



**SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH:  
MCR 3 MINUTE THESIS WINNERS**

**TAKE 2: CREATIVE  
CONNECTIONS**

**TEN YEARS OF THE CHRIST'S  
COLLEGE CLIMATE SEMINARS**



# Pieces

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# welcome

FROM THE MASTER

Welcome to this issue of *Pieces*.

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Since the last issue, Christ's wisteria has bloomed and faded in First Court and the end of exams has seen celebrations around Cambridge. In the second half of my first year as Master, I look forward to a summer of final 'firsts': cheering our boats during May Bumps, the Graduands' Dinner, the Staff Appreciation Barbecue, and the Association Dinner.

In this edition of *Pieces*, we continue our series highlighting volunteers with an article on two Christ's students who organised events in College to raise money for breast cancer charities as part of Pink Week. We also recognize ten years of the Christ's College Climate Seminars, an important part of the College's annual calendar, doing our bit to combat climate change.

On 1 May, Yusuf and Farida Hamied opened Yusuf Hamied Court, the last piece in the jigsaw of Fourth Court. In the words of one of its first postgraduate residents, Yusuf Hamied Court is 'absolutely fantastic.' In the modern way, the building wasn't actually finished at the time of the opening ceremony; we have handed it back to the contractors to complete the job. But on 1 May, we were able to thank everyone involved – staff, donors, architects, project managers and interior designers. Many people worked tirelessly, but one person's contribution was quite simply indispensable, which is why the beautiful new building is named in his honour.

In this issue, you can read about the research two of our postgraduate students are undertaking in our Spotlight on Research feature. You can also read about the influence Christ's had on Daniel Herszberg (m. 2020), who completed his mission to visit all 197 countries in the world this March (I'm stuck on 144!) We were glad to bring together Dr Edward Allen (m. 2005) and Emily Freeman (m. 2021) for a conversation about the process of editing and producing publications that showcase the College's creative tradition. You can also read about the impact Christ's had on one of our alumni, whose generosity towards the College (in his lifetime and through a legacy) will support future LLM students.

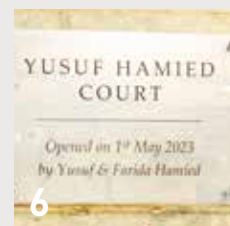
I hope you enjoy catching up on Christ's news.

McDonald of Salford

## IN THIS ISSUE



3-5



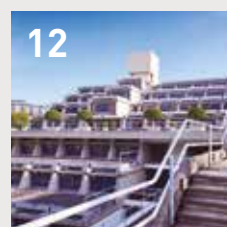
6



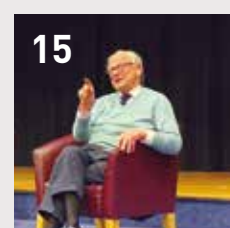
8-9



10-11



12



15

- 3-5 NEWS
- 6 YUSUF HAMIED COURT OPENING
- 7 MEET THE VOLUNTEERS: PINK WEEK
- 8-9 AROUND THE WORLD IN 197 COUNTRIES
- 10-11 SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH: THE MCR 3 MINUTE THESIS WINNERS
- 12-13 TAKE 2: CREATIVE CONNECTIONS
- 14 REFLECTIONS ON A LEGACY
- 15-16 10 YEARS OF THE CHRIST'S COLLEGE CLIMATE SEMINARS
- 16 STAY CONNECTED

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On 1 April, we welcomed 77 alumni back to Cambridge and the College to receive their MA degrees. The MA ceremony in the Senate House – the first presided over by our new Master, [Simon McDonald](#) – was followed by a buffet lunch in College and a formal dinner that evening in Hall. Dinner featured speeches by the Master and by [Joshua Kimblin](#) (m. 2016), who reflected on what life in College would have been like in the 1640s for [John Finch](#) and [Thomas Baines](#). It was wonderful to see so many alumni gathered to take part!



The Christ's and Trinity Women in Maths Residential, hosted annually by Christ's and Trinity Colleges, was held over three days at the end of March. The annual residential is open to students interested in studying maths and related subjects such as engineering and economics, and targets students with little or no family tradition of higher education; students at schools with few applicants to Cambridge; and students who have spent time in care. Students attended lectures and classes taught by Cambridge academics including [Dr Robert Hunt](#) (Fellow) and [Dr Henry Bradford](#) (Fellow). This course is one of many popular programmes run by the Christ's Admissions team to increase access to Cambridge: they have been hosting subject-specific webinars and virtual open days and tours, and later this summer they will host a Summer School alongside Murray Edwards and Sidney Sussex Colleges for students from low participation neighbourhoods.

## MUSIC COMPETITION



The Charles Blackham Memorial Music Competition is held every year during Lent term in memory of [Charles Blackham](#) (m. 2007), the late chair of the Christ's College Music Society, with prizes generously donated by Charles' mother, Mrs Sally Blackham. This year's joint winners were [Iona Salter](#) (m. 2021), who performed a Mozart sonata on the clarinet, and [Manav Paul](#) (m. 2022), who performed piano pieces by Rachmaninoff and Debussy.



*The choir rehearsing at the Cathedral Church of St Paul in Burlington, Vermont during the 2022 tour.*

The **Christ's College Choir** is going on tour! After the success of last summer's tour of the East Coast of the United States—the choir's first international tour since before the Covid-19 pandemic—the choir is returning to North America to tour various towns and cities in Canada. The tour will begin in Montreal on 6 July before moving on to Ottawa (8-10 July), Picton (13 July), Kingston (14-15 July), Barrie (17 July), and the Toronto area (18-22 July). The choir has toured in Canada frequently over the past two decades, most recently in 2018, and is looking forward to returning! On previous visits the choir has enjoyed meeting up with a number of Christ's alumni, and they would be very happy to see alumni at their concerts this year. For more information on this summer's tour, please visit [www.cambridgechoir.co.uk](http://www.cambridgechoir.co.uk).

**Dr Daniel Field** (Fellow) is part of an international team that has identified fossil bones from a new species of ancient penguin, thought to be the largest penguin to have ever lived. The heavyweight species, named *Kumimanu fordycei*, was found in New Zealand and weighed more than 150 kilograms – more than three times the size of an Emperor Penguin, the largest living penguin species. Dr Field said: 'Fossils provide us with evidence of the history of life, and sometimes that evidence is truly surprising ... at approximately 350 pounds, *Kumimanu fordycei* would have weighed more than Shaquille O'Neal at the peak of his dominance!'



On 25 May, **Professor Duncan Bell** (Fellow) gave the annual John Stuart Mill Lecture at Somerville College, Oxford. Professor Bell's lecture, entitled 'John Stuart Mill on Federation, Nationality and Empire,' explored Mill's career-long interest in federal models of politics.

Demonstrating how Mill's account was shaped by his views on nationalism and imperial order, Professor Bell argued that the great nineteenth-century philosopher was far more committed to federalism – as historical phenomenon, solution to contemporary political crises, and ideal for the future organization of humanity – than is usually recognized.



Congratulations to **Professor Mark Girolami** (Fellow), who has been awarded the Guy Medal in Silver by the Royal Statistical Society. The silver medal is awarded annually for outstanding contribution to the development of statistics. Professor Girolami said: 'I am truly honoured to receive the Guy Medal in Silver from the Royal Statistical Society. It is an even greater honour to be placed in such distinguished ranks as those of the past honourees, all of whom have made important and innovative contributions to the theory and application of Statistical Science.' He will be presented with the award at a ceremony during the Society's annual conference in Harrogate this September.





We are delighted to report that this year's **Telephone Campaign** raised over £234,000 in donations and pledges. These contributions to the Student Support Initiative fund a variety of causes which enable students to

make the most of their time at Cambridge, including scholarships, bursaries, travel grants, and sports awards, and this total will allow Christ's to continue to attract the best and brightest students, regardless of financial background. Thank you to everyone who spoke to our student callers and supported the College during the Campaign! If you have not yet made a gift and would like to, you can do so by scanning this QR code.

The annual **Old Member Sports Awards** were given out this year to students who have displayed outstanding ability at one or more Blue or Half-Blue sports. The aim of the awards, provided through the generosity of alumni donors, is to enable Christ's students to participate in sports without financial burden. The Master presented this year's awards to student athletes participating in a wide range of sports, from hockey and fencing to cross country and cricket. Congratulations to all!



*The Master presenting the Hippolytans Cup for Sportswoman of the Year to **Anniko Firman** (m. 2021).*

## BOAT CLUB ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A March return of snow, wind, and colder temperatures hit Cambridge just as Lent Bumps kicked off this year, making it a cold and blustery few days out on the river for the four Christ's boats that competed. Unfortunately, cold temperatures, a fast current, and a very high water level made it necessary to cancel the fourth day of rowing completely as well as the lower division races on day five. Despite these adverse conditions, all of the Christ's crews rowed well and gained valuable experience to take forward into May Bumps at the end of Easter term. On the University level, **Katy Hempson** (m. 2019) represented the College and Cambridge as a member of the lightweight women's crew for this year's Lightweight Boat Race, held on the Championship Course in London on 20 March. Katy and the women's lightweight boat defended their 2022 title by defeating the Oxford boat by 6 lengths and contributed to a clean sweep of all of the 2023 Boat Races, only the third time Cambridge has accomplished that feat.



# YUSUF HAMIED COURT GRAND OPENING

The College opened an exciting new chapter in its history this spring with the grand opening of Yusuf Hamied Court on 1 May. This new building, enabled by generous donations, will provide 64 postgraduate rooms, 5 teaching rooms, 3 multi-purpose seminar rooms, and a music room, named after former Christ's Fellow **Professor Bill Fitzgerald**.

The day began with a reception in the new building followed by a ceremony during which Dr Hamied unveiled a plaque commemorating the opening. Guests were then given tours of the building before enjoying a formal lunch in Hall. Guests on the day included **Dr Yusuf Hamied** (m. 1954)



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and his wife Farida; representatives from architects Boston Saunders and contractors R G Carter; and College staff members who contributed to the building's construction.

The opening of the building is the culmination of months of work by many of the guests present at the opening. **Michael Curnow**, the College's Housekeeping Manager,

who helped furnish the building, held tests of all the furniture and fabrics that were being considered for the building to ensure they would be as comfortable as possible for its residents and users. 'We set everything up – we got all the furniture into a room and everyone was able to come and give their feedback as to what the durability of it might be like, how comfortable it was, if they liked the colour schemes, and everything like that,' he said. 'Everything is specifically designed around the space and what would be best for it.'

MCR President **Christian Höhne** (m. 2022) is benefitting from that careful attention to detail as one of the first residents who moved into the building in April 2023. He is excited about the positive impact this new on-site accommodation will have on the postgraduate community. 'What I've already experienced is that you run into people,' he said. 'Before, we had our accommodation scattered around Cambridge, and now I'm meeting people in the staircase, in the hallway, and we can have a quick chat. We're very grateful that we have this opportunity to live together in a newly-built building, so thank you very much to all the donors.'



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*Dr Yusuf Hamied unveiling the plaque dedicating the building.*



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# MEET THE VOLUNTEERS: PINK WEEK

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Pink Week was founded in Cambridge in 2014 as a way to raise money and awareness for breast cancer charities. Breast cancer is the most common cancer in the United Kingdom, affecting the 1 in 8 women who will be diagnosed in their lifetime as well as their friends and loved ones.

This year, Pink Week raised money for four breast cancer charities that provide support and raise awareness about how to detect breast cancer early: Breast Cancer UK, CoppaFeel!, Future Dreams, and Maggie's. To complement the university-wide Pink Week programme, College Representatives organised events to promote the Pink Week message and raise money within their Colleges. This year, **Lizzie Snow** (m. 2021) and **Ana-Maria Skaricic** (m. 2021) took on that role for Christ's.

Lizzie and Ana-Maria are both presidents of FemSoc, the Christ's College Feminist Society. When they heard that Christ's needed College Representatives for Pink Week, they realized that their existing platform for promoting events and encouraging conversation around women's issues within the community made them the perfect fit.

Over three months, they worked to put together two events that took place during the 2023 Pink Week, held during the week of 6 February: a pink-themed formal dinner in Hall and a karaoke night in the Buttery. Formal, which had a recommended pink dress code, charged a £2 donation per person which went through the College straight to the charities. The aim, according to Lizzie, was to create a space where people could talk about the issues surrounding breast cancer and research while also having a really fun night. 'We had a pink-themed menu and especially the crème brûlée, which was pink, went down a massive treat,' she said.

Karaoke night, which also charged £2, was a similar hit with the College community. 'We haven't done karaoke nights around College before, so it was a good way both to do that and to get people involved in charity,' said Ana-Maria. 'It was really successful—the Buttery was full, people were singing, and there were people from other Colleges as well who had seen the event. At the end it morphed into a mini dance party.'

While Lizzie and Ana-Maria took the lead, both events came together thanks to the help of staff members across College. '**Vicky Howard** in the Catering Office helped us put the formal on and was helpful working with the chefs to make a pink-themed menu,' Lizzie said. 'The catering staff was really lovely as



*Lizzie Snow and Ana-Maria Skaricic.*

well,' said Ana-Maria, noting that they helped decorate the Hall with pink balloons and bunting. For the karaoke night, Lizzie added that '**Kiril Vitanov**, the Buttery Manager, helped us organize and made pink-themed cocktails, which were really tasty and on-brand for the evening.'

Reflecting on how well both events had been received, Lizzie believes that Christ's students are keen to get involved with charity when given the chance. 'I think people were really happy to enjoy an event and were pleased that it was going to a specific and really good cause at the same time,' she said. 'I know a lot of people, myself included, have had experiences with people they know having had breast cancer, so it's an issue that needs raising awareness as well as raising funds. People want to donate and people want to be aware of these kinds of issues, so if you give them the opportunity they're quite willing to get involved and support the causes.'

Both hope that the success of this year's programme will encourage a lasting tradition of participating in Pink Week. 'Hopefully the people who are freshers now will want to get involved and continue Pink Week at Christ's,' said Ana-Maria. 'It's important to make sure there's a lineage of people who want to stay involved so it can be something that keeps going for years to come.'



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# AROUND THE WORLD IN 197 COUNTRIES

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Out of the almost 8 billion people on the planet, only about 250 have visited every single country in the world. This spring, **Daniel Herszberg** (m. 2020) became one of the few people to have accomplished this feat and visited every country – all 197 of them. We spoke to him about the logistical headaches, lasting memories, and academic interests that have come out of his journey around the world.

Daniel Herszberg has always been curious about the world. 'I was that little kid whose room was full of globes and maps and flags,' he says. 'I used to get my parents to buy me guidebooks for birthday presents.' As soon as he started his undergraduate degree, he began saving up to take long trips overseas during the summer. It wasn't until later that he began to consider making visiting every country a goal, though. 'I guess you could say I'd visited the "easier" countries and I was curious about travelling through other parts which perhaps weren't necessarily on the "tourist trail,"' he says. 'Then that's when the goal really hit and I decided I was going to give this a shot and go for this.'

While the logistical side of traveling to every country in the world can be complicated, to say the least – Daniel says that he could 'write about three books on applying for visas' – the various challenges are not what stand out to Daniel when he reflects on his experiences. Nor is it the sights he's seen, although those certainly have made an impact. For Daniel, the most memorable part of his travels is the journey itself and, most importantly, the people he's met along the way. 'When people ask me what it means to visit every country the thing I always say – and it sounds a bit corny – is that suddenly I have people I know and friends in every country,' he says. 'Everywhere from Vanuatu to Ghana, I've broken bread with people from entirely different worlds to my own, as people across the planet literally offer me places to stay in their homes. Going through those experiences

and going through everyday routines with people from a whole different walk of life – that's ultimately what's been so memorable.'

'I grew up in a very typical suburban setting in Melbourne, Australia, and getting outside of the world I knew and meeting people from other cultures, other backgrounds, other faiths, other ethnicities, and just seeing a different

'EVERYWHERE FROM VANUATU TO GHANA, I'VE BROKEN BREAD WITH PEOPLE FROM ENTIRELY DIFFERENT WORLDS TO MY OWN, AS PEOPLE ACROSS THE PLANET LITERALLY OFFER ME PLACES TO STAY IN THEIR HOMES.'

worldview and learning to understand that – that's the big takeaway,' he adds. 'Throughout the journey I attempted to learn many different languages, I attempted to learn about many different religions. So much of it has reinforced the importance of listening and learning. With every trip, with every interaction, I find I'm expanding my horizons.'

Daniel is now in the first year of a DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies at Oxford and says that 'the travels were so formative in leading me to that path.' He particularly looks back on his time

at Christ's as influential in changing his perspective on what he was seeing in different countries. 'In terms of how I perceived the journey, honestly it changed a lot during my time at Cambridge,' he says. 'I did the MPhil in Heritage Studies and so much of the focus of that course is in how we understand the role of the past in the present; the politics of history in many ways. In bringing together my personal interests within a theoretical frame, I started really approaching my travels in a different way.'

That awareness soon took on a more personal angle. 'I'm Jewish, and I think particularly travelling around the Middle East and North Africa, I began to realize that there were very few Jewish travellers who had passed through these countries in the last fifty years or so,' he says. 'I began working with various organizations to document any remnants of the past and gain an understanding of these artifacts of Jewish life, how they're perceived, how they're being taken care of, and what's left. That for me personally was something which really changed as the trip went on, when I—I don't want to say assumed responsibility—but I kind of felt a bit of a burden like oh wow, there aren't many people who are going to be standing before these in the way that I care or that I know my community cares. Suddenly I found myself planning my trips around the fact that there was a Jewish school in this village in Iraq and nobody has seen a picture of it in fifty years—so I'm going to get on a bus for two hours to go and find it, see if it's still



there. I think a lot of that had to do with my academic training in Cambridge, when I started to see the “past” in a different way – as my visits to Jewish heritage sites emerged as markers of who I am while getting to the core of the very meaning of one’s place in the community of every country.’

Daniel says that ‘there’s definitely a weight off my shoulders’ now that he’s reached his goal, but he is planning to continue travelling and exploring. ‘Despite the hype and the “197,” ultimately this journey was never about a checklist of every country and was always driven by a greater curiosity to better understand the diversity of human culture and human nature,’ he says. ‘And that journey will never end.’

Continue following Daniel’s travels on Instagram @ddhersz.

*Daniel in Tonga, country 197/197, in March 2023.*



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# SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH: THE MCR 3 MINUTE THESIS WINNERS

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During Lent term, the MCR held two 3 Minute Thesis Competitions, one for postgraduates in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and one for postgraduates in STEM subjects. As the name suggests, each student competing had three minutes to summarize their research and argue for its significance. Both competitions showcased the range of rigorous and fascinating postgraduate research being done at Christ's.

They also gave competitors the opportunity to test their ability to communicate the essence of their research to a broad audience quickly and effectively. 'You may have heard the adage that you do not understand your work unless you can explain to a ten-year-old. I do not know quite how true that is, but presenting to a non-specialist audience is a rare challenge as a PhD student,' said Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences winner **Leah Wild** (m. 2015), a PhD researcher in the Faculty of Classics. 'Asking the big questions, like, "why should anyone care about this," forces you to look at your work with new eyes and brings you to a

greater understanding of what is actually important.' STEM winner **Mishika Mahrotra** (m. 2021), a PhD researcher in the Department of Psychology agreed that the competition was an excellent opportunity to practice the communication skills vital to her goal of making her research on how families shape children's self-control 'more accessible to the people who would benefit the most from it, such as parents and teachers.'

Here, Leah and Mishika utilize those skills to explain a little bit about their doctoral work, this time in 500 words or less.

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## Leah Wild – Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Size matters. That is the basic premise of my research project, and something we all intrinsically know to be true.

But if we can agree that size matters, it is not so easy to agree what it means. Humans are bad at judging scale in isolation: we always need something to compare an object to for scale. If you have ever tried buying furniture online and

struggled to figure out exactly how big something is from just the product photo, you know this to be true.

In my work, I focus on a series of often overlooked miniature objects found at ancient Greek sanctuary sites, such as small terracotta figurines, miniature pots that look like shrunk versions of standard vases, and tiny offering trays with miniature foods. The idea that these offerings are cheap, a poor substitute for a more substantial gift to the gods, leads many scholars to dismiss these as merely cheap imitations of larger, more 'proper' dedications.

However, this theory does not match up with the reality. Often, miniature offerings only exist in the miniature. For instance, at the Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore in Corinth, one of the most popular offerings are miniature hydria, tiny doll-sized versions of water-carrying vessels only a few centimetres high. The miniatures number in their thousands, but there have been only four full-sized versions found. How can anyone argue that the miniatures are just a smaller version of the larger vessel, when they far outstrip their larger counterparts?

Moreover, the miniature offerings at these various sites seem to fulfil different roles than their larger counterparts.

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Leah Wild after giving her winning presentation.





A miniature Greek figurine.

For example, miniature figurines at sanctuaries of Demeter, small enough to be held in the hand, often show women holding piglets, something which larger-scale statues never show. It is my argument that these small figurines are doing something different – something which cannot be accomplished at a larger scale. Ancient women's reproductive organs are often compared to pigs, suggesting that these

figurines had some kind of relationship to fertility, which was a major concern for women in this period. The small size of these dedications seems to suggest a personal nature, and indeed, mirror the kind of care that they themselves ask for: As the female figures gently cradle the piglets in their arms, they ask for the same gentle handling of their own 'piglets' from the goddesses they seek help from. The small, seemingly insignificant offerings in fact give an insight into the lives of women in the ancient world.

Getting to grips with the question of scale can help bring us insights into the lives of ancient people at these sanctuary sites. Particularly when it comes to the lives of women, from whom we have very limited written records, re-reading archaeological finds can provide insight into what their lives were actually like: their cares, concerns, hopes, and wishes. From this, we can see exactly how size matters.

### Mishika Mahrotra – STEM

In the iconic marshmallow study, a researcher leaves children alone with a marshmallow and asks them not to eat it until they get back. If the child can resist temptation and wait, they get rewarded with two marshmallows. This may seem like a simple task, but being able to do this requires you to stay focused, control your impulses, manage your emotions, and delay gratification to achieve a goal. This kind of self-control and related mental skills are called executive functions, which are handled by the complex planning and decision-making part of our brain. Many factors, including biological ones, affect executive functions, but family factors can be especially important in early childhood when the connections in our brains are highly receptive to environmental input.

For my PhD at the Centre for Family Research, I'm examining how children's executive functions are impacted by the way in which parents and children interact with each other, as well as the broader environmental factors in which these interactions are embedded. As children transition to school, executive functions become increasingly important for engagement with learning activities and processing mathematical and reading concepts. Children with better executive functions also have better social understanding and fewer behavioural problems. Therefore, identifying factors in children's environments that influence their executive functions during this key period can inform interventions to foster the development of this crucial skillset.

We recruited families of children starting school to take part in the study and followed up with them a year later to examine changes over time. At both time points, children completed tasks designed as games, which measured their executive functions. We also video-recorded parents and children playing an etch-a-sketch game to assess how warm



and cooperative their interactions were and audio-recorded their mealtime conversations to see how they responded to each other and took turns while talking. Normally, we think of parenting as something that is done to the child, but by considering the reciprocal, 'serve and return' nature of these interactions, I'm accounting for the active role that children also play in their own development. I will also look at contextual factors like routines and chaos in the household, parents' income and education, and stress caused by COVID-19 to see how these relationships and environmental factors work together to affect executive functions in the early school years.



We know that some people have much better executive functions than others from a young age and that they tend to be more successful in school, work, and relationships, even later in life. Unfortunately, children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds may already be lagging in these skills when they enter school. So, my hope is to identify family factors that promote executive functions, so we can make simple recommendations that parents can practice at home to improve both short- and long-term outcomes for their children.



**Dr Edward Allen** (m. 2005), has been a Fellow of Christ's since 2016 and a member of the College since 2005, when he matriculated to read English. He recently edited and

published *Echoes of Paradise: Milton's Epic and the Art of Response*, a collection of original poems, music, and essays about the rich and lively afterlives of *Paradise Lost*, the masterpiece of Christ's alumnus John Milton.



**Emily Freeman** (m. 2021), a second-year English student, is in the midst of editing the first issue of *The Typewriter Zine*, a literary magazine inspired by Christ's

New Court – more commonly known as the 'Typewriter' building. We spoke to them both about their roles as editors, the creative process, and the impact they hope to have on Christ's literary reputation.

#### WHAT INSPIRED THESE TWO PUBLICATIONS?

**Emily:** I saw that some other Colleges had set up magazines, so I thought there should be one at Christ's given that we have a rich literary history. I also noticed that all the magazines were very digitalized, and I wanted to make something more analogue, centred around the idea of an actual typewriter and typewritten characters. We have a building called the Typewriter that everybody seems to criticize and thinks very ugly. We decided to boldly make this building the subject of something quite artistic and quirky and literary, and *The Typewriter Zine* was born.

**Ned:** When I became a Fellow in 2016, I was reminded that the 350th anniversary of the publication of John Milton's *Paradise Lost* was coming up. We had an event for the anniversary in 2017, with a series of readings from the poem itself, a lecture from **Professor Sir Christopher Ricks** (Honorary Fellow), a performance of some new music, including one piece by Christ's alumnus **Edwin Hillier** (m. 2007), and the performance of some new poetry that had been composed in response to *Paradise Lost*. As soon as you've done an event of that sort – once you've got over the tiredness! – you begin to think it would be quite nice to formalize it by turning it into something material. So I started on that project with the help of a local printer.

#### WHAT IS THE PROCESS OF PUTTING TOGETHER A PUBLICATION FROM SCRATCH?

**Ned:** I've written books, but I've never really made one, and this was a very different experience: the writing happens, but then there's an awful lot of other kinds of labour involved in putting the thing itself together. It was very enjoyable and very rewarding to produce something that people want to pick up and read, even to reread.

**Emily:** Part of the concept of this magazine was emphasis on the process as much as the finished product. In the zine community in Cambridge a lot of the more physical elements of producing a magazine have been overshadowed by the digital presence that these magazines have. Upon conception of *The Typewriter Zine*, we knew it would be quite arduous to put together because we put such an emphasis on the analogue element of poetry and of the publication. After we go over submissions and select, my co-editor **Samuel Smith** (m. 2021) and I are going to type everything up on a typewriter and we have an illustrator, **Lily Mansfield** (m. 2021), who's going to do some lino prints for the magazine. Over the summer we're going to go through the long process of illustration and typing up, and hopefully by the start of Michaelmas next year we will have it in print. We're treating it as a fun process and seeing what we can produce.

#### WHAT IS THE CREATIVE PROCESS BEHIND THESE TYPES OF PUBLICATIONS?

**Ned:** The book was an opportunity, critically speaking, to cast the net more widely and to produce this slightly different sort of reading experience, where you might move from more or less orthodox, traditional critical essays into material that doesn't feel like criticism. It was trying, subtly, to pitch a reading experience that might be a bit of a surprise if you were approaching a book about *Paradise Lost*. I guess most people would have expectations about what such a book would feel like. I think this one feels different; I hope it does.

Putting the book together did involve commissioning quite a lot of new material: seeds that had taken root at the time of the event in 2017 began to grow and produce new thoughts. Actually quite a lot of poets seem to react positively to the idea of a commission, and in this case they were encouraged by a pretty blank canvas, but with an explicit framework. 'You know *Paradise Lost* – what do you think about it? Can you tell me about it lyrically? Have you ever thought about writing a poem about your own experience of being absorbed, or provoked, by this poem?'



**Emily:** I've found this as well. I have found myself more often than not writing poetry for magazines rather than running the magazine myself, and I was always grateful to have prompts or requests. Sometimes finding your own inspiration is very difficult, so if somebody can nudge you in the right direction it can actually produce something – it seems counterintuitive – that is really better than you on your own.

**Ned:** It does seem counterintuitive, but that in itself is sort of an illusion based on popular conceptions that poets sit on mountaintops or in cell-like rooms having thoughts. In fact, literary work emerges in a very different way for most people, or at least it does these days. It emerges in between the cracks, in between work schedules and life. Poems don't just occur to people; in writing, they're kind of reacting to what's around them, working through what people have said or done to them, and so on. It's kind of messy.

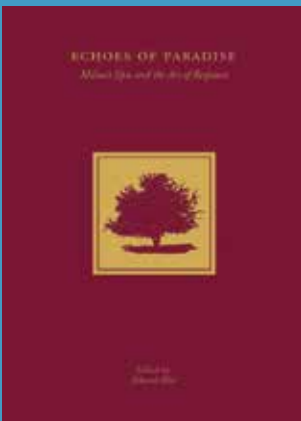
#### WHAT IMPACT WOULD YOU LIKE THESE PUBLICATIONS TO HAVE?

**Ned:** For me, it's a residual, longstanding feeling that Christ's is characterized as a very science-oriented College. That is true, has been true, and will remain true, but I'm interested in institutional narratives, and the predominant narrative at Christ's has, to some degree, eclipsed or obfuscated the extent to which we're actually a very creative place, and have been historically. If one thing comes out of *Echoes of Paradise*, it will be to show that we are as literary as we are scientific, and that it's important to acknowledge that. I think we're at a moment in history when the imagination is due a kind of renaissance, and we need to think imaginatively about our place in the world. I think that is, to some degree, what my book is about.



**Emily:** I sympathize with the idea of Christ's as a science-oriented College. It's still seen as the place of Darwin and sometimes he kind of overshadows the literary history that the College has with Milton, and even with modern poets like **Dr Helen Mort** (m. 2004), who is an alumna featured in *Echoes of Paradise*. We hope to establish Christ's in the student literary scene for a start, because it hasn't been in recent years, or it hasn't been in the way that I would like it to be. We also want to draw people's attention to the more mindful, analogue aspects of creating a magazine – that slow-paced process in a world and university where students are always sat at a laptop, and give students the space to give thought to physical ways of bringing about art or poems or publications.

**Ned:** It feels important to create something that you know is going to take some time to absorb and consume and appreciate. My experience of putting this book together is that it took a long time, and it will take, in a sort of reciprocal way, a long time for someone to explore it. I guess the same will be true of your zine. From my point of view, having put together a book about Milton, it's really nice to hear of a Christ's publication that is actually not Milton-centric, and for the College to be able to showcase, through your hard work, that there are people other than Milton who require and reward attention.



Follow Emily and the rest of *The Typewriter Zine's* editorial team on Instagram @typewriterzine as they put together the first issue.

To purchase a copy of *Echoes of Paradise*, please contact the Development Office. All proceeds from this limited edition are going to support students at Christ's.

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# REFLECTIONS ON A LEGACY

## TIM LINTOTT

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This regular series features the contributions alumni and supporters of Christ's have made to the life of the College through their passions, their generosity, and the Legacies that they left behind.

In August last year, Christ's was saddened by the passing of **Tim Lintott** (m. 1971), a well-beloved figure to all those who knew him across the years. Following his graduation, Tim regularly returned to College, taking an active role in the wider community both as a member of the Development Board from 2010 to 2018, and as Year Group Representative for 1971 matriculants. This engagement was coupled with his long-term financial support for our mission, directed mostly towards his twin interests in Law and student wellbeing – the latter leading to the foundation of the Lintott Family Bursary in 2017. In 2019, Tim was appointed a Lady Margaret Beaufort Fellow in recognition of his consistent generosity.

THE BURSARY [...] GREATLY HELPED ME ADJUST SOCIALLY IN MOVING FROM HOME TO CAMBRIDGE. I WAS ALSO ABLE TO TRAVEL EUROPE IN THE 2019 SUMMER AS PART OF THE DISCOVEREU PROGRAMME... THIS WAS A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY AND I AM VERY GRATEFUL THAT I WAS ABLE TO GO.

### Lintott Family Bursary Recipient

One of the most impactful of Tim's many contributions to the College was his spearheading of the Spyrou Scholarship, an annual award of up to £15,000 for a Scholar taking the LLM course at Christ's. Created in memory of LLM graduate **George Spyrou** (m. 1971), the award recognised his passion for Law and the lifelong connections that he had made at Christ's.

Tim, as a friend of George's, was the earliest supporter of the project, and was integral to encouraging the donations that helped establish it in 2017. He was also extremely passionate about the network of students the Scholarship created, and as both an organiser and regular attendee at the Spyrou Scholarship Dinners he worked hard to ensure that recipients felt welcome to attend even years after their graduation.

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS THAT HAPPENED TO ME DURING THE YEAR WAS MEETING TIM... I FELT LIKE I BECAME A PART OF A BIG FAMILY – FAMILY OF MEMBERS OF CHRIST'S, WHO WILL ALWAYS STAY IN TOUCH AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER, A KIND OF A FAMILY I HAVE NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF BEFORE. I ONLY WISH I MET TIM EARLIER SO THAT I COULD HAVE TALKED TO HIM MORE.

### Alina, 2022 Spyrou Scholarship Recipient

To honour Tim's contributions, the award was renamed the Spyrou-Lintott Scholarship in Michaelmas 2022 and will commemorate both alumni for years to come.

This legacy was also the focus of Tim's gift to the College in his Will, with his bequest going towards endowing the Scholarship permanently. His friends and family are leading a drive to raise the £250,000 total needed to make this goal a reality. Through such fundraising, as well as Tim's

Legacy, we hope to ensure that future generations of Law students can receive the same excellent education that both Tim and George received together over 50 years ago.



Tim Lintott, back centre, at the 2022 Spyrou Scholarship Dinner.

If you would like to make a gift towards the Spyrou-Lintott Scholarship, please email Robert Smith at [rrs2@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:rrs2@christs.cam.ac.uk). If you are interested in leaving Christ's a gift in your Will, please contact Sebastian Peel at [development@christs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@christs.cam.ac.uk), and he will be happy to have a confidential discussion about your intentions and the difference it could make to College.



# TEN YEARS OF THE CHRIST'S COLLEGE CLIMATE SEMINARS

Christ's celebrated a milestone this year when it hosted the tenth annual Christ's College Climate Seminars in January and February.

Over the past decade, the seminars, hosted by the College in collaboration with the University's Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP), have brought together academics, students, and industry leaders from Cambridge and beyond to discuss the climate crisis and how we as a society might address climate change and its effects.

The series began with three lectures given in 2014 by Christ's Fellow Commoner **Professor Charles Kennel** while he was a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the College. Professor Kennel is the founding director of the University of California San Diego Environment and Sustainability Initiative, and he had hoped the Christ's series, which he was influential in helping to continue after the success of those initial seminars, would play a small part in raising awareness of issues surrounding sustainability within the University and Collegiate communities at Cambridge.

The seminars since have sought to address climate change from many different perspectives, emphasizing its broad impact on society and our day-to-day lives. Topics have included not just the science of climate change, but also

its wider implications, including its effects on population health and urban planning. A focus has been what we might do to limit our environmental impact, with past seminars considering how to engage citizens as part of 'digital democracy' initiatives and how to change our behaviour rapidly and at scale.

This year's series, which took 'Practical Politics for the 2020s' as its overarching theme, demonstrated this multifaceted approach to the issue. The first seminar considered the challenges for UK policy makers as they seek to accelerate action on climate change in the face of geopolitical challenges; the second addressed the relationship between climate change policy and the global financial markets; and the final seminar reflected on the roles that land use, biodiversity, and food play in climate change mitigation. **Professor Dame Theresa Marteau**, Christ's Honorary Fellow and Director of the Behaviour and Health Research Unit in the Clinical School, who chaired the final seminar, said: 'A key theme that ran through all three seminars this year is neatly summed up in the words of Lord Deben, Chair of the Climate Change Committee, who talked in our first seminar, when describing the gap between the climate change policy ambition and action: *the government has willed the ends but not the means.*'

*Simon McDonald; Professor Emily Shuckberg, Director of Cambridge Zero; and Lord Deben (John Gummer), Chairman of the UK's Climate Change Committee, speaking at the first of the 2023 seminars.*

*Continued overleaf*



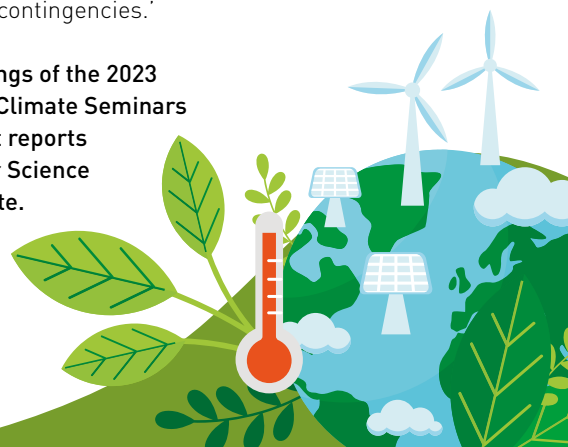
**Simon McDonald**, taking part in his first seminars as Master, was struck by the harmony of the discussion and the difficulty of turning that harmony into a prioritised, costed agenda for the rest of the decade. 'The scientists have persuaded the overwhelming majority of the public of the urgency of the problem, but the deadlines mentioned in public debate are still comfortably distant,' he said. 'When 2050 is the target, it's easy to think rigorous, difficult and expensive action can wait a little longer.'

The seminars have helped to establish Christ's as a centre for conversation and debate surrounding climate change within the University community and have become an integral part of the College's yearly programme. 'People really seem to appreciate the community that's grown up around these seminars as they have evolved and as the issues have evolved,' said **Dr Rob Doubleday**, Christ's Bye-Fellow and Director of CSaP.

Professor Kennel is delighted that the Christ's College Climate Seminars continue to play a role in the intellectual life of the University and of the College ten years after their founding, as we continue to seek ways to address what, according to the UN, is the defining issue of our time.

'Regional and local environments are being transformed at a scale and rate sufficiently alarming that the 2023 report of World Economic Forum proclaimed that six of the ten most significant risks facing global society in the next ten years stem from environmental change,' he said. 'Global society in its present form, let alone one that meets the aspirations of the world's disadvantaged, cannot be considered resilient until there is confidence that it can survive the coming climatic, environmental, and ecological crisis with acceptable losses. Acceptable past performance has a way of lulling into complacency those who do not think out of the box about future contingencies.'

**Listen to recordings of the 2023 Christ's College Climate Seminars or read the event reports on the Centre for Science and Policy website.**



# Stay connected

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2023	24 JUNE	1 JULY	2 JULY	9 SEPTEMBER	16 SEPTEMBER	23 SEPTEMBER
	Old Members Reunion Lunch for 1990–1994 Matriculants	Association Dinner (open to all alumni and guests)	Family Day Picnic	Alumni Reunion for all Matriculation Years up to 1964 and 1973 Matriculants	Blades Regatta	Alumni Reunion for 1995–1999 Matriculants



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