

# FRONT COURT

Trinity Hall Cambridge



HIGHLIGHTS

Breaking boundaries

Our bold ambition for Trinity Hall

Creating connections



TRINITY  
HALL  
CAMBRIDGE

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BELIEVE  
BELONG  
BECOME

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Cover image: Postgraduates in the MCR.  
Photograph by Timothy Lambden.



# Message from the Master

by Mary Hockaday | Master

In July I had the pleasure of going to my 'own' reunion as alumni from 1980, 81, 82 and 83 gathered together. I always enjoy reunions; hearing people's stories and how Trinity Hall set them on their path and finding a few words of welcome to say at the end of dinner.



Our Senior Tutor, Dr Michael Sutherland, kindly presided so I was freed from formal responsibilities and could simply enjoy seeing old friends, talking to people I didn't know so well at the time, and throwing some moves to 80s classics in the Aula Bar. Forty years on, we've known a good mixture of successes and challenges, joys and sorrows, and have the perspective to see how formative those student days were. I felt very lucky.

This edition of *Front Court* marks a big moment, as we look ahead to our Anniversary Campaign. It's 25 years since the College's last major campaign and our needs continue to evolve. We're approaching our 675th anniversary and our fundamental mission is remarkably unchanged: to support an excellent academic environment and educate and believe in young people with potential to contribute to the wider world. But how we do this continues to evolve. In this edition, you can read about the emerging pillars of the campaign: access and support for undergraduates and postgraduates, student wellbeing and providing the right physical environment for the whole community. All of which is underpinned by our commitment to sustainability. With your support, we can ensure we remain a welcoming and innovative college long into the future.

Our alumni and former Fellows are capable of remarkable things. We congratulate Jan Helmich for his bronze Paralympic rowing medal, details inside. And we mourn Honorary Fellow and former Fellow of Music, Sandy Goehr, a towering figure

in British Contemporary music, celebrated in Emeritus Fellow Tom Körner's tribute.

We're delighted to welcome Professor McLachlan to the Fellowship as the new 1973 Professor of Law at Cambridge (or welcome back, as he was a Visiting Fellow in 2022–23). Our postgraduate community is particularly dynamic and it's always a joy to read about the range of clubs and societies, revealing the energy of our students who understand that learning and living well go together.

Another highlight of last term was General Admission. The sun shone and students, families and friends were full of pride, as were we all. Trinity Hall was praised for sending the best turnout of Fellows to Senate House Passage to cheer our graduates as they emerged from the ceremony – a reminder of the bonds formed between directors of studies, supervisors, tutors and students across the years.

Our students are heading off in all sorts of directions and many, of course, are staying in Cambridge for further study.

I'm delighted that a handful are determined enough to want to forge a career in journalism, an endeavour we'll be marking this year with the launch of the Trinity Hall Prize in Student Journalism, made possible by the generosity of an alumnus – yet another sign of the strength of the Trinity Hall community. 🍷



## MCR COMMITTEE

### Breaking Boundaries:

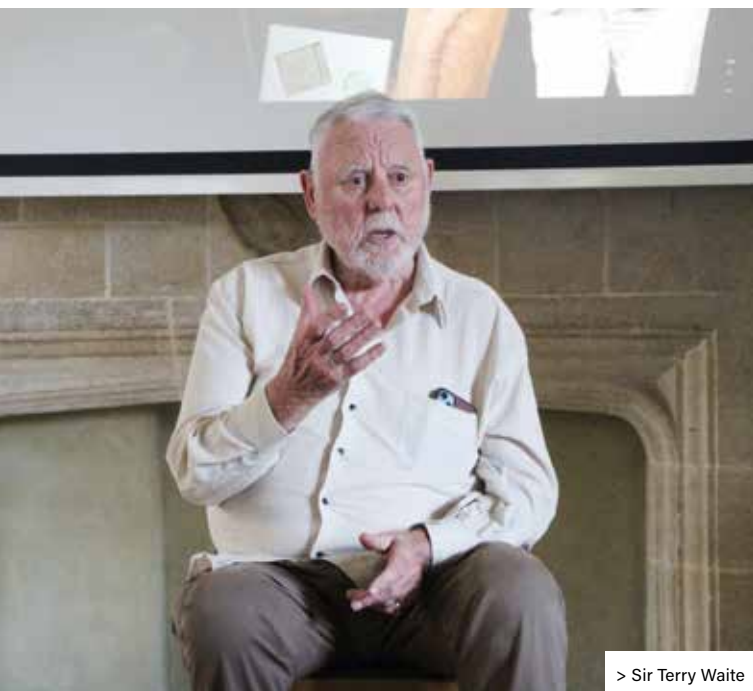
# Highlights from the 2024 McLuhan Symposium

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by Niamh Divers, PhD student in Neuroscience | MCR Academic Officer

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As one of the two academic officers in the 2023–24 MCR committee, I had the opportunity to co-organise the McLuhan Symposium, an annual event showcasing the array of research conducted by members of the MCR. The 2024 McLuhan Symposium marked its 14th year, continuing the tradition of sharing in the academic achievement of the MCR community.



Marshall McLuhan, the namesake of this event, was a Canadian philosopher who studied at Trinity Hall between 1934 and 1943. In line with McLuhan's revolutionary theories on the future of electronic media, the global village and the creation of the Internet, the theme of this year's symposium was 'Breaking Boundaries'. As a biologist myself, I thoroughly enjoyed learning about the wide scope of research conducted by Trinity Hall postgraduate students. Ranging from engineering, economics, gender studies, law and medicine (to name a few), each speaker explored how their research challenges existing norms of their respective fields.

The public vote for the most impactful presentation was awarded to Esther Wadzanai Mano, an MPhil student in African Studies, for her talk on education and liberation in colonial Zimbabwe's detention centres. Esther's research brought light to the role of detention education in shaping the cultural value of education in Zimbabwe, offering a powerful narrative of resistance and transformation. We also hosted a three-minute thesis competition, with students delivering

short, engaging presentations introducing their research topics. Abdullah Safir, MPhil student in Ethics of AI, Data and Algorithms, delivered the public favourite three-minute thesis on his research into the harm of silencing cultural perspectives in designing AI systems.

Professor Sasha Turchyn delivered our first keynote address on her groundbreaking research in Earth Sciences, focusing on understanding how the chemistry of the ocean has evolved over Earth's history. She also reflected on her experiences balancing her roles as a scientist and a mother, clearly demonstrating how both her career and her research have broken boundaries.

We were also honoured to welcome Sir Terry Waite KCMG CBE, Honorary Fellow, back to Trinity Hall to deliver the closing address. Embodying the theme of 'Breaking Boundaries', Terry has had a long and extraordinary career as human rights activist, hostage negotiator and author, co-founding and overseeing charities including Y Care International and Hostage UK. In 1987, whilst negotiating for the release of hostages in Lebanon, he himself was kidnapped and held in solitary confinement for 1,763 days.

Terry spoke openly to the MCR community about the events leading up to and during his captivity, and the

**“The public vote for the most impactful presentation was awarded to Esther Wadzanai Mano, an MPhil student in African Studies, for her talk on education and liberation in colonial Zimbabwe’s detention centres.”**

impact of these experiences on his outlook on life. We were particularly interested to hear him reminisce about his time as a Fellow-Commoner at Trinity Hall, where, following his release in 1991, he wrote his first book. His experience of Trinity Hall as a peaceful, inspiring environment for academic pursuit is a sentiment shared by many in our community.

We hope that the 2024 McLuhan Symposium both celebrated the academic achievements of our diverse community, and also inspired attendees to continue breaking boundaries in their own pursuits. We definitely enjoyed hosting this event and I'm excited to hear more about the research conducted by our community in the coming academic year. 🗨️



> MCR Academic Officers and Sir Terry Waite



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# Our bold ambition for Trinity Hall

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“We wear our tradition lightly but our deep roots give us the strength, resources and determination to change the future.”

Mary Hockaday, Master

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Since 1350, Trinity Hall has been a hub of knowledge and a centre of learning, ensuring each generation of students that passes through Trinity Hall benefits from academic excellence and new learning experiences.

Next year marks 675 years since the College's foundation. This important milestone presents us with an opportunity to develop a vision for the future of Trinity Hall. We have exciting plans and will be launching an Anniversary Campaign to raise £50 million to put Trinity Hall in a powerful, resilient and exciting position for the future. The campaign will shape our future, by providing the financial resources to maintain our outstanding atmosphere for study and research, allowing us to attract students with the highest academic potential, regardless of background.

**Our aim is to ensure that all who join the College:**

- **BELIEVE** that there is a welcoming place for everyone at Trinity Hall.
- **BELONG** to a community that inspires and support their academic ambitions, their personal wellbeing and resilience, surrounded by improved spaces to live and study.
- **BECOME** a successful graduate or postgraduate, making a positive contribution to the world.

**Why launch a campaign?**

Currently the College faces a shortfall in income to cover academic basics. The reduction in government support means that academic fees now cover less than half the cost of a UK undergraduate education at Cambridge. In 2022-23, the deficit on the College's Educational Account was over £5.7 million. This means that for every undergraduate student we accept, we invest £10,904 out of College's resources on top of the academic fee, to subsidise the cost of their

education. Despite the College's investments delivering good returns, the combination of static fee income and rising costs is a challenge.

Through the recent strategic realisation of a property investment we have created an opportunity to dedicate significant existing College resources to fund some of the steps needed to address these challenges, but we are ambitious and hope that together we can do more.

PhD students are the powerhouse of early-stage research. We currently lose around **40%** of our postgraduate applicants because of a lack of funding.



**17%** of our students see finances as a barrier to taking part in physical activity.



We want to ensure that we attract a talented pool of students, regardless of socio-economic background.



Provide more support to the growing number of students needing mental health support.



Improve our facilities to give the best support to our students.



We are committed to lowering our carbon footprint by reducing reliance on gas.



### What difference can I make?

Your donation will help applicants BELIEVE that Trinity Hall is for them by spreading the message in schools of what coming to Cambridge really feels like, raising aspirations and de-bunking misconceptions. Funding will help remove financial barriers. Access should be available to everyone who has the ability we expect from a Trinity Hall student, regardless of financial or social background.

Once students arrive at Trinity Hall, donations provide resources that help them feel they truly BELONG here. The sense of a college community is fostered by living and working together. Our aim is for all our members to feel secure that, if needed, the College will be able to make support available to allow them to take advantage of all the opportunities on offer at Cambridge.

We aspire for everyone who joins Trinity Hall to use their experience here, the sense of welcome and community and the education and wisdom they acquire, to BECOME

a success in whatever field they choose. Some may have a world-changing impact. All will benefit from having the opportunity to make the most of their potential.

**“I was offered a Get In studentship to Trinity Hall. Right from the start, I was accepted really wholeheartedly into the community, which was essential for me feeling like I belonged here.”**

**Tiana-Maria Irwin**

Your donation can help our students enjoy an exceptional education and life-changing experiences, leading to professional and personal fulfilment that has an impact in the wider world. Your support will allow us to continue to evolve high standards in both the intellectual and material fabric of the College.

SUPPORT US

By joining us in the Campaign you can show you BELIEVE in the difference Trinity Hall can make to students from all backgrounds, play a vital part in the community to which you BELONG and BECOME part of our joint effort to ensure that Trinity Hall continues to excel in the modern world. Thank you for your support and any contribution you can make – we would love to hear from you.

Visit our 675 Anniversary Campaign website on [campaign.trinhall.cam.ac.uk](http://campaign.trinhall.cam.ac.uk)

Contact [campaign@trinhall.cam.ac.uk](mailto:campaign@trinhall.cam.ac.uk)





“Thanks to my time at Trinity Hall, I have become a much more passionate and interdisciplinary researcher.”

Zoya Yousef, Postgraduate

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

# Regular Giving

by Donna Thomas-Watson | Philanthropy Officer



> Donna Thomas-Watson

At Trinity Hall we believe developing excellence in education and research is fundamental to understanding and solving many of the issues facing society today. Regular donations from committed supporters are critical to helping us achieve this.

Last academic year, our community of **779** regular donors contributed almost **£500,000** to a variety of College funds and projects. This has made, and continues to make, a huge difference to the College community.

Thank you to everyone who made a gift to the **Area of Greatest Need**, raising **£210,296**. We are particularly grateful for unrestricted gifts of this kind as they demonstrate your trust in the College to direct the money where it is most needed. This year we are renaming our general College support fund **'THink Ahead,'** highlighting the importance of your gift as an investment in the future of Trinity Hall and its students.

Support for students in financial hardship continues to be the most significant financial contribution to our regular giving programme – last year raising **£253,785** for both undergraduates and postgraduates. This year, we aim to significantly increase the funds available to postgraduates for both fees and maintenance, ensuring Trinity Hall can attract the highest calibre of students regardless of financial background.

Helping applicants from all backgrounds believe they can come to Trinity Hall, and thrive here, underpins all our widening participation activity. Last year regular donations of

**£10,172** helped to support the Admissions team's wide variety of events both in College and in our link area. Our innovative access programme 'You'll Fit In' aims to increase applications to Trinity Hall from under-represented groups. Donations ensure the programme can continue into the future.

Playing sport, participating in music, or performing drama are all part of the College experience, and it is our intention that Trinity Hall is a place where our students belong to a community that supports their wellbeing and resilience. Last year **£6,110** was donated to College Clubs & Societies, helping to ensure all students who wish to participate can do so.

**779**  
regular donors  
contributed  
almost **£500K**

A regular gift supports the **Trinity Hall Women in Sport Grant**, awarded each year to ensure that personal circumstance is not a barrier for women to compete in sport and physical activity.

*"I am writing to thank you for the Women in Sport Bursary. I am a first year who has just started gymnastics as a way of staying fit, meeting new people and learning a new skill. Next week I am going to be competing*

*in Coppers, in a friendly beginner's competition. There is an amazing community within the Cambridge gymnastics club, and I thank you for your help."*

**First Year Architecture & Design student**

A wonderful **69% of donors** to Trinity Hall have been giving for **five years** or more consecutively. A significant number of you have been giving for 10, 15 and in some cases more than 20 years. Your generosity and loyalty to Trinity Hall continues to be truly transformational. Thank you. 🍷

> Postgraduates during their graduation in July 2024





# Creating connections

Rowing or Football, NatSci or MedVet, Hesperides or Preston? You may have belonged to one of these or to one of the many other clubs and societies that have fostered student interests and togetherness over the years. Social and physical activities continue to play a huge part in the lives of Trinity Hall undergraduates and postgraduates, as these students tell us.

## The choristers

Choir member Rhiannon, who will return to College soon to begin her PhD, joined the choir in her undergraduate years at Trinity Hall, having loved singing at school. "What the choir does, it does really well, but it doesn't take all your time: you still have time to study."

The Choir produces professional quality albums and performs on the international stage, and yet feels welcoming. A highlight is the annual trip abroad, this year to Malta. The locations make a huge difference to how they sing, said Choir member Tom:

**"The size of Trinity Hall's chapel gives it a fascinating and challenging acoustic. You develop a very technical singing style that scales really nicely in big churches, for instance."**

The tour to Malta was also great for building community and belonging, said Tom. "When you share a tour bus for so long you get to know people really well."

Beyond the venues, travel and love of music, Rhiannon and Tom agree that there is another benefit. "The famous Sunday formal. It is really good food and it gives us a chance to socialise. Not just with each other: people often come back from previous years, even 50 years ago," said Rhiannon.

They both praised the College's Director of Music, Andrew Arthur, for his professional and "very human" approach to

> Choir members Rhiannon and Tom



their music-making. Choir members also receive individual support with vocal tutors.

## The squash players

Undergraduate Ollie decided that, for a College with unlimited access to professional squash courts, it was criminal to not have a Trinity Hall team at Cuppers. Until this year, Trinity Hall members would have had to join another college's team to have the chance to compete. When Ollie discovered there was significant interest from the community to play squash on a regular basis, he put his years of training to work to lead a College team.

The weekly training sessions drilling technique and playing friendly matches got them swiftly promoted in Lent term and the team went on to play in Cuppers. Their tenacity and



> Trinity Hall squash team

training during a mighty first season secured them a place in the final. Despite losing out to Emmanuel, Ollie is proud of the team and excited about the future:

“I’m hoping to expand it next year by putting another team in the college leagues. I’ve been very lucky to have such a varied range of people play at the club. We have a great batch of first-years, PhD students who provide experience, and everything in between.”



> Izzy, Co-President of the Philosophy Society

### The philosophers

“Philosophical debate can often be intimidating for those outside of the area, particularly when it becomes overly self-referential and technical”, says Izzy, Co-President of the Philosophy Society, “so we are trying to create an environment of collaborative and friendly discussion rather than competitive debate.”

The interdisciplinary nature of the Society's membership has broadened their view of the subject, with lawyers, historians, mathematicians, engineers and more belonging to the Society. A highlight for Izzy was the:

“Collaboration with the Hesperides Society, who co-ran a session with us on nature and aesthetic appreciation. We enjoyed returning the favour by contributing to one of their events on the publishing of private letters.”

Another exciting collaboration took the Society into the wider community this year as Izzy joined together with Big Philosophical Issues in Histon to discuss the Ethics of AI, as well as informing attendees on recent developments in the technology.

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The Cambridge experience is one of belonging. Belonging to a community that supports and encourages the exploration of life outside of studying, as well as academic excellence. Clubs and societies play an important part in fostering these interests and connections. 🗨️



> Trinity Hall Chapel Choir in Mosta, Malta

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# Five minutes with a Fellow

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> Professor Campbell  
McLachlan KC

Professor Campbell McLachlan KC had an illustrious career in professional practice before returning to academia in 2003. After joining Trinity Hall as Visiting Fellow in 2022, he has come back to College as a teaching Fellow and has recently published a new book.

### **How does it feel being back at Trinity Hall?**

It feels great to be back. Before joining Trinity Hall as Visiting Fellow, I didn't have a prior connection to the College. When I was awarded the Arthur Goodhart Visiting Chair in Legal Science, which is a faculty appointment, I was considering which colleges I should approach. I came to visit Trinity Hall without knowing much but what struck me immediately was how friendly everyone was from the moment I arrived. The first person I ran into, apart from the Porters, was Law Fellow Dr Rachel Tolley who greeted me and said: "We've been waiting to see you", because my Visiting Fellowship was delayed as a result of the pandemic. I found it very easy to get to know people and I really liked the size of the fellowship. There's such a strong fellowship community at Trinity Hall and a real strength and depth across the whole field of law, from criminal and public to commercial and private, and now me in international law. The staff are welcoming and helpful, and it's a particularly beautiful college as well. It was clear to me that Trinity Hall was my first choice.

### **What value does the academic study of law bring to law practitioners?**

I believe passionately in the value of studying law as an academic discipline. It is a fabulous thing to study. It has its own way of seeing the world and it's a discrete discipline. If we take conflict of laws as an example, I've found it's almost impossible to analyse problems effectively in practice unless you have studied conflict of laws as an academic subject because it's a whole different way of seeing the law. Most study assumes that the problem is purely domestic until you consider conflict of laws, which opens you up to the legal systems of other countries and how their citizens relate to them. That really matters in practice. If I think back to my own experience in my former career as a partner in Herbert Smith, a large proportion of the work I was involved in had a cross-border element. Studying the conflict of laws as an academic discipline gives you a structure for how to actually do that problem-solving, which is very hard to retrofit. The academic study of law is immensely valuable, and immensely interesting because it covers the whole spectrum of human endeavour.

### **What inspired you to write your new book, *The Principle of Systemic Integration in International Law*?**

I have a history with the topic that has held my interest for some time. Not long after I decided to become a full-time

academic, after my previous practicing career, I worked with a Senior New Zealand diplomat, who was a member of the International Law Commission, on this very topic as there was little written about it at the time. Our work achieved quite a lot of prominence and I published it as an article, which is still one of the top two most cited articles in the *International Comparative Law Quarterly*, but I never did anything else with it. So when I had a sabbatical I wanted to look at what impact this so-called 'principle of system integration' had in practice. I rapidly discovered that it was a much bigger and more challenging project than I initially thought. It had been taken up by a whole range of States and international tribunals contending with different contexts who were facing up to the question of how everything fits together in practical settings. For the book I had to think both theoretically 'What does it mean to say international law is a legal system?' and about the practical guidance.

Systemic integration matters now because it's like the master key for working out how different agendas for the pursuit of different public goods by different States and different constituencies fit together, creating a meaningful set of obligations that you can realistically expect States to implement.

I can bring perspective both from practice and academia, and I'm very interested in doing work which is of deep theoretical landing and produces practical results. It's an ambitious work.

### **How does your experience as a practicing lawyer complement your teaching?**

I bring academic rigour to my teaching but I also bring insights from practice and examples of real situations that a student might encounter if they follow a career in law. The course I'm going to be offering on the LLM is International Dispute Resolution. It makes me think of John Collier, who I knew and was a great guy, as he offered a course called the Settlement of International Disputes, which isn't a million miles away from what I'll be doing. I'll also be offering supervisions to only Trinity Hall students in both public and private international law so there will be an opportunity for real engagement with the undergraduates as well.

The College is still attracting the most able students, which is simply the key to everything. ☺



> Jan Helmich

# News in Brief

Read more at [trinhall.cam.ac.uk/news](http://trinhall.cam.ac.uk/news)

## AWARDS

# Bronze at the Paralympic Games

Postgraduate Jan Helmich won bronze at the Paralympic Games in Paris in the PR3 mixed double sculls. Racing for Team Germany, Jan and crewmate Hermine Krumbein secured bronze with a time of 7:28.31.

Friends from Trinity Hall travelled to Paris to watch Jan compete, supporting from the stands

in both the heat and the final, leaving them all "quite hoarse" by the end of the hard-fought final race. The silver medal went to Team GB, with just 0.12 seconds between second and third place.

Jan arrived in Cambridge as a novice rower and undergraduate student in 2016. Eight years later, he competes at the highest level all over the world while studying for a PhD with Cambridge's Department of Engineering.

Paul Townshend, Trinity Hall Rowing Coach said:

"Trinity Hall Boat Club (THBC) is enormously proud of Jan and all that he has achieved, culminating in a wonderful bronze medal at the Paris Paralympic Games. The fact that Jan has accomplished all that he has having arrived in Cambridge with no rowing experience at all is testament to his work ethic, resilience and athletic ability. I hope that his journey will help inspire the next generation of Trinity Hall rowers. Congratulations, Jan, on a superb achievement from all of us at THBC."

Read Jan's pre-race interview on our website:

[trinhall.cam.ac.uk/news](http://trinhall.cam.ac.uk/news)

> Jan Helmich and Hermine Krumbein, PR3 Mixed Double Sculls, Germany, 2024 Paralympic Games Rowing Regatta, Paris, France



> Jan Helmich and Hermine Krumbein



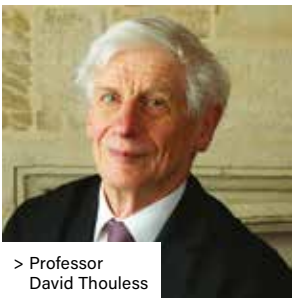
Top image: © World Rowing / Benedict Tufnell  
Bottom images: © World Rowing / Detlav Seyb



FELLOWS

## Nobel Prize donation

In 2016, alumnus and Honorary Fellow Professor David Thouless won the Nobel Prize in Physics “for theoretical discoveries of topological phase transitions and topological phases of matter.” In 2024, his widow Margaret and members of his family honoured the College by donating his Nobel Prize medal and diploma to Trinity Hall to inspire future generations. We are grateful to Professor Thouless' family for their generous donation.



> Professor David Thouless



> Nobel Prize medal



COMMUNITY

## Sustainability Impact Award

Trinity Hall has been awarded a Gold Green Impact Award, the highest accolade available from the University of Cambridge, for its commitment to sustainability. Spearheaded by our JCR and MCR Green & Ethics Officers, the award recognises the hard work of our entire community.

> Zoya Yousef (left), May Brown (centre), Lindsey Barnes (right)



> Professor James Montgomery

FELLOWS

## British Academy Fellowship

Professor James Montgomery has been elected to join more than 1,700 distinguished academics in the humanities and social sciences as a British Academy Fellow. Professor Montgomery is Sir Thomas Adams's Professor of Arabic and has been a Fellow at Trinity Hall for 27 years.



> Professor John Clarkson

AWARDS

## King's Birthday Honours

Engineering Fellow and alumnus Professor John Clarkson and alumnus Steven Gould (History, 1973) have been recognised in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours list. Professor Clarkson received a CBE for services to engineering and design, and Steven Gould was awarded an MBE for services to consumers.

AWARDS

# WongAvery legacy and award

A new portrait of the WongAvery family has been placed in the Robin Hayes Room in honour of the late Dennis Avery and in recognition of the generosity and continued support of the WongAvery family.

The portrait, painted by renowned artist Alastair Adams, overlooks the building that the family helped to create. The WongAvery Music Gallery continues to garner recognition both inside and outside of Trinity Hall, and was recently awarded a national award by the Royal Institute of British Architects for its exceptional design.



© Phil Myrrot

> Natasha Wong and Sally WongAvery at the portrait unveiling



> You'll Fit In residential attendees

COMMUNITY

## You'll Fit In residential

Over the course of three days at the beginning of September, Trinity Hall hosted its latest residential as part of the You'll Fit In programme. The talented young people who attended enjoyed a full programme of talks, tours, workshops, dinners and socialising designed for them to experience life as a Cambridge student and find out more about what it's like to study here.

You'll Fit In is a free programme for students in Year 12 with African, Caribbean, Pakistani, and/or Bangladeshi heritage. It aims to reassure potential applicants from these cultural backgrounds that, if they were to apply and obtain an offer, they would not feel out of place at Cambridge.

IN MEMORIAM

# Professor Alexander (Sandy) Goehr

10 August 1932 – 25 August 2024

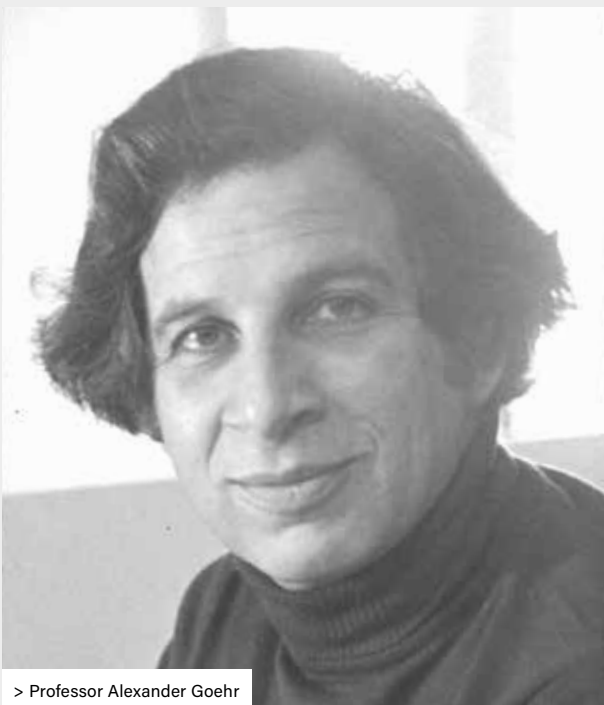
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by Professor Tom Körner | Emeritus Fellow

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When, in 1975, the fellowship learned that we would be joined by the new professor of music, Alexander Goehr, the effect was rather that of a herd of cows learning that they would be joined by a unicorn. Our respect was increased when we heard that, for tax purposes, his professorial income was treated as secondary to his income from composing.

Fortunately, he suited the College and the College suited him. Many of us discovered that listening to his music was not a duty (after all, Fellows must support other Fellows) but a pleasure. I remember in particular a special



> Professor Alexander Goehr

Cambridge performance of his opera *Arianna*. I also remember the discussion about replacing our old Chapel organ when he remarked that he had never heard a more perfect circus instrument, and the time when he asked one of our medical fellows if they would wish to be operated on by amateurs.

Of course, the centre of his life was his music, including five operas and a wealth of orchestral music including concertos for players like Peter Serkin, Jacqueline du Pré and Daniel Barenboim. However, he also wrote (in *Finding The Key*) fascinating essays including descriptions of his musical education in Manchester (with fellow students Harrison Birtwhistle, Peter Maxwell Davies and John Ogdon) and then in Paris under Messiaen. His first essay, entitled *A Letter to Pierre Bolulez*, tells how, after learning from the great, he moved out of their shadow and found his own voice. Particularly, he explains how the difficulties an experienced choir had with one of his early works taught him that “compositional imagination and technique have to be modified by social considerations. If one wishes, one can just say that music has to be autonomous and self-sufficient: but how to sustain such a view when people who sing for pleasure are deprived of true satisfaction in the performance of a new work”.

The College is proud to have formed a small part of his life. 🍂



© David Valinsky



# Diary dates

## Reunions and Anniversaries 2025

29 March

MA Ceremony and reunion  
(2018 undergraduates)

5 April

Dinner for 1996 (undergraduates)

12 April

10th Anniversary dinner (2015)

12 July

50th Anniversary (1975)

19 July

Reunion (up to 1963)

6 September

Reunion (1967, 1968 & 1969)

13 September

25th Anniversary dinner (2000)

25 September

60th Anniversary lunch (1965)



TRINITY  
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