

# SOMERVILLE COLLEGE REPORT 2015-2016





# Somerville College Report

## 2015-16

# Contents

<b>Visitor, Principal, Fellows, Lecturers, Staff</b>	5
<b>The Year in Review</b>	
Principal's Report	10
Widening Access at Somerville	14
Development Director's Report	15
Fellows' Activities	17
Report on Junior Research Fellowships	24
J.C.R. Report	25
M.C.R. Report	26
Library Report	27
<b>Members' Notes</b>	
President's Report	30
Horsman Awards	31
Somerville Senior Members' Fund	31
Life Before Somerville: Daphne Wall (1950)	32
Reflections on Eleanor Rathbone by Susan Cohen	35
Book Review	38
Members' News and Publications	39
Marriages	45
Births	45
Deaths	46
Obituaries	47
<b>Academic Report</b>	
Examination Results	66
Prizes	69
Students entering College	74
<b>Somerville Association Officers and Committee</b>	79
<b>Somerville Development Board Members</b>	81
<b>Notices</b>	
Events: Dates for the Diary	82

*This Report is edited by  
Liz Cooke (Tel. 01865 270632; [elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk))  
and Sarah Hughes ([sarah.hughes@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.hughes@some.ox.ac.uk))  
Cover photo by Dai Morris*

# Visitor, Principal, Fellows, Lecturers, Staff

## Visitor

**The Rt Hon The Lord Patten of Barnes, CH,**  
*Chancellor of the University*

## Principal

**Alice Prochaska, MA,**  
DPhil, FRHistS

## Vice-Principal

**Fiona Stafford, MA,**  
MPhil, DPhil, (BA Leicester),  
FRSE, *Professor of English  
Language and Literature,  
Tutor in English Literature*

## Fellows (in order of seniority)

**Joanna Mary Innes, MA,**  
(MA Cantab), *Winifred Holtby  
Fellow, Tutor in Modern  
History, Senior Fellow*

**Almut Maria Vera  
Suerbaum, MA,** (Dr Phil,  
Staatsexamen, Münster),  
*Associate Professor of  
German and Tutor in  
German*

**Richard Stone, MA, DPhil,**  
MSAE, FIMEchE, *Professor  
of Engineering Science  
(to April 2016), Tutor in  
Engineering Science (From  
Trinity Term 2016)*

**Lois McNay, MA,** (PhD  
Cantab), *Professor of the  
Theory of Politics, Tutor in  
Politics: Dean, HT-MT*

**Roman Walczak, MA,**  
(MSc Warsaw, Dr rer nat  
Heidelberg), *Reader in  
Particle Physics, Associate  
Professor and Tutor in  
Physics; Dean MT*

**Benjamin John  
Thompson, MA, DPhil,**  
(MA, PhD Cantab), FRHistS,  
*Associate Professor of  
Medieval History and Tutor  
in History*

**Charles Spence, MA,**  
(PhD Cantab), *Professor of  
Experimental Psychology,  
Tutor in Experimental  
Psychology*

**Jennifer Welsh, MA,**  
DPhil, (BA Saskatchewan),  
*Professor of International  
Relations. On secondment  
at the European Institute,  
Florence*

**Philip West, MA,** (PhD  
Cantab), *Associate  
Professor of English, Times  
Fellow and Tutor in English*

**Julie Dickson, MA, DPhil,**  
(LLB Glasgow), *Associate  
Professor of Law and Tutor  
in Law*

**Manuele Gragnolati, MA,**  
(Laurea in Lettere Classiche,  
Pavia, PhD Columbia, DEA  
Paris), *Professor of Italian  
Literature, Tutor in Italian -  
until 31 Oct 2015*

**Annie Sutherland,**  
MA, DPhil, (MA Cantab),  
*Associate Professor in  
Old and Middle English,  
Rosemary Woolf Fellow and  
Tutor in English*

**Daniel Anthony, MA,**  
(PhD Lond), *Professor  
of Experimental  
Neuropathology and Tutor in  
Medicine*

**Michael Hayward, MA,**  
DPhil, *Professor of Inorganic  
Chemistry and Tutor in  
Chemistry*

**Beate Dignas, MA, DPhil,**  
(Staatsexamen Münster),  
*Associate Professor of  
Ancient History, Barbara  
Craig Fellow and Tutor in  
Ancient History*

**Natalia Nowakowska, MA,**  
DPhil, *Associate Professor  
of History and Tutor in  
History*

**Jonathan Burton, MA,**  
(PhD Cantab), *Associate  
Professor of Organic  
Chemistry and Tutor in  
Chemistry*

**Mason Porter, MA,** (BS  
Caltech, MS, PhD Cornell),  
*Professor of Nonlinear and  
Complex Systems and Tutor  
in Applied Mathematics*

**Steven Herbert Simon,**  
MA, (PhD Harvard),  
*Professor of Theoretical  
Condensed Matter Physics  
and Tutor in Physics*

**Hilary Greaves, BA,**  
(PhD Rutgers), *Associate  
Professor of Philosophy and  
Tutor in Philosophy*

**Luke Pitcher, MA, MSt,**  
DPhil, (PGCert Durham),  
*Associate Professor of  
Classics and Tutor in  
Classics*

**Simon Robert Kemp,**  
BA, MPhil, (PhD Cantab),  
*Associate Professor in  
French and Tutor in French*

**Alex David Rogers, (BSc,**  
PhD Liv), *Professor of  
Conservation Biology and  
Tutor in Biology*

---

**Christopher Hare**, BCL, (Dip. D'Etudes Jurid. Poitiers, MA Cantab, LLM Harvard), *Associate Professor of Law and Tutor in Law*

---

**Bhaskar Choubey**, DPhil, (BTech Warangal NIT), *Associate Professor of Engineering Science and Tutor in Engineering Science*

---

**Charlotte Potts**, DPhil, (BA Victoria University of Wellington, MA UCL), *Sybil Haynes Associate Professor of Etruscan and Early Italic Archaeology and Art, Katherine and Leonard Woolley Fellow in Classical Archaeology and Tutor in Classical Archaeology*

---

**Karen Nielsen**, (Cand mag, Cand philol Trondheim, MA, PhD Cornell), *Associate Professor of Philosophy and Tutor in Philosophy*

---

**Jonathan Marchini**, DPhil, (BSc Exeter), *Professor of Statistical Genomics and Tutor in Statistics*

---

**Julian Duxfield**, MA, (MSc LSE), *University Director of Human Resources*

---

**Renier van der Hoorn**, (BSc, MSc Leiden, PhD Wageningen), *Associate Professor of Plant Sciences and Tutor in Plant Sciences*

---

**Dan Ciubotaru**, (BSc MA Babes-Bolyai, PhD Cornell), *Associate Professor of Mathematics and Tutor in Mathematics*

---

**Guido Ascari**, (BA Pavia, MSc PhD Warw), *Professor of Economics and Tutor in Economics*

---

**Damian Tyler**, (MSci, PhD Nott), *Associate Professor of Biomedical Science and Tutor in Medicine*

---

## Professorial Fellows

---

**Stephen Weatherill**, MA, (MA Cantab, MSc Edinburgh), *Jacques Delors Professor of European Law*

---

**Rajesh Thakker**, MA, DM, (MA, MD Cantab), FRS, FRCP, FRCPATH, FMedSci, *May Professor of Medicine*

---

**Stephen Roberts**, MA, DPhil, FEng *Professor of Engineering Science and Director of the Oxford-Man Institute of Quantitative Finance*

---

**Stephen Guy Pulman**, MA, (MA, PhD Essex), FBA, *Professor of Computational Linguistics*

---

**Aditi Lahiri**, (PhD Brown, MA, PhD Calcutta), FBA, *Professor of Linguistics*

---

**Matthew John Andrew Wood**, MA, DPhil, (MB, ChB Cape Town), *Professor of Neuroscience and Keeper of the College Pictures*

---

## Administrative Fellows

---

**Sara Kalim**, MA, *Development Director*

---

**Anne Manuel**, (LLB Reading, MA, MSc, PhD Bristol), ACA, *Librarian, Archivist and Head of Information Services*

---

**Andrew Parker**, BA, MA, CIMA, *Treasurer and Domestic Bursar*

---

**Steve Rayner**, BA, (PhD Durham), FRAS, MInstP, *Senior Tutor, Tutor for Graduates and Tutor for Admissions*

---

## Senior Research Fellows

---

**Amalia Coldea**, (MA, PhD Cluj-Napoca)

---

**Colin Espie**, (BSc MAppSci PhD DSc(Med) Glas, FBPsS, CPsychol), *Professor of Behavioural Sleep Medicine*

---

**Sir Marc Feldmann**, AC, (BSc(Med), MB BS, PhD, MD(Hon), DMS(Hon)), FAA, FMedSci, FRCP, FRCPATH, FRS, *Professor of Cellular Immunology*

---

**Manuele Gragnolati**, MA, (Laurea in Lettere Classiche, Pavia, PhD Columbia, DEA Paris), (SRF from 01 January 2016)

---

**Sarah Gurr**, MA, (BSc, PhD London, ARCS, DIC), *Professor of Molecular Plant Pathology*

---

**John Ingram**, (BSc KCL, MSc Reading, PhD Wageningen NL), (SRF from 01 January 2016)

---

**Muhammad Kassim Javaid**, (BMedSci, MBBS, PhD London), MRCP

---

**Philip Kreager**, DPhil

---

**Boris Motik**, (MSc Zagreb, PhD Karlsruhe), *Professor of Computer Science*

---

**Frans Plank**, (Staatsexamen Munich, MLitt Edin, MA Regensburg, DPhil Hanover)

---

**Philip Poole**, (BSc PhD Murdoch), *Professor of Plant Sciences*

---

**Michael Proffitt**, (from January 2015), *Editor, Oxford English Dictionary*

---

**Tessa Rajak**, MA, DPhil

---

**Owen Rees**, MA, (PhD Cantab), ARCO, *Professor of Music*

---

## Honorary Senior Research Fellow

**Stephanie Dalley**, MA, (MA Cantab, Hon PhD London), FSA

## Junior Research Fellows

**Ilya Afanasyev**, DPhil, (MPhil Moscow), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Matthew Apps**, BSc PhD RHUL, (MSc Reading), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Lucy Audley-Miller**, MPhil, DPhil, (BA Newcastle), *Woolley Junior Research Fellow*

**Julia Bird**, (BA Cantab, PhD Toulouse), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**David Bowe**, BA, MSt, DPhil, *Victoria Maltby Junior Research Fellow*

**Melissa Bowerman**, (BSc, PhD Ottawa), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Ana Sofia Cerdeira**, (MD, PhD Porto and Harvard), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Patrick Clibbens**, (BA, MPhil, PhD Cantab), *Mary Somerville Junior Research Fellow*

**Vanessa Ferreira**, DPhil, (Bsc MIT, MD British Columbia), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**César Giraldo Herrera**, (BSc Magister de los Andes Bogota, DC Colombia, PhD Aberdeen), *Victoria Maltby Junior Research Fellow*

**Anissa Kempf**, (MSc, PhD (ETH) Zurich), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Lisa Lamberti**, (BSC Geneva, MSc Copenhagen, PhD ETH Zurich), *Mary Ewart Junior Research Fellow*

**James Larkin**, MBioChem, (PhD Warwick), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Erik Marklund**, MSc, PhD Uppsala, *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Giedre Mikunaite**, *Junior Research Fellow*

**Gokce Su Pulco**, (BSc Bogazici, PhD Boston), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Stephanie Thiem**, BSc, MSc, PhD Chemnitz Univ. of Technology, *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Bonnie Van Wilgenburg**, Summa Cum Laude Utrecht, DPhil Oxf, *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Sebastian Vollmer**, (MSc, PhD Warwick), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Davide Zilli**, (BEng, PhD Southampton), *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

**Nahid Zokaei**, BSc PhD UCL, *Fulford Junior Research Fellow*

## Early Career Fellows

**Siddharth Arora**, BTech DA-IICT, DPhil Oxf, *Parkinsons UK Early Career Fellow*

**Maan Barua**, BSc Dibugarh, MSc DPhil Oxf, *British Academic Early Career Fellow*

## British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow

**Pippa Byrne**, BA, MSt, DPhil, *British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow*

## Emeritus Fellows

**Margaret Adams**, MA, DPhil

**Pauline Adams**, MA, BLitt, (Dipl Lib Lond)

**Lesley Brown**, BPhil, MA

**Marian Ellina Stamp Dawkins**, CBE, MA, DPhil, FRS

**Katherine Duncan-Jones**, MA, BLitt, FRSL

**Karin Erdmann**, MA Oxf, Dr rer nat Giessen

**Miriam Tamara Griffin**, MA, DPhil

**Mary Jane Hands**, MA

**Barbara Fitzgerald Harvey**, CBE, MA, BLitt, FRHistS, FBA

**Judith Heyer**, MA, (PhD London)

**Julianne Mott Jack**, MA

**Carole Jordan**, DBE, MA, (PhD London), FRS

**Norma MacManaway**, MA, (MA, MPhil Dublin, DEA Paris)

**Helen Morton**, MA, (MSc Boston, MA Cantab)

**Hilary Ockendon**, MA, DPhil, (Hon DSc Southampton)

**Josephine Peach**, BSc, MA, DPhil

**Frances Julia Stewart**, MA, DPhil

**Adrianne Tooke**, MA, (BA London, PhD Cantab)

**Angela Vincent**, MA, MB, BS, (MSc London), FRS, FMedSci

## Foundation Fellows

**Lady Elliott** (Margaret Whale, 1945), MBE, MA

**Sir Geoffrey Leigh**

**Mr Gavin Ralston**, MA

**Lord Powell of Bayswater**, KCMG, OBE

**Mr Wafic Said**

## Honorary Fellows

**Baroness Williams of Crosby**, PC, MA

**Kiri Jeanette Te Kanawa**, DBE, Hon DMus

**Carolyn Emma Kirkby**, DBE, OBE, MA, Hon DMus, FGSM

**Joyce Maire Reynolds**, MA, (Hon DLitt Newcastle-upon-Tyne), FBA

**Hazel Mary Fox (Lady Fox)**, CMG, QC, MA

**Averil Millicent Cameron**, DBE, MA, (PhD London), FBA, FSA

**Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve**, CH, CBE, MA, (PhD Harvard), Hon DCL, FBA, Hon FRS, Pour le Mérite

**Kay Elizabeth Davies**, DBE, CBE, MA, DPhil, FRS

**Baroness Jay of Paddington**, PC, BA

**Irangani Manel Abeysekera (Mrs)**, MA

**Paula Pimlott Brownlee**, MA, DPhil

**Julia Stretton Higgins**, DBE, CBE, MA, DPhil, Hon DSc, FRS, CChem, FRSC, CEng, FIM, FREng

**Doreen Elizabeth Boyce**, MA, (PhD Pittsburgh)

**Ruth Hilary Finnegan**, OBE, MA, BLitt, DPhil, FBA

**Janet Margaret Bately**, CBE, MA, FBA

**Margaret Kenyon (Mrs)**, MA

**Tamsyn Love Imison**, DBE, BSc, FRSA

**Clara Elizabeth Mary Freeman (Mrs)**, OBE, MA

**Alyson Judith Kirtley Bailes**, CMG, MA (d. 29 April 2016)

**Jenny Glusker**, MA, DPhil

**Ann Rosamund Oakley**, MA, (PhD London, Hon DLitt Salford), AcSS

**Theresa Joyce Stewart (Mrs)**, MA

**Baroness Lucy Neville-Rolfe**, DBE, CMG, MA

**Judith Ann Kathleen Howard**, CBE, DPhil, (BSc Bristol), FRS

**Victoria Glendinning**, CBE, MA

**Jennifer Jenkins**, DBE, Hon FRIBA, Hon FRICS, Hon MRTPI, MA

**Nicola Ralston (Mrs)**, BA

**Antonia Byatt**, DBE, CBE, FRSL, BA

**Anna Laura Momigliano Lepschy**, MA, BLitt

**Rosalind Mary Marsden**, DCMG, MA, DPhil

**Sarah Broadie**, MA, BPhil, (PhD Edinburgh), FBA

**Harriet Maunsell**, OBE, MA

**Mary Midgley**, MA

**Hilary Spurling**, CBE, BA

**Catherine Jane Royle de Camprubi**, MA

**Nancy Rothwell**, DBE, BSc, DS, (PhD London), FMedSci, FRS

**Baroness Shriti Vadera**, BA

**Elizabeth Mary Keegan**, DBE, MA

**Carole Hillenbrand**, OBE, BA, (BA Cantab, PhD Edinburgh), FBA, FRSE, FRAS, FRHistS

**Angela McLean**, BA, (MA Berkeley, PhD Lond), FRS

**Michele Moody-Adams**, BA, (BA Wellesley, PhD Harvard)

**Judith Parker**, DBE, QC, MA

**Esther Rantzen**, DBE, CBE, MA

**Ruth Thompson**, MA, DPhil

**Caroline Barron**, MA, (PhD London), FRHistS

**Fiona Caldicott**, DBE, BM, BCh, MA, MD (Hon), DSc (Hon), FRCPsych, FRCP, FRCPI, FRCGP, FMedSci

**Emma Rothschild**, CMG, MA

**Venkatraman Ramakrishnan**, Kt, (BSc Baroda, PhD Ohio), Nobel Laureate, FRS (President from Nov. 2015)



---

**Tessa Ross**, CBE, BA

---

**Joanna Haigh**, CBE, MA,  
DPhil, FRS

---

**Akua Kuenyehia**, BCL,  
(LLB University of Ghana)

---

**Baroness Wolf of  
Dulwich**, CBE, BA, MPhil

---

## Stipendiary Lecturers

---

**Nicola Byrom**, DPhil, (BSc  
Nott) *Psychology*

---

**Joseph Camm**, MEng  
*Engineering*

---

**Sarah Cooper**, (BA, MSci,  
PhD Cantab) *Biochemistry*

---

**Vilma de Gasperin**, DPhil,  
(Laurea Padua), *Modern  
Languages*

---

**Xon De Ros**, DPhil, (Fellow  
of LMH), *Spanish*

---

**Andrew Elliott**, MPhil, (BA  
Cantab), *Economics*

---

**Kerrie Ford**, MA PhD  
(Cantab), *Medicine*

---

**Christian Hill**, (PhD  
Cantab), *Chemistry*

---

**Alison Lutton**, DPhil, (MA  
Edinburgh, MA Liverpool),  
*English*

---



---

**Quentin Miller**, DPhil,  
(BMath Waterloo, Canada),  
*Computer Science*

---

**Sian Piret**, MBioChem,  
DPhil, *Medicine*

---

**Benjamin Skipp**, MA, MSt,  
DPhil, *Music*

---

**Graeme Smith**, MPhys,  
DPhil, *Physics*

---

**Stephen Smith**, BA,  
MPhil, (MA Open) *Classical  
Archaeology*

---

**Zachary Vermeer**, BA  
Sydney, BCL MSt Oxf, *Law*

---

**Timothy Walker**, MA,  
*Plant Sciences*

---



---

## Retaining Fee Lecturers

---

**Mary MacRobert**, MA  
DPhil Oxf, *Russian*

---

**Pauline Souleau**, BA MA  
Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV),  
DPhil Oxf, French 2015-16,  
*Stipendiary Lecturer for MT  
2016 and HT 2017*

---

**Betiel Wasihun**, MA PhD  
Heidelberg, *German*

---



---

## Departmental Lecturers

---

**Oren Margolis**, MA KCL,  
DPhil Oxf, *History*

---

**Marco Scutari**, MSc PhD  
Padua, *Statistics*

---

**Shaina Western**, BA  
Whitworth, PhD California,  
*International Relations*

---



---

## College Lecturer

---

**Alessandro Di Nicola**, BA  
Trinity (Dublin), BPhil DPhil  
Oxf, *Philosophy*

---



---

## Staff

---

Academic Office:  
**Jo Ockwell**, (BA, MA  
University of Gloucester),  
*Academic Registrar*

---



---

Library:  
**Sue Purver**, MA  
**Matthew Roper**, MA (MA  
Durham)

---



---

Development Office:  
**Brett de Gaynesford**,  
(BA, College of William  
& Mary, USA) *Deputy  
Development Director*

---



---

Alumni Relations:  
**Liz Cooke**, MA  
**Lisa Gygas**, MA

---



---

Conferences and Catering:  
**Dave Simpson**

---



---

Treasury:  
**Elaine Boorman**, *College  
Accountant*

---



---

IT Systems:  
**Chris Bamber**, *Manager*

---



---

Porter's Lodge:  
**Mark Ealey**, *Lodge  
Manager*

---



---

Chapel:  
**Brian McMahon**, MA MSt  
(MA Essex) *Director*

---



---

Music:  
**Benjamin Goodson**, MA,  
*Director of Chapel Music*  
**Hilary Davan Wetton**, MA,  
*Senior Music Associate*

---



---

**Further details of all  
administrative staff are to  
be found on the College  
website.**

---

---

# Principal's Report

---



*Alice Prochaska in the SCR by Alison Baskerville*

The Principal's office in Somerville looks out over the main quad in two directions and, squinting at an acute angle to the right, on the burgeoning Radcliffe Observatory Quarter. I can watch students flitting in and out of the Library (piling in when exams are looming) and socialising, studying, or sometimes attending tutorials on the grass. Occasionally the Nursery staff bring their toddlers to play in the quad, and in summer visiting groups change the rhythm of activity. Just beyond my line of vision is the croquet lawn, more patronised in some years than others. A small marquee is kept in place on the chapel

lawn from June to October, playing host to visitors and College events alike: high points in a Somerville summer for me are the celebratory receptions for new graduates on degree days.

My perspective on the College's activities in 2015-16 necessarily will be as incomplete as the view from my windows. The University of Oxford is both world-leading and an intensely complex world in itself. Somerville students, Fellows and staff engage in all of it, in innumerable different ways. This report describes just a few highlights.

During the past year we have been celebrating the College's parliamentary links. In January we hosted a one-day conference on Eleanor Rathbone (1872-1946), Somerville's first MP, who was renowned for establishing family allowances and for her work to rescue thousands of refugees from the Spanish Civil War and the Holocaust. We held a reception in the Brittain-Williams room (presided over by our portrait of Shirley Williams) and named a seminar room in Eleanor Rathbone's honour, where her portrait hangs. The Librarian Anne Manuel worked with colleagues in the Houses of Parliament to celebrate the 150th anniversary of John Stuart Mill presenting the first UK petition for Votes for Women, and Somervillians were credited prominently in a special exhibition in Portcullis House. On 16 June, Sam Gyimah MP hosted a fund-raising dinner in the House of Commons, with a talk by the author Charles Moore based on the second volume of his biography of Margaret Thatcher. The event was a great success, but that was the day when Jo Cox MP was murdered in her Yorkshire constituency, a tragic reminder of the risks and sacrifices involved in a politician's life. Somerville alumni currently include six MPs and six peers.

This was a suitable year in which to celebrate John Stuart Mill, whose step-daughter gave his library to Somerville in 1905. Some generous gifts, together with a crowdfunding campaign by our students and a partnership with the University of Alabama and the Bodleian Libraries, support the College's programme of conserving the books and digitising the important marginalia that shed new light on Mill's political and philosophical thought and that of his father, the political economist James Mill. The inaugural John Stuart Mill Lecture was given jointly by Professor Alan Ryan and Dr Frank Prochaska.

Among other special events, a commemorative blue plaque was placed on the house in Woodstock Road where Dorothy Hodgkin and her family lived at the time when she was awarded the Nobel Prize, and we celebrated with a party in College. Separately, Sir Venki Ramakrishnan, Nobel laureate and President of the Royal Society, gave a special lecture, *From Chidambaram to Cambridge and the Royal Society: a Scientific Journey*, which he based on the fluctuating

fortunes of his own career and intended to encourage scientists, especially women, to persevere in the face of career breaks and set-backs. The announcement in March that Mary Somerville has been chosen as the face of the new £10 Scottish banknote fittingly underlines that message, and gave us another reason to celebrate. Emeritus Fellow Professor Marian Dawkins FRS, CBE, gave the James Bryce Memorial Lecture on *Animals and Us: Revelations from Animal Behaviour*; Honorary Fellow Professor Dame Kay Davies CBE gave this year's Dorothy Hodgkin Memorial Lecture on *Therapy for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: Time for Optimism*. Professor Catherine Harmer gave the Monica Fooks Memorial Lecture on *How do Antidepressant Drugs Work?* My "Principal Presents" series of informal talks to small groups of students included this year a special visit from Mrs Graça Machel, international stateswoman and wife of the late Nelson Mandela, who spoke to some of our Indian graduate scholars.

In May 2016, we celebrated a significant donation from the Qatar Development Fund for the Margaret Thatcher Scholarships. This, with earlier donations, enables us to begin making these awards, which are designed eventually to support outstanding students from any part of the world, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and regardless of their national, cultural, political or social background, with a preference for those who have overcome adversity in some way. The first awards will go to undergraduates in Michaelmas Term 2016, with further awards for postgraduates to follow in 2017. The College also celebrated two new Foundation Fellows, Lord Powell of Bayswater and Mr Wafic Said, recognised for their exceptional contributions to the Margaret Thatcher Scholarship Trust.

The Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development sponsored a successful visit when a group of us visited Mumbai and Delhi in late March, with well-received talks by Professor Alex Rogers and Dr Alfred Gathorne-Hardy, and an event at the Supreme Court in Delhi where three senior Indian jurists spoke in support of our efforts to create a postgraduate scholarship commemorating Somerville's first law graduate, the pioneering Indian lawyer Cornelia Sorabji (1866-1954). Thanks to the hospitality of our Senior Associate Dr Gita Piramal, we also launched the Oxonian India Foundation, which

will enable us to receive rupee donations. The OICSD will have eight postgraduate Indian scholars in 2016-17. It celebrated a landmark too, with its inaugural conference on 12 and 13 July, "A Complex Recipe: Nutrition, Power and the Environment". This innovative event actively engaged all of the 100 distinguished participants from India, the UK and elsewhere in identifying problems and solutions which are being followed up by small working parties. It was a special honour that Oxford's Chancellor, Lord Patten of Barnes, and both the designated representatives of the Government of India, Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea and the High Commissioner His Excellency Mr Navtej Sarna gave keynote talks at the conference; and among other leading speakers were two former ministers for the environment from India and the UK respectively: Dr Jairam Ramesh and Lord Deben.

## Fellows and Staff

It is Somerville's turn in the year from March 2016 to provide one of the three senior officials responsible for disciplinary and pastoral matters in the University as a whole: in our case this year, the University Assessor. Dr Luke Pitcher has assumed the role; as a specialist in Roman History, he will be undaunted by the frequent use of Latin. The appointment brings with it a welcome closer association for the College with University matters, as did the roles filled by my predecessor Dame Fiona Caldicott, and as does now my own role as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor without portfolio. In January, Oxford welcomed as our new Vice-Chancellor Professor Louise Richardson, the distinguished expert on international relations and former Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of St Andrews. She takes a close interest in the work of the colleges, and Somerville has been delighted to welcome her as our guest on several occasions.

The snapshot of activities by our Fellows later in this report shows an impressive array of activity and recognition. One of several interdisciplinary projects based here, the medievalists' series of themed essays published by Ashgate, will be producing a third volume in the series, this time on Temporality, later in 2016. Professor Fiona Stafford, the College's head of English, personifies an interdisciplinary approach in herself.

She was responsible for an innovative conference on poetry and other writing about coasts, entitled *Unencompassing the Archipelago*, in November, and has just published her book *The Long, Long Life of Trees* with Yale University Press.

Distinctions and awards to Fellows include the appointment of Professor Stephen Roberts FREng as Director of the Oxford-Man Institute of Quantitative Finance and the British Neurological Association's award to Professor Angela Vincent FRS for her Outstanding Contribution to British Neuroscience. A University teaching award went to Professor Jonathan Burton. The Ig Nobel prize for Diagnostic Medicine (based at Harvard and MIT "to honour achievements that first make people laugh, then make them think") went to Lecturer Dr Helen Ashdown. Notable among support staff were Housekeeping Supervisor Seun Alabi and Housekeeping Manager Teresa Walsh, who won awards from the training organisation Activate Enterprise as, respectively, Apprentice and Employer of the Year.

Those leaving Somerville during the year included Manuele Gragnolati, who was appointed to the prestigious chair in Medieval Italian Literature at the Sorbonne, and Mason Porter, who is about to take up a professorship at UCLA following a year in which he ran a special celebration of the nineteenth-century computer scientist Ada Lovelace, and won more awards to add to his already impressive list. Our new choir director Benjamin Goodson, who did a great job bringing the Somerville choir up to a new standard, sadly is leaving us after just one year, for a prestigious post with the Berlin Radio Choir. Senior Music Associate Mr Hilary Davan Wetton, who has been working on new initiatives with the Somerville Music Society, will run the choir on an interim basis in Michaelmas Term.

## The international dimension

Somerville's academic and student body is distinguished among Oxford colleges for its international profile. Among nearly six hundred students altogether, 77% of graduate students and 26% of undergraduates in 2015-16 came from outside the UK, drawn from fifty different nationalities. These

percentages considerably exceed the averages for Oxford. A majority of our Postdoctoral members, or Junior Research Fellows, and about a quarter of members of the Governing Body are also from outside the UK. At the time of writing, three Fellows are running multi-year, collaborative research projects funded by the European Research Council, and this is not to mention the many other sources of European funding that benefit members of Somerville.

It would be wrong to gloss over the uncertainty that the College feels, in common with the rest of the University, and the anxiety experienced by our international members in particular, following the result of the EU referendum in June. Nor can the collegial experience of living, studying and working here be expressed simply in numeric terms. The College glories in its diversity; the experience of all of our students is enriched by this international character; and our research collaborations are able to draw on some of the most gifted researchers in the world as a result of it.

The University website gives up-to-date information about the status of our international students and colleagues, including the fact that Home and EU students will continue to be charged at the same fee level for the duration of their courses, at least until those entering in 2017 have completed their studies, and subject to any possible legislative changes. Somerville has added its own message of welcome and reassurance, both in letters that I sent to all members of the College community and on our website. Many Somerville alumni have sent messages of approval and support for the College's stance. We will continue to try to ensure that the implementation of Brexit preserves or perhaps enhances the international membership and extensive world-wide networks that we value so highly.

## The student body

There are now nearly 200 postgraduate students at Somerville, and the growth in numbers has strengthened the cohesion and social life of the Middle Common Room. We look forward to housing all first-year graduate students who wish it in College from now on. Renovated accommodation in Barbara Craig House, over shops in Little Clarendon Street,

now makes that possible. Plans for Catherine Hughes House, with more than sixty new rooms, will mean that no undergraduate will need to live out of College after the 2019 intake (planning permission is awaited).

We work hard to enhance the academic attainment of our students as well as providing subsidised food and housing, and supporting them faithfully in times of difficulty. This year thirteen undergraduates – more than before – have won Principal's Prizes for coming at the top or in the top 5% of their subject, university-wide. Our Norrington table score for the number of First-class degrees is seven places higher than before, although in a league table where infinitesimal differences matter, it is difficult to know where we will end up. As always, students have excelled in numerous other ways as well. There is a strong tradition in sports, music and drama, and in the past two years Somervillians have dominated in student journalism. For the first time in eighteen years, a Somervillian, Stuart Webber, served as president of the Oxford Union Society in Hilary Term. Another distinguishing feature of the College is the commitment of our students to voluntary activity and public service; and, as we have learned from straw polls of returning members, this appears to be a life-long Somervillian characteristic.

Somerville works also to enhance opportunities for access among schools from the least privileged parts of the country. The proportion of UK students from state schools, at around 62%, is slightly above the Oxford average. This year, bolstered by fund-raising successes that have enabled the College to be more adventurous and thanks to some generous grants and donations, we have taken several steps forward. The Senior Tutor, Dr Steven Rayner, explains in his report on the next page.

Somerville is in good heart, and we are fortunate in our community of loyal students, Fellows, staff and alumni. I look forward to reporting next year (which will be my last as Principal) on some great new successes.

DR ALICE PROCHASKA

# Widening Access at Somerville

2015-16 has been another very active year of work on outreach and widening participation. In addition to visits to and from schools in the link regions assigned to us by the University, record visitor numbers to Somerville during the University-wide open days, and a hugely successful study day for sixth formers, we have started or progressed four major new initiatives:

**The Access Roadshow:** Nearly all our access work depends heavily on the enthusiasm of our volunteer student ambassadors. This year's ambassadors wanted to undertake an access project of their own that they could shape fully for themselves. They crowdfunded successfully to finance it and the result was the Access Roadshow, a packed schedule of visits to eleven schools over 48 hours, reaching 500 young learners in economically deprived areas of our link regions. Everywhere they went, the ambassadors met enthusiastic and appreciative audiences.

**Girls Into Science:** This is a three-day residential school for thirty year 10 (14-15 years old) girls from non-selective state schools in our link region, organised in partnership with the University's Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division. The programme of science activities and demonstrations aims to inspire the girls to consider science for their academic options and as a potential career path. Girls who attended the event reported both that they had enjoyed themselves and that they would be more likely to choose science options at school following their experience at Somerville.

**Higher Horizons:** The Senior Tutor had belonged to a group of Universities collaborating on outreach activities in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire and Cheshire before he joined Somerville. His previous University left the collaboration but the rest of the group were happy to welcome Somerville's contribution to their joint efforts. The result was a group that is now named Higher Horizons – see <http://www.higherhorizons.co.uk/>. In 2015, the group obtained funding under the National Networks for Collaborative Outreach (NNCO)



initiative. Somerville is unique in being the only Oxford college to be part of a successful bid. The region covered by the network includes some of the areas of greatest deprivation in the country. The network has allowed Somerville effectively to be represented at 55 events, reaching over 7,000 learners. The collaboration website received well over 100,000 hits in its first year, and the network has facilitated contact with Oxford University for schools that previously never thought Oxford could be interested in their students. A number of schools that had never taken students to Oxford before have now visited the College.

**Access Summer Schools:** The University's flagship summer schools, the UNIQ programme, occur at a time when Somerville's accommodation is filled by other conferences, though many of our tutors participate individually and bring Somerville to the attention of attendees. This year, enabled by a generous donation from an alumnus, we have worked in partnership with the organisers of one of the commercial summer schools that books space in the College each year to set up a new access summer school for year 10 students from various parts of the

country. Each summer school will welcome twenty young people for a week completely free of charge and we will run two consecutive weeks. We hope that the attendees will go back to their schools and tell everyone what a great time they had at Oxford learning things, so that we reach not just the people who attend but their peers as well. We hope to continue and expand the initiative in future years.

DR STEVE RAYNER, SENIOR TUTOR

## Development and Alumni Relations

2015-16 has been another strong year for alumni engagement and fundraising and, as ever, we are hugely grateful to the Somerville community for continuing to enrich and support the life of the College in so many ways.

In a record year for the number of events – almost fifty at the last count – we have enjoyed seeing very many Somervillians and friends at College or at regional or international gatherings. Our regular programme of events this year has included the annual Supporters' Lunch, a Literary Lunch, a Family Day, a Parents' Lunch, Gaudies, Reunions, Guest Nights, events run by the London, City, Medics, and Lawyers Groups and a successful series of lectures hosted by the Somerville Association.

It is always a pleasure for us to catch up with alumni news and achievements as well as to see former classmates reunite and new friendships and connections made. The June Gaudy, which had a "Bletchley" theme, was a particularly wonderful example of the interaction of the generations as Somervillians who matriculated as far back as 1940 recounted stories to their younger counterparts of their pioneering work on code-breaking machines which ultimately did so much to curtail the length and losses



of the Second World War. At the other end of the age spectrum, the *Family Day: A Celebration of Learning* saw some 400 alumni and their children enjoy a host of entertainments across the College gardens as well as gain inspiration from special subject talks given by Somerville Fellows.

Other highlights of the year include the Somervillians in the City talk on “Uberisation” and a fascinating Literary Lunch event in conversation with the formidable and distinguished actor, Simon Russell Beale. March saw the College host an enormously satisfying celebration, aptly at our Foundation Dinner, of the victory of Mary Somerville being voted as the face of the new Scottish £10 note. This followed a robust campaign in which Somervillians cast their Facebook votes in droves to ensure Mary Somerville’s just recognition.

We are grateful to all the alumni serving on the committees who come up with such diverse speakers and subjects for discussion as well as fantastic professional networking events for students and for their peers. Many alumni offer us wonderful venues for these gatherings and access to unique locations, with one Somervillian MP, Sam Gyimah, offering the prestigious House of Commons Members’ Dining Room for a highly memorable alumni dinner in June.

This year was a terrifically successful one in fundraising terms as Somervillians came together to support a variety of appeals such as the Annual Fund which meets the most urgent demands for support for student financial hardship as well as the tutorial teaching given by a dedicated body of Fellows. The Somerville crowdfunding platform continues to empower our students to pursue their passions and enhance our community through creative and innovative projects. In addition to the hugely impressive Access Roadshow described in Dr Steve Rayner’s report, and work on the John Stuart Mill Library, students raised money to support the choir’s forthcoming tour to the USA, and for several other good causes. Some transformational endowment gifts were made to the Margaret Thatcher Scholarships which will offer fully funded scholarships to outstanding

students from home and abroad and make Somerville a truly first-choice Oxbridge college for prospective undergraduates and graduates.

Some generous gifts were also made to the Dorothy Hodgkin appeal to create new opportunities for women scientists through a Career Development Fellowship. This is an ongoing campaign and we would love to hear from anyone with suggestions for further individual or corporate support for this most critical need.

The most recent fundraising successes made possible by Somervillians and friends build on our ongoing work to create funded scholarships for Indian postgraduates working on issues of sustainable development as part of the remit of Somerville’s Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development. Following on from the Indira Gandhi scholarships, funded by the Government of India, Somerville and Oxford University, we have added two more: one in the name of Prem Suki, which supports students working in health and technology, and another named for Somervillian alumna Mary De Zouche. The most recent development is the creation of a scholarship to commemorate the first Indian woman to study at Oxford, Cornelia Sorabji. The scholarship will support talented postgraduate lawyers from India and will be launched in 2016 as the 150th anniversary of Sorabji’s birth. She was a woman of so many firsts, being India’s first woman lawyer and an alumna of whom we are extremely proud, and we are simply delighted at being able to initiate what we hope will be an ongoing funding opportunity for future lawyers at Somerville.

We thank every one of our supporters for their generosity and their loyalty without which we could not provide this unique experience to the present and future generations of students. Our current students understand both the cost and the value of this extraordinary education more than any before them. The named plaques outside many student rooms serve as a wonderful reminder to them that Somervillians have given for them and it is forever appreciated.

SARA KALIM, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



---

# Fellows' and Lecturers' Activities

---

## Biological Sciences

**Alex Rogers** joined the Nekton Foundation on the first XL Catlin Deep-Ocean Survey on 18 July, to dive around Bermuda and its associated seamounts with two Triton submersibles and a team of technical divers. They will be using the Triton submersibles to explore the deep-sea ecosystems around the Bermuda Platform and the Argus and Challenger Banks. They expect to document the deeper parts of coral reefs (mesophotic coral reef ecosystems), deep-water coral gardens, beds of calcareous and other types of algae and the haunts of deep-water groupers and snappers, large predatory fish. They are also trying to document the health of the ocean around Bermuda using a new standardised approach to surveying ocean life and the levels of human influence. As well as surveying remarkable deep-sea habitats they are documenting debris in the deep sea and measuring levels of pollutants such as those originating from plastic which is entering the ocean. For a fuller account of these plans see: <http://www.some.ox.ac.uk/news/diving-in-the-bermuda-triangle-alex-rogers/>.

---

## Chemistry

**Jonathan Burton**, who teaches on the Synthesis for Biology and Medicine CDT (Centre for Doctoral Training) programme, has won an MPLS (Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division) Teaching Award for “excellence in teaching”. He has been highly praised by the graduate students for his enthusiastic and excellent teaching approach.

---

## Classics

**Luke Pitcher** began in March as University Assessor, one of the three officials of the University with ultimate oversight of how it all functions. He has still found time to publish three articles. The first is on how the historian Appian deals with the issues of love and sexual attraction (“bashfully and with circumspection”, in case you are wondering). The second examines how Appian treats the theme of the future in his work. The

last looks at the strange, ingenious novel of Heliodorus (one of the long Greek prose romances of which there are several examples from antiquity), and focuses on the idiosyncratic telling of the life of Homer within it.

**Charlotte Potts's** monograph, *Religious Architecture in Latium and Etruria c.900-500 BC*, was published by Oxford University Press in November. This year she has also written chapters for two edited books and a book review. She is currently preparing a paper on the relationship between religion and the economy in Etrusco-Italic sanctuaries for an upcoming conference, and in September she will be taking four students to Italy for two weeks' fieldwork. A highlight of the year was serving on a review panel assessing teaching conducted across Oxford University's Museums – “this was a wonderful chance to see behind the scenes and discover a wealth of new opportunities!”

---

## Engineering

**Bhaskar Choubey** continues to develop sensors with recent funding from EPSRC for designing graphene devices. In addition, his group continues developing the next generation of digital cameras with funding from the European Commission. He was also elected a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society.

**Stephen Roberts** continues to research the application of large-scale machine learning to scientific, commercial and industrial domains. He was recently appointed Director of the Oxford-Man Institute of Quantitative Finance, which is moving into Engineering Science this summer. From September he takes up the RAEng-Man Chair of Machine Learning.

**Richard Stone** continues to devote some of his time to the Cryogenics group who have recently been awarded funding by the EPSRC for research into pulse tubes. We have made a good start but one of the post-docs has just been appointed to a lectureship at Sussex University; something that would have suited us better in two years' time! Combustion work continues with EPSRC and industrial funding, and a major task (on-

going) is the commissioning of a new engine with optical access.

Engineering at Somerville is flourishing as last year we had four of the six engineers graduating with First Class degrees (the same as in 2014). Blane Scott and Martin Engelcke have stayed in Oxford for doctorates and Richard Beck has moved to Leiden. This year we have three students with First Class degrees, including Chengzhi (Tom) Zhou who has been consistently top of the whole year.

---

## English

**Alison Lutton's** main research interest is contemporary American literature. During her first full academic year at Somerville, she has enjoyed teaching and supervising dissertations on a wide range of topics in modern literature and theory. She has presented at national and international conferences (and at Somerville's own Chapel!); has written a book chapter and a journal article; and is now continuing work on adapting her doctoral thesis for publication.

**Fiona Stafford** was Vice-Principal in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, but has relinquished the role. This year she also organised the "Unencompassing the Archipelago" Conference at Somerville, with the support of the College and TORCH (for which she is very grateful). A happy day was spent listening to keynote speakers, Norman Ackroyd and Philip Marsden, a number of panels on different aspects of the culture of the coastal regions of Britain and Ireland, and finally an evening of readings from the magazine, *Archipelago*. Her essay on "John Clare's Colours" was published in *New Essays on John Clare* (CUP, 2015). She wrote the introduction for the Art Book, *Jacobites by Name*, which accompanied Calum Colvin's latest exhibition in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery and has also written an essay for the Tate on William Dyce's painting of Pegwell Bay. She gave keynote lectures at the Keats Conference, the "Imagining Apocalypse" Conference, Chawton House Library, the Jane Austen Society, and at the annual Austen birthday celebration in Tonbridge, as well as participating in the "Land's End" Conference. Her new book, *The Long, Long Life of Trees*, was published by Yale University Press in

August 2016. She continues to work on the Romantic volume of *The Oxford History of English Literature*.

This academic year, **Annie Sutherland** has completed three contributions for edited collections of essays. The first two deal in topics related to the Middle English Psalms. The third looks at a fourteenth-century meditation on the lovability of Christ, and is closely related to her current major project, editing a collection of thirteenth-century English meditations for solitary women, under contract with Liverpool University Press. Beyond this, Annie has spoken at productive conferences on devotional literature in Lausanne and Oxford, and has enjoyed continued involvement with Somerville's thriving research community of medievalists. Teaching has continued to be a source of great pleasure; the undergraduates at Somerville are lively and engaging, and she is also enjoying supervising a growing number of graduate students in the English Faculty.

**Philip West** had an invigorating and productive Hilary Term's sabbatical working on manuscripts in the Bodleian's Weston Library. There, among other things, he identified evidence of the early provenance and later ownership of the most important manuscripts of poems by James Shirley (1596-1666), a piece of research which will be published in the critical edition of Shirley he is currently finishing for Oxford University Press. A chapter about "The Drama of James Shirley's Poems", exploring the way Shirley's success as a dramatist in the 1630s influenced his lyric poetry and songs, will appear later this summer in *James Shirley and Early Modern Theatre: New Perspectives* (Routledge).

---

## Experimental Psychology

Professor **Charles Spence** continues his work in the field of gastrophysics – working with chefs and food/drink companies around the world on the design of healthier, more stimulating, more memorable food and beverage experiences. Over the last year, he has been working particularly closely with London-based chef Jozef Youssef on the design of experiential multisensory dinners, a number of which have been covered by *The Guardian* newspaper. Prof. Spence has also held the odd experiential experimental dinner in

College and hopes to conduct more in the near future! The coming year will see the publication of a popular press book about Gastrophysics published by Penguin.

#### To see more:

[www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/ng-interactive/2016/may/23/neuro-cuisine-exploring-the-science-of-flavour-tamal-ray](http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/ng-interactive/2016/may/23/neuro-cuisine-exploring-the-science-of-flavour-tamal-ray)

[www.aeg.co.uk/taste/inspiration/tasteology](http://www.aeg.co.uk/taste/inspiration/tasteology)

## History

**Joanna Innes** has been on sabbatical throughout 2015-16. Her main task during that period has been to edit two books – leaving her at the mercy of her contributors. One has now been submitted: *Suffering and Happiness in England 1550-1850*, a festschrift honouring the early modern social historian Paul Slack. The other, the main product of her Leverhulme international project “Re-imagining Democracy in the Mediterranean 1770-1860”, is still in progress. In addition, she has written several articles, including “Networks in British History”, a survey of what historians of Britain have done with the concept of the “network”, which is freely available on-line in the 2016 issue of the *East Asian Journal of British History*: <http://www.history.ac.uk/publications/east-asian-journal-of-british-history>. She thanks her Somerville mathematician colleague Mason Porter for his help and advice with this.

**Oren Margolis's** new monograph, entitled *The Politics of Culture in Quattrocento Europe: René of Anjou in Italy* and published by Oxford University Press, appeared in May 2016. This book explores the relationship between humanism, art and politics in the Italian Renaissance, while also proposing a vision of an Italian Renaissance that extends beyond the peninsula (here, to France). Other, smaller research projects have explored related themes, such as the politics of humanist history-writing in Florence (for an article appearing later in 2016) and Milan. But, building on the 2015 Bodleian exhibition he curated, his current work is mainly dedicated to writing a cultural history of the Aldine Press, towards which he is organising sessions and presenting papers at academic conferences this summer. He is contributing a piece on the “timeliness”

of humanist literature and the problems with critical editions of Renaissance texts to the next collaborative volume of the Somerville Medieval Research Group (theme: Temporality).

As Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Faculty, **Benjamin Thompson** has taken the lead in reforming the curriculum in History this year, under the general heading of diversification. Undergraduates will take at least one paper in non-European history, and more such papers will be available to them than heretofore. There will also be more opportunities to follow through a historical theme (such as masculinity, borderlands or disease) over a longer period than is currently possible. And there is a further balancing of methods of assessment, so that Finals will now be based on three submitted pieces of work alongside four timed exams. Otherwise, he worked on his contribution to the Somerville Medievalists’ “Temporality” project, which probes the tensions involved in giving landed property perpetually to the church, to fund prayers to be said throughout time for the benefit of specific souls in three time-zones, earth, purgatory and eternity.

Seven firsts in History (of 15) and seven (of 14) distinctions in Prelims

## International Relations

This year **Shaina Western** attended three international conferences: the American Political Science Conference, the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, and the European Political Science Association Conference. She had a book chapter published entitled “Why Migrant Rights are Different than Human Rights” (with Jeannette Money and Sarah Lockhart) in the *Handbook on Migration and Social Policy*, edited by Gary Freeman and Nikola Mirilovic, published by Edward Elgar. In addition to these projects she has continued working on numerous articles on treaty ratification and treaty reservations.

## Law

**Dr Julie Dickson** has continued to work on writing her new book on legal philosophy, *Elucidating Law: The Philosophy of Legal Philosophy*, under contract with Oxford University Press. She has enjoyed, as

she always does, teaching Somerville students in Jurisprudence and in European Union Law. She wishes to record her heartfelt gratitude to her wonderful colleagues, and to the College as a whole, for their support during what has been a difficult year for her personally, owing to the terminal illness of her mother.

---

## Mathematics

**Mason Porter** continues to conduct research in networks, complex systems, nonlinear systems, and related topics. During the last year, he published new papers on topics such as cognitive limits in navigation of multimodal transportation systems, mesoscale analyses of fungal networks, numerical computation of hypergeometric functions, and nonlinear Anderson localization. He was named to the inaugural editorial board of the journal *Network Neuroscience* (MIT Press). He also organised the workshop “Ada Lovelace Bicentenary: Celebrating Women in Computer Science” (see <http://www.some.ox.ac.uk/news/ada-lovelace-bicentenary-held-at-somerville/>), which was held in Somerville on 16 October 2015. Mason also won the Young Scientist Award for Socio- and Econophysics from the German Physical Society and was one of four finalists for Outstanding Supervisor in the MPLS division at the University of Oxford. He was informed recently that he is to receive a Departmental Teaching Award from the Mathematical Institute in fall 2016. In September, Mason leaves the University of Oxford to take up a professorship in the Department of Mathematics at UCLA. However, Somerville College has not gotten rid of him yet, as Mason plans to be in residence for about one month each summer for the foreseeable future.

---

## Medicine

**Dr Helen Ashdown** continues her research in COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) in primary care, using new diagnostic techniques such as near-patient blood eosinophils to potentially better stratify patients to different treatment options. She has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Primary Care Respiratory Society. Outside of this main respiratory interest area, she has published this year on academic GP training pathways in the UK, GPs' management

of flu-like illness in children with underlying health problems, and co-edited a book on managing a range of different problems effectively within the ten minute GP consultation. In September 2015, she was awarded the Ig Nobel prize for Diagnostic Medicine at Harvard University, for her previous research on whether pain over speed bumps is a good test to help diagnose appendicitis (answer: it is), making her the second Somervillian to be awarded an Ig Nobel prize.

**Antony Palmer** is a NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow and currently has three research interests: 1) Physiological MRI as a method of detecting early osteoarthritis; 2) Understanding how activity levels influence joint injury and osteoarthritis; and 3) Transfusion medicine in trauma and orthopaedic surgery. For further details please see <https://www.ndorms.ox.ac.uk/team/antony-palmer>

**Damian Tyler** has recently joined the College as a Fellow in Medicine in conjunction with an Associate Professorship in Physiological Metabolism in the Department of Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics. Damian's group is focused on the study of cardiac structure, function and metabolism in normal and diseased hearts using Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Spectroscopy. This includes developing techniques using high spatial and temporal resolution CINE imaging to assess heart function and localised phosphorus and carbon spectroscopy to monitor and investigate abnormalities of metabolism. Damian has a particular interest in the development of a novel technique called hyperpolarized magnetic resonance, which enables a 10,000-fold increase in the sensitivity of magnetic resonance for the study of metabolism.

---

## Modern Languages

This year **Simon Kemp** has been co-convening the Unconscious Memory seminar at TORCH, Oxford's research centre for the humanities, bringing together scholars from science and the arts with a shared interest in cognitive science and the unconscious mind. He and his co-convenor also put together a panel on language and selfhood which was accepted for the 2016 Cognitive Futures for the Humanities conference in Helsinki. His own contribution was bilingualism in the work of the contemporary French novelist. He

has also published an article on the influence of the mid-twentieth-century behaviourist movement in psychology on French culture in the *Romanic Review*, and he is looking forward to a period of research leave to work on a monograph on theories of consciousness and literary criticism.

**Mary MacRobert** has two recent publications: "Maximos the Greek: Imprisoned in Polemic", in *Polemic: Language as Violence in Medieval and Early Modern Discourse*, edited by A. Suerbaum, G. Southcombe and B. Thompson (Ashgate, 2015), 165-80; and "The place of Dimitri's Psalter (MS Sinai Slav 3N) in the early transmission of the Church Slavonic Psalter", in *The Bible in Slavic Tradition*, edited by Svetlana Nikolova et al. (Studia Judaeslavica, 9), (Brill, 2016), 89-106.

**Manuele Gragnolati's** election to the chair of Italian at the Sorbonne in October was a great tribute to his academic distinction. We are very pleased that he will remain in close touch with Somerville and the Somerville Medieval Research Group as a Senior Research Fellow. Because of the financial pressures in the Humanities Division, it can often take years until the university is in a position to re-fill posts, and we were therefore delighted that, in light of the strategic importance of the post, the university agreed to advertise for a successor, and equally delighted that Francesca Southerden from Wellesley College was appointed. She had been an active member of the Somerville Medieval Research Group since her time at Somerville as a post-doc, and took up her Fellowship on 1 August.

A visiting professorship at the University of Freiburg in July allowed **Almut Suerbaum** to discuss medieval women's writing with a group of German graduates. The year was dominated by examining duties as vice-chair of the FHS, but invitations to lecture at Harvard, Berlin, Leipzig, and Zurich were welcome opportunities to try out work in progress on medieval religious song. Last but not least, it was an exciting year in which to chair the Margaret Thatcher Scholarship Trust committee, preparing the ground for the launch of scholarships and a development programme which will be transformative not just for the holders, but also for the college.

Following a series of informal lunch-time meetings, the **Somerville Medieval Research Group** organised a colloquium on the theme of "Temporality". As it turned out, the morning of the Brexit decision was an apt time to discuss how European cultures articulate phenomena of being in and out of time. We expect the resulting volume to come out in the course of 2017.

Modern linguists did well this year – two of the three students who achieved Firsts were ranked first in their subject at university level: **Brigitta Summers** in History and Modern Languages, and **Jonathan Lawrence** in European and Middle Eastern Languages. **Thomas Richards** was ranked first overall in the Prelim exam in Beginners' Russian. All three received Principal's Prizes for their achievements. **Georgia Tutt** was awarded the McLintock university prize for her achievements in Germanic Philology and Old High German.

## Philosophy

**Karen Nielsen** reports that the 2015/16 academic year has been a busy one for philosophy. Our students continue to thrive; **Charlotte McLean** will receive a Principal's Prize after she came third across the university in Greats, with her highest marks in Plato's *Republic* and Ancient History; **Lizzie Mansfield** (PPE) also earned a First in finals in Physics and Philosophy, and in PPE prelims **Jun-An Tan** and **Isobel Hettrick** excelled and earned distinctions – Isobel is one of five students across the college who have been nominated for one of two of our new prestigious Thatcher Scholarships. Candidates must have Home, EU or Islands fee status; achieve a First class/Distinction in the First Public Examination; be top (among those eligible) in Somerville; and be in the top 10% in the University in their subject. Results overall for Joint Honours Schools involving philosophy were strong, with multiple Firsts and no mark below a 2:1.

On the research front, Karen's article "Vice in the Nicomachean Ethics" has been accepted for publication in *Phronesis*, and a longer review article of Dominic Scott's *Levels of Argument*, a comparative study of Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* and Plato's *Republic*, will appear in *Mind*. Her entry on Aristotle for the *Routledge Handbook of Free Will* is about to

appear. She gave talks at the University in Paris, at the Philosophical Society, and at Magdalen College School, and received a scholarship from the Vice-Chancellor's Returning Carers' Fund which will buy her out of teaching in Michaelmas Term of 2016.

With **Hilary Greaves** moving to a new role in the university that does not involve teaching, Somerville (and the Faculty of Philosophy) has secured the release of her post from the Division of the Humanities. We will be advertising for a new Tutorial Fellow this autumn; the area of specialisation is Feminist Philosophy in conjunction with any other area of Theoretical Philosophy. **Alessandro di Nicola** has graciously accepted an extension of his contract to fill in for Hilary next academic year; he has quickly become a valued member of the Philosophy team, and is also a fixture of the Italian corner in the SCR.

---

## Physics

**Christian Hill** returned to Oxford in 2015 after a sabbatical year at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. His research interests are in data storage and manipulation, and in particular the development of interoperable databases in the areas of planetary spectroscopy, fusion and plasma physics. This has led to collaborations and publications with UCL's ExoMol project (modelling exoplanet atmospheres), HITRAN (a major database for modelling Earth's atmosphere) and the IAEA's Atomic and Molecular Data Unit, which coordinates international standards on data exchange. His textbook *Learning Scientific Programming with Python* was published by Cambridge University Press in February 2016.

**Professor Steve Simon** has been interested in a number of unusual physical systems which defy many of the rules of physics that we have believed for almost a hundred years. Whereas we have previously believed that you can determine all of the properties of an object by making (perhaps many) measurements of the material each being performed in one particular place, we now know of situations where (quantum!) information is hidden in the global properties of the object, and it cannot be gleaned by any local measurements that do not measure the object holistically.

## Plant Sciences

**Renier van der Hoorn** has continued the research programs on plant disease and molecular pharming with his research team and ERC funding. He organised an international conference on the regulation and action of plant proteases at Somerville College in April, and was awarded a grant from the John Fell Fund to establish profiling hyper-reactive cysteines in Oxford. He also obtained a BBSRC-funded industrial CASE award to train a PhD student with Syngenta.

---

## PPE

**Kate Roll** has had a fruitful academic year, of which teaching PPE at Somerville has been a highlight. Her ongoing research explores the post-conflict reintegration of ex-combatants, digging into how key identities and histories are shaped through veterans' laws and payments, and how this affects countries emerging from war. She currently has a revise and re-submit in *Development & Change* and an article under review in *Disasters*; in addition, she presented two papers at this year's ISA conference, as well as in Kent. She also continues to lead research on Bottom of the Pyramid approaches to development at the Saïd Business School – a project supported by the sixth largest grant in the Social Sciences Division. Sitting at the nexus of politics, development, and management studies, this work has involved extensive fieldwork in Kenya and Indonesia, probing how corporations both shape and capitalise on the economic lives of the poor.

---

## Statistics

**Jonathan Marchini** has continued to pursue the research funded by his ERC Consolidator Award to develop statistical methods for uncovering structure in high-dimensional datasets in human genetics and neuroscience. This year his group will publish four papers in *Nature Genetics*, which is one of the top journals in the field. These papers describe research in the areas of multiple phenotype imputation in genetic studies, sparse tensor decomposition for the analysis of multi-tissue gene expression studies, haplotype estimation of biobank scale datasets and the Haplotype Reference Consortium which is the largest human whole-genome genetic variation resource to date.

## Emeritus Fellows

**Lesley Brown** has profited from her retirement to combine travel with academic activities. During 2015-16 she gave keynote addresses at two conferences (Cambridge and Berlin) and took part in workshops in Dublin and Rome. She was on the 'jury' as an external examiner for doctoral theses at the University of Copenhagen and at the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

**Marian Dawkins**, FRS, CBE, gave the James Bryce Memorial Lecture on 25 February at the University Museum. The title of her lecture was: *Animals and Us: Revelations from Animal Behaviour*.

**Katherine Duncan-Jones** writes: I co-organised an all-day event commemorating the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt on 25 October. This took place partly in the Ashmolean lecture theatre, partly in St. John's College Chapel. I also gave two lunch-time talks at the new Weston Library, one on "Portraits of Shakespeare", the other on Shakespeare's strangely neglected poem *Venus and Adonis*, later adapting the second talk for a literature conference in Catania, Sicily.

**Miriam Griffin** took part in a seminar in May on the island of Rhodes, organised by Beate Dignas and Professor Robert Parker. It was entitled "Cultural Life of Rhodes in the Roman Period".

**Angela Vincent, FRS**, has continued to run a small research group studying autoimmune disorders of the nervous system. She has published many research and clinical articles, co-edited (with S. J. Pittock, Mayo Clinic, USA) a volume, *Autoimmune Neurology*, in the Handbook of Neurology series, published by Elsevier, and among many international lectures delivered the Puusepp Lecture in Tartu, Estonia. In December 2015 she was presented with the BNA "Outstanding Contribution to British Neuroscience Award".

## Senior Research Fellows

**Stephanie Dalley** writes: A busy year: I spoke on the Hanging Garden at the Salisbury Arts Festival; in nine different US universities – the Charles Eliot Norton lectures on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America; and at Yale, the Franz Rosenthal memorial lecture, as well as a different topic for a graduate seminar. I wrote a paper for the *Rencontre Assyriologique* in Philadelphia, on the new evidence for the First Sealand Dynasty, which was read by a colleague (I could not go due to a late change in visa requirements for the USA). Currently I am writing a book on Babylon, City of Culture, for CUP, which is progressing very well, wonderfully interesting. I wrote catalogue entries for exhibitions, one on *Gardens of the World* at the Rietberg Museum in Zurich, one on Nineveh for a museum in Leiden. I am involved in Virtual Reality interactive productions at the University of Northampton for my reconstruction of the Hanging Garden, and for the ruins of Babylon, which we hope will serve education and tourism.

## British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow

**Philippa Byrne** has spent the year preparing her doctoral thesis – a study of mercy in the twelfth-century English common law – for publication, and trying to devise a good title for it (something she is still working on). In addition, she has begun a new project for the British Academy, examining the relationship between Greek, Arabic, and Latin traditions of rulership in medieval Sicily. In her spare time she has been thinking about outreach and accessibility, including writing about whether it is useful to describe *Game of Thrones* as "medieval".

---

# Report on Junior Research Fellowships

This year, as normal, our Junior Research Fellows (JRFs) have been pursuing ground-breaking research in a very wide variety of fields. Somerville has more JRFs than any other College that admits both postgraduate and undergraduate students. What follows is necessarily only a sample of the total activity.

---

**Ilya Afanasyev** joined the research project of **Professor Natalia Nowakowska** (Somerville's Fellow in Early Modern History), which explores the Jagiellonians, a family (one of the interesting findings of the project is that the Jagiellonians didn't subscribe to the modern concept of a "dynasty") of rulers that exercised power across much of Central Europe. Ilya has been focusing on the Czech lands in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

**Julia Bird** is working in the Economics Department on a World Bank-funded project on urbanisation in developing countries. Julia is personally focusing on six African cities since the development of African cities does not seem to fit with models of urbanisation developed from observations in America, Europe and Asia. Amongst other measures, Julia is using census data, household surveys, investment data and, intriguingly, measuring light levels in satellite images to assess the levels of economic activity. The results of the project promise to tell us much about the development of Africa.

**Melissa Bowerman** is a medical researcher focusing on neurodegenerative diseases ALS (the subject of the "ice bucket challenge" that swept social media a year or two ago) and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). Melissa works in the laboratory of **Professor Matthew Wood**, a Professorial Fellow in Medicine at Somerville.

**Ana Sofia Teixeira de Cerdeira** works in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, aiming to learn more about the mechanism responsible for pre-eclampsia, globally the most common cause of death in childbirth. Before coming to Oxford, Ana Sofia demonstrated that particles released from the placenta

were not, as had been previously thought, inert debris but could actively affect other organs, which may play a key role in this condition. Ana Sofia is looking to extend her investigations here in Oxford in the hope that a fuller understanding of how the disease is caused will eventually lead to better treatments and preventative measures.

**Annisa Kempf** is investigating the chemicals that regulate sleep in fruit flies. Sleep remains a mysterious phenomenon and is attracting increasing research interest and an increasing appreciation of its importance for good health, not least from our own Senior Research Fellow, **Professor Colin Espie**. If the chemical mechanism that induces longer and deeper sleep after a period without sleep can be understood, then this has the potential to open up many channels for therapy for sleep disorders.

**James Larkin** works on developing improved scanning techniques that will allow better and earlier diagnosis of neurological disorders and brain tumours. James works in the Department of Oncology and collaborates with **Professor Daniel Anthony**, Tutorial Fellow in Medicine at Somerville.

**Sebastian Vollmer** works in the Department of Statistics. He develops more efficient algorithms for statistical analysis of very large datasets. Continuing advances in generating ever more detailed genetic information make this work of ever-increasing importance. Shortly after joining Somerville, Sebastian became a father for the first time so he has been learning more than just new statistical methods during his time with us.



---

**Davide Zilli** is working with **Professor Stephen Roberts**, Professorial Fellow in Engineering at Somerville, on developing software that will detect mosquitoes from the sound of their wingbeats. Implemented as a smartphone app in malarial areas, say, this warning system has the potential to save many lives from one of the biggest killer diseases in the world.

Finally, **Patrick Clibbens** has continued his fascinating work on twentieth century Indian history. He is just completing his book on the state of emergency in 1975-77. The book draws on his PhD thesis and also his work since he joined Somerville. Patrick is currently examining the relationship between governments

of India and the Indian diaspora. Contrary to earlier assumptions and based on newly released archival material, Patrick concludes that the Indian Government did not neglect its diaspora prior to 1990 but actively attempted to use the diaspora as a political, developmental and foreign policy resource.

There are many other JRFs doing fascinating and ground-breaking work that could be mentioned but I hope this gives a taste of the excellent work being done by our early career researchers.

DR STEVE RAYNER, SENIOR TUTOR

---

## JCR Report

I am pleased to say that the Somerville JCR has continued to flourish this year, and that as a collective, we are both proud of our accomplishments, and excited for the future ahead. This year, in an acknowledgement of Somerville's legacy, we have focused on dealing with women's issues. Incoming freshers experienced Somerville's first ever compulsory sexual consent workshops – something that will be continued for the next academic year, and expanded upon, with another compulsory workshop on sexuality, disability and race due in October. Furthermore, many male Somerville students took part in a series of Good Lad Workshops in Hilary Term – promoting positive masculinity and smart-thinking about sexuality and women's issues. We have also secured free sanitary products for all JCR members from next academic year onwards. The JCR constitution is now gender-neutral – to be more inclusive of our trans and non-binary

students, and we have expanded the welfare remit of the JCR, with a new 'welfare room' to be implemented in Michaelmas Term. Meanwhile, Somerville continues to enjoy success in sport, particularly netball, football and rugby, while the new Somerville Music Society has established a lasting legacy at the college – exemplified by the stunning crowdfunding work done by the choir, which has enabled them to secure a tour of America at the end of August. All this is just a glimpse at our continued efforts to improve the community that we have here at Somerville, and I feel that, term by term, we are growing closer as a student body. I hope that the successes of this year will inspire us to even bigger and brighter things for the year ahead, and I cannot wait to return in October.

LOUIS MERCIER, SOMERVILLE JCR PRESIDENT

---

# MCR Report

---

Somerville's Middle Common Room has continued to grow in size over the past year and, with increased numbers, the MCR exhibits greater and greater diversity. This past year, our new graduate students hailed from across the globe and represented a wide range of academic subjects, from Robotics to Public Policy, offered through the Blavatnik School of Government, which is Somerville's new neighbour on Walton Street. A number of recently-graduated MCR Masters students have continued on to engage in further study whether at Somerville, elsewhere at Oxford, or throughout the world. Those who have entered the workforce over the past year hold jobs in the business, non-profit, consulting, scientific, technological, and educational sectors, among others.

In the 2015-2016 academic year, MCR students have participated in many facets of Oxford life. An MCR member sang in the Hertford choir. Several MCR members represented the University on varsity athletic teams, with some earning half blues in karate and clay pigeon shooting. The MCR is well-represented within the boat club, contributing to Somerville's crew teams at all levels.

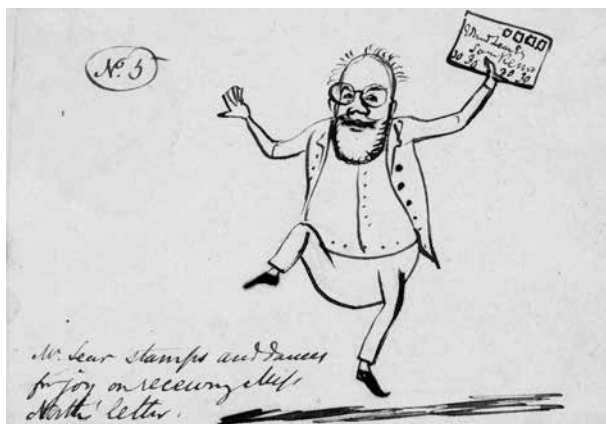
As we look into the next year, graduate students will be moving into a new accommodation building on Little Clarendon Street beginning this fall. The MCR is preparing to welcome the new graduate freshers of the 2016-2017 academic year this October, yet again the largest incoming group in the history of the MCR.

REBECCA KUPERBERG,  
SOMERVILLE MCR PRESIDENT



*The Somerville MCR at the 2016 Somerville-Jesus Ball*

# Library Report 2015-16



*Mr Edward Lear dances for joy on receiving a letter from Miss Marianne North, as depicted by Lear himself*



*Albert Pionke, Anne Manuel and Hazel Tubman at work on photographing John Stuart Mill's marginalia*

Last year the undergraduate collection took centre stage as we featured the student survey and major book moves over the summer. This year has been all about the Special Collections with the commencement of major projects on the John Stuart Mill Library and the Amelia Edwards pots collection along with the acquisition of a new research collection on Edward Lear, about which more later.

The library continues to be a popular study space for students – the peak number of students in the library at any one time was 57 (last year 55) although there was a downturn in book borrowing with 11,925 loans this year compared to 13,325 in 2014/15. We have continued to purchase books for the library in all subjects and have been fortunate to receive many gifts of books, including substantial numbers from alumnae Linda Hart, Isabel Leeming and Rachel Bertenshaw and from the Office of the Vice Chancellor. Special mention should be made of the donation of books by and about HG Wells from Peter Turner, the antiquarian collection of Anna Morpurgo Davies including two sixteenth century volumes from the Aldine Press, and the art reference collection of Lady Abdy. Monetary gifts have been received from Margaret Lee (1943), Barbara Harvey (1946), Susan Dunnett in memory of her late sister

Jane (1979), and the late Mary Dobson (1941). From 1 August 2015 to 31 July 2016, 2734 books have been accessioned (of which 1265 are gifts), 18 pamphlets and 48 DVDs. A full list of donors may be found at the end of the report and we are, as ever, very grateful indeed to all of them.

It has been a very busy year in the Special Collections and Archives with a total of 140 email enquirers (last year 119) and 48 visitors (last year 21). In addition we provided exhibitions for the Eleanor Rathbone Centenary symposium, the Ada Lovelace Bicentenary celebrations, the Mary Somerville commemorative banknote and the inaugural John Stuart Mill Lecture.

A major acquisition in the archives this year was the research collection of Vivien Noakes (1990), world-renowned scholar of Edward Lear, which was the generous gift of her husband Michael Noakes. This large collection is currently being sorted and catalogued and information will be available on the website in due course – scholars are already lining up to consult it!

The John Stuart Mill Library Project has gone from strength to strength, building on the excellent start made last year with the crowdfunding campaign. The



Amanda Sharp at work on cataloguing the collection of pots bequeathed by Amelia Edwards...



... and then boxing them up securely.

year began with a successful application to the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation for \$10,000 to provide a comprehensive catalogue of all the marginalia in the collection prior to digitisation. Hazel Tubman has been working on this since the beginning of July and has already recorded over 1800 separate markings in the volumes. Professor Albert Pionke of the University of Alabama visited in July to continue photographing the marginalia and we are now in conversation with the Bodleian Library to work towards making his images available on the Digital Bodleian website in due course.

The Friends of the John Stuart Mill Library group was formed this year to allow interested parties to keep in touch with the project and attend annual events to commemorate Mill and his work (for details see [www.some.ox.ac.uk/library-it/special-collections/john-stuart-mill-collection/](http://www.some.ox.ac.uk/library-it/special-collections/john-stuart-mill-collection/)). The first such event took place on Mill's birthday, 20th May, with lectures given by Professor

Alan Ryan and Dr Frank Prochaska. Moreover, our fundraising to date has enabled us to join the Oxford Conservation Consortium and the first item went off for them to repair in August 2016 (a two-volume edition of Charles Darwin's *The Descent of Man* inscribed to Mill by the author).

Finally we were delighted during the year to receive financial assistance from former Physics lecturer at Somerville, Dr John Wells, to catalogue and curate our collection of Greek and Roman pots from the Amelia Edwards collection. Amanda Sharp has been carrying out the work which will enable the collection to be made more widely available for exhibiting and for teaching.

**Please contact the Librarian for further information [anne.manuel@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:anne.manuel@some.ox.ac.uk)**

# List of Library Donors 2015-16:

Jane, Lady Abdy (Noble, English, 1952)	Don Farr*	Grazyna Kubica*	Matthew Roper
Pauline Adams (History, 1962)	Ruth Finnegan (Classics, 1952)*	Margaret Lee (Cox, English, 1943)	Xon de Ros* (SCR)
Caroline Alexander (Philosophy and Theology, 1977)*	Mark Fritz*	Isabel Leeming (Forsyth, Zoology, 1955)	Ilona Roth (PPP, 1966)*
Gina Alexander (Pirani, History, 1953)	David Frydrych (Law DPhil, 2011)	Sabina Lovibond (Classics, 1970)*	Navtej Sarna*
Sonia Anderson (History, 1962)*	Maggie Gee (English, 1966)*	Penny McCarthy (Gee, Classics, 1962)*	Lisa Shaw (Mrosovsky, Classics, 1955)*
Angelika Arend (Manyoni, Medieval and Modern Languages DPhil, 1977)*	Martin Gibbs (autobiography of his wife Elizabeth al Qadhi, PPE, 1955)	Miranda McCormick (Modern Languages, 1968)*	Chris Sherwood (Human Sciences, 2003)
Nasim Asl (English, 2013)	Nathalie Girard	Kate McLoughlin (English, 1988)*	Mary Shorter (Steer, Classics, 1947)
Rachel Bertenshaw (Walton, French and German, 1976)	Helen Glanville (Modern Languages, 1975)*	Daniel Milnes (German and Russian, 2011)	George Southcombe* and Grant Tapsell
David Bowe (SCR)	The Global Ocean Commission	Mihaela Mudure	Fiona Stafford (SCR)
Rosie Carpenter (History and Modern Languages, 2011)	Charlotte Graves Taylor (1958)*	Daunish Negargar (English, 2014)	Helen Stevenson (Modern Languages, 1981)*
H. P. Cecil	Miriam Griffin (SCR)	Amelia Nguyen (Jurisprudence, 2014)	Almut Suerbaum* (SCR)
Gillian Clark (Metford, Classics, 1964)*	Frances Hardinge (English, 1992)*	Srishti Nirula (English, 2013)	Madhura Swaminathan (Economics, 1982)*
Margaret Clark (Sidebottom, History, 1967)	Donna Harris (SCR)	Hilary Ockendon* (SCR)	Ann Swinfen (Pettit, Maths, 1956)*
Marieke Faber Clarke (History, 1959)*	Linda Hart (Herbst, BLitt, 1969)	The Office of the Vice-Chancellor	Bill Tampion (husband of Doreen Tampion (Thomason, Zoology, 1946)
Jennifer Coates (Black, English, 1962)*	Barbara Harvey (History, 1946, and SCR)	Yura Perov (Visiting Student, 2013-14)	Benjamin Thompson* (SCR)
Liz Cooke (Greenwood, History, 1964)	Margaret, Lady Heath (Bragg, History, 1950)	Albert Pionke*	Sir Guenter Treitel
Stephanie Dalley (SRF)	Christian Hill*	Gita Piramal*	Peter Turner
Claudine Dauphin (BPhil, 1979)*	Mary Honeyball (History, 1972)*	Mason Porter* (SCR)	Lesley Urbach
Department of Statistics	Avril Horner and Ann Rowe*	Charlotte Potts* (SCR)	Roman Walczak* (SCR)
Katherine Duncan-Jones* (SCR)	Alan Hughes	Public Catalogue Foundation via Paul Francis*	Shirley Wang (Biological Sciences, 2013)
Jack and Pamela Dunnett (Jane Dunnett's parents: donation of her posthumously printed book)	John Trevor Hughes*	Dani Rabinowitz (Philosophy, 2006)	Val Warner (History, 1965)*
Susan Dunnett, in loving memory of her sister Jane Dunnett (French and Italian, 1979)	Helen Hughes-Brock (Classics, 1956)	Rosemary Raza (Cargill, Modern Languages, 1960)*	Edyth Watt (Hitchens, Modern Languages, 1953)* (posthumous gift via Joan Johnson (Munden, PPE, 1953))
	Joanna Innes (SCR)	Henry Robinson (History and Economics, 2011)	J. S. Watts (English, 1979)*
	Sunao Ishimaru (BCL, 2015)		Stephen Weatherill* (SCR)
	Oliver Johnston-Watt (Ancient and Modern History, 2013)		Laura Wilson (English, 1982)*
	Francesca Kay (English, 1975)*		
	Jane Khin Zaw (PPE, 1956)*		

\*Gift of donor's own publication



---

# The Somerville Association President's Report

---

After a great literary lunch in October with Simon Russell Beale in conversation with Katherine Duncan-Jones on Shakespeare, Stalin and Samuel Foote, our 2016 programme opened with a symposium celebrating the work of Somerville's first MP, Eleanor Rathbone – in particular her campaigning for women's rights and against appeasement in the 1930s, and then her work with refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe. Our speaker at this year's Winter Meeting was Somervillian Professor Baroness Alison Wolf, our newest Honorary Fellow and our most recently appointed (cross-bench) peer. Speaking on the theme of "Not Quite Utopia?", Alison asked whether today we are replacing one sort of disadvantage and one set of barriers with others, as inequality among women in the United Kingdom appears to be increasing much faster than among men.

We also took the opportunity to bring alumni and parents up to date with our progress setting up a network of matriculation year representatives and supporting them with social media and other training. We hope in this way to reach out to alumni, to encourage them to come to our events and send in their news, but also to reach those who cannot easily join in activities at College or in London but might enjoy getting together informally or on-line. Soon, like a few other colleges, we will also be able to offer e-mentoring, to current students as well as recent graduates, to help them into the world of work. This is the top priority request of both JCR and MCR. It will also allow alumni the opportunity to mentor and be mentored themselves. The launch of the year representatives group on 18 September brings together many of the early volunteers for lunch, College briefings and some light, initial training.

2016 promises to be another busy year of many highlights. To mention only a few, family and friends joined us in June for lunch and the annual commemoration service to celebrate the lives and achievements of those Somervillians who have died



*Joanna Myerson (1994) and Emily Hammer (1995) at the House of Commons Dinner*

in the course of the year, including Honorary Fellows Alyson Bailes and Ruth Thompson. Sam Gyimah MP, now a Minister in the Ministry of Justice, hosted a fascinating House of Commons dinner just before the June referendum. The London Group is following the US election in the Oxford and Cambridge Club on 10 October; on 17 October we launch our new Public Policy Network; and we are inviting Matriculation years 2008-2013 to dinner at the Club on 18 November.

Finally, we record with great pleasure the remarkable Somervillians recognised with Queen's Honours this year: Kay Brock CBE (Stewart Sandeman, 1972) for services to the Church of England; Miggy Biller MBE (Minio, 1967) for services to mathematics; and Shireen Mistry (1982). Shireen, a citizen of India, was awarded an Honorary MBE in recognition of her contribution towards building strong relations between India and the United Kingdom.

Pure mathematician Professor Caroline Series (1969) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Our warmest congratulations to them all.

SUSAN SCHOLEFIELD

---

# The Somerville Senior Members' Fund, 2015-2016

---

This year the Somerville Senior Members' Fund once again supported a Somervillian wishing to continue graduate studies at Somerville.

In addition, the Fund has been available to provide small sums to help alumni with unforeseen expenses and hardship. Over the past year we have also been able to subsidise the cost of individuals attending College events which would otherwise have been

unaffordable for them. We hope that people who find themselves in need will not hesitate to call upon the Fund. We are glad to hear from third parties who think help would be appreciated. And we are always grateful for donations to the Fund.

Applications for grants should be made to **elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk** or **lesley.brown@some.ox.ac.uk**



*The 2016 Somerville Gaudy celebration for matriculation years pre-1964*

---

## Horsman Awards

---

The Alice Horsman Scholarship was established in 1953. Alice Horsman (1908, Classics) was a great traveller who wished to provide opportunities for former Somerville students to experience other countries and peoples, whether through travel, research or further study. The Alice Horsman Scholarship is open to final-year students and to all Somerville undergraduate and graduate alumni who are in need of financial support for a project, usually involving travel, research or further study, that is intended to enhance career prospects. Applications from

Somerville students/alumni who have secured a place on the Teach First scheme will be looked on favourably.

**For information about the application process please email [academic.office@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.office@some.ox.ac.uk) or visit [www.some.ox.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-funding/student-awards](http://www.some.ox.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-funding/student-awards). Applications are now accepted at the start of each term. Applications for Hilary Term will close on Wednesday 1 February 2017.**

---

# Life before Somerville: Out of Egypt

---

Daphne Wall came up to Somerville in 1950 to read French. After graduation Daphne worked in publishing and as Second Secretary Information at the British High Commission in India. Following marriage she joined Granada Television as chief researcher for documentary programmes and helped her husband run a flying school. She now spends most of her time writing. She has three children and four grandchildren and her daughter, Katie Ghose, came up to Somerville to read Law in 1988.

---

There were seventeen years before Somerville and, looking back over a much longer vista of time, I can say they had their ups and downs. For a start, I changed countries and to a certain extent nationalities at the age of three weeks, when wrapped against a chill March wind I crossed the Channel with my mother to our home in France. We lived in Le Vésinet, a peaceful suburb south-west of Paris created by utopian planners in the mid-nineteenth century. It was beautiful to my child's eye with forest trees and a lake on its north and south perimeters. My father, newly married and qualified as an accountant, had crossed the Channel for a better job in the late nineteen-twenties and he and my mother pursued what today would be called an "ex-pat" style of life, playing tennis and cricket at somewhere called the Club where we went every weekend. Heavy rollers went to and fro across swathes of perfect grass and grown-ups sipped cocktails in the club room and read English newspapers. My life, however, revolved round my French playmates and the local primary school where we wore pale blue aprons and learned to read and write on slates. A fearsome effigy with two ears called the "*bonnet d'âne*" – the donkey's hat – was paraded round the classrooms to remind us not to be stupid. I was bilingual without thinking about it, as children are if the conditions are right.

The decade of the 1930s was a time when many adults still believed that the post-First World War peace

negotiated in 1918 would hold. "What was the Last War?" I wanted to know when I was old enough to ask questions. "A bad time when people fought each other," was the reply. "Would it happen again?" "No, that was the point of the Last War." But as I began listening to grown-ups' conversation, it seemed things were not as simple as that. France was in the hands of bad men with names like Daladier and Reynaud, and the Maginot Line built to protect France from her enemies might not "hold". In the summer of 1939 when my parents and I crossed the Channel for our usual holiday in Folkestone I was lined up in front of a table where two ladies tried to fix an evil-smelling contraption with goggle eyes onto my face. I screamed and struggled, the ladies had to give up and I walked away with a cardboard box containing a gas-mask fitted by guess-work. "If there is a war now," I told myself unrepentantly, "I will probably die." Within a week or two we were sitting round a table in our hotel listening to Mr Chamberlain telling us in his precise schoolmasterly voice that "this country is at war with Germany."

As a British family living in France we were in a difficult situation. My father's job with a French/American perfumery company meant he had to go back to Paris that September, but my mother and I stayed in England at a place called Sidcup where we were both homesick; early in 1940 we crossed the Channel again, a journey that took twenty-four hours instead of the



normal six or seven. It was a curious thing to do but the war was still in its *drôle de guerre* – phoney war – stage. When we arrived home my mother was shocked to see that most local men had left Le Vésinet to join the army; and she couldn't buy the *Telegraph* or her favourite cigarettes. For me a bigger surprise came when I opened my mouth to tell my friend Paulette about the doll's cot I'd been given for Christmas and found there were no words! In three months I'd forgotten my French. The words came back within a few days and so did some sort of normality – but not for long.

Fast-forward to May 1940. Leaving my father in Paris, my mother and I travelled with family friends to Pornic, on the coast of Brittany. It was brilliantly hot weather and we children splashed about in the sea. Back at the hotel, the atmosphere was different. Among the guests was a group of young men wearing the much-admired blue uniform of the Royal Air Force. They began talking to my mother and her expression grew more and more worried. Then my father arrived in the car from Paris and life turned into speeded up film.

I am looking out of the car window at the extraordinary sight of men, women and children carrying cases, walking, pushing bikes and pulling carts piled high with furniture and mattresses. This was the *exode*, the panic-stricken tidal wave of some eight to ten million people who took to the roads that summer, fleeing before the advancing German army. Many on foot turned back but we had every reason to carry on – we didn't want to be interned.

After three days on the road we reached Bordeaux with its streets jammed with cars and hotels and cafés overflowing with refugees of all kinds. Now I was sitting round another table with a radio in the middle, listening to another important man, Maréchal Pétain, telling his countrymen that France had lost too many young men in the Last War to fight any more and was seeking an armistice.

The SS *Madura*, a British India line ship on its way home from Africa, had been ordered by the new Prime Minister Winston Churchill to divert to Bordeaux and take as many refugees on board as possible. My parents spent a frantic few hours obtaining exit visas



Daphne Wall

and we made our way to the port of Bordeaux. Leaving our car on the quayside, we waited all night on the beach and were among the last to be taken on board before the Captain closed the passenger list. Escorted by a Royal Navy destroyer, the ship avoided the Bay of Biscay and docked after three days at Falmouth in Cornwall. WVS ladies looked after us and everything seemed extraordinarily calm and purposeful after the chaos we'd left behind.

I needed to become an English girl and like displaced children everywhere knew that the key to acceptance was school. We were living now in Sutton and in September 1940, in brand new uniform, I joined Sutton High School. I was dazzled by its elegance – parquet floors, fully equipped gymnasium, lessons in air-raid shelters built above ground! A wonderful teacher introduced me to English poetry; she read Tennyson's

“The Brook” to us and we added some verses of our own. At Christmas she gave me a book of poems that is still on my shelves.

I would have liked to stay at Sutton High but at the beginning of 1941 came another move, this time to Colwyn Bay in North Wales where the Tomato Distribution Board for which my father now worked had been hastily evacuated. My new school was a converted house bursting at the seams with evacuees from Liverpool and Manchester – some of the children were as young as three and needed to be looked after by the older girls. The local population of comfortably retired folk weren’t too pleased at the influx into their town and my mother by this time was traumatised by the upheavals we had gone through. Later, though, a healing process started when we went for long, unforgettable hikes among the lamb-filled hills, waterfalls and lakes of Snowdonia.

I was now singing “Land of My Fathers” with patriotic fervour – though only in English – when we were summoned back to London. Kitted out in yet another new school uniform, I spent a year at Putney High’s Junior School and was introduced to the joys of acting, playing Oberon in a lavish production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. The following year we moved to the senior school, and now, at last, with a few minor hiccups like V1 flying bombs and V2 rockets ripping the skies open, my life stabilised.

With peace declared in 1945, the setting and sitting of exams became a prominent feature of school. The first hurdle was the General School Certificate which took place when we were around sixteen years old.

One of our set texts for the English literature paper was Alexander Pope’s *Essay on Man*, with its witty rhymed couplets. A bright girl in our class came up with one of her own:

*“When we are perfect, primed and polished  
General Schools will be abolished.”*

In this she was more prescient than she realised. School and Higher School Certificates were indeed on their way out, hopelessly old-fashioned as our short skirts had been in 1946, when Christian Dior dictated they should drop to our ankles.

At sixteen, about half the girls in my class left to go to Art, Drama or Secretarial Schools or work locally as laboratory technicians. A small Sixth Form stayed on for two more years and an even smaller group returned for a seventh term for the final assault on Oxbridge. In late autumn, 1949, I caught the train from Paddington Station to Oxford, sat another cluster of exams and attended those unnerving interviews. Just before Christmas the delivery boy knocked at our door and handed me a telegram. Opening it I found, somewhat to my surprise, that I was being invited to spend three years at Somerville. Life before Somerville had been a bit of a rollercoaster. Now, it was time for the future.

*Daphne Wall’s memoir **The World I Lost** can be downloaded from Amazon onto tablets and Kindles.*

---

# Reflections on Eleanor Rathbone

---

When twenty-one-year old Eleanor Florence Rathbone arrived at Somerville College at the start of the Michaelmas Term, 1893, little did she know the impact her three years of study would have on her future.

---

What she did realise was that she had succeeded, against the odds, in persuading her parents to allow her to attend university, no mean achievement for an eligible young Victorian woman for whom a good marriage and a family life was the socially acceptable norm. That was definitely not what Eleanor had in mind, and she had fought a lengthy and often bitter battle, especially with her step-mother, Emily, to achieve her goal. Agreement was only reached because Somerville was a hall of residence ruled by a warden, where the women students were chaperoned at lectures, along with a whole host of other rules and regulations. These were all designed with propriety in mind, thus satisfying conservative, cautious parents. But change was on the way, and shortly after Eleanor arrived there, Somerville became the first women's hall to adopt the name of college, elevating its educational status in the eyes of the public and the students.

Eleanor's background and family had a powerful influence in shaping her life. Her father, William Rathbone VI, was a Liberal MP, a social and welfare reformer and philanthropist, who instilled in his children a respect for the advantages his wealth conferred upon them. He expected them to follow the family motto "What ought to be done, can be done", and Eleanor certainly fulfilled his notion of a responsible citizen. Education, for sons and daughters, was of great importance within the Rathbone family, and even though Eleanor had access to the best that was available to a girl of her standing, apart from a stream of tutors, she only had one year of formal schooling, at Kensington High School, during 1888-89. Demonstrating her determination to read philosophy and Greek literature, she pressurised her parents to allow her to be coached in the subjects, and during 1892-93 she was inspired by Janet Case, a classical scholar who had studied at Girton. Even so she was still at a great disadvantage when she arrived at Oxford. She was the

only Somervillian in her year to pursue the infamously challenging *Literae Humaniores* and even though her grasp of Greek was poor, the combination of classics, ancient history and philosophy totally energised her. Through her philosophy studies she was influenced by the Idealist School of T. H. Green, which promoted a utilitarian or practical philanthropy, stressing the importance of the individual being a part of society and of the obligations they had towards their fellow citizens. His ideas influenced the so-called settlement movement, started at Toynbee Hall in London's East End in 1884. From here, university students worked as community volunteers, confronted real poverty, and were then able to develop practical solutions that they could then apply in the wider world. Eleanor empathised and identified with this ideology, not least of all because it reinforced the family credo.

Eleanor quickly immersed herself in Somerville's atmosphere where her latent feminism was nourished; she embraced the suffrage movement, and made new and enduring friendships with like-minded young women including Margery Fry – a future Principal – Hilda Oakley and Lettice Ilbert. And there were the Associated Prigs, or APs as they were known, which provided a safe and thought-provoking space for Eleanor to discuss social subjects with her six fellow members. There were no degrees conferred on any Somervillians in 1896, the year that Eleanor sat Greats, for despite a campaign by the councils of the Association for the Education of Women, St Hugh's and Somerville, to convince the universities to open the BA degree to women, Oxford's governing body rejected the proposal in the March. Alongside this disappointment, Eleanor failed to achieve the results she hoped for and that her tutors predicted. Her writing was illegible and she was forced to return and dictate the entire script to a typist before being awarded a Second. Whether she was reassured of her ability by Miss

Maitland's words, "your tutors know and have told me that your powers and knowledge were both first class", is uncertain, but the result ultimately affected any idea she may have had of pursuing an academic career.

What to do next vexed Eleanor, for she knew that any career worth pursuing was closed to her and other women, even Somervillians. On her return home to Greenbank, Liverpool in 1896, her father took matters in hand, urging her to become a "friendly visitor" for the Liverpool Central Relief Society. For the first time she was brought face-to-face with the harsh reality of poverty, and this introduction was soon followed, at William's suggestion, by a survey of the casual dock labour system, a major cause of financial hardship in the city. As his apprentice, Eleanor was soon immersed in social work, devoting herself to the issues of most concern to her father, but this ended abruptly with his death, in March 1902, which was a huge blow to her.

William left his daughter with enduring legacies: not only did the force of his personality stay with her, but he left her financially independent, a factor which enabled her to live her life exactly as she pleased. This included following in his footsteps by devoting her life to public service. She was already a member of the committee of the Victoria Women's Settlement in Netherfield Road, Everton, when Elizabeth Macadam, a trained social worker, was appointed as warden in 1902, and before long the two women developed a close working relationship and a friendship which culminated in them becoming lifelong companions. Their pioneering achievement was to professionalise social work, and by 1910 the settlement had become an acknowledged centre of information and a training ground for students in sociology. There were many other "firsts", notably her election, in 1909, as the first woman councillor on Liverpool City Council, and for the next sixteen years she campaigned across a broad range of social issues, from abolishing unsanitary slums to improve housing, reducing the hours of labour, raising the rates of wages, to providing better education. During the First World War she organised the payment of separation allowances to impoverished women, and in 1917 launched her Family Endowment campaign for a universal weekly family allowance to be paid to mothers. Her seminal book, *The Disinherited Family*,

was published in 1924. Feminist issues were firmly on her agenda when, in 1919, she was elected as the second President of the National Union for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, following on from Millicent Fawcett, and, with partial franchise for women won, she set about revitalising the organisation. Eleanor's ultimate goal was to stand for Parliament, and, having failed in 1922, she stood again in 1929, and this time was returned as the Independent MP for the Combined English Universities, the first Somervillian to achieve this accolade. She became arguably the most powerful backbencher of the age, campaigning relentlessly on behalf of the underrepresented in society, at home and in Britain's colonies. Women's issues in India, Kenya and Palestine dominated until 1933, but following Hitler's accession to power in Germany in 1933, she devoted most of her energy to international affairs, as the crisis unfolded in Europe. Her disagreement with Britain's policy of non-intervention found her engaged in humanitarian activities, including the rescue of children from the Basque country, during the Spanish Civil War. But it was her staunch opposition to appeasement, and the Czech refugee crisis that flowed from the Munich agreement in September 1939 and Germany's annexation of the Sudetenland, that propelled Eleanor into the European refugee crisis. She felt duty bound to help the endangered Czechs because of Britain's role in creating their plight, and to aid her campaign she established her 200 strong all-party, voluntary Parliamentary Committee on Refugees in November 1938. This became Eleanor's powerful lobbying and propaganda tool, but with the outbreak of war, she shifted the focus of her activism homewards, as she fought for the fair and humane treatment of the thousands of friendly enemy aliens, refugees from Hitler's Europe, who had found a safe haven in Britain. When a policy of mass internment was introduced in May 1940, some 26,700 enemy aliens, many of them Jewish refugees from Nazi Europe, were rounded up, and Eleanor became the best parliamentarian champion that they had. Her support earned her the title "MP for refugees", whilst in official circles her persistence and determination to keep the refugee issue in the public arena was rewarded with the unflattering soubriquet "the perishing Miss Rathbone". She was also considered, in official



A copy of James Gunn's portrait of Eleanor Rathbone, made by R. H. Lewis, takes pride of place in the newly-named Eleanor Rathbone Room in the Park building

circles, to be “tainted with the refugee brush”, but this did not deflect her in any way. In the light of knowledge of the Holocaust and the mass murder of Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe, Eleanor set up her second committee, the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror (NCRNT), in 1943, not only to raise awareness at home, but in a desperate attempt at saving even a few lives.

That she failed to do more for Europe's Jews haunted Eleanor, and contributed to her untimely death on 2 January 1946. On the positive side, she lived to see her dream of a family allowance, paid to mothers, become reality with the passing of the Family Allowance Act in 1945. In her lifetime she had shown her loyalty to Somerville by providing financial support for a particularly gifted student, but in typical Rathbone fashion insisted that the college keep her

identity secret. She also proposed, in June 1895, that Somerville hold an annual dinner every November for current and old students. Whilst James Gunn's 1933 portrait of Eleanor now hangs in the Palace of Westminster, Somerville has their own version, which has pride of place in the recently named Eleanor Rathbone Room, a permanent reminder of a truly remarkable woman, whose humanitarian activism knew no bounds.

Susan Cohen, author of *Rescue the Perishing: Eleanor Rathbone and the Refugees*. <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Rescue-Perishing-Eleanor-Rathbone-Refugees/dp/0853037795>

On 22 January 2016 Somerville hosted a Symposium in honour of Eleanor Rathbone and named a College room in celebration of her memory.

---

# Book Review

---

by Timothy Walker, Lecturer and Tutor in Biological Sciences

*Oxford College Gardens* by Tim Richardson; photographs by Andrew Lawson.  
Published by Frances Lincoln, 2015. ISBN 978-0-7112-3218-1

---

Any book illustrated with Andrew Lawson's photographs will be beautiful. Andrew has the ability to see pictures in gardens that the owners and gardeners had not seen. As a result he has been an influence on twentieth and twenty-first century gardening that is every bit as important as the Reverend William Gilpin's influence on the picturesque landscape movement two hundred years ago. One anticipates an Andrew Lawson book with the same excitement that was reserved for the release of the next Genesis or Led Zep album in the '70s. This book is a classic because Andrew has captured the soul of many of the colleges (including the fact that my Maitland room's left hand window is always open). The pictures are accompanied by a text that is a mix of history, architecture, and horticulture.

A garden can be defined as a place where plants and people meet. The diversity of Oxford colleges is reflected in the diversity of their gardens but there is another layer of complexity and that is derived from the diversity of the people who meet the plants. For about half of the year the undergraduates are the people who meet each other and the plants. This may be just to sit on the grass, or play croquet, but occasionally they will meet their tutor on the same lawns for tutorials when the sun is shining in the Trinity Term. During the vacations the gardens are for conference-goers and summer schools. Across both term and vacation are the omnipresent members of the Senior Common Room and the College Staff. For some colleges there is even the financial consideration of paying visitors.

Somerville is described in almost completely glowing terms. "Uplifting" is one of the adjectives used and I am regularly and frequently told by undergraduates from other colleges (when they come for tutorials) that they are very surprised by the view of the Main Quad as they



*Somerville's Head Gardener, Robert Washington*

come through the archway by House. The borders by Maitland are described as among the best in any Oxford college.

However, a major influence on the College Garden is the College Gardener. For example only at LMH would you get circular patterns in the autumn leaves on the lawn (page 103), and the greenhouse at Corpus (page 69) is another lovely piece of individualism. A small number of head gardeners are mentioned in Tim Richardson's text; they do all get a mention in Appendix 2 though there is a mistake with Somerville: our long-serving gardeners are Robert Washington and David Townsend. Most important however is the small print at the bottom of this list because there is an acknowledgement of the most important Oxford Gardener of our time – Walter Sawyer. He transformed the Wolfson garden before becoming superintendent to the University Parks. Do not be misled by the janitorial overtones of the job title. Walter has developed the Parks into an essential all-year-round refuge for the occupants of the Science Area, in addition to maintaining many other University sites plus thirteen Colleges.

---

# Members' News and Publications

---

## 1943

**Mairi MacInnes** (Mrs McCormick) is a doctor *honoris causa* of York University, July 2014. She has published *Amazing Memories of Childhood* (Two Rivers Press, 2016).

## 1944

**Ruth Lister** has moved into sheltered accommodation in Bury St Edmunds.

## 1945

**Lalage Bown** was one of only two non-Nigerian contributors to the University of Ibadan's Institute of African Studies' publication on *The City State of Ibadan, Texts and Contexts* (edited by Dele Layiwola). She has also written on the role and experience of expatriate women for the London Institute of Commonwealth Studies and on women and development for the University of Cambridge's undergraduate magazine for international development.

## 1948

**Prue Watling** (Mrs Stokes) in June 2016 was awarded the British Association for Local History (BALH) personal achievement award for long and dedicated commitment to exploring, explaining and sharing the history of Biddenden.

## 1952

**Ruth Finnegan** is delighted to have been awarded the Rivers Medal by the Royal Anthropological Institute.

This is traditionally awarded to a person who has made a major contribution to fieldwork and writing within anthropology and previous winners include some of the most well-known names in British anthropology. The Medal will be conferred at the British Museum on 30 September and it is expected that Ruth will give a short talk.

## 1954

**Anthea Bell** was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany on 29 January 2015 and is warmly congratulated. The editor apologises for not including this news in last year's Report.

**Virginia Kent** (The Rev. Dr Kennerley) writes: "I am the editor of *Search: A Church of Ireland Journal*, which comes out three times a year. I have been doing this since 2005. *Search* is an 80-page journal, usually featuring at least seven articles (covering theological, ethical, spiritual, historical and ecclesiological issues) and some book reviews of church-related interest. If Somervillians are interested, they might like to check [www.searchjournal.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.searchjournal.ireland.anglican.org)"

**Miranda McKenna** (Mrs Villiers) sits on the Council of Queen Alexandra's House (QAH) and with five other people on the Finance Committee; with her is **Angela Gillon** (Spear, 1961). The English National Ballet has relinquished its half of the great building's lease, which, after a war between institutions, has been

bought by the Royal College of Music. This is a prime site in central London and the numbers being crunched are enormous.

## 1956

**Ann Pettit** (Mrs Swinfen) has an article on The History Girls site: "Discovering Medieval Oxford" (<http://bit.ly/266IAGu>). It's about the research she did for her latest book, *The Bookseller's Tale*, which is the first of a new series set in fourteenth-century Oxford: <http://myBook.to/OMM01>

**Hannah Oppenheimer** (Mrs Edmonds) does reading and "storytime" in two primary schools. She attends various adult education classes; she did Spanish A-level last summer. She and her husband are expecting their eleventh grandchild.

**Stephanie Pickard** (Dr West)'s husband, Professor Martin West, died suddenly on 13 July 2015. Stephanie writes: "Adjusting to life on my own after my husband's sudden death has absorbed much of my energy over the past year."

## 1958

**Janet Treloar** is participating in a conference to be held in Moffat, Dumfries and Galloway, from 21-23 October on the theme "Poets and Power". Because of her work on Anna Akhmatova, the Russian Ambassador and the Minister of Culture from Moscow will also be there and Janet hopes this will help Anglo-Russian relations.



## 1959

**Christine Avery** is church secretary, management committee member and trustee for Plymouth Unitarian Church (a voluntary job which takes at least half of her time). She frequently has articles published in *The Inquirer*, the oldest Nonconformist journal still published in Britain.

**Caroline Hogarth** (Professor Barron) is the new President of the British Association for Local History.

**Eileen Young** (Professor Denza) had the fourth edition of her *Diplomatic Law* published by OUP in January 2016.

## 1961

**Lyn Robertson** writes: "Hooked on threes, like Miss Bates in *Emma*, these are my items for the Report: first, I was interviewed recently for Somerville's oral history project on how and why I came to the College, whether a straightforward route, or (in my case) not. Georgie Salzedo's short questionnaire formed the basis of a recorded interview for deposit in our archives, to be opened eighty years after our matriculation. Secondly, I planted a small witch hazel in the front quad, in memory of an uncle and aunt: John Amis, music critic and broadcaster, and Olive Zorian, a noted violinist, whose family escaped the Armenian massacres in 1915 and came to England. She died young, her very fine Gagliano violin now on loan to successive students at the Royal Manchester School of Music. And lastly, some friends from 1961 have decided to arrange another Gaudy, as it were, in London this autumn. We are going to explore the



*Professor Caroline Barron at the British Association for Local History*

Serpentine Galleries and then lunch at the Polish Club, where we shall exchange prized seeds from our gardens, and next summer remember our long-enduring friendship, started at Oxford."

## 1962

**Sonia Anderson** has published "Sir John Young, High Commissioner for the Ionian Islands, and his private letter book, 1856-57", in *Every Traveller Needs a Compass: Travel and Collecting in Egypt and the Near East*, edited by Neil Cooke and Vanessa Daubney (Oxbow Books for ASTENE, Oxford and Philadelphia, 2015), pp. 1-13.

**Jennifer Black** (Professor Coates) published in January 2016 her book *Women, Men and Language* (first published by Longman in 1986) in the Routledge Linguistics Classics series.

## 1967

**Margherita 'Miggy' Minio** (Mrs Biller) is Head of Mathematics at York College; in the New Year's Honours

List she was awarded an MBE for services to Mathematics in Further Education.

## 1968

**Bridget Lymbery** (Dr Long) writes: "More than forty years after I graduated with a first degree in Earth Sciences, I have completed my doctoral research. However my PhD examined eighteenth century textiles and not geological millennia. I am now a Visiting Research Fellow in History at the University of Hertfordshire."

**Miranda McCormick** (Mrs Corben) published *Farming, Fighting and Family: A Memoir of the Second World War* (The History Press) on 19 October 2015: <https://youtu.be/nFEWDZkA3II>. On 28 June she gave a talk to a full tent at the Chalke Valley History Festival; it was well received but Miranda describes it as "probably the most terrifying experience of my life."



## 1969

**Caroline Series** has retired to live in the Herefordshire village of Colwall near Malvern, where she intersperses mathematics with gardening. In April she was elected to the Royal Society, and from November 2016 will become President Designate of the London Mathematical Society, to take office for two years from November 2017. Caroline is also Vice Chair of the recently formed International Mathematical Union's Committee for Women in Mathematics and is responsible for its website [www.mathunion.org/cwm](http://www.mathunion.org/cwm)

## 1970

**Sabina Lovibond** writes: "I spoke at two Oxford conferences (November and June) on the philosophy of Iris Murdoch. Also in June, I took part in a conference at the University of Winchester on *Zoopolis: A Political Theory of Animal Rights* (Sue Donaldson and Wili Kymlicka, 2011), attended by the authors. In April I spoke at a conference in Zürich ('Doing Ethics After Wittgenstein')." Publications: *Essays on Ethics and Feminism* (OUP, 2015); "Practical Reason and Character-Formation", in Gunnar Hindrichs (ed.), *Praktische Identität* (Frankfurt/Main; Klostermann, 2015); "Wittgenstein, Tolstoy and the 'Apocalyptic View'" in *Philosophy of the Social Sciences* (online May 2016; print forthcoming in December).

**Lucy Neville Rolfe** (Baroness Neville Rolfe) has been promoted to Minister of State at the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, having previously been

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills and Minister for Intellectual Property.

## 1971

**Patricia Davis** (Mrs Pipe) and her husband have now retired. They have a small holding and she is a local councillor.

## 1972

**Elizabeth Jones** (Mrs Watson) has won the Lifetime Achievement Award for Women in Science and Engineering. It was announced at their awards ceremony in November and prizes were presented by Princess Anne, their Patron. She was on holiday in Mexico at the time so could not attend (and no pictures of her with Princess Anne unfortunately). "I was absolutely delighted to get the award and thought I would let you know as Somerville and Oxford were an important step along the way."

**Kay Stewart Sandeman** (Mrs Brock) was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for public service, especially to the Church of England.

## 1973

**Janey Anstey** (Mrs Fisher) has just completed three years' training as a Lay Reader (licensed lay minister) in the Church of England and will be licensed on 1 October in Truro Cathedral.

## 1974

**Olwyn Hocking** writes about her new job: "On the day I started work in the Scottish Parliament building

my first experience was to observe a committee session in the Mary Fairfax Somerville committee room at Holyrood. I joined the Official Reports team in February 2016. We create the Scottish Parliament equivalent of Hansard – detailed reports of all the committees and the chamber. I was already a qualified proofreader, copy editor and journalist, but even so this new role has still required six months of training. I continue with other freelance editorial work as well, which includes a variety of academic publications, but this has been a fascinating addition – not least because of the current political situation. My degree was Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and this new role draws on many strands of past experience and interests across my previous work in newspapers and broadcasting. It felt full circle to find that I would be working in the Mary Somerville Room – the pioneer whose legacy included the college which gave me such a great education was still providing an inspirational role model to females through her central presence in the Scottish Parliament and now on the forthcoming Scottish bank notes. Needless to say, I was delighted to send my vote in that recent campaign!"

## 1976

**Hilary Bates** was made redundant again in May 2015 and has turned her hand to her gardening business. She says that many of her clients are elderly ladies (the WW2 and colonial generations) who have lived very interesting lives. "It is a privilege to spend time with them and many become friends. I also volunteer for

the Ovacome charity's Survivors Teaching Students programme and am exploring opportunities to volunteer with Lynch Syndrome UK."

## 1977

**Caroline Alexander** has published *The Iliad: A New Translation*. She is the first woman to have published a translation of the Iliad into English.

## 1979

**Alison Hindell** is Head of Audio Drama, BBC. The Archers is part of her patch and recently she has been looking after the programme as interim editor and directing from time to time. About the programme's current sensational story line Alison writes: "Drama is the perfect medium with which to explore contemporary life and social issues. We are all humbled by the reaction to this storyline of domestic abuse that The Archers has gradually built over the past three years: we knew it would be an important theme but could not imagine the extent to which it has resonated. The generosity with which listeners have responded both in their comments on the programme and in their contributions to relevant charities has been overwhelming, while those organisations with which we have worked tell us that we have brought the particular problem of coercive control to light, and touched hearts and minds, in a way that no action campaign could hope to deliver. I am very proud of the creative team that has worked so hard to achieve this enormous impact."

**Hazel Ryan** has been appointed a trustee of SBA, the solicitors' charity, and of the Wildlife Trust for

Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside.

**Jacqueline Watts**, writing as J.S. Watts, has had her new poetry collection, *Years Ago You Coloured Me*, published in March 2016 and she is currently (June) performing it around the UK. See [www.jswatts.co.uk](http://www.jswatts.co.uk) for further details.

## 1980

**Dinah Jones** left the BBC in 2009 after twenty-two years working as a producer in Education, then Current Affairs and finally Factual Programming. Since then she has set up her own Radio and TV Production company (called Silin) which makes programmes in Welsh and English for S4C and the BBC. Starting her own business without the backing of a large organisation was a shock initially. "There are days when I still wonder why on earth I did it, especially when I'm ploughing through tedious forms or working on the company's books. But there are also days when I'm telling a story, in pictures or sound, and then I'm in my element. The trick is getting the balance right: more storytelling, less book-keeping."

## 1981

**Vanessa Shahani** is Programme Manager, Transformation Team, Southampton City Council; she writes: "Over the past year I've led a service excellence project at Southampton City Council with around 400 primarily back office staff. We're starting to see some real improvements, not only in processes but in staff engagement. A real achievement in these challenging

financial times! I'm also leading our pilot community asset transfer programme. So far we have approved five community centres and one swimming pool for transfer, with more in the pipeline. Building my life-coaching and hypnotherapy business. Signed up for the DoE Diamond Challenge! Would love to hear from 80s Somervillians!"

**Helen Stevenson** (Mrs Mann) has published a memoir, *Love Like Salt*, with Virago, March 2016.

## 1982

**Elspeth McPherson** has moved to Northumberland and writes: "Back to my original home area finally; delightful to be a stone's throw from my childhood beaches and the wonderful framing of the Cheviots too. Now Chief Executive at Age UK Northumberland, one of the county's largest charities and one of the UK's largest Age UKs. 300 staff, services including regulated care delivery. Lots of work ahead with scope for application of best practice from work in the south over my years with the Carers Trust (Crossroads and Princess Royal Trust for Carers). My drive to work is down the wonderful landscape of the coast-road, rather better than battling the M4 daily." Her son Henry is beginning his final year at the Royal Scottish Conservatoire, and Gill Tucker, her tutor from Somerville, came to a performance of one of his commissions. "It was lovely to catch up with her and to hand 'music' on now to the next generation. I did describe to Gill how I'd taught Henry 'her approach' from the age of eight which has clearly had impact. Hope to see much more of

Gill now I'm closer to Edinburgh, and to see more of Henry."

**Shireen Mistry**, a citizen of India, has been awarded an Honorary MBE in recognition of her contribution towards building strong relations between India and the United Kingdom.

## 1984

**Farah Bhatti**, who is a consultant cardiac surgeon, was appointed Honorary Professor at Swansea University in December 2015.

## 1989

**Therese Coffey**, MP for Suffolk Coastal and previously Deputy Leader of the House, has replaced Rory Stewart as Waste and Resources Minister at DEFRA.

**Auriol Miller** has been appointed the new Director of the Institute of Welsh Affairs, [www.iwa.wales](http://www.iwa.wales)

## 1990

**Jacqui Chetham** (Mrs Adams) writes: "This was quite a big year for me in that my debut novel *Souls for the Master* was published by Sinister Saints Press. This milestone has also helped me to have more short fiction accepted in magazines and anthologies and to plough on with finishing the draft of my second novel."

## 1992

**Frances Hardinge**, author of seven books for older children, won the Costa Children's Book Award 2015 and then in January 2016 was awarded the Costa Book of the Year Prize for her novel *The Lie Tree*. She



*Shireen Mistry receiving her MBE from the Duke of Cambridge*

is the first children's author to win the overall prize since Philip Pullman in 2001. On Saturday 12 November Frances will be the guest of honour and speaker at a Literary Luncheon in College; to book for this event please contact the Development & Alumni Office at Somerville (tel. 01865 280626).

## 1993

**Sarah Watson**, living in New York, has been promoted to Global Chief Strategy Officer by her firm, Bartle Bogle Hegarty.

## 1995

**Sam Gyimah**, MP for East Surrey, formerly Childcare and Education Minister, has been appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice. Sam says he is "delighted to be appointed as a minister in the Justice Department to help drive progressive reform of the Justice system."

## 1998

**Ruth Lexton** has published "Reading the Adulterous/Treasonous Queen in Early Modern England: Malory's Guinevere and Anne Boleyn"

in *Exemplaria* vol. 27, issue 3 (2015), pp. 222-241.

## 1999

**Katerina Kaouri** has co-founded a non-profit organisation, SciCo Cyprus, in order to promote communication of science through innovative and entertaining ways, a culmination of her extensive involvement with science communication that actually started during her Oxford years. Katerina subsequently co-founded and co-directed the Mediterranean Science Festival in Cyprus, 3-6 December 2015. The Festival was a great success; more than 450 researchers and innovators have shared their work with 9300 visitors (more than 4000 children). The Festival was organised by a large team of enthusiastic volunteers, most of them young women scientists. More information at: <http://www.mediterraneansciencefestival.com/en/>

**Caroline Smith** is Head of the Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals execution team at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation. In her spare time, Caroline umpires for her local rowing club and at Henley. This year at the Oxford and Cambridge boat race



*Caroline Smith umpiring at Henley Women's Regatta*



Brigitte Stenhouse

she acted as reserve umpire for the Osiris versus Blondie race, in which Somervillian **Isobel Dodds** (2015, Biological Sciences) rowed with Osiris. Caroline writes: "It was with a massive sense of pride that I followed Isobel Dodds' gutsy Osiris crew down a very blustery Tideway. It made me realise more than ever that rowing gives back as much as you put in, and that never has there been a more appropriate motto than 'Smash and Dominate'! It's a sport that's got me hooked for life, and that's all thanks to Somerville."

## 2004

**Alex Starritt** is working as a freelance translator and writer in London. His second translation, of Arthur Schnitzler's *Late Fame*, came out with Pushkin Press last year; the first one was Stefan Zweig's *Chess Story*, also Pushkin Press (2013). His first novel, *The Beast*, will appear later this year with Head of Zeus; a link to their press announcement is <http://www.thebookseller.com/news/satirical-novel-british-tabloid-newspaper-hoz-329750>



Sean Smith with the Somerville Old Boys football team

## 2005

**Nicola Blackwood**, MP for West Oxford and Abingdon, has been made Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health. She leaves her role as chair of the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee, but tweeted that she "will keep fighting for science and innovation."

**Sean Smith** helps to organise the Somerville Old Boys football team which plays regularly in London. While winning a second consecutive league title, the team came up to Oxford for a match against the college, losing a hard-fought game 2-0. They train on Monday evenings in Islington and play on Saturday afternoons in Hackney. A number of recent graduates have joined the club in the last couple of years giving the club a span of over ten years of graduates. If you would be interested in getting involved with the club, please contact Sean at [Sean.sobfc@gmail.com](mailto:Sean.sobfc@gmail.com).

## 2011

**Samuel Levin** is currently doing a DPhil at Hertford College and his

first book, *A School of Our Own : The Story of the First Student-Run High School and a New Vision for American Education* (written in collaboration with Susan Engel), is published by The New Press this year.

## 2012

**Brigitte Stenhouse** has joined the team in the Somerville Development and Alumni Office; if you ring the Office on 01865 280626, hers is probably the voice you will hear. In addition to receiving a First in her Mathematics Degree, Brigitte was awarded a Gibbs prize for her fourth year dissertation, *The Mathematics of Mary Somerville*, and also two prizes from Somerville, a Mary Somerville prize and a Principal's Prize. If you would like a copy of this dissertation, please ring Brigitte.

## 2013

**Akira Marusaki** is Deputy Director (Section Chief), Regional Affairs Analysis Unit, Strategic Intelligence Analysis Office, Defense Intelligence Division, Defense Policy Bureau, in Japan's Ministry of Defense.

---

# Marriages

---

**Ahmed – Miller**

On 19 September 2015

Imaad Ahmed (2001) to Katie Miller

**Berthoumieu – Bouisset**

On 2 July 2016

Olivia Berthoumieu (2007) to Frederic Bouisset

**Cooke – Whiting**

On 11 June 2016

Sally Cooke (2001) to James Whiting

**Ke – Ying**

On 26 March 2016

Jin Ke (2011) to Fabian Ying (2011)

**Kingsmill-Vellacott – Giles**

On 9 April 2016

Anna Kingsmill-Vellacott (1983) on 9 April 2016  
to William John Giles**Marsden-Brinkman - Young**

On 13 August 2016

James Marsden (2010) to Alexandra Brinkman-Young

**Moir – Kendall**

On 13 June 2015

Martha Kendall (2003) to Alastair Moir (2003)

**Smithson – Gunn**

On 9 August 2014

Philippa Smithson (2009) to Alexander Gunn (2008)

*The Editor apologises for the failure to include this announcement in last year's Report**Fabian Ying and Jin Ke*


---

# Births

---

**Clark**To Louise (Parish, 1997) and James Clark on 18 March 2015,  
twins Emilia Kathleen Clark and Henry Arthur Clark**Deeves**To Charlotte (Harris, 2000) and Simon Deeves on 7 May 2016  
a daughter Hazel Billie Deeves**Hamilton**To Rosie (Patterson, 1999) and Jamie Hamilton (1999) on 13  
December 2015 a son Euan John Adair Hamilton, a brother  
for Frank**Howcutt**To Emily (Webb, 1996) and Nigel Howcutt on 7 September  
2015 a son Freddie Adam Howcutt, a brother for Maisie**Jones**To Anna (White, 2002) and Aidan Jones on 3 August 2015  
a son Sonny William Jones, a brother for Nell**Mance**To Victoria Mance (1997) and Mark on 29 June 2015 a  
daughter Catherine Skelin**Marusaki**To Akira (2013) and Ersilia Marusaki on 23 February 2016 a  
daughter Marie-Aliénor**Sidhom**To Ruth (Greenwood, 1999) and Michael Sidhom on 5  
March 2016 a son Raphael Patrick Sidhom, a brother for  
Gabriel and Sorcha

# Deaths

## Bailes

Alyson Judith Kirtley Bailes (1966; Hon Fellow 2001) on 29 April 2016. Aged 67

## Thompson

Ruth Mary Thompson (1971; Hon Fellow 2009) on 9 July 2016. Aged 63

## Abdy

Jane Eveleigh Abdy *née* Noble (1952) on 22 December 2015. Aged 81

## Armishaw

Amanda Julie Armishaw *née* Pickles (1978) on 8 December 2015. Aged 55

## Austin

Jean Austin *née* Coutts (1937) on 26 July 2016. Aged 97

## Barrow

Judith Barbara Barrow *née* Hicklin (1964) on 12 June 2016. Aged 69

## Bax

Judith Mary Bax *née* Osborn (1952) on 18 August 2015. Aged 82

## Bowen

Mary Bowen *née* Anderson (1944) on 21 June 2016. Aged 90

## Bradshaw

Muriel Kathleen Bradshaw *née* Quick (1947) on 17 June 2016. Aged 87

## Brookland

Harriet Brookland *née* Carswell (1969) on 14 July 2016. Aged 65

## Browne

Elizabeth Foster Browne (1943) on 16 June 2017. Aged 91

## Burns

Mary Burns *née* Goodland (1933) on 11 July 2016. Aged 101

## Clark-Maxwell

Mary Elizabeth Clark-Maxwell (1944) on 19 February 2015. Aged 89

## Corke

Shirley Frances Corke *née* Bridges (1943) on 20 December 2015. Aged 91

## Davies

Margaret Davies *née* Forster (1957) on 8 February 2016. Aged 77

## Dawson

Katherine Mary Dawson *née* Hothersall (1942) on 21 February 2015. Aged 91

## Dobson

Mary Dobson (1941) on 17 December 2015. Aged 93

## Driver

Mary Madeline Driver (1945) on 12 May 2015. Aged 87

## Ellison

Hazel Jean Ellison *née* Orme (1964) on 12 October 2015. Aged 69

## Emery

Margaret Hilda Emery *née* Barber (1958) on 10 November 2015. Aged 76

## Fantham

Rosamund Elaine Fantham *née* Crosthwaite (1950) on 11 July 2016. Aged 83

## Gardner

Elizabeth Jane Gardner *née* Gue (1975) on 5 September 2015. Aged 58

## Grice

Winifred Mary Grice *née* Plant (1947) on 8 October 2015. Aged 86

## Hagger

Sina Margaret Hagger *née* Leith-Ross (1933) on 18 February 2016. Aged 101

## Hamblin

Jean Mary Hamblin (1948) on 16 May 2016. Aged 86

## Harvey

Julian Elizabeth Harvey *née* McMaster (1947) on 17 October 2015. Aged 87

## Heatley

Mercy Irene Heatley *née* Bing (1939) on 5 September 2016. Aged 94

## Houston

Ann Penelope Houston (1945) on 26 October 2015. Aged 88

## Jarvis

Ellen (Nell) Gray Jarvis *née* Lunnon (1940) on 17 December 2015. Aged 93

## Kerr

Glenys Lesley Kerr *née* Whysall (1961) on 20 April 2016. Aged 73

## Laing

Mary Elizabeth Drake Laing (1948) on 19 May 2016. Aged 86

## Littleboy

Eleanor Joan Littleboy (1943) on 13 June 2016. Aged 90

## Madej

Tamara Henryka Madej (1976) on 5 August 2015. Aged 60

## McClellan

Eva Maria McClellan *née* Pressel (1951) on 22 July 2015. Aged 83

## Meek

Sylvia Rosalind Meek (1973) on 11 May 2016. Aged 61

## Minter

Helen Moira Minter *née* Knox (1971) on 31 May 2016. Aged 63

## Nicholson

Joanna Mary Gordon Nicholson (1984) on 1 September 2016. Aged 50

## Noble

Susan Jennifer Noble *née* Barfield (1959) on 4 October 2015. Aged 75

## Page

Ruth Inez Leslie Page (1971) on 15 September 2015. Aged 80

## Parsons

Amanda Parsons *née* Rhodes (1944) in June 2014. Aged 89

## Phipps

Henrietta Frances Phipps *née* Lamb (1950) on 27 May 2016. Aged 84

## Read

Priscilla Elise Read *née* Roth (1965) on 17 July 2016. Aged 69

## Reynell

Anne Lenore Reynell (1941) on 29 June 2015. Aged 92

## Rogers

Muriel Winifred Evelyn Rogers *née* Oulpé (1949) on 12 August 2015. Aged about 85

## Shepherd

Elizabeth Mary ('Lis') Shepherd *née* Taylor (1955) on 27 May 2016. Aged 79

## Skrimshire

Angela-Mary Evelyn Skrimshire (1955) on 1 June 2015. Aged 78

## Stoddart

Anne Stoddart (1956) on 29 January 2016. Aged 79

## Tanner

Janet Elizabeth Tanner (1954) on 4 March 2016. Aged 79

## Taylor

Jean Elizabeth Taylor *née* Jeffrey (1973) on 13 January 2016. Aged 60

## Warson

Sheila Muriel Warson *née* Curtis (1945) on 12 December 2015. Aged 90

## Williamson

Barbara Jane Williamson *née* Freeman (1952) on 4 December 2015. Aged 81

## Wright

Janet Lydia Wright *née* Giles (1959) in May 2016. Aged 75

---

# Obituaries

---

## Alyson Judith Kirtley Bailes (1966; Honorary Fellow 2001)

---

Alyson was always extraordinary. I've lived my life as a journalist and I've met a lot of very bright people over the past 50 years, but Alyson was without doubt the cleverest person I've ever met and also one of the kindest and most generous. It was a real privilege to be her friend and her death from kidney cancer at the age of 67 is a great loss.

She came up aged 17 with a Scholarship to read Modern History and it was always clear she was going to get a First. She was (of course) a member of the 1968 Somerville University Challenge team. After Somerville, Alyson moved straight into the Foreign Office, aged just 20, having gained full marks in the Diplomatic Service exam; another exceptional achievement.

It was a very different world from today, not only in terms of many foreign policy issues, but also working conditions. The office had an open hearth fire and one of her jobs as a junior diplomat was to fetch the coals. Typists used typewriters and carbon papers. It was, Alyson observed in one of her books, "considered a sign of unusual keenness to arrive in the office before ten."

All ambassadors were male and in October 1969, Alyson, the FCO's youngest and newest female recruit, featured in a *Sunday Times* article quaintly headlined "Why is the envoy not a lady?" Asked whether there would ever be a female British ambassador and would she herself be Her Excellency in twenty years' time, Alyson said she couldn't begin to imagine ever being that old. "But I suppose, by the time I am, I might be wanting to be an ambassador."

In fact it was thirty years later in 2000 that she became HM Ambassador to Finland at the age of fifty. By then, there had been a dozen female British ambassadors and high commissioners, but it was still relatively



uncommon for a woman to get a senior post in Europe. Now there are more than thirty women ambassadors and high commissioners. Sir Kim Darroch, currently British Ambassador in Washington, told me Alyson could have been an ambassador earlier "if she had pushed herself more and played office politics. But she was more attracted by intellectual challenges than by personal promotion."

In a life full of travel, Alyson lived and worked in several different countries and her friends stayed with her in all of them. Her flair for languages was remarkable. She spoke and read seven foreign languages: French, Hungarian, German, Mandarin Chinese, Norwegian, Finnish and Swedish at what she herself described as "an operational level". She also had reading knowledge of Danish, Icelandic, Faroese and Dutch.

She recently told me she was just as proud of her career *after* her thirty-three years in the Foreign Office as she was of having risen to the rank of British ambassador. She felt her leadership of SIPRI, the

---

Stockholm Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, and her university teaching roles over the past eight years, at the College of Europe in Bruges and the University of Iceland in Reykjavik, gave her the greatest satisfaction. (Both her parents were teachers.)

Behind Alyson's efficient exterior was a courageous life of many adventures. She eluded surveillance during her first posting to Communist Hungary in the early 1970s when meeting opposition figures, and she was working in China at the time of the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989. She was sitting next to the British Ambassador, Sir Richard Sykes, when IRA terrorists shot him dead in his official car in The Hague in 1979. Alyson was unharmed. She pointed out to me that the gunmen were not aiming at her, and so she didn't think it at all surprising that she calmly went to speak at a press conference about the assassination, and then continued with her scheduled meetings.

As well as funny, generous and thoughtful, Alyson had wide interests which included science fiction, embroidery, singing in choirs wherever she was posted, the novels of Dorothy Dunnett (she wrote articles for the Dorothy Dunnett Society), and Icelandic and Faroese heavy metal music. This last interest was not shared by her many friends, especially when she blasted this "music" on the car radio!

In the months before she died, we communicated by email. When she told me there was no hope of survival, I was very moved and, appropriately for Somerville, went all Dorothy L. Sayers by moving into Latin, changing "frater" to "soror" and paraphrasing Catullus' poem "Ode to his Dead Brother" which we both studied at school.

Atque in perpetuum soror – ave atque vale.

And so forever sister

ROZ MORRIS (History, 1966)

---

## Ruth Mary Thompson (1971; Honorary Fellow 2009)

---

Dr Ruth Thompson, who has died of cancer aged 63, was one of the UK's leading experts on universities and higher education, with an influential career in several departments of government and on numerous educational boards. As co-chair of the Higher Education Commission report on the financial sustainability of the higher education system in England, which reported in November 2014, she advocated that higher education should be free at the point of use, and identified the crucial importance of the sector including its "unmeasurable benefits" to the nation's competitiveness and its outstanding research base. The report challenged the universities in their turn to continue delivering an impressive rate of return on public investment. Always direct, fair-minded and incisive, this contribution was typical of Ruth's interventions in public policy, and of her interactions with her innumerable dear friends, gathered over a lifetime of public service.

Ruth Thompson was the only daughter and one of three children of the Oxford historian A. F. (Pat) Thompson and his wife Mary, a lecturer and school teacher in botany. From her days at Oxford High School and then reading History at Somerville, she showed a capacity for leadership, an adventurous streak, and also an international one. She enjoyed trekking in parts of the world as various as the Rough Bounds of Knoydart in Scotland and the Torres del Paine national park in Patagonia. In the last ten years of her life she and her husband visited forty countries, on every continent except Antarctica. Her Oxford doctorate on the history of railway trade unions in Argentina took her to Buenos Aires for a year, and she retained a life-long love of Spanish and Latin American literature.

Politics fascinated her and as an undergraduate she was a staunch member of the university Labour Club;



but she joined the Civil Service because she believed in public service and wanted to make the world a better place. There she learned the arts of giving impartial advice, the importance of rigorous accuracy, and how to help frame effective policy. Starting at the Treasury, she used to say that she would stay in the job until she grew up. In fact, over a career of more than thirty years she went on to work in the Departments of Trade and Industry, Social Security, Education and, finally, Innovation, Universities and Skills, where she was Director General, Higher Education, from 2006 to 2009. She served ministers of different political colours honourably, won the respect of all of them and was good at staying in touch. Serving in Norman Tebbit's private office at the time when the IRA bombed the Conservative Party conference in Brighton, she used to go regularly to visit his grievously injured wife Margaret in Stoke Mandeville hospital.

Ruth gave herself fully to the many public bodies on which she served, and did not stint in giving her time. After retiring from her full-time career, she became an Audit Commissioner. She believed passionately (a word that she herself would deprecate on the grounds that it is over-used, and therefore sloppy) in the importance of access to education and opportunity for everyone. As Deputy Chair of Governors at Birkbeck College, University of London and at the University of Staffordshire (chairing the Education Committee) she was a highly valued Governor with a strong belief in the importance of the universities' work in the community and for those returning to education later in life. Somerville found in her a thoroughly engaged and influential Honorary Fellow (and her husband David joined her here too), keen to meet the students, keen to promote access, and ready with sage advice when asked. Her other board memberships reflected those values too: as a Director of the housing association Moat Homes Limited, as Deputy Chair of London TravelWatch, the consumer watchdog, and as a lay Trustee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Being a Director of Fusion Lifestyle, a social enterprise running leisure facilities, fitted with her own energetic love of walking and swimming; it was appropriate that the large throng of friends at her funeral gathered afterwards at the Brockwell Park Lido where Ruth had



*Ruth Thompson*

swum for many years until the last stages of her illness made it impossible.

Ruth Thompson was a person of great warmth: loving, direct, and communicative. She shared with a wide group of friends an email bulletin on the experience of living with cancer and the sometimes dire effects of the treatment she had to undergo, while still determined to enjoy travel, theatre, music and good company. Anyone who knew Ruth and read those realistic, unsentimental, sometimes humorous messages, would feel less alone if they themselves had to go through a similar experience. That experience, and her life for the previous eighteen years, was shared with her devoted husband the Chair of the Law Commission and Lord Justice of Appeal the Rt. Hon. Sir David Bean, whom she married in 2004, becoming also the stepmother to his sons Philip and Michael.

ALICE PROCHASKA

---

## Mary Burns (Goodland, 1933)

---

Medieval linguist, psychiatric social worker and leading Unitarian.

Mary Burns died at the great age of 101, not long after voting Remain in the EU Referendum. She played a leading part in Unitarian intellectual and educational circles. She lived through two World Wars and the Cold War, raising four children, and spending thirty years as a child Psychiatric Social Worker in the London Borough of Haringey. Mary came from leading Unitarian families in Somerset and Wales. For over seventy years, as Governor, Chairman and Trustee, she guided the expansion and development of Channing School in North London, a Unitarian institution co-founded by her great-grandfather and now consistently placed among the top fifty schools in the country.

Born in Taunton in January 1915, she had little formal education until entering Channing School in Highgate at the age of eleven. There she blossomed, relishing the liberation of living in London, and winning a College Exhibition to Somerville in 1933 to read Modern Languages. She quickly changed to Medieval French and Literature and entered enthusiastically into the life of the College and University, making lasting friendships among a particularly talented generation of American Rhodes Scholars. She remained a devoted supporter of Somerville all her life.

She might have done postgraduate research into medieval reading habits if another war had not begun to loom. Encouraged by family and friends she moved back to London to study Social Work and later Mental Health at the London School of Economics before working with the destitute as one of the first women public assistance officers in south London. Friends recall that her Somerville contemporary Penelope Fitzgerald once remarked that “Never a day passes without Mary doing good”.

At the start of the war she married a high-flying Scottish civil servant, Robbie Burns, who made a distinguished career in Whitehall until his premature death in 1971, building up the UK's aviation strengths and negotiating commercial trade treaties. She quickly picked up a war-time teaching job at the LSE, alternating between Cambridge and Hampstead where she and her husband weathered the Blitz, organised the fire-watching and started a family.

After four enjoyable post-war years with her husband and growing family at the British Embassy in Washington DC she returned to Highgate, where she became deeply involved in Channing School. Although instinctively a socialist who would have preferred that private schooling not be necessary, she threw herself into the task of turning Channing into the leading educational institution it now is. And she put her social work training into daily practice as a qualified Psychiatric Social Worker at the Child Guidance Clinic in Muswell Hill where she recalled gaining enough experience of the problems of children to contemplate a research degree in Bedwetting in Crouch End!

In retirement she indulged her love of art and architecture during long years of extramural study at London University, and enjoyed travelling both to members of her family living overseas and through the beautiful English countryside of Exmoor and the Quantock Hills where her father's family had lived and worked for several centuries. She remained intellectually alert and curious until her death, dispensing wise advice and deep compassion to a wide circle of family and friends.

SIR ANDREW BURNS KCMG

---

## Mary Dobson (1941)

---

Mary Dobson was born in Chiswick on 10 November 1922. Her early years were spent at Waddon near Croydon, but when she was eight, with her two younger sisters, the family moved to Cheam in Surrey and she joined Sutton High School. Most aspects of school life interested her, particularly sport; she played in the tennis, hockey and netball teams.

She was sixteen when the Blitz started and so she spent a lot of time in the air-raid shelter in the garden at home – and when she got to school it was down to the air-raid shelter again.

In 1941 Mary took the Oxford entrance exams and went up to Somerville to read History. At that time all students had to do war work and she remembered washing dishes at the Radcliffe Infirmary, helping to run a Girl Guide company and finally becoming an air-raid warden.

She graduated in 1944 and later that year she went to the Institute of Education in London to train as a teacher, a career that she had hoped to follow from an early age.

Her first teaching post was at the Tiverton Girls Grammar School in Devon, teaching History and also helping with games. After six years she left to widen her experience in a small boarding school in Somerset, but had to resign after only a year on health grounds. Fortunately, she was able to re-join Tiverton Grammar School, now co-educational, and stayed there until

she retired in 1974. In addition to teaching History, she was put in charge of the Library which she very much enjoyed. She expanded the number of books to almost 10,000, held an annual book exhibition and trained some pupils as librarians. The Children's Librarian in Exeter rated it as the best school library in the south-west. Also as head of the First Form team, she found it a challenge to settle some of the 100 children coming to "big school" from their very different small village primary schools.

In retirement she kept her hand in by giving practice interviews to pupils aiming to go on to further education which she found very rewarding. Many of those she taught paid tribute to her for setting them on the road to success in later life. She also became a volunteer at the National Trust's Knightshayes Court for over thirty years and served for some time on the committee of the local National Trust Centre. She was actively interested in the local Liberal Association, Civic Society and Devonshire Association and worshipped regularly in St Peter's Church in Tiverton.

Until nearly the end she retained her mental faculties and interest in local and world affairs. She was very much loved and well respected alike by ex-pupils, colleagues and the many friends, ranging from toddlers to ninety-year-olds, with whom she kept in touch for many years.

ANNE DOBSON

---

## Shirley Frances Corke (Bridges, 1943)

---

Shirley Frances Bridges was born on 23 October 1924, on her grandfather (the Poet Laureate) Robert Bridges' 80th birthday. She went to Downe House, where she was Head Girl, before reading History at Somerville. She loved Oxford life, though it was not quite itself during the war, with most men doing one-year war

degrees. She and her friends, in particular Anne Adrian, joined (and ran) several societies simply in order to stop them folding before the men returned.

After a year's war-work she studied for a BLitt, and then from 1948-52 held a Rome Scholarship in

Mediaeval Studies. She became highly proficient in Italian, honed her palaeographical skills and published a number of papers.

While an Assistant at the department of History at Edinburgh University she met Hilary Corke, then a lecturer in the English Department. They married in 1957, moving to a family house in Abinger, Surrey, where she lived for the rest of her life.

While her four children were very small she translated from Italian at home. From 1968 she worked at Guildford Museum and Muniment Room as an archivist and archaeologist, becoming Archivist-in-Charge in 1982 and retiring in 1989. The staff all did whatever came to hand and on occasion all would abandon the premises in order to excavate something found by building work. She also did her own research and her work on several parish registers led to a prize-winning essay on civil marriage during the Interregnum. She contributed the documentary research sections to archaeological reports, and wrote local guide books.

After “retirement” she became a self-employed researcher, producing historical landscape surveys for the National Trust, and working on the history of the law firm Farrer & Co, to which she had family connections. She was Archivist to Charterhouse, writing a history of the Charterhouse Mission in Southwark.

She produced a centenary history of the Leith Hill Musical Festival, with which many of her family had

been involved (*Music Won the Cause*, published in 2005). Towards the end of her life she researched a fictionalised life of Margherita Aldobrandesca. Unfortunately the research was so fascinating that she never wrote a word.

When the local authority closed Abinger Hammer School in 1982, she kept it open as a non-fee-paying charity. This was possible because it had been built by her great-grandfather and when the council took it over, he stipulated that if it ever ceased to be a school, the family would get it back. A trust was formed and fundraising as well as the running of the school took up vast amounts of Shirley’s time. The school finally closed in 2009.

Her life was full of painting, music and poetry. She drew and painted, and played the violin and sang; chamber music with her family and friends was a necessity to her. Her first volume of verse is dated 1934, while the last completed poem is dated 17 June 2014. She published *Still Life with Pram* in 1984. Poetry for her was an intensely private matter; kept hidden from her children – until she won a “Poetry on the Buses” competition and her work appeared all over the south-east.

She will be remembered by her friends for erudite conversation, passionate advocacy of often surprising causes, warm affection, wonderful food and a brilliant smile.

EMMA CORKE

---

## Muriel Bradshaw (Quick, 1947)

---

On arriving at Somerville Muriel Quick was greeted by Avril Hart, her school-friend in Harrow, as Mick, so the name continued into college days. Daughter of a Congregational minister, Mick came up to read medicine with the aim of being a medical missionary. Bouncy and small, Mick played lacrosse, sang in the Bach Choir and was active in the Student Christian Movement and the Congregational Society, where she was dubbed Quack.

Despite the highs and lows of medical exams and male acquaintances, Mick always came out on top. She was quick in the uptake, so when, one evening in our first term, we were all puzzled at being served steak and kidney pie followed by pink and white ice cream, a dinner unusually splendid in those days of postwar austerity, Mick exclaimed “Oh! Princess Elizabeth’s wedding!” The royal pair had married that morning, but lectures had gone on as usual.

In 1949 a new arrival appeared on the Congregational Society scene: John Bradshaw, a man of many parts having degrees in engineering and psychology, came up to Mansfield to study for a DPhil in Theology. He and Muriel were to become engaged, but marriage could not take place until 1954 after Muriel's Finals and John's return from a year in Chicago. Next came a year in the Potteries while Muriel did house jobs at Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and John taught mathematics in a Sixth Form. At long last followed the object of so many preparations: in May 1955 John and Muriel were sent by the London Missionary Society to Western Samoa, where John became Principal of the theological college in Malua while Muriel worked at the hospital in Apia and as resident physician to the Malua community, not to mention becoming the mother of David, Andrew and Joy.

Early in 1964, for John's health and the children's education, the family returned to England, where John took up a post in the Humanities Department of the College of Advanced Technology (soon to

be University) at Aston, later becoming a chaplain and lecturer in psychology. Muriel worked in a family planning clinic and wrote the book *Spaghetti Junction Doctor* about her experiences. Students were always welcomed to their home in Solihull. In 1984 John became minister of the URC church in nearby Olton.

Muriel had roots in Devon, so in 1987 she and John decided to move to Dawlish for their retirement. They found a house looking up five small valleys and named it Vailima, after Robert Louis Stevenson's Samoan home with similar views. John was able to indulge his passion for steam trains and both enjoyed boating and caravanning. They worshipped at the ancient church of St Gregory, whose history Muriel wrote in her book, *The Church in This Place*.

John's prolonged illness and her own asthma brought Muriel many ups and downs, but, when I last rang her on 23 May, she was perky and on top. She died on 17 June while shopping in her beloved Dawlish.

MARY SHORTER (Steer, 1947)

---

## Rosamund Elaine Fantham (1950)

---

Elaine Fantham came up to read Classics in 1950. Graduating with a First, she went on to have a distinguished academic career in Canada and the United States, and became a doyenne of Latin Studies in North America. After a doctorate in her native Liverpool and a brief spell teaching at St. Andrews, Elaine and her mathematician husband went to teach at the University of Indiana in Bloomington. In 1968 with daughter Julia and son Roy they moved to Toronto where Elaine taught in the Classics department for eighteen years, becoming a leading scholar and playing important roles in national professional associations, such as the Classical Association of Canada. At the age of 53 she took up the prestigious position of Giger Professor of Latin in the Department of Classics at Princeton (1986-2000). In a very active retirement back in Toronto Elaine continued to be productive as a scholar and as a spokesperson for the discipline

of Classics in the public arena. In January 2009, she received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Philological Association in recognition of her superlative service to the profession.

The author of seventeen books (including scholarly monographs, commentaries, editions and translations, and an omnibus of her selected articles) and over a hundred articles and book chapters, Elaine also co-authored the standard textbook on women in antiquity and served as Associate Editor in Chief of the seven-volume *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome* (2010). Much of her work was on Roman comedy, the plays of the great writers Plautus and Terence, a fitting topic for such a good-humoured scholar. As well as having a formidable reputation among classical scholars both sides of the Atlantic, Elaine became well-known to the general public in

---

America through regular broadcasts on National Public Radio. In 2003 she used that context to challenge the wisdom of American military involvement in Iraq, by drawing a comparison with the ill-fated Roman invasion of Parthia (modern day Iraq) by the power-hungry general Crassus. On that occasion the *New York Times* described her as NPR's 'mischievous fruity-voiced classics commentator, whose specialty is drawing parallels between the ancient world and us'.

Her generosity was a byword amongst her friends and former students, and her calendar even in retirement was always full of visits from colleagues, who took her out for concerts, cream teas and debauched dinners. A witty raconteur, loyal friend and brilliant cook, she remained excellent company to the end – on the radio, in the classroom, and over the dinner table. She will be sorely missed by everyone whose life she touched.

LESLEY BROWN

---

## Henrietta Frances Phipps (Lamb, 1950)

---

The editor hopes to include an obituary in the College Report next year.

---

## Eva Maria McClellan (Pressel, 1951)

---

Eva was born in Vienna in 1933, to Otto and Hedi Pressel. Her mother taught young children and her father worked in the Austrian Broadcasting Service. Unfortunately the rise of the Nazis and the annexation of Austria led to Otto, part Jewish and a socialist, having to flee to the UK with his family in 1938. He then worked for many years for Philips as an engineer.

Eva's life in England was happy, mostly in the south near London but also as an evacuee in Scotland and Wales. Her two sisters, Susanna, who also went to Somerville, and Rebecca, were much younger. By the time they were growing up she was at Oxford, reading PPE, but throughout her life she remained very close to both. In fact her close, loving relationship with all of her family is one of the defining characteristics of her life.

After University she worked briefly for the Board of Trade but by 1956 she had met and married John McClellan, the brother of one of her Somerville friends, Nickie. They moved to Edinburgh where John worked for the Scottish Office and their first child, James, was born in 1957, followed by Nicholas, Tommy and Rose.

Eva never took up employment after moving to Scotland but filled her life with her children, her passion for the gardens of each of the three houses they lived in, her eclectic reading list, her daily consumption of *The Guardian*, including completing every cryptic crossword, and her superb cooking. She remained fiercely intellectual, very knowledgeable and engaged in politics and current affairs. She instilled a love of

learning in all of her children, whose success was in no small part due to her.

As time passed Eva's family grew with the addition of John's elderly relatives, her sisters' children, her seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. She loved and cared for them all and at different times, and to different degrees, she fed, looked after or accommodated all of them. When she died and John was asked what should be said about her at her funeral his only comment was: "She was the most selfless person that I've ever known."

Eva had many other interests, including bridge, Scottish Country Dancing, walking, cinema and volunteering with Meals on Wheels and the Patient Transport Service, but the centre of her life was her family and she was the centre of it.

NICHOLAS MCCLELLAN



*Eva McClellan with her parents and grandson*

## Barbara Williamson (Freeman, 1952)

My mother Barbara Williamson, who died aged 81 on 4 December 2015, was an Oxford University careers adviser, retiring as deputy head of the service, and was only the second woman to chair the Bench of Oxford magistrates. She was an advocate for social and Church-related causes in the communities in Oxfordshire where she lived most of her adult life.

Barbara Freeman was born in Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, the oldest of three children of Louis, a chartered accountant, and Florrie (née Gill), a teacher. She attended Wyggeston Grammar School and matriculated at Somerville in 1952, reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Barbara's Somerville years were formative for her future life. Writing in 2001\* she acknowledged that Somerville had a "very significant influence on my life. The[se] years were a defining period, giving me self-confidence and developing my thinking ability". At Somerville she

developed beyond her more conservative upbringing, with Christianity and left-wing politics becoming more important for her. On 2 June 1953, for instance, she joined other students in a modest Republican protest by marking the Queen's coronation not in front of the college's newly hired black-and-white TV, but on a bicycle ride in the Cotswolds.

After university she worked for Margaret Hall, a Somerville tutor, and later as assistant statistician at the UK Chamber of Shipping in London. She also worked with David Butler of Nuffield College on a study of the 1959 General Election results.

She married her husband Tony in October 1959, settling in Cowley, an Oxford suburb. This was a great leap of faith, and of love, for Barbara. Her parents were cautious about the marriage. Tony was yet to be ordained and had only recently started his decades-long work as a manual labourer in a car factory.

Throughout her life she supported his unorthodox career as a Church of England worker priest, trade unionist and Oxford politician for the Labour party, where she was also a lifelong member. She was Lady Mayoress of Oxford in 1982-83 when Tony was Lord Mayor, helping him especially with her social skills at representational events.

Barbara focused on raising their four children, was active in her local church and in the Campaign for the Advancement of State Education. Her support for comprehensive education led to decades of committed work as a school governor, chairing the governing bodies of several schools during periods of change in education.

In the early 1970s, after years of childrearing she “regained her confidence and thinking ability”.<sup>\*</sup> She became a Justice of the Peace in 1970, aged only 36, a rare appointment at the time, was chair from 1994-96, retiring in 2004 as a highly respected senior magistrate.

In 1976 she became a researcher for Dr Richard Mayou at Oxford’s Warneford Hospital, looking into the effects of myocardial infarction. She joined the Careers Service (then the University Appointments Committee) in 1979. Speaking at a memorial service for Barbara in December, Tom Snow, director of the Service from 1970-1996, said she was “an outstanding careers adviser”, who “had a formidable side”, was highly intelligent as well as being “friendly, helpful, practical and kind”. She drew on her community ties to help support students from all backgrounds.

She moved with Tony to Watlington, a market town near Oxford, in 1989. A churchwarden there for thirteen years, she also led local work for Christian Aid,



*Barbara Williamson by Ruth Heppel*

Traidcraft and Age Concern. Barbara was determined to remain active locally after her severe stroke in September 2011, and she and Tony also embarked on many excursions.

Barbara is survived by Tony, their children Ruth, Paul, Ian and me, and eight grandchildren.

HUGH WILLIAMSON

*\* Text written by Barbara for a “50 years after” article written for Somerville’s College Report 2001-2. She compiled the article with Isabel Roberts, a fellow 1952 Somervillian.*

---

## Anne Elizabeth Stoddart (1956)

---

Anne was born in Middlesbrough on 29 March 1937. She was the youngest of three children and her father instilled in them all a powerful belief that they could succeed in their chosen careers.

Anne decided at an early age to study languages to become a diplomat. To this end she applied herself with great academic success, coming up to Somerville in 1956 to read Modern Languages and gaining a First



Class Degree. Her French tutor suggested that she might like to consider a career in Intelligence but Anne would not be diverted from her original ambition.

I first remember Anne as a quiet, thoughtful person with a calm demeanour. We shared many interests including music and cricket. We sang in the Opera Club chorus and Merton choir. Opera became a life-long passion for Anne; even in her last year she would juggle dates to fit in performances between treatments.

Watching cricket in the Parks provided an enjoyable relaxation from the stresses of work; then, later in London, trips to Lord's gave us a chance to see the game's greatest players including Anne's favourite, fellow Yorkshireman Freddie Trueman.

Anne was a good pianist. She recounted interesting experiences such as playing with Lady Montgomery-Massingberd at Gunby Hall and chamber music with Austrian friends in the Vienna Woods.

Following a year teaching English at Chartres, Anne joined the Foreign Office and two years later was posted to the British Military Government in West Berlin. In the very male-dominated culture of the 1960s Anne's colleagues soon discovered that behind her quiet manner lay a strong will which made her a powerful and effective negotiator.

Between home postings Anne went on to serve with distinction in Ankara, Colombo, the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, and Geneva. Her adventurous and enquiring spirit led her to explore the culture, art and history of each new location.

In Geneva Anne was appointed second-in-charge of the UK delegation to the UN World Trade Talks. She employed all her language and diplomatic skills to work through many exhausting all-night negotiations. In recognition of her service to the FCO she was awarded the CMG.

Whilst her work in Europe had been challenging and rewarding it was in Colombo that Anne was happiest. Apart from the great natural beauty of Sri Lanka, Anne felt a real affinity with the people whose natural temperament, she said, was most like her own.



*Anne Stoddart*

After her retirement Anne took full advantage of London's cultural scene. Her love of plants and flowers was amply satisfied by her close proximity to Kew Gardens. Interested in conservation and the environment, she campaigned on local issues and was a generous contributor to animal, bird and other charities. She supported several music organisations and sang for many years with the London Chorus.

In September 2014 Anne was diagnosed with oesophageal cancer. She passed away peacefully in hospital on 29 January 2016 after seeing her cousins and her close friends. She is survived by an older brother.

Anne was a lovely, gifted, funny, caring person. She will be hugely missed by me, my family and all who had the good fortune and privilege of knowing her.

FLORENCE BARNES (Cann, 1956)

## Barbara Ann Barrett (Presswood, 1957)

Barbara Ann Barrett was born on 10 April 1938. She grew up in London and attended North London Collegiate School. Her headmistress wrote, “She has the kind of mind which delights in probing and searching; she was never content with superficial knowledge but enjoyed exploring for herself and then [applied] her knowledge with point and precision.... As a person, Barbara is modest, kind, tolerant, cheerful, absolutely reliable, and she has an unsuspected sense of fun which reveals itself the more one knows her ... she was always so willing and eager to learn and had the makings of a true scholar as she had a humble attitude and an unusual awareness that truth is elusive and requires deep mental research.”

Barbara was awarded the Senior Scholarship to read Physics and Mathematics at Somerville. Before going up to Oxford, she worked at the Royal Institution on X-ray crystallography, with Dorothy Hodgkin and Sir Lawrence Bragg.

Barbara was an undergraduate from 1957 to 1960. Although she relished studying physics, she was very interested in Classics and seriously contemplated changing to Greats. However, she remained a physicist and, having chosen the theoretical physics option, continued to impress her tutors, including recent Nobel Laureate Willis Lamb, who considered her the best final-year undergraduate he had ever taught. After an initial year of postgraduate research, Barbara had planned to move to Columbia University in New York, but instead stayed in Oxford and married a fellow student in theoretical physics, Roger Barrett. From 1961-63, Barbara was a Mary Ewart Research Fellow at Somerville, working with her DPhil supervisor, Gabriel Barton, on eta particle decay.

Somerville kept a Fellowship open for Barbara for several years while she was in America, where she was a post-doc at Columbia and then Assistant Professor at San Francisco State College, researching newly discovered properties of some strongly-interacting unstable particles, pointing out their possible uses in exploring the effects of the weak interaction.



*Barbara Barrett*

Gabriel Barton writes, “This kind of analysis is like statesmanship dealing with current problems, unquoted once the problem is solved, but much appreciated at the time: witness the far-above-average citation record of these papers.”

After the birth of her first child, Barbara developed a severe post-natal psychosis, and underwent ECT, which strongly affected her memory at that time and may have been a major factor in her not returning to research. Following some years as a mother at home, she separated from her husband and trained as a maths teacher, later becoming an Open University tutor, playgroup helper and GCSE examiner. Barbara frequently went “the extra mile” for friends and family, and she joined various campaigns for peace and justice.

Barbara delighted in her three children and her three grandchildren. She moved back to Oxford in 2011 to be near family and to enjoy concerts, museums and seeing friends, not least at Somerville.

WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF BARBARA'S FAMILY

## Susan Noble (Barfield, 1959)

Susan Barfield was one of the first from her school, Ware Grammar School for Girls, to gain an Oxbridge place. She came up to Somerville in 1959 to read Physiology. She and I did not quite overlap as undergraduates but I got to know her well when we both worked together for many years in the Oxford Cardiac Group led by her husband, Denis Noble, in the University Laboratory of Physiology.

Susan's parents were both schoolteachers (of mathematics) and she, born in 1940, was the eldest of their three children. Although always keenly interested in the arts, the theatre and literature, she made a career in science. After two years at Somerville she became ill and had to withdraw from Oxford. On recovery, she completed her undergraduate studies at University College London. Shortly after she graduated, she and Denis Noble were married and in 1965, when Denis was appointed to a University Lectureship in Physiology and Fellowship at Balliol College, they settled in Oxford. Their daughter, Penny, was born in 1967 and their adopted son, Julian, joined the family in 1972.

When Susan returned to Oxford, Jean Banister, who had been her tutor at Somerville and who provided her with lifelong support and friendship, found her funding for graduate work and provided working space in a corner of her own lab. Here Susan worked with others investigating the electrical membrane currents underlying pacemaking in heart muscle. In 1972, she was awarded her DPhil for a thesis entitled "Membrane currents in frog atrial muscle".

Susan's interest in mathematics – which perhaps came in part from her parents – led her to obtain a Maths degree with the Open University. As a mathematical biologist, she contributed to the development by the Oxford Cardiac Group led by her husband, Denis Noble, of computer models of cardiac electrical activity. These have proved extremely valuable for understanding heart function in both health and disease.



*Susan Noble*

Susan had a kind and understanding nature and a talent for putting younger scientists who joined the Oxford group at their ease and helping them to integrate into the team. In the lab she was a very friendly and helpful colleague with quick wit, good conversation and a great sense of humour. She was kind and imaginative with children, her own and those of friends. She was full of humanity and love of life but was constantly shadowed by ill-health which became more severe as she grew older.

This she bravely fought with as much strength and determination as she could muster, supported in everything by her close family. She died on 4 October 2015.

HILARY BROWN (Maunsell, 1954)

## Judy Barrow (Hicklin, 1964)

Born in 1945, the second of four children, Judy spent her childhood at the family home in Weybridge. Her mother, Susan, was a Somervillian and hoped her daughter would follow in her footsteps. Initially Judy planned to study medicine in order to become a doctor. Unhappy at her original school, she enrolled at a local tech to take her A levels; a very original course of action in those days for a girl from her background. She gained a pass in French, but of the science subjects she passed only in Zoology. This was not sufficient to support an application to study medicine. So, encouraged by her mother, she applied to read zoology at Somerville. To her great surprise she was accepted: she herself attributed this success to her translations from French and German in the entrance exams.

During her time at Oxford Judy pursued her studies with all the necessary diligence to gain her degree but she always found time to indulge her wider interests. She was especially attracted by French culture and by art in all its aspects. The acquisition of a Frink sculpture for the college when she was on the Art Committee was a matter of particular pride. I remember going to the opening of the Museum of Modern Art (Oxford not NY) with her and attending film club showings at the Natural History museum (of all places). She had a varied and active social life both in and out of college.

When she left Oxford, Judy went on to enrol as a PhD student at Middlesex Hospital Medical School in Professor Wolpert's Department of Biology as Applied to Medicine. Her area of research was the development of spatial patterns in hydra. Later she took up a post at UCL working with Edwin Clarke and Jonathan Miller in the History of Medicine department. It was in the early 1970s that she learned that she had multiple sclerosis. The symptoms were not very evident at that time and with characteristic fortitude Judy decided to carry on as normal without telling others of her condition. Her thesis was completed in 1975 and she took great pride in the award of her doctorate.

In 1977 she had married Peter Jay and they had two daughters. In 1977 the family moved to Oxford where



*Judy Barrow*

Judy was setting up a new office for the medical journal for which she worked. She lived in the city for the rest of her life.

In 1984 she suffered a severe attack of MS and was rendered temporarily paralysed and unable to speak. After several months in hospital and a long period of rehabilitation she regained mobility and the power of speech. Nevertheless she remained partially disabled for the rest of her life and unable to continue full-time employment. Despite these difficulties Judy brought up her children (her marriage to Peter having ended) and played an active part in her local community of Grandpont. She worshipped at St Matthew's Church and later became an attender at Quaker meetings. In 1994 she married Richard Barrow, a Fellow of Exeter College, enjoying six years of very happy marriage before his death in 2000.

Judy died as a result of a fall while on a visit to Brussels in June 2016. She is survived by her daughters Laura and Miranda, and by her grandchildren Theodore and Matilda.

FOLLA CHRISTIE (Tilley, 1964)



## Hazel Ellison (Orme, 1964)

Hazel Ellison died in October 2015, following nineteen months during which she coped with her imminent death from a brain tumour with great grace and Christian faith.

Hazel came up to Somerville in October 1964, one of a group of eight mathematicians (all female in those days!). Of these eight, three – Hazel, Judy Oldham and Ann Hollowell – became firm friends and have always remained so in spite of the distance between them. At her school in Duffield in Derbyshire, she had excelled both academically and in sport, playing tennis for Derbyshire Juniors. Hazel continued to excel at Oxford, winning a half blue in tennis and a blue in rowing; Hazel and Ann were, in fact, both members of the first Oxford Eight to row against Cambridge in a varsity Women's Boat Race. Hazel was also pretty good in those days at darts and bar billiards, but that's another matter! Inspired by our wonderful Somerville tutors, Anne Cobbe and Hilary Mason (a fellow Duffield girl), Hazel also enjoyed her maths, choosing to specialise in applied rather than pure maths in her final year. Our group of mathematicians did a lot of things together, often along with boyfriends as time went on – punting, cycling (Hazel and Ann became quite adept at cycling through Oxford with an oar each when competing away!) or carrying huge mounds of bread slices, butter and jam from the Dining Hall to one of our rooms for a good chin-wag. Hazel was a regular attendee at OICCU meetings, in company with her fellow member and later husband, Brian (a Greats student at Univ); she kept her faith throughout her life.

Hazel had a warm, caring, generous personality which, along with her enthusiasm, sense of humour and willingness to listen, was ideal for her chosen career of teaching. After her year doing a DipEd in Oxford, she started her teaching in Wilmslow, but withdrew for the birth of her two children, Judy and David; the family then moved to Cardiff. On their return north in the late 1970s, Hazel resumed teaching, at Cheadle Hulme School, where she spent the rest of her career. Over the years her renown grew: “a very, very special lady and an outstanding teacher”; “the most amazing teacher”; “one of the most remarkable and well-



*Hazel Ellison*

respected teachers I have ever had the pleasure of knowing”; “generations of youngsters benefitted from her rigour and high standards. Many were inspired to read maths at university and some, with Hazel's help and encouragement, at Oxbridge ... what a legacy!” Of course, such a reputation is not achieved without a lot of hard work and Hazel was to be found most evenings and weekends preparing, or marking her students' work.

In her leisure time and after retirement, she and her husband Brian, whom she had met in their first term at Oxford, enjoyed gardening, doing cryptic crossword puzzles or fiendishly difficult Samurai Sudoku, and spending time with their grandchildren, Imogen and Logan. Walking was a particularly strong passion and few summers passed without visits to the Lake District or the West Highlands of Scotland.

Hazel's funeral and memorial service were attended by a great number of people, a tribute to the love she had inspired in all she met. The services were moving and warm occasions, a very special celebration of a life well lived.

ANN SLATER (Hollowell, 1964) and  
JUDY GOLDFINCH (Oldham, 1964)

## Hilary Katharine King (Presswood, 1965)

Hilary was born in London on 5 October 1946. She attended North London Collegiate School and followed her eldest sister Barbara to Somerville, where she read French and Spanish. After graduating she completed a PGCE at York University before taking up a teaching career.

In recent years, Rotary International had become an important outlet for her formidable energy. She was President of the Norwich branch of Rotary in 2009-10 (at a time when very few women had achieved that status), enhancing its international presence as well as pushing through local initiatives that have left a lasting legacy in the city.

Hilary's life was an outstanding example of Rotary's motto – Service Above Self. For those of us who knew her at Somerville, this was no surprise, as already then she was an energetic member of the Oxford Vegetarian Society, and determined to use every opportunity she could to make a positive difference, both locally and internationally, and to persuade others to share her belief in individual and collective capacity for change. In particular, Hilary believed passionately in the development of young people. She met her husband Chris in 1970 while both were volunteering as secondary school teachers for VSO in Montserrat. She was a firm supporter of the Rotary Peace Programme at Bradford University, and coordinated Rotary scholars, as well as organising the Rotary Schools Choirs competition and regular charity fundraising music performances in and around Norwich. She also became closely involved with the Leonard Cheshire Disability charity, supporting the development of its local care home and its work for disabled pupils in Sierra Leone. She was active in numerous other charitable projects abroad, including in Serbia, Liberia and Nicaragua.

Family life was immensely important to Hilary; particularly when Chris was retraining for a career change she supported the family by skilfully combining a variety of part-time and supply teaching jobs with children and adults, including French, Spanish, childcare, keyboarding and IT skills, as well as tutoring and examining on



*Hilary Katharine King*

distance learning courses. In more recent years she was equally tireless in her “grandmotherly” activities.

Hilary was always modest about her achievements, self-deprecating about her intellect and quick to credit others, but her strong faith in her ideals made a lasting impression on those she met – tributes at a packed thanksgiving service in Norwich Cathedral repeatedly referred to practical examples of her generosity, enthusiasm, hospitality, integrity and tenacity – and a sense of humour that always got the better of her earnestness.

Amid all this activity, Hilary died suddenly on 25 June 2015, after a stroke. She is survived by Chris, her sister Isobel, her children Rachel and Richard and four grandchildren.

Hilary made lifelong friendships at Somerville, and enjoyed returning to events involving former students, such as the Modern Languages Day. She had been looking forward to our 50th anniversary reunion last September, at which she was sadly missed.

MARGARET MAY and SHIRLEY VINALL (1965)

---

## Priscilla Elise Read (Roth, 1965)

---

The editor hopes to include an obituary in the College Report next year.

---

## Sylvia Rosalind Meek (1973)

---

I met Sylvia in 1973 when she went up to Somerville to read English, from her home town of Hull. In the random way that students find friends in the first few weeks at university Sylvia fell in with a group of us studying various branches of Biology. Within a few weeks of her first Michaelmas Term she had decided that English was not for her. Always interested in birds and natural history, she went away and got some science A-levels and came back to College a mere year later to read Zoology.

This is testament to Sylvia's grit and determination, and never to do things the easy way. As she didn't quite achieve the quality of degree required for a PhD she moved to an MSc in Animal Parasitology at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. This was then followed by a PhD in mosquito genetics and control at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Her research contributed to the understanding of what are now termed "Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes".



*Sylvia Meek*

---

Sylvia went on to set up and play a lead in the Department for International Development (DFID)'s Resource Centre, a partnership between the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, DFID and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, dedicated to research and practical control work in malaria. In 2003, Sylvia was one of the key figures in founding the Malaria Consortium, to carry on this work, and as Global Technical Director she helped to build one of the world's foremost non-governmental, charitable organisations (NGOs) dedicated to research, control and treatment of the disease.

Sylvia will be remembered for the practical impact of her work in science. She had over 35 years' experience working on malaria and vector-borne disease control and child health programmes in the field. Sylvia worked for the World Health Organisation in the Solomon Islands, Namibia and Cambodia as well as working with the World Food Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, setting up and

running vector-borne disease programmes on the Thai-Cambodia border.

Her work earned her many nicknames – in Nigeria as “Mother Malaria”, and by her brother as “the Mighty Atom”. Dr Pedro Alonso (Director, Global Malaria Programme, World Health Organisation) describes her as “an extraordinary leader”. Sylvia died on 12 May 2016, after an 18-month battle with cancer. She leaves behind a much-loved brother and sister, nieces and nephews and friends, who feel privileged to have known her.

Sylvia Meek can be remembered by supporting the Malaria Consortium's “Sylvia Meek Scholarship for Entomology” fund which will help to train a number of entomologists in the Greater Mekong Subregion and in sub-Saharan Africa. <https://www.justgiving.com/remember/339335/Sylvia-Meek>

CHRISTINE PEARSON (Wilson, 1973)

---

## Amanda Armishaw (Pickles, 1978)

---

Amanda Armishaw, known as Mandy, was born in Reddish, Stockport in 1960. She grew up in Yorkshire and won a scholarship to attend UWC Atlantic College in South Wales before subsequently going to Somerville to study Experimental Psychology in 1978. This was when I first met Mandy, as we were neighbours on the top floor of Vaughan. We became firm friends from the start sharing laughter and cups of tea in equal measure. Mandy was small in stature but with a big personality and an infectious laugh. She made the most of her time at Somerville. She excelled in her studies but also found time to be a presenter for the local hospital radio station, a committee member of the University Pétanque Club

and she pursued her long-established love of all things theatrical, acting and singing in many performances.

After she graduated Amanda went to Swansea University to study Educational Psychology. The course involved two years' teaching practice in some of the toughest schools in South Wales but “Miss Pickles” was unfazed by pupils who towered over her. She maintained discipline by force of personality, meeting the pupils on their terms and making them take personal responsibility for their work as they realised she was not someone to be messed with. Following her time in Swansea Amanda moved to Aylesbury and



worked for three years as an Educational Psychologist for the county council.

In 1991 Amanda joined Andersen Consulting working in Change Management. It was here that she met, worked with, became friends with and then fell in love with Andrew Armishaw (Hertford, 1980) whom she married in the Chapel at Somerville in October 1993. This was definitely the union of two soul-mates who made an exceptional team. Even with a busy and demanding career Amanda continued to live life to the full. Life, for her, was not a spectator sport, it was a contact sport to be grabbed and experienced. There was always something to learn and a new project to try. Hence she learned to sail, took painting courses, learnt to play golf, spun yarn, knitted and sang and acted in local amateur dramatic societies.

In April 1999 Andrew and Amanda adopted their baby daughter Elizabeth in Washington State USA. Amanda was devoted to Elizabeth, and was always there to support and nurture. Her love and commitment to Elizabeth never wavered even when she herself faced her own health challenges.

In 2004 Amanda, Andrew and Elizabeth moved to the USA. They lived in Chicago and then Santa Fe where Amanda continued to pursue her many and varied interests including painting and jewellery-making while being a wonderful mother to Elizabeth.

Amanda was first diagnosed and treated for cancer when she was two years old, so she was in fact a survivor of the disease for more than fifty years and the extent to which she lived life to the full is remarkable. The cancer returned in 2005 and then again in 2009 when she was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer with tumours in her lungs, liver and back. In true fashion, and with the unwavering support of Andrew, Amanda researched every conceivable option to overcome her cancers and she did not hesitate from undergoing any treatment, however difficult or unpleasant, in search of a means to prolong her precious life. With steely determination she beat the odds on numerous



*Amanda Armishaw*

occasions to live an inspirational life until her death in December 2015.

Amanda embraced every aspect of life: intellect, creativity, compassion, resilience and laughter. She was an exceptional person and is sorely missed.

LIZ BROCKMANN (Madell, 1978)

# Academic Report

## Examination Results, 2015-2016

### Undergraduate results

#### Ancient and Modern History

Class I Jennifer **Allan**

Class II. I Oliver **Johnston-Watt**

#### Biological Sciences

Class I Susannah **Fleiss**  
Elliot **Howard-Spink**  
Christina **Hunt**  
Emily **Tilby**

Class II. I Fergus **Chadwick**  
Hannah **Sharpe**  
Peter **Wellham**

#### Chemistry

Class I Liam **Garrison**  
George **Pearson**

Class II. I Abigail **Morris**

Class III Ruiqi **Yu**

#### Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Class I Claire **Ben-Chorin**

Class II. I Jasmine **Clark**

#### Computer Science (BA)

Class I Gabriel **Asman**

Class II. I Piotr **Nosalik**

#### Diploma in Legal Studies

Distinction Margaux **Laclef**  
Mathilde **Charriere**

Pass Celestine **Renault**

#### Engineering Science

Class I Eden **Harrison**  
Chengzhi **Zhou**

Class II. I Kamilla **Abilova**  
James **Breitmeyer**  
Tsun Long **Cheung**  
Edmund **Moss**

#### Engineering Science (BA)

Class I Francois **Herinckx**

Unclassified Martin **Brand**

#### English Language and Literature

Class II. I Nasim **Asl**  
Jenna **Coates**  
Holly **Freeborn**  
Freya **Judd**  
Niluka **Kavanagh**  
Alys **Key**  
Rosemary **Pearce**  
Eve **Poppleton**  
Alexandra **Worrell**

#### European and Middle Eastern Languages

Class I Jonathan **Lawrence**

Class II. I Peter **Johnstone**

#### Experimental Psychology

Class I Andreea **Raslescu**

Class II. I Elizabeth **Gibson**  
Anthony **Li**

#### History

Class I Elizabeth **Alderson**  
William **Aslet**  
Anna **Clark**  
Mark **Poniatowski**

Class II. I Max **Bray**  
Elisabeth **Broyd**  
Caitlin **Evans**  
Ela Stopford **Sackville**

#### History and Modern Languages

Class I Brigitta **Summers**

#### Jurisprudence

Class II. I Sean **Mcintyre**

#### Literae Humaniores

Class II. I Luke **Barratt**  
Alice **Jamison**  
Helen **MacVicar**  
Floriane **Van Den Brande**

#### Mathematics

Class I Brigitte **Stenhouse**

#### Mathematics (BA)

Class I Emma **Beer**

#### Mathematics and Computer Science (BA)

Class I Ying **Zhu**

#### Mathematics and Statistics

Class II. I Wenjing **Zhang**

---

Mathematics and  
Statistics (BA)

Class II.II Sisi **Zhang**


---

## Medical Sciences

Class I Magnus **Fugger**  
Rebecca **Macduff**

Class II.I Grace **Barnes**  
Sacha **Burgess**  
James **Goetz**  
Daniel **Overin**


---

## Modern Languages

Class I Anna **Branford**

Class II.I Mark **Bourke**  
Anna **Haddelsey**  
Marina **Holden**  
Eleanor **Makower**


---

Modern Languages and  
Linguistics

Class II.I Georgia **Tutt**


---

Molecular and Cellular  
Biochemistry

Class II.I Olivia **Conroy**  
Hans **Dias**  
Tooba **Qadri**  
Katharine **Robinson**


---

## Music

Class II.I Katherine **Jeffries-**  
**Harris**  
Ben Kimberley

---

Philosophy, Politics  
and Economics

Class I Ursula **Gazeley**  
Class II.I Shyamli **Badgaiyan**  
Samual **Billington**  
Sophie **Entwisle**  
Rizwaan **Malik**  
Casilda **Prado**  
Alexander **Rattee**


---

## Physics

Class I Peru **D'Ornellas**  
Andrew **Smith**  
Class II.I Thomas **Hird**  
Christina **Pontin**  
Fangzheng **Shen**


---

*All students are offered the choice, at the start of their course, of opting out of any public list that the University or College may produce. There are therefore the following results to announce, without reference to subject or name:*

Class I = 5  
Class II.I = 8  
Class II.II = 3

---



---

Graduate results

---

## Bachelor of Civil Law

Pass Ishimaru **Sunao**


---

Bachelor of Medicine and  
Bachelor of Surgery

Pass Fiona **Britton**  
Hasneen **Karbalai**  
Matthew **Evans**  
Sarah **Billingsley**  
Vikram **Nagarajan**


---



---

Doctor of Philosophy

---

## Biochemistry

Anna **Tattermusch**


---

## Clinical Medicine

Martin **Fritzsche**


---

## Engineering Science

Hyunchae **Chun**  
Ana **Namburete**  
Xuan **Zhang**


---

## Experimental Psychology

Chii **Hiu**


---

## History

James McAuley jr

---

## International Relations

Ruben **Reike**


---

## Mathematics

Christoph **Aymanns**  
Marya **Bazzi**  
Lucas **Jeub**


---

Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics

Tallulah **Andrews**

Caroline **Woffindale**

### Master of Business Administration

Distinction Jaime **Allinson\***

Pass Adam **Mckay\***

Jessica **Lau\***

### Master of Philosophy

Geography and the Environment

Pass Shriman Sai **Raman\***

International Relations

Pass Rebecca **Kuperberg**

Social Anthropology

Distinction Shahana **Munazir**

### Master of Public Policy

Pass Abraham **Akoi\***

Ouiem **Chettaoui\***

Saumya **Krishna\***

Shalaby **Sondos\***

### Master of Science

Computer Science

Distinction Konrad **Strack**

Pass Ioannis **Zifos**

Romperto Vasileios

**Koustas**

Contemporary India

Pass Ayush **Ranjan**

Komal **Varsani**

Criminology and Criminal Justice

Pass Rosanna **Martin**

Environmental Change and Management

Pass Garima **Singh\***

Law and Finance

Pass Kritika **Agrawal**

Mathematical and Computational Finance

Pass Sichao **Zheng**

Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing

Pass Emily Susan **Kruger\***

Thomas **Gaudelet\***

Pharmacology

Pass Yusra **Shah\***

Psychological Research

Distinction Wenjia **Zhao\***

Pass Alexander **Fraser\***

Radiation Biology

Pass Yuechuan **Chi\***

Refugee and Forced Migration Studies

Pass Aine **Lambe**

Kristiana **Papi**

### Master of Studies

Creative Writing

Distinction Carolyn **Gibney\***

Margot **Mazzia\***

English

Distinction Jonathan **Gardner**

Pass Emily **Vincent**

Tomos **Evans**

Global and Imperial History

Pass Julian **Noisecat**

Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature

Distinction Hershil **Kotak**

Medieval History

Pass Kalil Jack **Copley\***

Modern Languages

Distinction Lucas **Eigel**

Rebecca **Bowen**

Valentina **Mele**

Music

Distinction Agrawal **Tanushree**

Slavonic Studies

Distinction Thomas **Reynolds**

US History

Pass Piers **Barber**

Abdelkhalek **Dhoukkar**

*All students are offered the choice, at the start of their course, of opting out of any public list that the University or College may produce. There are therefore the following results to announce, without reference to subject or name:*

Pass = 2, 1\*

This list is accurate at the time of print and some exam results may be released after this date. Graduates with an \* after their names completed in 2014/15, but their results were released after going to print, and are therefore included here.

## Awards to Undergraduate, Graduate and Postgraduate Students 2015-16

---

### Barraclough Scholarship

Christopher **Broughton** (Modern Languages)

---

### Beilby Scholarship

Susannah **Fleiss** (Biological Sciences), Elliot **Howard-Spink** (Biological Sciences), Christina **Hunt** (Biological Sciences), Fergus **Kennedy** (Biological Sciences), David **Miron** (Biological Sciences), Peter **Wellham** (Biological Sciences)

---

### Bentivoglio Scholarship

Michael **Hutcheon** (Physics), Jakob **Kastelic** (Physics), Philippa **Nicholls** (Biological Sciences), Alexandra **Romagnoli** (Mathematics)

---

### Bousfield Scholarship

Emma **Beer** (Mathematics), Helen **Ryan** (Mathematics), Harry **Travis** (Music), Dianzhi **Yu** (Mathematics and Computer Science), Ying **Zhu** (Mathematics and Computer Science)

---

### Brazell Scholarship

Eden **Harrison** (Engineering Science), Kenneth **Hughes** (Physics), Natalie **Lo** (Engineering Science), James **Pidgeon** (Physics)

---

### Bull and Bull Scholarship

Rosalie **Baxter** (English Language and Literature), Peter **Thompson** (Classical Archaeology and Ancient History)

---

### Cooper Scholarship

Peru **D'Ornellas** (Physics), Joseph **Gilfillan** (Engineering Science), Leonie **Hoffmann** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)

---

### Dukinfield Scholarship

Callum **Hall** (Chemistry), Eduardo **Rodriguez** (Physics), Andrew **Smith** (Physics)

---

### Ginsburg Scholarship

Josephine **Robinson** (Medicine)

---

### Haynes Scholarship

Rizwaan **Malik** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Louis **Mercier** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Casilda **Prado** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)

---

### Lefèvre Scholarship

Krishnan **Balla** (Mathematics), Francois **Herinckx** (Engineering Science), Prannay **Kaul** (Engineering Science), Augustus **Neate** (Engineering Science), You **Wu** (Engineering Science), Chengzhi **Zhou** (Engineering Science)

---

### Murray Scholarship

Gabriel **Asman** (Computer Science), Jamieson **Brynes** (Engineering Science), Dan-Andrei **Gheorghe** (Computer Science), Anthony **Guo** (Computer Science)

---

### Ockenden Scholarship

Cameron **Fern** (Mathematics)

---

### Scopes Scholarship

Amy **Kidd** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry)

---

### Scourse Scholarship

Magnus **Fugger** (Medical Sciences)

---

### Barraclough Exhibition

Martha **MacLaren** (History and Modern Languages)

---

### Beilby Exhibition

Connor **Jackman** (Modern Languages)

---

### Bousfield Exhibition

Robert **Kirk** (Mathematics and Computer Science)

---

### Brazell Exhibition

Richard **Brearton** (Physics), Daniel **Overin** (Medical Sciences)

---

### Bull and Bull Exhibition

Jennifer **Allan** (Ancient and Modern History), Frederick **Clamp-Gray** (Ancient and Modern History), Isabel **Ireland** (English Language and Literature), Daunish **Negargar** (English Language and Literature)

---

### College Prize

Richard **Brearton** (Physics), Alistair **Gavin** (Mathematics and Computer Science), Kenneth **Hughes** (Physics), Jakob **Kastelic** (Physics), Courtney **Marsden** (Jurisprudence), Edmund **Moss** (Engineering Science), Thomas **Richards** (Modern Languages), Eduardo **Rodriguez** (Physics), Andrew **Smith** (Physics)

---

### Cooper Exhibition

Elizabeth **Mansfield** (Physics and Philosophy)

---

---

### Ginsburg Exhibition

Rebecca **MacDuff** (Medical Sciences)

---

### Harvey Exhibition

William **Aslet** (History), Hannah **Scott** (History)

---

### Nuttall Exhibition

Shyamli **Badgaiyan** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Ursula **Gazeley** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)

---

### Scourse Exhibition

Scott **Frazer** (Medicine)

---

## Prizes and Other Awards to Undergraduates and Graduates

---

### Archibald Jackson Prizes (for Graduates with a Distinction in their exams in 2016)

Tanushree **Agrawal** (Music), Jaime **Allinson\*** (Master of Business Administration), Rebecca **Bowen** (Modern Languages), Lucas **Eigel** (Modern Languages), Jonathan **Gardner** (English), Carolyn **Gibney\*** (Creative Writing), Margot **Mazzia\*** (Creative Writing), Valentina **Mele** (Modern Languages), Shahana **Munazir** (Social Anthropology), Thomas **Reynolds** (Slavonic Studies), Konrad **Strack\*** (Computer Science), Wenjia **Zhao\*** (Psychological Research)

---

### College Prizes (for achieving a First, Distinction or average of at least 70% in all examinations other than the Final Honour School)

Jacob **Amacker** (Physics and Philosophy), William **Andrews** (History and Modern Languages), Edward **Aplin** (Classical Archaeology and Ancient History), Jonathan **Baker** (Biological Sciences), Amrit **Bal** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry), Ashley **Barnard** (Modern Languages), Krishan **Bhalla** (Mathematics), Lachlan **Black** (Chemistry), Maya **Brownlow** (History), Jamieson **Brynes** (Engineering Science), Alex **Crichton-Miller** (History and Modern Languages), Cameron **Fern** (Mathematics), Jack **Gascoigne** (History), Dan-Andrei **Gheorghe** (Computer Science), Joseph **Gilfillan** (Engineering Science), Rani **Govender** (History), Anthony **Guo** (Computer Science), Callum **Hall** (Chemistry), Benjamin **Hawkey Gilder** (Chemistry), Isobel **Hettrick** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Eva **Hilger** (Modern Languages), Adam **Hillier** (Mathematics and Computer Science), Kenneth **Hughes** (Physics), Michael **Hutcheon** (Physics), William **Jonas** (History), Jakob **Kastelic** (Physics), Prannay **Kaul** (Engineering Science), Kelvin **Lam** (Engineering Science), Angelica **Lindsey-Clark** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry), Calypso **Lord** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Horia **Magureanu** (Physics), Nuala **Marshall** (Classical Archaeology and Ancient History), James **Martindale** (Mathematics), Calum

**Mcintyre** (Medical Sciences), John **Merrington** (History), David **Miron** (Biological Sciences), Lenard Ee-Jin **Ong** (Engineering Science), James **Pidgeon** (Physics), Callum **Prentice** (Chemistry), Thomas **Richards** (Modern Languages), Eduardo **Rodriguez** (Physics), Miranda **Rogers** (Medical Sciences), Alexandra **Romagnoli** (Mathematics), Helen **Ryan** (Mathematics), Cameron **Saint** (Physics), William **Sargent** (Medicine), Jonathan **Tam** (Mathematics), Jun-An **Tan** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Daniel **Tucker** (Physics), Andrew **Tweddle** (Mathematics), Siu Ying **Wong** (Chemistry) You **Wu** (Engineering Science), Dianzhi **Yu** (Mathematics and Computer Science), Sheheryar **Zaidi** (Mathematics), Anqi **Zhuang** (Engineering Science)

---

### Mary Somerville Prizes (for achieving a First or Distinction in the Final Honour School examinations)

Elizabeth **Alderson** (History), Jennifer **Allan** (Ancient and Modern History), William **Aslet** (History), Gabriel **Asman** (Computer Science), Emma **Beer** (Mathematics), Claire **Ben-Chorin** (Classical Archaeology and Ancient History), Anna **Branford** (Modern Languages), Mathilde **Charriere** (Diploma in Legal Studies), Anna **Clark** (History) Peru **D'Ornellas** (Physics), Susannah **Fleiss** (Biological Sciences), Magnus **Fugger** (Medical Sciences), Liam **Garrison** (Chemistry), Ursula **Gazeley** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Eden **Harrison**

(Engineering Science, Francois **Herinckx** (Engineering Science), Elliot **Howard-Spink** (Biological Sciences), Christina **Hunt** (Biological Sciences), Fergus **Kennedy** (Biological Sciences), Margaux **Laclef** (Diploma in Legal Studies), Jonathan **Lawrence** (European and Middle Eastern Languages), Rebecca **MacDuff** (Medical Sciences), Elizabeth **Mansfield** (Physics and Philosophy), Charlotte **McLean** (Literae Humaniores), George **Pearson** (Chemistry), Mark **Poniatowski** (History), Andreea **Raslescu** (Experimental Psychology), Andrew **Smith** (Physics), Brigitte **Stenhouse** (Mathematics), Brigitta **Summers** (History and Modern Languages), Tsz Long **Tang** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry), Emily **Tilby** (Biological Sciences), Sasha **Ward** (History), Chengzhi **Zhou** (Engineering Science), Ying **Zhu** (Mathematics and Computer Science)

### Principal's Prizes 2016

*Principal's Prizes are awarded to those students who scored in the top 5% or better of their subject University-wide, and/or gain top marks for a dissertation or in a particular set of papers. This applies to finalists or third year students on a four year course.*

Anna **Clark** (2013)  
In top 5% of year in History  
Susannah **Fleiss** (2013)  
Third of 109 finalists in Biological Sciences  
Dan-Andrei **Gheorghe** (2013)  
G-Research Prize for the best project in Computer Science  
Joseph **Gilfillan** (2013)  
In the top 5% in his third-year Engineering Science exams

Anthony **Guo** (2013)  
Best overall performance in Computer Science  
Jonathan **Lawrence** (2012)  
Top of his year in European and Middle Eastern Languages  
Charlotte **McLean** (2012)  
Third of 115 Classics finalists; Arnold Ancient History Essay Prize  
Eduardo **Rodriguez** (2013)  
Second of 122 people in 3rd year Physics exams  
Andrew **Smith** (2012)  
Second in Physics Finals  
Brigitte **Stenhouse** (2012)  
Gibbs Prize for the best dissertation in Mathematics  
Brigitta **Summers** (2012)  
Top of year in the joint honours school of History and Modern Languages  
Tsz (Terence) **Tang** (2012)  
Top of year in Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry  
Chengzhi (Tom) **Zhou** (2012)  
Top of year in Engineering Science

### Postgraduate Awards

#### Alice Horsman Scholarship

Tanushree **Agrawal** (Music), Jennifer **Allan** (Ancient and Modern History), Shyamli **Badgaiyan** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Luke **Barratt** (Literae Humaniores), Sofia **Castello y Tickell** (Biodiversity, Conservation and Management), Liam **Garrison** (Chemistry), Ursula **Gazeley** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics), Emily **Horswell** (Psychology, Philosophy and Physiology), Sheiba **Kaufman** (*nee* Kian) (English), Fergus **Kennedy** (Biological Sciences), Alys **Key**

(English Language and Literature), Diwaker **Kishore** (Public Policy), Rebecca **MacDuff** (Medical Sciences), Rosemary **Pearce** (English Language and Literature), Brenda **Scott** (*nee* Neece) (Music), Brigitte **Stenhouse** (Mathematics), Lucy **Veys** (Physics)

### Somerville College Alumni Scholarships

Chloe **Bracegirdle** (Psychological Research), Anna **Clark** (History), Tobias **Lutzi** (Law), Hannah **Sharpe** (Biological Sciences)

### Other Somerville Awards

#### Alcuin Award

William **Aslet** (History), Martha **MacLaren** (History and Modern Languages), Georgina **Riley** (History)

#### Bentivoglio Travel Grant

Tanushree **Agrawal** (Music), Emily **Albery** (Experimental Psychology), Alice **Barron** (Music), Dillon **Liu** (Theoretical Physics), Tian **Zhang** (Atomic and Laser Physics)

#### Caedmon Award

Rosemary **Pearce** (English Language and Literature)

#### Carmen Blacker Award

Alexander **Rattee** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)

#### Carmen Blacker Travel Grant

Mark **Poniatowski** (History)

#### Cerries Hughes Prize

Rosalie **Baxter** (English Language and Literature), Daunish **Negargar** (English Language and Literature)



**Daphne Robinson Award**

Robert **Pepper** (English Language and Literature), Claudia **Swan** (Literae Humaniores)

**Helen Morton Choral Scholarship**

Carys **Miller** (English Language and Literature), Jamie **Powe** (Music)

**Joan and Don Dixon Travel Grant**

Lara **Chittick** (Modern Languages), Alexander **Rattee** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)

**Luedecke Travel Grant**

Connor **Jackman** (Modern Languages)

**Margaret Irene Seymour Music Award**

Joshua **Grubb** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry), Catrin **Haberfield** (English Language and Literature), Saffiyah **Keig-Momin** (Music)

**Rhabanus Maurus Award**

Rachel **Dickenson** (Modern Languages)

**Sarah Smithson Prize**

Anna **Branford** (Modern Languages)

**Somerville Lawyers' Group Prize**

Kate **Bolton** (Jurisprudence with Law in Europe)

## University and External awards

**Arnold Ancient History Prize**

Charlotte **McLean** (Literae Humaniores)

**Brian Bannister Prize in Organic Chemistry**

Rachel **Porter\*** (Chemistry)

**Clifford Chance Mjur Prize Proxime Accessit**

Tobias **Lutzi\*** (Magister Juris)

**Clifford Chance Prize for the Best Performance in Mjur**

Talita **de Souza Dias\*** (Magister Juris)

**David McLintock Prize in Germanic Philology**

Georgia **Tutt** (Modern Languages)

**Ensoft Prize**

Dan-Andrei **Gheorghe\*** (Computer Science)

**Gibbs Prize**

Susannah **Fleiss** (Biological Sciences),  
Chengzhi **Zhou\*** (Engineering Science)

**Gibbs Prize (Dissertation)**

Brigitte **Stenhouse** (Mathematics)

**Gibbs Prize (Part A Practical)**

Eduardo **Rodriguez\*** (Physics)

**Gibbs Prize Book Award**

Robert **Adam\*** (History),  
Anna **Clark** (History)

**Gibbs Prize for First BM Part II**

Miranda **Rogers** (Medical Sciences)

**Gibbs Prize for First BM Part II Proxime Accessit**

Magnus **Fugger\*** (Medical Sciences)

**Gibbs Prize for Performance in the MPhys Examination**

Andrew **Smith** (Physics)

**Gibbs Prize for the Best Performance in the FHS**

Tsz Long **Tang** (Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry)

**Gibbs Prize Proxime Accessit**

Uxue **Rambla Eguilaz\*** (Classical Archaeology and Ancient History)

**Gibbs Prize Proxime Accessit (Prelims)**

Kelvin **Lam** (Engineering Science)

**Gibbs Prize Proxime Accessit (Written Paper)**

Ursula **Gazeley** (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)

**G-Research Prize for the Best Project in Computer Science**

Dan-Andrei **Gheorghe** (Computer Science)

**Head of Department Prize for Excellent Performance in Examinations**

Martin **Engelcke\*** (Engineering Science)

**Hoare Prize for the Best Overall Performance in Computer Science**

Anthony **Guo** (Computer Science)

**Law Faculty Prize in International Law and Armed Conflict**

Talita **de Souza Dias\*** (Magister Juris)

---

### **Martin Wronker Prize**

William **Sargent** (Medicine)

---

### **Mechanical Engineers Best Student Certificate**

Michael **Scott\*** (Engineering Science)

---

### **Metaswitch Prize**

Robert **Kirk** (Mathematics and Computer Science)

---

### **Physics Prize**

Kenneth **Hughes** (Physics),  
Eduardo **Rodriguez** (Physics)

---

### **Physics Prize for Prelims Practical Work**

Francesco **D'Antonio** (Physics),  
Horia **Magureanu** (Physics)

---

### **Physics Prize for an MPhys Project in Atomic and Laser Physics**

Thomas **Hird** (Physics)

---

### **Senior Paget Toynbee Prize**

Valentina **Mele** (Modern Languages)

---

### **Siemens Prize for the Best Energy Engineering Exhibit**

Chengzhi **Zhou** (Engineering Science)

---

### **Slaughter and May Prize in Contract**

Xuan **Du\*** (Jurisprudence)

---

### **Sunday Telegraph STEM Award**

Fergus **Kennedy** (Biological Sciences)

---

### **WorldQuant Prize**

Ying **Zhu\*** (Mathematics and Computer Science)

---

The following awards were omitted from the 2014/15 report:

### **College Prize**

Nathan **Mattock** (Chemistry)

### **Principal's Prize**

Christopher **Derry** (Medicine)  
Fabian **Ying** (Mathematics)

---

*Awards with an \* were awarded in 2014/15 after going to print, and are therefore included here.*

*This list is accurate at the time of print and some prizes may be awarded after this date.*

---

## Students Entering College in 2015-16

### Undergraduates

#### Biological Sciences

Thomas ap **Rees**, *The Charter School*

Isobel **Dodds**, *Kingston Grammar School*

Emma **Eatough**, *Bryanston School*

Angela **Matheickal**, *North London Collegiate School*

Bryony **Perham**, *Peter Symonds College*

Alessandro **Pirzio-Biroli**, *King's College School*

Frances **Spragge**, *The Godolphin and Latymer School*

Dominique **Vassie**, *Fulford School*

#### Chemistry

Lachlan **Black**, *Oakham School, Careers Department*

Matthew **Crawford**, *Whitgift School, South Croydon*

Max **Gwilliam**, *Cranleigh School, Cranleigh*

Natasha **James**, *High School for Girls*

Benjamin **Michiels**, *The Kings of Wessex Academy*

Siu Ying **Wong**, *Brighton College*

#### Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Edward **Aplin**, *Queen Elizabeth's Hospital School*

Nuala **Marshall**, *St. Helen's School*

Mai-Britt **Tomson**, *International School of Estonia*

#### Computer Science

Ioana **Vasile**, *Coleguil National "Carol I", Rumania*

#### Diploma in Legal Studies

Mathilde **Charriere**, *Université Panthéon-Assas, Paris*

Margaux **Laclef**, *Université Panthéon-Assas, Paris*

Celestine **Renault**, *Université Panthéon-Assas, Paris*

#### Engineering Science

Denis **Koksai-Rivet**, *Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy*

Kelvin **Lam**, *Ying Wa College, Hong Kong*

Michael **Lin**, *Pate's Grammar School*

Jack **Pegg**, *Altrincham Grammar School for Boys*

Tim **Riley**, *Merchant Taylors' School, Northwood*

Peter **Whales**, *Self tutored*

Anqi **Zhuang**, *Cambridge International Centre of Shanghai Normal University*

#### English and Modern Languages

Charlotte **Kent**, *The Portsmouth Grammar School*

Niamh **Walshe**, *Manchester High School for Girls, Manchester*

#### English Language and Literature

Katharine **Asquith**, *Lancaster Girls Grammar School*

Jess **Bollands**, *Edgbarrow School*

Rosanna **Greenwood**, *Brooksbank School*

Catrin **Haberfield**, *Watford Grammar School for Girls*

Finn **McQueen**, *Isleworth and Syon School, Isleworth*

Frederick **Morgan**, *Saint Cecilia's Wandsworth C of E School*

Robert **Pepper**, *Royal Grammar School, Guildford*

Maxwell **Purkiss**, *King Edward VI Grammar School, Chelmsford*

Teresa **Rendell**, *Alley's School, Dulwich*

Jake **Solomon**, *Ilstock Place School*

Haniel **Whitmore**, *St Olave's and St Saviour's Grammar School*

#### European and Middle Eastern Languages

Olufisayo **Noibi**, *Robert Clack School, Dagenham*

#### Experimental Psychology

David **Ellis**, *Lawnswood School*

Zsolia **Palasik**, *Fazekas Mihaly Grammar School, Budapest*

Kazia **Tam**, *Chinese International School, Hong Kong*

Charlotte **Thornton**, *Canford School*

#### History

Maya **Brownlow**, *Abbey School, Reading*

Julia **Denby-Jones**, *Benenden School*

Jack **Gascoigne**, *Hampton School*

Rani **Govender**, *Clitheroe Royal Grammar School*

William **Jonas**, *The Kings of Wessex Academy (formerly School)*

Callum **Jones**, *Campion School, Hornchurch*

Shari **Landa**, *Thomas S Wootton High School, USA*

Shruthi **Manivannan**, *Sharjah English School*

John **Merrington**, *Forest School, Snaresbrook*

Ryan **O'Reilly**, *Altrincham Grammar School for Boys*

Alexandra **Philips**, *Wycombe Abbey School, High Wycombe*

Georgina **Riley**, *Sir William Borlase's Grammar School*

Olivia **Will**, *Notting Hill & Ealing High School*

---

### History and Modern Languages

William **Andrews**, *Winchester College*

Alex **Crichton-Miller**, *City of London School*

---

### Jurisprudence

Kwan Po Leanne **Chu**, *Maryknoll Convent School, Hong Kong*

Nicole **Hausdorff**, *The Godolphin and Latymer School*

Courtney **Marsden**, *St Albans High School for Girls*

Tycho **Orton**, *University of Melbourne*

Wenyi **Shen**, *Liceo Classico Statale (C. Colombo), Genoa*

Katharina **Walla**, *Malvern College*

---

### Literae Humaniores

Sophia **Cattermole**, *Cheltenham Ladies' College*

Felix **Clive**, *Hereford Cathedral School*

James **Cottam**, *Elizabeth College*  
Sowon Lee, *Groton School, USA*

Alexander **Maton**, *Bishop Wordsworth Grammar School*

Aidan **Quinlan**, *Felsted School*

---

### Mathematics

Yiru **Chen**, *Shanghai Guanghua College*

Ankur **Dodhia**, *Drayton Manor High School, Hanwell, London*

Samuel **Juniper**, *Hills Road Sixth Form College*

Robin **Leach**, *Wirral Grammar School for Boys*

James **Martindale**, *King Edward VI College, Stourbridge*

Hannah **Sowter**, *Langley Park School for Girls*

Jonathan **Tam**, *Calday Grange Grammar School*

Sheheryar **Zaidi**, *Blindern Videregaende Skole, Norway*

---

### Mathematics and Computer Science

Thomas **Dowley**, *Cheltenham College*

Adam **Hillier**, *Tiffin School*

Paul **Horvath-Bojan**, *Emil Racovita National College, Cluj-Napoca, Romania*

---

### Medical Sciences

Sanah **Ali**, *Kendrick School*

John **Henry**, *Cambridge House School, Ballymena*

Jae Young **Park**, *Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)*

Eva **Zilber**, *Moscow State School 57*

Matthew **Zimmerman**, *Bishop Ramsey C of E School (formerly Voluntary Aided)*

---

### Medicine

Audrey **Davies**, *University of Oxford*

William John **Sargent**, *University of Cambridge*

---

### Modern Languages

Ashley **Barnard**, *St Paul's Catholic College, Burgess Hill*

Eva **Hilger**, *Woodbridge School, Woodbridge*

Sophie **Jordan**, *Lycee International Des Pontonniers*

Elizabeth **Norton**, *Wycombe Abbey School, High Wycombe*

Thomas **Richards**, *Bishop Vesey's Grammar School*

Hannah **Thomson**, *St George's School, Harpenden*

Emily **Williams**, *Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr*

---

### Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

Maximilian **Bandurka**, *King's College School*

Joshua **Grubb**, *Bedales School*

Callum **Matthews**, *Radyr Comprehensive School, Cardiff*

Tianjia **Zhang**, *Guangdong Country Garden School*

---

## Music

Elizabeth **Bosson**, *Downe House School*

James **Powe**, *Highgate School*

Giordan **Price**, *St Joseph's RC High School, Newport*

---

## Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Viveka **Kjellberg-Motton**, *Sir Roger Manwood's Grammar School*

Miriam **Swallow Adler**, *Lycee Paul Sabatier*

Dov **Boonin**, *City of London School*

Samuel **Campbell**, *St Leonard's Catholic School*

Eleanor **Fielding**, *Ripon Grammar School*

Isobel **Hettrick**, *Godalming College*

Maria **Hohaus**, *Deutsche Schule Rom*

Kyungjin **Kim**, *CheongShim International Academy (CSIA)*

Calypso **Lord**, *Bishop Heber High School*

Juliette **Perry**, *Bedales School*

Edward **Stowell**, *Imberhorne School*

Jun-An **Tan**, *Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)*

---

## Physics

Jennifer **Aspden**, *The Abbey School, Reading*

Francesco **D'Antonio**, *Lancaster Royal Grammar School*

Horia **Magureanu**, *Grigore Moisil National College, Onesti*

Yuanyuan **Sun**, *Cambridge Tutors College*

Daniel **Tucker**, *Pate's Grammar School*

---

## Physics and Philosophy

Jacob **Amacker**, *Hills Road Sixth Form College*

Deqian **Jia**, *River Valley High School*

---

## Graduates

---

### Autonomous Intelligent Machines and Systems (EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training)

Kevin **Judd**, *University of Maryland, College Park*

---

### Bachelor of Civil Law

Sunao **Ishimaru**, *London School of Economics and Political Science*

---

### Biomedical Imaging (EPSRC and MRC Centre for Doctoral Training)

Vaanathi **Sundaresan**

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Atomic and Laser Physics

Tian **Zhang**, *Peking University*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry

Gemma **Seabright**, *University of Bath*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Classical Archaeology

Elizabeth **Briggs**, *University of Edinburgh*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Medicine

Young Chan **Kim**, *University of Nottingham*

Carlos **Ruiz Puig**, *Universitat de Barcelona, Spain*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Neurosciences

James **Varley**, *University of Edinburgh*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering Science

Martin **Engelcke**, *University of Oxford*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Experimental Psychology

Alexander **Fraser**, *University of Wales, Bangor*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in History

Saima Nakuti **Ashipala**, *University of Namibia*

Thomas **Nitschke**, *Albert Ludwigs Universitat Freiburg, Germany*

Frances Eileen **O'Morchoe**, *University of Edinburgh*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Inorganic Chemistry

Nijat **Hasanli**, *University College London*

Marcin **Konowalczyk**, *University of Oxford*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Law

Marcus **Moore**, *Harvard University*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics

Federico **Amadio**, *Universita degli Studi di Roma 'La Sapienza', Italy*

Yixuan **Wang**, *University of Oxford*

Zhenru **Wang**, *University of Oxford*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Zeynep **Gunes** (*née* Findikoglu), *University of Oxford*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Pathology

John **Nguyen**, *University of Oxford*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacology

Jay **Roodselaar**, *University of Maastricht, The Netherlands*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics

Daria **Svistunova**, *University of Oxford*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Sciences

Shivani **Malik**, *University of Delhi*

---

### Doctor of Philosophy in Politics

Sarah **Bufkin**, *The Queen's University of Belfast*

---

### Master of Business Administration

Xu **Chen**, *Waseda University*

Yqqtan Del Castillo Calderon

Mariko **Nakayama**, *Keio University, Japan*

Deborah **Owhin**, *Spelman College, USA*

### Master of Philosophy in Development Studies

Deepa **Kurup**, *University of Oxford*

---

### Master of Philosophy in Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature

Giulio **Leghissa**, *Universita degli Studi di Bologna, Italy*

---

### Master of Philosophy in International Relations

Benjamin **Daus-Haberle**, *Yale University*

---

### Master of Philosophy in Law

Panagiotis **Doudonis**, *University of Oxford*

Tobias **Lutzi**, *University of Cologne, Germany*

---

### Master of Public Policy

Arindam **Banerjee**, *Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai*

Satyender **Duhan**, *Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak*

Diwakar **Kishore**, *National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India*

---

### Master of Science by Research in Engineering Science

Rowan **Nicholls**, *University of Cape Town*

---

### Master of Science by Research in Inorganic Chemistry

Ting **Chen**, *Beijing University of Chemical Technology*

### Master of Science by Research in Psychiatry

Oana **Gurau**, *Jacobs University Bremen*

---

### Master of Science in Applied Statistics

Xiankai **Gao**, *University of Manchester*

Tianyue Yao, *University College London*

Tongjin **Zhang**, *University College London*

---

### Master of Science in Biodiversity, Conservation and Management

Sofia Maria Teresa Clara **Castello y Tickell**, *Brown University, USA*

---

### Master of Science in Clinical Embryology

Babatomisin **Adeniran**, *The University of Nottingham*

Sanya **Arora**, *Manipal University*

Catherine Fiona Mary **Bear**, *University College London*

Shelby **Sparby**, *Montana State University, Bozeman*

---

### Master of Science in Computer Science

Janhavi **Agrawal**

Rafael Baptista **Ochoa**, *University of Cambridge*

---

### Master of Science in Contemporary India

Puja **Gidwani**

Rumi **Pegu**, *Gauhati University, Guwahati*

---

Ayush **Ranjan**, *University of Delhi*  
Komal **Varsani**, *University of Westminster*

---

### **Master of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice**

Toufiq Abdul **Aziz**, *University of Cape Coast, Ghana*  
Rosanna **Martin**, *Cardiff University*

---

### **Master of Science in Law and Finance**

Kritika **Agrawal**, *National Law Institute University, Bhopal*

---

### **Master of Science in Mathematical and Computational Finance**

Sichao **Zheng**, *Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine*

---

### **Master of Science in Mathematical Modelling and Scientific Computing**

Christopher **D'Arcy**, *University of Edinburgh*

---

### **Master of Science in Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science**

Yibei Li, *University of Durham*  
Anshumali **Nilesh**, *London School of Economics and Political Science*  
Markus **Schepers**, *Universitat Kaiserslautern, Germany*

---

### **Master of Science in Pharmacology**

Anusha **Pasumarthi**, *University of California, San Diego*

### **Master of Science in Psychological Research**

Chloe **Bracegirdle**, *University College London*

Gregory **Simmonds**, *University of Southampton*

---

### **Master of Science in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies**

Aine **Lambe**, *University College Dublin*  
Kristiana **Papi**, *University of St Andrews*

---

### **Master of Science in Social Science of the Internet**

Saumya **Krishna**, *University of Western Ontario*

---

### **Master of Studies in Creative Writing**

Julien **Clin**, *Eberhard Karls Universitat Tübingen, Germany*  
Nicholas **Robello**, *Arizona State University*

---

### **Master of Studies in English**

Tomos Evans, *University of Bristol*  
Jonathan **Gardner**, *University of Oxford*  
Emily **Vincent**, *University of Warwick*

---

### **Master of Studies in General Linguistics and Comparative Philology**

Mateusz **Tworzewski**, *University of Warsaw, Poland*

### **Master of Studies in Global and Imperial History**

Julian **NoiseCat**, *Columbia University*

---

### **Master of Studies in Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature**

Hershil **Kotak**, *University of Exeter*

---

### **Master of Studies in Modern Languages**

Rebecca **Bowen**, *University of Edinburgh*  
Lucas **Eigel**, *University of Cologne, Germany*  
Valentina **Mele**, *Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy*

---

### **Master of Studies in Music**

Tanushree **Agrawal**, *University of Pennsylvania*

---

### **Master of Studies in Slavonic Studies**

Thomas **Reynolds**, *University of Oxford*

---

### **Master of Studies in US History**

Piers **Barber**, *University of Edinburgh*

---

### **Postgraduate Certificate in Diplomatic Studies**

Tasmin **Akbar**, *London School of Economics and Political Science*  
Abdelkhalek **Dhoukhar**



---

# Somerville Association Officers and Committee, as at 19 March 2016

---

## President

---

### **Susan Scholefield (Classics, 1973), CMG, elected 9 March 2013**

[susanscholefield@btinternet.com](mailto:susanscholefield@btinternet.com)

Susan joined the Civil Service in 1981 and worked in a fascinating range of departments, finally as Director General for Human Resources and Corporate Services for the Ministry of Defence. From 2012 to 2014 she was School Secretary at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She is a magistrate.

---



*Susan Scholefield*

## Joint Secretaries

---

### **Elizabeth Cooke (Greenwood, History, 1964)**

01865 270632 or

Home tel. 01608 683346;

[elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk)

Practised at the Bar for 10 years; has worked for Somerville since 1987. Lives in North Oxfordshire.

---

### **Lisa Gygax (PPE, 1987)**

Tel. 01865 270632;

[lisa.gygax@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lisa.gygax@some.ox.ac.uk)

---



*Lisa Gygax*

## Committee Members

---

### **Nick Cooper (Psychology and Philosophy, 2008)**

[nicholas.cooper@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nicholas.cooper@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

Nick is doing graduate work in Psychology at St John's College, Oxford.

---

### **Richard Forrest (Classics & Modern Languages, 1994)**

[rich.forrest](mailto:rich.forrest@pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk)

[@pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk](mailto:rich.forrest@pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk)

Richard works for an offshoot of the Department for Work & Pensions. An alumnus of the first mixed year at Somerville, he lives in London and Oxford with his wife Emily (née Freedland, 1994).

---

### **Ben Pilgrim (English, 2006)**

[bjmpilgrim@gmail.com](mailto:bjmpilgrim@gmail.com)

Ben works for the advertising agency AKA, where his main client is the Royal Opera House. When at Somerville he was President of the JCR.

---

---

**Dr Natasha Robinson  
(Physiology, 1972)**

Natasha is a Consultant Anaesthetist and Associate Director at Northampton General Hospital. Her mother and her daughter were also at Somerville and her father taught Physics here for many years.

---

**Ms Virginia Ross  
(MCR, 1966)**

alchemy@dircon.co.uk

Retired as Head of Finance & Administration, Undergraduate Admissions Office, University of Oxford.

---

**Ms Beth Seaman  
(Physiology & Psychology, 2004)**

beth.seaman@gmail.com

Beth qualified as a chartered accountant with PricewaterhouseCoopers and is now Commercial Finance Manager at Arcadia Group. She was JCR Secretary while at Somerville.

---

**Ms Lorna Sutton  
(History, 2010)**

Lorna is living in London and has been doing an internship at the Institute for Government, an independent think tank, working alongside two other Somervillians.

---

**Mrs Karen Twining Fooks  
(Twining, English, 1978)**

ktf@karentf.com

Karen is an International Development consultant, working with International NGOs, with a focus on Africa. She also manages Alumni groups for Oxfam, ActionAid and others.

---

**Mrs Frances Walsh  
(Innes, History, 1956)**

Frances.walsh@hmc.ox.ac.uk

Frances is a retired History Tutor and Emeritus Fellow, Harris Manchester College, Oxford.

---

---

Fellows Appointed by  
the College

---

**Dr Benjamin Thompson  
(Fellow and Tutor in  
Medieval History)**

benjamin.thompson@some.ox.ac.uk

His mother is a Somervillian (Joy née Taylor, 1951). Dean 2001-4. He sings and is involved in College music, and co-ordinates the annual College Commemoration Service.

---

**Professor Fiona Stafford  
(Fellow and Tutor in English)**

fiona.stafford@some.ox.ac.uk

There is a photograph and profile of Fiona on page 9 of the Somerville Magazine 2010.

---

**Professor Luke Pitcher  
(Fellow and Tutor in  
Classics)**

luke.pitcher@some.ox.ac.uk

---

*The Committee is currently working to set up a system of year representatives, two or three people per matric year, whose 'duties' will not be onerous. The role will suit anyone interested in strengthening their links with their contemporaries and with the College. If you are interested in volunteering, or in hearing more about this, please contact [elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk) or [lisa.gygax@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:lisa.gygax@some.ox.ac.uk)*

---

# Somerville Development Board

---

---

## **Clara Freeman OBE (Jones, History, 1971), Chair**

Former Executive Director of Stores and Personnel, Marks & Spencer; deputy Chairman of the University of the Arts, London; Honorary Fellow

---

## **Hilary Newiss (PPP, 1974), Deputy Chair**

Lawyer; former Head of Intellectual Property, Denton Hall

---

## **Basma Alireza (PPE, 1991)**

Director and Company Secretary, Blossom Mother & Child Ltd

---

## **Tom Bolt**

Managing Director, Berkshire Hathaway Group

---

## **Ayla Busch (PPE, 1989)**

Managing Director and owner, Busch Holding GmbH

---

## **Lynn Haight (Schofield, Classics, 1966)**

Chief Operating Officer, Forester Health Ltd (Toronto, Canada)

---

## **Niels Kroninger (Philosophy & Mod. Lang., 1996)**

Barclays Capital Professor of Applied Finance (European University at St Petersburg) and Chairman, AEF Renewables plc

---

## **Nicola Ralston (Thomas, History, 1974)**

Director and Co-Founder, PiRho Investment Consulting; Non-Executive Director; Honorary Fellow

---

## **Sybella Stanley (Ancient & Modern History, 1979)**

Director of Corporate Finance, Reed Elsevier Group Ltd

---

## **Sian Thomas Marshall (Biology, 1989)**

Former Brand Manager at Proctor & Gamble and Account Director at Saatchi & Saatchi

---

## **Dr Alice Prochaska, Principal of Somerville**

---

## Honorary Development Board Members

---

### **Harriet Maunsell OBE (Dawes, PPE, 1962; Honorary Fellow)**

---

### **Doreen Boyce (Vaughan, PPE, 1953; Honorary Fellow)**

---

### **Paddy Crossley (Earnshaw, Chemistry, 1956)**

---

### **Margaret Kenyon (Parry, Modern Languages, 1959; Honorary Fellow)**

---

### **Nadine Majaro (PPE, 1975)**

---

### **Roger Pilgrim**

---

# Events Programme 2016-17

Events are in College unless otherwise stated

## 2016

<b>10 October</b>	London Group at the Oxford & Cambridge Club : US election
<b>17 October</b>	Public Policy Network launch at Oxford & Cambridge Club
<b>29 October</b>	Reunion Lunch for 1981-2
<b>2 November</b>	Private View : Patrice Moor, Artist in Residence
<b>3 November</b>	City Group : Evening with Hussein Chalayan, in Mayfair
<b>7 November</b>	City Group : Fiona Wolf, at the Leadenhall Building
<b>12 November</b>	Literary Lunch : Frances Hardinge (Costa Book of the Year)
<b>12 November</b>	Reunion Lunch for 1996 (20th anniversary)
<b>17 November</b>	Cornelia Sorabji Celebration, India House, London
<b>18 November</b>	Dinner for Matrics 2008-2013 at the Oxford & Cambridge Club
<b>1 December</b>	Carol Concert

## 2017

<b>4 February</b>	Supporters' Lunch
<b>11 March</b>	Winter Meeting and Parents' Lunch
<b>20 May</b>	Legacy Lunch
<b>10 June</b>	Commemoration Service
<b>24-25 June</b>	Gaudy for Matric Years 2007-2013 (Principal's Farewell Gaudy)

**Details of some of these events are already on the College website ([www.some.ox.ac.uk/alumni/](http://www.some.ox.ac.uk/alumni/)). Further details will be supplied in due course and any enquires should be directed in the first place to Liz Cooke at Somerville (tel. 01865 270632, email [elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk))**

The **Somerville London Group** holds regular events in London and these are usually advertised by email; if you would like to be included in this email circulation, or if you are interested in helping to organise events in London, please contact Liz Cooke [elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:elizabeth.cooke@some.ox.ac.uk)





Somerville College  
Oxford OX2 6HD  
Telephone 01865 270600  
[www.some.ox.ac.uk](http://www.some.ox.ac.uk)