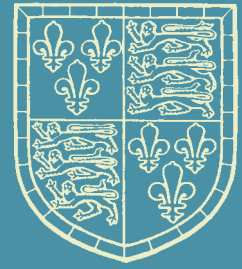


pieces

Christ's College Newsletter

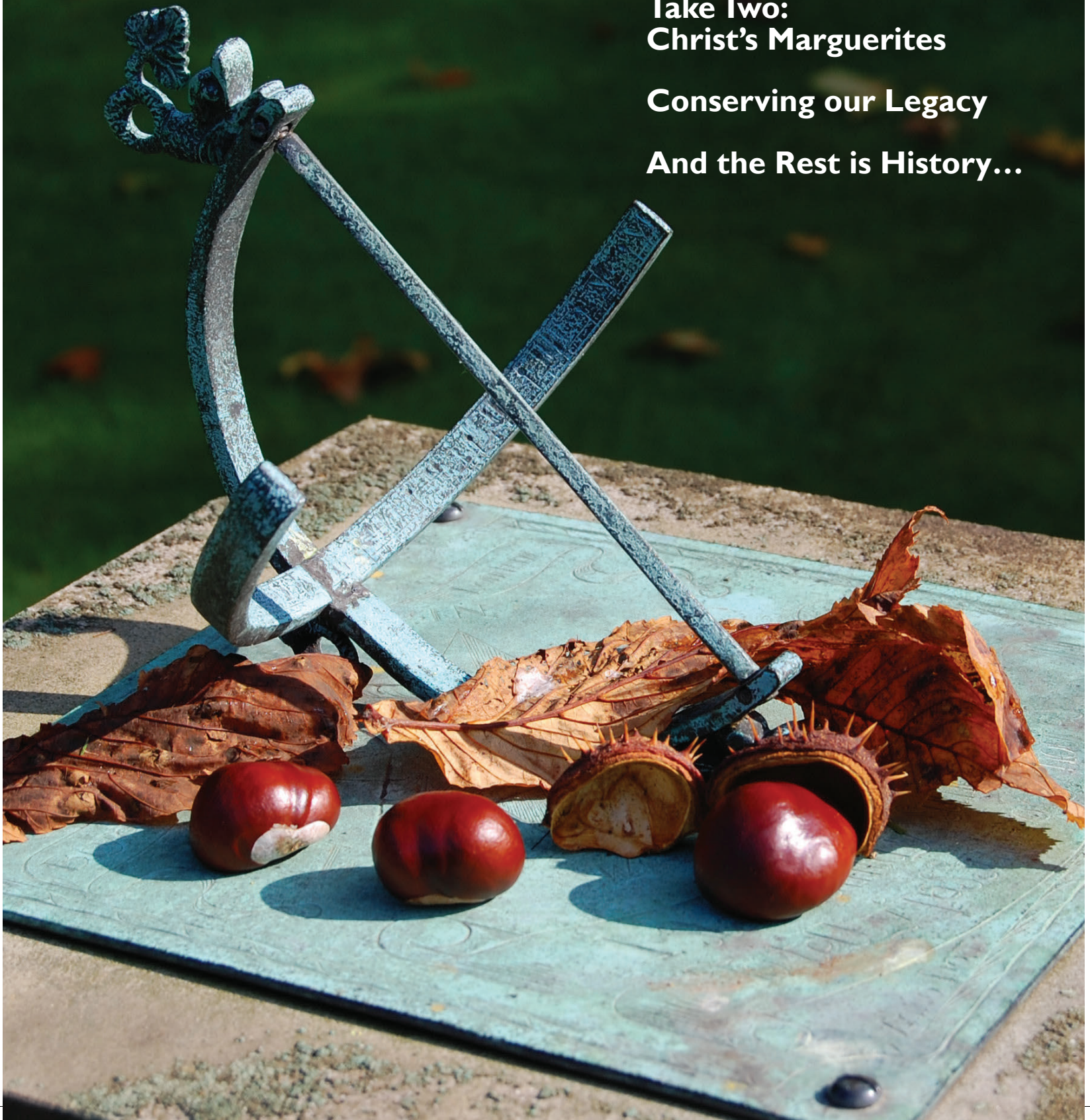


Issue 28 Michaelmas Term 2014

**Take Two:
Christ's Marguerites**

Conserving our Legacy

And the Rest is History...





From the Master

Welcome to this issue of Pieces.

After an eventful but refreshing summer, we are delighted that a new academic year has begun and the College is bustling with students, both new and returning, once more.

In this edition we take a look at the various successes of our Fellows and students over the past few months and look back over some of the recent events that have taken place in College.

Many of you will have watched Professor David Reynolds' new series on BBC2, the final episode of which was broadcast on October 8, and which deals with the legacy of the First World War. We take a look behind the making of the series through the eyes of producer and director, and alumnus of Christ's, Russell Barnes (m. 1987) who has worked with David for many years. An interview with Russell can be found on pages 8 and 9.

We also have a chance to reflect on the changes that have happened within College in Take Two (pages 9–10) where alumnus Leslie Quie (m. 1952) and current student Lawrence Clare (m. 2012) talk about their experiences of being a member of the Marguerites Club.

I hope you enjoy this edition.

Professor Frank Kelly CBE FRS

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Fellows' News

Professor Margaret Stanley, a Fellow of Christ's since 1991, has been elected to an Honorary Fellowship of the College. Professor Stanley is well known to many generations of students, particularly from her time as a Tutor. She is Professor of Epithelial Biology and Director of Research in the Department of Pathology and an Honorary Consultant at Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge. Professor Stanley's research focussed on how the body defends itself against HPV (human papillomavirus), the cause of cervical cancer in women, and how to develop vaccines that prevent HPV infection as well as those that might treat it. She is a consultant for the three companies that market HPV vaccines and for small biotech companies developing therapeutic vaccines. She was a member of the WHO Ad hoc Expert Group 2013: Consultation on Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccines Schedules that prepared the Report on reduced dosage schedules for SAGE consideration. She is a member of the WHO group for Development and Evaluation of Second Generation HPV Vaccines and in 2004 was awarded the OBE for services to Virology.

Professor Martin Johnson (m. 1963 and Fellow) and **Dr Mike Lynch** (m. 1983, Lady Margaret Beaufort Fellow) have been elected Fellows of the Royal Society. Professor Johnson has also been made an Honorary Member of the Physiological Society in recognition of his distinguished career in reproductive physiology. In addition he has been given Honorary Membership of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility.

Professor Sanjeev Goyal (Fellow) has become Chair of the Faculty of Economics, with effect from 1 October. He joins a large number of Christ's Fellows who are currently running departments and faculties, including **Professor Jim Secord** (Department of History and Philosophy of Science), **Professor David Reynolds** (Faculty of History) and **Professor Mike Edwardson** (Department of Pharmacology).

Honorary Fellow **Professor Sir Keith Peters** has been recognised for his contribution to medical research and teaching in the University of Cambridge with the naming of a laboratory after him at the University Technical College. Sir Keith was a Fellow of Christ's from 1987 to 2005 and was elected an Honorary Fellow in 2005.

Congratulations to **Professor Ash Amin** (Fellow) who has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Uppsala University in Sweden for contributions to Social Science.

Dr Yusuf Hamied (m. 1954 and Honorary Fellow) has been awarded an Honorary Degree by the University of Cambridge in a ceremony held in the Senate House on 18 June. In October he was given a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Economic Times in Mumbai.



Professor Stephen Blyth (m. 1985 and Lady Margaret Beaufort Fellow) has been appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Harvard Management Company (HMC) at Harvard University. HMC manages Harvard's endowment and related financial assets, seeking strong investment returns to advance the University's academic mission. Professor Blyth is also a Professor of the Practice of Statistics in Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Dr Mary Redmond (Honorary Fellow) has been awarded an Honorary Degree by Trinity College, Dublin. She is a leading lawyer in Irish Employment Law and has also become known for her social entrepreneurship, establishing the Irish Hospice Foundation and The Wheel, a support and representative body connecting communities and charities across Ireland.



By permission of Trinity College Dublin.



Professor David Reynolds' new series 'The Long Shadow' was shown on BBC2 this autumn. The series traced the legacy of the Great War and how it shaped the history that followed. An

article about Professor Reynolds' work on the series and his collaboration with the producer, **Russell Barnes** (Christ's m. 1987) can be found on pages 8 and 9.

Professor John Wilson (Life Fellow) has been appointed to the prestigious position of Leibniz Professor at Leipzig University for the period from October 2014 to March 2015.

The Leibniz Professorship Programme is intended to bring renowned senior scholars from all subjects to Leipzig University for six months, to enrich and stimulate interdisciplinary exchange of ideas among students and young scholars. Professor Wilson will continue collaborative research with mathematicians in Leipzig and also hopes to explore the role of mathematics in a wider cultural context, beginning with an inaugural lecture connecting mathematics, music and 20th century German literature.

Dr Mauro Overend (Fellow) has been appointed visiting Professor for 2014 at the Steel Structures Laboratory (ICOM) at EPFL (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne), Switzerland.

On 6 June at a ceremony held in the Old Combination Room, Trinity College, the French Ambassador presented **Dr Cecil Courtney** (Life Fellow) with the insignia of Officer in the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. This is an award made by the French Government in recognition of contributions to French culture in the broadest sense (literature, music and arts) and for Dr Courtney it is a promotion from the rank of Chevalier to which he was admitted in the same Order some twelve years ago.



Dr Cecil Courtney (right).

Telling Tales about Richard Whiteley

Jonathan Sale (m. 1962)

"Dear Boswell," began the last email that Richard Whiteley (m. 1962) sent me. This was not because the presenter of Countdown had forgotten my name; we had after all shared three years at Christ's (spent mainly on the premises of *Varsity*) and a further fifteen months in our first London flat. It was because I referred to myself as James Boswell and to him as Dr Johnson when I chronicled the early part of his life for my interview series in *The Independent*. Richard was one of the well-known and interesting people who passed on to me their memories of school and university and these now form the basis of my new book, *Telling Tales out of School* (Robson Press, £18.99).

Although Richard is only one of the 250 interviewees featured in the book, his recollections pop up throughout; they range from putting one girl's dolly down the loo at his kindergarten in order to ingratiate himself with another little girl, to his advice on which student activities would lead to an interesting career. Work did not come high on that list. After his widely mourned death in 2005, I did further Boswell-style chronicling of Richard by contributing to his biography. In my research I discovered an appalling fact that our tutor had been too polite to mention to us: Richard and I were the only Christ's



students reading English who achieved Third-class degrees every year. (I thought everyone got Thirds, unless they got Firsts and became professors.)

When I interviewed him, Richard told me of a newspaper headline he had just seen to the effect that the leader of the pack in terms of Firsts achieved by its students was Christ's, "the college of Milton, Darwin – and Richard Whiteley".

"Milton and Darwin," he said reflectively. "Did they get Thirds too?"



Alumni and College News

Graduate student **Stephen Harrison (m. 2005)** recently won the opportunity to have a film made about part of his PhD research on Alexander the Great and Persia. The film was one of five 'shorts' which were premiered at the Arts Picturehouse on Monday 20 October.

In June, General Ban Ki-Moon announced that **Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid al-Hussein (m. 1987)** was to become the United Nation's next High Commissioner for Human Rights. Prince Zeid has been a strong advocator of international justice and is a former UN peacekeeper.

Professor Jacob Israelachvili (m. 1965) has received the Tribology Gold Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the field and the understanding of its molecular origins and tribological processes.

2014 proved another very successful year for the Christ's **May Ball** which received wonderful reviews. One such review came from *Varsity* and described Christ's Emerald city themed ball as "close to perfection". The article's author went on to say that "Christ's was, by some distance, the best May Ball I've been to in my three years at Cambridge". Congratulations to the 2014 May Ball committee who made it a very memorable and enjoyable event!



The Faculty of Mathematics has awarded prizes to two graduate students at Christ's: **Catherine Cutts (m. 2012)** for her essay 'Measuring Correlations in Neuronal Spike Trains' and to **Dejan Gajic (m. 2011)** for his essay 'Linear Waves on Spherically Symmetric Spacetimes with a Constant Area Radius'.

The George Spyrou Scholarship has been established by the generosity of family and friends of the late **George Spyrou (m. 1971)** and offers a scholarship to an exceptional student reading for the LLM. The first award holder was **Colm Kelly (m. 2013)** who has now been awarded his LLM and the new award holder is **Domenik Vogt (m. 2014)** who graduated with distinction from the Vienna University of Economics and Business with an LLB in Business Law and has also completed an LLM in Business Law there.

In June the first of a series of three workshops on the history and culture of UK IVF was held at Christ's College organised by **Fellows Professor Sarah Franklin** and **Professor Martin Johnson**. At this event many of the key figures involved in the research leading up to human IVF were joined by an interdisciplinary group of scholars from the arts, humanities and social sciences as part of a research project funded by the Wellcome Trust, the British Academy and the Economic and Social Research Council.

Holly Giles (m. 2014) has been awarded 1st Prize in the Ford Prize for Women in STEM Study competition. She was awarded the prize for the work she has done to inspire young people in STEM. These included a science blog (www.myscielog.wordpress.com), interviews she has given on the radio, and the work she did in school to mentor other girls and in setting up the school science forum.



Pumpkin competition

The much-anticipated annual pumpkin carving competition took place again this year on 30 October, with pumpkins of all shapes and sizes encircling the lawn in First Court. After deliberating over the merits of each entry, the judges gave First prize to 2nd year student **Celia Dyson**, Second prize to **Chris Austin**, Assistant Accountant and Third prize to former Porter **Robin Walter**. Congratulations to the prize winners!



Blyth Building

As reported in the Lent Term edition of pieces, W building has now been re-named The Blyth Building and we were delighted to welcome **Professor Stephen Blyth** and his family back to College on 7 June for a formal naming ceremony.

Many of Professor Blyth's friends from his time as an undergraduate at Christ's also attended.



Christ's College Alumni Golf Society

The Christ's College Alumni Golf Society has been formed this year, and the inaugural match against Fitzwilliam Golf Society took place in early October at Mid-Herts Golf Club. It was a very successful day, and in a match played in a very friendly atmosphere Christ's won 3-1. Old friendships were renewed and there is great enthusiasm to grow the Society.

To date 30 members of the College have indicated their interest, and we would like to expand the number expressing a wish to play in future matches. The prime objective is to play friendly golf in a convivial atmosphere.

We would welcome all Alumni and any other members of the Christ's family to join us. If this concept appeals please get in touch with John Sefton (m. 1958) at john.sefton142@btinternet.com.

There are currently three matches arranged for 2015 :

May 15	St John's College at Berkhamstead G C
June 1	St Peter's College, Oxford at Royal Mid Surrey G C
August 6	Fitzwilliam College at Denham G C

Matriculation Photograph Database

If you'd like to look back at your year group photo (or indeed other years!), we have now created an online database of matriculation photographs, ranging from present to 1943.

To access them, simply log in to our online community and visit: <https://alumni.christs.cam.ac.uk/matriculation-photographs> Once logged in you will have access to the photos and our directory of old members, amongst all of the other great features of our website.

Sport

Swimming

The annual Cambridge Colleges Cuppers swimming gala took place on Sunday 4 May. The Christ's men's and women's teams both put in excellent performances. Adam Kuo, Pippa Ball and Grace McGregor all reached their individual finals and Adam went on to win the 100m frontcrawl. In the end, Christ's came runners up with a total of 120 points, only one point behind St Catherine's College, who were the defending champions.

Boat Club

A great day was had by all at the second Blades Regatta and Dinner on 20 September. A day of races down at the river culminated in the Blades Villis races where Ali G, crewed by rowers from the crew of 1978, beat Lord Todd, a composite crew of 1980s rowers and their sons. After a wonderful dinner in Hall the current Chair of the Boat Club Steering Committee, Tom Swallow, made the exciting announcement that the College Council has agreed to match, pound for pound, up to £350,000 of new donations made to the boathouse redevelopment project in order to enable construction to start as soon as possible and to benefit our current rowers.

You can find out more about the boathouse redevelopment and support it at: <http://bit.ly/ccbcboathouse>

In other news, one of Christ's Novice Women, Annarie Rossouw, pulled the fastest Novice Women's erg time of Queens' Ergs at 1:37.8, beating lots of men in the process!

Choir

Christ's Choir Tour to Canada

This summer saw the choir undertake a three-week tour to Canada. The choir gave a series of concerts and provided music for worship in a number of venues in Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa, Brookville Kingston, Brampton, St Catherine's and Toronto.



The Choir enjoying a drinks reception with the Cambridge Society of Ottawa [photo by Dick Peacocke (m. 1964)].

Conserving our Legacy

French Book of Hours from the Diocese of Nantes, Brittany (ca. 1430–1440)

For more than 500 years, the Old Library's precious collections of early-printed books and manuscripts have helped to inspire and mould some of the greatest minds that have ever lived. The College is committed to ensuring their long-term preservation and conservation so we were delighted to receive a generous gift of £2,000 to enable us to conserve a French Book of Hours written in the Diocese of Nantes, Brittany, ca. 1430–1440. One of the most visually-stunning items in the College's collections, this beautiful manuscript on parchment contains 16 lavish full-page miniatures.

Written in ink on parchment and extensively decorated and illuminated throughout, this manuscript had suffered considerably from being rebound in the early nineteenth century. Heavy-handed use of the backing hammer had caused the spine folds to become crushed whilst the thick layer of hide glue on the spine had made the structure inflexible. The spine and sewing supports had split just over half-way through the text-block as a result of the book being forced to open. Other issues included the staining of some leaves due to the hide glue applied to the spine, and earlier, unsympathetic repairs to holes in the parchment had reduced the flexibility of the leaves.

The work on the manuscript was carried out by a professional conservator with a great deal of experience in this type of

project. To begin with, the manuscript was dis-bound and the spine cleaned of hide glue. While the backs of the sections were still slightly damp, the sewing threads and supports were removed and the sections gently eased apart. The leaves were repaired and reassembled into sections and then the sections were weighted between boards for several weeks before the book was re-sewn on double linen cords.

Endbands of blue linen thread over linen cord cores were worked at the head and tail of the spine and the slips of the sewing supports and endband cores were laced into new boards. The book was covered with red goatskin adhered using a purified wheat-starch paste and was tied up to create distinct cord lines along the bands. Saddle-stitches of braided blue linen thread were used to connect the spine-covering to the endbands before the goatskin joints were glued down and the boards filled in with thin archival Heritage mount board.

Finally, a made-to-measure drop-spine box was constructed of millboard and navy blue archival buckram to house the conserved and rebound manuscript in storage.

The result is stunning and we are extremely pleased to have been able to restore this manuscript so successfully.

If you would like to know more about the Sponsor a Book scheme or would like to become a Friend of the Old Library then please contact Sarah Proudfoot, Alumni Officer at alumni@christs.cam.ac.uk or on 01223 761 769. Further information can also be found at <http://www.christs.cam.ac.uk/sponsor-a-book>





And the rest is history...

Russell Barnes (m. 1987) read History at Christ's and is now an award-winning television producer and director. He has made documentaries about a wide range of historical subjects including the British Empire, the First and Second World Wars and the development of the World Wide Web. In 2011, he started his own production company, ClearStory Ltd.

During his career, Russell has worked with a number of well-known presenters, among them evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins and journalist and agony aunt Mariella Frostrup, but one of the most influential and long-standing of his professional relationships has been with the eminent historian, Chairman of the Faculty of History at Cambridge University and Fellow of Christ's, Professor David Reynolds. Together the pair have written and produced nearly fifteen hours of programming for television since their first joint venture in 2004. Their most recent three-part series, *Long Shadow*, presented by David Reynolds and based on his prize-winning book of the same name, explores the legacy of the Great War and was recently broadcast on BBC2 to rave reviews.

Here Russell talks to us about his career, how his time at College shaped it and the joys of working with David over the years.

I came up to Christ's in 1987 to read History. I really enjoyed my time at College. I joined the swimming and water polo clubs, and also became a member of CADs (Christ's Amateur Dramatics Society). I realised, however, pretty quickly that I had little or no talent for acting! So I got more involved in writing and behind-the-scenes production.

While in my third year at Christ's, I also did some radio work for the weekly student programme on local station CNFM (now Radio Cambridgeshire). I had been lucky enough to learn how to cut radio shows at school and so I recorded and edited some pieces about politics and university life. David Reynolds was Director of Studies in my first year and took my tutorials in American history. This was in the late 1980s when a series of movies about the Vietnam War was released – films like *Platoon*, *Good Morning, Vietnam* and *Full Metal Jacket*. I loved sneaking off to the Arts cinema in the afternoon and would watch films like that and then find myself learning all about the Cold War, about Kennedy, Johnson and why America got embroiled in Vietnam during tutorials with David the next day. That course made history very relevant and poignant. David had an infectious enthusiasm for the subject and an extraordinary ability to give a sense of context to relatively recent events and bring them to life. After Christ's, I did a year of post-graduate studies in International Relations in Bologna, Italy. Following that, my dabbling in student radio stood me in good stead for my first job which was as a subtitler for the hard of hearing on what was then the *Nine o' Clock News*. After the 1992 general election, I'd had enough of subtitling and became a jobbing researcher on programmes such as the youth show *The Word*, a docu-soap about a safari park called *Lion Country* and Channel 4's *Right to Reply*. It was a real range and great experience.

Yet I always wanted to get back to history and, when I moved up to directing documentaries in the late 1990s, I held out for work on history programmes. It didn't always go well. I tried to

reconstruct life in the year 1000 on a shoestring budget for Channel 4 for Millennium night. The end result looked a bit like *Asterix* without the laughs. Luckily very few people caught that because they were out celebrating! More successful was a film called *How the Victorians Wired the World*, which compared the spread of the telegraph system in the 1840s with the explosion of what was then, in 2001, the fairly new technology of the World Wide Web.

It was around this time that I started working with David Reynolds again. I was producing a rather ambitious pilot for Discovery Channel in which we were attempting to digitally recreate Adolf Hitler and re-stage unseen moments of his career; in this case the Stauffenberg bomb plot. I asked David if he'd act as historical consultant on the programme, checking the accuracy of the events we were trying to depict. Everything worked well except for one crucial thing – computer graphics in 2003 really weren't up to the job of creating a lifelike face of a well-known historic figure and getting them to be blown up. I think even Steven Spielberg with millions of dollars would have struggled. So *Virtual History* didn't work out, but David and I were back in touch and we started discussing other potential collaborations. David was finishing *In Command of History*, his book about the writing of Winston Churchill's war memoirs and we decided to pitch a documentary tracing the war leader's life after the Second World War to the BBC. As David puts it in the film: "If you've saved your country, and arguably saved the world, what do you do for an encore?" *Churchill's Forgotten Years* was broadcast in 2004 and, since then, David and I have gone on to make films about both world wars, Clement Attlee, Neville Chamberlain, JFK, Richard Nixon and Josef Stalin to name but a few! Many of the films have been distributed across the world, in Australia, Latin America, throughout Europe and we have a loyal following in the Baltics! David and I are now in production on a new documentary about US President Franklin Roosevelt at the end of the Second World War – how he tried to shape a peace that he would not live to see.

It's fantastic working with David. From years of experience lecturing and teaching, he understands almost intuitively, I think, what has impact for an audience and how to make sense of the big picture. But he also has a tremendous feel for detail and funny anecdotes that can really bring great leaders from the past to life as real human beings for an audience. Unlike some other presenters, David is very aware of the audience – he understands that what he's presenting is not like a book, it has a different purpose, to engage a wider audience, and he pitches the material accordingly. Our process for making a film usually starts with us deciding the narrative arc – usually around ten key points or anecdotes that we think are vital to the story we want to tell. I tend to come up to Christ's and discuss these with David. It's rather like a tutorial from student days, although it usually also involves lunch and coffee in the Fellows' Parlour, which makes the whole thing more relaxed!

Then, during production, we write a script. I've calculated that there are, on average, around thirty iterations of the script during production as we keep revising and whittling it down through filming and up to the final voiceover recording. I sometimes joke that making a history programme is like an extended essay crisis.



I'm just thankful that today we have access to laptops, which I didn't have as a student!

Ultimately, I feel privileged to be a Christ's alumnus working with a Christ's academic and producing films together that hopefully engage more people with the subject we're passionate about. *Long Shadow* was first broadcast on BBC2 on 24 September 2014, with the subsequent episodes shown on 1 and 8 October 2014.

David and Russell's next documentary, about Franklin Roosevelt, is due to be broadcast by the BBC in spring 2015.



Take Two: Christ's Marguerites



The Marguerites Club is the Christ's College Men's Sporting Society, established in 1899 to uphold the sporting excellence of Christ's College. The Club was described in the 1908 issue of the College Magazine: "The Marguerites have been the premier club of the College in the past, and claim to represent something more than mere athletic distinction."

*With 60 years separating their time at College, **Leslie Quie** and **Lawrence Clare** share their experiences of being a member of the Marguerites Club, and of Christ's more generally, taking a look at what has changed over the years.*

Leslie Quie m. 1952 read architecture at Christ's, which led him onto a career as an architect and developer. During his time at College he won a Blue in boxing in the Michaelmas term of 1953. He was a proud member of the Marguerites Club and at a dinner in 2005, Leslie was awarded a Lifetime Boxing Achievement Award by the Cambridge University Amateur Boxing Club (CUABC).

Leslie says:

I was a boxing Blue at College in the early 50s and was a member of the Marguerites Club. At that time Dr Pratt was Senior Tutor and he was a very keen sportsman himself. It was often remarked that during those years there were more Blues at Christ's than at any other Cambridge college and our achievements were always a source of much pride to us.

During my time in College you were allowed to "live in" for a year, but I managed to live in College in my second year as well. My room (W20) was in what is now the Blyth Building and when I moved into it in 1952 it was a brand new building. Not only were the College buildings different in my time, but the way of life was also dramatically different. All gates were locked at 11pm and any visitors had to leave by 5pm or at dusk in the winter. It didn't stop us enjoying ourselves though, providing you knew the best places to jump over the College wall in the early hours!

The Marguerites Club was very small during my time at College, and of course the student population itself was much



smaller; with only around 250 students in all. We didn't have such a strong contingent as the club has today and there were no club dinners or garden parties then. Of course, we were still living under rationing and all students who were living in College were required to hand in their ration books at the beginning of the year. We did have regular committee meetings and nights out at local pubs though, and on those occasions, we didn't have to run the gauntlet of climbing the wall back into College as Dr Pratt would leave his back gate, leading on from Hobson Street, open for us sportsmen to sneak back through after hours!

I am still proud to be a Marguerite after all these years and I thoroughly enjoy returning to College for the Marguerites

dinners. It is very special to be invited to these and to mix with the current student members of the club. At a recent dinner, I was asked by one fellow alumnus, Graeme Cade (m. 2008), why I wasn't wearing my Marguerites blazer. I replied that we only had a tie in my day. A number of weeks later I received a package in the post from Graeme and inside was my very own Marguerites blazer that to my astonishment, fitted perfectly! It really was one of the most generous and touching things anyone's done for me in years and it is a tribute to the bond that College provides those who come here and to the Marguerites in particular.



Leslie pictured in the back row, third from the left.



Lawrence giving his speech from a tree at this year's Marguerite's breakfast.

Lawrence Clare m. 2012 is reading *History at Christ's* and is a current member of the Marguerites Club. He is in the Men's 1st VIII for rowing and is a member of the football club first squad.

Lawrence says:

I'm currently in my third year at Christ's and I've thoroughly enjoyed my time as a member of the Marguerites.

One of the highlights was undoubtedly the annual Garden Party, and accompanying Marguerites breakfast earlier this year. While it did have its nerve-wracking moments – I've never given a speech to 300 people while standing in a tree before – the event was a great success, and it was fantastic to see so many members, both past and present, turn out for the party. The garden party really gave me a sense of the length of the Marguerites tradition of which I'm privileged to be a part.

Another very enjoyable event with a similar tone was last year's Marguerites alumni dinner, at which I was lucky enough to meet many old members, ranging from recent alumni to those who were members six decades ago, Leslie being one of them. On this occasion I was left with the impression that while the personnel and some traditions may have changed, the values of the Marguerites have not.

Outstanding dining occasions have also made for many of my favourite moments with the Marguerites, such as last year's annual dinner and Christmas dinner, both of which exhibited the club's outstanding spirit and commitment to tradition, as well as the extraordinary pint-consuming abilities of many members! This year's events promise to deliver much the same. Of course, no mention of dining experiences would be complete without a nod to the various culinary delights the club has enjoyed on our various swaps over recent years, with the result that I am now as familiar with the interior of Curry Garden as I am with my own kitchen, and am firm friends with several of the bouncers around various Cambridge establishments.

Most recently the Marguerites and Hippolytans (Christ's women's sporting society) combined to put on the annual, and much anticipated, Halloween Bop, which was a great success, seeing members of both societies, as well as many of our alumni, join current members of college for a memorable evening.

College has undoubtedly changes since Leslie's day. The current student body numbers nearly 600, but Christ's still retains a great sense of community. We definitely have more freedom to come and go as we please, but none of these changes diminishes the cohesion that we feel being a member of College and the Marguerites Club is a big part of that for me.



Lawrence (far right) with a fellow Marguerite and members of the Hippolytans.

Cambridge Development Initiative project in Tanzania

This year a team of Cambridge engineering students, two of whom are from Christ's, took part in a revolutionary sewerage project in Tanzania which has had wide-spread impact on the area. Here, one of our students, Claire Mitchell (m. 2011) looks back on the project and the work that was carried out.

'Empowerment is true reciprocity'
(Simon Anholt, independent policy advisor, 2014)

The words of Simon Anholt reverberated around the auditorium of St John's Divinity School at the January launch of the Cambridge Development Initiative (CDI). Six months later, as the Engineering team, made up of the thirteen Cambridge students who pioneered the CDI from its inception, stood in front of an audience of future beneficiaries, their pertinence rang truer than ever. We would catalyse, and mobilise the considerable capacities of the Tanzanian government officials, NGO's and people. This was the vision of the Cambridge Development Initiative and to this aim we constantly strove to adhere, with exciting results.

The Engineering team of which Christ's students Charlie Douty (m. 2011) and I were part, sought to bring Simplified Sewerage technology to East Africa for the first time. This is an innovation which uses smaller diameter pipes which can be laid at shallower

depths and without the need for expensive earthworks. More easily maintained, this system can deliver a 50–75% cost saving to the community, offering a uniquely affordable sewerage solution.

We worked in an informal settlement called Vingunguti where the residents faced a particularly egregious injustice which spoke profoundly of the widespread inequality of service provision which blights the poor in this city. The homes of Vingunguti's residents were located mere metres from Dar es Salaam's sole waste treatment pond, yet they were not connected and faced no realistic chance of being so in the next decade. The Engineering team sought to change this situation.

Over the course of the next month, the Project Director adroitly steered his team through the staggering complexity of Tanzanian bureaucracy, cultivating relationships with influential senior figures to gain permission to build on public land, negotiate considerable reductions in waste treatment costs and persuade them of the huge potential this technology has. Empowerment came to both





Charlie Douty and Claire Mitchell with members of the local community.

parties, the Cambridge students gaining access to echelons of government authority unimaginable in the UK and the Tanzanian authorities being spurred into action and shown fruitful partnerships which could be cultivated to help them deliver on their aim to bring formal piped sewerage to 30% of the Dar es Salaam population by 2019.



*Charlie Douty (m. 2011)
digging the trench prior to
laying the pipe-work.*

Community relations were pivotal to the success of this project. Consciously presented as a system by and for the people of Vingunguti, which would be viable only as far as the residents committed, empowerment came simultaneously through opportunity and responsibility. Through the establishment of a committee to maintain the system, the Kombo Sanitation Association, working under the guidance of Tanzanian NGO the Centre for Community

Initiatives (CCI), the residents of Vingunguti took ownership of their sanitation provision.

Deep and mutually beneficial relationships were also forged student-to-student, as the construction sub-team worked with students from the University of Dar es Salaam and Ardhi University, designing and ultimately completing the construction of a piped sewerage network to which two hundred people were connected in just eight weeks.

Much was achieved by the team in a short eight week window which truly demonstrated the pace at which developments can be made if local interest and capacities are truly engaged and capitalised upon. The team will return to Dar es Salaam in both December 2014 and July 2015 with the plan to take the simplified sewerage network to the broader catchment area of Vingunguti.

It is a wonderful project to be involved in and an especially nice partnership having a fellow Christ's student to work alongside! We look forward to continuing this work and representing Christ's through this ambitious and exciting project.

For further information visit www.cambridgedevelopment.org/

Reaching Out



Andy Avery, Schools Liaison Officer at Christ's has had a busy year doing his bit towards the University's continuing commitment to widening participation. He and his colleagues in the Admissions Office here in College do a variety of access and outreach work both in specific link areas of Lincolnshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, and Harrow but also further afield. On top of this they host around eight Open

Days throughout the year, which sees the College filled with 17–18 year-olds from across the UK, and the world, going on tours of the buildings and gardens and finding out from current students what it's really like to study here.

To give some idea of the other outreach work that Christ's does, Andy takes a look at three events that stand out.

Bentley Wood High School for Girls: Research Link

Bentley Wood High School for Girls, a state comprehensive from Harrow, approached us in the summer wanting to do something different to our usual access and outreach work for their students. They identified that their girls were applying to university, and were achieving some success in doing so, but that they lacked knowledge on careers outside of the standard doctor/lawyer binary that so many sixth form students fall into. To that end they asked if we would provide an opportunity for some of the girls to speak to postgraduate researchers about their work, in order to get them thinking about research as a possible career. We brought them to Christ's for the day, giving them a tour of College and lunch, and we also provided a sample lecture and Q&A from some of the University's researchers. Ayesah Ahmed, from the Faculty of Education, gave a talk on teaching and measuring speaking/listening skills in schools. Meanwhile Nicky Padfield, Master of Fitzwilliam College, and Dr Caroline Lansky of the Criminology Department, hosted a discussion on Restorative Justice. The girls were then asked to come up with a research question in their teams that they wished to investigate over the course of the year back at school. The day inspired a variety of research projects and we're hoping to bring the group back next year to present their findings once the research projects are completed, and to approach other schools who might be interested in doing a similar outreach day.

STEM Summer School

Our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Summer School took place once again this August, with 40 sixth form students from across our link areas coming to College for a week of scientific discovery and a chance to sample student life. With academic sessions including a physiology masterclass, a robotics workshop and an introduction to the emerging field of Palaeobiology, the

scientific interest of these students was certainly piqued. Our valiant undergraduate and graduate helpers did a great job of showing off student life; punting, quizzes, icebreakers and even a formal hall to round off the week meant the students could see Cambridge isn't all work and no play! What is particularly rewarding about this particular event is seeing sixth form students who hadn't considered applying to Cambridge before, turning up in the admissions round in October. Equally, the Summer School can be useful for students if it helps them decide against applying, either because they realise that they won't realistically achieve the entrance requirements (A*A*A this year for sciences) or that the course isn't right for them. We ran the summer school jointly with Sidney Sussex College and it was again generously supported by the Simon and Jill Campbell Foundation.



IntoUniversity

We have been working with this educational charity for the past year, thanks to support from Mark Lewisohn (m. 1981) and his wife, Sophie. Through their centres, they provide a safe environment where students from local schools can go for academic support, careers advice, and mentoring, as well as trips to universities like Cambridge, and they are able to provide this support continually from primary school right through to sixth form. We have hosted a number of their visits from across a wide range of year groups, and our undergraduate volunteers have been extremely useful in making these visits a success. From being grilled by Year 8 students on what it's like to be a student, to helping a group of 30 primary school students navigate the queue for upper

hall, their visits are always a lot of fun. Our students have also begun volunteering at their centres in the vacation, either as academic support or as mentors.

For more information about the work of the access and outreach work conducted by the College and admissions more generally, please visit: www.christs.cam.ac.uk





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Michaelmas Term 2014 15



Dates for your Diary

For more information and to book a place at any of these events, please go to www.alumni.christs.cam.ac.uk

Thursday 11 December

Varsity Rugby Match at Twickenham

Saturday 7 March

Joint Medical Alumni and Medical Students Meeting

Saturday 28 March

MA Congregation for Alumni who matriculated in 2008

Saturday 13 June

May Bumps Picnic



Advance notice of the 2015 Reunion Dinners:

Saturday 12 September

First reunion dinner for alumni who matriculated up to and including 1956

Saturday 26 September

Second reunion dinner for alumni who matriculated between 1960 and 1965



Tour de France cyclists passing by College.