UNDERGRADUATE MATRICULATION, OCTOBER 2014

GRADUATE MATRICULATION, OCTOBER 2014

H.K.Park P.Shah Y.Han A.Camier Lombarte O.Sivko O.T.Osotuyi T.B.Hickey M.A.Williams M.Blechta A.R.Tiffany
B.Musella Z.Yang M.J.Morey M.M.Zakrewska-Pim R.D.Hall S.W.Kim A.A.Quintero-Eanes V.Ledvick C.Babenko
A.D.Bunce J.N.Frei W.A.Ross D.Nenz P.D.Hoose N.J.Hanna J.Yunis E.Evans L.Guo
L.F.Schaeflner S.Thel A.M.Walsh N.Kozen I.C.Mason S.F.Davies Y.L.Tan R.J.Sinfinson
S.R.Jones A.M.Dewolf L.Chapman R.Y.Y.Tan J.M.A.Brough (MCR Accommodation & Welfare Officer) I.K.Aitken (Graduate Tutor) S.Mukherji (Graduate Tutor)
P.A.Chirico (Senior Tutor) N.M.Padfield (Master) R.G.Bateman (MCR President) R.E.Hardisty (MCR Treasurer) C.J.Campbell (MCR.Social Secretary)
I.M.Dicke (MCR.Social Secretary & Welfare Officer) S.K.Kreft (MCR Secretary) L.Swirski (MCR.Social Secretary) C.L.Scheib M.N.Chowdhuri F.C.J.H.Tan K.L.Lin
SENIOR TUTOR’S REPORT

In 2014, our students again achieved their highest-ever Tripos results, with 97 Firsts including 3 starred Firsts. A number of others were extremely highly ranked in their class-lists, and 9 won University Prizes. The outstanding result this year was in our largest subject, Natural Sciences. Building on a small improvement in 2013, results this year shot up; our first-years, in particular, outperformed every other college. Results in seven other subjects have been above the University average, measured over the three years to 2014: Engineering, MML, Law, HSPS/PPS, Geography, Land Economy, and Economics.

The proportion of Fitzwilliam students achieving a 2.1 or First in Tripos rose substantially, and for the fifth successive year, to 77% (the equivalent figure in 2009 having been 66%). The proportion achieving a 2.2 or Third fell to 17%, again continuing a consistent trend (the figure in 2009 having been 23%).

Disparities between the results of men and women have for many years caused concern across Cambridge. In 2014 there was a substantial increase in the proportion of Fitzwilliam women achieving a 2.1 or a First, which at 81% is well above the figures for Fitzwilliam men (74%), University men (77%) and University women (80%).

However the proportion of Firsts among Fitzwilliam women declined slightly to 14%, very much lower than among Fitzwilliam men (26%). Meanwhile the proportion of women with a 2.2 or Third is below average, at 14%; for men it is above average, at 19%.

The College remains slow to rise up the academic league tables. However, there is evidence of a consolidated recovery: our performance in each of the years 2012 to 2014 has been better (relative to other colleges) than in each of the years 2008 to 2011.

In individual meetings with a large number of undergraduates I have learned a great deal about their motivations, about the College facilities and forms of support that they value most, and – just as importantly – where they found gaps in our provision. JCR representatives have been particularly helpful in seeking to plug some of those gaps. We all agree that welfare comes first, at all times: that means, of course, helping students to cope with academic pressure and encouraging a balanced and sustainable approach to work without in any way constraining ambition; it also means emphasising – in a year which produced some shocking statistics on sexual harassment and assault in Cambridge as in other universities – that there is no grey area when it comes to mutual respect and propriety within the College community.

The Bursar’s report (p.12) sets out the rapid growth in the support we are able to offer to students for fees (which of course have themselves risen steeply), living costs, prizes, scholarships, research projects, travel, sport, music and many other activities. I am in the privileged position of overseeing the use of those funds (including 17 new Funds and Prizes whose regulations were approved during the course of the year). The area that has grown most rapidly has been that of support for the 40% of our junior members who are taking graduate courses. This is very fitting as the intense squeeze on public funding sadly leaves many others unable to take up the place on a graduate course for which their academic ability and achievement makes them very well qualified. Political statements as we go to press suggest that we may be able to hope for some positive development in this area, albeit at the cost to individual students of yet larger student loans – we shall have to see how this issue develops over the course of an election year, and continue in our efforts to offer real and substantial support wherever we can. Just as importantly, we have invested very substantially to ensure that graduate students at Fitzwilliam enjoy high-quality accommodation close to the main College site; and, through a large team of Graduate Tutors and a hard-working MCR Committee, a vibrant and inclusive community hosting both social and academic events. While the University establishes Masters courses and organises their teaching and examination, increasingly it acknowledges the role Colleges can play in supporting the academic development as well as the personal wellbeing of graduate students.

There has been a substantial increase in the level of activity of subject societies within College. Led in varying measure by enthusiastic undergraduates and graduate students and by Fellows, these serve to foster the interaction and intellectual nourishment of all junior members through informal subject-related activities such as lectures, discussion groups, dinners and attendance at the College’s graduate conferences, as well as encouraging participation in appropriate departmental activities and events. An increasing number of Directors of Studies are able to make use of subject funds in a variety of ways to offer additional support to students for academic-related activities.

In dealing with students while they study at the College, I reap the rewards of the huge amount of work that goes into the undergraduate admissions process, under the direction of Admissions Tutors Rosemary Horrox and Holly Canuto – who have steered a wise course between the constant (and often conflicting) challenges of complex regulation, intense competition, public scepticism, political
opportunism, and the understandable though sometimes misguided concerns of each educational sector. For the longer term, we have been developing our relations with schools in our target areas of Hammersmith and Fulham, Cheshire, and Cumbria, and innovative programmes in conjunction with organisations such as the Sutton Trust, Oxbridge Prospects, the Kent Academies Network and the Brilliant Club. All this work is made possible by the Tutorial Office staff under Rajashree Dhanaraj’s management: Gill Skerritt and Aemilia McDonnell working on Admissions, Vicki Imrie, and Sue Free who leads the way on graduate matters; and by my assistant, Claire Claydon. Our students also benefit from the dedication of staff in all departments across College, and support looks beyond graduation too: alongside other initiatives, the Careers Fair has grown into a really rich opportunity for current students to benefit from the personal advice and guidance of their predecessors in a wide range of sectors. It is as great a pleasure for me to talk to alumni about the College in their own time and in the present day, about their subsequent challenges, transitions and passions, and sometimes about a proposal for a collaboration or a financial donation, as it is to talk to the undergraduates and graduate students who benefit in so many ways from that commitment and support, and whose thanks I wholeheartedly echo.

PAUL CHIRICO, SENIOR TUTOR

COLLEGE STATISTICS

Undergraduate-student statistics
At the beginning of the academical year 2013–2014, there were 435 students in residence registered for undergraduate degrees, 262 men and 173 women. Corresponding numbers for 2012–2013 were 442, 275 and 167. In both years, four of them were affiliated students (two men and two women).

The results for the finalists in those years were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First, with Distinction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass Merit</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deserved Honours</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate-student statistics
In January 2014 there were approximately 311 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 34% of the graduate students were from the UK, about 21% from other European Union countries, and about 45% from outside Europe. It was about 68% male and 32% female.

Of the graduate students, 62% were either registered as candidates for the PhD or on track to be so registered (193 students), and 25% were undertaking MPhil or other one-year Masters degrees (77 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 (28 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 47 part-time Masters students, of whom the majority were senior Police Officers studying Applied Criminology and Police Management – graduates from that course in previous years have become Chief Constables, and in the 2014 Honours Lists for the New Year and the Queen’s Birthday one received a Knighthood, one received a CBE and one an OBE, and four were awarded the Queen’s Police Medal for distinguished service (p.63).

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND PRIZES

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENTSHIPS for 2014–2015

1912 SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to students who achieved First Class or equivalent in summer 2014; awards to those continuing to higher degrees at Fitzwilliam J G A Judge (MAST Pure Mathematics); M Morey (MPhil); B Newman (NST); G M Stevenson (PPS); S L Zhang (NST); P P J Zupancic (MAST Applied Mathematics).

COLLEGE SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS
R Bateman; M Bergin; R Binte Rawi; J Brough; D Bulger; L Chávez Díaz; D Chen; S Cheng; L Cowton; A Eltemamy; M Gonzalez Hernando; P Gurry; J Harris; B Hembree; A Hodgson; P H Hui; N Jones; K Kang; J H Kim; J Lee; D Lerup; H Y Leung; J Markeviciute; A Mauricio; J Protho; L Sbordone; R Shakur; J Shen; V Stakhov; M Stamper; S Strong; T J Sum; Y L Tan; D Turban; M Vine; L Yang; D Zhang; W Zhao;

1912 SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to students who achieved First Class or equivalent in summer 2014; honorary awards for those not continuing to higher degrees at Fitzwilliam P Benetti Genolini, (MAST Applied Mathematics); M Bergin (NST); K Booth (Geography); K D Carlson,
(MAST Pure Mathematics); L R Ching (NST); B Dalton (MML); J P L Davidson (PPS); E L Davies (Engineering); S De Nicola (NST); A Fernandez (Mathematics) [award declined]; G D Gupte (Engineering); A Henson (Geography); N E Hetherick (History); A Houlding (Economics); R Jeanneret (NST); N Jones (Engineering); J Kaye (MAST Applied Mathematics); J P Keane (MML); J McIntosh (ASNC); D Mishra (LLM); D Purdie (Economics); D Reznicek (NST); H Richards (English); S Richards (Land Economy); V S Scully (Law); C H Sharland (Arch & Anthrop); S Y J Sim (NST); Y L Tan (NST); C Tong (Economics); M Toomey (PPS); J A Tovey (History); J C A Wright (Law); S Xu (Land Economy); Z Xu (Mathematics); P P J Zupancic (MAST Applied Mathematics).

SCHOLARSHIPS awarded to students with First Class or equivalent in summer 2014

Elections to Scholarships

Re-elections to Scholarships

PRIZES for First Class results in examinations in summer 2014


Other AWARDS and PRIZES

Other Prizes in summer 2014

Other Fitzwilliam Society awards

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 2013–2014, a total of about 60 students received such awards, 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

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

New Awards

Renewed Awards

The stained-glass crest of the Clothworkers was originally in the Chapel of Fitzwilliam Hall, in consequence of the very long term association between Fitzwilliam and the Livery Company; the first Clothworkers’ Exhibitions were awarded in 1875, whilst the latest Clothworkers’ undergraduate Scholarships are in the lists above.
GENERAL ADMISSION 2014

R.Jeanneret G.M.Stevenson N.M.Hemnings X.Gu R.N.Shah S.Malik B.Tong G.Gupte B.W.L.Tham
C.Leung G.Gabriele E.Joseph E.Kempley A.Morley J.McIntosh V.Scully J.A.Wallace T.Palacios G.Pilakoutas J.C.A.Wright
Y.Wang G.Liang E.Davies S.Court A.Jones S.Prabhu-Naik S.Livingstone R.Hunter E.Lapavitsas R.N.Strukelj
A.Watson A.Henson D.Reznicek P.Goff N.Maj I.Muirhead D.Mishin J.A.Waweeyn J.P.Keane B.D.Dalton M.Park D.G.Purdie
D.L.Kanter A.Bi S.S.Anwar E.C.Tan E.N.Zoidis B.Vira (Graduate Tutor) E.Knight (Tutor) J.K.Aitken (Deputy Praelector) H.C.Canuto (Tutor) P.A.Chirico (Senior Tutor) N.M.Padfield (Master)
A.E.Bottoms (Praelector) J.Eisold (Head Porter) J.M.Munns (Chaplain) S.L.Larsen (Tutor) S.Holly (Dean) Y.G.Wong H.M.Malcolm Z.Lim H.Richards S.Richards
GENERAL-ADMISSION CEREMONY

On Saturday 28 June 2014, 132 graduands were admitted to their degrees in person. Of these, 126 received the degree of BA (of whom 26 on four-year courses received MEng or MSci in addition to the BA), whilst four received LLM degrees and two received the degree of VetMB. Five graduands received their degrees in absentia: four received BA degrees (three with MMath or MSci in addition), and there was one LLM.
Dissertations approved, 2013–2014

Doctor of Philosophy

A.M.G. Ali: Factors affecting prognosis after a diagnosis of breast cancer
S. Al Turkii: Integrated approaches to elucidate the genetic architecture of congenital heart defects
T. Baltrusaitis: Automatic facial expression analysis
D. Bisht: Structure and geomorphology, southeast dinarides, Croatia
F.B.D.S.T. Cadete: A genomic study of regulation of transcription by chromatin
G. Chatzidamianos: Language in profoundly deaf people with schizophrenia
C.D. Cowie: Reasons in ethics and epistemology
S.I.H.A. Elhalawani: Local community participation in protected-area management: a case study of Wadi El Gemal National Park, Egypt
F. Feng: Adaptive free-space optical wireless interconnects
S. Gonzalez Calera: Phosphazane dimers as building blocks to new radicals and macrocycles
S. Habibi: Ultraprecise nanofabrication with extremely low dose focused ion beams
C.L. Harland Davies: Holy and Royal: the New Testament Church as a priestly community
W. Kluge: Translation of potential biomarker molecules and biological pathways for schizophrenia and major depressive disorder to pre-clinical models
F.A. Krüger: Integration and analysis of protein evolutionary relationships and small molecule bioactivity data
L.P. Lee: Methods for extracting chemical information from large-scale quantum-mechanical calculations with localized orbitals
X. Liu: The rise and fall of cities in a global urban network as captured by the locational strategies of advanced producer services firms
Y.-H. Lo: A preliminary survey of MHC class I sequences in mandrills (Mandrillus sphinx)
I. Marco Rius: Preserving hyperpolarised nuclear spin order to study cancer metabolism
H. Meng: Using light detection and ranging (LiDAR) for vegetation vertical structure studies
M.R.J. Neal: Anglicanism, providence and the growth of stability 1660–1720
J.A.L. Nicholl: Changes in ice sheet dynamics across the mid-Pleistocene transition recorded in North Atlantic sediments
K. Nimmanunta: Optimal investment under market illiquidity and extreme risk
M.A. Saucedo Martinez: The gasification of solid fuels and its relation to chemical-looping and oxy-fuel combustion
M.J.W. Schramm: Adrenergic signalling in the central nervous system modulates the reconsolidation of alcohol memories
G.M. Spelman: Energy scattering in weakly nonlinear systems
M.E.J. Stettler: Aviation emissions of black carbon and other air pollutants
N. Vallina-Rodriguez: The hidden costs of mobile applications: a cross-layer analysis of energy and spectrum waste of mobile applications
D. Venkateshvaran: Seebeck coefficient in organic semiconductors
K. Wang: Design and experiment implementation on low energy and power controlled SOA based optical switches for large-scale switch applications

Daiichi student exchange

The exchange scheme, now in its sixteenth 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 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 Tszuski 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. The Chancellor of the University was honoured as a Cambridge University Benefactor in May 2014 (p.9, above).

Daiichi programme 2013–2014

This year, we were a group of four: two of us had recently received our undergraduate degrees and the other two had just graduated from MPhil courses. Together with four graduates from St Anne’s College, Oxford, we lived together on the eighth floor of Cambridge House, a student dormitory with excellent facilities including a canteen, karaoke rooms, a traditional Japanese bath and bicycles that we could ride to our classes at the University. Our living space was comfortable and had a great view of the mountains, the buildings and the rice paddies in the surrounding semi-rural landscape.

We attended three hours of Japanese lessons a day and were given daily exercises to complete, which was hard work but allowed us to make very rapid progress – from knowing next to nothing at the beginning to becoming conversational at the end of the year. This felt like a huge achievement, even if we still have a long way to go to reach full fluency.

Our three Japanese teachers were all very kind and patient, and taught us about Japanese customs as well as helping us get to grips with the writing system. For the ‘setsubun’ festival on the day before the beginning of Spring, we threw dried soy beans out of our classroom window in a tradition supposed to bring good luck, and as our language skills improved we even began to discuss current affairs in simple Japanese.

Fitzwilliam alumnus and organiser of the scholarship programme Sebastian Dakin (1990) taught us Japanese history in a ninety-minute class once a week. Later in the year, he helped us to read and understand a short story by Japanese author Oe Kenzaburo, a Nobel Prize winner, which was a fascinating challenge.

As part of the scheme we all helped out three times a week at the bilingual Linden Hall Elementary School, in a beautiful building next to the University campus. The children were a delight to work with, and we spent time focussing on their English conversation skills in small groups, supervising an after-school homework club and playing games with them outside.

We also undertook extra part-time English teaching work at various evening schools and with private students, and so were enabled to travel throughout Japan and further afield in our holidays. Between us we visited Tokyo, Kyoto, the southern Japanese island of Shikoku, South Korea (only three hours on the ferry from Busan), China, and Sri Lanka.
amongst other places. Two of us went skiing for the first time in the mountains near Hiroshima just after New Year. Many varied and interesting experiences were made possible by this scheme, including a trip to a beautiful lantern festival in the centre of Fukuoka, a language-exchange lunch with Japanese-speaking students at the University, climbing Homanzan, the highest mountain in the area, selling English cakes at the University festival and taking part in a traditional Japanese tea-ceremony event. A friendly sailing teacher at the University also invited us to barbeques at his house, which were lots of fun, and he and his friends even taught us how to make ‘mochi’ rice cakes using big stone hammers to beat the freshly-steamed rice into a delicious pulp.

We are very grateful for the opportunities offered to us through the scholarship and for the kindness and generosity shown to us by University staff, students and other people we met on this extraordinary year in Japan.

KATIE FORSTER (2009), NATALIA DOBROVOLSCHI (2012), HOWIE SHRIBMAN (2009), SIMON WHITAKER (2009)

MARK SAVAGE TRAVEL AWARDS

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

Medical support for Nepal

This summer I spent two months in Nepal. During the first month, I trekked the complete Annapurna circuit. Following this, I spent a month volunteering with the Nepal Mountain Trust. This is a small NGO based in Pokhara, helping some of Nepal’s most disadvantaged people. It runs a number of initiatives, which are mainly healthcare and education orientated. I helped with three main projects.

I produced a report on new toilets which had been built in two very poor villages. This outlined the successes of the project, providing important feedback for the charity. We carried out this research by speaking to members of the community with the aid of two Nepali translators.

I taught hygiene and health to children in a primary school. This included hand-washing, teeth-brushing, healthy eating, and the basics of germ theory. I also helped to make cards, which included photographs of each child and some information about them, to send back to their partner school in England. The teachers’ and children’s welcome for us was so warm it was rather overwhelming; I almost felt I did not deserve it for the small amount of teaching we actually carried out, especially since we could not speak Nepali. The charity did send two translators which helped greatly. We even stayed the night in the headteacher’s house since the school was in such a remote location.

I helped with a free health camp, which was held in a rural village, where people are very isolated from healthcare facilities. Even if they did have access to hospitals, most people would not be able to afford to pay for a consultation or medicines. I used my medical knowledge to help formulate a budget, which involved liaising with doctors and pharmacists to assess what drugs and equipment were needed. I feel this administrative task was actually where I was most useful. The charity has two Nepali employees who are able to carry out most tasks without the need for volunteers, but they are not medically trained. Therefore I felt my medical knowledge was useful in understanding the names and nature of medications. We also had a big group of volunteers on the day of the health camp. Our main role was to observe and note down the main problems that patients came in with. This research is essential to help improve future health camps and give feedback to their trustees.

I also spent one week doing work experience in a private hospital. This was interesting, as I have just started clinical medicine in England, so it forms an interesting point of comparison. However, the doctors did not do much to get us involved. This week was useful to me, as it made me realise that I want to do my medical
elective (6th year medical placement abroad) in a country where I can understand the language, so as to get more out of the experience.

Overall this summer was an amazing experience, and I would not have been able to afford it without the Mark Savage travel grant. I hope that I made some positive contribution to people living in one of the poorest areas of the world. That the Mountain Trust is a small organisation was perfect, as I got to see all its inner workings, and to help out in lots of different ways (even spending one day gardening outside the office).

Thank you Fitzwilliam!

**EILIS KEMPLEY (2011)**

**Microfinance in the slums of Nairobi**

In July 2014, I and a fellow economist travelled to Nairobi to work with microfinance institutions for a month. When we arrived we were met at the airport by our local coordinator who showed us to the accommodation—a host family in Nairobi’s Dagoretti slum—and then presented us options of where we could work. The choice was between a well-guarded, secure office block in the middle-income Kilimani district or with a smaller group in the Ngando slum near our house. We chose the latter as the second project appeared to be one in which our help could be genuine rather than just notional.

We worked with several groups in Ngando; each was made up of between ten and fifteen people who contribute a fixed amount each month to their group, which they then lend out to their other members to start business activities such as a shop or a barbers. We worked closely with the lead of Fair Kenya who works with these groups to come up with ways they could best use their money, because their current system was not creating large enough returns to empower themselves. We discussed ideas with many contacts living within the area, and came up with the idea of using the money to start a housing project for which they will collect the rent and so return their investment within two years.

We collected the necessary data and spent time trying to maximise the potential profit on the project, and presented the ideas to the groups for them to make their own decisions. This benefitted me as we saw, economically, how these systems are working—or in some cases not working—in developing countries, seeing business successes such as M-Pesa (a mobile-phone based money transfer and microfinancing service) alongside many failures.

The entire experience was difficult and dangerous. It was at a time of significant disturbance in Nairobi, with five separate terrorists acts occurring in the month prior to our arrival, and with heightened security and tensions as the anniversary of the Westgate Mall attack approached. The day after our arrival there was a political riot in the centre of Nairobi and we were not allowed outside. Our curfew was 6pm, and we had to be escorted by our coordinator in the low-income areas around our house as we were consistently harassed for money. Car-jacking was ever-present and we had to minimise time spent on roads. There were very few western tourists, restaurants were empty, and we saw very few non-Kenians. Those foreigners who were in Nairobi stayed in guarded compounds but, in part through our own ignorance, we were in an unguarded house in a very low income area—contrary to Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice. Therefore this experience was beneficial in many ways. It helped me appreciate the safety and development of the UK, the safety of our roads and neighbourhoods, and the multiple luxuries I consistently take for granted. The experience was maturing, we had to be thoughtful and responsible at all times or the consequences could have been large. Now that we are back and safe I am immensely glad I went, and so thank Fitzwilliam for the donation of a travel award.

**PHILIP MEAD (2013)**
THE JUNIOR COMMON ROOM

JCR Committee Members, 2014

President: Phil Hart
Vice President: Nick Fox
Treasurer: Annie You Yuan
Sports & Societies President: Ged Norton
Sports & Societies Vice President: Jack Davies
Welfare Executive: Eleanor Costello
Target & Access Executive: Carl Plane
Secretary and Communications Executive: Anna Kaye
Academic Affairs Executive: Rob Machado
Ethical Affairs Executive: Kiana Thorpe
Ents Executive: Alex Cicale
Green Officer: Paul Bowman
Website Officer: Will Marks
Ethnic Minorities Officer: Ashwin Aggarwal
Women’s Officer: Alice Hobbs
International Officer: Matteo Mirolo
Charities Officer: Annika Matthews
Disabilities Officer: Akil Akeil
Publications Officer: Tom Evans
Access Sub-Committee: Pan Hu
Access Sub-Committee: Daisy Stevens

This year saw the restructuring of the JCR into a committee consisting of 9 executives, 5 of whom also lead smaller sub-committees. The aim of this, which we have been putting into action since January, is to allow for increased communication not only within the JCR but also between the JCR and students and between the JCR and College. Particular highlights of the year include the refurbishment of the Walter Grave Room into a new social space dedicated to undergraduate use during the full run of the academic year (p.14), the launch of a brand-new website designed by our Webmaster, Will Marks, as well as the professional publication of the Goat Post by our Publications Officer, Tom Evans.

Nick, Annie, and I have headed up the Committee this year, as well as attending College meetings to ensure that students’ voices are heard. Of particular importance were the rent negotiations in which we saw IT charges being increased by 90% of students. This was done in conjunction with the rent negotiations in which we saw IT charges being increased by 90% of students. This was done in conjunction with the MCR, and is just one small way in which the two committees are working together. Nick did an excellent job standing in as President over Easter Term and the summer, and oversaw the JCR refurbishment into a dynamic, homely space accessible to students 24/7. Rob Machado, the Academic Officer, has been focusing especially on opening up more study spaces in College during the examination season as well as organising a graduate-studies fair to help undergraduates in deciding how best to continue their studies – after all, the JCR are here to improve students’ lives as they go about their studies.

Eleanor Costello leads up the welfare team who have been focusing on ways to tackle student welfare issues more effectively. This has not only been helped by the re-introduction to the Committee of an Ethnic Minorities Officer (Ashwin Aggarwal) but also the unfailing work of the International Officer Matteo Mirolo. He has so far been able to produce an International Freshers Guide for new entrants to College; campaigned to have International Officers distributed across fresher accommodation in their first year instead of being confined to P staircase, and has forged greater links between the JCR and MCR international communities through cultural evenings and social events. Meanwhile, Emma Ansell has continued representation of disabled students to the College, in particular focusing on the refurbishment of the original Lasdun buildings of the College. Women’s Officer Alice Hobbs has been working closely with the CUSU Women’s Officer to improve awareness of social inequality within Cambridge and beyond, including putting on a sexual consent workshop early in Michaelmas Term. Eleanor herself has been invaluably leading up this sub-committee as well as providing a friendly face and much-needed support to students at new weekly welfare drop-in sessions in the café.

The Communications Sub-committee has moved leaps and bounds this year in line with this year’s ethos of improving all channels of communication. Together they work to keep the new JCR website fresh and up to date with the latest information and reports on College life. Anna Kaye’s re-formatted Billy Bulletin provides an informative yet still entertaining means by which students can learn about wider University life as well as seeing career and volunteering advertisements. Tom Evans has put together a complete editorial team for this year’s editions of the Goat Post, which was printed professionally, and his articles add a tone of debate and intrigue to the publication to accompany the usual comedic take on College life. By far the best way to experience all their work is to go onto the JCR website at fitzjcr.com.

The new Ethical Affairs Sub-committee sees Kiana Thorpe heading up a three-person team with Paul Bowman (Green) and Annika Matthews (Charities). As well as past favourites such as Fair Trade Superhall (wear your own recycled hat!) appearing in their line-up, new events such as chocolate tasting and the introduction of ethical-affairs blogs on the website have given this side of the JCR a new energy. A particularly important addition is also the buttery’s ‘table talker’ tripod aimed at increasing student–staff communication relating to environmental and ethical issues.

The Target and Access team, led by Carl Plane, have continued to increase Fitzwilliam’s reach in state schools across the UK. As well as our designated region, Carl, Pan, and Daisy have encouraged Fitz students to return to their old schools to promote the College and increase knowledge about applications. Their new section on the website – featuring Rosalie Warnock and Alex Houlding’s (JMA Target and Access 2013) Alternative Prospectus – is definitely worth a look. The shadowing scheme back in Lent Term also throw these three in at the deep end as Fitzwilliam played host to a large proportion of those state-school students on the scheme – truly supporting Fitzwilliam’s standing as an access College.

Finally, the newly reorganised Ents team of Alex Cicale, Aran Shaunak, Matt Kellett and Zach Freud have been busier than ever this year. As well as all the usual bops (Marriage, Halfway Hall, Halloween, Freshers, to name but a selection), they have also organised concerts in the bar for musicians from Fitz and afar to come perform in a relaxed setting, allowing students a chance for a relaxed drink and catch up with friends while watching their peers perform. The two Ents of the year, situated in the Auditorium following the move there last year, have run...
smoothly and been very entertaining. The Freshers' Week Ent also features 'Itchy Feet' a dance company well-known across the UK that will have all those who flock to the auditorium dancing to vintage '50s and '60s tunes – a sell-out for sure! An exciting timetable for Freshers' week and the rest of term hopes to continue proving that this re-structuring is very advantageous.

This year, the JCR has been all about re-invigorating student action in College at all levels, and we hope that the elections in November will reflect the increased presence the Committee plays in undergraduate life in Fitzwilliam. Thanks are certainly due not only to the JCR Committee themselves, but also to the Fellows and staff in College who not only listen to our views but also help and encourage us in our endeavours. We are particularly grateful to the Master, Senior Tutor, Bursar, and Domestic Bursar for ensuring our views are represented and heard across all College meetings, as well as the Executive Trustees for guiding and supporting us through our actions. My personal thanks as well as the Committee's go to Nick Fox for his uniring efforts in heading up the Committee for one third of the year in my absence.

PHIL HART (2012), JCR PRESIDENT 2014

THE MIDDLE COMBINATION ROOM

MCR Committee Members, 2014–2015

President: Richard Bateman
Vice President: Dmitro Natalukha
Secretary: Stefanie Kreft
Treasurer: Robyn Hardisty
Academic Officer: Pietro Benetti Genolini
Welfare and Accommodation Officer: Julian Brough
Green Officer: Masao Ashtine
Technical Officer: Mustafa Kamal
International Officer: Ronald Ching
Social Secretaries: Sylwia Mankowska, Leszek Swirski, Callum Campbell, Simon Beauchemin, Alesia Tsaibus.

There can be no clearer indicator of the rapid growth of the Fitzwilliam MCR in recent years than the fact that the number of graduate matriculations has now overtaken those of undergraduates. There are now 360 graduates in total, 159 of whom are new to Fitzwilliam in 2014.

Academic activities remain at the heart of what we do, with the two annual Graduate Conferences now supplemented with a year-round programme of informal academic talks; all these give MCR students a platform to share their research and wider interests in a relaxed setting among friends.

The Fitzwilliam MCR has also established a reputation as one of the most friendly, sociable and welcoming in Cambridge, a reputation that has been further burnished throughout the last twelve months. Our fortnightly MCR Formals are now a well-established fixture in the College calendar and remain very popular. Other regular food-based gatherings (graduate work is quite the hunger-generator) include our Film and Pizza nights and fortnightly Sunday afternoon tea and cake. The outfits on display at our regular themed parties in the Grove also serve as a constant reminder that the graduate imagination is indeed a capacious thing.

We also continue to strive to innovate and keep our activities fresh. A superb 35-strong Samba band, whose drumming could be heard from the Castle Inn, accompanied our World Cup themed end-of-year party, and caused the switchboard at the local tinnitus society to seize-up the following morning. The University Mexican Society provided dancers and music at our election-results night. We have also this year introduced a series of informal gatherings specifically for PhD students, which will continue both in and out of term time. Another recent innovation for all MCR members has come via the Master and her husband, whose fleet of five tandem bicycles is now regularly ridden (and fallen from) by graduates on Sunday mornings. The MCR also entered a vessel into the inter-collegiate cardboard-boat race in June, which managed to keep five people and one comedy moustache afloat for an impressive three minutes before it went the way of the Titanic.

Links with the JCR are strong and continue to be developed. The two committees now meet for an annual dinner; and joint Burns Night and Chinese New Year events, along with a joint hop at the end of Freshers' Week, have brought the whole student body together (although the individual student body currently typing this report took a while to recover from the Burns Night ceilidh). Graduates are also active participants in the musical, sporting and academic life of college through the myriad clubs and societies under the auspices of the JMA, which continues under its new constitution to serve the needs of the MCR and JCR in equal measure.

The MCR is an astonishingly diverse community. The daily opportunity to talk to and be among people from so many nations and with such diverse interests and life-experiences is a rare privilege, and to represent them is a great personal joy. I am immensely thankful to my committee, whose diligence, good humour and constant willingness to get involved set a tone which is mirrored and amplified throughout the MCR. This is backed up with interest by the staff and Fellows of the College, to whom we are very grateful. It is a happy place.

RICHARD BATEMAN, MCR PRESIDENT 2014–2015

COLLEGE MUSIC AND ART

Music Society

This year has been highly productive and exciting for Fitzwilliam College Music Society, with Rosie Busiakiewicz (History of Art, 2011) as President and Natalie Price (History, 2012) as Vice-President. The Master, as Senior President, encouraged a wide range of new musical ventures, including our first major concert of the year; for this, we joined forces with the Cambridge University Indian Classical Arts Society and welcomed Radhe Jaggi to the auditorium. The cost of the performance was kindly supported by Dinesh Dhamija (Law, 1971).

Of course, student concerts still form the staple of what we do in the society. Natalie organised a supremely well attended Freshers' Concert, which for the first time in my memory included pop music – particularly some Nick Drake covers which gave a lovely nod to one of our most notable alumni.
As well as taking the helm of Chapel Choir, Charles Gurnham (Natural Sciences, 2012) also performed in solo organ concerts, his full rendition of Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition* being a particular highlight. Lastly it is worth mentioning two further major highlights of the year: Hannah Roper (Music, 2013) organised a fantastic concert of Elgar’s *The Dream of Gerontius* in Trinity College Chapel, featuring over 100 performers including professional soloists and renowned conductor Adrian Partington; and of course the annual FCMS Garden Party was a great success, with particular gratitude given (in musical form no less, thanks to The Sirens) to Francis Knights who is stepping down as Director of Music, and all organised wonderfully by incoming president Natalie; I am sure she will do a stellar job for this academic year.

**Barbershop**

Fitzwilliam Barbershop began the 2013–2014 year with the traditional welcoming set in the Bar after Matriculation Dinner. The remnants of the previous year’s group – a quartet comprising James McAulay (2011), Tim Hubener (2012, Homerton), Robert Mathias (2011) and Matthew Clarke (2011) – treated the freshers to a handful of barbershop classics, encouraging many to sign up for what was to be a very competitive round of auditions. After hearing an array of wonderful voices, we recruited James Lanaghan (2011, Homerton), Josh Wooderson (2011), Tom Gough (2011) and Bowen Wang (2013, Trinity), and the eight-man ensemble was born.

Under the leadership of Matthew and Robert, the group worked hard to prepare for the first wave of serious gigs at the end of Michaelmas term. We entertained an enthusiastic home crowd alongside the Fitz Sirens after the undergraduate Fitzmas dinner, before venturing further afield to sing a fittingly chilly queue set at the Selwyn Snowball. We then celebrated the end of term with a hugely enjoyable festive performance at the Gonville and Caius MCR Christmas Dinner, made all the more satisfying by copious amounts of the Barbers’ favourite currency – free food and drink!

The start of Lent term meant, as always, the serious business of May Ball auditions. We dutifully visited a handful of committees each weekend, battling through busy academic schedules and sore throats to give ourselves the best possible chance of a May Week to remember. Even so, we managed to cram in performances at the Union, the Jewish Society, Churchill Spring Ball, the odd birthday party, and even a bit of busking.

One of the biggest events of our year was the concert we put on in the Auditorium along with the Sirens at the end of Lent term. *Fitz Barbershop Turns 20* marked twenty years since the group’s founding by former Organ Scholar Alex Tester (1993), and was a resounding success. The College’s two close-harmony groups presented a full and varied programme of old favourites and new material, all in the name of raising money for *Sing For Your Life* – a charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of older people through social and community music making. Everyone put an enormous amount of hard work and practice into the event, but the resulting sound and an appreciative audience (including several dedicated Barbershop alumni) made it an evening to be proud of.
The Path to Insanity — first prize in the Fine Art competition

Rory Bennett
A couple of months, a wedding reception, a day out at Lord’s and a few exams later, we were plunged into the hectic experience that is a Barber’s May Week. We performed at the Fitzwilliam Music Society and the Newnham MCR Garden Parties, as well as at Trinity, Gonville and Caius, Christ’s, St Catharine’s, and Sidney Sussex May Balls. Our repertoire was now extensive and diverse, with all our audiences being delighted by the classic sounds of Conely Island Baby and Hello Mary Lou alongside numbers from Eric Clapton, Billy Joel and Shaggy, our favourite Disney tunes, and a long-requested barbershop rendition of Queen’s Bohemian Rhapsody.

Due to our unfortunate habit of recruiting third-year students, we have once again suffered heavy losses at the end of the academic year. Robert ‘that was so postmodern’ Mathias, Tom ‘I’m not a tenor’ Gough, James ‘where is he now?’ Lanaghan, James ‘of course I know the words’ McAulay and Josh ‘whenever life gets you down’ Wooderson have all moved on – we wish them all the best, but must now focus on perfecting the art of singing four-part harmony with only three voices before Michaelmas 2014.

MATTHEW CLARKE (2011)

Sirens

Under the helm of Anna Lawrence (History, 2012) and Rosie Busiakiewicz (History of Art, 2011) the Sirens have had an extremely enjoyable year. We had four spaces to fill at auditions in October, and this proved an alarmingly difficult job – we were greeted with numerous fantastic altos auditioning, but only had one alto spot, which went to Freya. This proved to be a fantastic decision, as Freya’s sprightly personality and great low notes have livened up rehearsals! Choosing the three soprano spots was much easier, as Camilla, Anna and Jess all shone in their auditions.

Michaelmas Term involved numerous rehearsals teaching the newbies the Siren ‘classics’ (including our infamous rendition of Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy) before performing in the Reddaway Room after Fitzmas formal hall – we even seriously updated our dance moves, with White Christmas involving a significant amount of glitter.... As usual, Lent Term involved numerous auditions for balls, and we thank everyone in The Sirens for their continued commitment to these auditions, even if it does mean getting up at eight in the morning (a massive feat considering we are nearly all arts students). This paid off in Easter Term, as Freya’s sprightly rendition of Bohemian Rhapsody before Michaelmas 2014.

At the end of this year, Rosie, Claudia, Jess and Chrissie all left the Sirens to move to pastures new (such as unemployment), but with Anna Kaye (Music, 2013) and Freya Sanders (English at Murray Edwards, 2013) taking charge of Fitzwilliam’s beloved all-female close-harmony group, we know that everyone is in safe hands.

ROSE BUSIAKIEWICZ (2011)

Fine Art Society

After a somewhat dormant year in 2012, the Fitzwilliam College Fine Arts Society came back with renewed vigour in 2013. This revival was thanks largely to Dr John Munns (who will be greatly missed), who served as Senior Treasurer and secured us a significant amount of funding.

With Rosie Busiakiewicz (History of Art, 2011) as President and Alfie Glover-Short (PPS, 2012) as Vice-President, the major event of the year was the Fine Art competition and exhibition. There were over 25 entries – from undergraduates, graduates and even Fellows – and a wide range of media was represented: painting; photography; sculpture; more-conceptual pieces; and even a piece of internet art! The three judges had tough decisions to make, but the runners-up were two graduate students, Zenobia Homan and Andrew Hodgson, with first prize going to Rory Bennett (Engineering, 2012) with one of his beautiful photographs.

ROSE BUSIAKIEWICZ (2011)

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

History Society

The Fitzwilliam History Society enjoyed a very successful year in 2013–2014, providing a packed and varied programme that attracted a cross-section of students from throughout the University. Dr Stephen Mawsdley (Clarpe Hall) delivered the first talk of the year, on America’s response to polio before a vaccine. Michael Fordham (an alumnus of Fitzwilliam College and Senior Teaching Associate at Cambridge University’s Faculty of Education) then spoke on the issue of the invention of history education – a pertinent subject, especially in the light of reforms to the national history curriculum announced just a few months earlier. We then addressed another particularly contentious subject: the Middle East; Dr Andrew Arsan (St John’s) gave an intriguing paper entitled Syri, Lebanon, and the Arab Spring: A Historian’s View. Professor David Abulafia (Gonville and Caius) rounded off the term with a talk about his best-selling book The Great Sea, which addressed how we might approach writing the history of the Mediterranean without necessarily having to sail in the wake of the famous French historian Fernand Braudel.

Lent term continued Michaelmas’s focus on lending a historical perspective to current affairs, beginning with a talk by Professor Martin Daunton (Master of Trinity Hall) on History and the financial crisis. We then stepped back further in time with an Inspiring talk from Dr Emma Spary (Corpus Christi), entitled Global and Local Natures in Eighteenth-century France, which examined how colonial societies and colonial cultivation permitted the critique and transformation of France in a period of rapid colonial expansion. The term finished with our annual third-year dissertations evening – a chance for Fitzwilliam historians who had carried out their own extended research to present their work to their fellow students. This year we received a particularly eclectic and exciting array of topics from our candidates, including an oral-history perspective of a Greek identity in twentieth-century Macedonia, the regulation of street vending in New York since 1900, and a history of the close relationship between the eugenic and environmental movements in the United States.

The Society’s year ended on a high with the Annual Dinner at the start of Easter Term. The honoured guest for 2014 was the visiting Pitt Professor, Dr David Blight of Yale University, who delivered an insightful and humorous talk on the eve of the fiftieth anniversary of Dr Martin
Luther King’s speech I have a Dream, entitled A stroke of the President’s Pen: Martin Luther King, Jr., John F. Kennedy, and the Second Emancipation Proclamation. The talk excited a great deal of discussion that flowed on into the dining hall during the Dinner.

The Society continues to be one of the University’s most active history societies and looks set to remain as such. I look forward to seeing what next year holds.

NICHOLAS HITCHCOCK (2011)

Medical and Veterinary Society

Fitzwilliam College Medical and Veterinary Society had another successful year in 2013–2014. As usual, we began the year by welcoming our new first-year Medics and Vets at the termly curry. We also had a stall at the College Freshers’ Fair to encourage students studying other subjects to join us.

In Michaelmas Term we were delighted to host Dr Mike Townsend from Expedition Medicine Ltd., a company that provides training in expedition and wilderness medicine. His talk on his personal experiences of expedition and travel medicine was well attended and was followed by Formal Hall.

The main event of Lent Term was our annual black-tie dinner. The hustings and elections for next year’s Presidents took place during the drinks reception, and after this we sat down to a delicious meal in the College dining hall. Our after-dinner speaker was Dr James Fraser, a University Lecturer at the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience here in Cambridge, who gave an entertaining speech about his academic career. The dinner was well attended by students from all years, as well as by Fellows and several alumni, and provided a great opportunity for the whole Society to get together.

At the end of Lent term Mr Craig Vickery, a Fitzwilliam alumnus and gastrointestinal surgeon based at West Suffolk Hospital, visited the College to give a talk on the lower oesophagus and on how undergraduate understanding of anatomy, histology and physiology is so important to clinical practice.

We held our final talk of the year at the beginning of Easter Term, when Dr Elizabeth Murchison spoke about her fascinating research into the genetics behind transmissible cancers in Tasmanian devils and dogs. This talk was particularly well attended by students from other courses and colleges. We finished up the year with a barbecue on the Grove lawn in May Week, where both students and Fellows joined to celebrate the end of the examinations.

We hope that next year will be just as successful for the Society, which has several exciting speakers lined up, as well as the beginning of a new partnership for some events with Downing College Medical Society. We continue to encourage students studying subjects other than Medicine and Veterinary medicine to attend our talks and to get involved with the Society.

LAURA BARLOW (2012)

Computer Science and IT Dinner

Peter Cowley organised the fourth biennial event in February 2014. It was the biggest yet; last time, in 2012, we had several no-shows because of the weather – the speaker, Ken Olisa, emailed the next day to say that it had taken him 4½ hours to get home to south London by car. Looking at the long-standing guests, colour was the theme, as we had a Brown and a Green who have been here all four times (plus three others including Peter’s wife and partner). Invitations are sent to those doing or having done a Computer Science course or have a career in IT, and nine current students attended plus 36 others, dating from 1958 to 2010.

As usual, we moved places between courses to intermix fully – as computer scientists we have tried binary place settings in the past, and this time were tempted to use Babylonian numerals!

We had an excellent, informative, and very amusing talk from Andy Harter (1980), the CEO and founder of RealVNC which has received three Queen’s Awards for Enterprise as well as the 2013 MacRobert Award from the Royal Academy of Engineering. He is a Fellow of St Edmund’s College and a trustee of three charities, including the local Centre for Computing History.

For some, the evening went on until the early hours in the College Bar. The next event will be February 2016. Please contact alumni@fitz.cam.ac.uk for an invitation.

PETER COWLEY (ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, 1974)

University Sport 2012 – 2013

Many members of the College have been active in University sport, and awards of Full Blues, Half Blues, and Club Colours for 2012–2013 were reported in the 2014 University Sports Yearbook:

Full Blue
Jamie Bristow Hockey
Simon Court Association Football
Francesca Hirst Lacrosse
Harry Leitch Squash Rackets
Henry Pelham Squash Rackets
Anna Sutcliffe Water Polo
Hanna Tarver Hare and Hounds
Edward Tusting Modern Pentathlon

Half Blue
Sam Browne Polo
Hamish Crichton Water Polo
Elizabeth Dalgleish Netball
Ellie Davies Women's Cricket
Luke Davison Small Bore
Lizzie Day Water Polo
Andrew Hodgson Powerlifting
Emma Samia-Aly Real Tennis
Alice Simon Riding
Alice Simon Riding
Nikodem Szumilo Lightweight Rowing
Alice Watson Riding
Chandu Wickramarachchi Korfball

Club Colours
Simon Court Association Football
Tak Ho Bowmen
Alice Simon Riding
Alice Watson Riding
James Wright Korfball

Both Junior and Senior Members have contributed to the running of University sports clubs:

Club Officials
Madeline Ang Women's Captain, Judo Club
Phelim Bradley Dingby Sailing President, Cruising Club
Tak Ho Captain, Bowmen
Dr Ken Platts Senior Treasurer, Cycling Club
Alice Simon Women’s Captain, Modern Pentathlon Club
Anna Sutcliffe Women's Water Polo Secretary, Swimming and Water Polo Club
Alice Watson Captain, Riding Club

COLLEGE SPORT

Amalgamated Clubs
The 2013–2014 academic year, though less decorated than previous years, saw a continuation of the vigour and enthusiasm which sport generates within the College. The biggest plaudits went to the Men’s 2nd XI Football team, who scooped the Cuppers Shield, beating Queens’; the Men’s Squash first team who beat Emmanuel to win Squash Cuppers, and the 1st XV Rugby team, who beat Girton to take the Cuppers Plate. Special mentions must go to the Ladies’ Netball team who gained promotion after a near-flawless season, and the new Mixed Lacrosse team (membership with Peterhouse and Murray Edwards) who are playing competitively each week; many new players of lacrosse have been propelled into the University setup.

The Amalgamated Clubs has been the anchor of all of these successes financially, allowing each team to enter their respective League and Cuppers tournaments, and it has been a pleasure to witness such verve and energy within the efforts of the students who turn out in College colours weekly for sport. Special thanks must be directed to the JMA Senior Treasurer Dr Matt Wingate, who answers countless e-mails from captains requesting funding. Thanks also to team captains for their efforts in both physical and administrative senses; they always ensure competitive teams are assembled, whilst not ignoring Fitzwilliam’s inclusive ethos.

As usual the year came to a triumphant conclusion at the annual May Week Amalgamated Clubs Dinner, which welcomed around 100 guests and the guest speaker Dr Michael Hutchinson (LLM, PhD, 1993). Students and Fellows heard a comical and informative speech from Hutchinson, who has won over 50 national cycling titles, specifically in time-trials. His 2007 book, The Hour, won him Best New Writer at the British Sports Books award, and his 2014 book Faster offers a number of insights into the science of cycling, and sport as a whole. The evening was as ever a joy, and Dr Hutchinson’s words were very well received.

The bi-annual ‘Billy Day’ sports day occurred without inclement weather conditions, and students crowded the sidelines to watch the final of the five-a-side ‘Bobby Lethbridge Cup’. Weekly circuit training has been run, where students came across the infamous ‘Core Wall’. Special thanks to Vice-President Jack Davies for his tireless work on this; my own efforts lay purely in the compilation of weekly music playlists. The ‘Fitz Sport’ Facebook page has continued, and has spawned a number of smaller Facebook pages by clubs, for fixtures and results.

Finally, especial thanks must go to groundsman Dave Norman, whose work in ensuring the Oxford Road playing surfaces are always suitable – and they are always much more than that! – is greatly appreciated. With a new crop of freshmen, and with scores to settle or titles to retain, the 2014–2015 season looks set to be thrilling.

GED NORTON (THEOLOGY, 2012),
PRESIDENT OF CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Cricket

This season has been something of a transition period for Fitzwilliam College Cricket Club. Following numerous big-name departures last year and with strike-bowler Sam Hobbs absent on international duty, a young and fresh-faced squad began a busy schedule of cricket in Lent term with weekly net sessions at Fenner’s to re-tune techniques. Attendances varied, but come the end of term a crop of talented Freshers had emerged to fill many a vacant set of boots left in the Oxford Road changing room.

It was clear that the intense pre-season regime had paid off as our first fixture brought Fitzwilliam a resounding 6-wicket victory over local club Granta. Fielding first on an absolute belter of a deck skilfully prepared by Dave Norman, Fitzwilliam bowled well to restrict the opposition to 178 for 7 from 25 overs – the pick of the bowlers being Henry Warne who produced a miserly spell of 4 overs, taking 3 wickets for just 3 runs. Fitzwilliam replied with the bat in cagey fashion as debut-nerves seemingly got the better of our top order. With the team struggling at 50 for 3 in the tenth over, the scene was set for one of the finest batting partnerships seen at Oxford Road in recent
memory. With Fitzwilliam veteran Alex Howe joining new boy Patrick Tice at the crease, the two bullied the Granta bowling attack, scoring 68* and 65 respectively to see the side home with an over to spare.

Nevertheless, after this winning start, results took a turn for the worst as Fitzwilliam took on a strong Clare side away from home. Batting first on a slow and uneven pitch, we did well to reach 138 for 8 from our allotted 20 overs, with Vice-Captain Tom McCormick-Cox top-scoring with a swashbuckling 46. In fact, it was something of a miracle that Fitzwilliam posted this score given the trigger-happy approach of Clare’s square-leg umpire who gave out no less than three Fitzwilliam batsman stumped, contrary to the view of everybody else at the ground. Our response in the field seemed bound to follow a similar pattern of events as the same Clare umpire strode out to preside over their innings and decided conveniently to ‘forget’ the LBW rule, much to the dismay of opening quick Jonny Donnelly. In the end, Fitzwilliam lost by 9 wickets with both the result and the behaviour of the opposition leaving an unsavoury taste all round.

Rather than letting it get to the side, this unpleasantness instead fired motivation for our second Cuppers fixture versus St Catharine’s. The stresses of exam term were already getting to the young Fitzwilliam side as the injury list, which included myself as skipper, mounted. Yet despite only being able to field nine players, Fitzwilliam delivered a resounding victory. The much vaunted top-order, which boasted international pedigree, was beginning to tick as a score of 168 all out was achieved thanks to contributions of 45 from Dan Mehlig on debut, 37 from Patrick Tice and 34 from Tom McCormick-Cox. The Fitzwilliam bowling attack started off tidily and, with the introduction of Mark Christy and Alex Howe into the attack, wickets continued to fall at regular intervals until St Catharine’s succumbed to 112 all out. Mark finished with figures of 5 for 16 and Alex with 4 for 22 to complete the demolition and give Fitzwilliam a much-deserved 56-run victory. However, despite this superb victory, results elsewhere meant that we failed to qualify for the knock-out stages of the competition.

Our penultimate fixture of the season versus the Fitzwilliam Staff and Fellows XI was played in an excellent spirit, and is a match which all those involved agreed must become a permanent addition to the fixture-list. The Staff and Fellows XI batted first in glorious sunshine at Oxford Road, reaching a total of 110 all out thanks to 24 from the evergreen Dave Norman and 11 from Bursar Andrew Powell, with Dan Mehlig, Patrick Tice and Tom McCormick-Cox claiming two wickets each. Operating a reversed batting-order, the student batsman then made hay with Adam Drew reaching 34 and Tom McCormick-Cox 29* as the students reached their target in the 19th over to conclude an enjoyable and well-contested fixture.

This result meant the side went into our final fixture, the Past vs Present contest, on a high. The match is always the highlight of the season with numerous legends of the game returning to grace the hallowed turf of Oxford Road once again. With usual captain Alex Littlefair absent, the heavy mantle of leadership for the Old Boys team fell to Matt Bennison, who had to draw on all his years of experience to bring the best out of his side. Batting first, the Old Boys reached an imposing total of 158 for 7 with Francis Evans anchoring the innings and scoring prolifically through the third-man region to reach a well-constructed 54. Matt Bennison and Philippe Lopeman each contributed 19 before Graeme Robertson added impetus to the final overs with an aggressive 27*. Spin-twins Sam Hobbs and Mark Christy displayed flight and guile to take five wickets between them and restrict the Old Boys to a competitive total. The present team’s reply couldn’t have started better as Patrick Tice (81*) and Sam Hobbs (52) put on one hundred without loss. Despite the mercurial Ravi Doshi removing Hobbs on his way to figures of 1 for 48 from a hostile four overs for the Old Boys and two wickets for Aleem Iqbal, Present opener Patrick Tice saw the chase home in style, taking 26 from a single over to wrap up the win for the Present side.

The fixture was an excellent end to a season in which Fitzwilliam’s young squad proved there is much to look forward to in coming years. Batting strength in depth was displayed by the consistency of run-scoring by Patrick Tice (188 at an average of 63) and Tom McCormick-Cox (115 at an average of 58), and Alex Howe’s stand-out knock of 68*, which came off only 43 balls and included 10 boundaries. Similarly, in the bowling department Mark Christy led the way, taking all of his season’s tally of wickets in his 5 for 16, followed by Alex Howe and Henry Warne who took 4 apiece. For his all-round contribution with bat, ball and in the field, the Tommy Comfort trophy for Player of the Season was awarded to Alex Howe. With Sam Hobbs taking up the reins of captaincy this year and with a strong intake of new players, the 2015 season promises to be one of improved results, further enthusiasm and participation, and hopefully many well-deserved victories.

SAMUEL STRONG (2009), CAPTAIN 2013–2014

Men’s Football

That the boys were disappointed to end the season without a trophy indicated how successful the team had been in recent years. We had made three Cuppers finals in a row, so being knocked out in the first round was the low point of the season – the Fitz Firm will be even more explosive when we reach the final at Grange Road next year! Had we won our final two games of the season, we would have retained the title, but that honour went to Trinity Hall. The highlight was our hard-fought victory against Trinity Hall in the League. On a weekend when all other games were called off due to storms, we were determined to play – we had our full-strength squad for the first time that season. The ball may not have been bouncing, and after ninety minutes the pitch looked like a war scene (it was unplayable for the remainder of the season), but the victory was sealed.

A big loss this year will be last year’s ferocious Captain and current top goal scorer, Donald Bogle. His commitment to playing for the College despite University commitments was greatly appreciated this season. Other leavers to whom I wish the best of luck are Simon ‘Taxi’ Court, Alex ‘Railings’ Houlding, Meldi ‘The Cat’ Golozar and Alex ‘Torres’ Jones.

It is comforting to leave Carl Plane, this year’s Vice-Captain, in control next year; I am sure the team will have much success if Carl demonstrates as much commitment off the pitch as he has done on it.

Ladies' Hockey

Despite an impressive come-from-behind win against Selwyn in the first week, the women’s side had a disappointing 2013-2014 Season. On the occasions when the pitch wasn’t flooded or the opposition unresponsive we were faced with injured players and clashing University-sport events, causing us to forfeit several matches. This did not stop us training, however, and the much-anticipated Trinity brunch afterwards was always well attended! I would like to give a special mention to Emma Ansell, Hannah Cooper and Laura Barlow for their commitment, as well as to Ellie Davies and Emily Clayton for the experience they brought to the team. Having attracted a greater interest this term, we hope for a more successful year to come.


Men’s Rowing

What an exciting year for the Women’s side of the Boat Club! Michaelmas – novice term – got off with a bang; unprecedented take-up gave three women’s novice VIIIs for the first time. Poor weather unfortunately led to the cancellation of many of the novice races, but NW1 finished the term triumphant, placed 20 at Queens’ Ergs and 12 out of 42 racing novice crews in the Fairbairns Cup, the best result in years. NW2 and NW3 pulled many personal bests at Queens’ Ergs, and NW3 became the only third novice women’s boat in Fitzwilliam College Boat Club history to complete the Fairbairn’s Novice Course of 2700m with a time of 14m 27s. The senior women fielded an Eight which persevered through a tough Fairbairns race; despite losing a seat, they finished a respectable 17. In addition, the W1 returners trained in a Four; they took on the Lents Head of the Cam, Downing W1, in the University Fours, and had a really strong Fairbairns race, finishing ninth.

Take-up for Lent training camp was so high that the women’s side managed to field three training boats (a first). As most of the seniors from 2013 had graduated, Lent Term saw the introduction of many of the novices to W1 and W2. They approached the challenge with enthusiasm, and came on in leaps and bounds. W1 had a good term under the circumstances, placed 21 out of 63 women’s crews in the City RC Head-to-Head. They had a tough four days of Lent Bumps, rowing over on days 1, 2

M1 had an excellent term, punching above their weight. We had excellent race experience, both on the Cam and elsewhere; in an exciting day in Nottingham on the multi-lane 2000m course we won the first round with clear water, before coming fourth overall in our category. The May Bumps went very well in the circumstances, going down just one place over the week and leaving us 14th on the river.

I am extremely proud of the squad, with many of its novices ready to join the senior boats. And at least two Fitzwilliam students look to compete at University level next year. Good luck for next year, and to the incoming Captain of Boats, Samantha Tarling.

JOSHUA BRIEGAL (2012), CAPTAIN OF BOATS

Women’s Rowing

The Men’s squad this year overcame a series of setbacks, including an initial lack of numbers, poor weather – and not being a squad of 6’5” men built like houses. Nevertheless, it has been a successful year; everyone involved can be proud to be a part of FCBC.

In Michaelmas Term, the senior squad consisted of a competitive Four and a training Eight. The Four managed a successful season of near-wins, culminating in a third-place result at the end of term in the Fairbairns Cup. The novice influx was excellent, with three full novice-men’s boats, which led to a keen interest going into Lent Term.

Unfortunately, due to river restrictions and poor conditions, the lower boats were seriously deprived of water time in Lent. Racing was sparse for M2, who did not quite manage to qualify for Bumps but won the Talbott Cup at the end of term. M1 had a good term, entering various races on the Cam, but poor weather cancelled our away fixtures. The Lent Bumps went well; we rowed over ahead of Churchill for three days before bumping Caius 2 (taking revenge from last year) on the final day.

Easter Term for M2 was definitely about development. With lots of novice talent but little Bumps experience, the crew did well. They came up against a mixture of M1 and strong M2 crews, finally going down three places.

JO SHUA BRIEGAL (2012), CAPTA
and 4, but being bumped on day 3. Day 2’s row-over was the closest and best race of the year so far: cox Rob Machado’s excellent race-saving steering allowed them to pull away from Homerton’s overlap on Grassy Corner and hold them off for the rest of the course, denying them blades. Unfortunately the bad weather prevented the novice W2 from competing in Women’s Head of the River Race in London, but W1 had a strong race and finished 165th.

The most exciting event of Easter term was the donation of a new boat by the Billygoats, a maroon Stampfli: the Nicky Padfield. The Master herself rowed in the maiden outing on Sunday 8 June with a selection of former W1 women, while current students and Billygoats looked on. The new boat gave W1 the boost they needed to approach Bumps; as a predominantly ex-novice crew who had never before rowed in Bumps, they did well to achieve a fantastic row-over on the first day of the Mays, with some brutal bumps thereafter. They showed fighting spirit and demonstrated that, with some experience, they will be a force to be reckoned with in 2014–2015. W2 showed their experience with a strong row-over on the first day, but on days 2 and 3 unfortunately lost out to blades crews on their ways up. They finished the bumps with a very strong row-over on day 4, much to the delight of the crowds at Billy Field (Osier Holt).

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support the FCBC women this year at races in Cambridge and London – your cheers are always much appreciated and provide an extra boost to the crews. A big thank-you to the Billygoats for donating a beautiful new Eight which will serve FCBC well in the years to come. This year has been tough for the women, but the side has grown in size, strength and experience, and is ready to do some damage in 2014–2015. We look forward to it!

**Squash**

An incredibly successful year for Fitzwilliam College Squash. We were able to field two Men’s and one Women’s team in both League and Cuppers competitions. Men’s II, captained by Thomas Fryer, gained back-to-back promotions in Michaelmas and Lent in dominant fashion. Men’s I gained promotion to the top division in Michaelmas, but unfortunately suffered relegation in Lent.

But College squash has never been about League position: Cuppers matters, and Fitzwilliam excelled this year. The Women’s team, captained by Chloe Withers, finished third, defeating St John’s: Anira Perera won 3–0; Ellie Davies won 3–1; Sally Millett won 3–1.

The second Men’s team performed well, with ranks bolstered by lots of keen freshers; they reached the Plate semi-final, but lost to Girton.

Fitzwilliam Men’s I beat Emmanuel I in the final, claiming the Cuppers crown, with: Harry Leitch vs Alec Greaves-Tunnell (3–0); Henry Pelham vs Charlie Davis (3–0); Jamie Giddins vs Rebecca Palmer (3–0); David Roper (Captain) vs Matt Hitchens (Captain) (3–0); Thomas Fryer vs Will Lumb (0–3).

The winners of Squash Cuppers

ROSALIE WARNOCK, WOMEN’S CAPTAIN,
MICHAELMAS 2013 AND LENT 2014, AND
ANDREA STEFKOVA, WOMEN’S CAPTAIN, EASTER 2014
Michaelmas 2013 with a new-found optimism in the Fitzwilliam Ladies’ netball team assembled again in Having had such a successful season in 2012–2013, the team can aspire to reach the top division next year. We are hoping that, with the help of some new faces, we show great productivity, enthusiasm and teamwork. 

Next year we lose both Ellie Davies and Sally Millett from the Women’s team, and Henry Pelham and Thomas Fryer from the Men’s. We thank them all for their efforts in games, and for making this year so successful. We congratulate Dr Harry Leitch for his performance for Scotland at the Commonwealth games; whilst his Cambridge University Squash career is over, we hope he can still be persuaded to play the odd game for the College.

The teams are left in excellent hands of Anira Perera (Women’s), Jordan Salmon (Men’s II) and Zach Brubert (Men’s I) – another successful year is highly likely.

David Roper (2012), Men’s Squash Captain 2013–2014

Basketball

Fitzwilliam basketball started off from last year’s favourable position in the Second Division of the College League (corresponding to places six to ten). Given a persistent problem with numbers, and building on a successful history of cooperation with Magdalene, we formed a joint team for this season. This proved particularly advantageous, as Magdalene provided most of the stable College League players. With a newly-forged team and a small roster, it took time and effort until we met with success in Michaelmas term, but mixed results in matches allowed us to consolidate our place in the division ready for Lent term.

The second part of the season was plagued with low attendance, as is common for the middle part of Cambridge term. With a typical turnout of five or six people, the team struggled through the term with one draw (against Robinson) and three losses: to Trinity, to King’s and to the Hellenic Society. Thankfully for us, Robinson had the same record but came out worse on score difference, so the Fitzwilliam–Magdalene team kept itself in the Second Division 1. Despite commitment and hard work never faltering, Lent brought mixed results. A particular highlight was the close-run game against Christ’s, a regular Division 1 team, which resulted in a gutting 27–25 loss for Fitzwilliam. In the end, the team won four out of their seven matches; with another decent goal-difference in the bag we managed to finish third in Division 2, only narrowly missing out on promotion.

Overall it was another great year for Fitzwilliam Ladies netball, and the whole team must be congratulated on their dedication and determination. Special mention must go to Catrin Bush, who secured us very flattering scorelines every week, Alison Wilson, who prevented the opposition from doing the same, and Rachel Courtenay-Pinfield who was our mid-court rock all season. The girls should all be immensely proud of their achievements this year; I look forward to what next season will bring.


Swimming Club

The Fitzwilliam Swimming Club ran weekly sessions at Parkside Pools throughout the year, designed to build up stamina and focus on different key skills. It is an informal club, which encourages those of all abilities to come and improve, while meeting new friends from the student body. The competitive element comes in the form of University Cuppers, which takes place annually at the start of Easter Term. This year, the Men’s Team – made up of Pietro Genolini, Chris Davis, Sam Goff and Tom Gough – stormed to success in games, and for making this year so successful. We congratulate Dr Harry Leitch and he’s a Commonwealth athlete’ could be heard. Some of the squad played was absolutely sensational, and the team can be incredibly proud of the campaign.

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DEVELOPMENT

Development Office News

The 150th Anniversary Campaign continues to go from strength to strength, with over £1.8 million raised this year towards our target of £20 million by 2019. The financial and practical support of Fitzwilliam members, be they alumni, Fellows or current students, is hugely encouraging.

In addition, the generosity of ‘friends’ of the College has had a significant impact this year, in particular the £400,000 donation received from Mrs Audrey Wilson, wife of the late Mr Peter Wilson, an Honorary Fellow of Fitzwilliam who funded the building of Wilson Court in the 1990s. Mrs Wilson’s 2013 gift has been directed to the support of graduate students of Land Economy.

Growing funds for student maintenance, travel, and research play an essential part in attracting talented students to the College and in enabling us to support them during their Cambridge careers. Both undergraduates and graduates have benefited from the generosity of alumni in this respect; the Tutors, especially, are grateful. Prizes and scholarships are similarly welcomed as they encourage and acknowledge academic excellence. Full details may be seen in the 2013–14 Campaign Report.

Students benefit directly from alumni donations into the Student Opportunities Fund and the Teaching Fund, both of which received boosts from this year’s Telephone Campaign. Our most successful yet – student callers raised just under £170,000 in gifts and pledges. The cumulative value of many smaller gifts is undeniable – without the Telephone Campaign, the College would be unable to offer the requisite support for research trips, language courses, and charitable-work projects that make up such an important part of a Cambridge education. Donations to sports and to the Chapel are likewise greatly appreciated.

Visitors to the College in the past year will have seen some exciting transformations in the fabric of our buildings. In April we opened the new Upper Hall for guests attending the Commemoration Dinner. The creation of this wonderful suite of rooms from what was once the Library, was made possible thanks to donations from Paul Forster (1983), Doug and Rachel Webb (1979) and the bequest of Vivian Povah (1951).

Alumni attending the September Reunion were able to enjoy the autumnal sunshine on the newly-unveiled façade of accommodation block A, B, C. Over the course of a hectic summer, 187 new windows were installed, brickwork and concrete was refurbished, and groundworks completed. The College looks forward to commencing the internal works on A Staircase (adjacent to the Olisa Library) in 2015. This exciting development is moving forwards with the support of alumnus Roger Graham (1958).

The Development Office continues to arrange events in the UK and abroad. In addition to the Fitzwilliam Society London Drinks and the London Dinner, we have our 1869 Foundation Lunch, the Golden Matriculation Reunion, and several subject dinners. The September Reunion weekend, coinciding with the University’s Alumni Festival, remains hugely popular. Despite having one of the largest dining halls in Cambridge, we struggle to accommodate all those wishing to attend, and we thank you for your understanding. This year’s Reunion Lecture, on Sustainable Materials (with an emphasis on steel) was given by Engineering Fellow, Dr Jonathan Cullen. The Choir, under our new Director of Music Katharine Parton, entertained...
and impressed at their afternoon concert and during the Saturday dinner. At the Chapel Service the following morning our new Chaplain, Rev Helen Arnold, reminded the congregation of the young Fitzwilliam men who matriculated and went to war in 1914.

During her first year in office, the Master visited Singapore, Hong Kong, New York, India, Italy and Belfast, and enjoyed a warm welcome from alumni in each. The Bursar, meanwhile, took the opportunity to meet alumni in Tokyo when visiting our Tsuzuki Gakuen friends in Japan. Fitzwilliam’s cosmopolitan membership means that many alumni are based overseas. Physical distance from Cambridge should be no barrier to engaging with the College as it is today. We encourage all members, when visiting from abroad, to come and see us. We will even offer you a free lunch!

HELEN BETTINSON (HISTORY, 1982), DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Golden Matriculants’ Reunion

Matriculants from 1964, travelling from afar afield as Australia and Canada, gathered out of curiosity and friendship for a wonderful evening on 5 July 2014. The Master and I were delighted to welcome them back to a College site that is radically different from the one they remember from fifty years ago. Both with respect to buildings and people, the intervening years have resulted in a more ‘lived-in’ look!

Fifty six alumni and guests enjoyed drinks on the lawn of The Grove, followed by a splendid black-tie dinner in the Old SCR. Building on the success of 2013’s history quiz, we were delighted to repeat the experience for our 1964 cohort. We were fortunate to have a consummate, home-grown quizmaster in attendance – Dr David Starkey, himself a golden matriculant.

There now having been two very successful Golden Matriculation Reunions, the event is firmly established in the annual calendar as a Fitzwilliam tradition. We look forward to welcoming back our students from 1965 for their own special event on 4 July 2015.

1869 Foundation

Annual gatherings of the 1869 Foundation, the group established to thank and honour those individuals who have included the College in their Wills, take place on Sundays in May.

In 2014, the Foundation Lunch was held in College in glorious weather: a perfect Cambridge spring day, calculated to make us feel nostalgic for the perfect Cambridge springs of our youth.

Drinks were served at midday in the Senior Combination Room in the Grove, before Members and their guests moved up to the Upper Hall. This wonderful new suite of rooms was formerly the Library, and its recent makeover has finally banished the ghostly presence of book stacks. The striking series of paintings by John Hoyland that line the walls may be an acquired taste, but they chime perfectly with the stripped-down luxury of this space in its new incarnation.

The new Master welcomed many ‘old faces’ who were a good deal more familiar with the day’s format than she! A wonderful salmon lunch and some lively conversation was rounded off with the traditional awarding of 1869 Certificates and Pins. The Master reminded us – although she was preaching to the converted on this occasion – of the enormous significance of legacies in the building and shaping of Fitzwilliam. Her expression of gratitude was heartfelt and representative of all those who study and work in the College.
After lunch we reassembled in the Gordon Cameron Lecture Theatre to hear presentations from two of Fitzwilliam’s current graduate students. The first was Alan Jamieson who, after having studied at the University of Stirling, came to Fitzwilliam to read for his PhD at the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics. Alan’s talk was on research he had been undertaking in the Weddell Sea, off the coast of Antarctica, and which involved futuristic mini robots that surfed the ocean floor. Our second speaker, Andrew de Castro, is nearing completion of his MPhil in Latin American Studies. After growing up in Madeira and Jersey, and studying in London and Havana, he finally made his way to Fitzwilliam. He described his work with indigenous peoples in the north-east corner of Argentina, and the social and educational difficulties they face.

After this powerful reminder that the College is a place of scholarship, as well as of wining, dining and sport, the party decanted to the Auditorium where members of the Fitzwilliam College Music Society awaited. This year’s theme, co-ordinated by FCMS Junior President Natalie Price, was Music and Comedy, and the quality of both was exceptional. What better way of combating post-prandial lethargy than three rousing songs from The Sirens? They were followed by Rosie Busiakiewicz’s barnstorming rendition of Adelaide’s Lament from Guys and Dolls and what can only be described as a sublime, if unnerving, performance by Ethan Rubin who played the fiddle and spoons (courtesy of the Fitzwilliam Buttery). Anna Lawrence delighted us with the unfolding tale of Taylor the Latte Boy, expertly rounded off by the ever-professional Fitz Barbershop. Anna Kaye gave a confident performance from The Sound of Music, and Senior Organ Scholar Charles Gurnham proved that playing Bach could, in certain circumstances, raise smiles as well as provoke admiration. He conducted the rousing finale by the Fitzwilliam College Chapel Choir, including a very funny Three-Minute Messiah. We were very proud of our talented student performers – almost all of whom were in the thick of exams.

Fitzwilliam in Asia

The Master and I were fortunate to escape the unpleasantness of early January in the UK by jetting off to the Far East. The warmth of our welcome was due to more than simple meteorology – in Hong Kong and Singapore we were met by alumni with great kindness and enthusiasm.

On 7 January 2014, fifty Fitzwilliam students, alumni and guests gathered for a reception at the chic China Club in Hong Kong; we were all indebted to the hospitality of Gabriel Fong (1989) and his wife, Vena. Nicky and I also...
caught up with Honorary Fellow, Andrew Li (1967), and Professor David Cardwell and his wife Sharon, enjoying a brief interlude at Hong Kong University.

Three days later we found ourselves in the Tanglin Club in Singapore – again surrounded by friendly Fitzwilliam faces, young and old. I was especially honoured to meet representatives of the pioneering generation that came to Fitzwilliam after the War: Cecil Wong (1946), Victor Chew (1950), Lee Suan Yew (1954) and Heah Hock Heng (1954). There could be no more touching reminder of the strong ties between Singapore and Fitzwilliam, and I was delighted when – a few weeks later – I was able to co-host, with Theo Pang (2013), a dinner in College for fourteen of our current Singaporean students.

We look forward to returning to this part of the world as soon as we can – and, in the meantime, we encourage our alumni to come and see us in Cambridge!
New York Reunion

The Master was one of four Heads of House who spoke at Cambridge in America Day in the Graduate Center of the City University of New York on 29 March 2014. Her subject was Young People – a comparison between students of Fitzwilliam College and prison inmates, which brought out some interesting facts, figures and thoughts ... Later that evening, Nicky, her husband Christopher (1968) and I were joined by 30 Fitzwilliam alumni and guests for an informal dinner at the Heartland Brewery. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones.

This was the culmination of our brief, but invigorating, visit to New York. This also involved a private tour of the Gauguin exhibition at MOMA thanks to Lotte Johnson (2006), of the trading floor at Goldman Sachs thanks to Peter Selman (1991), and of the newsroom of the New York Daily News, thanks to Editor Ted Young (1980). Nicky, Christopher and I would also like to thank Peter Selman and his wife Elena for a wonderful supper at their apartment.

The Master will be back in New York for the 2015 Cambridge in America event on 21 March.

London Dinner

On Thursday 8 May 2014, 94 alumni, Fellows, students and guests came together to enjoy an evening of fine dining and enlightening speeches at the eighty-third London Dinner of the Fitzwilliam Society. This year, for the first time, the dinner was held at Stationers’ Hall near St Paul’s Cathedral.

Following the pre-dinner committee meeting of the Fitzwilliam Society and drinks in the Stock Room, dinner was served in the magnificent Livery Hall. Once again, diners enjoyed wine from Château St Jacques d’Albas, generously donated by winemaker and former President of the Fitzwilliam Society, Graham Nutter (1966).

Following toasts to The Queen and to Absent Friends, the Society President, Jeremy Prescott (1967), proposed a toast to the College. As always, the occasion was charged with the spirit of Fitzwilliam, and it was on this ‘spirit’ – generosity, self-help, determination, self-sacrifice, friendship, team-work and pride – that the President reflected in his rousing speech. Drawing on his own family’s extensive experience of Fitzwilliam’s ability to transform lives and on the transformations evident in the College itself since he was at Fitzwilliam in the 1960s, the President asked of the Master, ‘with this spirit, how can this College ever be stopped?’.

Former JMA President Susannah Odell (2011) responded to the toast, drawing on her own experience to reflect upon the ways in which the College’s motto, Ex antiquis et nouissimis optimi, plays out in everyday life at Fitzwilliam today. Susannah thanked alumni for fostering ‘that special...
Fitzwilliam Spirit’ while they were at Fitzwilliam and for supporting the College’s determination to see potential in the future, to add, to improve and to enhance.

The new Master rounded off the formal part of the evening by giving a fascinating insight into the rewards and challenges of life as a Master. She thanked members of the Fellowship and staff for their commitment to ensuring Fitzwilliam’s continued success, and expressed her gratitude to Fitzwilliam’s benefactors for their generosity.


REUNION WEEKEND

Reunion Gathering 2014

The 80th Reunion Weekend was held on the last weekend in September, and was of scale and quality fully in line with previous occasions. It was very well attended, with about 168 alumni present, of whom many were accompanied by their spouses or partners – as well as by current undergraduates and graduates who were involved in musical and sporting events, and by members of the Fellowship. So it lived up to the long-established reputation as being the most enthusiastically attended alumni gathering in Cambridge.

The Fitzwilliam Society Committee met on the Friday afternoon, and the Society AGM was held on the Saturday. The AGM Minutes and the Accounts are reproduced towards the end of the Journal.

The events included a lecture in the Auditorium by Dr Jonathan Cullen on Sustainable Materials: with both eyes open; this lecture was given in conjunction with the University’s Alumni Weekend. Music is always an important part of the Reunion Weekend, and the new Director of Music, Katharine
Parton, arranged a concert in the Auditorium on the Saturday afternoon. Some of the extensive range of sporting activities, including both all-alumni groups and past-versus-present contests, are reported in the following pages.

The Master and Dr Padfield hosted a lunch at the Master’s Lodge on the Saturday for benefactors who are members of the Master’s Circle. This year, recent practice was followed by holding a special gathering in July for the 1964 generation of Golden Matriculants (p.51).

We thank the College staff – catering, domestic and Porters – for their major contributions which made the whole operation both possible and a great success. And also the staff in the Development Office, whose detailed planning of everything from the general arrangements to the individual sporting events ensured smooth-running and enjoyable occasions.

September Reunion events at Oxford Road
Past vs Present Men’s Rugby
The tone for the annual rugby fixture was well and truly set in the opening five minutes: the Past kicked off and the ball was taken by Present #8 – who looked like he might cause some damage until he ran into Old Boy Callum Abbot and came off second-best. Moments later, from the first scrum, the Old Boys carved through the young pretenders’ back line using the College’s trademark move – the through-the-legs bounce pass switch. From these opening exchanges it was clear: the Old Boys had a significant advantage in physicality and flair.

It also became apparent that fitness and the previous night’s wine could well be seriously limiting – always an issue for the Old Boys, but more pronounced this year as shortage of players had forced the game to be reduced to 13 a side. The scoreboard began to tick over rapidly, the Old Boys notching up tries from pure brute power and some outrageous handling skills; Present scored through more structured play, and from an alarming over-abundance of pace.

Towards the end of the second half the Old Boys began to move up through the gears as old combinations began to re-click and a more settled pattern of play emerged: smash it up the middle and keep going. However, the lead was never comfortable, partly because the Old Boys opted to play try scorer kicks and promptly missed all but one of their conversions.

A shift in fortune came in the final quarter. Present scored a number of quick-fire tries that put them ahead. The Old Boys were alarmed with the ease with which they had gone through them in the midfield. A moment of