Miss Jane Stockdale (2011)  
Dr Daniel Stubbs (2023)  
Dr Francisca Stutzin Donoso (2023)  
Mrs Maureen Sullivan Kennelly (1973)  
Dr Wei Sun (2019)  
Dr Sue Swaffield (2000)  
Professor Anthony Swain (1969)

**T**  
Mr James Tagg (1986)  
Dr Shadia Taha (2007)  
Ms Gilly Tait  
Mr Jarell Zhi Xian Tang (2024)  
Dr Zoltán Taracsák (2022)  
Professor James Tattersall (1988)  
Professor Liba Taub  
Professor Richard Taylor (2004)  
Miss Dolores Tesha (2013)  
Dr Aidan Tevlin (2009)  
Ms Corinne Thomas (2017)  
Professor Nicholas Thomson (2023)  
Mr Keith Tibbenham (1974)  
Ms Anne Ticehurst (2006)  
Dr Evelyn Tichy (2009)  
Professor Frank Tietze (2016)  
Mr William Timms (1990)  
Mr David Titterington (1969)  
Professor Christopher Todd (1995)  
Dr Han Chong Toh (1987)  
Mr Theodor van Sante-Kenley (1985)  
Hon. Justice Edward Torgbor (1965)  
Dr Ana Toribio Fierro (2005)  
Mr Leontios Toumpouris (2006)  
Dr Christopher Town (2005)  
Mr Todd Treusdell (2011)  
Dr Alex Trinidad (2007)  
Ms Julia Trujillo  
Mr Ka Ming Tsang (2008)  
Mr Tsun Yan Tse (2005)  
Dr Bing Sum Tsui (2015)  
Ms Gabrielle Man-Yuen Tsui (1995)  
Dr Lore Tulasiewicz (2018)  
Mr Ezekiel Tuma (1999)  
Dr Alice Turner (2024)

**U**  
Mrs Bhavinjit Ubhi-Hull (1990)  
Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu (2024)  
Professor Yoshifumi Ukita (2013)  
Ms Maria Umoren (2015)  
Mr David Urwin (1975)

**V**  
Dr Juanma Vaquerizas (2006)  
Dr Evy Varsamopoulou (2009)  
Dr Sundeep Vema (2023)  
Miss Ananya Verma (2024)  
Dr Martin Vestergaard (2005)  
Dr Cristiana Viegas de Andrade (2002)  
Dr Niti Villinger (1990)  
Dr Martin Vinnell (2015)  
Dr Franck Violette (2014)

**W**  
Professor Kyoko Wakimoto (2007)

Mr Florian Waldmann (2001)  
Dr Olivia Walker (2015)  
Dr Sharon Walker (2016)  
Professor John Wall (2002)  
Ms Wei Wang (2023)  
Dr Yichen Wang (2024)  
Mr Yu Wang  
Mr John Ward (1995)  
Professor Nicholas Wareham (2002)  
Mrs Sandra Waters (1971)  
Mr Stephen Waters (1971)  
Dr Steven Watson (1990)  
Ms Joy Waugh (1987)  
Mr David Weatherup (1977)  
Dr Warwick Webb (2003)  
Dr Malcolm Webbe (1999)  
Dr Peter Webster (1998)\*  
Professor Peter Weissberg (1992)  
Dr Adam Welstead (2022)  
Dr Janet West (1969)\*  
Dr Robert Westbrook (2024)  
Mr Nathan Westhead (2022)  
Captain Maximillian Westland (2003)  
Mrs Rosalind Weston (1972)  
Dr Margaret Whichelow (2004)  
Professor John White (1974)  
Mr Joshua White (2017)  
Dr Joan Whitehead (1976)  
Dr Richard Whiter (2011)  
Professor Linda Wicker (2007)  
Mrs Elizabeth Wild (2013)  
Dr Stephen Wilford (2018)  
Dr Vanessa Wilkinson (1973)  
Professor Alun Williams (1985)  
Miss Rebecca Williams (2004)  
Professor William Williams (1986)  
Dr Jean Williams (2001)  
Mr Alan Williams (1991)  
Lady Sally Williams (2000)  
Dr Mark Wills (2008)  
Dr Lucy Wilson (2007)  
Mrs Rachel Wilson (1990)  
Mr Clive Wilson (2021)  
Mr Charles Wojcik (2016)  
Professor Paul Wolfson (1993)  
Dr Kwan Butt Albert Wong (1992)  
Dr Meng Yan Wong (2015)  
Dr Meng Ee Wong (1996)  
Ms Wing Ki Shirley Wong (1996)  
Dr Terence Wong (1988)  
Mr Darrell Wood (1983)  
Professor James Wood (2004)  
Mrs Melane Wood (1975)  
Mr Richard Woolf (2021)  
Dr David Wright (2005)  
Professor Terence Wright (2008)  
Mr Sebastian Wrobel (2016)  
Dr Chunyang Wu (2013)  
Dr Catharine Wyss (1993)

**X**  
Mr Weiye Xu (2024)

**Y**  
Mr Lehan Yang (2024)  
Professor Yuhiko Yasunaga (1990)  
Professor Giles See How Yeo (1994)  
Mrs Danyi Yonker (2005)  
Ms Carol Yuen (2020)  
Mr Mohammad Hilmi Yusof (1996)

**Z**  
Professor Leonardo Zaibert (2023)  
Professor Xiangwu Zeng (1986)  
Mr Ahmet Zeren (2003)  
Dr Chao Zhang (2015)  
Dr Guo-Jiang Zhao (1990)  
Mr Uros Zivkovic (2014)



# THE MORRISON SOCIETY LEGACY DONORS

Named after Wolfson’s first President, John Morrison, the Morrison Society was established in 2008 to recognise all those who have notified us that they have included a legacy in their will. We are delighted to invite Society members, with a guest, to an annual event to show our appreciation for this important commitment. We are grateful to the following, and to those members who prefer to belong to the Society anonymously.

Deceased legators are indicated with an asterisk \*

Dr Donald Adamson FRSL\*  
Mrs Helen Adamson  
Mr Michael Albrecht  
Ms Lyn Alcántara  
Mr Graham Allen  
Mr Robert Amundsen  
Dr Roger Bancroft  
Dame Kate Barker DBE  
Dr Colin Barnes  
Professor Allan Barton\*  
Dr Peter Beaumont\*  
Mrs Wanda Beaumont  
Dr Tony Bell  
Ms Jane Bevan  
Mrs Mary Bevan\*  
Ms Catherine Bexson  
Mr Alan Bird\*  
Group Captain Bruce Blackney\*  
Dr Bill Block\*  
Professor Dick Blum\*  
Dr Henry Boulind\*  
Mr Conor Bowman  
Mrs Susan Bowring  
Dr Harry Bradshaw  
Mrs Maureen Bragg\*  
Dr Stephen Bragg FEng\*  
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Mrs Pat Brown\*  
Dr Norma Bubier\*  
Mrs Doreen Burgin  
Mr Robert Burgin  
Mrs Greta Burkill\*  
Dr Charles Carlton\*  
Dr Margaret Carlton  
Mr Tim Cartledge  
Mr Robert Cashmore MBE  
Miss Mary Chisholm  
Dr Henry Chu\*  
Mrs Maura Collard\*  
Dr Brian Cox  
Mrs Johanna Crighton\*  
Mr Sandy Cross  
Mrs Cherry Dainty\*  
Dr Tom Davies  
Mr Michael De Frank  
Professor Nicholas de Lange FBA

Mrs Diana Deal  
Mr Paul Deal  
Dr Peter D’Eath  
Mr Peter Donovan  
Professor Sylvia Draper  
Mr Colin Dunnighan  
Dr David Dymond\*  
Ms Laura Edgeworth\*  
Professor John Edwards  
Mrs Susan Edwards  
Dr Norma Emerton\*  
Emeritus Professor Donald Engels  
Mrs Monika Erlinghagen  
Dr Martin Evans  
Miss Polly Fahnestock\*  
Mr Alan Farrow  
Professor Thomas Fischer\*  
Mr Robert Fishwick  
Mr Tom Fitzmaurice  
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Dr David Frost FRSA  
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Dr John Gibbins FBA  
Professor Barry Goldfarb\*  
Dr John Grantham\*  
Mr Chris Hale  
David Hall\*  
The Revd Nigel Hancock\*  
Dr Steven Hand  
Mrs Carol Handley\*  
Professor David Hargreaves  
Mr David Harris  
Miss Jenny Harris\*  
Dr John Harvey  
The Revd Dr Peter Hayler  
Dr Mellor Hennessy  
Professor John Henry\*  
Dr Andrew Herbert OBE FEng  
Professor Mary Hesse\*  
Mrs Lynn Hieatt  
Professor Paul Hirst\*  
Dr Steve Hoath  
Mr Anthony Hopkinson\*  
Mrs Sylvia Hopkinson  
Dr Paul Howell\*  
Dr Jeremy Hudson

Mr Derek Ingram OBE\*  
Dr Arthur Jennings\*  
Ms Lynda Johnson  
Mr Ieuan Jones  
Professor Adrian Kent  
Dr Ed Kessler MBE  
The Hon Chief Justice Susan Kiefel AC KC  
Professor Gordon Kingsley  
Mr Philip Kirk  
Ms Lorie Komlyn  
Mr Jonathan Lee  
Ms Dawn Leeder  
Mr George Liebmann  
Mr Jonathan Louth  
Professor Bill Lubenow  
Mrs Angela Lucas  
Professor Peter Lucas FSA  
Professor Matthew Lynas  
Dr Don MacDonald  
Dr Mary MacDonald  
Mrs Norma MacDonald\*  
Ms Jane MacFarlane  
Mr Murray MacFarlane  
Mr John McClenahan  
Professor Derek McDougall  
Professor Ken McKinney\*  
Marjorie McKinney  
Dr Tim Mead  
Mr Richard Meade  
Professor Roger Middleton  
Mr Dale Mills  
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Professor Roger Needham CBE FEng FRS\*  
Mr John Norton\*  
Lady Sally Oliver  
Dr Donald O’May\*  
Dr Ian O’Neill  
Dr Karen Ottewell  
Dr Stefan Paetke  
Mr Ray Palmer  
Mr Joe Petty\*  
Dr Hugh Plommer\*  
Mr Clive Powell  
Mrs Judith Powell

Mr Ian Purdy\*  
Mrs Ruth Quadling\*  
Dr Dorrie Rapp  
Mrs Jenny Redhead\*  
Professor Michael Redhead FBA\*  
Dr John Rees  
Mr Charles Reese  
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Dr Helen Reynolds  
Mr Bill Ridgman\*  
Dr Peter Roberts FRHistS  
Ms Jo Sadler  
Mr Michael Sadler  
Mr Barry Saunders  
Dr John Shepherd\*  
Dr Margaret Shepherd  
Mr Dick Shervington DL\*  
Professor George Smith II  
Dr Laurence Smith  
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Professor Karen Spärck Jones FBA\*  
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Professor Chris Todd  
Dr Chris Town  
Professor Witold Tulasiewicz\*  
Ms Diane Wales\*  
Mr John Ward  
Mr David Weatherup  
Miss Ruth Webb\*  
Dr Janet West\*  
Dr Margaret Whichelow  
Professor John White  
Dr Joan Whitehead  
Professor Victor Whittaker\*  
Lady Sally Williams  
Mr James Wilson\*  
Mr Scott Wilson  
Dr Alastair Worden\*  
Dr Esther Yu



# A LEGACY OF LOVE

Dr Janet West (17 June 1932 - 3 June 2024)

There is a common misconception that legacy giving requires large donations, the kinds that make the headlines, or leave a name on the side of a building. In fact, legacy giving isn’t just for the immensely wealthy or people with famous last names. It’s for everyone.

Anyone can leave a legacy to Wolfson, and every gift – whether large or small – plays a vital role in sustaining the causes we care about. Legacy gifts enable the College to support students and researchers with multi-year funding packages, award academic prizes, organise skills programmes like WolfWorks, encourage sporting excellence, and refurbish our facilities. It is the collective power of these meaningful, heartfelt contributions that often has the greatest impact.

One such legacy was bequeathed to Wolfson by Dr Janet West (1932-2024). Janet, who was involved with Wolfson throughout her life, was a member, a Fellow, and eventually an Emeritus Fellow.

Janet came to Cambridge from a school in Hull to study as an undergraduate

at Newnham College, where she remained while completing her PhD in plant biochemistry. During her postgraduate studies, she worked alongside the renowned Robert (‘Robin’) Hill and his team in the Biochemistry Department. Together, Janet and Robin studied chloroplasts: the green organelles found in the leaves of many plants that capture the photon energy of sunlight and use it to synthesise carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins, and pharmacologically active substances.

Janet’s husband, Martin Evans, recalls that around 1968 Janet’s friend, Bridget Allchin, invited her to join the newly formed University College, as Wolfson was called at the time. “Wolfson,” says Martin, “was something of a revelation to Janet: there was no high table, and was everyone friendly and welcoming. John Morrison was President, and he kept everything easy-going, with minimum formality but efficient admin behind the scenes. Janet soon made many friends among the other members, and some of her happiest times were when she was able to sit with a regular group of friends in the Dining Room with a canteen lunch. She loved to share stories and jokes with them, laughed a lot and made them laugh too at some of her anecdotes.”

Martin says that it was the egalitarian ethos of Wolfson that appealed most strongly to Janet, and the reason why she remained devoted to the College throughout her life.

“Wolfson College, as it became,” says Martin, “was always hospitable. Janet would often bring me to one of the special events as her guest, and I was always made to feel welcome. I recall early College dinners, in a variety of Nissen Hut just to the south of Bredon House. It was always a special

“**Wolfson was something of a revelation to Janet. There was no high table, and everyone was friendly and welcoming.”**

occasion, and it gave Janet great pleasure to share her love of Wolfson College with me. I know that her membership, and later as an Emeritus Fellow, was something that Janet specially valued. She had a very deep affection for Wolfson College all her life.”

Janet West played an indelible part in Wolfson’s history, and her legacy gift will continue to shape the College’s future. We are incredibly grateful to Janet and all our other generous legacy donors. We will use their gifts to help Wolfson flourish while safeguarding our core values, of which Janet was so proud.



Making a bequest to Wolfson is one of the most powerful ways to become part of the College’s future. Legacy gifts can be allocated to a particular area of Wolfson’s work, or to our areas of greatest need. If you inform us of your legacy pledge, you will be invited to join the Wolfson College Morrison Society. Your name will be printed in the Wolfson Review, and you will be invited to the annual Morrison Society lunch.





Alumni Events

CONNECTING WITH OUR ALUMNI

This year gave us many opportunities to welcome friends back to College, and to visit the Wolfson community across the globe. Here are some of our events and visits from this year:

Alumni Weekend

28 SEPTEMBER 2024

During this year's Alumni Weekend, the College celebrated outgoing President Professor Jane Clarke and all that she had achieved during her time at Wolfson. The occasion was marked with a series of Formal Halls, a panel discussion between Jane and other female scientists, and a festive College-wide garden party, which included the unveiling of Jane's official portrait.



Photo by Ian Olsson

Visit to Hong Kong

20 - 28 AUGUST 2024

During a visit to Hong Kong, alumna and Bye-Fellow Carol Yuen (2020) hosted a drinks gathering for Development Director Simon Crookall and other Wolfson alumni at the Hong Kong Bankers Club.

Visit to New York City

10 - 13 DECEMBER 2024

Whilst in New York for the Cambridge in America board meeting, Simon attended the Vice-Chancellor's alumni reception at the New York Historical Society, where he caught up with local alumni, including the Society's President and CEO, Wolfson alumna Dr Louise Mirrer (1974).



Christmas Drinks in Hong Kong

12 DECEMBER 2024

Some of our alumni and current students based in Hong Kong gathered for a joyful evening of Christmas drinks at a local restaurant. Many thanks again to alumna and Bye-Fellow Carol Yuen (2020) for her hospitality.



Tennis Tournament in Vienna

23 OCTOBER 2024

Thanks to Wolfson alumnus Karti Chidambaram (1993), a group of Wolfson alumni were able to join us at the Erste Bank Open tennis tournament in Vienna. Alumni from Austria, Germany, and Slovakia came to enjoy some sensational tennis and generous hospitality. We were delighted to subsequently learn that the tournament was won by British number one, Jack Draper.







## 60th Birthday Launch at the Oxford and Cambridge Club

23 JANUARY 2025

At this year's annual Wolfson in London drinks, we marked the official start of our 60th anniversary celebrations. Over 150 alumni and friends joined us at the Oxford and Cambridge Club for canapés and drinks to toast to six decades of Wolfson.



## Boat Race at Furnivall

13 APRIL 2025

We were thrilled to extend exclusive invitations to one of the best viewing points on the Thames to cheer on the Cambridge University Boat Club to victory at the 2025 Boat Races. Thanks again to Dr Evelyn Tichy (2009), Captain of Furnivall Sculling Club and former WCBC Captain.



## Trip to the Middle East: Dubai and Abu Dhabi

26 MAY – 28 MAY 2025

In a short but productive trip to the Middle East, Simon caught up with Wolfson alumni at receptions in both Dubai and Abu Dhabi.



## May Bumps

20 JUNE 2025

Despite the heat, we had fantastic results for all crews at this year's May Bumps, with the Club going +7 overall. W2 ended up going +2 overall and are now in their highest position since 2016. Our M2 crew went +3 up to division 3, and finished equal to the highest position they have ever been in. Our M1 had the full Bumps experience, and after

some nail-biting races, they fought and kept their place in the 3rd position of division 2. W1 ended up going +2 and making history as they are now in the 6th position in division 2, the highest position they have ever been in. This was truly a fantastic campaign for the Club, and we'd like to thank everyone who supported Wolfson on the bank or at home!



## Sir David Williams Law Society Event & Dinner

8 MARCH 2025

Alumni and guests gathered for an afternoon of engaging legal discussion and debate, featuring two panel sessions on corporate and international law. The event brought together distinguished academics and legal professionals to discuss important issues in their respective fields. The first panel, chaired by Dr Jennifer Davis (1995), examined the evolving regulatory landscape of private equity and featured insights from Chris Hale (1982), Lord Andrew Tyrie (1980), and Alberto Tassoni (2019). The second panel, chaired by Dr Thomas Grant (1995), examined the erosion of international law and featured insights from Dr Jamie Trinidad KC (2007), Marie-Anne Coninx (1977), and Dr Tugba Basaran (2004) on global governance and legal norms. Afterwards, alumni enjoyed a convivial dinner in the Combination Room, which provided an opportunity to continue conversations and reconnect with fellow College members.

## Medical Society Dinner

22 MARCH 2025

This was the College's first ever Medical Society Dinner, which saw over 70 alumni medics return to Wolfson – for a chance to both reconnect and celebrate our ongoing impact on the field of medicine. After dinner, we were delighted to welcome alumnus and Fellow Professor Giles Yeo (1994), a distinguished geneticist and metabolic research expert, to deliver an inspiring after-dinner speech.



## Mansion House 60th Anniversary Dinner

24 APRIL 2025

Read more about our 60th Anniversary Dinner at London's exclusive Mansion House on page 14.



## Visit to Asia: Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore

31 MARCH – 6 APRIL 2025

Wolfson's President, Professor Dame Ijeoma Uchegbu, travelled with Simon to visit alumni and College members in Southeast Asia, on a visit that took them to Malaysia, Hong Kong, and Singapore. While in Malaysia, Ijeoma delivered an engaging lecture at Sunway University, sharing insights on leading with inclusion and kindness. The tour continued with dinners in Hong Kong and Singapore – opportunities to reconnect with our far-flung College community, celebrate their achievements, and share updates from back in Cambridge. In Singapore, Ijeoma and Simon also had the pleasure of meeting Tharman Shanmugaratnam (1981), a Wolfson alumnus and Singapore's President, who received them at the Presidential Palace.



# Alumni Making an Impact

We are delighted to announce that six Wolfson alumni were recognised in the King’s Birthday Honours in June:



**Carole Johnson MBE**  
(2016, Applied Criminology & Police Management)

Carole was awarded an MBE for her outstanding services to policing. She joined Durham Constabulary in 1996 as an administrator working at Newton Aycliffe Police Station, followed by posts in the Press Office and CID, but her career changed direction when she joined the intelligence team in 2000, through which she played a key role in tracing missing children and dismantling organised crime groups. Carole helped set up the Central Authorities Bureau (CAB) team in 2010, which handles covert surveillance and warrant operations and has since become the longest-serving CAB manager in the UK.

< **Jeremy Wilson MBE**  
(1986, Design, Manufacture & Management)

Jeremy was recognised for his services to indoor climbing and community sport. He is the founder and CEO of the Lakeland Climbing Centre (LCC) Ltd and a director of UK Climbing Ltd. Jeremy also established the Lakeland Climbing Foundation, which aims to educate people nationwide about the benefits of climbing.

**Sir Stephen Kavanagh KCMG**  
(1999, MPhil Criminology)

Sir Stephen received the title of Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in recognition of his leadership as Executive Director of Police Services at INTERPOL, a position he has held since 2020. In this role, he serves as the organisation’s second-highest ranking official and the world’s most senior policing figure. Sir Stephen announced on LinkedIn: “To receive a Knighthood for roles I have truly loved and found immense purpose in, is something I had never dreamed possible. In fact it feels pretty surreal.”



**Professor Hanifa Shah OBE**  
(2011, MSt Sustainability Leadership)

Hanifa, recognised for services to Higher Education, is Pro Vice-Chancellor STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment at Birmingham City University. She said of her OBE: “I am deeply honoured to receive this award. It is not only a personal milestone but a testament to the collective effort of my collaborators – educators, industry mentors, and institutions who believe in the power of education to change lives.”

**Mark Chatterton MBE**  
(2008, Applied Criminology & Police Management)

Recognised for his services to the community in Farnborough, Hampshire, Mark is a retired police officer. He is a Foundation Governor of Salesian College, and was previously Chair of Trustees at Citizens Advice Rushmoor. A passionate advocate for fairness and equality, Mark’s work behind the scenes helped ensure that the organisation remained financially sustainable, well-governed, and resilient in the face of increasing demand.



< **Christine Counsell OBE**  
(2005, PhD Education)

Christine, a former Wolfson Fellow, was recognised for services to Education. She previously led the History PGCE course at University of Cambridge for almost twenty years, and is now an independent consultant supporting schools in curriculum and teacher development. In 2021, she co-founded Opening Worlds Ltd, a humanities programme for teaching history, geography, and religion in Years 3 to 6. The programme is now used in over 200 schools nationwide. Christine was described by the Historical Association as “a champion for history as a discipline and as a way for all people to understand the world around them.”



# In Memoriam

These are the names of our members who have passed away, or whose passing we were made aware of, between August 2024 and August 2025.

**Mrs Jo Ainsworth**  
7 March 1937 - 30 January 2025  
(Alumnus, 1995)

**Professor Menachem Amir**  
20 July 1930 - 21 May 2015  
(Visiting Scholar, 1993)

**Dr David Ashton OAM**  
6 July 1927 - 22 November 2005  
(Vacation Visitor, 1984)

**Dr Marc Audier**  
21 November 1947 - 23 September 2022 (Visiting Scholar, 1980)

**Mrs Hélène Auffret-Boucé**  
College informed of her passing  
(Visiting Scholar, 1986)

**Professor William ‘Bill’ Blakemore FRCVS**  
21 May 1942 - 26 May 2025  
(Fellow, 1983, Emeritus Fellow, 2007)

**Professor Evan Bukey**  
24 April 1940 - 20 November 2024  
(Visiting Fellow, 1993)

**Mr Ashley D’Mello**  
4 September 1956 - 28 February 2025  
(Press Fellow, Michaelmas 2003)

**Mr Brian Eccles**  
30 June 1959 - 22 June 2022  
(Alumnus, 2013)

**Professor Lester Embree**  
9 January 1938 - 19 January 2017  
(Visiting Scholar, 1997)

**Mr Alan Farrow**  
19 November 1931 - 7 August 2025  
(Alumnus, 1983)

**Professor Conor Gearty KC FBA**  
4 November 1957 - 11 September 2025  
(Alumnus, 1980, Associate Press Fellow, 1998, Senior Member, 2014, Honorary Fellow, 2023)

**Mr John Green**  
8 October 1935 - 13 March 2025  
(Alumnus, 2007)

**Mrs Carol Handley**  
17 October 1929 - 21 June 2024  
(Senior Member, 1988)

**Dr Francis Hartley**  
College informed of his passing  
(Alumnus, 1968)

**Professor David Huntington**  
College informed of his passing  
(Visiting Scholar, 1987)

**General Sir Michael ‘Mike’ Jackson GCB CBE DSO DL**  
21 March 1944 - 15 October 2024  
(Fellow Commoner, 1988, Honorary Fellow, 2002)

**Professor Alan Johnson**  
4 June 1933 - 5 November 2018  
(Visiting Scholar, 1998)

**Dr Stephen Large**  
6 June 1942 - 24 June 2025  
(Fellow, 1987, Emeritus Fellow, 2006)

**Mrs Janet Lash**  
21 April 1941 - 23 May 2025  
(Alumnus, 1974)

**Mr Glen Loutzenhiser**  
8 July 1969 - 2 February 2025  
(Alumnus, 2003)

**Professor Ivana Marková FBA FBPsS FRSE**  
10 February 1938 - 1 December 2024  
(Senior Member, 1967)

**Mr Tomi Musto**  
11 April 1969 - 30 April 2019  
(Alumnus, 1993)

**Dr Yvonne Parrey**  
27 January 1953 - 14 December 2024  
(Alumnus, 2010)

**Dr Valerie ‘Val’ Pinsky**  
19 September 1953 - 21 November 2024 (Alumnus, 1975)

**Rt Reverend Dr Anthony Russell FRAgS**  
25 January 1943 - 9 July 2025  
(Honorary Fellow, 2000)

**Mrs Ursula Sainsbury**  
21 December 1930 - 19 April 2024  
(Senior Member, 2007)

**Professor Shuji Sato**  
10 March 1938 - 30 July 2024  
(Visiting Scholar, 1989)

**Professor Marshall Shapo**  
1 October 1936 - 17 November 2023  
(Visiting Fellow, 1991)

**Mr Richard Silk**  
13 May 1948 - 26 May 2008  
(Alumnus, 1977)

**Dr Peter Webster CEng MChemEng**  
26 November 1934 - 7 January 2025  
(Senior Member, 1997, Fellow, 1998)

## Obituaries

### Professor William ‘Bill’ Blakemore FRCVS

**21 May 1942 - 26 May 2025**  
Fellow, 1983-2007; Emeritus Fellow, 2007-2025

Professor Bill Blakemore was a leading figure in veterinary neuropathology and a pioneer of cellular therapies in neuroscience. After qualifying from Bristol in 1964, he studied pathology at Cambridge before undertaking a PhD at the Institute of Neurology in London. He then returned to Cambridge, where he remained for the rest of his career. Bill was the first academic at the Cambridge Veterinary School to be awarded a personal chair by the University, and he was a Professor of Neuropathology at the Veterinary School for many years.

Bill’s pioneering work on the processes involved in myelination and remyelination, particularly relating to multiple sclerosis, earned him an immense international reputation. In 2007, he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Science. Outside the laboratory, medieval woodcarving was Bill’s main pastime. Bill passed away on 26 May after a long illness. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather.



Photo courtesy of Robin Franklin



Photo courtesy of Niall Carson, PA Archive, *The Independent*

### General Sir Michael ‘Mike’ Jackson GCB CBE DSO DL

**21 March 1944 - 15 October 2024**  
Fellow Commoner, 1988-1989; Honorary Fellow, 2002-2024

General Sir Michael Jackson, known to his troops as Mike or ‘Jacko’, served in Northern Ireland, the Balkans, Iraq, and Afghanistan during his 40-year career. Born in Sheffield a few weeks before D-Day, he attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He chose to join the Intelligence Corps in 1963 and subsequently pursued a degree in Russian Studies at the University of Birmingham.

Sir Mike served three tours in Northern Ireland during the Troubles, and he commanded a multinational division in the Balkans during the Kosovo War, famously standing firm against orders that could have escalated tensions with Russian forces. After being promoted to full General, he served as Commander-in-Chief of Land Command and later as Chief of the General Staff – the professional head of the British Army – from 2003 to 2006. During his tenure, he oversaw the Army during the Iraq War and implemented significant restructuring. He retired in 2006 with numerous honours to his name, including an MBE in 1979, a CBE in 1992, a DSO in 1999, a knighthood in 1998, and a Knight Grand Cross in 2005, the highest military honour. He was elected to a Service Fellow-Commonership at Wolfson during the period of his Service Fellowship at Cambridge between April and October 1989 and subsequently became an Honorary Fellow of the College in 2003. He is survived by his three children from two marriages and four grandchildren.



Dr Stephen Large MA

6 June 1942 - 24 June 2025

Fellow, 1987-2006; Emeritus Fellow, 2006-2025

Dr Stephen Large was Reader in Modern Japanese History at the University of Cambridge and retired in 2006. Over the years he served as Assistant Professor in History at the University of Iowa and Reader in History at the University of Adelaide, and was a visiting fellow at Keio University and the Universities of Michigan and Warwick. During his career, Stephen presented numerous papers in the United States, Australia, Japan, and Europe. His publications include *Emperor Hirohito and Showa Japan: A Political Biography*, which won the Ohira Prize, and (as editor) *Showa Japan: Political, Economic and Social History 1926-1989* (4 volumes). During his Fellowship of Wolfson, Stephen served on the College Council from 1996-1998 and 1999-2001.



Photo courtesy of Open University

Professor Ivana Marková FBA FBPsS FRSE

10 February 1938 - 1 December 2024

Senior Member, 1967-1970 & 2007-2024

Professor Ivana Marková was a leader in the field of social psychology in Europe, and one of the very first Senior Members of Wolfson College, joining between 1967 and 1970, and later reinstated in 2008 following her retirement. She was a Professor Emerita at the University of Stirling and a visiting professor at the London School of Economics, and also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the British Academy.

Born in Tábor, Czechoslovakia, in 1938, Ivana was assigned by the Communist Party to work as a technician in a chemical plant. Unable to study full-time, she was an external student at Charles University in Prague and earned her doctorate in 1964. During the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, Ivana was completing a postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Cambridge. She was forced to relocate her young family to England and took up another postdoctoral position at the University of London. She was subsequently appointed as a lecturer, and then as a professor, at the University of Stirling. Ivana's main research interests were the ontology and epistemology of theory in social psychology and the interdependence of social thinking, dialogue, and semiotics, as well as social representations of democracy, individualism, and responsibility in post-communist Europe. She established long-term networks focusing on topics such as social representations, trust, and dialogical dynamics. She is survived by her son, Pavel, and her daughter, Ivana.



Photo courtesy of Ely Cathedral

^ The Right Reverend Dr Anthony Russell FRAgS

25 January 1943 - 9 July 2025

Honorary Fellow, 2000-2025

The Right Reverend Dr Anthony Russell was the Diocesan Bishop of Ely from 2000 until his retirement in 2010. He was educated at Uppingham School, St Chad's College, Durham, and Trinity College, Oxford. He was made a deacon in 1970, and ordained as a priest the following Michaelmas, serving in the dioceses of Norwich and Coventry for many years as curate, vicar, and canon theologian.

Anthony served as a chaplain to Queen Elizabeth II from 1983 to 1988, after which he became an area bishop in the Diocese of Oxford. As chaplain and later director of the Arthur Rank Centre, he was a leading spokesman for the church on rural and farming matters as chaplain and later the Director of the Arthur Rank Centre, and Vice President of the Royal Agricultural Society. Anthony made a notable contribution to the national church's thinking about rural ministry, publishing several books on the role of the church in the countryside, including *The Country Parish* (1986) and *The Country Parson* (1993).

Dr Peter Webster CEng MIChemEng

26 November 1934 - 7 January 2025

Fellow, 1998-2002; Senior Member, 1997-2002 & 2002-2025

Born and educated in Manchester, Dr Peter Webster gained a PhD in Chemical Engineering in 1960. He spent much of his career at Unilever, first as a corrosion and materials specialist, and retiring as Head of Manufacturing and Logistics and member of the management committee of the Corporate Manufacturing and Engineering Group in 1994. Peter held a wide range of management positions in process development and production management, including seven years as Works Manager of a large chemicals factory. He was retained by Unilever on a consultancy basis to design, direct, and teach courses around the world. Since retiring, he was engaged in the development of the Manufacturing Leaders' Programme at the University of Cambridge, as Course Director and a Teaching Fellow in the Engineering Department. Outside of academia, Peter's interests included summer and winter sports, vintage cars, antique watches, and music. He was married with two children.



Photo courtesy of Institut de psychologie et éducation



Wolfson students take a break from studying to enjoy the sunshine with Fizz the goat at a goat-walking event organised by the Welfare and Wellbeing Team

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