

NEWSLETTER

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

SUMMER 2013

Public art A new flowering



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



**The joy of sets:
passing on passion
for maths** [page 8](#)

**Dons in the House:
from laws of motion to
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SNAPSHOT

Murder most foul: The violence of everyday life in 19th-century Europe – handsome bandits to wicked women – is revealed in all its bloody detail in a new exhibition at the University Library. 'Read all about it! Wrongdoing in Spain and England in the long nineteenth century' contains a catalogue of criminality from the Library's remarkable collections of books, broadsides, penny dreadfuls and cheap, mass-produced ephemera. Runs until 23 December 2013.



Reaching the pole: 'Re-imagining Scott: objects and journeys' is a new exhibition of work by artist Professor Paul Coldwell exploring Scott's final expedition and how it might be possible to re-imagine aspects of the tragic final journey through the objects left behind. The prints and sculpture are the result of the year Coldwell spent researching in the archives of the Scott Polar Research Institute, and explore the extraordinary public reaction to Scott's death. Runs to 20 July 2013.



PAUL COLDWELL

England's first painter: Despite having no formal training and dying at the age of 29, Christopher Wood left a remarkable body of work. Running until 1 September at Kettle's Yard, a new exhibition unites paintings and drawings from the University and Kettle's Yard collections – many not normally on display – with archival materials, including the artist's own set of playing cards, to offer new insight into Wood's life and work.



Zoology Museum wraps up until 2016: Collections Manager Matt Lowe carefully unveils the skeleton of a dodo – which has not been on public display for 40 years – to a lucky tour group. The Museum of Zoology closed on 1 June for three years as the Arup Building evolves into the new home of the Cambridge Conservation Initiative. Staff and volunteers at the museum are now busy packing away millions of bones and specimens to protect them during the refurbishment.



SIR CAM

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NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER ONLINE

www.cam.ac.uk/for-staff



Your comments and contributions are always welcome. Please send them to the Editor at newsletter@admin.cam.ac.uk. The deadline for the next issue is **6 August**.

Roger Taylor is new Director of Estates Strategy

ROGER TAYLOR, CURRENTLY Project Director of the North West Cambridge Development, has been appointed Director of Estates Strategy, taking up post on 1 October 2013.

Mr Taylor will retain his current position at the North West Cambridge Development, devoting approximately 25 per cent of his time to work there and 75 per cent to the Estate Management Division.

He will be supported in both roles by two new posts – that of Deputy Project Director at North West Cambridge and Head of Operations at Estate Management – as well as senior managers in both locations. The University hopes to fill these new positions by the start of Michaelmas Term 2013.

At Estate Management, Mr Taylor will focus on strategic planning, decision making and forward planning on a number of key University developments, including ongoing work at West Cambridge and development at the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and New Museums Site. The new Head of



MARCUS GINNIS

Roger Taylor will focus on strategic planning in a new role in the Estate Management Division

Operations will look after the day-to-day management of the University's estate.

Mr Taylor will continue to lead and hold strategic oversight for the North West Cambridge scheme. Until recently, the main body of work had been concerned with planning and stakeholder engagement, most notably with the local authorities and the local community. But with the Regent House having given approval for work to start on Phase One of the development, and the University securing planning consent in February this year, the project team will now focus on the design and delivery of the first phase of works, due for completion in early 2016.

Before joining the University in 2008, Mr Taylor oversaw a wide range of mixed use developments in places such as Docklands, Glasgow and Oxfordshire, and was a director

for mixed-use development for Taylor Wimpey, the UK's largest housebuilder.

He takes over from current Director of Estate Management Michael Bienias, who is retiring.

• A new team based in the Estate Management Division has been formed to recognise the increasing importance of environmental issues within the University.

The Environment and Energy Section will co-locate the currently separate Environment and Energy offices, and make a number of new appointments to support carbon reduction across the University.

Led by Joanna Simpson, the team will work closely with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Institutional Affairs and the Environmental Strategy Committee to review the University's environmental policy and its practical implementation.

North West Cambridge update

THE CHANCELLOR OF the University, Lord Sainsbury of Turville, and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, attended a ground-breaking ceremony at the North West Cambridge site on 20 June to mark the start of the largest single capital development project in the University's 800-year history.

Members of the University Council, local authority representatives, architects, consultants and community members were also at the historic event, which signalled the start of Phase One for the development.

The North West Cambridge Development has been designed as an extension to the city. It will be of the highest design quality, as well

as being an exemplar of sustainable living. The first phase of the development will cost an estimated £281 million, with whole scheme costing £1 billion.

In other developments at North West Cambridge, the University is seeking market housing developers for Phase One, and the scheme's first artists in residence have been appointed. They are Tania Kovats, Hannah Rickards, Nina Pope and Karen Guthrie.



FIND OUT MORE

For more on these stories and the scheme in general visit www.nwcambridge.co.uk

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Globe Theatre celebrates Girton's pioneers

GIRTON COLLEGE ARRIVES in London this August when a new play inspired by the pioneers of women's education at Cambridge opens at the Globe Theatre. Written by Jessica Swale, *Blue Stockings* begins in 1896 – a year before the University Senate voted down a proposal to grant women full degrees.

According to Swale: "It was a time of turbulent social change; what with the momentum building in the suffrage movement, you'd expect that it might have been simple to allow them equal recognition, but the force of the opposition was astonishing."

Drawing on hours of research in Girton's archive, Swale based two of the characters, Dr Maudsley and Elizabeth Welsh, on historical figures and was keen to show men's role in the fight for women's rights:

"There were brave, outspoken men who gave everything up for the cause. I wanted to ensure that the play didn't portray great women and awful men," she said.

More than a century on, student protest is alive and kicking. "There was a magical day when we were rehearsing. We were practising the riot, shouting 'education for all' and we had to stop working because the student protests were marching down Gower Street and they were shouting the same things 110 years later," said Swale.

Blue Stockings opens on 24 August at the Globe Theatre, London and runs until 11 October.

→ For more information visit www.shakespearesglobe.com/theatre/whats-on/globe-theatre/blue-stockings



IN BRIEF

→ The life and friendship of US philanthropist Dennis Avery was honoured last month at a tree-planting ceremony at the Stephen Hawking Centre for Theoretical Cosmology (CTC). Mr Avery, who died last year, established the endowment that led to the creation of the CTC in 2007. The ceremony was attended by his wife Sally Tsui Wong-Avery, family members and friends, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, the Master of Trinity Hall, and staff and students from the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics.

→ Readers of the *Newsletter* can now keep up to date with news and events from across the collegiate University at the Staff section of the new University website. If you have a story you would like to submit email andrew.aldridge@admin.cam.ac.uk. To view the staff webpages, visit www.cam.ac.uk/for-staff

Fly research in Africa gets flying start

FIVE CAMBRIDGE RESEARCHERS – including Professor Mike Bate and Dr Berthold Hedwig of the Department of Zoology – travel to Uganda in August to teach on an insect neuroscience summer school. Now in its third year, the three-week course introduces African scientists to fruit flies as model organisms for neuroscientific research.

So far 34 African scientists from six countries have taken part in the summer schools, which are the brain child of former Cambridge PhD student Dr Lucia Prieto Godino. After meeting Professor Sadiq Yusuf from Kampala International University she realised most of her African colleagues used rats, rather than fruit flies, as a model system.

"Rats are expensive model organisms with very limited accessibility to genetic manipulation. *Drosophila*, however, are easy and inexpensive to breed and maintain in the lab, and the wealth of genetic

tools available for the study of the brain makes it an attractive model organism used by many scientists in the West," she said. "But without training, it can seem a major step for researchers to change to this approach.

"Providing higher education and research capacity building locally in Africa is essential for the development of its societies," Prieto Godino added. "It empowers the local production of knowledge and the capability of addressing local problems and challenges in a more adequate and cost-effective manner."

Joining the Cambridge scientists and local organiser Professor Yusuf will be researchers from Egypt, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and Portugal.

Scholarships for participants, plus reagents and equipment are provided through funds raised by Dr Prieto Godino, now at the University of Lausanne, and this

year's summer school is supported by the International Brain Research Organization.

Following the success of the first summer school in 2012, together with another former PhD student Dr Tom Baden, she set up TReND in Africa (Teaching and Research in Neuroscience for Development in Africa). As well as running the summer schools, the NGO is supporting development of Uganda's first MSc course in Neuroscience in collaboration with Kampala International University.

According to Baden, now at the University of Tübingen: "In TReND in Africa we aim to provide young African university graduates with the global perspective on science and society that we have enjoyed all our lives thanks to the privilege of going through a Western education system."

→ For more information on TReND in Africa visit trendinafrica.org



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Poems from behind the scenes at the museums

A COLLECTION OF NEW poems has been published online as the culmination of 'Thresholds', the residency project that paired ten of the UK's best poets with ten University of Cambridge museums.

From National Poet of Wales Gillian Clarke's poem *Archaeopteryx*, about the world's oldest bird in the Museum of Zoology, to Don Paterson's *A Pocket Horizon*, based on an object in the Whipple, the poets have each written at least one work based on their unique access to Cambridge's world-class collections.

Speaking at the finale event at the Fitzwilliam Museum in May, Poet Laureate and 'Thresholds' curator Carol Ann Duffy said the project had touched the whole community, not only the poets and the museums. Around 400 young people took part in workshops run by the poets during their residencies.

"The poets understood the idea and stepped inside the museums ready to talk and learn and write and blur the artificial boundaries between the arts and sciences. Having seen all the new poems, I'm stunned by what they have achieved," Duffy said.

"Every museum has had to think a bit differently about their collections, they've had a poet-in-residence who has asked them to look at the world through the lens of poetry and reading, as well as through their collections and research. This work must continue into the future, inspiring new writing and connecting collections and museums with each other, and with new audiences who are eager to listen and learn."

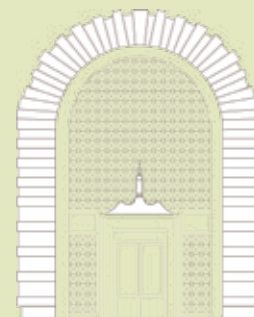
All the poems – including *The Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Cambridge* by Daljit Nagra (opposite) – can be enjoyed at www.thresholds.org.uk

The Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology by Daljit Nagra

I am held apologetically in a seminar room.

This is the dawn of my days as a poet-in-residence
who has been commissioned to produce a poem.
My host furnishes me with an apple strudel slice.

Yesterday, my slice was one upon many settled before
the Prime Minister of Fiji who was visiting his island's wares.
I overhear our tyrant was not exposed to the 'cannibal forks'.
But was most impressed by the kava bowl and whale
teeth whose curves he stroked with gloveless hands
before being won by a slice of the sweetest English apples...



IN BRIEF

→ **The MRC Epidemiology Unit** transferred to the University on 1 May, creating a new department in the School of Clinical Medicine. The transfer is part of a wider strategic alliance between the Medical Research Council and the University. It will build on the MRC Epidemiology Unit's research and open up new scientific and funding opportunities. Nick Wareham, Director of the MRC Epidemiology Unit, said: "We are delighted by the successful completion of the transfer and look forward to realising the opportunities that will arise from closer integration with the University."

→ **The 23-year old Alumni Weekend** is being given an overhaul: it will now be called the Alumni Festival and, this year, will run between 27 and 29 September. More than 1,000 alumni and guests are expected to attend

the festival, which offers discovery and intellectual adventure, a chance to reconnect with Cambridge, and to hear about the work of the University's leading academics. Bookings for the weekend open on 15 July. For more information about events and lectures, visit alumni.cam.ac.uk/festival13.

→ **A new centre** for world-class research in the physical sciences and how they translate to industry will be created at the Cavendish Laboratory, West Cambridge. The Maxwell Centre will see scientists from industry occupying lab space alongside Cambridge research groups, with the aim of developing a two-way flow of ideas and exposing the best early career researchers to scientific problem-solving that relates directly to industrial need.

New research costing tool launched

X5, THE NEW FULL economic cost and pricing tool for research grant applications, has been launched across the University, replacing the pFACT system, which reverts to read-only access on 1 August. It is an essential tool for the research community, allowing users to manage complex costings and provide accurate pricing for research grants.

Intuitive and simple to use, X5 allows greater visibility of costings for principal investigators, departmental administrators and staff working in the Research Operations Office. A personal dashboard provides easy access to any costings a user may be involved with, and allows different versions of the same costing to be produced so that key data can be interrogated thoroughly before final submission.

The X5 project has been a collaborative partnership between

the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford and commercial supplier Unit4/Agresso, and the three organisations shared the cost.

A key benefit of this partnership has been the development of a sustainable support structure for the system: not only has X5 been developed with key requirements of both universities in mind, but the user group responsible for its progression is led by representatives from both Cambridge and Oxford, meaning the University has considerable influence over the progression of the system, any future updates, and its relevance and responsiveness to constantly changing research policies and requirements.

Those preparing applications with a deadline after 31 July 2013 should use X5. For more information, visit www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/research/applying/X5/

Bigger Bite by Nigel Hall was recently unveiled at the Sidgwick site



PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRIS LOADES

Art for our sake

Over the next two decades, millions of pounds will be invested in public art at North West Cambridge. But what makes art public and what does public art bring to the University and the city?

STANDING, LEANING BACK on their haunches, or kneeling on all fours, the white-suited figures behind yellow police tape appear to be searching for clues. But the mysterious team in the grounds of Jesus is evidence not of crime, but of art.

Called *The bigger the searchlight the larger the circumference of the unknown*, the installation is by Harland Miller, one of five artists whose work forms 'Sculpture in the Close 2013'. Together with Miller's forensic scientists, the exhibition includes pieces by Doris Salcedo, who famously put a colossal crack through the Tate

Modern's Turbine Hall, and Theaster Gates, whose 7.5 tonne American fire truck daubed with tar is parked in the middle of Second Court until September.

"It's an incredibly distinguished cast list," says Dr Rod Mengham, a Reader in English Literature and Curator of works of art at Jesus, home to the popular permanent sculpture collection as well as the biennial Sculpture in the Close. "It's a rich demonstration of how to bring spaces alive, or make users think again about the places they use. It's providing something for the college but anyone

"Public art says something powerful about what you care about, what you want the public to know about you"

can walk in, so it's for the whole of the University, the city and the region."

Art at Jesus brings other benefits, believes Senior Bursar Christopher Pratt: "We think it civilises the community in a very real sense. It stimulates discussion and inevitably some controversy." Not least, perhaps, among the porters tasked with looking after First Court's *Bronze Horse*. "Some of the exhibits are an invitation to high jinks among students wanting a ride on the horse," says Pratt.

Over the next two decades, public art in Cambridge will get a huge boost thanks to North West Cambridge. "It's a major development, and a major investment in public art amounting to several million pounds over the lifetime of the project," says Professor Jeremy Sanders, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Institutional Affairs and Deputy Chairman of the Syndicate steering the development.

Akin to the Botanic Garden, West Road Concert Hall and the new Sports Centre, he wants North West Cambridge to enrich town and gown. "There is a lot we do for our own benefit that also benefits the

wider community, and that has to be the right thing to do," he explains. "One of my priorities is to get people from the city who aren't involved with the University to visit North West Cambridge and to think of it as part of the city, not as a University enclave."

As well as drawing people to North West Cambridge, public art will also shape the new community, says Fabienne Nicholas of the Contemporary Art Society, who produced the public art strategy for the project. "It's the creation of a new urban extension to Cambridge – a tabula rasa. Public art and cultural activity are key ways of creating the identity of the site as it develops," she says.

Two works – one for the western edge of the site and another for the local centre – are being commissioned, and three artists-in-residence have begun work with three departments – Archaeology, Astronomy and Earth Sciences. But the strategy allows for many forms of public art, says Sanders: "It could be a tangible object, it could be a performance, it could involve the public or children from local schools. It's entirely unpredictable what's going to come out of it at this stage."

The unpredictability inherent in public art projects is something Professor Simon Goldhill, Director of CRASSH, understands, having been closely

involved with commissioning a *local history* and *atlas*, Edmund de Waal's pottery-filled vitrines for the Alison Richard Building. "I was frightened by the fact that a lot of public art is genuinely undistinguished," he admits. "Where it's most interesting, it's proved most controversial. We were not afraid of controversy, but we were afraid of bad public art."

He need not have worried. "It was a significant commission so we had some first-rate artists apply. It was a genuine treat," says Goldhill, whose committee unanimously backed de Waal's vision. "We were charmed by its intellectual voice, by the fact that it understood this was a university, an academic place. One of the things public art does is to try and say something powerful about what you care about, what you want the public to know about you. It does it by being beautiful, by being reflective, by being not just physical but intellectual," he says.

For staff whose daily commute takes them over the vitrines, the fact they change with the seasons also matters. "We wanted something conceptually adept enough and artistically interesting enough that you want to look at it every day," says Goldhill.

The vitrines' success also reflects the fact that they are recognisably the vision of one artist, says Andrew Nairne, Director of Kettle's Yard and chairman of the Public Art Panel for North West Cambridge. "They have that quality of not shouting but encouraging thoughtfulness and reflection, and one of the advantages of permanent public art is there's time for people to come across it. It hasn't all got to happen in the first year, it can take its time," he explains.

Nairne agrees with Goldhill that public art needs to be intrinsically interesting to survive always being the thing you see, a quality he believes comes "from the vision of an individual or group of artists, not the pared down result of a thousand planning decisions".

In the same way the University attracts leading academics, the challenge for North West Cambridge will be to commission leading artists and allow them to produce excellent work. According to Nairne: "We've got to make art that is serious and long term and enduring. To do that we have to back the vision of the artist and enable them to make strong work out of their own vision. If we allow them to do that, the work will by its quality engage, encourage thought and reflection and significantly add to the

Below top: Edmund de Waal vitrine, Alison Richard Building
Below middle: Confucius by Wu Wei-Shan at Clare
Below bottom: Richard Bray's Maple Three-Piece, Jesus
Right: Bronze Horse by Barry Flanagan, Jesus

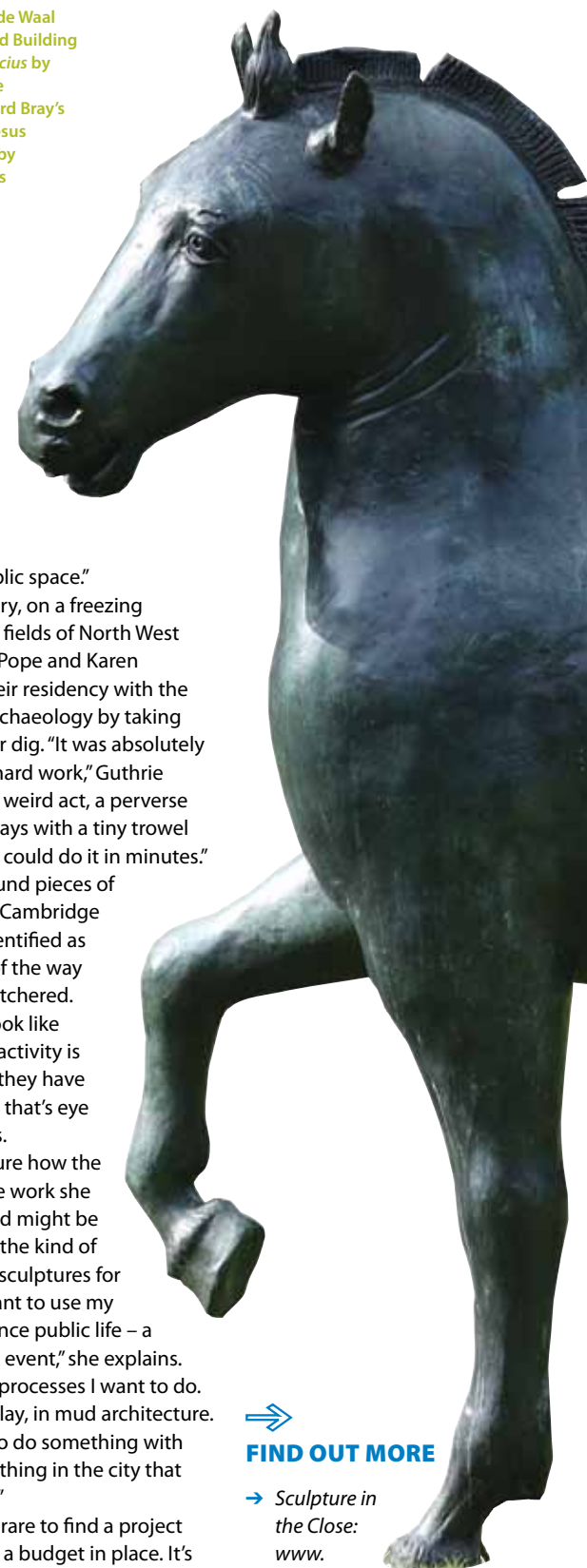
experience of public space."

Back in February, on a freezing day in the muddy fields of North West Cambridge, Nina Pope and Karen Guthrie began their residency with the Department of Archaeology by taking part in a volunteer dig. "It was absolutely fascinating; very hard work," Guthrie remembers. "It's a weird act, a perverse thing, spending days with a tiny trowel when the diggers could do it in minutes."

Both artists found pieces of animal bone that Cambridge archaeologists identified as Roman because of the way they had been butchered. "Archaeologists look like builders, and the activity is very manual, but they have a casual expertise that's eye opening," she says.

Guthrie is unsure how the dig will inform the work she produces, but mud might be involved. "I'm not the kind of artist who makes sculptures for roundabouts. I want to use my creativity to enhance public life – a film, an object, an event," she explains. "There are lots of processes I want to do. I'm interested in clay, in mud architecture. It would be nice to do something with that and do something in the city that relates to the site."

"It's incredibly rare to find a project of this scope with a budget in place. It's very visionary," she says. "I think the air is different in Cambridge, there are so many people here at the top of their game. There's loads of scope in that. It's a bit like Butlins for artists. It won't be easy but it's great to work with the best of British education and culture."



⇒
FIND OUT MORE

- *Sculpture in the Close:* www.jesus.cam.ac.uk
- *Public art at North West Cambridge:* www.nwcambridge.co.uk/engagement-art.php

The joy of sets

PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRIS LOADIES

Over the past 25 years, hundreds of Cambridge students have donated thousands of hours helping to teach maths in local schools. By pairing undergraduates passionate about maths with school students who need extra help – or extra challenges – STIMULUS adds up to one great project

Neil Kelly teaches maths at Chesterton Community College, a large comprehensive in north Cambridge. One of the aspects of his job he likes most is that no two days are the same. Each morning his email inbox is full of messages from colleagues and parents. Most of them relate to details of day-to-day life in a busy school so a recent email came as a complete surprise.

“It was a message from a maths graduate who had come here to work with our pupils as a volunteer a couple of years ago when she was a student at the University of Cambridge,” he explains. “She was writing to tell me that the experience of working in the classroom at Chesterton had encouraged her to take a PGCE and that she was now teaching maths in a comprehensive in Essex.

She wanted to thank us for giving her the chance to see what teaching was all about.”

Chesterton Community College is one of around 30 schools and colleges in Cambridge that take part in STIMULUS. Part of the Millennium Maths Project, STIMULUS gives University of Cambridge undergraduates the chance to go into classrooms and help children and young people of all abilities with their maths and science.

The programme, which celebrated its 25th anniversary last year, was set up by Toni Beardon, then a lecturer in the Faculty of Education. Its aim has remained the same: not simply to produce the teachers of the future but also to enable undergraduates to inspire younger students to get involved in maths and science.

Left: A Cambridge student helping make maths exciting

Each year STIMULUS gives around 250 Cambridge undergraduates the opportunity to work in a local school or college supporting maths and science teaching. Approximately 40 per cent of the students who take part are doing degrees in science, 20 per cent are studying maths and the remainder a variety of other subjects. The schools they work in range from primary to sixth form, and the majority are in the state sector.

All the undergraduates who sign up for the programme are partnered with schools, their age group preferences taken into account, and checked carefully according to legislation governing health and safety and child protection issues. Some volunteers go into their partner school for one term only, others for two terms.

Kelly says that the STIMULUS participants who volunteer at Chesterton contribute in many different ways to teaching in the maths and science departments. "They assist in the classroom, helping with classwork and revision, they work with small groups, and they also work with pupils one-to-one. They might be helping pupils who struggle academically but equally they might be challenging those who need stretching," he explains.

"Before we get a new group of STIMULUS undergraduates at the start of the school year, I give the scheme a bit of a push and tell our pupils just how lucky they are to have University of Cambridge students coming in to work with them. It's a fantastic chance for our pupils to interact with someone studying maths or science at a high level – and get a taste of their enthusiasm. We give STIMULUS volunteers a tour of the school and a brief introduction, and they quickly find their feet in the classroom."

Works both ways

One of the scheme's strengths is that benefits work both ways. For the past two years STIMULUS has been run by Rob Percival, who teaches maths at the Perse School for Girls and was a volunteer 12 years ago when he was studying maths at Cambridge. "The experience of studying at Cambridge is highly demanding and intense – and taking part in STIMULUS provides a valuable chance to step out of that Cambridge bubble once a week," he says.

"When I was at Cambridge reading maths, and already interested in going into teaching, I really hadn't thought how difficult it would be to explain a fairly straightforward concept to a Year 10 pupil who wasn't remotely interested in maths. My experience of working at Netherhall School really helped me to focus on how to break a concept down into easily accessible steps and encouraged me to take up a career in teaching."

Each year Percival sees the latest cohort of STIMULUS volunteers grow in confidence as they learn how to interact with pupils and how to communicate clearly. He says: "Last term I had a third-year maths undergraduate assisting in my Year 7 classes. Generally, he helped with class assignments, moving between pupils to check they were on track. During the last session he gave a ten-minute lesson on calculating the area of a triangle. It wasn't perfect but he did really well and kept the attention of the whole class."

Making maths exciting

Current maths undergraduate Zoe Wyatt chose to work with younger pupils and she was partnered with Queen Edith's Primary School where she was assigned a group of six pupils who were showing a particular flair for numbers. "I worked with them for 45 minutes once a week during the lunch break and I was able to decide with them what to cover. One of them had a parent who was doing extra maths with her, and the others wanted to tackle some of the topics she mentioned. They were particularly thrilled by the idea of multiplying negative numbers," she says.

"The group was great fun to be with. I strongly believe that I and others have a real responsibility to impart our enthusiasm for maths, a subject that often isn't too popular at school, which is a huge shame. I absolutely love teaching and especially making maths exciting. I'm planning a career in maths and particularly want to lecture and teach at university level."

Kevin Buzzard, now a professor of pure mathematics at Imperial College London, was one of the first STIMULUS volunteers. In 1989 he went into a primary school once a week for a term and did some basic maths with a class of eight-year-olds. He says: "My highlight was definitely the time I spent chatting to the kids and getting to know how they thought. I now have three children of my own and still enjoy teaching this young



"Volunteering is about more than getting something to put on your CV – it's about making a difference and giving something important back"

age group. I probably got my job at Imperial on the strength of my research rather than my teaching ability, so I don't know if STIMULUS really affected my life trajectory but I recently won a university award for teaching."

The process of making maths accessible on a one-to-one basis is immensely valuable, as current Cambridge student Carina Negreanu discovered when she volunteered at the Manor School, a small comprehensive, and the independent Perse School for Girls. "One of the pupils I helped was clearly extremely bright but not at all focused. We worked together for several weeks, doing questions in different ways, and maths started to become really interesting. GCSEs no longer seemed a problem and university became an option," she says.

"I'm doing applied maths, and hope to do a PhD in astrophysics, so STIMULUS is good for me too. It helps to refresh the maths that I haven't used for five years. Volunteering is about much more than simply getting something to put on your CV – it's about making a real difference and giving something important back to young people at a point when so many opportunities are opening up for them."

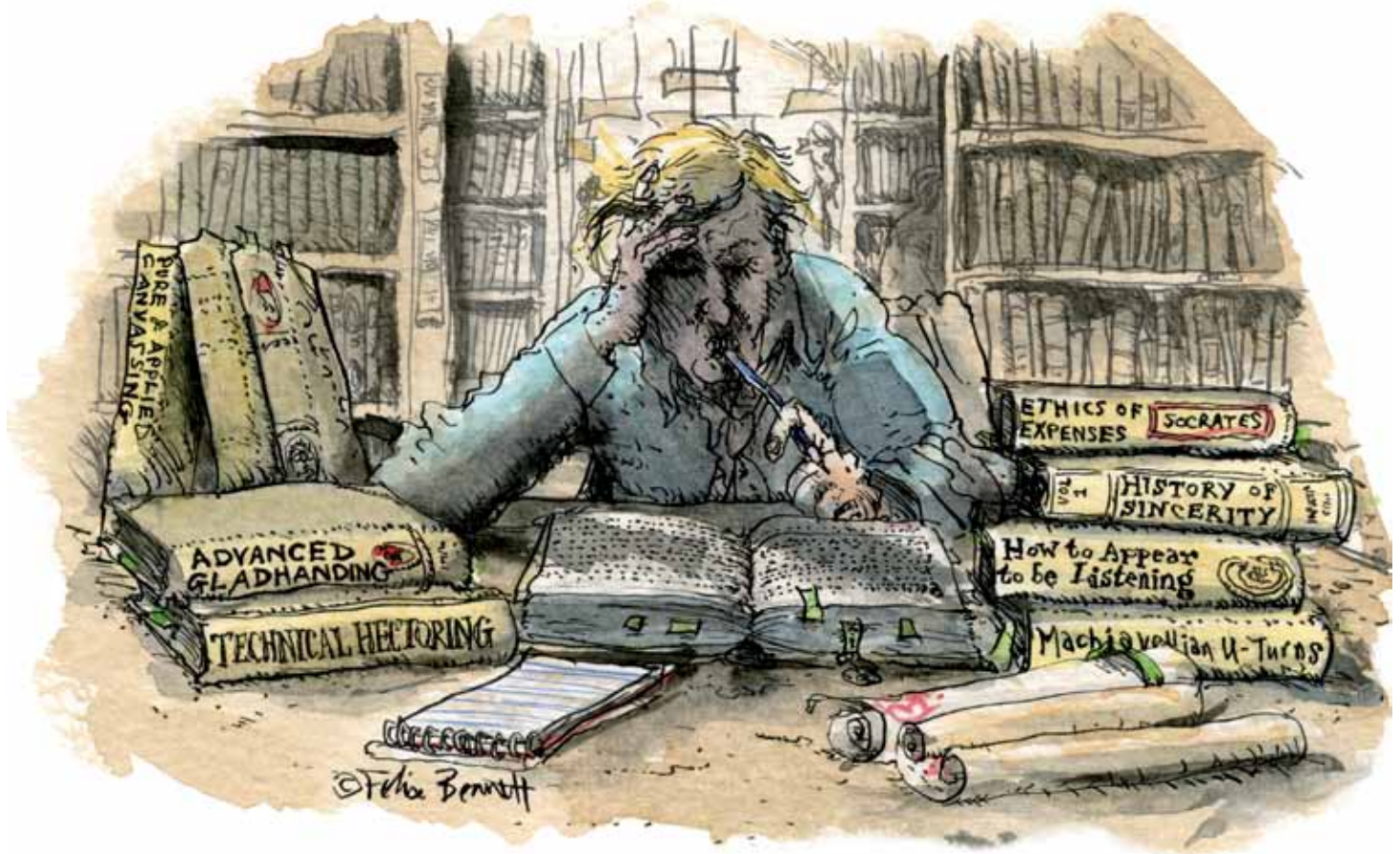
The continued success of STIMULUS is testament to the vision behind it. When she set it up, Toni Beardon was motivated by the idea that the University of Cambridge should connect with the local community and that STIMULUS would be a win-win activity with benefits to all involved. "Over the years many students have told me how much they looked forward to their STIMULUS visits to school and that the experience helped them to develop their interpersonal skills," she says.

And it's a vision that has connected Cambridge with communities thousands of miles away. After 20 years teaching at Cambridge, and taking a leading role in setting up other Millennium Maths Projects, Beardon retired and became a volunteer in Africa. Over the last decade she has built the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences Enrichment Centre, which trains local teachers using volunteer lecturers from Cambridge and around the world.



FIND OUT MORE

For more information on STIMULUS, visit stimulus.maths.org



Dons in the House

From 1603 to 1950 the University sent two MPs to the House of Commons, among them two Cromwells, two future Prime Ministers and an FA Cup Final winner. But do academics make good politicians and do we need more of them in Parliament today?

From St Ives in west Cornwall to Orkney and Shetland, there is scarcely a parliamentary seat in Britain that has not been occupied by a Cambridge graduate. But within living memory, the University has also been a constituency in its own right, and had the power to send its own MPs to the House of Commons.

Dr Elisabeth Leedham-Green, archivist at Darwin and author of *A Concise History of the University of Cambridge*, says: "Those qualified to vote for the University MP also had another vote, so chaps in Cambridge might be able to vote in, say, Huddersfield, and graduates domiciled

in Huddersfield could also vote for the University MP, provided they had kept their names on the college books by paying an annual fee."

The Parliamentary constituency of Cambridge University was established in 1603. On acceding to the English throne, James VI of Scotland decided that the practice of the Scottish Parliament – which granted seats to the country's five ancient universities – should be followed south of the border. The universities of Oxford and Cambridge were duly enfranchised by Royal Charter, each sending two members to the Commons.

Sir Isaac Newton's only recorded contribution to Commons debate was his request to shut a window

The constituencies would persist in this form, more or less, until their extinction at the 1950 General Election; and at various times throughout the next 350 years, the Oxbridge MPs were joined at Westminster by representatives of other seats of learning in the British Isles.

The Cambridge University constituency observed several peculiar practices. Elections seemed subdued, compared with the usual tumult of a Parliamentary campaign. The poll was generally open for several days, and took place a leisurely couple of weeks after the main election. Candidates were not expected to canvass in person, and were banned from coming within ten miles of Cambridge at this time. Many candidates stood as independents; and several elections were uncontested 'coronations'.

Members chosen by Cambridge graduates included prominent figures from many walks of life. Though Oliver Cromwell represented the town constituency, two of his sons became MPs for the University: Henry in 1654 and Richard two years later. Two prime ministers were University of Cambridge MPs, Pitt the Younger and Lord Palmerston. And one MP, John Rawlinson,

had the unique distinction of playing in an FA Cup final. The lawyer and jurist kept goal for Old Etonians in their 1882 victory over Blackburn Rovers.

From Francis Bacon in 1614, many Cambridge-educated scientists and academics represented the constituency. Most eminent was Isaac Newton, although his only recorded contribution to Commons debate is a request to shut a window. "The most celebrated Cambridge politicians were, speaking very roughly, not distinguished academics," says Dr Leedham-Green. "Newton was certainly a distinguished academic, but notably not a great parliamentarian."

Later academics managed to straddle both worlds more successfully. The mathematician and physicist Sir Joseph Larmor (University MP from 1911 to 1922) was known in the House for his zeal against Irish Home Rule and spoke on such matters as vivisection, electoral reform and the upkeep of London's Science Museum. None of his citations in *Hansard*, though, are as quotable as his 1920 plea to the governing body of St John's, when the college proposed to install baths: "We have done without them for 400 years. Why begin now?"

Among the most successful parliamentary dons was physiologist Archibald Vivian Hill, one of the few Nobel Laureates to sit on the green benches. During World War II, Hill was an important member of the War Cabinet Scientific Advisory Committee but became best known as a fervent promoter of scientific inquiry for its own sake. Most famously, he asked: "Would you ask a mother what practical use her baby is?" when pressed on the practical use of complex research in the pure sciences.

An end to plural polling

Though Cambridge's history includes no shortage of friction between town and gown, little of it seems to have been played out in the Commons chamber. A large quotient of town MPs were University alumni, prone to identify the interests of the one with the other.

Town-gown tensions were not the only ones to concern University MPs. Dr Leedham-Green says: "Elections to University offices were very often along party lines, with which inter-collegiate rivalries roughly, but never precisely, coincided. The challenges would have included trying to keep both Trinity and St John's on side – something that was very difficult. But Pitt and Palmerston, for example, seem to have managed."

By the mid-20th century, Oxford and Cambridge University constituencies represented quite an anomaly. They were among a small number of surviving multi-member constituencies and, unlike the geographical constituencies, they used the Single Transferable Vote – the only example of proportional representation ever having been used in Westminster elections.

The rise of the Labour Party coincided with growing calls for abolition of the university seats. One criticism was that they offered a back door into Parliament for those defeated elsewhere. The most notorious case was that of the first Labour prime minister Ramsay MacDonald who, in the words of one university MP, "having brought in a [failed] Bill to abolish the university franchise, was himself defeated in the General Election of 1935 and was glad to take refuge in a Scottish university seat."

Clement Attlee's government finally called time on the university seats with the Representation of the People Act 1948 – legislation that also swept away other forms of plural polling, such as the extra vote held by owners of a business located outside their home constituency. But university seats had their champions until the end.

Some suggested that the seats could be retained, but graduates confined to voting in either a geographical or an academic constituency. Prominent in this camp was the former Master of Trinity, George Macaulay Trevelyan. He wrote in a letter to *The Times*: "It seems a pity that for the purpose of abolishing the plural or alternative vote, a valuable institution like university representation should disappear ... It still supplies the House with a number of men, most of whom are not attached to either party and who bring an element of which both parties stand in need."

Trevelyan lauded the contribution of scientists to the Commons – mentioning both Newton and AV Hill, who "represented not a party but science". But there were equally fierce opponents of the notion that academics were an injection of independent, disinterested wisdom into the body politic.

One outspoken critic was diarist and future cabinet minister Richard Crossman. Debating the abolition bill, he told the House: "We have been told that we want plenty of dons in the House... so that we can have that peculiarly independent judgment which professors maintain. I have never found any peculiar



"Professors are as prejudiced and as partisan as any other members of the population"

independence about them. Professors are as prejudiced and as partisan as any other members of the population."

Crossman went on to state his preference for academics who "go through the usual rough and tumble of an election and get elected to Parliament in the ordinary way". And in the case of Cambridge – the single seat that now encompasses town and gown – the late politician's wish has been granted, as the past two general elections have delivered University academics to the Commons.

David Howarth, a Reader in Law and Fellow of Clare, was succeeded in 2005 by Dr Julian Huppert – an RCUK Academic Fellow in Computational Biology at the same college. "I went to school here so I feel part of both town and gown, to the extent that they're still separate," Huppert says. "It's important to represent all of Cambridge, from leafy University areas to council estates."

Does he think that his scientific background informs his approach to politics? "Having a different background from other people is very valuable; it means you can come in with an insight others might not have," he says. "Amazingly, there are only two of us with science PhDs in the Commons, and I'm the only one who went on to do research."

Huppert thinks Trevelyan's view that academics bring valuable skills to Parliament has merit. "For instance, there's a real issue when the Government does a U-turn," he says. "But I'm actually quite in favour of politicians changing their mind after a consultation. Otherwise, what's the point of the consultation?"

"I think that's something academics are good at: coming up with an idea, but when the evidence comes in, being prepared to accept that there's a better idea. I'd like governments to do that a lot more."



New Masters at Downing, Fitzwilliam, Murray Edwards and Sidney Sussex

Downing has announced that **Professor Geoffrey Grimmett** will be the 17th Master of the college. He takes over from Professor Barry Everitt in October. Currently a Fellow of Churchill, Professor Grimmett is Professor of Mathematical Statistics, and a keen walker and harpsichord player.

Nicola Padfield takes over from Professor Robert Lethbridge as Master of Fitzwilliam on 1 October and will be the first woman Master of the college since its foundation in 1869. A Fellow of Fitzwilliam since 1991, Mrs Padfield is Reader in Criminal and Penal Justice in the Faculty of Law at the University. She was called to the Bar in 1978, and is a Recorder of the Crown Court and a Bencher of the Middle Temple.

"I am delighted and honoured to be entrusted with this responsibility," she said. "The college is an extraordinary



Nicola Padfield

community of talented people, extending well beyond its current students and beyond Cambridge."

In July, **Professor Richard Penty** became the 27th Master of Sidney Sussex College, succeeding Professor Andrew Wallace-Hadrill. Professor Penty was both an undergraduate and postgraduate student at Sidney,



Dame Barbara Stocking

moving to Pembroke as Junior Research Fellow. After working at the universities of Bath and Bristol he returned to Cambridge, where he has been Professor of Photonics since 2002. He is a Fellow of Sidney and was its Vice-Master.

Murray Edwards welcomed **Dame Barbara Stocking** DBE as its fifth

Master – and the first 'home-grown' Head of House – in July. One of the college's most distinguished alumnae, she joins Murray Edwards after a career in the NHS and in humanitarian work, most recently as Chief Executive of Oxfam GB.

Dame Barbara, who read Natural Sciences at New Hall, said: "This college gave me the confidence and self-belief to make a contribution on the global stage and I am immensely grateful for that. I want to help today's talented young women play their part shaping our future as tomorrow's thinkers and leaders. There is still much to be done for women to achieve true equality in the world, whether in the UK or internationally, and I am very excited to have this opportunity to continue to contribute to empowering women to reach the highest levels."



New Regius professor

Professor David MacKay became the first Regius Professor of Engineering in March. "The wonderful thing about this role is that I will have the chance to work alongside some truly fantastic engineers. My hope is that I will be able to bring new ideas about energy research to a department already full of talent, and that can develop prototypes and bring those concepts to life," he said.

A leading researcher in machine learning, Professor MacKay is Chief Scientific Advisor to the government's Department of Energy and Climate Change and author of the acclaimed *Sustainable Energy – without the hot air*, which is free to download at www.withouthotair.com.



CUDO's new director

Alison Traub joined the University in June as Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations. She arrived in Cambridge from the University of Virginia, where she was Associate Vice-President for Development and Director of its \$3 billion campaign.

Welcoming her the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, said: "The need for philanthropic funding to sustain Cambridge's position as one of the best universities in the world has never been greater. To be a global leader in education and research requires Cambridge to continue to be a leader in philanthropy. Alison's is an excellent appointment."



From Downing to Gates

Gates Cambridge has appointed Professor Barry Everitt – who retires as Master of Downing in October – as its next Provost. Speaking for Cambridge's 225 Gates scholars Andrew Gruen, President of Gates Cambridge Scholars' Council, said: "I have every confidence he will be a strong mentor to scholars and will make an already incredible programme even more successful."

Professor Everitt added: "The scholarships are exceptionally important to the University and also globally. I look forward to building on the many achievements of the first two Provosts and, in particular, engaging with the scholar and alumni communities."

IN BRIEF

→ **Dr Joanne Martindale** is the new Assistant Director for the School of Clinical Medicine at the Research Operations Office. Previously at King's College London, Dr Martindale will be supporting the Clinical School departments' strategy and research and helping ensure that the Clinical School's newest departments, the CRUK Cambridge Research Institute and the MRC's Metabolic Diseases Unit and Epidemiology Unit, continue to thrive.

→ **Joanna Simpson** has been appointed to the new post of Head of Environment and Energy. She will be responsible for developing and implementing long-term plans to reduce the University's carbon emissions and improve its environmental sustainability. Previously the University's Environmental Officer in the Estate Management Division, Simpson came to Cambridge in 2012 from HEFCE, where she led the Council's sustainable development strategy and corporate social responsibility work.

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→ Amalfi Coast, Italy

Small B&B in peaceful, traffic-free mountain village above Positano. Ideal for those seeking a quiet mountain retreat with modern conveniences. All rooms ensuite with panoramic sea views of the Amalfi coast. Situated on famous Sentiero degli Dei (Footpath of the Gods). English speaking host. Double room and breakfast from 65 euros per night. Easyjet flights to Naples from Stansted. Phone Penny Marrone on 01954 210681. Further information and photos at <http://ninobb.moonfruit.com>.

→ Carry le Rouet, France

Large, comfortable flat in famous Côte Bleue resort of Carry-le-Rouet, close to the Camargue, Marseilles and all Provençal places of interest such as Arles, Avignon, Aix-en-Provence and St Rémy-de-Provence. Seafront, beach and coves within 100 metres. Excellent for swimming,

snorkelling, scuba diving, sailing, walking and cycling. Twenty minutes from Marseilles airport and 30 minutes from Marseilles TGV station. Sleeps six. Private parking. WIFI network. Contact Anita Ogier on ao10001@cam.ac.uk.

→ Dolomites, Italy

Charming, small hotel in Italian Dolomites, a short drive to Cortina and two hours from Venice. Only 12 double rooms, with fabulous views and off the beaten track. Ideal for walking enthusiasts, botanists, painters, lovers of the simple pleasures of life. Also great skiing – 100km of pistes with ski lift just down the road. Delicious meals cooked by the owner, Carola. Good wine. English, French and Italian spoken. Looking forward to having you to stay at Hotel Cà del Bosco. Phone: 0039 0437 521258. Email: info@hotelcadelbosco.it. Web: www.hotelcadelbosco.it.

→ Hydra, Greece

Historic 1810 mansion lovingly restored by family of original owners and converted into a beautiful boutique hotel. Located on a car-free island opposite the Peloponnese and only 200 metres from the port (where sea taxis to beaches and coves can be taken). Cafes and restaurants a short walk away, although the house is situated in a quiet area with courtyards, garden and veranda with lovely views. High-quality suites/rooms with authentic furnishings. Jacuzzi/internet available. Email info@cotommatae.gr or visit www.cotommatae.gr/en-us/home/cotommatae-hydra.

→ Languedoc countryside

Historic village house in beautiful Languedoc countryside, with spring-fed lake, river swimming, walks, Cathar castles, markets and vineyards close by. Stylishly renovated, with panoramic views of Corbières hills from roof terrace; use of garden. Sleeps four or five with two bedrooms, bathroom and ensuite; state-of-the-art kitchen; separate dining and living rooms. 40 minutes from Carcassonne airport. Car essential. Available now for short (€550-€750) and long lets. Email maisondelacamp@gmail.com for more information or visit <http://www.corbiereshouse.com/index.php/contact>.

→ North Portugal

House for rent in Afife (Viana do Castelo), a quiet and picturesque locality. Five minutes by car to one of the most beautiful beaches in the region. Two storeys with four double bedrooms, two double-

sofas beds, three bathrooms, swimming pool, table tennis table and BBQ. For further details email novoc@babraham.ac.uk.

→ Nice, France

Quiet apartment near the Promenade des Anglais and city centre. It is in the 'Musicians' area' on the fourth floor, accessed by lift. Sleeps two, with living room, bedroom with double bed, separate, fully equipped kitchen, modern bathroom, separate w/c, small balconies front and back. Price per week, including linen, £350 October to March, £400 April, May, September, £450 June to August. Contact Robin Spence on rjs2@cam.ac.uk or 07808932943.

→ Provence, France

Le Mazet des Cypres is a beautifully restored stone farmhouse that sleeps eight with spectacular views of Mont Ventoux and the Vaucluse hills. Surrounded by vineyards in a quiet location the house has four bedrooms, three bath/shower rooms and an 11 metre by five-metre swimming pool. Close by are the ancient and picturesque cities of Avignon, Orange, Aix-en-Provence, Nîmes and Arles.

Email Sarah Banbery at sjb258@emma.cam.ac.uk or visit www.lemazetdescypres.co.uk/.

→ Slovakia

Timber cottage deep in unspoilt forests, a good place for walking holidays, bird watching and fishing. The peaks within three miles are higher than Snowdon or Table Mountain. Walk for miles above an altitude of 1,000m along the long-distance European walking trails E3 and E8. Hiking maps provided in the cottage. Cottage sleeps four to six people with prices between £350 and £450 per week. Phone 01844 339754 or visit www.SlovakiaHolidays.org.

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→ Kimbolton, Cambridgeshire

Former Victorian school, three bedroom house with walled garden and large versatile outbuildings situated in the centre of the village. Large L-shaped living room with three high double-door windows leading to the garden. Separate dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. Local shops, 40 minutes from Cambridge. The village has an HMC coeducational day and boarding school for pupils aged four to 18. Overhills Primary School provides a learning environment for the local community. Price £595,000. Email hjs27@cam.ac.uk

SERVICES

→ Lovely food, sensible prices

The University Social Club (USC) in Mill Lane is the ideal place for lunch and to unwind after work. It boasts real ales, delicious, affordable food at lunchtime, and snooker, pool, darts and table tennis. The club has function and meeting rooms available for hire, and is open to all University staff, students and affiliates. The USC is open from 12 to 2pm and 5pm until 10.30pm Monday to Friday. Various dancing classes (salsa, tango and ceroc) are held most week nights. For further information phone 38090 or email enquiries@socialclub.cam.ac.uk.

→ Bottisham Garage

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→ Wine tasting

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Cambridgeshire ProHelp has relaunched for professionals committed to making a difference in their local community by providing free advice and expertise. Expertise from marketing and business-planning, to architecture and law is sought. Volunteering can be a great way to develop skills while benefiting the community. If you are interested in finding out more, please visit http://www.bitc.org.uk/east_of_england/programmes/prohelp/

→ Local charity seeks trustees

The trustees of Cambridge United Charities manage 29 almshouses in the city, administer grants to local people in need of financial help and

support organisations working with young people. Would you consider joining us? If you have an interest in housing for the elderly, experience of property or investment management, or practical concern for the welfare of others we would like to hear from you.

For further information phone Chairman of Trustees Philippa Slatter on (01223) 701733 or visit www.cambridgeunitedcharities.org

→ Looking for smokers

The Psychiatry Department at the University of Cambridge (Addenbrooke's site) is looking for males or females (at least 18 years old) who are cigarette smokers. The study involves questionnaires and simple computer tasks (of decision-making and reaction times), and will take about three hours. Volunteers will be paid £8.50 per hour for taking part. There is also an opportunity for a brain scan, typically conducted on a separate day, which pays £20 for a 23-minute scan. If you are interested, please email Dr Mike Irvine: mai26@cam.ac.uk.

OTHER NOTICES

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I am a classically trained soprano with several years experience in teaching music. I teach vocal students of all levels, music theory and dictation/soflege. All lessons held at my studio in the King's Hedges area of Cambridge. Beginners welcome. Please contact Bonnie Cooper at bmcams@gmail.com or bonniecoopersoprano.com to enquire about lesson availability and rates.

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PRIZES, AWARDS AND HONOURS

Awards

→ Suffrage Science celebrates the achievements of leading female scientists, and three Cambridge academics – **Dame Athene Donald** (Department of Physics), **Dr Jennifer Nichols** (Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience) and **Professor Susan Gathercole** (Department of Medicine) were among the 12 honoured at this year's event on International Women's Day.

→ Emeritus Professor of Japanese Studies **Richard Bowring** has been presented with the Order of the Rising Sun (Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon). The award was given in recognition of his scholarship in the field of Japanese studies, his fundraising activities to build up Japanese studies at Cambridge and his contributions to Anglo-Japanese relations over many years at Cambridge.

→ **Professor Nicola Clayton** FRS of the Department of Psychology and Scientist in Residence at the Rambert Dance Company received the Experimental Psychology Society's Mid-Career Award at the EPS's Lancaster meeting in April. Her award lecture, delivered at the meeting, was on 'Ways of thinking: from crows to children and back again'.

→ **Professor Nicholas Cook** (Faculty of Music) and **Professor Jenny Clack** (Department of Zoology) have been awarded honorary degrees by the University of Chicago. Professor Cook, whose work covers a wide range of topics in music theory, analysis, history and ethnomusicology, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Professor Clack received an honorary Doctor of Science. A leading palaeontologist, her research has profoundly changed the understanding of the origin of terrestrial vertebrate life.

→ PhD student **John Gallagher** (Faculty of History) has been named one of ten New Generation Thinkers 2013 by BBC Radio 3 and the Arts & Humanities Research Council. The scheme is designed to find academic broadcasters of the future, and Gallagher will spend a year with Radio 3 presenters and broadcasters developing his research on foreign languages in 16th and 17th century England into radio and TV programmes.

→ **Professor Peter Gronn** and **Professor David Bridges** of the Faculty of Education have both been made Academicians of the Academy of Social Sciences. Professor Gronn's work has had a significant impact on educational

leadership and leadership policy. Professor Bridges has made important contributions to the philosophy of education and empirical research in education, as well as capacity building in Ethiopia, Lithuania and Kazakhstan.

→ A team led by **Professor Steve Jackson** from the Gurdon Institute has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Strategic award of £4.3 million. The award will fund research into the factors causing mutations in DNA, and how mutations can give rise to cancer and other diseases. The work will illustrate how defining 'mutational signatures' in these diseases could improve diagnosis and treatment.

→ **Professor Peter Kornicki** of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies has been awarded the Yamagata Banto Prize. The prize is given every three years by the Osaka Prefecture for the study of Japan.

→ **Professor Michael Lamb** (Department of Psychology) has received the Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology and Law from the American Psychology-Law Society.

→ Head of the Department of Pharmacology, **Professor Peter McNaughton**, has been elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences for his contributions to sensory physiology.

→ The 2012 BIAL Merit Award in Medical Sciences has been awarded to **Professor Peter St George-Hyslop** of the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research for his work on the causes and molecular mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

→ **Hilary Mantel**, author and double Man Booker prizewinner, received an honorary degree at the University in June. Other Doctor of Letters were awarded to **Sir John Elliott**, Regius Professor of Modern History (now History) Emeritus at University of Oxford; **Professor Jonathan Spence**, Sterling Professor of History Emeritus at Yale University; and writer and winner of the 2010 Nobel Prize for Literature **Mario Vargas Llosa**. Doctor of Science degrees were conferred on **Professor Daniel Kahneman**, Eugene Higgins Professor of Psychology Emeritus at Princeton University; **Professor Joseph Stiglitz**, University Professor in Finance and Economics at Columbia University; **Dr Harold Varmus**, Director of the National Cancer Institute; and **Professor Ada Yonath**, Martin S and Helen Kimmel Professor of Structural Biology at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.



Professor Jenny Clack



Professor Steve Jackson



Professor Karl Laugwitz



Professor Brian Moore

→ **Professor Karl Laugwitz** (Department of Medicine) has led a successful British Heart Foundation UK Cardiovascular Regenerative Medicine Centre Award. The £2.5 million award, made jointly with the University of Oxford, will provide a platform to develop cardiovascular regenerative medicine and will allow PhD students to work between the two universities. According to Professor Laugwitz: "The award will allow cardiovascular scientists in Cambridge and Oxford to undertake groundbreaking research together, and will catalyse new science in the field of regenerative medicine for heart disease."

→ **Professor Brian Moore** of the Department of Psychology has been awarded the Thomas Simm Littler Lectureship for 2013 by the British Society of Audiology (BSA). The biennial prize is awarded to a BSA member who has made a significant academic contribution to the field of audiology.

→ **Professor Sir Bruce Ponder** has been named one of the first group of Fellows of the American Association for Cancer Research Academy. The new fellowship has been created to honour scientists who have made stellar scientific achievements in cancer research.

→ **Professor George Salmond** of the Department of Biochemistry has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. He was one of the first researchers to demonstrate how bacteria communicate via chemical signals, a behaviour that researchers are now targeting as a way of combating infection.

→ This year's Adams Prize – one of Cambridge's oldest and most prestigious – has been won by **Professor Ivan Smith** of the Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics. The topic for 2012-13 was topology, and chairman of the judges, Professor Tim Gowers, described Professor Smith's work in this area as both "beautiful and important". The prize is awarded jointly each year by the Faculty of Mathematics and St John's College to a young, UK-based researcher and is named after John Couch Adams to commemorate his role in discovering the planet Neptune.

→ The Wellcome Trust has named the University of Cambridge as one of its five Centres for Global Health Research, which it is committing more than £3 million to over the next five years. As well as helping public health and tropical medicine researchers develop their careers, the new centres will foster links between UK

institutions and those based in low- and middle-income countries. The Cambridge Centre will focus on researchers in Africa. According to Professor David Dunne, Director of the Cambridge Centre: "The strengthening of Africa's indigenous scientific research base is crucial to the identification of its disease control and public health priorities, to the discovery and successful application of appropriate solutions, as well as to overall development."

→ PhD student **George Gordon** (Department of Engineering) won Bronze in the SET for Britain competition in the House of Commons for his poster on increasing the data capacity of optical fibres. "It was an honour in itself to have been invited to present a poster, so to be awarded a prize was truly something special," said Gordon. "The greatest benefit of the day in my opinion was being able to share this work with the UK's top researchers, hear their opinions and also to discuss their research, much of which was new to me."

Do you have an award that you would like publicising in the Newsletter? Email details to newsletter@admin.cam.ac.uk

Royal Society elects new Fellows for 2013

Five Cambridge researchers have been announced as new Fellows of the Royal Society: **Professor Jon Crowcroft** of the Computer Laboratory; **Professor Gerard Gilmore** of the Institute of Astronomy; **Professor Raymond Goldstein** of the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics; **Professor Gillian Griffiths** of the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research and **Professor Maria Grazia Spillantini** of the Department of Clinical Neurosciences.

Professor Crowcroft has made seminal contributions to the development of the internet, including standards for video and voice over IP networks and satellite link techniques that paved the way for rural broadband.

Professor Gilmore's research is largely related to Stellar populations, which he says "are a great way to find what matter really is, and where it is". A pioneer of using spectral surveys to



Professor Raymond Goldstein



Professor Gillian Griffiths



Professor Maria Spillantini

unravel the Galaxy's history through its chemistry, he played a major role in selection of ESA's Gaia mission.

Professor Raymond Goldstein is a leader in biological physics and nonlinear dynamics. His broad-ranging work includes the maths behind the shapes of stalactites and using green algae as a model organism to study biological fluid dynamics.

Professor Griffiths has made key contributions to both cell biology and immunology, introducing important new concepts into both fields. Her work has been described as "elegant and insightful".

Professor Spillantini has made major contributions to our understanding of neurodegenerative diseases. Her identification of alpha-synuclein in Lewy bodies of Parkinson's disease has opened up new areas of research and she has identified one of the first mutations in the Tau gene as a cause of a form of dementia.



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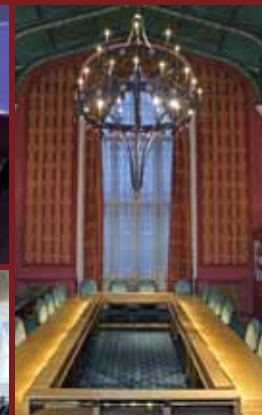
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