leading universities. This involves many individual triumphs at all levels. But we should certainly celebrate collectively the fact that 104 of our students achieved Firsts – including 3 Starred Firsts and several very high rankings. Five won University Prizes.

We recognise that our students, and usually their families, invest heavily in their university education – in terms of fees, living costs, and deferred starts to their careers as wage-earners. Of course, we work very hard to offer outstanding teaching and research facilities in an inspiring academic environment with extensive, enriching opportunities. It is essential that we also continue to offer financial support to ensure, as far as possible, that financial considerations do not deter any suitably qualified student from applying to Fitzwilliam or prevent them from thriving whilst here. In total, during the course of the year, the College made a total of 1132 awards to undergraduate and graduate students, under a range of schemes and from a multiplicity of funds.

Members of the College continue to conduct research at the forefront of every academic field. During the year thirty-one doctoral dissertations by Fitzwilliam students were approved for the award of PhD degrees. Five Research Fellows pursued diverse projects at an early stage in their academic careers (one, Dr Hazel Wilkinson, was presented with a Vice-Chancellor’s Public Engagement with Research Award). Dozens of young academics engaged in postdoctoral research across the University played a leading part in the life of the College as Bye-Fellows. College Teaching Officers and University Lecturers developed their academic research alongside their teaching responsibilities, and also hosted five Visiting Fellows, from around the world, to collaborate in research projects in Cambridge.

Fellows of the College continued to hold senior management roles within the University, notably the roles of Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Enterprise and Regional Affairs (Professor Nigel Slater), the Head of the School of Arts and Humanities (Professor Martin Millett) and the Head of the Department of Engineering (Professor David Cardwell). All senior officers work closely with colleagues across the colleges and University in many aspects of our collaborative endeavour, seeking always to strengthen Fitzwilliam as a major Cambridge college.

We work just as closely with the elected officers of the JCR and MCR, who do an outstanding job of representing the interests of the student body, so that we can together preserve and rejuvenate the valuable buildings and traditions inherited from the College’s proud past, address the problems of today to enable the present generation of students to derive the greatest possible benefit from their time at Fitzwilliam, and ensure our institution continues to thrive, whatever the future holds.

PAUL CHIRICO

COLLEGE STATISTICS

Undergraduate-student statistics

At the beginning of the academic year 2015–2016, there were 435 students in residence registered for undergraduate degrees, 258 men and 177 women. Corresponding numbers for 2014–2015 were 431, 261 and 170. There were no affiliated students in 2015–2016.

About 80% of the undergraduates were from the UK, about 5% from other European Union countries, about 15% from outside Europe, and one student from the ‘Islands’.

The results for the finalists in those years were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First, with Distinction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
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<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Merit</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deserved Honours</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate-student statistics

In January 2016 there were approximately 308 full-time graduate students on the books of the College; the total changes through the year as, for instance, PhD students are approved for their degrees. Because of the number of one-year courses, the number of first-year graduate students is similar to the number of first-year undergraduates.

This population was very diverse in origin: about 36% of the full-time graduate students were from the UK, about 18% from other European Union countries, and about 45% from outside Europe. It was about 65% male and 35% female.

Of the full-time graduate students, 52% were either registered as candidates for the PhD or on track to be so registered (161 students), and 34% were undertaking MPhil or other one-year Masters degrees (106 students: some were taking the MPhil as a precursor to studying for a PhD – a formal requirement in many Departments – whilst others were studying here for a single year with the MPhil as the final degree). Other full-time students were in medical or veterinary studies (23 students), undertaking other courses such as those leading to PGCE or LLM, or at the Judge Institute working for an MBA.

There were also about 52 part-time graduate students, of which the largest group was 32 senior Police Officers studying Applied Criminology and Police Management. Others included 7 PhD or PhD-track students and some Diploma students.

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND PRIZES

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENTSHIPS for 2016–2017

Fitzwilliam College PhD Studentship: J. McIntosh, A. Brown (renewal), S.R. Saxena (renewal). Fitzwilliam College Masters Studentship: M. Keller. Leathersellers Scholarships: M. Bergin

**COLLEGE SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS**


1912 SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to students who achieved First Class or equivalent


**SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to students with First Class or equivalent**

Elections to scholarships


**Re-elections to scholarships**


**PRIZES for First Class results in examinations**

OTHER AWARDS AND PRIZES

Other Prizes
R N Walters: D. Briscoe-Peaple (Classics). Redlauw: M. Ashtine (PhD Geography); R. Bateman (PhD English); A. Cica, L. Hayhoe (History); L. Farey (History of Art).

Other Fitzwilliam Society awards
Chapel Choir: P. Brooks, A. Sarsenbayey, A. Cartlidge.

Graduate Research and Conference Grants
Graduate Students at Fitzwilliam, undertaking PhD or Masters studies, have access to a range of funds which support them in their research. In 2015–2016, a total of about 135 awards were made, from sources which included the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund Research Fund, the Student Opportunities Fund, the Graduate Tutors’ Fund and the Cuthbert-Edwards Fund.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL PRIZES

John Kinsella & Thaq Ryan Poetry Prize: N. Whittaker (English).
Johnson Matthey Prize for the best Inorganic project: T. Sayer (NST Chemistry).
Philip Lake Prize: T. Callender (Geography). William Vaughan Lewis Prize: P. Hu, W. Marks, O. Sule (Geography).

ORGAN MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

New Organ and Choral Awards

Renewed Organ and Choral Awards
W S Thatcher Organ Scholarship: A. Fisher (Trinity College). Queen Anne’s Choral Scholarship: P. Quincy (alto).

Other Music Scholarships
The following dissertations were approved for the degree of PhD during the year 2015–2016.

- E.A. Al Saeed Ahmad: A mixed methods study of the feasibility and acceptability of an opportunistic community pharmacy based CVD risk assessment service in Alexandria, Egypt
- Y. Bin Baqui: Sound generation from coherent structures in subsonic jets
- M. Borysek: Takkanot Kandiyah: a collection of legislative statutes as a source for the assessment of laymen’s legal authority in a Jewish community in Venetian Crete
- J.M.A. Brough: Determining finite group structure from the conjugacy class sizes
- C.-C. Chen: Interactions of NK cells with human cytomegalovirus during the viral latent and lytic life cycles
- P. Colin: From metagenomes to directed evolution — microfluidic droplets identify novel promiscuous enzymes in environmental gene libraries
- S. Facchin: The impact of environment on the evolution of protoplanetary discs
- T.A. Fernandes Gomes Da Costa: The interaction between quasars and their cosmic environment
- P.J. Gallimore: Molecular characterisation of organic aerosols using soft ionisation mass spectrometry
- G.J. Godbole: ‘Selling land is the beginning of the end for us’: understanding rural women’s perspectives on the impact of increasing land sale in western Maharashtra, India
- E.J. Gunn: Aerodynamics of boundary layer ingesting fans
- T. Ho: Shear velocity and anisotropic structure of the upper mantle from surface wave observations
- J.E. Horgan: Religion, morality, and crime
- H. Ishihara: Role of agency, institution and community in common pool resource management
- M.M. Kamal: Investigation of structure and dynamics of turbulent premixed and stratified methane/air flames using laser diagnostic techniques
- J.M. Lawson: A scanning PIV study of homogeneous turbulence at the dissipation scale
- J. Lee: Mapping individual trees from airborne multi-sensor imagery
- N. Medic: Food for thought: examining the neural circuitry regulating food choices
- Y. Montelongo: Scattering holography
- J.P. Mueller: Department stores in south-west Germany, 1881–1939
- E.R. Powell: Becoming beauty: the art of David Jones and the craft of theology
- I.A. Reyna Llorens: Identifying regulatory elements required for gene expression in C4 photosynthesis
- B. Ross: Music, language, and syntactic integration
- J. Samuel: Through Foxe’s eyes: women’s Godliness and disobedience in John Foxe’s acts and monuments
- E.C.P.M. Serrao: Applications of metabolic imaging in oncology using dynamic nuclear polarisation
- L. Swirski: Gaze estimation on glasses-based stereoscopic displays
- J.S. Tchilingirian: British think-tanks and the production of policy knowledge: a social network analysis of policy intellectuals
- S.I. Thomson: A new model of Jupiter’s jet streams and the effects of moist convection
- Z. Wang: Generalized Dirichlet to Neumann map for linear evolution equations on half-line and singular integrals of non-convolution type on product spaces
- B. Yalcin: Roles of spastic paraplegia proteins in organisation of endoplasmic reticulum in drosophila motor axons

Elements of research-student life: the MCR and the Olisa library
GENERAL ADMISSION 2016

On Saturday 25 June 2016, 121 graduands were admitted to their degrees in person. Of these, 116 received the degree of BA (of whom 23 on four-year courses received MEng, MMath or MSci in addition to the BA), whilst four received LLM degrees and one received the degree of VetMB.
Ready to go down to the Senate House: the Head Porter, Stuart Douglas, and graduands at the end of Lime Tree Avenue.

Senate House Passage: the Head Porter leads the Praelector and the Senior Tutor.

The Senior Tutor addresses the new graduates and their families.
DAIICHI STUDENT EXCHANGE

The exchange scheme, now in its eighteenth year, enables graduates from Fitzwilliam and from St Anne’s, Oxford, to spend a year at Daiichi University of Economics, where they study Japanese language and immerse themselves in Japanese culture. Daiichi University is in Kyushu, in the coastal city of Fukuoka which faces South Korea across the straits. The scheme is funded entirely by Tsuzuki Sogo Gakuen, a trust comprising some fifty institutions which supports 70,000 children and young people at all stages of education from kindergarten through to university. The Institute pays for all travel, board and lodging and also funds tuition for one academic year. The graduates teach English conversation for a few hours a week in a school, and often undertake private tuition as well.

For the 2015–2016 year, five students from Fitzwilliam – Sam Burville (2012), Grace Carroll (2011), Philip Hart (2012), James Hicks-Williams (2012), and Cameron Standage (2012) – and four students from St Anne’s made the journey to the Orient.

MARK SAVAGE TRAVEL AWARDS

The travel awards, given annually, commemorate Mark Savage (1999) who died in 2000 whilst he was an undergraduate at Fitzwilliam.

Dublin Field Trip

I went to Dublin for five days in March 2016, to investigate the Easter Uprising for my Geography Part I B coursework. I receive a Bursary from the College, and funding the trip was proving tricky, but thanks to the help of the Mark Savage Fund I did not have to worry about financing the trip.

The trip was greatly rewarding and I learned about a range of different parts of Dublin and aspects of Irish history. The first three days were spent going around the city to learn about different facets of the Easter Uprising and its relation to Geography. The first day after arriving the focus was Becoming Ireland: Revolution and Civil War where we learnt about the history of the uprising in relation to Irish independence. The second day we focused on The Politics of Remembrance in Dublin, visiting Kilmainham Gaol, Collins Barracks, and the Irish National War Memorial Gardens to look at how events are remembered through symbolism. The focus of the third day was Remembering the Rising; very appropriately, it was Easter Sunday and the day of a parade which was incredibly interesting to be able to witness.

Easter Monday, the final day, was for independent research. I chose to consider how the New Irish and Ireland’s new immigrant communities identify with an Irish Identity. I conducted interviews with residents in Moore Street and in Temple Bar, and contextualised my study into how they perceived Irish identity and themselves by their reactions to the Easter Uprising. I found that the
concept of the New Irish varies across space and place, and is not open to all. The New Irish approach allows Ireland to enter a globalised world, and the world to identify as Irish. However, it is also an exclusionary concept as only those who provide an economic benefit to Ireland and subscribe to a cosmopolitan world view are able to access it. Those who fall outside of this, for example those on Moore Street, are excluded.

I would like to thank the Mark Savage Fund for giving me this opportunity.

JOSEPH CANT (2014)

Human geography in Morocco

In April 2016 I went to Morocco, along with sixteen other Geography students and three members of staff. The purpose of this trip was to contribute to training in field-research skills, which will be extremely useful when carrying out our field research for our final-year dissertation. The skills which we learnt about and practiced included research design, data-gathering, interpretation, problem solving and presentation, as well as in group dynamics and in fieldwork. The specific aims of this field-trip were to help us gain an understanding of the human geography in a ‘development’ context; to introduce us to the challenges of carrying out fieldwork in a non-Western society; to develop and practice skills when using interpreters to gain specific information from subjects of the study; and to help train us in observation and recording skills.

On the first day, after lunch in Marrakesh, we drove to an eco-museum, where we learnt about the local environment and the conservation practices used to protect it, and then went on to the village of Imlil. The next day, on a hike, we observed our surroundings and the uses made of it by the local people. In the evening we split into groups and devised pilot research projects for the next day. My group focused on analysing the fluctuating levels of tourism in the area. Therefore, over the following two days and with a local guide, we went round sixteen hotels interviewing the staff about how tourism levels had changed over the last decade, the reasons why they thought it was fluctuating, and any responses they had adopted to sustain their income. Additionally, we interviewed eight tourists about why they thought tourism had declined in the area in the last year. This was extremely interesting, with the most common response referring to the rise of ISIS and to recent terrorist attacks.

This trip was incredibly educational, so that I feel a lot more confident going ahead with my research in the summer after practicing these research skills in a ‘development’ context. It also provided valuable data for my second-year coursework. I would like to express my gratitude for this award, which has helped me grow as a Geography student and researcher.

ANNABEL CLEAK (2014)

Moorish Mallorca

When exploring the narrow cobbled streets of Palma, clambering along the rocky coastline of Pollença Bay, or tracing historic human activity in the peaceful oak forests, it became evident that the island of Mallorca was rich in opportunities to investigate both human and physical geography. The towns of Valdemossa, Palma, and Soller were interesting locations of historic and current cultural and political mixing and struggles. I particularly enjoyed searching for architectural and cultural evidence of occupation by the Moors hundreds of years ago whilst following the colourful political and artistic graffiti around the towns, marking sites of protest and contestation.

Through investigating the cultural landscape of the forests, hills, and beach resorts we learnt about the past and present impact of humans on the forests and vegetation, as well as the conflicting experiences and opinions of tourism on the island.

The most exciting day was spent on our own research projects. Having never done any geology before, I decided...
to pursue a geological mapping project and spent a day learning how to read the coastal landscape and analyse the strata so as to reconstruct past environments and climate. The research formed the subject of coursework submitted as part of our geography course. The study and investigative projects carried out during the week have certainly developed my human and physical fieldwork skills, as well as introduced me to the challenges of planning and conducting independent research.

In addition to being hugely beneficial academically, the trip was also an important opportunity to meet more geographers from other colleges and to work in different teams. Furthermore, I seized the chance to speak to the lecturers about their own research, asking for tips and techniques for my own dissertation this summer. Overall, the trip was an interesting and fun process of experiencing geographical fieldwork and developing valuable research skills.

HANNAH GILLIE (2014)

THE JUNIOR COMBINATION ROOM

JCR Committee Members

President: Fenella Keevil
Vice President: Carl Martin
Treasurer: Helen Fishwick
Secretary & Communications Executive: Niveditha Yalamarthi
Academic Affairs Officer: Sandeepa Welgama
Publications Officer: Daniella Briscoe-Peaple
Website Officer: Tom Merry
Welfare Executives: Rebecca Tomlinson & Oli Taylor
International Officer: Marie Moullet
Women’s Campaign Officer: Annabel Cleak
Ethnic Minorities Officer: Kayathrie Atputharajah
LGBT+ Officer: Jacob Mullan Lipman
Disabilities Officer: Robert Walsh
Entertainment Executives: *Viktor Kewenig, ^Katie McCoshan
Entertainment Officers: Jamie Arnett, Jack Maloney, *Katie McCoshan, ^Alisha Levermore
Target & Access Executive: Ilona Szabo
Target & Access Officers: *Sarah Collins, *Amy Faulkner, ^Emily Young, ^Andrew Carey
Ethical Executive: Hana Gudelis
Green Officer: Tasha Pick
Charities Officer: Rebecca Marchant

* in 2015–2016 year
^ in 2016–2017 year

As always, the JCR Committee and the undergraduate body at Fitzwilliam have been extremely busy, working hard and playing hard. Lent 2016 saw the appointment of a brand-new Committee – with many first-year students stepping up to the plate, combined with a few returning faces: it would be exciting to see what the new Committee would bring.

Along with attending weekly JCR meetings, fortnightly CUSU meetings, and a whole range of other committee meetings, the new Vice-President Carl Martin has been working hard on a number of initiatives. Carl successfully coordinated and ran the annual housing ballot, a mammoth task that ran extremely smoothly thanks to his time and dedication. More recently Carl has been playing college-family manager, allocating each ‘married couple’ in the second or third year some shiny new ‘College children’. On top of these major tasks, he has been busy behind the scenes working with and supporting all the sub-groups of the JCR, as well as creating extra initiatives; for example, liaising with the Food and Beverage Working Group to create a food-habits survey which will help Catering to match our ever-changing consumption patterns more closely.

The JCR could not function without our Treasurer Helen Fishwick and our Secretary, Niveditha Yalamarthi; both are extremely diligent and make sure everything runs smoothly, from getting meeting minutes out promptly to ensuring that students are reimbursed speedily. Great administration is critical to the smooth running of the JCR and I’m pleased to say last year’s high standards have been upheld – or perhaps even improved upon ... sorry, Alex!

Sandeepa Welgama, the 2016 Academic Officer, has begun a weekly drop-in session where students have the opportunity to raise any concerns. He has worked also with our Communications Team to update our website further.
He ensured there were sufficient study spaces in College throughout the busy exam period, and aided our welfare team by providing extra support for students over that time.

Our returning Website and Communications Officers Tom Merry and Danni Briscoe-Peaple have continued their hard work from last year. Along with Niveditha they have continued the substantial upgrades to all forms of JCR communication channels that were made last year. Ours is now regarded as one of the best JCR websites across Cambridge – with all information up to date, available and easy to find – and thanks to Tom this is a fantastic resource for prospective applicants, current students and alumni. Yet again this year, Danni has worked tirelessly to release revamped termly issues of the Goat Post and she has also been working hard over the summer to update our Freshers’ Handbook. Niveditha and Danni pulled off a very successful re-launch night for the revamped Goat Post; this included free drinks, snacks and photo opportunities. If you haven’t been following it, you definitely should grab a copy.

Marie Moullet, our International Officer, organised a Chinese New Year Dinner jointly with Peterhouse and Robinson; more joint events are in the diary. Our LGBT+ Officer Jacob Lipman has been continuing to keep the social calendar busy, as well as providing crucial guidance and support to LGBT+ members of College. He worked really hard preparing for Freshers’ week, and plans to publicise the LGBT+ community early on.

Rob Walsh, our Disabilities Officer, has been working with the Disability Resource Centre to make sure we receive all important updates directly. As well as promoting their resources around College, he is working on collecting stories from students about their experience of being at Fitzwilliam with a disability, to build up a useful resource. He hopes to launch the Your Stories campaign where people could write (anonymously if they wished) about the process of being diagnosed and supported by Fitzwilliam and Cambridge, and we look forward to seeing the results.

Kayathrie Atputharajah our Ethnic Minority Officer is organising an upcoming talk hosted by SEO, a charity that aims to maximise career opportunities for BME students and ensure their career successes. Kayathrie will also be arranging the next Fitzwilliam Food Festival in November – something to look out for!

Annabel Cleak, our Women’s Officer, created our very first Fitzwilliam FemSoc which has included numerous documentary screenings and discussions, as well as a Facebook group to stimulate discussions around barriers to gender equality. Furthermore, she continues with organising the Consent Workshops for the incoming year and promoting the equal treatment of men and women within the Fitzwilliam community.

Our Target and Access Team (Ilona Szabo, Sarah Collins and Amy Faulkner) are working hard to organise the Fitzwilliam Shadowing Scheme for the second time. Talented sixth-formers with little or no exposure to higher education will be given the opportunity to come to Cambridge and experience life as a Fitzwilliam student. The sixth-formers will shadow current students, attending their lectures, practicals, and classes, and there will be evening activities organised by the Target and Access Team. This is a fantastic opportunity to provide
prospective students with insights that otherwise they
would not receive. Throughout the year they have been
working with the Admissions Office to help run open days,
tours of College, and school visits, and so to encourage
better access to Cambridge and Fitzwilliam.

The Ethical Affairs team (Hana Gudelis, Tasha Pick
and Rebecca Marchant) have all worked hard this year
to introduce ‘meat-free Mondays’, more vegan and
vegetarian options in the buttery, and have screened
multiple documentaries to raise awareness about animal
cruelty – amongst other ethical dilemmas. They organised
the annual ‘Fitz-off’ competition to help reduce energy use
in College, along with a sold-out green formal hall
including a speaker from Fairtrade.

Our infamous Ents team (Viktor Kewenig, Katie
McCoshan, Jamie Arnett and Jack Maloney) have continued
on the hard work put in by the Committee last year,
running a very successful ‘refreshers week’ featuring a
pub crawl, pub quiz, open mic night, and film night. The
team also jointly organised a ceilidh for Burns Night with
the MCR. The second ‘Fitz Up Look Sharp’ sold out in
good time and was another huge success. Through their
organisation of club-nights and their running a significant
number of superhalls and bops, the social calendar for
Fitzwilliam is never empty.

Freshers Week 2016 has been a huge success due to
the large range of events provided by our Ents team. Whilst
steering the focus away from alcohol-fuelling, the first-years
were given a range of events to attend, including ‘speed-
friendling’, ‘meet the family’ brunch, a bowling night, film
nights, staircase dinners, ‘funky funhouse’ and – of course
– ending with a BBQ at Oxford Road for Billy Day.

Overall it has been an extremely busy, but hugely
rewarding, twelve months. I am proud to have served
on the 2015 Committee and now to have the privilege of
being the President for 2016. Fitzwilliam continues to be
a fantastic College with a great cohort of undergraduates:
there is no better place in Cambridge to live and study.

THE MIDDLE COMBINATION ROOM

MCR Committee Members 2015–2016
President: Amelia Papworth
Vice President: Andrew Tanabe
Secretary: Austin Tiffany
Treasurer: Philip Sitte
Academic Officers: Ambrish Rawat, Eddie Shuai Wei
Welfare Officers: Alvin Leung, Hilary Wong
Social Secretaries: Annie Chiu, Felicia Tan, Oliver
Vanderpoorten, Rocío Vidal
Green Officer: Isa Bonachera

On 14 July, well over a hundred graduate students,
Fellows and families gathered on the lawn of The Grove
to celebrate the end of the academic year in the evening
sunshine. As we all enjoyed the BBQ, children and adults
(and those of us in between) lying on the grass, chatting
and laughing, it struck me once again that Fitzwilliam truly is a special college. Over the past year, the MCR has gone from strength to strength, with a broader range of events than ever before attracting a record number of students. The friendliness, diversity and academic curiosity for which we are renowned have been reflected in our parties, trips, musical evenings and scholarly talks.

Social events always loom large in the MCR calendar, and this year was no exception. Christmas saw a joint dinner and BOP with the African Society, while Burns Night with the JCR gave us a chance to show off our two left feet. For many, the highlight of the year was a wonderful afternoon spent at St Edmunds in the company of four extremely happy Labrador puppies. Before becoming service dogs, the Labs require hours of socialisation and we were only too happy to oblige with cuddles and games! Our annual Summer Formal Hall was a greater success than ever before too, with well over 100 students and guests from Cambridge and beyond.

Our regular events also continued with undiminished popularity: tea and cake delivered a ready series of treats (including a general election themed cake in party colours), while cinema evenings provided a much-needed opportunity to unwind. Cheese and wine evenings, while doing nothing to dispel the notion that all Cambridge students do is lie around consuming cheese and wine, were also solid fixtures.

Academic events have also proved extremely popular throughout the year, introducing new and returning students alike to aspects of Cambridge – and indeed, of the UK – which they had never before seen. A guided tour of Ely Cathedral’s West Tower, followed by Evensong, certainly provided a new perspective on Cambridge (literally), and the music which followed will live long in the memory. The same can be said of our trip to Evensong at King’s, a chance to appreciate a Cambridge ritual which has endured virtually unchanged through the centuries. We even ventured to the Big Smoke to see an exhibition at Tate Modern during the year, a pleasant change from staring at computer screens.

Our MCR Academic Talks have been great successes, drawing students and scholars from across to Cambridge to listen to top academics discussing pressing social issues. The twice-annual Graduate Conference continues to cater to the curious side of our nature too, with presentations on everything from ancient Greek rhetoric to the place of probability in quantum mechanics!

Our welfare team has been unceasing in their efforts to ensure all our students are happy and healthy throughout their time in Cambridge. A comments wall appeared in the MCR during exam term – encouraging people to share their thoughts, hopes and fears – as well as a cupboard stocked with biscuits and snacks next door for fuelling those lengthy library sessions. An insatiable appetite for free food is found not only among undergraduates!

Happily, Fitzwilliam MCR also has been intent on doing good in a wider context over the past year. An end-of-term collection of unused food was donated to Jimmy’s Night Shelter in Cambridge, while a similar collection of household goods went to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. Even opened but unused food was not wasted, with the Common Room resembling a haphazard supermarket when we asked people to leave edible food there which could be used by their fellow students. It was also a great pleasure to continue our tradition of volunteering at staff parties, both the summer BBQ and the Christmas lunch, and show our appreciation for the huge amount of hard work which the staff do day in, day out.

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and laughing, it struck me once again that Fitzwilliam truly is a special college. Over the past year, the MCR has gone from strength to strength, with a broader range of events than ever before attracting a record number of students. The friendliness, diversity and academic curiosity for which we are renowned have been reflected in our parties, trips, musical evenings and scholarly talks.

Social events always loom large in the MCR calendar, and this year was no exception. Christmas saw a joint dinner and BOP with the African Society, while Burns Night with the JCR gave us a chance to show off our two left feet. For many, the highlight of the year was a wonderful afternoon spent at St Edmunds in the company of four extremely happy Labrador puppies. Before becoming service dogs, the Labs require hours of socialisation and we were only too happy to oblige with cuddles and games! Our annual Summer Formal Hall was a greater success than ever before too, with well over 100 students and guests from Cambridge and beyond.

Our regular events also continued with undiminished popularity: tea and cake delivered a ready series of treats (including a general election themed cake in party colours), while cinema evenings provided a much-needed opportunity to unwind. Cheese and wine evenings, while doing nothing to dispel the notion that all Cambridge students do is lie around consuming cheese and wine, were also solid fixtures.

Academic events have also proved extremely popular throughout the year, introducing new and returning students alike to aspects of Cambridge – and indeed, of the UK – which they had never before seen. A guided tour of Ely Cathedral’s West Tower, followed by Evensong, certainly provided a new perspective on Cambridge (literally), and the music which followed will live long in the memory. The same can be said of our trip to Evensong at King’s, a chance to appreciate a Cambridge ritual which has endured virtually unchanged through the centuries. We even ventured to the Big Smoke to see an exhibition at Tate Modern during the year, a pleasant change from staring at computer screens.

Our MCR Academic Talks have been great successes, drawing students and scholars from across to Cambridge to listen to top academics discussing pressing social issues. The twice-annual Graduate Conference continues to cater to the curious side of our nature too, with presentations on everything from ancient Greek rhetoric to the place of probability in quantum mechanics!

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out. Links with the ICR continue to strengthen, not only through sport and music, but also shared events such as Burns Night and Superhalls. In so many spheres of College life, graduate students quietly but consistently make an invaluable contribution: from the Chapel Choir to rowing, via the Enterprise Society, students of all ages gather to round out their education at Fitzwilliam.

Looking to the future, many exciting things lie in store for the MCR. As we continue to work towards a new extension to our Common Room which will be vital for our ever-growing community, we will continue to diversify our range of events. A new academic careers evening in conjunction with the Fitzwilliam postdoc community will be a highlight of the term ahead, while returning events such as a wine tasting will doubtless continue to draw a crowd. It is a daily joy to live in community of such liveliness and diversity, and especially to work closely with the diligent MCR Committee. Their unceasing hard work and good humour is a credit to them and to the College, and makes the MCR experience the privilege it is. Thank you! Combined with the support of staff and Fellows, I can sincerely say that Fitzwilliam MCR is a fantastic community in which to live and work.

AMELIA PAPWORTH (2014), MCR President 2015–2016

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

History Society

History is the universal subject, and this year the Fitzwilliam History Society duly presented a series of talks covering a wide range of topics, many of them expanding beyond the narrow confines of Tripos and allowing the Society’s members a fascinating glimpse down history’s endless avenues. Stephen Scott-Fawcett began the year with a talk on polar history, focusing on the agonising pragmatism of Ernest Shackleton. Dr Collin Schindler then discussed cinematic history, replete with film clips, and Dr David Smith gave a supremely well attended, and warmly appreciated, talk on local ‘tragic hero’ Oliver Cromwell. Professor Simon Szeter spoke convincingly on the idea of comparative history and policy, showing how lessons from the Elizabethan Poor Laws could be applied to improve welfare provision across the globe.

Further entertaining talks followed on Soviet ‘trophy films’ captured from the Third Reich by the Red Army, and on the UK’s monetary policy in the twentieth century, which Dr Duncan Needham rendered a far more engaging topic than might initially have been envisaged. The year closed as ever with the annual dinner, before which Dr Paul Cavill spoke most captivatingly on the subject of a Tudor murder mystery. The Society are hoping to ensure that this year’s talks prove just as stimulating and edifying as those on last year’s term cards.

HUGH OXLADE (2014)

Law Society

Fitzwilliam College Law Society has had a busy year. There has been an emphasis on growth, in order to expand the support network already in place for those interested in Law at Fitzwilliam. In this vein, we have expanded membership of the society to all those members of College who are interested in the law. We have also made sure to embrace the law graduate students. We are delighted to have launched a website: please visit us at www.fitzcls.com to keep up to date with developments.

In Michaelmas, the Society focused on ensuring the welcome of the incoming first-year undergraduates, as well as ensuring that there were opportunities to attend various talks. Meanwhile in Lent the Society hosted the annual 1984 Moot. It was held to give first-year law students a chance to practice mooting in a more relaxed environment. We take this opportunity to congratulate Kevin Kim, now a second-year law student, who was the overall winner. The panel of judges awarding the judgement included Dr Andreas Televantos (Director of Studies for Law, Fitzwilliam College), Mark Bardell (Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills, and alumnus of Fitzwilliam) and Jeffrey Thompson (Tort Supervisor). Finally, in the Easter Term we were fortunate enough to be able to work with the Master, Nicky Padfield, to host Professor Richard Sherwin. Professor Sherwin is the Wallace Stevens Professor of Law, Dean for Faculty Scholarship, and Director of the Visual Persuasion Project at the New York Law School. In his presentation, Professor Sherwin spoke about the importance of training lawyers to cross-examine visual evidence to ensure that they can best represent their clients.

FCLS continued its important role as a guide for students in their post-university life. Confirming the support of Herbert Smith Freehills as our sponsors and co-ordinating with Slaughter and May for a careers dinner, the Society enabled students to speak to key members of this industry. If you are an alumnus of the College and wish to get in touch to discuss funding or organising particular events, do not hesitate to speak to the incoming Co-Presidents who can be reached by emailing fitzwilliamlaw2015@gmail.com.

MEGAN MILLAR (2013) and DAMIANO SOGARO (2013)

Co-Presidents 2015–2016

Fitz Enterprise

Fitz Enterprise was founded in the winter of 2014, following the Spirit of Enterprise Dinner held in November, to discuss ways to develop and inspire the entrepreneurial spirit among our students past and present. Fitz Enterprise
aims to empower young founders with world-class knowledge and to connect them with alumni and each other. Our raison d'être is to educate, to inspire, and to connect entrepreneurially-minded Fitzwilliam members.

The Society has been growing very quickly throughout these two years, from six members at the start to now more than fifty Society members across different years at Fitzwilliam College. In the 2015–2016 academic year, the society has been very successful under the lead of President Jonny Lister, together with all the committee members shown on the photograph.

We host various informal evening sessions, where Fitzwilliam alumni come to share their entrepreneurial experiences, answer questions from our members, and provide advice for aspiring founders. Last year we hosted James Green (Computer Sciences 1996) who spoke about his experiences in a Voice over IP startup, among many other topics, and James McAulay (Computer Sciences 2014) who spoke on How to prepare for a Startup during University. We have also invited Dr Ben Medlock (Computer Sciences 2008) for the coming academic year.

We hosted our inaugural Fitz Enterprise Annual Dinner on 5 March 2016, a lavish affair which began with a mentoring session in the Old SCR, followed by a drinks reception and a formal dinner. Over twenty guests attended, including current Fitzwilliam students, many of our former committee members (Tobias Haefele, Mihaela Voicescu, and Freddi Scheib), alumni guests (Robert Doe, Roger Graham, Kiana Thorpe, and Brian Smith) and Fellows. The mentoring session allowed current students to gain tailored advice from alumni entrepreneurs and other attendees. The session was a remarkable success, allowing entrepreneurial knowledge and ideas to be shared across the Fitz Enterprise network. During the event we also thanked our College supporters — Nicola Padfield (Master), her husband Dr Christopher Padfield, Dr Helen Bettinson (Development Director) and Andrew Powell (our Senior Treasurer) for all the work they have done for our Society over the past two years. The evening was incredibly informative, and we hope it will be the first of many!

Fitz Enterprise hopes to continue its growth in the coming academic year, and looks forward to hearing from further inspirational alumni.

XUEYING FANG (2013), President 2016–2017

Geography Society

In 2015–2016, the Fitzwilliam Geography Society contained twenty-four undergraduates; Buki Sule was President, Nikhil Patel Vice-President, and Tessa Callender Secretary.

The year began with an informal gathering in the JCR, so the second-year and third-year undergraduates could meet the incoming geographers. This was followed by a bowling trip two days later: an excellent way to get to know each other.

The annual geography weekend away took place in mid-November, when we stayed for two nights in the Youth Hostel in Blaxhall, close to Aldeburgh on the Suffolk coast. On the first night we prepared our dinners — basic microwave cookery — and played icebreaker games and got an early night in preparation for our annual walk. Unfortunately, all the next day it rained. This was fine at the beginning, although the weather was cooling off by lunchtime. We went for a lovely walk in the woods and found a perfect lunch spot, where we played football and ultimate frisbee. On the way back the rain came down stronger, and the return to the hostel seemed to take a while! Back there, we changed clothes — not just to get dry but to put on fancy dress! The theme this year was ‘your favourite geographical term’. The first-year students made a group effort and wowed everyone when they dressed up as different parts of the greenhouse-gas effect. We had a lovely dinner of burritos, salad and nachos, followed by bonding games. The next day we took a short walk to go for a pub lunch, before returning to Cambridge.

In February, the Geography Annual Dinner was held in Upper Hall — a fun and memorable evening that all Fitzwilliam Geography undergraduates, graduate students, and Fellows were invited to attend, together with alumni from the past five years. The speech from Dr Emma Mawdsley of the Department of Geography was insightful, amusing, and a great way to end the evening.

ANNABEL CLEAK (2014)

Medical and Veterinary Society

The medical and veterinary community at Fitzwilliam has enjoyed another busy year, with a variety of social and academic events organised by FCMVS. Michaelmas term began by welcoming the fresher at our usual termly curry, before hosting our first academic event of the year: an evening talk by Professor Sir Robin Murray, Professor of Psychiatry at King’s College, London. Sir Robin delivered a fascinating account of the relationship between cannabis-use and psychosis to an audience of College members. When he joined us for Formal Hall after the talk, members of the Society also enjoyed the opportunity to hear about his most memorable experiences during his long career as a psychiatrist. Michaelmas term was rounded-off jovially with a medical-themed Christmas party.

In Lent term we hosted another academic talk, this time from Dr David Bainbridge, the University Veterinary Anatomist, who spoke to us about the Origins and power of female body shape. Dr Bainbridge gave a spirited account of his ideas on the evolutionary biology of female body shape in the animal kingdom, based on material from his
recently-published book. Lent term also saw the highlight of the FCMVS social calendar, with our Annual Dinner held in February. The hustings and elections for the next year’s Presidency took place during the drinks reception, after which we sat down to a delicious meal in Hall. We were delighted to be joined by Dr Guy Thorpe-Beeston (1978) as our after-dinner speaker. Dr Thorpe-Beeston is a distinguished old member of the Society and currently is serving as Gynaecologist to the Royal Household. In a witty and well-received speech, he shared with us a number of anecdotes about the life of a Fitzwilliam medical student of years past. As usual, the dinner was very well attended by current students, Fellows and old members.

As a break from revision (or as an addition to anatomy revision!), our Anatomy Craft Show Competition was hosted in Easter term. It was judged by Dr Annalise Katz-Summercorn (Bye-Fellow in Anatomy) and Dr David Bainbridge, with our star participation of the most original use of materials winner Dr Angie Tavernor! Entries were unique pieces of art, and the competition was won by Jesus second-year vet Lizzie Robson. It was a really nice event to have in a term that can be quite stressful, and we hope to host another one next year.

The Society rounded up the year with its annual summer barbecue in the sunshine of May Week – an afternoon of relaxation for students and supervisors after a busy year.

SAEED KAYHANIAN (President, 2015–2016),
LÉA WENGER and MAXINE MEJU (Co-Presidents, 2016–2017)

Literary Society

In October, English and Classics students were treated to a performance of The Oresteia at the Globe Theatre, directed by alumna Adèle Thomas (English, 2000). The Oresteia, written by the Greek playwright Aeschylus, is a tragedy consisting of three plays: Agamemnon, The Libation Bearers and The Eumides. The play is the only surviving ancient Greek theatre trilogy known to exist, and won first prize at the Dionysia festival of 458 BCE. Originally there also was a fourth play, the satyr play Protes (which would come after the trilogy), but this has not survived in a complete form.

Having purchased standing tickets, Fitzwilliam members were treated to a fantastic view of the stage and the play action. Actors frequently moved through the standing crowd to make their way onto the stage, enhancing the atmospheric experience of the play. All were enthralled by the excellent performances of the cast, with particular praise being extended to the hypnotic acting of Naana Agyei-Ampadu as the prophetess Cassandra and Katy Stephens’ captivating performance as Clytemnestra.

Even the non-Classicists found the plot of the play compelling, with its strong focus on the dissonance between vengeance and democratic justice as providing a progressive response to crime. These themes permeate the play and are especially strongest in the last play of the trilogy in which democratic justice is directly introduced by the gods. As with her excellent directing skills on The Knight of the Burning Pestle earlier this year, Adèle Thomas did a wonderful job of bringing to life Rory Mullarkey’s new vision of this ancient Greek tragedy. The culmination of the play came in the form of a mini-revival of the original satyr play which would have come after the trilogy. A closing-night speech, excellent music and energetic dancing by all members of the cast combined to bring Fitzwilliam’s experience of The Oresteia to a fantastic close.

Later in October, Steve Waters was invited to discuss his playwriting and the relationship between politics and theatre. The event was well-attended, and Steve expertly linked elements of and explorations within his own writing to a changing and shifting political landscape before treating the audience to extracts of his work, performed by students.

Finally, in January, Professor Helen Hackett (University College London) visited Fitzwilliam College in order to deliver a highly fascinating lecture on Elizabethan literature and imagination. An expert on various early-
modern topics particularly as they related to women, Helen explored the headspace of Elizabethan writers through an examination of the myths and cultural beliefs which informed their writing.

SAVANNAH ADENIYAN (2014)

Debating Society

Despite being only two years old in its current reincarnation (see p.8), the Fitzwilliam College Debating Society – Fitz Debating, for short – has had an exciting year full of debates, panel discussions, inter-society formal halls, and workshops. Thanks to the dedication and hard work given by the Committee, the Society has attracted guest speakers on topics ranging from the future of feminism and the representativeness of Parliament to Government economic policy and the criminal justice system.

Guest-speakers have included Daniel Zeichner, MP for Cambridge; Sir Vince Cable (1962), former Secretary of State for Business; Dame Barbara Stocking, President of Murray Edwards College; and Sir Peter Bazalgette (1973), Chair of Arts Council England.

The attending audiences stretch across several colleges, age groups and subjects. While guest-speakers often are the highlight of our events, fundamental to Fitz Debating is a desire to make discussions of current issues as open and as inclusive as possible (in line with the ethos of Fitzwilliam College itself) – which is why Fitz Debating relies on student-speakers at every debate, provides public-speaking workshops, and ensures every event has a welcoming and unpretentious atmosphere. This philosophy will continue as the new Committee, with Joshua Marchant as President, starts for the 2016–2017 academic year.

JACK PHILIPSBORN (HSPS, 2014) and CONOR MONIGHAN (English, 2014), Co-Presidents 2015–2016

Steve Waters discussing how he writes contemporary life and politics

Glyn Davies, Director of Programmes for the WWF, giving a presentation on endangered species in Michaelmas 2015

Sourav Roy (LLM, 2015) and Sarah Collins (Law, 2014), winning speakers at the 2016 Brewster Debate This House Believes the Perceived Threat to Free Speech is Exaggerated. Kirill Lasis, Harry Stovin-Bradford, Matthew Kellett, and Carlo Lori also spoke.

JRAC

Damiano Sogaro (Law, 2013) and Sir Vince Cable during the debate This House Believes there is no Long-term Economic Plan

Jack Philipsborn speaking at that debate
In the exciting 2015–2016 academic year, Fitzwilliam College Music Society celebrated the Yehudi Menuhin Centenary with a series of fantastic events throughout the season, exploring and paying tribute to the violinist’s life and work. From a fascinating conversation between the Master and Humphrey Burton addressing Menuhin’s stellar performing career and philanthropy, to performances by the Fitzwilliam Quartet, and to student recitals, FCMS reached further than before to bring music and the musical world to Fitzwilliam College. The year began with a successful Freshers’ concert, held in the auditorium for the second year, and this time encompassing all genres of music from Rock to Renaissance. FCMS also played host to the Orchestra on the Hill at the end of the Michaelmas term with a rousing performance of Handel’s Messiah to a packed auditorium!

Importantly, the year has also seen an incredibly diverse range of musical events, including folk sessions in the bar and Jazz nights in the auditorium – student recitals have, as ever, been a feature of the programme, staying true to last year’s renewed focus on instrumental music-making and variety.

Despite the busy schedule of Easter term, FCMS still welcomed our very-own Barbershop and Sirens, serenading their audience alongside provisions of cheese and wine in the Auditorium. The Music Society’s summer garden party, a hit despite the onset of heavy rain, was transformed bazaar-style by Vice-President Anna Lush and kept spirits high in the face of unseasonable weather, forming a fitting end to an extremely successful year!

Thanks are due to Director of Music Katharine Parton, who this year steered FCMS from strength to strength.


Fitzwilliam Barbershop

The year 2015–2016 has been incredibly exciting and transformative for Fitzwilliam Barbershop. The group launched into Michaelmas term with numerous performances both in and out of College, most notably at the Selwyn Winter Ball. However, Lent term was to provide even greater excitement, as the group was invited by the University of Utrecht to perform at the celebrations of their 380th Anniversary. Several (all expenses paid!) days of sightseeing were rounded off by a successful performance to over 400 enthusiastic Dutchmen, making for an evening which none of the group will ever forget.

Easter term saw Barbershop perform at the wedding of Felix Newton, a former Barber, and at the annual Fitz Barbershop and Fitz Sirens Cheese and Wine Concert. Performing to a full house, both groups excelled themselves, and a good evening was had by all. May Week then saw the Barbers perform at a staggering seven Balls, making for an enjoyable – if hectic – close to the academic year.

Humphrey Burton in conversation with the Master

Jazz (and wine and cheese) in the auditorium
August found the group together again performing at the Edinburgh Fringe alongside the Fitz Sirens. Fitzwilliam’s show was a triumph, selling out several evenings and receiving excellent reviews. We will definitely be returning to the Fringe in the future! At time of writing, the Barbers are preparing for their most exotic tour yet: to Jilin University in China, which will surely be a highlight of an already exceptional year. We can’t wait to see what next year will bring when we return to College in October!

If you would like to hire Fitz Barbershop, we’d love to hear from you! Please address all enquiries to barbershop@fitz.cam.ac.uk.

ISAAC JARRATT BARNHAM (2014), President 2015–2016

Fitzwilliam Sirens

The season 2015–2016 has proven one of the most exciting in Sirens’ history. Led by Musical Director Anna Kaye (Education with Music, 2013) and coordinated by Secretary Freya Sanders (Murray Edwards; English, 2013) and Treasurer Pippa Quincey (PBS, 2013), Sirens have recruited seven new members and performed all over Cambridge and beyond. The audition process was tough on our leadership team, with record numbers of girls auditioning. Eventually we welcomed Harriet, Lucia, Lucy, Katie, Tasha, Gen and Alice to the group.

Michaelmas performances included bar nights at Trinity and Fitzwilliam, and our usual slot at Fitzmas. In Lent, we were invited to perform at the Watersprite Film Festival, whose theme this year was Ladies First. We also entertained guests at a private dinner held by Cyrus Mostajeran. In March we held our annual family concert and dinner at The Punter. May Week was one of our busiest so far, including a sold-out Cheese and Wine Concert with the Fitz Barbershop boys, and performances at Homerton Summer Ball, Murray Edwards Garden Party, Christ’s May Ball, Gonville and Caius May Ball, and the Law Society Garden Party, where we soldiered on through torrential rain. We also performed at Fitzwilliam Music Society Garden Party – where we were very happy to be performing indoors.

There’s no rest for the wicked. The Long Vacation brought a sell-out run of our critically-acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe show *Academic: Cambridge A Cappella On Tour*, and the new and exciting experience of sharing a two-bedroom flat with the whole of Fitz Barbershop. Perhaps even more excitingly, we toured China in September at the invitation of Jilin University. We visited the cities of Changchun, Hohot and Beijing, and were lucky enough...
to perform to a crowd of 10,000 people at the University’s Seventieth Anniversary Concert.

At the end of the summer we bid a fond farewell to our departing members: Harriet, Mala, and Camilla. We would like to add personal thanks to Pippa and Freya who are also moving on to great things in The Big Smoke, and who have been an invaluable support in their many years in Sirens. Freya in particular will be remembered for managing to wear nothing but lycra to rehearsal for three years straight.

In 2016–2017 Anna will be taking the lead for the final time as Musical Director, and Alice French (St Catharine’s; Japanese, 2015) and Katie McCoshan (Geography, 2015) will be taking over as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Our beloved group continues to represent Fitzwilliam as Cambridge’s oldest and best female a cappella ensemble, and we are grateful to College for the extensive support we have received this year that has allowed us to move from strength to strength.


Fine Arts Society

During Michaelmas term the Art Society finally restored the former art studio on Wychfield Lane, with the help of the Porters and staff members. The place now gives students space to free their creativity in painting, drawing, and digital arts, and already has led to a few new masterpieces.

The society organized an Art Exhibition in collaboration with College Chaplain Helen Arnold on the topic Lux – illumination in Fitz Chapel, p.22, an exhibition showing the architectural analysis of the usage of light in the Chapel. Professional-quality photographs of the Chapel – taken by Fitzwilliam students – accompanied the architectural poster session. Helen enhanced the exhibition by embedding the
artwork within biblical words which made those attending also experience spirituality in the event.

In March, we were glad to hear that our member Isabella Bonachera received additional funding from Fitzwilliam College to equip our society with a digital arts system. Especially for students in media design and architecture this is a great opportunity to try their ideas and let them become ‘virtuality’, and underlines a more modern image of the society.

The annual Fitzwilliam Fine Arts Competition, in which our creative students could show their skills, was a great success. Students, staff and Fellows provided their artwork in several fields (acrylic/oil painting, sketching, printing, photography, digital art, pottery and sculpture) to the show and were judged by Lucinda Lawson from the Lawson gallery. The first prize went to an oil colour portrait made by Kirill Lasis; second was Elliot Harvie for his architectural sketches of Dresden; and third was an oil painting by Tom Phillips.

OLIVER VANDERPOORTEN (2015), President 2015–2016

UNIVERSITY SPORT

The Boat Races in 2016

Ashton Brown (2014), for the second year running, rowed in the Women’s Boat in the University Boat Race. The previous year she was studying for an MPhil; this year was her first year of a PhD in Education. In the race, Oxford won by more than a minute, after the Cambridge boat nearly sank in rough conditions. Clemens Auersperg (2014), who is now doing an MPhil at Peterhouse, also took part in the University Boat Races for the second time. He was in the Blue Boat, which won by 2 ½ lengths.

The initiative to hold both men’s and women’s races on the same day owes much to Fitzwilliam alumna Helena Morrissey, whose Honorary Degree and Honorary Fellowship are reported on p. 6; she is CEO of Newton Investment Fund. Newton and its Boat Race co-sponsor BNY Mellon have donated their title sponsorship to Cancer Research UK.

Ice Hockey

Canadian MPhil student Declan O’Briain – from Vancouver, via McGill – was part of a very successful season for Cambridge University Ice Hockey Club. There was a 4–3 win against Oxford, so that the club became British Universities Ice Hockey Association South Division 1 Champions. Later, they beat Oxford University Blues 4–2; Declan was voted player of the game by his team. In the Varsity match against the Oxford Blues, Cambridge gained the Patton Cup with a 3–1 win.

Men’s football

Fitzwilliam students Henry Warne (2013), Joe Painter (2012), and Peter Rutzler (2014) all played in the 132nd Varsity Football Match, which was held at Craven Cottage, home of Fulham FC, earlier on the day of the Boat Race; Oxford won, 2–0.

Modern Pentathlon

The 2016 Modern Pentathlon Varsity Match took place in March, with three members of Fitzwilliam College in the full teams, each consisting of six male and six female athletes. The victorious Ladies’ team included Alice Watson and Ali Simon, whilst Josh Briegal was on the Gentlemen’s team, which was narrowly defeated. Individually, Alice was placed second and achieved a Full Blue score, Ali was seventh, and Josh tenth in the Gentlemen’s section.

Ali Simon has competed for the Cambridge University Modern Pentathlon Club throughout her three undergraduate years, capturing the team to victory in 2014. In this year, her MPhil year, she gained third place in the 200m swim. Alice Watson, a fifth-year Veterinary student, started Modern Pentathlon due to the persuasion of Ali when she was Captain, having only competed in one of the sports previously. She was a member of the Blues teams in 2014 and 2015, and achieved her Full Blue in the 2016 Varsity Match. She also won a trophy for best ‘skills’ including the fence, ride and shoot. Josh Briegal started in Pentathlon in his final year as a Natural Sciences undergraduate, making his debut at the 2016 Varsity Match.
Blues, Half-Blues and University Colours

Many members of the College have been active in University sport, and the University Sports Yearbook for 2016 reported awards of Full Blues, Half Blues, and Club Colours for 2014–2015:

**Full Blue**
- Jamie Bristow  Hockey Club
- Ashton Brown  Boat Club (Women)
- Hannah Cooper  Rugby Union Football Club (Men)
- Hannah Cooper  Rugby Union Football Club (Women)
- Jamie Giddins  Golf Club
- Ali Hemingway  Squash Rackets Club
- Maxine Meju  Athletics
- Thomas Hickey  Association Football (Men)
- Chesca Hirst  Lacrosse Club (Women)
- Joe Painter  Association Football (Men)
- Anita Perera  Squash Rackets Club
- Patrick Rice  Cricket Club (Men)
- Chloe Withers  Rugby Union Football Club (Men)
- Chloe Withers  Rugby Union Football Club (Women)
- Henry Warne  Association Football (Men)

**Half Blue**
- Madeline Ang  Judo Club
- Sarah Collins  Badminton
- Zach Freud  Swimming and Waterpolo Club (Waterpolo)
- Jamie Giddins  Real Tennis Club
- Tak Ho  Bowmen
- Joe Hobbs  Orienteering Club
- Natasha Jons  Taekwondo Club
- Alice Simon  Modern Pentathlon Club
- Alice Simon  Riding Club
- Andrea Stefkova  Orienteering Club
- Alice Watson  Riding Club

**Club Colours**
- Clemens Auersperg  Boat Club (Men) – Goldie
- Rory Benett  Triathlon Club
- Josh Briegal  Lightweight Rowing Club
- Catrin Bush  Netball Club
- Olivia Heininger  Hockey Club
- Opeoluwa Oduyaye  Basketball (Men)
- Rory Sale  Cricket Club (Men)
- Alice Watson  Modern Pentathlon Club

**Club Officials**
- Will Archibald  Hockey Club
- Laura Barlow  Membership Treasurer
- Vansee Bheemireddy  Trampoline Club
- Robert Harle  Bowmen
- Andrew Hodgson  Social Secretary

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Austin Jessop  Rugby Union Football Club (Men)
Alice Simon  Riding Club (President)
Nick Stride  Trampoline Club (Secretary)
Alice Watson  Modern Pentathlon Club (Women’s Captain)
David Willer  Triathlon Club (Men’s Captain)

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**COLLEGE SPORT**

**Amalgamated Clubs**

Fitzwilliam sport had a really successful year in 2015–2016. We were proud to have extremely strong Cuppers performances all round. The Men’s Football team narrowly missed out on a place in their final, as did both Women’s and Mixed Hockey teams. The Ladies Netball team soared up the League this year and managed to score a place in their Cuppers final, losing out to Trinity at the last minute. Most notably however, was of course the Men’s Cricket team who have become Fitzwilliam’s first Cricket Cuppers champions since 1972! A fantastic achievement, which was rewarded with our brand new Team of the Year trophy, given very kindly by our excellent speaker, Keith Slater, at this year’s Amalgamated Sports May Week Dinner.

Off the field, our brilliant new Gym has proved extremely popular amongst members of the College, with very high attendance; it is continuing to be improved with the help of our Gym Officers, Sophie D’Souza and Alexi Spyrou. I would also like to say a big thank-you to our Groundsman Dave Norman, whose hard work to keep the Oxford Road pitches in a phenomenal condition is hugely appreciated. With a fantastic level of involvement in sport across the College and outstanding performances from all the teams this year, the 2015–2016 season has certainly made Fitzwilliam a force to be reckoned with!

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AOIFE MATCHETT (2014)

**Football**

The Men’s First XI had a strong season with an exciting Cup run and a competitive title challenge, but unfortunately ended up without a major trophy to show for their efforts. For the second year running Fitzwilliam were knocked out of the Cup on penalties by the eventual champions, yet a semi-final appearance reflected a highly commendable team effort. The devastation felt by the team emphasised what a promising Cup run it had been, with the near-faultless 7–1 demolition of last season’s League champions Downing a particular highlight. An exciting penalty shootout win over Hill rivals Churchill in the quarter-final also proved immensely popular with the fans. The team’s fifth-place League finish was an improvement upon the previous season, and gives the squad hope for next year. Daniel Sandbach was named Player of the Season, with special thanks reserved for outgoing Captain.
Michal Roniek who provided strong leadership and endless commitment to Fitzwilliam Football.

Fitzwilliam remains one of the very best represented colleges at University level, with three players selected for the Blues Varsity match-day squad (Henry Warne, Joe Painter and Peter Rutzler) and a further five students competing against Oxford while representing the Falcons and Kestrels.

The Second XI suffered relegation from Division 3 after a tough season competing against many College first teams, but will expect to bounce back strongly in the coming campaign. The third XI had a highly respectable season and finished sixth in Division 5.

While glory in eleven-a-side football may have eluded the College, there was success for the five-a-side team who were crowned champions of the traditional college competition hosted by St John’s at the end of each season.

Fitzwilliam College Women’s Football team began the year with the return of a few experienced team members as well as recruiting a great haul of new players to get the season off to a good start. The team made their mark on Division 1 at an early stage, securing three consecutive wins at the beginning of Michaelmas term to put Fitzwilliam near the top of the league table. The highlight of the year was the 9–6 win against Pembroke – the team’s highest-scoring game for many years! As the term progressed, the new players (many of whom had barely kicked a football before) became more confident, developing their skills and improving the fluidity of Fitzwilliam’s game. A vital component to success was instilling the tradition of a well-earned post-match team brunch in the beloved buttery.

The team had an unlucky start to Lent term, when a hard-fought match against the eventual league winners – Jesus – sent Fitzwilliam out of Cuppers in the quarter-final. Following this, an injury while playing University football meant star goalie Zoe Walker was out for the rest of the term. Every member of the team put in a huge effort in the remaining matches and, despite a few losses, relegation was avoided. Hopefully FitzWFC will continue to grow and keep playing the highest standard of college football next year!

As always, the entire football club is immensely thankful for the dedicated hard work of Professor Cardwell, the club’s Senior Treasurer, and David Norman, Oxford Road greenkeeper.

LAURA HALLAHAN (2013), Women’s Captain 2015–2016
Rugby

This season was one of mixed success for FCRUFC. Above all, though, the team remained united in its friendly, inclusive approach to the game, and its enjoyment of the social side of College sport.

Having lost a large group due to graduation, the team slowly found its feet in the Division 2 League into which it had just been promoted. A healthy contingent of freshers and new postgraduates provided a fresh burst of energy. The toughest teams proved to be Robinson and Girton, who tested the maroon shirts of Fitzwilliam early on in some bruising encounters. Score lines flattered our opposition in these games, although Fitzwilliam remained proud of its scrummaging prowess, its running rugby and its excellent kicking game, overseen by third-year Theologian Paddy Tice and the experienced fourth-year Chemical Engineer Oscar Maynard.

The team grew together though, and by the end of Michaelmas was easily holding its own in the division; wins over Christ’s and St Catharine’s gave the team a foothold, and form improved. Led by then captain Andy Harley (third-year Natural Sciences), whose athletic and tenacious style often pulled the team out of sticky situations, the team began to fire on all cylinders. In early Lent term, FCRUFC demolished a plucky St Catharine’s side by seventy points in what was the most memorable game of the season. The team was in fine spirits following the win, with many different players on the score sheet. A truly excellent team performance. Wins such as this lifted Fitzwilliam to a comfortable third-place finish in Division 2, far above the relegation tussle, but yet with promotion beyond reach.

As the season wore on into the Cuppers period, unluckily Fitzwilliam suffered from injuries and player availability. Fitzwilliam’s most accomplished players were enjoying success in the University teams – with five players involved in the University system in different capacities: Tice and Harley were prominent members of the Colleges XV, while Moir (back row, first-year Geography), Stride (wing, second-year Engineering) and Harlow (second-year Land Economy) were stalwarts of the under-20s set-up. Harlow remains in contention for a place in the Blues squad, playing in the back row. Meanwhile, back at Oxford Road, the Fitzwilliam team – with a lengthy catalogue of injuries – was knocked out of Cuppers by the eventual champions Corpus Christi – Kings. This was a close-run game that showed how well the team had come on from the start of the season. Downing went on to win the second-tier Plate competition, having beaten an unlucky Fitzwilliam side in the semi-finals.

In the summer exam term, Fitzwilliam put out a Mixed men’s and women’s side that competed in Grange Road’s weekly tournaments. The team went unbeaten, no doubt testimony to its Women’s Blues stars Chloe Withers (fourth-year Medicine) and Hannah Cooper (third-year Veterinary).

So, despite a mix of highs and lows, FCRUFC can be proud of maintaining its excellent team spirit and achieving its goal of staying up in its new Division. This season, incoming Captain Sam Porter (loose-head prop, third-year Land Economy), hopes to cement Fitzwilliam’s
position as a feared stalwart of Division 2, and has his eyes on cup-run glory. It is hoped that the team will embark on a steep learning curve – following its demolition at the hands of the Old Boys rugby team at the Reunion Weekend, p.69.

SAM PORTER (2014)

Men’s and Ladies’ Hockey

Overall, Fitzwilliam and Trinity jointly (known colloquially as Trin-Fitz) had an extremely successful season in Ladies’ Hockey. We won every League match, playing Christ’s, Queens’ & Clare, St John’s & Newnham, and Girton. These tended to be comfortable wins: we scored 31 goals in total, and yet conceded only two. Our hard work paid off, and we have been promoted from League B to League A.

The Men’s team had a tough season, having been promoted to League A after their sterling performance in the previous season. Unfortunately, they subsequently lost many valuable, experienced players. Although they did not have the strongest results that season, the team became more bonded than ever, and they even allowed some of the girls to substitute into some of their matches. This led to a plethora of joint training sessions and socials (including numerous Fitzwilliam formal halls and Trinity brunches) – something we are keen to continue into the next season.

Carrying on our tradition of being the best-dressed team around, we proudly sported our new and improved kit (which arrived just in time for the Cuppers season). Each year we put in a strong performance and are known within the competition as a tough team to beat. The Ladies and Mixed teams both made it to their respective semi-finals.

Men’s and Women’s Rowing

This past academic year has been another successful one for rowing at Fitzwilliam – with two crews coming incredibly close to their blades, and a year full of ‘firsts’.

We started with a series of reunion rows in September, including the twentieth (and last) annual reunion row for the over-60s group that has been so well organised by Ken Drake. They have selflessly raised significant funds for the Boat Club over its existence, and we are incredibly pleased that their legacy lives on.

With the arrival of the new term, our attention switched to recruiting novices and, as with last year, the standard was extremely high. After the hard work of our coaches, hard work soon produced success, with highlights including NW1 winning Emma Sprints, NW2 placing second in both Emma Sprints and Clare Novices, NM2 winning the Clare Novices Plate, and finally NM1 winning both Clare Novices and Fairbairns! Our senior crews were just as keen to make their own bit of history, with one notable highlight coming from the W1 IV, who became the first Fitzwilliam women’s crew to win a Fairbairn Cup race, topping the Fours Division.
Following an ‘exciting’ pre-season training camp at St Neots, our novices were now senior rowers and we were able to field four senior boats for our Lent Bumps campaign: two men’s, and two women’s. For the women’s side, W1 achieved three row-overs and a bump – a very successful campaign given that three of the crew had been novices the term before. Although narrowly missing qualifying for bumps, W2 – a boat made entirely of recent novices – made a fantastic transition to senior rowing with a series of improvements in both technique and strength.

On the men’s side, M1 had a strong Lent term – even if the results do not provide the full story. Despite an excellent row-over on day 1, a controversial umpiring decision on day 2 saw a ‘bump’ by us overturned into us ‘being bumped’; as a result we ended down three places for the week. For M2, motivation and hard work saw them battle through multiple crew illnesses to end up all-square by day 4, having achieved the near-full set of bumping, being bumped and rowing over. The term then concluded with both M1 and W1 venturing to the Thames for the Head of the River races, where W1 yet again produced a historic performance, being placed in the top 100 crews for the first time in the Boat Club’s history.

By the time May Bumps arrived, both sides of the club had endured their fair share of exam-term drop-outs, but what followed was a term of motivation and hard work. On the women’s side, W2 was sadly depleted in numbers and suffering from a lack of training time as a full boat; in Mays they therefore spooned (but had a lot of fun doing it). For W1, it was another piece of history as they bumped up four times to break into the W1 division for the first time, narrowly missing blades due to technicalities in the awarding rule. On the men’s side, M1 proved itself to be a much-improved crew over the Lents, in terms both of boat speed and of fitness. Following two epic row-overs in the middle of the campaign, tiredness prevailed on the last day and overall we went two down. Finally, M2 saw great success as they finished the week four places up, having added an ‘over-bump’ to their triple collection in Lent, and again only missing their blades by a technicality.

After all that, FCBC ends the year on an amalgamated three places up overall and a much closer club between the two sides. With social events, BBQs (ignoring the mild food-poisoning), and crew pastas galore, there has been an incredible atmosphere over the last year. Rowing at Fitzwilliam continues to be an extremely competitive team sport, but more than that, it’s a family with camaraderie created on the water and in the boathouse. As one member said of his boat, ‘In the coming years, when I reflect on my time at Cambridge, these are the people that will come to mind first’.

WILL MARKS, Captain of Boats and of M1, 2015–2016, and ALICE HOBSON, Women’s Captain and of W1, 2015–2016

Tennis
Fitzwilliam College once again fielded a formidable tennis team this year, and I would like to start by thanking everyone who played for the team throughout the year. We had some very dedicated players who gave a lot of their time to make sure that we could always field a team – and a strong one at that. I’d also like to thank Dr Wingate for providing funding for new tennis balls for all of our matches, which also served as practice balls after being used! On to the tennis ...

We began the year in the fourth division of the six in the Winter League. Poor weather and a lack of indoor courts meant that most college teams in the division played two matches or fewer; sadly, Fitzwilliam managed only to play two, giving a win over Churchill and a draw with Homerton. Homerton were the convincing winners of the Division with 18 points, and Fitzwilliam tied for second place with 6 points – despite having played only half the number of matches of the other second-place team, Churchill.

Our best performances this year came in Cuppers, where we reached the finals of the Plate draw, having lost in the first round of the main draw to our old rivals from the Winter League, Homerton! We might have very well been the eventual champions, but exams and May Week halted tennis, and the tournament was not completed as we were waiting for our opponent to play their previous round! Our semi-final match was a strong 5–1 win over Sidney Sussex. This year’s Captain, Marcus Hatton, won a very tight match in a final championship-tiebreak 11–9,
the final point being won with a very painful-to-watch net-cord shot that just trickled over the net, turning into an accidental drop-shot. His opponent accepted this highly lucky match-point very graciously. Marcus and Kane Colston went on to win another close match in the doubles. Joe Abel and Michael Brown easily dispatched the opposition in a 3–0 (2 singles, 1 doubles) win in the battle between the 3rd and 4th seeds of each college.

The Fitzwilliam Freshers Fair yielded many keen new recruits for tennis, and I am sure that we will have another successful year of play. I have really enjoyed being the Fitzwilliam Tennis Captain for the past two years, but now it is time for our new Captain, Kane Colston, to take over the reins. I wish him the best of luck, and am sure he’ll do a great job!


Badminton

The 2015–2016 season was one of the best in recent years. Starting out in Division 4, following our promotion last year, we began the season in high spirits. Despite the loss of some strong players the previous summer, we luckily had some great new additions to the team! The ruthless Kane Toh and the versatile and reliable Danny He were particularly key assets to this year’s new team. It was also great to play alongside some Fitzwilliam badminton veterans and friends such as Kim Fong, Mahid Choudhury, Mudit Dubey, Seb Borgeaud and QiuShi Gu. Of course, credit must also go to Pheng Chew Tan and Michael Brown in addition to Shahel Kahn and Hassan Mahmood who gave their all in several last-minute guest appearances!

In the Michaelmas term, we won three out of six matches and, with a total of 36 games to our name, we came second in the Fourth Division. Having beaten our rival – Churchill – by two games, we were promoted to the Third Division for the Lent term! Despite facing increasingly tough opponents, we continued our strong performance and competitive spirit. However, critical absences of key players due to injuries saw our standard drop somewhat. Despite this, we only narrowly missed maintaining our position in the Third Division, losing out by only two games to Corpus Christi.

IAN SAMIR YEP MANZANO (MVST 2014), Men’s Captain 2015–2016

Table Tennis

The Fitzwilliam College Table Tennis Club (FCTTC) was reborn this academic year and, as ‘social’ players were the first to join the club, the first activity was to schedule training sessions: several hours of practising the basic moves. We trained in the squash courts for sessions of at least one hour and forty minutes in groups of three, using the multi-ball method. This was successful, and the members enjoyed it.

The FCTTC also signed up for the Cuppers League and the University League; a knock-out and a point-based
competition respectively. In both of these University-wide competitions, the club ended up as second place overall, beating the prestigious Wolfson College Table Tennis Club in the process. The FCTTC had to forfeit one of the finals as the scheduled day got in the way of the members’ activities; this is going to be changed for next year.

Finally, Juan Rubio-Lara was part of the British Universities and Colleges Sport Individual Championship – where he got knocked out by none other than Paul McCreery, Irish Number One and finalist in the competition. The FCTTC expects to take more players this year to the BUCS competition.


Women’s and Men’s Squash

This year has been a very good one for squash at Fitzwilliam, and Michaelmas certainly got off to a great start. Plenty of new players signed up to the team, and some familiar faces made a welcome return. It was particularly encouraging to see the Women’s side soar well into double figures from just a few players.

During Michaelmas and Lent terms we had matches most weeks as part of the Intercollegiate League. On the Women’s side we had incredibly enthusiastic and dedicated players who put themselves forward for as many matches as they could, even as the academic pressure piled on during Lent term. They included both experienced players and newcomers, who threw themselves fully into the sport and improved week on week.

The Men’s side performed well throughout the year, with keen players doing a sterling job representing Fitzwilliam in the League. A whole host of new male players joined the team, with plenty of freshers signing up at the Societies Fair, and with some casual second-year and third-year players being tempted to get involved with the team for the first time. We even had a Trinity man join us! Although he was not allowed to play in matches for Fitzwilliam, he attended training and certainly did his bit for the fantastic Fitzbillies.

On the social side, the Men’s and Women’s sides joined forces with the Fitzwilliam Badminton Team to take on the challenge of the Isaac Newton pub quiz – providing a great opportunity to get to know everyone off the courts.

It has been an absolute pleasure for us to captain the Men’s and the Women’s squash teams this year. Hopefully next year’s teams will be able to build on this progress, holding more training sessions and boosting the squash social scene.

JAMES SUTTON (2013), Men’s Captain, and KATHERINE PARKIN (2013), Women’s Captain

Netball

Both the Fitzwilliam College Ladies Team and the Mixed Netball Team have had a great year, full of competitive matches, impressive new talent, and an ever greater team spirit.

The Ladies Team had a fantastic season not only because of the great performance in Cuppers, where we qualified through the rounds to play in the quarter-finals – in the group stages beating Trinity, who ended up in the Final – but also because of the enthusiastic atmosphere of the team.

Eddie Shuai Wei playing in the University League

The weekly League matches were well attended and were enjoyed by all, regardless of the outcomes of the games. We gained many new talented Freshers this year and also, with many less experienced players, had a great and encouraging environment to play and to train in.

On the Mixed Netball court, having lost several committed players at the end of last year, we were very lucky to gain some keen and enthusiastic Freshers. Again, all the weekly matches were very well attended, with some outstanding wins. Our Cuppers experience as a fairly new team was enjoyed by all. Overall, we were extremely happy to finish third in our division.

We wish next year’s teams the best of luck!

JESSICA O’SULLIVAN (2014) and KATIE PUROHIT (2014)

Women’s Swimming

The Fitzwilliam women had a successful year in the pool. We took a relaxed approach, focusing more on fun than on serious and painful training. This did not hinder us, as we came second out of the women’s teams in Cuppers, making the final in all but one of our races. Notably, in their respective finals Alice Hobson and Hannah Rob finished first and third. Fitzwilliam swimming looks set to continue in its success.

Pool
After a wildly successful 2014–2015 season, Fitzwilliam 1 was promoted from Division 4 to Division 1. Unfortunately, with six of the ten 2014–2015 players graduating at the end of the year, they had no choice but to recruit aggressively at the Fitzwilliam Freshers’ Fair. This beckoned a huge influx of participation: overnight, the team size shot to a mighty twelve. Infused with their newfound zeal, Fitzwilliam 1 crushed their first opponents (Trinity 1) 6–3. Unfortunately, the true might of the Division 1 teams thereafter became unmistakably clear, and the team met a number of disheartening defeats.

Strong-willed, Fitzwilliam 1 marched on, finishing the year with four wins to six losses, thereby putting them in the eighth position out of eleven teams in the division. This meant that Fitzwilliam 1 had to play Queens’ 2 for a promotion–relegation play-off match. The match came down to the final game, with Fitzwilliam 1’s captain (Will Manson) wielding a cue to decide the fate of the pool team. The game came down to the black ball. The spectating members of the two rival teams watched in silence as shot after difficult shot was missed by both players. The stars aligned, as did the black ball with the pocket. The Fitzwilliam 1 captain aimed to make his final, heroic shot ... but, alas, the pressure was too great (both metaphorically, in his mind, and physically, on the ball) and the shot was missed. Queens’ 2 then finalised their promotion.

After the dust settled, the pool team attended the annual Fitzwilliam May Week Sports Dinner. There, the Captain handed over the cue-shaped baton to the new captain: the renowned Danny He. It is hoped that the new Captain will lead the team in Division 2 to yet unseen greatness.

DEVELOPMENT

Development Office News

Since I arrived in the Development Office in August 2016, after nearly all the events mentioned below had taken place, writing this piece has meant talking to colleagues and alumni about their recollections of the year. It has been a fantastic introduction into the Fitzwilliam calendar and has led to many interesting conversations about the Development Office, our events, and the wider College. As I look back over a busy year, I am inspired by all the wonderful projects and events that were organized by my predecessor Helen Bettinson and the Development team. What follows is a testimony to how vibrant and engaged our alumni are here at Fitzwilliam: it is a delight to look back over your successes.

Let us begin with financial matters. It has been a remarkably successful year for fundraising: £2.6 million raised, so that now we have over £16.2m towards our Campaign target of £20m. We are well on the way to meeting this target by 2019. During the 2016 Telephone Campaign, thirteen student callers spoke to over 600 alumni and, thanks to their generosity, we raised over £200,000 towards the Student Opportunities Fund and the Teaching Fund. If you took the time to speak to one of the students – whether or not you were able to make a gift – thank you! It is a brilliant experience for them, and they learn a lot from their conversations with you.

There have been some particular fundraising highlights this year. Generous donations towards Engineering from two alumni will transform our capacity in this subject. Alumni continue to offer support through bursaries and hardship funds to students whose finances are limited, and we are very grateful for this help: no student should feel unable to take up – and to take full advantage of – a Fitzwilliam place because of financial constraints; with your donations we ensure that the
brightest students, whatever their backgrounds, feel welcome and supported at the College.

Capital projects play a key role in balancing growth and depreciation, and this year we have raised sufficient funds to undertake the refurbishment of the Lantern Roof of the Hall. Work is scheduled to be completed over Summer 2017. The most visible change this year, however, has been the successful completion of B and C staircases. Over half the cost of these projects has been met by donations, and we have not needed to use general reserves to complete the project – an amazing achievement. Thanks to our donors, we now accommodate half of our Freshers in the renovated A, B and C staircases. If you haven’t been back to College recently, do come for a visit and a look round the new facilities.

Each year Fitzwilliam enjoys a rich programme of events, and 2016 was no exception. As the pieces below show, alumni from a wide range of interests, age groups and locations converged to celebrate their connection to the College. We held subject dinners in Computer Science, Mathematics, and History, and we welcomed back over 250 alumni at the general Reunion in September and nearly 90 for the half-century gathering in July.
The Fitzwilliam Society goes from strength to strength. In the Michaelmas term, the Careers Fair was well attended by students and alumni, and offered a great opportunity for undergraduates and graduates to informally discuss career possibilities with our alumni. Under the presidency of Nigel Stapleton the London Dinner was held at the Stationers’ Hall; it was a triumph – we filled the Hall, and we were treated to a lively pre-dinner EU referendum discussion between Fitzwilliam politicians.

The Master made a number of Fitzwilliam trips this year. In February she met alumni in Manchester at the Manchester Association of CU Women; then in March, she and Christopher spent the first day of their holiday with alumni in Athens. In September, en route to a conference in San Francisco, she met West-Coast alumni in Santa Monica. The trips to the Far East are reported in The Master’s Letter, p.2.

We were very pleased to hear about Fitzwilliam alumni organising their own event in Northern Ireland – this is something we would love to see more of, so do get in touch if you would like some support from the Development Office to organise a Fitzwilliam event where you are.

Enjoy the reports below, and – I hope – start planning your next visit back to Fitzwilliam. I look forward to meeting you soon!

NICOLA JONES, Development Director


Fifty years ago Fitzwilliam gained full collegiate status, and the matriculants of 1966 were the first students to enter Fitzwilliam College. A good number of them came back to celebrate their Golden Reunion on Saturday 9 July, hosted by the Master and Dr Padfield.

The evening kicked off with a wonderfully entertaining and thought-provoking lecture by Dr David Starkey (1964) on The Search for the Middle Ground: from Magna Carta to Brexit via Fitzwilliam. Recalling the period when Fitzwilliam obtained our own Great Charter, Dr Starkey argued that the ‘real’ Magna Carta was in fact that of 1216, not 1215, and that it had been a triumph of compromise rather than revolution, much like Fitzwilliam ...

Eighty-seven alumni, guests and Fellows enjoyed drinks on the sunny Grove Lawn, and dinner in the main Hall. Alumni had travelled from Europe, North America and Australia, and special mention should be made of twins Robin and Michael Harper (and their wives), who now reside respectively in Canada and in Australia.

Golden Matriculant Graham Nutter generously donated the wine from his own St Jacques d’Albas vineyard in France, and the College Wine Steward John Beer made available a very special port of 1966 vintage. It was a relaxed and friendly event, and we look forward to welcoming back the 1967 matriculants on Saturday 8 July 2017.


Back row: John Roebuck, Henry Rolph, Richard Sanders, Tony Stevenson, Keith Stoddart, Peter Tavner, Christopher Tod, Aubrey Waddy, Martin Williams, Michael Wilson, Richard Winterton

Third row: Julian Litchfield, Andrew Marfleet, Tim Martin-Jenkins, Christopher Murtough, Anthony Northey, Graham Nutter, Nigel Penny, Peter Phillips, Graham Piearce, Stephen Plummer, George Proffitt, Christopher Retallack


Front row: Roger Adams, Christopher Andrews, Christopher Aylwin, Allan Baird, Tim Bale, Roy Ball, Peter Banyard, David Birtwhistle, Nick Bowley, Richard Brumby
The 1869 Foundation lunch for 2016 was held on Sunday 22 May, and was well attended by faithful regulars and curious newcomers. We met for pre-lunch drinks in The Grove, and it was sufficiently warm and sunny for the French doors to be opened so that those who wished could bask on the terrace. It was no mean feat to encourage everyone round to the front of the building for the group photograph, before we made our way to the Central Building.

We enjoyed a wonderful lunch in what remains to many of us the Old Library, but actually is a light and spacious hospitality suite. For alumni returning after many years’ absence it is always a surprise to discover how the culinary experience at the College has been transformed. The lunch was rounded off with a few words from the Master and the customary awarding of certificates and pins to new members of the 1869 Foundation.

Guests then made their way to the Gordon Cameron Lecture Theatre for academic presentations from two of our graduate students.

Freddi Scheib is currently undertaking a PhD in Biological Anthropology and is President of the Cambridge University Technology and Enterprise Club (CUTEC). She is an expert in the extraction, sequencing, and analysis of DNA from ancient human remains, and runs the aDNA lab in the Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies. Originally from the United States, Freddi talked on Using ancient genomes to illuminate the peopling of the Americas. She explained how her work was bringing to light the composition of extinct natives from California’s Channel Islands through their bones.

Rob Machado’s research illuminates much more recent history – that of Athens in the fourth century BCE. Rob was coming to the end of his MPhil, having previously read Classics at Fitzwilliam as an undergraduate, and is now working here for a PhD. His enjoyable presentation...