

MAY 2015 | ISSUE 41



# MAGDALENE MATTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE





# MAGDALENE MATTERS

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The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of Magdalene College Cambridge.

Photo on the front cover 'Fuchsias outside of E Staircase in First Court' courtesy of Steve Bond.



**Telethon callers on a break.**

## COMMENT from the Development Director

Dear Member,

We held our annual telethon, a real triumph for the student callers, last term, organised a good number of events and continued our work of connecting our Members with the College and one another in a myriad of ways.

Huge thanks to all among you, who took the time to chat with our student callers in late March, shared memories about Magdalene in your day and thoughts about the College today. Many of you chose to give to the College – we raised a magnificent £228,000 during a fortnight of calling. Two-thirds of Members called decided to support their alma mater by making a single gift or signed up for a regular donation over three years. We are, as always, deeply grateful for your wonderful generosity, thank you.

Recent events include the second annual College Choir carol concert in London before Christmas, an occasion so well attended we are thinking of a larger venue still for the next one on 7 December this year. The dinner in the House of Lords hosted by the Master was very well received and the annual Investec Lecture for Business at Magdalene in February was delivered with great aplomb by Kaspar Holten, Director of Opera at the Royal Opera house. Our thanks to Dr Allègre Hadida, Fellow, University Senior Lecturer in Strategy and Director of the MPhil in Management Programme at the Judge Business School, who continues to entice the most interesting and illustrious leaders in business to Magdalene.

We celebrated the refurbishment of the furniture in Hall by holding a 'Name your Chair' dinner and Members came from all over the world to sit on 'their' chair for the evening including three generations from one Magdalene family. Parties for Magdalene Members and their guests overseas were held in Hong Kong, San Francisco and Seattle and we are greatly indebted to Henry Pang (1986); Alex Schultz (2000) and Marshal McReal (1992) for their help and generosity in hosting these events. The newly created biennial Magdalene Members' Dinner (held in succession to the Magdalene Association Dinner) took place during the Easter holidays and was so popular we overflowed to the Senior Combination Room. Magdalene men and women continue to vote with their feet by attending our events, large or small, formal or informal – thank you!

**CORINNE LLOYD (2010), EDITOR**  
**DIRECTOR.DEVELOPMENT@MAGD.CAM.AC.UK**



# NEWS FROM THE HISTORIC LIBRARIES

BY DR JANE HUGHES (1987)

In the Pepys Library and the Old Library, we are most fortunate in having an outstanding collection of books, papers, prints and documents; the conservation of the material is a top priority.

Last year a programme was launched to employ an intern on an annual basis – a recent graduate from one of the country's top Art on Paper MA courses – to help us to preserve some of the more fragile items. After a highly successful summer conservation project in 2014, we are about to advertise for this year's intern.

The Summer Project for 2015 is the conservation of the Ferrar prints. These are housed in the Magdalene College Old Library in First Court.

The Ferrar Prints constitute a truly remarkable collection of about 550 early 17th century prints which are interesting in all sorts of ways: both because of the contents which are highly varied and show the work of numerous fine artists of the period; and also because of the unique problems they present to the conservator. Some were damaged at some time in the past in accidental ways with rips and tears; some require just light cleaning to bring out the beauty and detail of the engraving; and some were used by the Ferrar children in 1641 to cut out shapes and architectural features for a 'Harmony of the Gospels', a sort of scrapbook of biblical material. Examples of the prints used by the children were recently on loan from the College to the *Art Under Attack* exhibition in the Tate. The Ferrar family lived at Little Gidding, and were closely involved with the Virginia Company. The family papers including the prints came to Magdalene via a bequest from Martha Peckard (née Ferrar), the widow of one of Magdalene's foremost Masters, when she died in 1805.

Our project, then, is to stabilise the prints, clean them of any potentially harmful matter, place each in a Melinex (conservation-grade) sleeve of the appropriate size, label them and then put them in conservation boxes. The first half of the prints were conserved by Puneeta Sharma, Intern



Puneeta Sharma, Intern Summer 2014.

Summer 2014, who as a result of the experience gained with us has gone on to a permanent post at a major library in Ireland. We now intend to complete the project over the summer 2015 with a view to an exhibition of the finished work (in conjunction with an international conference on the Ferrars in Magdalene in 2016).

The internship programme is an exciting initiative that benefits both the libraries and the intern. The intern is paid for their work on the collection, but the greatest benefit is in the opportunity to work on a superb collection of materials, as well as having an individual schedule of visits to other institutions and meetings with experts organised by Magdalene in order to introduce the young conservator to both the educational and commercial worlds of conservation. The future of the scheme is assured for this year and it is hoped that a benefactor will be found to support the programme over the next five years so that conservation work can be planned ahead. For more details of the Magdalene print collection, or of the summer conservation programme, or if you might consider sponsoring an intern at the College, please email the Pepys Librarian Dr Jane Hughes on [mej44@cam.ac.uk](mailto:mej44@cam.ac.uk).



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# ZERO HOURS CONTRACTS: FROM RESEARCH, THROUGH REFORMULATION TO POLICY

BY DR BRENDAN BURCHELL (1990)

I came to Cambridge in 1985 to join a large research project consisting of economists, sociologists and social psychologists studying the labour market at the height of the 'Thatcher recession'. I was fortunate to be offered a permanent lecturing post in Social and Political Sciences (SPS) in 1990, which coincided with an offer of a Fellowship from Magdalene College.



**Dr Brendan Burchell.**

My thirty years in Cambridge have given me a luxurious freedom to explore a wide range of teaching and research interests, but the recurring theme in my career has been an interest in the working lives of others, and more specifically the effects of job insecurity on employees, their health and their families.

The recent interest in zero hours contracts has caused a political storm, and it gives an example of ways in which academics can bring evidence and analytical skills to public debates.

There is nothing new about zero hours contracts; I remember interviewing employees in the Hotel

and Catering sector subject to this form of employment in 1987. Interest in this type of employment contract waned with the recovery from that recession, but is now back high on the political agenda.

One of the real privileges of being an academic in Cambridge is the opportunity to involve intelligent and highly motivated students in my research. I was particularly fortunate three years ago when a recent graduate in sociology from the University of Aston, Alex Wood, came to work under my supervision on job insecurity. He soon identified zero hours contracts as a form of employment insecurity, as a typical zero hours contracts employee is anxious each week as to whether they will be allocated any hours of work and therefore earn any money in the next week.

Going above and beyond the call of duty of a PhD student, Alex gained employment in a London supermarket stacking shelves. It wasn't quite a zero hours contract – his type of work was guaranteed a minimum of eight and

a half hours per week, but obviously most workers had to find more hours than this through ‘overtime’ to earn a living wage. Working in that environment gave Alex an unprecedented insight into the ways in which people’s lives were affected by this form of employment insecurity, and the constant worry that a word out of place might antagonise management who would retaliate by withdrawing extra hours from them or require them to work on the most inconvenient shifts.

There were claims from other research groups that the majority of those on zero hours contracts found them to be perfectly acceptable, and found the flexibility to be unproblematic, or even enjoyed the variety and unpredictability. Some highly-paid freelance workers pointed out that they were on zero hours contracts. Indeed Alex found there were individuals working for the supermarket who seemed untroubled by this form of work, but they were a small minority.

Extreme disruption that extended beyond the workplace and into family life was far more common. The worst affected seemed to be those with young children. Nursery schools were completely unsuitable for providing the 24/7 unpredictable cover, so people had complex networks of friends and relations (particularly grandparents) whose lives were, in turn, compromised by having to be available at different times each week to provide child-minding cover. The weekly cycle of anxiety and tears before next weeks’ hours were announced, and the relief when cover was found, wore people down. All planning becomes difficult when one does not know what ones’ hours of work will be next week; family get-togethers, community events, team sports, voluntary or parish work and evening classes all become impossible to manage.

I have studied many other forms of labour market disadvantage over my career, from unemployment and bankruptcies to chronic work pressure and long hours, but the quality of life of these supermarket employees was as bad or worse than anything I had come across before in the UK or Europe. But, the problem with this style of in-depth research was that we had little idea of how widespread these problems were.

Fortunately I have been using the 2010 European Working Conditions Survey recently, with coverage of tens of thousands of cases across the whole of Europe. Whilst it was not possible to identify employees on zero hours contracts, we could identify all of the phenomena that were associated with zero hours contracts such as shift patterns and hours changing at short notice, and that flexibility being imposed by employers rather than chosen by employees. But what I was short of was time to analyse this data (being head of department at the time in addition to my teaching and directing studies duties). Fortunately, one of the Magdalene second year undergraduates I had been supervising on the statistics paper for social scientists, Sarah Ebsworth, came to me looking for a topic for her second year research project. Within minutes I managed to convince Sarah that she could analyse the large dataset to look at the effects of irregular and unpredictable hours of work on the health and wellbeing of workers across the EU. She rose to the challenge and produced a brilliant report; exactly the same phenomena that Alex had noted in one supermarket in the UK was born out exactly in the big dataset.

With the debates on zero hours contracts raging around us, we clearly had an important contribution to make. In the past University dons have been criticised for staying in their ivory towers. For the past few years, Cambridge (through the Centre for

Science and Policy (CSaP)) provides regular traffic between Whitehall and Cambridge, so I meet a stream of civil servants, policy professionals and business leaders who come to Cambridge for a week to engage with the University’s researchers. This led to meetings in BIS (the government department for Business, Innovation and Skills) and with political parties. Through these meetings, the policy implications of our research came into sharper focus. The problem wasn’t just with zero hours contracts, but with a wider phenomenon Alex termed ‘Employer Driven Flexible Scheduling (EDFS)’. Zero hours contracts are notoriously difficult to define or count accurately, but by re-defining the problem, the solutions became clearer. While some businesses have such unpredictable markets that this is the only practical way to employ staff, our research showed that there were far more employees subject to this damaging type of contract than could be justified by a business case. And front-line managers, who controlled the working hours of staff, had little understanding of the havoc they were creating in the lives of their subordinates. The next challenge will be to find ways to discourage employers from using EDFs except where necessary, and finding ways for employees or unions to challenge employers to improve the schedules where extreme flexibility or unsocial hours of work are unnecessary.

I found out recently that Alex Wood and I have been successful in a bid to the University for ‘Impact Acceleration’ funds to disseminate our findings to interested parties such as Human Resource managers and trade union leaders with a view to sharing best practice. We will be holding workshops later this year in Cambridge and London, and we are hoping for further research funding to investigate longer term trends in EDFs across Europe over the period 2005–15.

# HEART OF THE (FLAGELLUM) BEAT

BY DR KIRSTY WAN (2014)

In the eye of the Sceptical Physicist, stochastic oscillators are found everywhere: in the periodic stroking of an oar, the rhythmicity of the human heartbeat, or even the beating flagellum of a swimming microorganism... Their noisy oscillations, and mutual interactions, turn out to be key physiological signatures of viability and health.

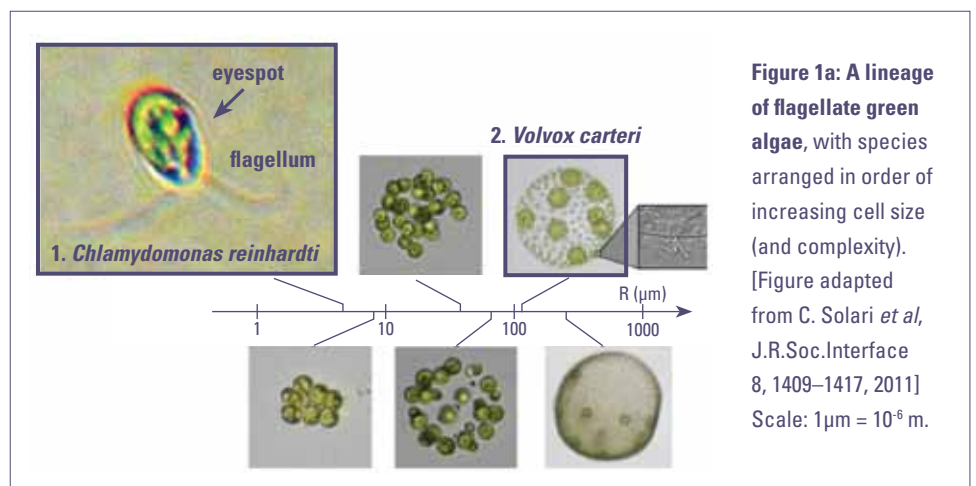
On a customarily mild spring day, you lean against one of the numerous bridges straddling the river Cam, and observe the passing of a coxed eight. It is a familiar spectacle, in which the flustered cox attempts to coax his team into stroking in unison. You identify one of the rowers, perhaps by the distinctiveness of his gear – a peculiarly fetching shade of pink, who is puffing his cheeks and taking in large gulps of air. Lining his respiratory system at this very moment, arrays of epithelial cilia work tirelessly to sweep away unwanted dirt, mucus, and irritants from his lungs. Just like a team of rowers, these tiny hair-like organelles must coordinate their rhythmic beating motion to drive physiological fluid flows, except...here there is no cox!

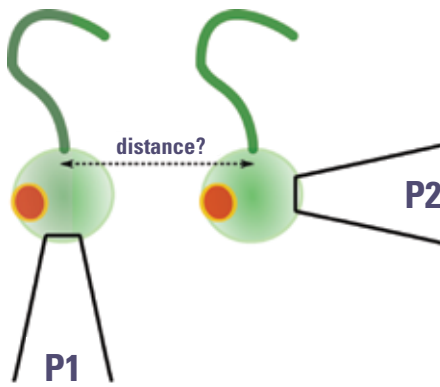
Together with that unsuspecting swan, various species of pond scum and algae are also pushed aside as the rower's blades part the water. These microorganisms can be brought into vivid focus under the scrutiny of a microscope, and found swimming, rolling, and 'cavorting in all directions' [van Leeuwenhoek; letters to the Royal

Society, 1674]. Many of these cells have surface-attached flagella that are structurally very similar to lung cilia, but which serve as microscale analogues of limbs.

To date, thanks to advanced imaging and microscopy, much is known about the structural organisation of these cilia and flagella, yet their *in vivo* behaviour and coordination remains unclear. Defects in cilia and flagella have severe consequences for primitive algae and humans alike. Ciliary function can be impaired either directly due to structural mutation –

for instance in patients suffering from PCD (primary ciliary dyskinesia), or indirectly due to build-up of extra-sticky mucus – as in cystic fibrosis. It is a remarkable feat of evolution (and testament to the success of this organelle) that mutations pertaining to mammalian cilia also affect proteins with close homologs in the flagella of green algae, most notably the model organism *C. reinhardtii* (Figure 1a). For the purposes of laboratory research we hope to gain invaluable insight by studying these ancestral flagellates, rather than their more advanced human counterparts.





**Figure 1b:** By varying the distances of separation between pairs of somatic cells held on micropipettes (P1,2), we can study the role of hydrodynamics in coupling the beating of nearby flagella. [Brumley, Wan, Polin, & Goldstein, *eLife*, **3**, e02750 (2014)]

The aptly named *Volvox* – latin for ‘fierce roller’ – is a spherical alga (Figure 1a) which swims using thousands of flagella (think of a hairy ball). Its relatively large size renders this spectacular rolling motion visible to the naked eye. Two cell types are present in adult colonies: large germ cells in the interior, and adorning the surface are small, flagella-bearing somatic cells. Just like the arrays of cilia found in your lungs, these flagella produce waves of propulsion akin to metachronal waves in a stadium.

Herein lies the intrigue: how do you row your flagellum in sync with your neighbour? For decades, researchers have speculated that fluid dynamics lies at the heart of the phenomenon of ‘coxless rowing’ by cilia and flagella, and likewise the tendency for nearby spermatozoa to aggregate and swim off together. Indeed, that a beating flagellum might set up a local disturbance in the fluid which would in turn perturb the beating of a nearby flagellum seems like a tangible explanation. Furthermore, this effect would surely decay with increasing distance of separation between the two flagella. While we may be able to test this hypothesis using theoretical modelling or computer simulations, is there some way of controlling interflagellar spacing in a real-life experiment?

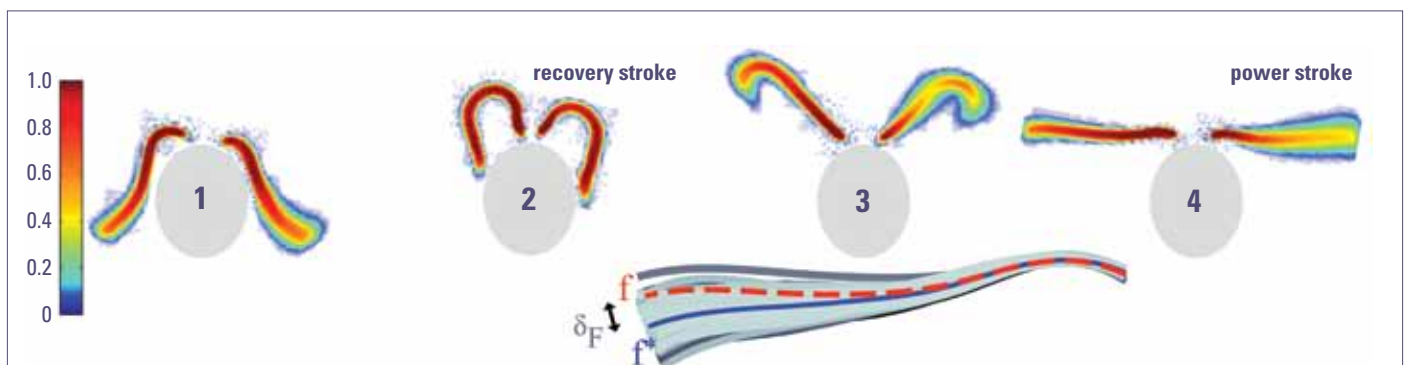
In the lab of Professor Ray Goldstein over at DAMTP (Centre for Mathematical Sciences), we have developed a framework for manipulating single micron-sized cells on micropipettes (hollow glass rods) so they can be readily visualised under the microscope. To obtain flagella-bearing cells, we mechanically sheared spheroids of *Volvox* to release the somatic cells, and captured these on separate micropipettes

(Figure 1b). The relative distance between pairs of flagella can now be precisely controlled. Each flagellum operates like a metronome with its own intrinsic (or special) beat frequency which varies from one cell to another, analogous to the spread in the distribution of heights across the human population.

*Each flagellum operates like a metronome with its own intrinsic (or special) beat frequency which varies from one cell to another, analogous to the spread in the distribution of heights across the human population.*

For very small spacings, these pairs of tiny oars could overcome their difference in frequency and beat in unison – or synchrony, exactly as we had predicted; for larger spacings however, this synchrony is rapidly degraded, as the hydrodynamic

*... continued*



**Figure 2:** How *Chlamydomonas* choreographs its artful breaststroke: comparing the noisy waveforms produced by the flagella during different phases of its beat cycle. [Figure adapted from Wan & Goldstein, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **113**, 238103 (2014)]



coupling between them becomes far too weak. In quantitative terms, the phase difference – a measure of the difference between oscillators – grows over time without bound once the flagella are moved too far apart. Since the native spacings between flagella in *Volvox* are rarely more than one flagellum length, we must conclude that flagellar coordination in this alga can indeed arise spontaneously from hydrodynamic interactions alone!

Just how susceptible are flagella to deformations, by the action of the fluid or otherwise? To address this question let us take a closer look at *Chlamydomonas* (Figure 1a), which swims a characteristic breaststroke (Figure 2). Immobilising single cells on micropipettes, we can digitally track the locations of their flagella over tens of thousands of flagellar beats... When observed at equivalent phases of its nominally periodic beat cycle, each flagellum traces out curves which do not precisely overlap, even in the absence of obvious

perturbations. Instead, the dynamics are inherently noisy, so there is some spread about an average shape. The degree of spread can then be assigned a numerical value by defining a notion of distance between curves, giving rise to a practical measure of flagellar waveform noise.

So why do fluctuations in flagellar beating persist in the absence of obvious perturbations? Harken back to the field of cardiology, where we find a well-known but nonetheless surprising result: the heartbeat of a healthy human individual at rest is far from perfectly rhythmic but instead displays rich, correlated dynamics, including sustained periods where beating occurs at above (or below) the average frequency. These behavioural signatures are very different in patients suffering from heart disease, or in subjects experiencing heavy physical stress.

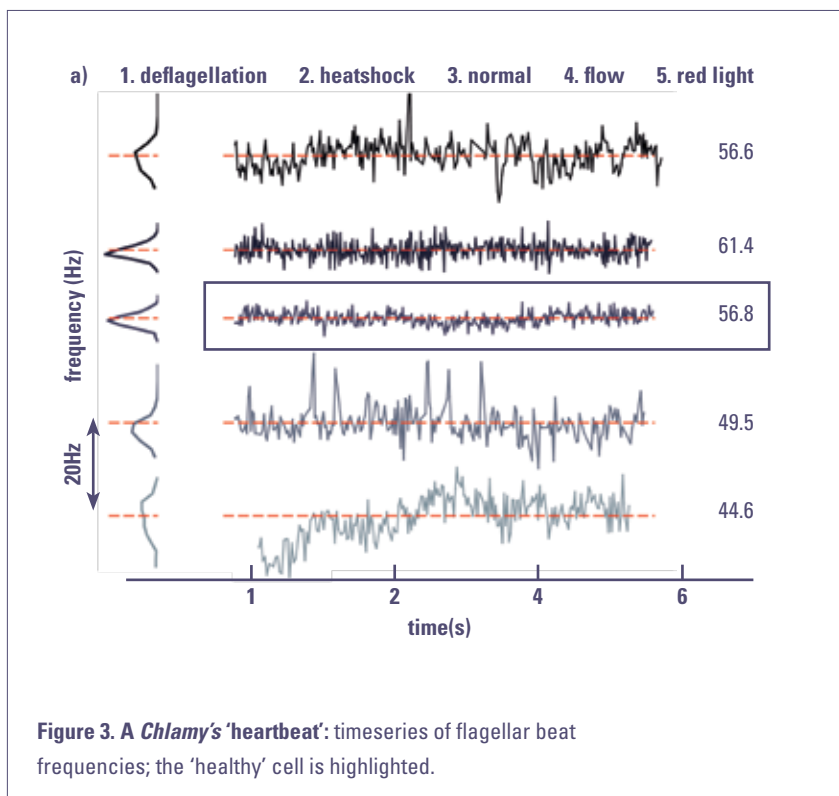
The flagellum, as it turns out, is remarkably similar! We measure

correlations in beating frequency lasting hundreds or even thousands of consecutive beats in healthy cells under normal conditions; yet when conditions become unfavourable or when cells are physiologically stressed, these slow frequency modulations are replaced by erratic, large amplitude fluctuations (Figure 3).

In greater detail than ever before, we can now resolve the spatial and temporal dynamics down to the sensitivity of a single cilium or flagellum; such methodological advances are crucial for deciphering the basis of signalling and control in this highly complex biomolecular machine, and will continue to inspire the next phase of our research.

For instance, we can pose the following inverse problem: given an observed flagellum shape can we derive the distribution of forces and bending moments that must be at work to produce it, and how must these be altered when the flagellum is perturbed – either mechanically, or as a consequence of mutagenesis? Or, from an evolutionary perspective, how many microswimmers come to possess not one but several flagella? Moreover, what additional strategies must be in play in situations where hydrodynamic interactions between these flagella may hinder rather than facilitate coordination?

Ultimately, translational applications of this work are anticipated. In establishing the consequences of ciliary dysfunction and mutation for human health and disease, the prevailing trend is undoubtedly for a more quantitative approach to be adopted, in order to maximise gain of useful information from the available biological data. Any such endeavour must be by its very nature interdisciplinary, and would have to incorporate experimentation, data acquisition and analysis, as well as mathematical modelling.



**Figure 3. A *Chlamy*'s 'heartbeat':** timeseries of flagellar beat frequencies; the 'healthy' cell is highlighted.



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# MEMBERS' NEWS

## FROM MAGDALENE TO MAKING VIOLINS

BY DAVID R. OUVRY (1953)

Following my three years at Magdalene reading English and Archaeology and Anthropology, I taught in secondary schools and colleges both in England, and for ten years abroad in Kenya and at the United Nations International School in New York.

In my mid-forties I decided on a career change, making my woodworking hobby my main focus, and so after a few years making commissioned furniture I moved over to making stringed instruments. This enabled me to put together my early passion for the violin and my newly acquired woodworking skills. Cambridge again came into the picture, since I received much helpful advice from my luthier friend David Rubio, and benefitted from the excellent courses in Juliet Barker's workshop.

Violin making is about as traditional and unchanging a craft as one can find. Developed in Italy during the 16th century, the pioneering member of the Amati family, Andrea Amati, finalised the familiar shape which is still made today. He and his descendants, together with the even more famous Antonio Stradivari and Guarneri family, have provided the models for most luthiers to copy, the sound never having been bettered.



I have been fortunate enough to have copied these masters, both from the actual original instruments and from the superb photographs and measurements supplied by Strad magazine. Tonewood dealers in Germany have provided the necessary wood, culled from slow-growing sycamore (maple) and spruce found in the mountains of central Europe, notably Bosnia. I use the basic materials of early Italian varnish, applying a previously heated mixture of linseed oil and turpentine, adding colour from various lighter or darker dyes.

I have had some success with selling my instruments (now 58 violins, 14 violas, and 2 cellos), but as I approach the end of my making career, I have a small stock which I have decided I would like to dispose of before retiring so they can be used by young talent who do not have the means to afford the expense. The music colleges and specialist schools such as Chethams and Wells Cathedral School therefore seemed suitable places where they should go.

Reading in a recent issue of *Magdalene Matters* about the philanthropic work undertaken by Philip Carne (1958), I was inspired to contact him to seek his help in making this possible. Philip very kindly, on behalf of the Richard Carne Trust, (already of very great benefit to Magdalene), agreed to give me some financial help so that I was able to present two violins and a viola to the Royal College of Music, a college close to my heart since I studied there for a year before going up to Magdalene.

### *Magdalene alumnus Robert Hirschfield's (1998) architecture studio has been named RIBA London Architecture Practice of the Month*

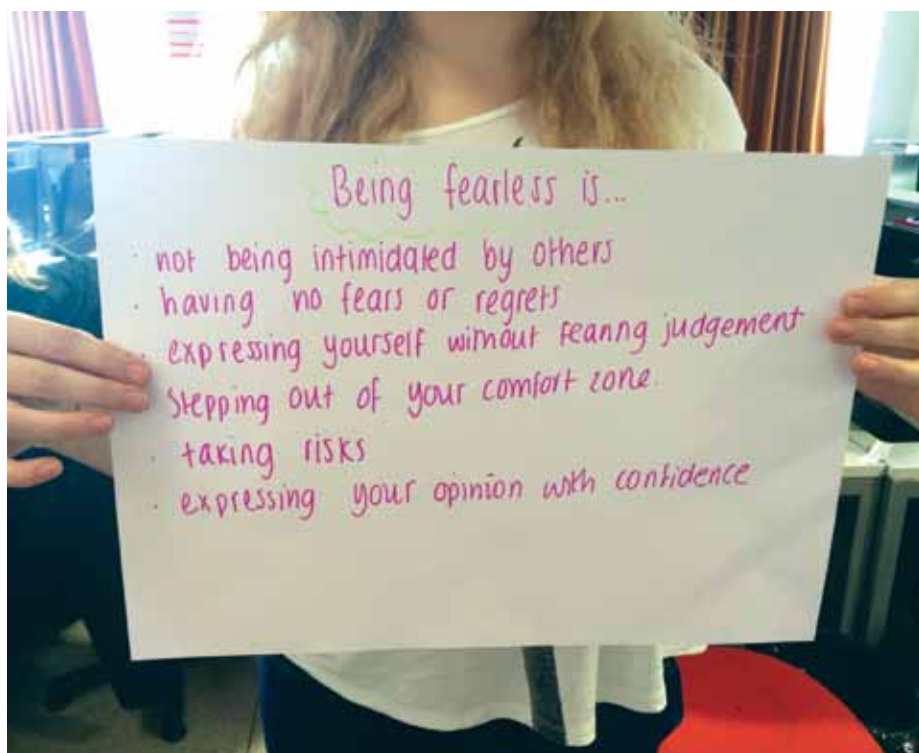
Robert commented that his team of six which he is hoping to expand draws as a way of thinking, designs as a way of talking and builds as a means of expression. He believes that his practice is different from others in that the diversity of his project base enables his team to cross reference themes and assimilate a broad range of ideas into their designs. He describes a private art gallery in Mayfair with a forward

thinking client who has terrific vision enabling him to push design boundaries as his most exciting upcoming project. His dream commission is a cultural complex centre with an urban context. He believes that London is a very exciting place for architects today because of its energy, culture, order, disorder, history and contemporary dynamic, all shaped by the accidents that make cities evolve.

# STILL WORKING TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY ...

BY HANNA MCCLOSKEY (2003)

Did you know that over the last three years in movies across the top ten most profitable territories internationally, there were only 3 female characters in positions of political power? Of those, one was a mute, another was an elephant, and the third was Margaret Thatcher. Only 7% of engineers in the UK are women.



Fearless Futures in action.

Women still do 70% of the house work even when they work full time. We still haven't achieved equal pay. Only 23% of MPs are women. Think manager, and we tend to think male. Since 2001 there have been, on average, 130,000 more young women not in education, employment or training per annum than young men. 'Be a man' still represents three of the most potent word combinations in our gender paradigm and underpins the way

we unconsciously think of how we should lead.

What will it take to transform this landscape so that we really do have gender equality? Intention.

To quote Gloria Feldt: "When we talk about giving women an equal chance, we're talking about the most profound power shift toward equal justice in the

history of humanity." Let us be very clear that this will not come about through the automatic passing of time, or by accident. It will take intention from each of us to shift our culture.

I had always considered myself a feminist. My mother was a women's rights student activist growing up in Algiers and she brought that focus on social justice into my consciousness growing up. But it wasn't until I began work for an investment bank at the height of the financial crisis that it all suddenly hit me. While I knew that financial services was male dominated, it wasn't until I arrived that I discovered that they were attempting to solve one of the most complex problems of our time with groups almost exclusively composed of men. Statistically, something about that didn't feel quite right. I had consciously seen gender inequality for the first time.

I began to question why financial services was this way. The usual answer: "it's just the way it is". But still I knew that couldn't be right. I began to do research in my own time: I became obsessed with uncovering the truth. And like a sociologist detective, I soon pieced the bits of the puzzle together to conclude that while financial services was



particularly bad, men were in fact endemic. There isn't an industry that isn't led by men. This absence of parity requires action from both a social justice and economic perspective.

Gender is something – a bit like good poetry or architecture – that you need to be taught to see. For example, a Gallup poll of single women in the 1960s found that (remember that this was a time when it was quite usual for employers to discriminate on the basis of a person's sex) only 19% believed that any discrimination was occurring! How could this be when today we know that it was so blatantly prejudicial? The answer: "it was just the way it was".

*If you do not have knowledge of something, you cannot seek to change it. And if you do not have the courage, even when you know there is injustice, you may not challenge it.*

That is why I founded Fearless Futures, and why we have one simple goal: gender equality. Practically, we run programmes with small groups of young women in schools, at universities and in their early careers in the workplace. We focus on gender in the world, discovering their courage and building their leadership skills. Uniquely, as part of our schools programme, the participants lead Fearless Futures workshops for younger girls in their school – peer power!

**Fearless Futures believes that knowledge + courage = action!**

In the words of one 16 year old participant, the peer workshop she led, "helped me to realise sharing my ideas and opinions with others is really important; it was great to inspire others".

Fearless Futures, in the words of another, is "about improving your confidence, being able to say what you think, learning about the extent

of inequality and knowing that you can change it. You learn that you are powerful, valuable and a leader."

Transforming the face of leadership and placing young women at the heart of its possibility is key to the programme. Once you can see injustice, no matter how small, and you believe in your right to be a part of the solution, you will do extraordinary things.

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*Only 7 months old, Fearless Futures is the only organisation in the UK working to change the face of leadership by meaningfully working with young women to raise awareness, activate courage and drive social change through peer power.*

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Examples of social change in action include one young woman taking on the examination board Edexcel after realising for the first time through the programme that there were no female composers in the Music A-level syllabus. Another school group is researching the under-take up of science by girls in their school and they will present their recommendations for change to the school's leadership team.

Only seven months old, Fearless Futures is the only organisation in the UK working to change the face of leadership by meaningfully working with young women to raise awareness, activate courage and drive social change through peer power. Our impact to date has been powerful and with a scalable model we genuinely believe we can change the game for young women across the UK.



### *About Hanna*

Hanna McCloskey matriculated at Magdalene in 2003 and read English. Since then she has worked and studied in the UK, Israel-Palestine, Syria, Italy, Sudan and the USA across finance, research and communications roles for the UN, NGOs and an investment bank. She also has a Masters in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Before founding Fearless Futures, Hanna worked for the Royal Bank of Scotland. Outside of her roles in derivative sales and as an infrastructure finance advisor, Hanna's passion to transform business for the better has seen her focus on gender diversity. In 2013, Hanna made the final ten of the Women in the City Future Leader award. She was also awarded the Deloitte Chartered Banker Institute's Young Banker of the Year Award for her innovation with respect to bringing about gender diversity in the work place.

Hanna is Vice-Chair of Governors at Viking Primary School, on the Board of Trustees of charity The Artemis Network and a Fellow of the RSA.

*If you are interested in hearing more about the programmes, have skills to offer or ideas to share then please get in touch with Hanna at: [hanna@fearlessfutures.org](mailto:hanna@fearlessfutures.org)*

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# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF ARCHAEOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY AT CAMBRIDGE – IN MAGDALENE

BY DR SIMON STODDART (1977)

451 delegates from around the world attended the Centenary celebration of the establishment of the Archaeology and Anthropology degree at the University of Cambridge, and the Cripps complex of Magdalene was chosen as the principal location.



**Centenary celebration Dinner in Hall.**

The day spent in Magdalene (28th February) was, in fact the largest occasion ever held in the new complex, or who have dined simultaneously by candlelight in College, bringing more people together than ever, even more than on the day that Seamus Heaney memorably spoke in the same auditorium.

Seamus Heaney's theme of that earlier day, Bog Bodies, had a redolent linkage to Arch and Anth, as Simon Stoddart pointed out in his welcome; the bodies of Biological Anthropology, the strangeness of Social Anthropology and the excavation metaphor of Archaeology.

Archaeology has been a long-term focus of Magdalene's contribution to Arch and Anth, underwriting its top examination performance over the last ten years, but also contributing major figures such as Sir Cyril Fox (1882–1967), Eric Higgs (1908–1976) and Lawrence Barfield (1935–2009) for landscape archaeology, ancient animal husbandry and Italian archaeology respectively over the full hundred years. The Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, an institution which represents all three disciplines, was well represented by Magdalene on the previous evening when

Max Hebditch, formerly of the Museum of London, and Malcolm McLeod, formerly of the British Museum and Glasgow Museum, spoke for the College and the disciplines of Archaeology and Social Anthropology respectively. Malcolm McCleod also made the important connection to Africa which again features strongly in the Magdalene tradition of Arch and Anth, including William Fagg from the field of Social Anthropology in the 1950s and 1960s, Keith Ray from the field of archaeology in 1980s, and currently Tim Clutton Brock, originating from the field of Biological Anthropology, now working on social behaviour of meerkats.

This African tradition links three subjects in the study of the foundations of global humanity clearly rooted in the African continent. The Master, Rowan Williams, focused on this key element of the Arch and Anth degree in his speech at the dinner in hall.

He linked the degree to the figure of Nelson Mandela and the campaign to raise money for African students and for a professorship in African Archaeology, celebrating the single origin of humanity.



**Max Hebditch.**



**Malcolm McLeod.**



The Master went on to relate how a relatively small subject had had a disproportionately large influence on related fields: “In a world where it is easy to polarize between humanities and sciences, which can sometimes cripple intellectual adventurousness, here is a field of study which has managed to weave them together with colossal creativity.”



Excavation Landrover in front of Europe's oldest architecture.

Members of the College who wish to see this interdisciplinary subject in action are invited to join the University of Cambridge alumni field visit to Malta, in one of the closest corners of Europe to Africa, led by the Archaeology fellow in College, Dr Simon Stoddart.

[www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/travel/malta-and-gozo](http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/travel/malta-and-gozo)

## *The Mandela Magdalene Foundation at Cambridge*

The College is at the forefront of a campaign which has been launched to re-endow the Mandela Magdalene Scholarships and to raise funds to provide a Mandela Professorship in African Archaeology at the University of Cambridge. The Centenary celebrations of the establishment of the Archaeology and Anthropology degree at Cambridge outlined opposite offered an opportunity to highlight Magdalene's desire to honour Dr Mandela, who visited the College 13 years ago to accept an Honorary Fellowship bestowed on him in 2000.

The Master said: “I know Nelson Mandela was deeply committed to the establishment of this Professorship in his own time and he gave his blessing to early discussions about it. As we look to the future we have many reasons for thinking that this is a natural, proper and worthy memorial for the University and Magdalene College.”

The University has extensive collections of African archaeology and anthropology.

Dr Simon Stoddart (1977), Fellow of Magdalene and Deputy Head of the McDonald Institute in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, said: “In the last 100 years so much which is profoundly creative and innovative in this field came from this relatively small group in Cambridge.

“Today enormous investment in modern infrastructure and cutting edge research facilities is spearheading the continuing success of the Department as a world-leading force.”



Photograph by Howard Guest

Dr Rowan Williams with Dr Nelson Mandela's portrait in College.

The College and the University are working together closely and the goal of the campaign is to raise £5,000,000 for the establishment of the Mandela Memorial Chair in African Archaeology, the endowment of a professorial Fellowship at Magdalene, the re-endowment of the Mandela Magdalene Scholarships which celebrate their 20th anniversary in Michaelmas 2015 and the provision of funds for research students associated with the future Professor of African Archaeology.

Please contact the Development Director [development.director@magd.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development.director@magd.cam.ac.uk) if you are interested in contributing to this cause.

# COLLEGE NEWS

## NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE CHOIR

Trip to Canterbury Cathedral: 13th–17th of April



The experience of a full Cathedral residency proved to be something quite special for the singers in the Magdalene College Choir. Normally our Cathedral trips take place on a busy Saturday in mid-term, and allow only barely enough time to rehearse the music, learn how to process, and for the organist to get to know the cathedral instrument. With five days and five evensongs in our schedule in Canterbury, we were finally able to familiarise ourselves with the space, and use it to its full potential.

The Choir stayed in a boarding house in Kent College School. The accommodation was a delight. The rooms were luxuriously spacious and there was a communal kitchen and dining room. We used the neighbouring music department to rehearse, which ensured that we were well prepared for the short rehearsals in the stalls. The daily journey to the Cathedral was brief, so

the Choir found ample time to revise for their approaching exams, and even to relax.

The musical highlights included singing early music in the acoustically divine crypt of the Cathedral. Our five evensongs all went very well, and the difficult Josquin anthem we sang on the final day was a particular success. The organists were highly praised – one member of the congregation noted that Polina Sosnina's rendition of the Boëllman toccata was the best he had ever heard in Canterbury Cathedral.

We found we were welcomed with open arms: we were immediately invited for a quick tour of the Cathedral, and for drinks at the Precentor's house after evensong. The suggestions that we should return were both flattering, and numerous.

We are all very grateful to those who made this trip possible. The organ

scholars and the Precentor put a lot of hard work into preparing the music and into liaising with the Cathedral. We are all particularly grateful for the subsidy from College, which lifted the financial burden on the students. We all hope to recreate trips like this one in future, as they are such a benefit to the Choir.

*"I had the great good fortune to be in Canterbury on business this week and, as I was working in the Lodge opposite the Cathedral, was able to attend evensong on Wednesday and Thursday. The Magdalene College Chapel Choir was – or were – simply marvellous, and the combination of bright sunlight, stained glass, warm old stone and fresh, beautifully modulated voice was both moving and memorable. Please pass on my sincere thanks to all members of the Choir."*

(Mr Collard, posted to the Choir website on Thursday 16th of April 2015)



# NEWS FROM THE MCR

BY RAPHAËL PROUST (2012), MCR PRESIDENT

After a full year managing the MCR with the help of Alice Corr and Dominic Dold, we organised elections and are about to yield power to the new committee.



**MCR Lunar Dinner.**

These elections, not quite 30 years after women were allowed in Magdalene, have brought the first (as far as our archives go) all women executive committee: Alice Corr, Tafara Makuni, and Franziska Fischer. The three of them will go on to assemble a full committee of volunteers.

The new team will organise events set in the MCR tradition and will surely innovate, bringing their own ideas to life. For years now, weeks during full term have ended with BA formal dinners, each term has concluded with MCR Banquets and the academic year reaches full circle at the annual garden party. These and a multitude of other events permanently engraved in the MCR calendar will keep the new team busy.

But the MCR is not only for socialising and more work is waiting for the new committee. Our common room (a room which is often viewed with awe by our visitors) needs to be looked after and organised on occasion and our recently

revamped MCR website needs to be populated with a bit more content. But most importantly, the graduate students coming to Magdalene from all over the world, our Members, whether staying in Cambridge for one year or four, need to be made to feel at home.

Colleges generally have a very limited academic function for graduate students but they have an inversely important hosting function. For most in the MCR, Magdalene is our home. With that in mind, since last year, the MCR Committee has shifted its focus and is attributing more resources to Welfare Officers, who are tasked with making everyone feel welcome. This shift is likely to intensify, and recent changes in the constitution should help the new committee to progress in that direction.

In the meantime, the MCR members will be able to glide up and down the Cam on the Bismarck, as fine a punt as ever. This would make anyone feel at home!

## *News from the JCR*

It's been a hectic first term for the new JCR Committee; it is hard to believe that we've only been in office for just 8 weeks. However, in that short space of time we've already set about accomplishing a number of beneficial changes to College. Following on from the previous Committee's good work, we consolidated many of the changes they had worked on, most notably the infamous installation of a television in the bar. We have also introduced several new initiatives. Meetings with Ramsay Hall staff has led to improved vegetarian meals and a new look breakfast. We have helped, with the MCR, to bring in the option to book extra guests at formal halls to enable students to easily bring family and friends to one of Magdalene's finest aspects. Angus Satow has been doing great work with College to find ways to standardise recycling as well as organising a very successful Green Formal. Connor Fowler has entirely updated the College's Alternative Prospectus, whilst James Riordan has been hard at work modernising the JCR website. Some of the biggest changes however are improvements to the Welfare provision at Magdalene by adopting the 'Peer2Peer' scheme which Lauren Brown proposed to the JCR to unanimous acclaim and which has since been approved by the Governing Body. We've overseen a room ballot, run our first referendum of the constitution (with all proposed changes passed), and organised a variety of ever-popular Bops. Themes have ranged from Safari to Caribbean Twist and have even included the introduction of student DJs. These are only a few of the schemes that an active and passionate committee has already implemented in just one term. We expect the next two terms will be equally successful!

*Harry Gower (2013)*  
**JCR President**

## Forthcoming Events

### 16 MAY 2015

MA Day. Invitations will be sent to Members who matriculated in 2008

### 6 JUNE 2015

Buckingham Society Luncheon for those who have included the College in their Will

### 28 JUNE 2015

Family Day for all Members and their families

### 8 JULY 2015

Magdalene Law Association & Magdalene in the City Summer party

### 3 SEPTEMBER 2015

Annual Hong Kong Dinner

### 7 SEPTEMBER 2015

Annual Singapore Dinner

### 27 SEPTEMBER 2015

Annual Donors' Day. Invitations will be sent to everyone who

made a gift to the College during the last financial year

### 30 OCTOBER 2015

Magdalene Dinner at the Oxford & Cambridge Club London

### 3 NOVEMBER 2015

Magdalene Dinner in Chicago

### 4 NOVEMBER 2015

Magdalene Dinner in Toronto

### 6 NOVEMBER 2015

Annual New York Dinner

### 7 NOVEMBER 2015

Magdalene Dinner in Boston

### 14 NOVEMBER 2015

Choir Association Dinner

### 7 DECEMBER 2015

Magdalene College Choir Carol Concert in London

Please note that other events may be added to this list. Always check our College website [www.magdalenecambridge.com](http://www.magdalenecambridge.com) on the 'Events' pages and read the updated listings in *Magdalene E-Matters*. Please email [alumni@magd.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@magd.cam.ac.uk) to register your interest in any of the above events.

## Reunions

### *Reunions in 2015*

#### FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2015

Dinner for those who matriculated in 1971–1973

#### FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2015

Dinner for those who matriculated in 1974–1976

### *Reunions in 2016*

#### FRIDAY 8 APRIL

Dinner for those who matriculated in 2005–2007

#### SATURDAY 7 MAY

Lunch for those who matriculated in 1958–1962

#### FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in 1977–1979

#### FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in 1980–1982

Invitations will be sent out 3 months in advance. Please note that the programme usually begins at 4.30pm with tea and coffee in the Senior Combination room. There will be an opportunity to visit the Pepys Library before dinner and to attend Evensong in Chapel. Pre-dinner drinks will be served in the Cripps Gallery at 7.15pm or Pepys' Cloisters, with dinner being served in Hall from 8pm.

Those who matriculated in 2009 will be invited to take their MA in person or in absentia in 2016.

## *Non-resident Members' Guest Nights 2015–2016*

23 May 2015	20 November 2015	23 April 2016
5 June 2015	23 January 2016	28 May 2016
17 October 2015	5 February 2016	10 June 2016
7 November 2015	5 March 2016	

These evenings are hosted by a group of Fellows and include pre-dinner drinks. They offer Members the opportunity of bringing one guest to dine at High Table. Please note that numbers of NRMs are limited to a maximum of ten at any one night. Please book via the Alumni & Development office.