

ISSUE

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NEW HALL

# THE DOLPHIN

WINTER 2014

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



This is a special edition of the Dolphin to celebrate our 60 years of history and 60 years of our women's contribution to the world.

We are all proud that the College, then New Hall, set off in 1954 with a strong ethos of being open to women of outstanding potential from all backgrounds. The entrance exam pre A-Levels made that possible, encouraging many more girls from state schools to apply. New Hall expanded, moved from Silver Street in 1965 and became a full college in 1972. That, of course, was the moment men's colleges started to go mixed, leading to discussions about whether New Hall should open its doors to men. You can read more about this in Eleanor O'Gorman's article on page 6. The debate has continued through the years, but we have re-stated our firm commitment to being a college for women in this generation.

The 80s and 90s were periods of expansion, with the partnership with the Kaetsu Foundation, building of Pearl House and the lovely rotunda 'front door', followed by the graduate block Canning and Eliza Fok House. By then the growth in graduate student numbers, especially MPhils from across the world, was beginning to take place.

In the new millennium there were major challenges for the College. After a shocking moment when former President, Anne Lonsdale, saw the Library moving, a huge building programme had to be instigated not only for the Library, but also the Dome and Orchard Court. The latter has still to be fully completed and has left us with a large outstanding loan. The College might not have survived in that period if Ros Smith (NH 1981) and her husband Steve Edwards had not come forward with their remarkable endowment of £30million. As we know, this led to us becoming Murray Edwards College in 2008; it also gave us the wherewithal to be an independent institution within the University of Cambridge in perpetuity.

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The signing of the agreement between New Hall and the Kaetsu Foundation took place on 11 February 1994.



The College's benefactors Ros Smith and Steve Edwards with former President Anne Lonsdale.



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Design and print management:  
H2 Associates, Cambridge

Murray Edwards College is a Registered  
Charity (Registration No. 1137530)



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Far left: Varsity featured the College's first students in its 9 October 1954 issue.

Left: Construction of the College's iconic Dome.

Below: Dome petal arriving.

Truly, this is a goodly heritage. We all honour our history and those of us with responsibility for the College now work to be good stewards for the future.

Alongside the history of the College, we should be very proud of what our women have achieved in the world. In academia we think of Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, who discovered pulsars, and Professor Dame Julia King, a leading engineer and now Vice-Chancellor of Aston University. We have a large number of doctors including Siân Griffiths and Sue Atkinson, both important leaders in public health. Our lawyers have made an impression with Wendy Joseph and Ann Campbell becoming judges. One of our younger lawyers, Alison Cole, was involved in the recent Khmer Rouge trial in Cambodia and you can read an interview with her on page 14.

In the arts we have the Oscar-winning actress Tilda Swinton; Sue Perkins, Claudia Winkleman and Mishal Husain in television; writers Maggie O'Farrell, Gillian Gill and Ursula Buchan, and our most distinguished musician Joanna MacGregor. We have people in senior positions at the Courtauld Institute, Kew Gardens, the Donmar Warehouse and M&C Saatchi. Most recently, we are proud of Liv Garfield becoming one of the very few Chief Executives of FTSE 100 companies when she took over Severn Trent.

Our women have made a huge impact in the world, often alongside raising families and contributing to communities. We need to make sure our young women today know what a proud heritage they have and become inspired to set high expectations for themselves.

**ALUMNAE ARE THE COLLEGE'S BEST AMBASSADORS, AND WE HOPE YOU WILL SHARE OUR VISION WIDELY.**

Murray Edwards College (founded as New Hall) has reaffirmed its commitment to remaining a College for women; this gives us a special opportunity to help outstanding young women from all backgrounds develop the skills and confidence to achieve their individual aspirations in a world where we are still far from gender equality.

**OUR VISION**

We provide an environment in which women can achieve excellence across all fields of academic study. Having responsibility for our students' supervisions enables us to deliver these appropriately, to support the development of confidence, aspiration and resilience.

In addition, we have our unique Gateway Programme which supports students during the transition to Cambridge and onwards into their careers. It covers study skills, personal development, career choice and preparation, as well as offering our own workplace internships. We want our students to have the best of Cambridge but with a special focus on the development

needs of young women, giving us something unique within the University. Our students also benefit from the excellent facilities of the University laboratories and lecture halls, where teaching is in mixed groups.

We also want to continue building our alumnae community so that our women feel connected to College throughout their lives. Our immediate plans include a mentoring programme for alumnae of 25-35 years old, at the early stages of their careers. The experiences of our alumnae inform the College's development as well as allowing us to engage with the wider debate on gender equality in society.



March 2014

## Women Today, Women Tomorrow Survey

Our 60th anniversary celebrations began with the launch of our 'Women Today, Women Tomorrow' survey results. Almost 1,000 alumnae took part and the results are helping us to plan new initiatives to address some of the issues raised.



# 60TH ANNIVERSARY

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In March, we celebrated International Women's Day with alumnae hosting events around the UK and the world. In College, we held a fascinating panel discussion on the issues facing women in the developing world and enjoyed performances from a variety of international musicians and dancers. Guests also enjoyed a Formal Hall in the Dome.



September 2014



## Silver Street Lunch

The final event in September was a lunch for alumnae from our first decade, who enjoyed a visit to the College's original home on Silver Street, now Darwin College, followed by lunch in the Fellows' Dining Room at Murray Edwards College.



## June 2014 ...

### Kaetsu Anniversary Celebrations

In June, we marked the 20th anniversary of the College's relationship with the Kaetsu Foundation with a special event in College. We were delighted to welcome members of the Kaetsu family to Cambridge as our honoured guests.



Paula Rego Unveiling

At the Benefactors' Feast in June the College Visitor, Lord Watson of Richmond, unveiled a new work by Dame Paula Rego painted as a gift to mark the College's 60th anniversary. The work depicts the story of Inês de Castro and now hangs in the Dome above High Table.

# SARY Highlights

## ALUMNAE WEEKEND & 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In September we welcomed over 400 alumnae and guests to College for a number of special events during the 2014 Alumnae Weekend. On the Friday we held a symposium on Women in Science and followed this with a panel discussion, led by alumna Mishal Husain (NH 1992), on women's achievements against the odds. On Saturday, there was a gala dinner in the Dome and a special celebration with live music and dancing in a marquee in Orchard Court. The weekend was rounded off with tours of the College gardens and New Hall Art Collection on Sunday morning.





# GOING 'MIXED' OR 'PROTECTING THE GAINS':

the dilemma of women's education for New Hall 1965–1974

During the second half of 2013 I trawled through the New Hall archives in search of stories, events, and facts concerning the decade 1965–74. This was part of the collective efforts of the New Hall Society in producing *New Hall Lives II*, which was launched in September 2014. An interesting find was the critical dilemma that faced New Hall about its very existence even as it was granted a Royal Charter formalising its standing as a Cambridge College in 1972.

A significant driver for change on women's access to education was the Government Green Paper of September 1973 on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women. The decade also marked a period of expansion for Cambridge as new Colleges were founded including Darwin College (1964), Lucy Cavendish (1965), Clare Hall (1965), and Wolfson College (1965). Another major shift was the debate and votes for colleges to 'go mixed' and provide 'co-residence' for men and women. Early adopters of 'going mixed' among the men's colleges were Churchill, Clare and King's in 1972 followed later by Selwyn, Trinity, Emmanuel, St. John's, and Sidney Sussex. In 1970 Girton moved to amend its statutes to allow for future admission of men.

During 1968–69 less than 11% of undergraduates at Cambridge were women; by 1973/74 this had risen to nearly 18%. More than 1,000 of the 1,576 places for women were being provided by the women's colleges; the rest were being provided by 6 mixed colleges. University teaching posts (in 1973 this was 8% of posts in Cambridge University held by women as against the 10.8% national average) and College Lectureships were the battleground for women academics; one third of teaching posts at the three women's colleges were purely college posts with no attached University Lectureship or any other outside funding.

The 1973 Green Paper exercised a flurry of correspondence, committees and concerns for New Hall facing the tide of change and unintended

consequences arising from the pressures to increase access for women. These dilemmas and sometimes contradictions included:

- Protecting the existing women's colleges from a brain drain in the context of a fixed or limited pool of student women applicants
- Ensuring a critical mass of women students in the mixed colleges so as to create a coherent support structure and to embed the change
- Increasing the pool of suitably qualified women applicants across the board and particularly in the natural sciences and engineering
- Enabling the professional development and appointment of women academics at mixed and women's colleges to generate sustainability of supply for teaching and support to students
- Potential damage to the prospect of academic women if colleges could not retain freedom to appoint that might be contrary to spirit of 'equal opportunities'
- Bastions of male education and richer colleges acting in sympathy with and support of New Hall in undertaking teaching and providing joint teaching appointments

The 'First Report of the Standing Sub-Committee on the Admission of Women' of which Dame Rosemary was a member was issued in 1974 and argued that,

*The movement towards equality of opportunity for men and women in Cambridge will be self-defeating if a relatively static number of women applicants is parcelled out among a growing number of mixed colleges, so that only a few of them can hope to recruit enough women to form a significant fraction of their undergraduate membership, and if the well-being of the women's colleges is undermined whilst an increased entry of women to Cambridge is built up. (para. 25)*

The position of New Hall as voiced in the correspondence of Dame Rosemary and the Committees in which she participated is one of planned growth and expansion with a target of reaching the national trend for all Universities of 30% participation by women. She agreed colleges should go mixed but that this process should be managed so as to allow time for the pool of applicants to grow and for the women's colleges to consolidate their own admissions and development.

Dame Rosemary sets this out most clearly in her *confidential note on Admission of Women of February 1974* (a very interesting and important paper in our Archive) that reads like a tract for the then state of New Hall and women's education. She sets out three arguments for her position:

1. That an increase in men's colleges accepting women applicants in a context of little or no increase in suitably qualified female applicants would put a strain on women's colleges to fill their places
2. That an increase in arts places to accommodate increased women in mixed colleges would put pressure on colleges with not enough teaching positions for arts and potentially undermine the maths and science subject posts and balance of science and arts subjects particularly in the women's colleges.
3. The overall arts/science ratio of the University could be negatively affected in a context of the explicit policy to increase science intake and limit or even reduce arts to reach a closer 50:50 balance and to reinforce Cambridge's advantage as a centre of excellence for science.

Whatever the growing pains of mixed colleges or the concerns about the weak pipeline of suitably qualified female students, women in Cambridge were here to stay and grow in numbers in the decades that followed. However, we should not dismiss the concerns of Dame Rosemary and other senior women in Cambridge. We see that the concern for the fledgling gains of the women's colleges were not totally misplaced as their role and purpose came to be challenged and pitted against better-resourced colleges and changing times where young women weighed up the relative appeals of mixed and single-sex colleges. Today, rather than the draw of a rebellious, radical, and different take on women's education we seek to understand why top flight female students no longer see women's colleges as the radical choice. Or to understand why, despite progress for women at all levels of access and performance at Cambridge, gender gaps remain in key areas such as the achievement of Firsts and the take-up of STEM subjects. In this history we see the challenges of changing times that hold important lessons for the future of Murray Edwards College.

Dr Eleanor O'Gorman (NH 1991)

Main photo: Dame Rosemary Murray.  
Left: Graduation at Murray Edwards College.



# Celebrating our Results

Once again in 2014 our students achieved a fantastic set of academic results.

Our finalists in particular did very well with 92% overall receiving a First or 2:1. Particular highlights included:

## Land Economy

All 3 finalists achieved a First

## Modern Languages

4 out of 9 finalists achieved a First

## Linguistics

1 out of 2 finalists achieved a First

## Engineering (4th Year)

3 out of 6 finalists achieved a Distinction

We were also delighted that Rebecca Sugden finished top of her year in the Modern Languages Faculty for the third year in a row!



Murray Edwards provided the supportive environment that I found key to academic success. Having taken a two-year break from my studies due to health problems, I was a little nervous about returning to Cambridge, but College did everything possible to ensure that the transition went smoothly. Three years later, I found myself graduating with a starred first, top of my year for the third year in a row! I sincerely believe that this wouldn't have been possible without the help and support from so many people at Murray Edwards, and I will look back on my time here with much fondness.

**Rebecca Sugden, MML**



I could not have achieved my results without two members of Murray Edwards. My tutor, Nicola Cavaleri, taught me to write essays in some individual sessions – and a good grade in the essay paper that I had struggled with was what got me my distinction. In previous years I succeeded in no small part because of my Director of Studies, Vicky Neale, who had taught me, shown her belief in me, and encouraged me. Thank you so much to both of them. Murray Edwards, and the people there, have given me the confidence to be myself. Moreover, it's made me believe that in the future I can go where I want to – not necessarily following more standard paths.

**Sally-Anne Bennett,  
Management Studies**



When I arrived at Murray Edwards I was struck by how warm and welcoming everyone was. Throughout my first year older students went out of their way to help freshers, talking through subject choices in Michaelmas and reassuring us that the exams weren't as impossible as we thought when Easter arrived. My Director of Studies was also incredibly supportive, giving up his time to go over difficult topics and ensure we felt confident. This encouragement has continued throughout my time here, and the confidence gained from living and working in such a supportive environment has been invaluable in helping me achieve my results.

**Tamara Kohler, Physics**



# Pathways to Success

Hilarie Bateman, Admissions Tutor & Gateway Programme Lead

Three years ago (July 2011) we ran our first 'Pathways to Success' conference for outstanding young women from the lower sixth.

The teachers and students who attended told us that they loved it and encouraged us to make it an annual event. So we did! Running our fourth conference this Summer, we welcomed the largest contingent yet (around 100 students and 25 teachers) to a stimulating programme of activities. This included two inspirational talks, about life and career choices, from alumnae Frances Edmonds (NH 1970) and Becca Stanley (NH 2007).

Given that there is so much on offer for sixth form students through leading universities several people have asked me why our event 'works'. I think it embraces 3 key features which are unusual and valued (as exemplified by the quotes from teacher feedback).

## Respecting individual choice

We start by recognising that even though each student has been selected to attend on the basis of their academic ability many have not yet decided that they wish to aspire to Cambridge or even to university studies. We acknowledge this and provide the space for them to start talking about what they want from their futures and how they (as individuals) define the constituents of 'success'.

*'Students have begun to think about their own definitions of success and have been able to consider their own futures without strong influences from the opinions of others – encouraging independent thought and choice!'*

## 'Ability' as the common denominator

We deliberately select outstanding young women from a wide range of schools and backgrounds and

then we mix them up to engage in discussions and to socialise. Many students are struck by this and by the fact that the stimulating discussions take place regardless of who they are, where they come from or family circumstances. We sense that this undermines false stereotypes and provides a genuine flavour of our approach to 'access'.

*'The students come from an area of high deprivation and initial thoughts of Oxbridge is that it is something intimidating. ... [but] they 'loved it'. They particularly found the staff/students very friendly, welcoming and inclusive.'*

## Putting 'women first'

Many students who attend the conference are very wary of the 'women-only' badging that they associate with the College. Through Pathways they experience what this environment can offer, putting the interests of women first and providing relevant opportunities that appeal to them. Over the past few years many of them have described the overnight experience as 'eye-opening', 'liberating' and 'enabling'.

*'Furthermore I have been really persuaded by the idea of 'women first' as opposed to 'women only'. Even in this day and age this is important and empowering for talented young women.'*

Of course it is our student guests who matter most within this enjoyable event. Asked what they will 'take away' they wrote:

*'More confidence in my ability and myself'*

*'A changed view of Cambridge'*

*'A sense of empowerment in being a young woman with the potential to achieve 'success''*

Murray Edwards College is delighted to welcome three new Professors to the Fellowship this year.

# MEET OUR NEW PROFESSORS



## Professor Denise Morrey

In October 2014, I will begin my appointment as a Visiting Professor at Murray Edwards College, something which I view with a sense of both pride and honour. I was an undergraduate at New Hall, studying Engineering from 1979 to 1982. I came up to Cambridge after spending a year with British Rail, as their first female Engineering Sponsored Student, a fascinating experience in terms of both engineering and people skills.

Most of my working life after graduation has been spent in higher education. I completed most of my PhD whilst working in industry, but realised that my real interest was in research and teaching. In particular, I became interested in how engineering education might adapt to better meet the needs of industry. I pioneered the development of courses in the field of Motorsport Engineering, working closely with a number of the Formula 1 teams and suppliers, based in and around Oxfordshire. These courses now have an international reputation, and the fact that teams such as Renault F1 and Infiniti Red Bull Racing each employ more than 25 graduates from Oxford Brookes University, tells me that the research-led teaching environment that we have created continues to provide an excellent grounding for those who want to succeed in this fast-moving industry.

After ten years as Dean of Faculty in Engineering and Computing at Oxford Brookes, I am lucky that I am now able to devote most of my working time to my research, which currently falls into three main areas: vehicle dynamics, vehicle lightweighting, and sustainable transport. I am currently Principal or Co-Investigator of five externally funded research grants, two of which are joint with colleagues at Oxford University.

I am looking forward to my appointment as Visiting Professor at Murray Edwards, and to my interactions with undergraduates and fellows, both in the College, and further afield.



## Professor Martin Roland

My chair at Cambridge is in Health Services Research and my main research is on how to improve the quality of care that the NHS and other healthcare systems provide. So there's plenty to do – a retired fellow of the College, on hearing what I did recently, exclaimed "Can't you get a move on!". My background to this is as a GP – I was Professor of General Practice in Manchester for 18 years before moving to Cambridge in 2009.

**IT FEELS LIKE A COLLEGE WHICH IS REALLY GOING PLACES AND WHERE THERE IS LOADS TO DO. I'M DELIGHTED TO BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE.**

I was really delighted when I was asked to join Murray Edwards as a Professorial Fellow. I've known Barbara Stocking for a long time, so I wasn't surprised when she immediately put me to work. The New Hall Art Collection links to a longstanding personal interest in the arts, so I now find myself chairing the Art Committee and thinking how we can make the most of this wonderful collection – the largest collection of contemporary women's art outside the US. I'm also leading the College's plan to develop a mentoring scheme for our alumnae 5-15 years post-graduation which we're piloting this autumn and hope to roll out in 2015. It feels like a College which is really going places and where there is loads to do. I'm delighted to be able to contribute.



## Professor John Spencer

I have been a Cambridge legal academic for 44 years, for the last of them as a Professor in the Law Faculty. During that time I have researched and taught across range of legal subjects, in recent years working mainly on criminal law, criminal procedure and evidence, with a particular interest in the European angle; how the criminal law operates across the Channel, and the impact of EU law on the criminal law of the UK, and vice versa.

Having reached the University retiring age, last December I retired. Understandably, Selwyn College (of which I have been a member since 1965) does not allow retired Fellows to retain their offices unless there is a shortage of dons in their subject area, which in my case there was not. So I was wondering where my future place of work would be if I was to remain intellectually active in my subject when, to my great pleasure, Murray Edwards invited me to come here as a Bye Fellow, in return for some teaching and general support for Law. I am delighted to be here, and look forward to supervising the Murray Edwards students, and to continuing to work with Dr Turenne, my long-standing colleague on the Law Faculty's Erasmus Exchange Programme, and the Joint Degree with the University of Paris II.

**MURRAY EDWARDS INVITED ME TO COME HERE AS A BYE FELLOW, IN RETURN FOR SOME TEACHING AND GENERAL SUPPORT FOR LAW. I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SUPERVISING THE MURRAY EDWARDS STUDENTS.**

# FELLOWS' RESEARCH

From the College's early days, when Rosemary Murray and Robin Hammond were the only two Tutors, the Fellowship has developed into a vibrant, well-rounded academic community of fifty-seven Fellows and fifteen Bye Fellows. In this issue we hear from three of our Fellows about their latest research.



Dr Juliet Usher-Smith

I am a University Clinical Lecturer in General Practice within the Department of Public Health and Primary Care and spend two days a week as a GP in Cambridge and three days within the department. Working in a field where patients often present early in the course of a disease with non-specific symptoms and where much of our work is aimed at prevention of disease, I have always been interested in how diagnoses are made and the management of risk. My recent work has focused on the diagnosis of type 1 diabetes in children where many children have symptoms for up to six months before they are diagnosed and I am currently working on several projects looking at the potential use of risk prediction tools. To a greater or lesser extent, every decision made within healthcare involves the assessment of risk. Tools such as the Framingham score for predicting future risk of heart attack or stroke have been available for over 15 years and, along with others for predicting risk of current disease, have the potential to improve clinical decision making. However there remain many unanswered questions about how best to integrate them into clinical practice. In particular, I am interested in the challenges of developing and choosing the best tools, and measuring the effects the use of risk prediction tools has on both GPs and patients.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE ...

Strengthening the College's Fellowship is one of our key strategic goals over the next five years and we are currently raising funds for new Fellowships in Law, Engineering and Mathematics.

If you would like to make a contribution to our target of £180,000 per Fellowship, please contact:

**Fiona Duffy**

E: [fjd22@cam.ac.uk](mailto:fjd22@cam.ac.uk) or

T: +44 (0)1223 763161



## Dr Sophie Turenne

I work in the fields of Constitutional law and European Union law. I currently research all facets of judicial independence. This includes judicial governance, pay and conditions, the politics of judicial appointments, whether judges should conduct public inquiries, and standards of judicial conduct. I co-wrote the second edition of *Judges on Trial: the Independence and Accountability of the English Judiciary* (CUP, 2013). I was delighted to have as a main point of contact in the judiciary the President of the Queen's Bench division who, by the time the book was published, had been appointed Lord Chief Justice. I remember too the book launch when one member of the Supreme Court expressed concerns that it might still be seen as inappropriate for a judge to drink regularly in a public house!

I have since been editing a volume in which fifteen contributors from different countries examine the principle of a fair reflection of society in the judiciary in their own legal system. It is a hot topic in Anglo-American legal systems, where debates about judicial diversity (or the lack of it), and in particular what the phrase should mean, are rife. This ties in with my broader interests in Comparative Law (which I also teach at Cambridge) and the influence of culture, as I often consider the different ways a common problem is handled by national courts and other legal institutions.

My other on-going project deals with the independence of the Court of Justice of the European Union. The European Commission recently acknowledged that judicial independence is at the heart of a functioning internal market and yet very little is publicly known about how each Member State comes to select candidates for appointment at the Court. I hope to suggest ways to enhance the Court's accountability that are appropriate to this unique institution.



## Dr Rachel Leow

I'm a historian of modern East and Southeast Asia, but my interests range very widely. My first degree was in modern European History at Warwick University and it was only during my MPhil and PhD, both taken at Cambridge, that I really began to work on the areas of Asia I now specialise in.

Currently, I am writing a book on language and nationalism in Southeast Asia, based on my doctoral research, as well as starting new research on the May Fourth movement in interwar China. I am also heading up a collaborative project on the modern history of political encyclopaedias and dictionaries in Asia, which will hopefully run over the next few years, drawing on sources in Chinese, Japanese, Urdu, Vietnamese, Indonesian and Malay to write a truly transnational history of political and ideological change in modern Asia. A common theme in my work is an interest in language and how it is affected by, and consequently indexes, deep socio-political change. My present research projects are all focused on historical moments in which social upheaval has caused linguistic reinvention; in the case of May Fourth, the vernacularisation of the Chinese language and the rejection of two thousand years of a classical tradition, and in the case of Southeast Asia, the influx into wartime and revolutionary societies of modern political lexicons and the challenges posed by multilingual communities to colonial governance.

# Working on the Khmer Rouge Tribunal:

## AN INTERVIEW WITH ALISON COLE

Alison Cole graduated from Murray Edwards in 2003 with a first class degree in Law before going on to obtain her Master of Law degree from Harvard. Currently she is based in New York, working in the International Justice programme for the Open Society Justice Initiative, putting together projects providing technical assistance to international courts. Recently, she worked as a legal officer at the Khmer Rouge tribunal in Phnom Penh.

### Could you tell us more about your role in the recent trial of the Khmer Rouge leaders?

I was working with the investigating judges, helping to collect and analyse the evidence. There were over 30 crime scenes in total, and the ones I was responsible for involved forced transfer of population, forced marriage and sexual violence charges. When the case came to trial, because of the age of the accused and the many different charges, they decided just to focus on a smaller aspect, which ended up being the charges that I worked on. At the time they made that announcement I was a little overwhelmed because it put a lot more responsibility on my shoulders than I was anticipating, but when the result came through I think the evidence really spoke for itself.

### Given the advanced age of the accused, it's unlikely they'll serve any meaningful part of their life sentences. What do you think can be done to speed up the judicial process?

The first thing that could be done is not waiting 30 years to start the trials! This is a common challenge though, known as the peace versus justice debate, asking whether we should first bring peace to the country or immediately talk about accountability even where there is ongoing or recent conflict.

As I mentioned earlier, the charges were narrowed so the trial itself was more efficient. I think there's some merit in that, as the objective of international justice is not necessarily to provide a historical record but to identify the most responsible individuals and have a focussed proceeding against them which can then be a basis for peace and reconciliation. What concerns me though is how you make the choice about what crimes are most important to highlight and which aren't? If you're coming from any of the targeted ethnic groups then it's no doubt incredibly frustrating that there hasn't been any consideration of the genocide charges yet. Similarly if you're a woman survivor and there has been no consideration of the gender component then that also seems problematic.

I think what's needed is a lot of local involvement in the very early stages, to guide the investigation so you can build the enquiry based on how events unfolded. In this way, you can identify the crimes that most reflect the harms endured by the society and will hopefully lessen the impact of missing certain crimes which should be identified.

### How do you think international law will have to adapt in response to modern crimes and technology?

International law is changing, both in the threats to our core human rights and our responses to those threats. The foundations of international law are based around the idea that the most significant kind of harm is physical harm, which is certainly horrific and it is necessary to address this, but I think now a lot of global suffering comes in different forms. This can be a result of economic harm, damage to the environment by corporate entities, forced transfer of population, or even denial of basic human needs such as food and healthcare.



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*Left: Bou Meng after having received a copy of the Duch-verdict on 12 August 2010. He is one of only a handful survivors from the secret Khmer Rouge prison S21.*

*Below: Former Khmer Rouge leader Nuon Chea attends his trial at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia on the outskirts of Phnom Penh.*



© CORBIS

The way we should respond to these changes is through the empowerment of the individual and finding a way to give each citizen a chance to speak directly for themselves. Modern technology is helping with this, for example people in the Ivory Coast are now able to record atrocities on their Nokia SMS phones, which is taking us into a whole new realm of accountability.

**Have you noticed any particular difficulties faced by women in the legal profession?**

I often experienced a sense of not being taken seriously or other people taking credit for my ideas. At first I attributed this to my being junior, but later in my career when I was confident I knew what I was talking about I noticed it was still happening. That's when I started to suspect that it wasn't because of my lack of experience but was actually sexism.

**What more should be done to support professional women?**

What really helps me is to have female mentors, someone to tell me the strategies that they tried, what worked and what didn't. Anne Lonsdale, former New Hall President, has been wonderful helping me throughout my career. Most important is being reminded to have confidence in yourself, no matter what. We need more women at the highest level of different professions so they have more visibility to encourage more women out there to keep rising up through the ranks.

Hannah Warren, 2nd Year, Law



# GARDEN ACTIVITY

In this issue we meet our Garden Apprentice Louise Cook, who is on a one-year placement at Murray Edwards College as part of a scheme run by the Women's Farm and Garden Association.



The Women's Farm and Garden Association was founded in 1899 by women concerned about the lack of education and employment opportunities for women working on the land. The Association has developed many training schemes over the years and in 1993 they set up the Work and Retrain as a Gardener Scheme (WRAGS) specifically for older students considering a career change, in order for them to gain the necessary practical experience.

I first became aware of the scheme by chance when my husband gave me the book *The Elements of Organic Gardening* by HRH the Prince of Wales with Stephanie Donaldson, which included a reference to it. At the time I had been working in an office, but my role had recently changed and so I had decided to become a gardener. Although I had begun studying for my RHS Level 2 qualification, I wasn't sure how to go about gaining the necessary practical experience, so WRAGS seemed like the ideal opportunity.

In November 2013 I met Karen De Rosa, who co-ordinates WRAGS in East Anglia, and she let me know about a possible placement at a Cambridge

college, which is how I found myself at Murray Edwards on a rainy day in January 2014 for an interview with Head Gardener Jo Cobb. I took one look at the gardens, decided this was the place for me and to my delight was offered the placement!

The garden here has so much to offer and Jo's style really appeals to me; structure but with a profusion of planting. All of the members of the gardening team have been so supportive and willing to share their knowledge with me, and I have learned so much from them. I have a private client who asked me to come up with some designs for their garden and being able to discuss ideas with the team here has been so valuable. I will really miss them all when my placement ends (the year is passing far too quickly!) but I hope that I will still be around from time to time to help out and share ideas.

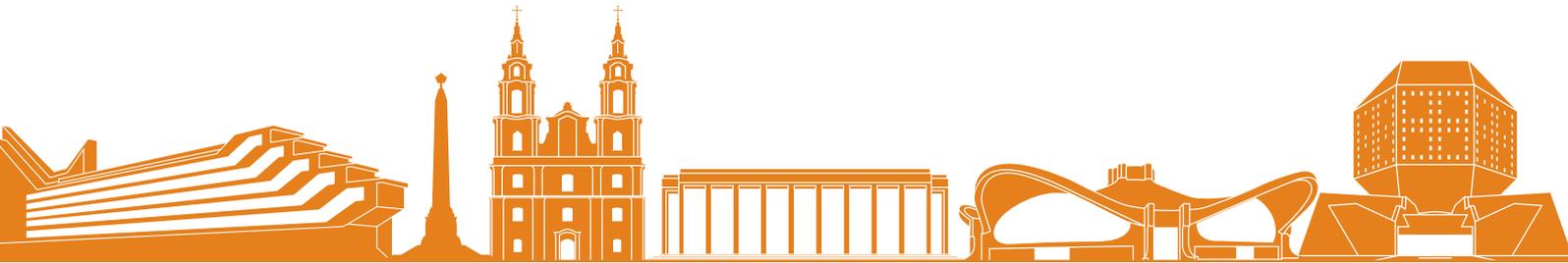
I don't regret my decision to become a gardener at all and if there is anyone else out there considering a career change, my advice would be to go for it!

**Louise's placement at Murray Edwards College is being funded by the income from a legacy left to the College by Nora Barlow. For more information on how you can benefit the College by leaving a gift in your Will, please contact Megan Schaible on [ms2230@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ms2230@cam.ac.uk) or +44 (0)1223 763172.**



# Bridges to Belarus

Sarah Greaves, College Administrator



Our staff continue to be involved in a wide range of activities and organisations outside of College. In this issue, we hear from Sarah Greaves about her work with the charity Bridges to Belarus.

Bridges to Belarus was set up in 2005 by Rachel Furley, a medical graduate from Downing College, to help children and families affected by the 1986 Chernobyl Disaster. The charity provides essential equipment and food, as well as medication.

70% of the fallout from Chernobyl was blown north into the southern regions of Belarus. Approximately 135,000 people, mostly farmers, were evacuated immediately but they gradually returned to their land in order to support their families. As a result, over two million people in Belarus live in contaminated regions, suffering the effects of continual radiation exposure through their food, water and air. The rate of thyroid cancer is estimated to have increased by 5,000% since 1986, whilst the cases of leukaemia, birth defects and chromosomal abnormalities continue to rise through the subsequent generations.

Having been a Trustee of Bridges to Belarus for several years, I joined Rachel for my first trip to Rogachev in the Gomel region this May. We work with Sails of Childhood, a local organisation who assess the needs of the families we help, and their

representative, Galina Bordukova, had arranged several home visits for us. Belarusian social policy, in an attempt to stimulate population growth, provides parents of five or more children exemption from some taxes, financial support for housing construction or provision of finished accommodation; as a result many of the families struggle to attain this family size.

In addition to meeting the families, we visited the local Rehabilitation Centre, used by young people with physical and mental disabilities. The centre has an excellent art, dance and music programme as well as focusing on improvement of life skills. Bridges to Belarus support the centre by providing a variety of equipment.

We also were invited to School No. 5, located in the fast-growing poorer region of Rogachev, which takes students between 6 and 17 years old. We will be holding an English Language Summer School there this year, helping to support the school with its drive to improve the English Language facilities.

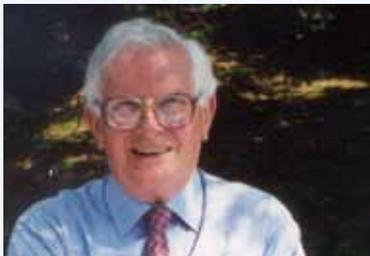
For more information about Bridges to Belarus and its work, please see [www.bridgestobelarus.org.uk](http://www.bridgestobelarus.org.uk)



Above: The children were delighted with the gift of a College teddy bear.

Left: Sarah Greaves (front row left) with one of the Belarussian groups.

# Obituaries



## George Levack OBE MA

Mr George Levack, Fellow Emeritus of Murray Edwards College, died on 23 July 2014 aged 96. George was the College Bursar from October 1971 to his retirement at the age of 65 in 1983.

When he arrived at New Hall it was in the process of being transformed to full College status within the University of Cambridge. Its other transformation however was to a mixed fellowship; and he was the first male fellow, indeed the first male to hold a senior appointment at any of the women's colleges in Oxbridge.

Educated in Edinburgh Academy and Balliol College Oxford, George served in the War during 1940–1943 with the Gold Coast Regiment 7(WA) Infantry Brigade. His overseas activities continued in the Colonial Service where he served in the Prime Minister's Office, Gold Coast, as Permanent Secretary in the Ghanaian Ministry of Housing, and Permanent Secretary in the Northern Rhodesia/Zambian Ministry of Agriculture. On return to the UK he was Senior Administrative Officer Vice-Chancellor's Committee and Assistant Secretary of the Medical Research Council.

With such a record it is not surprising that Dr. Joan Hinde, Fellow Emerita, recalls "When interviewed for the bursarship George stood out above the rest". She also says "He somehow made us feel that appointing our first male bursar and our first male fellow, in times of financial uncertainty and student unrest, was the safe thing to do! He was an excellent Bursar and a true Norfolk Gentleman."



## Dr Janet Moore

Dr Janet Moore, Fellow Emerita of Murray Edwards College, died on 7 August 2014 aged 88. Janet joined the College in 1971 to direct studies in Zoology and was Senior Tutor from 1973–1984. Following her retirement in 1992, she continued to supervise and was a co-opted member of the New Hall Society Committee for many years.

Throughout her time at the College, Janet was a source of great support and inspiration for the many students she taught and colleagues she worked with. A huge number of alumnae got in touch to share their memories of her, a small selection of which are below and opposite.

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There will be a special commemoration for Janet in College on Sunday 30 November 2014 from 3.00 – 5.00pm. If you would like to attend please RSVP to:  
[alumnae@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumnae@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk)

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*"Her approach to life was so positive and her example so exemplary that I'm sure there are whole generations saying to themselves 'what would Janet do' when they encounter a problem to be solved or lived with."*

Margaret Harding (née Allinson, NH 1975)

*"Janet hosted a dinner for the first year students at the end of our first year. I have not since had such delicious carrot soup 25 years after leaving New Hall!"*

**Kasia Reed (née Zabnienska, NH 1986)**

*"Of all of the supervisors I had during my 3 years, it was Janet Moore who inspired me the most and who gave me confidence in my own abilities. Her enthusiasm for everything zoological, but particularly nematode worms, was translated into her teaching; on more than one occasion I came home from the Zoology Museum with a new found love of all things worm-like."*

**Kate Hodges (NH 2003)**

*"The memory that to me sums her up the best is of her greeting me, and my parents, by name when I first arrived at College in 1980 as a new fresher. My parents in particular were tremendously impressed that she had taken the trouble to learn who was who, and it reassured them enormously that they were leaving their daughter in safe hands. They were right..."*

**Hazel Aucken (née Brodley, NH 1980)**

*"I will always remember her warmly and will particularly miss her lively little Christmas missives which always included a lovely little drawing of notable things she and Norman had seen on their travels during the year."*

**Janine Lettau (NH 1972)**

## Janet

*(for Dr Janet Moore, 1926–2014)*

Skipping along on Fountain Court,  
tweed skirt, handbag. Oh you've taught  
far more than body plans of worms  
much more than coping with Easter Terms...

Picnics at Insect Lab, top floor:  
yoghurt, rolls, wise counsel, more...  
... you've held the secrets of my schemes,  
witnessed my tears, visioned my dreams.

Sent me a trowel for my wedding -  
in use far longer than linen bedding -  
and to our baby son allot a  
"Tale of Johnny Town-Mouse": by Beatrix Potter.

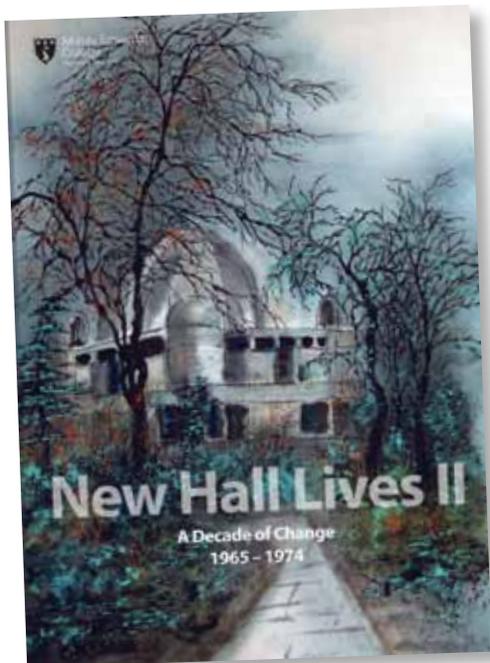
Too many stories to re-tell,  
more smiles, more laughter than would fill  
a meadow rich with tapestry  
of invertebrate diversity.

Almost too many gifts! Recall  
the ones most precious of them all:  
the depth of insight, the warmth of learning,  
an ocean of your deep discerning.

A watershed of nemertines  
you probed with joy. From genes:  
form/function, we never part.

Zoologist, mentor, family heart.

**Kathy McVittie (née Labrum, NH 1972)**



## New Hall Lives II

### A Decade of Change 1965 – 1974

Compiled and edited by  
Tessa Kilvington-Shaw (1970)

The second volume of New Hall Lives is now available to purchase. Published as part of the College's 60th anniversary celebrations, this volume captures the experiences of alumnae from the College's

second decade (1965 – 1974), who took up residence in the new building on Huntingdon Road. Reminiscences, autobiographies, anecdotes and obituaries are set in context by research from the College's archives, and timelines of contemporary events in the University and the wider world.

The book is priced at £15 (plus £3 for postage and packing) and can be purchased at:

[www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk/alumnae/publications/newhalllives](http://www.murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk/alumnae/publications/newhalllives)  
or by contacting the Development Office:  
[alumnae@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumnae@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk) or +44 (0)1223 762288.

#### Commemoration for Dr Janet Moore

Sunday 30 November 2014,  
3.00 – 5.00pm

Join us to celebrate the life of Dr Janet Moore, Fellow Emerita of Murray Edwards College. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the Development Office.

#### International Day London Drinks

Thursday 5 March 2015

The annual London drinks reception will take place on Thursday 5 March. More details to follow.

#### International New Hall Society Day

Saturday 7 March 2015

We will be celebrating International Day in College with a panel discussion and Formal Hall – more details to follow. If you can't be in Cambridge, please do consider arranging a gathering in your local area. We are happy to help, just get in touch with the Development Office.

For more details about any of these events, please contact the Development Office: [alumnae@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumnae@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk) or +44 (0)1223 762288.

#### New Hall Society Family Day

Sunday 12 July 2015

Our annual family fun day will take place on Sunday 12 July. More details will follow in early 2015.

#### Alumnae Weekend 2015

Friday 25 – Sunday 27  
September 2015

Please mark the dates of Alumnae Weekend in your diary now – especially if you matriculated in 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995 or 2005, as we will be sending special invitations to these anniversary groups.

#### Visits to USA and Asia

Barbara Stocking will once again visit alumnae in the USA in mid-March 2015, and will take part in a special event in New York on Saturday 21 March, hosted by Cambridge in America. She will also visit Singapore and Hong Kong in early September 2015. More details will follow in future e-newsletters.

### Join our online network



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[www.facebook.com/MurrayEdwardsCollege](http://www.facebook.com/MurrayEdwardsCollege)

Follow us on Twitter:  
[@MECCambridge](https://twitter.com/MECCambridge)

Network on LinkedIn: New Hall, Cambridge Alumnae Group

View our photostream on Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/murrayedwardscollege](http://www.flickr.com/photos/murrayedwardscollege)



WORDPRESS

Follow our 60th anniversary blog:  
[www.murrayedwardscollegegoingplaces.wordpress.com](http://www.murrayedwardscollegegoingplaces.wordpress.com)