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MAGDALENE MATTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE



MAGDALENE MATTERS

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Magdalene Matters is published by the Alumni & Development Office, twice yearly, in Michaelmas and Easter terms.

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

Photo on the front cover 'MA Graduands marching past River Court' courtesy of Emma Tunbridge-Hibbert.



Choir in La Madeleine, Paris.

COMMENT from the Development Director

Dear Member,

The long days of summer are past but memories linger of the wonderful May Ball – 1,250 guests, including dozens of alumni, enjoying the music, the entertainment and the food, one magical night after months of hard work. Graduation followed and you will know by now just how hard our students worked to propel the College to second place on the Tompkins Table, a wonderful achievement of which everyone here is justly proud. The Annual Donors' Garden Party was just a few short weeks ago and we enjoyed one of the last balmy days in Cambridge. Now the chill has set in, we look forward to the challenges of the new academic year, confident about the College's future but also wary of the ever changing landscape of Higher Education. Your response to our continued efforts to raise additional funds has been outstanding and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing interest in and your loyalty to the College. We can now claim membership of a select club of Cambridge Colleges who are financially supported by 20% or more of their alumni - testament to your wonderful generosity.

We are equally delighted that over 1,100 of you have attended one of our gatherings during the last 12 months and invite those of you who have not yet had the opportunity to join in to attend one of our many events, details of which are listed on the back page. We continually try to find new ways of meeting Members and of enabling those of you further afield to reconnect with the College. We will be holding our first Magdalene Dinner in Germany in late November, our biennial dinner in Edinburgh in March and our first luncheon in Paris next April to name but a few. Not all of you are able to come back to College so we endeavour to bring a little bit of Magdalene to you. Should you wish to have a more tangible reminder – please turn to page nine and submit a bid for the painting – we look forward to hearing from you!

CORINNE LLOYD (2010)

EDITOR

DIRECTOR.DEVELOPMENT@MAGD.CAM.AC.UK

FRIENDS OF THE PEPYS LIBRARY AND HISTORIC COLLECTIONS



Here at Magdalene we are launching a new scheme called the *Friends of the Pepys Library and Historic Collections*. As Members of the College know, the libraries of Magdalene represent a truly superb resource both for the College itself, its students and researchers, and also for scholars world-wide. This initiative will help us to offer a continuing and developing relationship between the libraries and long-standing supporters of our work.

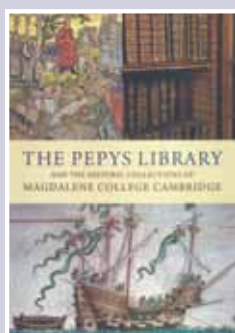
Members of the Friends scheme will be invited to a series of special events through the year, and will be kept up to date with developments in the libraries through a lively

and informative newsletter. An annual tea will give Friends the chance to talk in detail with Fellows, conservators and other specialists about the work of the libraries; and each year a unique event will be hosted in one of the libraries with a talk on an important aspect of the collections, followed by a reception. There will be opportunities to support the historic collections in highly focused ways – for example by sponsorship of particular projects through our back-a-book scheme. Friends will also have priority in booking places at our fundraising events, including our first Pepys Friends' Dinner and Entertainment which will take place next summer in the College Hall.

The Pepys Librarian (Dr Hughes) and the Membership Co-ordinator (Mrs Fitzsimons) would be pleased to hear from you (c/o Pepys Library, Magdalene College or via litfest@magd.cam.ac.uk) and would be delighted to provide an application form with further details should you be considering joining. The standard subscription is £45 p.a.

This year sees the quinquennial review of conservation needs in Samuel Pepys's iconic library, creating a programme of work for the next five years. Simple cleaning of a rare and precious book costs about £20–30, while conservation by an experienced conservator of a damaged or fragile item can cost between £450 and £2,000 depending on the work to be done. The support of our Friends will be invaluable.

The Pepys Library and The Historic Collections of Magdalene College Cambridge



Pepys's Library, as famous in his own day as it is now, was bequeathed by Samuel Pepys to Magdalene, the College he had attended in the 1650s. It finally arrived in 1724 to be housed in a handsome new building. A remarkable collection of some 3,000 items, the Library includes medieval manuscripts and early printed books by Caxton and Wynkyn de Worde;

a naval collection, reflecting Pepys's role as Secretary to the Admiralty; works by Pepys's contemporaries and members of the Royal Society, including Newton's *Principia Mathematica*; and an unrivalled array of ephemera – ballads, letters, playbills and invitations.

Alongside the Pepys Library, Magdalene has an impressive historic collection, housed in the beautiful Old Library rooms. Evolving from a series of major benefactions to the College across nearly 500 years, combined with the books routinely acquired for the use of students and scholars in the past, the Old Library contains medieval manuscripts, incunabula, prints and papers, as well as the ancient records of the College.

In this lavishly illustrated volume, Fellow in English and Pepys Librarian, M E J Hughes recounts the history and development of the collections and celebrates some of the highlights in extended descriptions and with specially commissioned photography. The book is now available to members of the College at an introductory price of £12.95 (RRP £14.95).

FELLOWS' NEWS

PROFESSOR EAMON DUFFY will receive an Honorary D. Litt. from Newman University, Birmingham, on 27 October 2015.

DR JANE HUGHES has published *The Pepys Library and the Historic Collections of Magdalene College Cambridge*, a sumptuously illustrated book of 88 pages.



Thomson Reuters say their list of highly cited researchers in science and mathematics

represents 'some of world's most influential scientific minds'. The 2015 list, published at highlycited.com, cites **PROFESSOR PAUL DUPREE** as one of the plant and animal scientists whose publications have been most influential in the scientific community worldwide in the last ten years.

DR CARL WATKINS has published *Stephen: The Reign of Anarchy* with Penguin's Monarch series.

In August, **PROFESSOR TONY COCKERILL** led a four-day course for the Economics Faculty sponsored by the Sutton Trust, for 30 selected Year 12 students from British state schools. The Sutton Trust encourages awareness of Higher Education benefits and opportunities among students in the state sector of secondary education, primarily (but not exclusively) those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

DR MARCUS WAITHE has been awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship to pursue research on his book, *The Work of Words: Literature and the Labour of Mind in Britain, 1830–1930*.

DR PHILIPPA STEELE is working on the proceedings volume of her

March conference on *Understanding Relations Between Scripts: The Aegean Writing Systems* (for which the College hosted a delightful conference dinner). The volume will be published with Oxbow next year.

PROFESSOR JAMES RAVEN'S (edited) new book *Lost Mansions: Essays on the Destruction of Country Houses* was published in early summer. In October he succeeded Lord Stockton as Chairman of the Lindemann Trust (awarding generous annual postdoctoral awards in the sciences for UK-US collaboration – applications for 2016–19 will open soon).

New Fellows

DR JOHN MUNNS has been appointed to an Official Fellowship and as Admissions Tutor for three years from 1 September 2015. John joined the College in 2014 as a Bye-Fellow.



REVEREND NICHOLAS WIDDOWS joins Magdalene as Chaplain after a year

as the Acting Chaplain at Jesus College, Cambridge. He served his curacy in Fowey, Cornwall, having obtained a Masters degree in Theology at Trinity Theological College, Bristol. Prior to training as a priest Nick graduated from Exeter College, Oxford with a first class degree in Engineering Science. He then qualified as an accountant with Ernst and Young, before working as a consultant and project manager in the construction industry.

DR ELIZABETH HOWELL becomes a Fellow and College Lecturer in Law. She is the Slaughter and May Lecturer in Corporate Law. Her research interests include corporate law and



capital markets regulation, with particular reference to European financial market

regulation. She is a qualified solicitor and recently completed her doctorate at the University of Oxford, on short selling regulation.

Senior Research Fellows

DR BEN SEYMOUR has been elected a Sackler Fellow from 1 October 2015. He is a neuroscientist and neurologist, based jointly at the Department of Engineering and Department of Clinical Neurology at Addenbrooke's Hospital. His research addresses the nature and neuroscience of human pain and aims to develop new technology-based therapies for treating pain in clinical populations, and aid rehabilitation for patients recovering from neurological injury.

Junior Research Fellows



DR SARAH CADDY has been elected a Nevile Junior Research Fellow in Science. She is a post-

doc at the Laboratory of Molecular Biology, studying interactions between viruses and host cells. Her PhD focused on viruses causing gastrointestinal disease in man and dogs, and Sarah worked in laboratories in Cambridge, France and Vietnam as part of her studies. Most recently, Sarah visited Sierra Leone as part of a team deployed by the UK government to aid with Ebola diagnostics.

DR MATHIAS HAEUSSLER has been elected a Lumley Junior Research Fellow in Arts. His academic interest is in the history of European integration and the Cold War, which can be traced in his doctoral thesis on 'Helmut

SKELTON HALL AT WISBECH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Wisbech Grammar School's newly built £2M refectory was officially opened on Friday 4 September by guest of honour, The Rt. Hon. Lord Taylor of Holbeach CBE. The refectory is named 'Skelton Hall' in honour of Robert Skelton MA, CEng, FICChemE, FNuclI, MI MechE. Bob, Fellow at Magdalene College and former Senior Lecturer in Chemical Engineering at the University of Cambridge 1990–2007, served as Governor to the School for 15 years from September 1998–March 2014.

Headmaster Mr Chris Staley said, "It is an honour to be naming our newly built refectory after Robert Skelton who served as a Governor to the school for over 15 years. As well as providing leading knowledge and expertise in many areas throughout the years, Bob arranged for Wisbech Grammar School pupils to attend Magdalene College each year for "taster days" to introduce them to life and study at a Cambridge college, reinforcing our close links with the University. Skelton Hall has quickly become the heart of the school and a focal point where parents, pupils and staff come together."

The connection between Wisbech Grammar School and Magdalene College goes back to the co-founder John de Wisbech. The school was founded in 1379 by the Guild of the Holy Trinity and is thus one of the oldest schools in the country. The first scholars met in 1379 in a small room over the south porch of the Church of St Peter and St Paul. In the 17th century, William Holmes, a local and generous benefactor of the School, donated funds to enable two scholars from the Grammar School to attend Magdalene College. The Grammar School merged with the Wisbech High School for Girls in 1970 and now occupies the site of the old girls school. It became a direct grant school under the 1944 Education Act and remained in the state sector as



Bob Skelton outside 'his' hall.

the only remaining grammar school in Cambridgeshire when most grammar schools were abolished and merged to form comprehensive schools in the 1960s. This continued until 1983 when it regained its independence.

It is not clear when Magdalene first appointed governors but it has certainly had close links with the school for very many years. There have been a number of very distinguished Magdalene governors including Dennis Babbage and John Dwight, who was one of the driving forces behind the school becoming independent once again. More recent governors have included Howard Chase, Colin Kolbert, Philip Hobday and James Raven. The school has a tradition of naming buildings after former governors, John Dwight being the other Magdalene governor, after whom the new Performing Arts Centre was named in 2003. A further link with the College was the naming of the school's preparatory department, Magdalene House.

Schmidt and Anglo-German Relations, 1974–82'. After his Abitur at the German School London and his B.A. in History and Politics at Queen Mary University of London, Mathias came to Cambridge in October 2010 to read for the MPhil. in Modern European History at Robinson College, where he remained for his doctoral studies.

MS CATHERINE EVANS is a Junior Research Fellow based at the Centre for History and Economics at Magdalene, as well as a Prize

Fellow in Economics, History and Politics at the Centre for History and Economics at Harvard. She is presently completing her PhD in the History Department at Princeton University. She will defend her dissertation, "Persons Dwelling in the Borderland: Responsibility and Criminal Law in the Late-Nineteenth-Century British Empire," in December 2015.

Parnell Fellow

PROFESSOR ROY FOSTER will be the Parnell Fellow this year. He

is Carroll Professor of Irish History at the University of Oxford. He specialises in Irish cultural, social and political history in the modern period but has also written about Victorian political history, and is the author of the authorised two-volume biography of the poet W.B. Yeats. His most recent book is *Vivid Faces: the Revolutionary Generation in Ireland 1890–1923* (2014), which was awarded a British Academy Medal. He is also a well-known critic, reviewer and broadcaster.

THE POSITIVE IN TRIPLE-NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

BY DR WALID KHALED (2014)

In 1971, US President Richard Nixon announced during his speech, now commonly known as the “war on cancer” speech, an ambition to defeat cancer within five years. Nixon’s presidency was short-lived afterwards for reasons beyond the scope of this article. However, his policy and financial commitment to cancer research to the tune of USD 1.5 billion (equivalent of 8 billion in current value) is considered to be one of the major boosts to science, resulting in our current understanding of cancer and methods for treating it.

It is now nearly 45 years since the declaration of “war on cancer”. Although we have not defeated cancer completely, survival rates have doubled. Advances in early detection and diagnosis are part of the important progress made so far. However, the biggest game changer has been the increase in our knowledge and understanding of cancer biology, which, fueled by revolutionary advances in biomedical research, has significantly increased. Over these years, the development of DNA sequencing technologies has allowed us unprecedented access to studying how cancer develops and progresses. As always, however, the more we widen our understanding the more we realise just how complex cancer is.

In my lab at the Department of Pharmacology, we research and aim to develop more effective therapies for breast cancer. Compared to other types of cancer, breast cancer has relatively good survival rates – 80% of patients have chances of survival for 10 years or more after the initial diagnosis. Nonetheless, in the UK, the highest number of newly diagnosed cancer cases and the most common

cause of death among women remains breast cancer. In the UK alone, approximately 50,000 newly diagnosed cases are reported every year and 1,000 women die from breast cancer every month with devastating social and economic consequences.

The main problem with breast cancer is that it is not a uniform disease. In fact, it is thought that there are 18 different subtypes of breast cancer.

The main problem with breast cancer is that it is not a uniform disease. In fact, it is thought that there are 18 different subtypes of breast cancer. They each look different when examined under the microscope in the lab and, more importantly, they each respond differently to treatment. Some subtypes of breast cancer respond very well to the conventional treatments currently available while others tend to be drug resistant and eventually



Dr. Walid Khaled

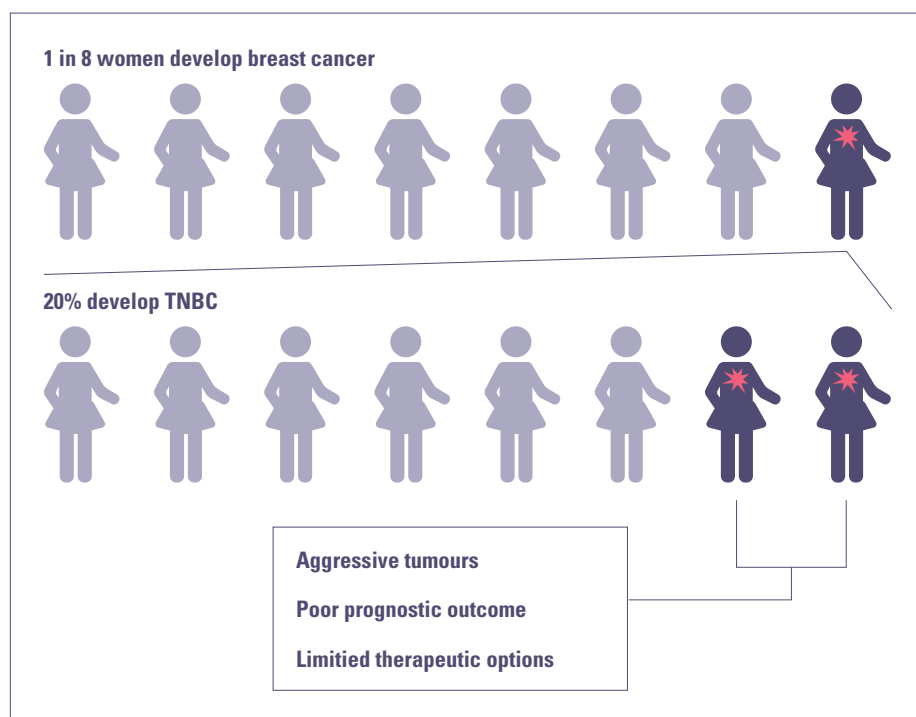
result in the patient’s death. To treat these different subtypes of cancer, it is important to understand why and how these differences in the subtypes of breast cancer arise. For this, we must first fully understand how healthy breast cells develop and how molecular regulation of the different cells functions within a normal breast. This is because it is this regulation mechanism that is hijacked in

cancerous cells. Therefore, having such a detailed understanding of the normal breast development is key for the identification of specific regulators of the different subtypes of breast cancer and their ultimate treatment.

My lab particularly focuses on the triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) subtype. TNBC is an aggressive form of breast cancer, which accounts for 15–20% of all the breast cancer cases and generally has a higher possibility of spreading to other tissues (a process called Metastasis) and lower rates of survival. TNBC gets its name from the absence of three markers normally present in the majority of breast cancers. It is also the case that these three markers are targets for very successful breast cancer therapies. Unfortunately, because of the absence of these three markers, for TNBC patients there are limited therapeutic options other than aggressive chemotherapy, which has devastating side effects.

In my lab we focus on identifying genes that are specifically associated with TNBC and test their potential as targets for developing drugs to treat TNBC. To achieve this we use DNA sequencing data from a large number of breast cancer patients (approximately 3,000) and look for genes that have a very specific correlation with TNBC. Once we identify such genes, we test whether they are truly responsible for TNBC formation and progression.

We recently reported the finding of one such gene, called *BCL11A*. We found that *BCL11A* was active in 80% of TNBC tumours but was inactive in other types of breast cancer. Such strong correlation with TNBC suggested that *BCL11A* is a key player of TNBC development, however, we needed to prove it. We used TNBC cells cultured in the lab to show that inactivation of *BCL11A* was essential for their tumour-forming



potential. In addition, we also used a number of genetically engineered mice, in which we were able to activate or inactivate *BCL11A* to confirm its important role in TNBC.

These are very exciting findings and could potentially pave the way for developing a TNBC-specific therapy. To this end, based on these results we have teamed up with Cancer Research UK and a pharmaceutical company to design and develop a

drug that targets *BCL11A* in TNBC. This is a long and uncertain process, which could take up to ten years to complete. However, we are not stopping here – we are also currently using new molecular tools in the lab to identify more TNBC associated genes and investigate their therapeutic potential. I hope that within the next ten years the biology of TNBC will be fully deciphered and that we will be close to having an effective therapy for this devastating disease.

DR WALID T. KHALED is a Group Leader at the Department of Pharmacology and Director of Studies in Natural Sciences and Fellow at Magdalene College. He read for his undergraduate degree at the University of Edinburgh followed by a Masters degree at Imperial College, London. He did his PhD training with Prof. Christine Watson, Department of Pathology, University of Cambridge where he focused on the role of Stat6 in mammary gland development (2002–2007). After his PhD, he held a junior research fellowship at King's College, Cambridge (2008–2012) during which he identified a novel cell fate regulator *Zfp157* (2007–2009). In 2009, he joined the Sanger Institute to work with Dr. Pentao Liu on the connection between cell fate regulation and breast cancer development, particularly focusing on the transcription regulator *BCL11A*. He was appointed as a University Lecturer and group leader at the Department of Pharmacology, University of Cambridge in 2013. In May 2014 he was awarded a prestigious CRUK Career Establishment Award to investigate the cellular and molecular drivers of breast cancer heterogeneity with a particular focus on the development of novel therapies for triple negative breast cancer (TNBC).

THE CAMBRIDGE BURSARY SCHEME AT MAGDALENE

The cost of a Cambridge education continues to rise, and the University and the Colleges have increased efforts to provide funding for all qualified students in need of financial assistance so that anyone able to study here can do so. Collegiate Cambridge has always been committed to 'needs-blind' admission, thereby admitting the most qualified students regardless of their financial status.

Here at Magdalene, we have been very fortunate in that we have been able to raise sufficient funds for the past four years from Members equally committed to the idea that no one should be deterred from coming to Magdalene because of financial reasons. The first cohort of undergraduates supported by the generosity of Members via our Bursary scheme graduated in June this year and we are delighted that almost all graduated with a First or 2.i. Indeed, many of them credited their bursaries as being one of the vital elements of their academic success as they were able to focus on their studies unfettered by financial concerns.

The maximum maintenance grant available to students from families with an assessed income of £25,000 or less is £3,387 this year and every one of our qualifying students (on the basis of the national guidelines regarding family income) is awarded an enhanced named Cambridge Bursary worth £4,500 per year. The living costs for the academic year (30 weeks) are estimated to be in the region of £7,500 – £8,000 per annum and include charges for accommodation, kitchen facility charges, College meals, transport costs, study materials and personal expenses. The University actively discourages its students from working during term-time as the work load during the 8 week terms is heavy and students are expected to participate in the wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer in their Colleges and the University.

Our scheme allows the recipients to cover their living costs for the full academic year without having to take on the additional burden of maintenance loans on top of tuition fee loans which will result in new graduates starting their working lives with debts in the region of £27,000. Without the bursaries Magdalene is able to offer, that debt would spiral to over £50,000 in total, the possibility of which we

believe to be a very real deterrent for those who come to us from modest backgrounds, who are perhaps the first in their family or the first in their school to attend University or indeed Cambridge.

We are delighted that our scheme, introduced in 2012 in response to the changing nature of HE funding, has not only resonated with Members in such a way as to enable the College to offer full funding for every eligible student, thanks to their generosity, but has also allowed us to attract the very brightest from so-called non-traditional backgrounds to come to Magdalene.

We offer a range of bursaries of which the most generous, worth £4,500 per annum, are awarded to students for the duration of their undergraduate studies. These bursaries are often named by the donors, and individual Members who choose to support one student in this way receive an annual report from 'their' student. These reports make great reading and clearly illustrate the need for our bursary scheme:

"...the cost of living has risen whilst Government support remains the same. I cannot see how I would have been able to afford living in Cambridge without your support."

"I am certain that... I would not have been able to dedicate so much time and effort to my work if I did not have the financial security that you allowed, so I thank you again and hope that one day I might be in the position to give such support to others."

"...the course [editor's note: medicine] is pressured and can be difficult and due to your support the issue of finance never arose to hinder my progress."

"I feel incredibly grateful not only to be studying something I am really passionate about in Cambridge, but also to be financially supported through my 3-year degree thanks to the generosity of the bursary scheme and those who support it. Coming from a single-parent family, one of my main concerns before starting University was the cost of living away from home..."

"The bursary I was generously granted has helped this year both directly (buying academic books etc.) and indirectly, because it has meant I haven't had to get stressed over money matters, thus allowing me to focus completely on my studies and other interests. I cannot stress enough the gratitude I feel to the donors who made this possible, without whom my experience at Cambridge would have been very different indeed."

"Being the first in my family to ever attend university, I wasn't sure what to expect when I arrived at Magdalene College... receiving a bursary... I have been able to purchase a bike and a new laptop I otherwise would not have been able to afford... the bursary helped remove any stress associated with money and allowed me to concentrate on my exams."

"I am without a doubt that my attainment of a First Class degree overall would have been much more challenging, if not impossible, without the financial relief the... Bursary has given me."

Our Tripos results this year speak for themselves and we are certain that the generosity of our Members in funding this scheme has played a part in our academic success. Thank you.

.....
Please contact the Director of Development, Corinne Lloyd, if you are interested in learning more about our named bursary scheme.
director.development@magd.cam.ac.uk

BID FOR A LITTLE PIECE OF MAGDALENE



The auction will close at midnight on 17 December. We will announce the successful bid in the next edition of Magdalene E-Matters and on the website.

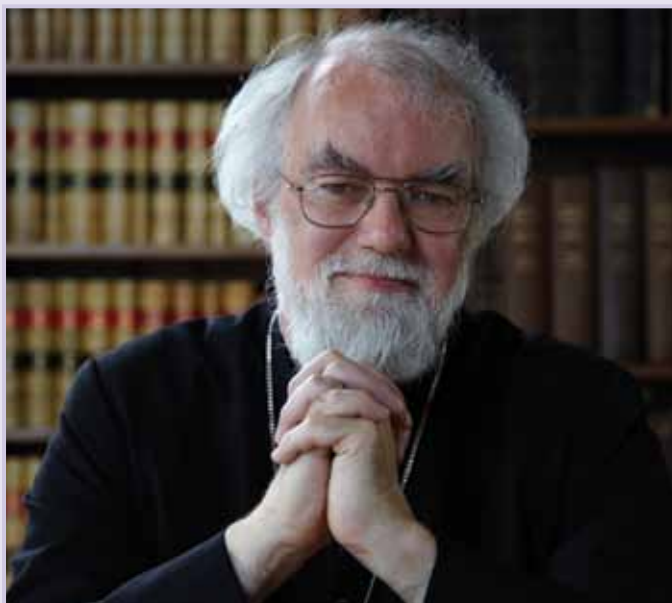
We are able to offer a unique opportunity for Members to bid for a tangible reminder of Magdalene thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. Having taken advice from the former Master, Mr Duncan Robinson, we have a reserve bid of £500 in place for this late-19th Century work for the benefit of the College's Annual Fund. To make your bid, please contact the Alumni & Development Office by emailing development@magd.cam.ac.uk, telephoning 01223 332104 or writing to the Editor at Magdalene College, Cambridge, CB3 0AG.

ANNUAL DONORS' REPORT 2015

FROM THE MASTER

The headline news for this year is that we now have no less than one in five of all our alumni actively supporting the present generation in the College.

Photograph by Paul Rogers



Breaking through the 20% barrier is something we have been looking forward to announcing, and it puts us well up the ratings among Cambridge Colleges. It's a tribute both to the strong sense of loyalty that is so marked a feature of Magdalene alumni and to the tireless and imaginative work of all our Development team at College, constantly devising new ways of persuading people to part with their money! We are all deeply appreciative of the generosity of so many, and proud that we are still able to say that no-one will have to decline a place here because of financial pressures.

That being said, we now face greater challenges than ever with new restrictions on student loans and grants. It's frustrating that, when we think we have reached a sustainable level of student support, the goalposts are moved. Government support does not cover anything like the real cost of College education at Cambridge, and very many students find themselves stuck

on the borderline territory where they don't quite qualify for grant support but have no real safety net in family finances. Recent changes in the system mean that this is going to become far more serious a problem for all Colleges in the near future, and we are actively looking at ways of meeting the challenge.

But with all these difficulties, we continue to plan with confidence. Our hopes of expanding scholarship support to students from Africa have already borne fruit, thanks to an agreement with The Standard Bank of Africa, and we are pressing on with the campaign to re-endow the Mandela Scholarships (and to establish a Professorial Chair here at Cambridge in memory of Mandela). In October, we welcomed to the College a distinguished group of African scholars and diplomats – with the King of the Ashante as a guest of honour – to raise the profile of our campaigning in this area. Our plans for the new Library building are also advancing, and we are currently dealing with planning permissions for this development, with the intention of launching a major campaign at various events next year. We have also secured the recognition of the College as a destination for Marshall Scholars from the USA, and have done this with the help of a major benefaction from the States.

All in all, we are delighted with our progress in these ventures. But it matters just as much that we can feel confident that our vision for the College is so enthusiastically endorsed by our donors at every level. We are grateful not only for your abundant practical support, but also for the fact that you, like us, clearly feel that this is an institution worth identifying with. Our meteoric ascent this year in the academic tables – which slightly stunned even our Tutors and Directors of Studies! – is witness to the devotion of our teachers and the gifts of our students – but it is also a sign that our students want to do their best for the College because they think it is worth caring about. We are very glad that you share that sentiment and hope we shall continue to deserve it.

GIVING TO THE COLLEGE

We are most grateful to all of our Members and Friends, whose donations within the 2014–15 financial year totalled £1,557,153.

STUDENT SUPPORT

The College is committed to needs-blind admissions and our expanded access activities result in an ever-widening pool of able applicants. Your donations have made increasing investment in talented undergraduates possible by allowing us to provide bursaries and hardship grants to students in need of assistance. This in turn enables them to fulfil their potential free from financial hardship.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Donations to support the world renowned Cambridge supervision system allow the College to continue to offer one-to-one or two-to-one supervisions with often very senior academics and tailored to the needs of the individual student. Our unprecedented second place in the Tompkins Table is testament to the success of this unique form of teaching.

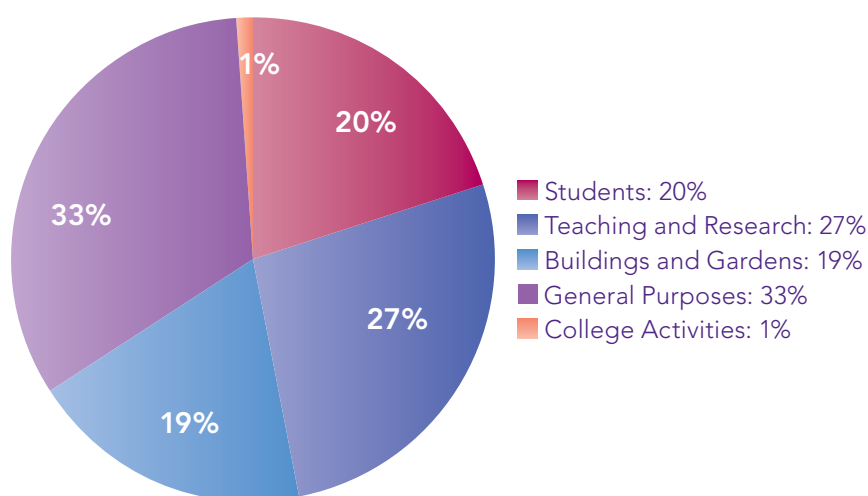
BUILDINGS AND GARDENS

Your donations help support our constant efforts of refurbishment to ensure that the College's heritage buildings are cared for, and allow us to update students' rooms to increase the level of home comforts as well as update our facilities.

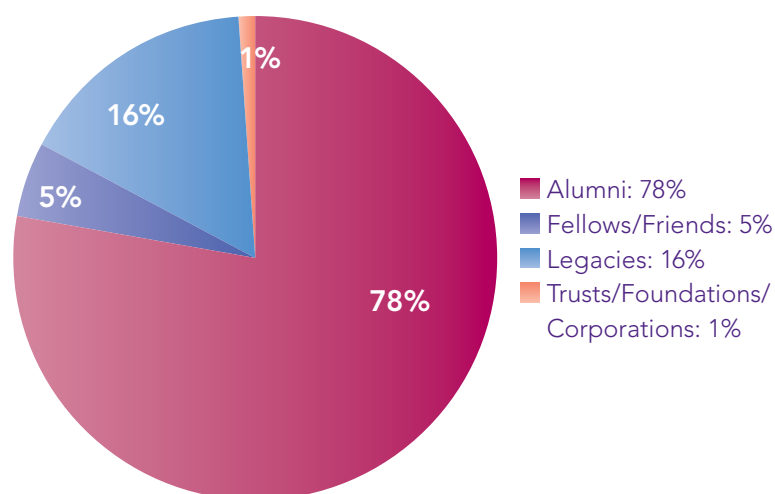
COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

Away from lectures and supervisions, Magdalene's students have the opportunity to get involved in a wealth of activities, be they in sport, art, drama or Music. Your continued support for these activities helps our students to get the most out of College life.

Total donations received during the financial year (2014–15)



Breakdown by source of donation

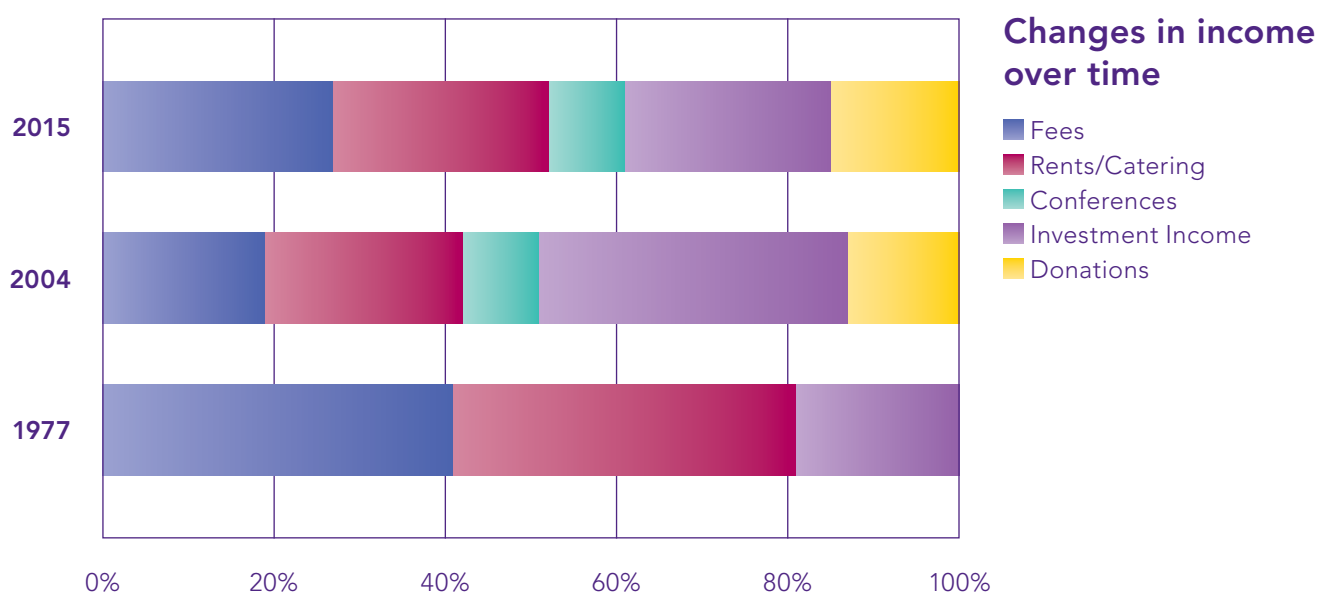


**YOUR DONATIONS HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMATIVE AND WE ARE TRULY
GRATEFUL TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

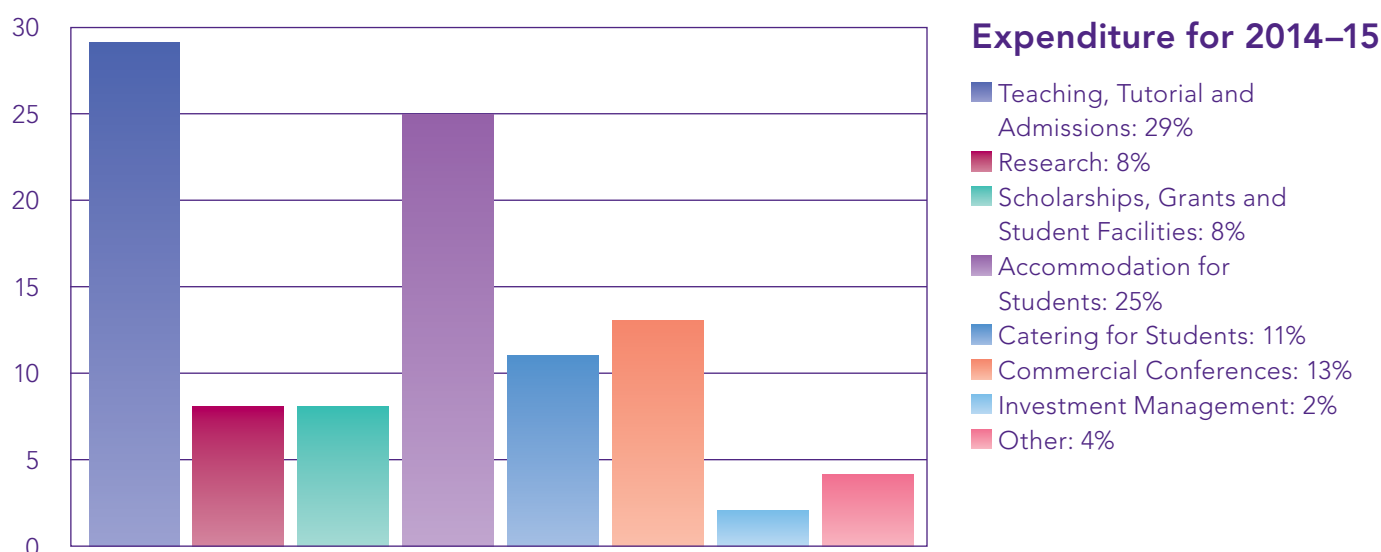
COLLEGE FINANCES

The primary sources of income for Magdalene are tuition fees, rents and catering charges, and income from conferences as well as your donations, which have grown to make a remarkable difference to the College's income.

Along with the income from the College's accumulated endowment and your donations, Magdalene uses these revenues to fund the cost of the supervision system, to provide subsidised accommodation and catering to its junior Members and to maintain and develop its buildings and facilities.



TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED IN 2014–15: £1,557,153



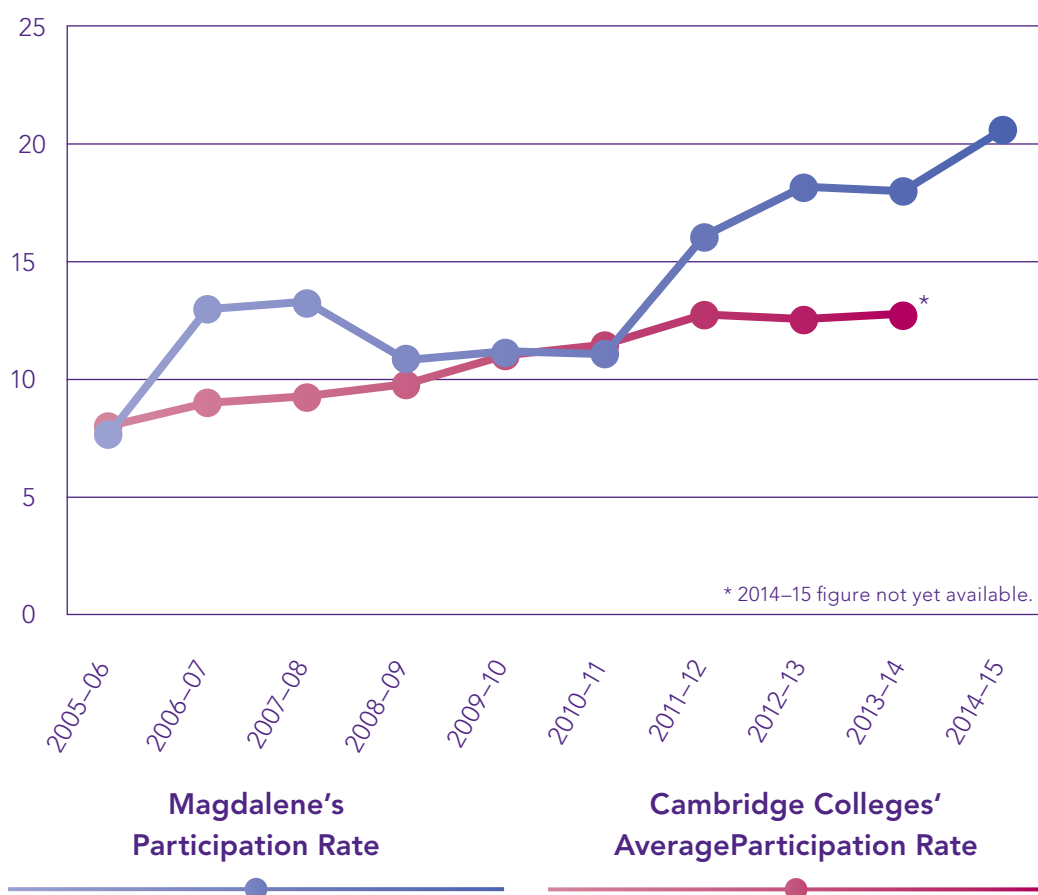
PARTICIPATION RATES

The Impact of Collective Giving



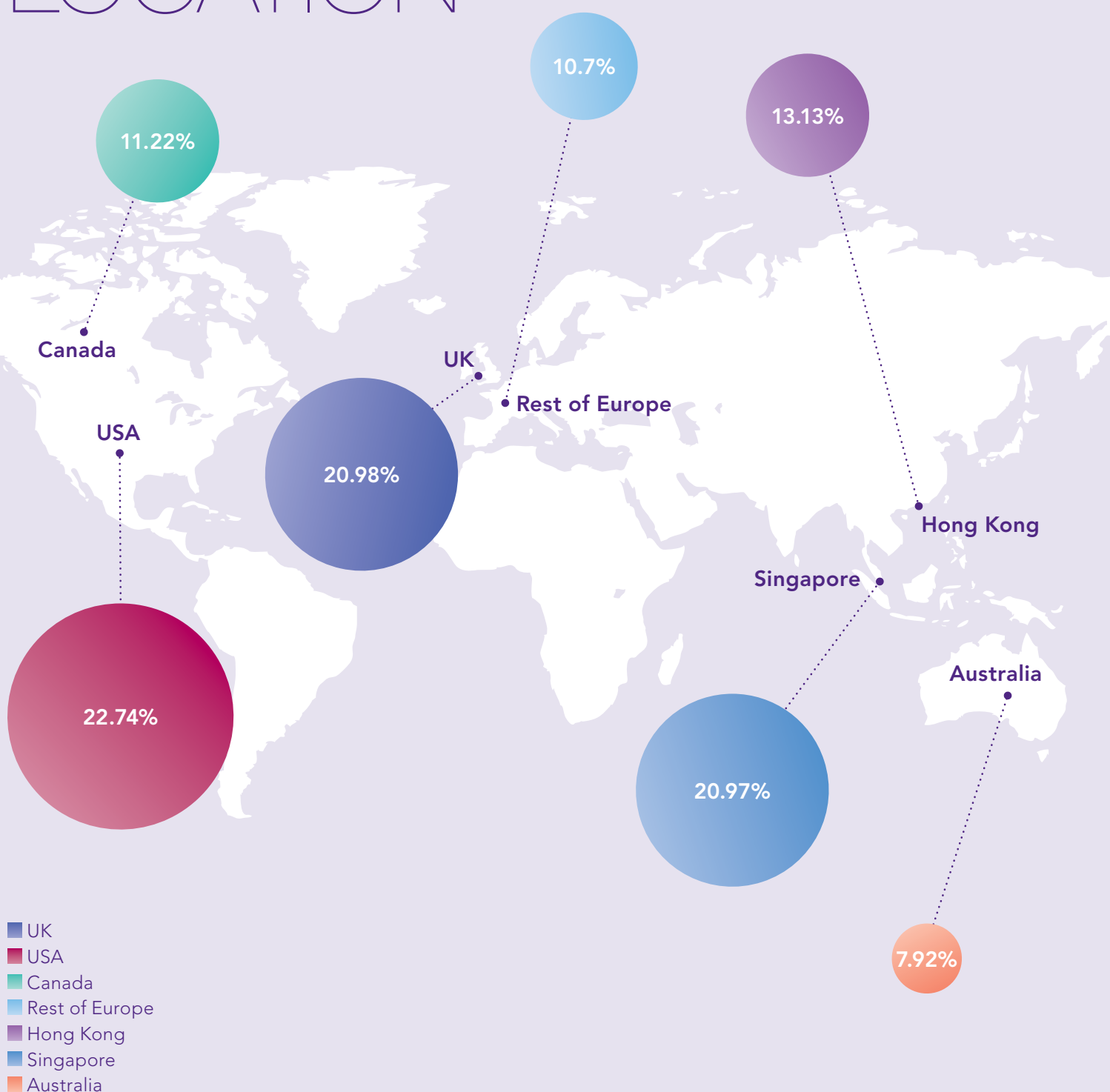
20.08% of Magdalene's contactable alumni made a gift within the last financial year

PARTICIPATION RATES SINCE 2005



Magdalene can now count itself among the top five Colleges in terms of percentage of alumni supporting their College within one year. **One in five** of you decided to support us during the past financial year. This means that, in addition to gifts from many Fellows, Friends, Trusts, and Foundations, 1,359 Members donated to their alma mater – thank you.

OUR DONORS IN THE PAST YEAR BASED ON LOCATION



MAGDALENE COLLEGE

LIST OF DONORS

1ST JULY 2014 – 30TH JUNE 2015

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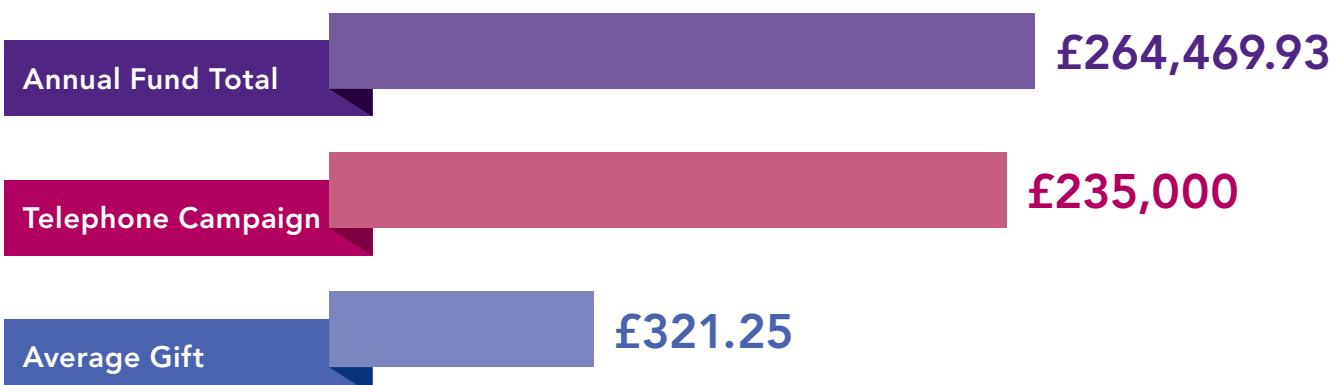
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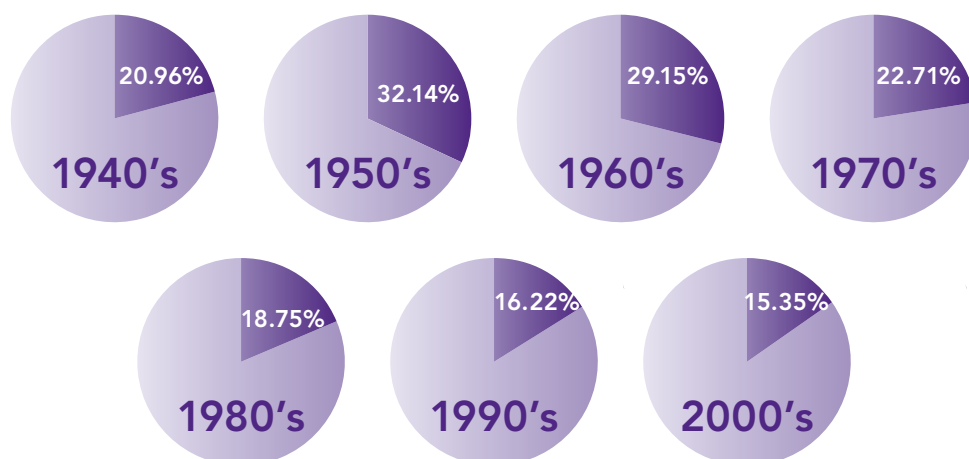
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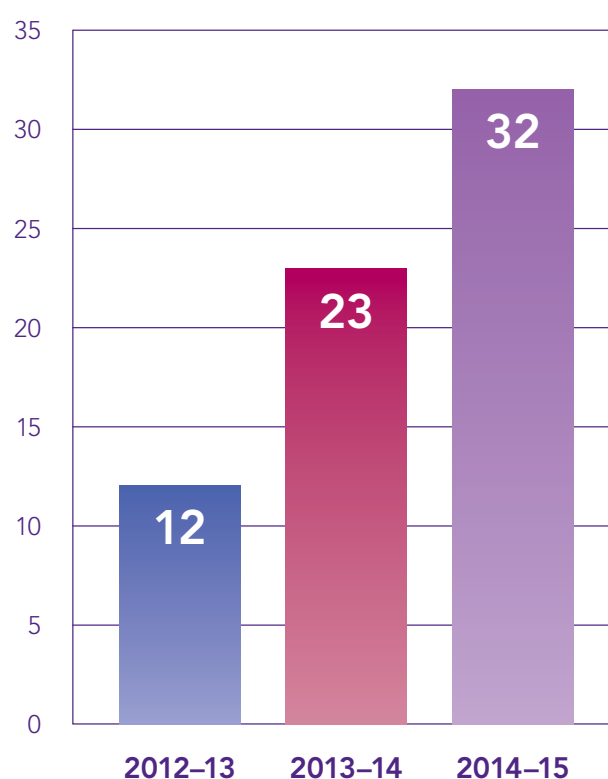
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If you are interested in hearing more about becoming a member of the Buckingham Society, please do contact us by post, or email on development@magd.cam.ac.uk

WAR WIDOWS IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY IRELAND

BY PROFESSOR JANE OHLMEYER (2014)

The summer of 2015 will forever be associated with the greatest humanitarian crisis that Europe has faced since World War II. The stories and pictures of desperate refugees – thousands of men, women and children – fleeing the war in Syria and other conflicts in the Middle East have dominated the media.

Though the precise number may never be known, many of the refugees will be widows struggling, along with their dependent children, to come to terms with trauma and unimaginable losses as they build new lives in Germany, Sweden, Ireland or Britain.

Their trauma is redolent of the experiences faced by war widows in mid-seventeenth century Ireland, the subject of my Parnell Lecture in November 2014. During the spring of 1642, 4,000 refugees, mostly women and children, half of whom were considered destitute, had poured into Dublin where they allegedly died at the rate of thirty a day. The Dublin authorities, bankrupt and unable to cope with the ‘refugee crisis’, encouraged the widows to return to their native parishes in Scotland and England, with the largest numbers going to London.

The ‘Wars of the Three Kingdoms’, as the civil wars of the 1640s are now known, were the ‘bloodiest man-made event’ in the history of our islands with nearly twelve per cent of the population dying as a result of the conflict. The death toll was heaviest in Ireland where wartime population losses could have been as high as forty per cent. While we may never know the precise number of those who perished in mid-seventeenth century Ireland, we do know that more people lost their lives in this decade than at any other point in Irish history. One unique archive, that of the 1641 Depositions, now freely available online (<http://1641.tcd.ie>), allows us to answer a number of questions. Who were these women? Where did they come from? What was their social status? What were their experiences of the civil war?

The 1641 Depositions, which have been dubbed the ‘most controversial records in Irish history’, recorded the events surrounding a rebellion that broke out in Ireland on 22 October 1641. The rising was accompanied by incidents of extreme violence, as Catholics attacked, robbed and



Woodcuts like these from James Cranford's *Tears of Ireland* (1642) feature women and children as victims. Like the other printed propaganda works, these graphic visual images helped to shape the collective memory of 1641.

murdered their Protestant neighbours. The Protestants retaliated using extreme violence though no comparable body of evidence survives to record Catholic losses or the massacres, which the Catholic community suffered, often at the hands of government forces. At least 421 widows deposed, of whom nearly forty per cent (166) were widows prior to the outbreak of war. Their witness testimonies were taken within a relatively short time of an event occurring, which accords their narratives tremendous emotion, an immediacy and a rawness as these women related their material losses; their futile attempts to defend their homes



Map of the Ulster 1641 Depositions showing the number of recorded murders in each townland.

and loved ones; the tragic and often horrific deaths of their husbands, children, parents, family, friends and neighbours; their own experiences of being robbed, assaulted, stripped and made captive often by people well known to them – a neighbour, a servant, a tenant, or a local grandee.

In their eyewitness and hearsay testimonies, the widows also remember the voices of those who were assaulted and those of their assailants.

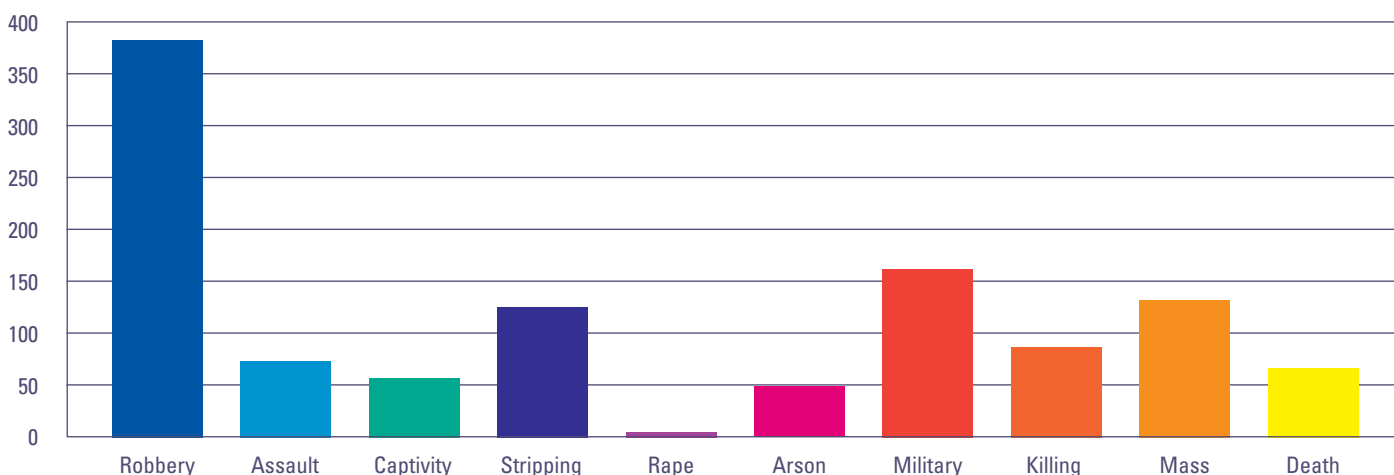
The autumn of 1641 and spring of 1642 were the coldest on record. Many widows, especially from Ulster and Leinster, commented on the ‘cold snowie weather’ and ‘the extremity of the winter’. Katherine Cooke, a 56-year-old widow from County Armagh, was ‘the miserable eyewitness’ to many murders in the weeks immediately after the outbreak of war. In her deposition, which she gave in February 1642, she captured the horror of one moment when, after a brutal episode, the children in her party saw ‘the warm blood ... fall on the ground’ and immediately trod ‘therein with their bare feet to keep them from freezing ... such was the extremity of the weather’. Predictably, propagandists seized on narratives like Katherine’s and exploited gender to win the hearts and minds of their readers, emphasizing the vulnerability of women and children. Our challenge is to step back from the propaganda and to listen to the voices of ordinary women as they shared their own memories and struggled to come to terms with loss, conflict, fear and trauma.

Our widows came from all four provinces in Ireland. An examination of surnames suggests that they were predominately the wives of English, Welsh and Scottish colonists, who had settled in Ireland from the 1530s but arrived in significant numbers during the Munster plantation of the 1570s and then during the Ulster plantation of the early seventeenth century. Evidence for the geographic origins of widows is indirect. For example, during a siege of her castle in King’s County, Grace Smith gave instructions to her servant, in ‘the Welsh tongue’, suggesting that both were relatively recent migrants. Interestingly, over a quarter of our widows described themselves as ‘British Protestants’. The wide scale use of the descriptor ‘British’ by very ordinary women is significant since not even forty years had passed since the union of the crowns in 1603 and the creation of ‘Great Britain’.

The status or occupation is known for the husbands of 152 of our widows. The sheer variety of occupations is striking. Tradesmen and craftsmen comprised 14 per cent of this group: blacksmiths, carpenters, coachmakers, clothiers, locksmiths, skimmers, tailors, tanners, and weavers. Alongside the tradesmen were those who provided services (20 per cent): carriers, chapmen, doctors, domestic servants, innkeepers, merchants and a range of military personnel. The church is particularly well represented (15 per cent: clerks, deans, ministers, parsons, vicars and school masters). The largest group, by far, were the landed classes who comprised 51 per cent. Knights, equires, gentlemen and yeomen were at one end of the landed spectrum with the small farmers, husbandmen and shephards at the other. The very ordinariness of these people is precisely what makes the 1641 Depositions so very important. These are the men and women who are so absent from history, especially in Ireland.

What do the depositions by widows reveal of their experiences of the war?

... continued



Analysis of the nature of the depositions by widows.

Though robbery occurred most frequently, let us focus for a moment on the incidences of extreme violence, which widows experienced in their homes, in captivity or as they travelled in search of refuge and which left them physically maimed and emotionally scarred. The insurgents stripped more than one quarter of our widows, sometimes more than once, as they looked for money, jewels and other valuables that might be hidden in clothing, shoes or even in hair. Of course stripping was more than about finding money or the economic value of clothing; it was a means of humiliation. The high incidence of stripping, a form of sexual assault in itself, makes the virtual absence of reported rape all the more striking. Yet, rape, as we know from other conflicts, is the ultimate act of aggression and humiliation, ‘the mothers of militarism’, and, presumably, the shame and social stigma attached to rape stopped cases from being reported.

Nearly half of our widows lost their husbands as a result of the rising. Some died on active service defending a local castle or in the aftermath of an assault. Others were ambushed as they foraged for food or were massacred, often as part of a larger group of refugees that had secured quarter to pass through rebel territory. Their widows graphically related how their partners died. The lucky few were shot. Some were hung, stabbed, drowned, had their throats slit or were burned alive. Other loved ones – children, parents, siblings and in-laws – also died as a result of the indiscriminate violence. Some family members met with bloody ends but a significant number died as a result of disease, wounds that had become septic or gangrenous, exposure (largely due to stripping), or to grief.

One can only begin to imagine the psychological torment that these widows endured. Ellen Matchett’s account of her mother’s death gives voice to the extreme trauma she had lived through. During the early weeks of the rising Ellen and her family had fled County Armagh for the safety of Dublin. En route the rebels stripped and assaulted the refugees, wounding her mother, who rather than risking everyone’s lives, persuaded the rest of the family to leave her behind by the side of the road. It was to Ellen’s ‘unspeakable grief’ that she left her ‘wounded bleeding mother there where she dyed’. Ellen was experiencing, like so many others who had survived when their loved ones had died in the most tragic of circumstances, what we might call today ‘survivor’s guilt’. Though the trauma itself was unspeakable, the sharing and voicing of these stories was part of the process by which women came to terms with their experiences.

At the beginning I mentioned the current conflict in Syria, but let me conclude by reflecting on another recent war zone, that of Sri Lanka. Though Sri Lanka is still counting the dead, it is likely that over 100,000 people died over the course of the forty year conflict (1983–2009). At least 40,000 of them lost their lives in the final months of the war when soldiers

on both sides committed war crimes – murder, mutilation, torture, and rape – and government troops committed crimes against humanity. The UN has suggested that there are nearly 30,000 war widows in the northern peninsula of Jaffna, close to where the worst atrocities occurred. Other widows, fearful for their lives, fled abroad. These refugees are beginning to tell their stories, mostly to journalists like Francis Harrison who has reproduced the witness testimony – so reminiscent of the 1641 Depositions – of both the victims and perpetrators of violence in a remarkable book called, *Still Counting the Dead* (2013). In July 2014, I spoke about the 1641 Depositions in Sri Lanka. The discussion afterwards was raw and emotional as scholars, mostly women, shared their personal experiences of the conflict. For me it was a deeply moving moment. It brought home to me the fundamental importance of studying these past occurrences of atrocity, massacre and ethnic cleansing. Only by attempting to unravel why they occurred, who the victims were, how they survived, how they remembered, and how communities were reconciled (or not) can our understanding of the present be more fully informed.



JANE OHLMEYER, MRIA, is Erasmus Smith’s Professor of Modern History at Trinity College Dublin, the Director of the Trinity Long Room Hub, Trinity’s research institute for the Arts and

Humanities, and Chair of the Irish Research Council. She was the first Vice-President for Global Relations at Trinity (2011–14) and a driving force behind the development of the Trinity Long Room Hub and the 1641 Depositions Project (www.1641.tcd.ie). She is a non-executive director of the *Sunday Business Post*. In 2014–15 Professor Ohlmeyer was the Parnell Fellow and a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Historical Studies, JNU in New Delhi. In 2016 she will hold the Yeats Visiting Professorship at São Paulo University in Brazil. She has also taught at the UCSB, Yale and the University of Aberdeen.

Professor Ohlmeyer is the author/editor of 11 books, including, most recently, *Making Ireland English. The Irish Aristocracy in the Seventeenth Century*. She is currently working on a study of Colonial Ireland, Colonial India, editing volume 2 of *The Cambridge History of Ireland, 1550–1730* and preparing an edition of Clarendon’s *Shorte View of Ireland* for Oxford University Press.

CHARLIE NORTON

BY KIT TUKE (1995)

Charlie Norton, who read English at Magdalene, lost his life on 7th June 2015, after falling from a cliff in Morocco.

He was a Kentish man, born in Sevenoaks, and educated at Tonbridge. Very much the model student during his school years, his zest for knowledge, love of sport and competitive nature saw him gain a place at Magdalene. Before matriculating in 1995 Charlie took a year off in New Zealand to teach in a boarding school, where he developed a taste for adventure and satiated a few rebellious teenage urges. It is unlikely that many memories of Charlie relate to his academic achievements but he was fascinated by his subject and wrote dissertations on Ernest Hemmingway and Iain Banks. He was obsessive about the life and works of John Fowles, particularly the Magus.

Everybody remembers the first time they met Charlie: he was gregarious, often the centre of attention and had the ability to get on with anyone. He had dyed blonde curtain hair, a strange wandering eyebrow, a slight kiwi affectation and women hanging off his every word. He was a frequent visitor to the College Marshall, where he deployed his roguish charm and usually, but not always, emerged unscathed.

Charlie's greatest student achievements took place on the rugby pitch. When he arrived at Magdalene the rugby team was languishing in the second division despite having boasted numerous international players a few years earlier. The College had unintentionally admitted a cohort of strong rugby players and Charlie, as the team's inside centre and captain in his third year, led Magdalene to two first division titles, and to a narrow defeat in the Cuppers Final to a strong



St John's team. He also played for the University Under 21s, LXs Club and Rugby League teams.

When he graduated, Charlie's passion for writing saw him pursue a career in journalism; first in Kent where he didn't take himself too seriously ("Pedal your legs off!" was his headline for a sponsored cycle ride in aid of Leprosy) then the Daily Telegraph, by way of night shifts at BBC Worldwide. During his time at the Telegraph he wrote more than 2,000 articles covering his beloved rugby and football but also numerous minor sports such as cycling and fell running, where his fascination with extreme endurance was born.

During the past decade he completed various events including the Yukon Ultra-marathon, the Marathon des Sables, the Comrades Ultra and the Trois Etapes. He published diaries in the Daily Telegraph which described the hardships in his usual self-deprecating way. He lamented how he had to "desperately suck gummybears for moisture" when his Camelbak

froze in the Yukon, never being one to let a near-death-experience go to waste.

Charlie's biggest scoop came in 2004 when he broke the news of football manager Ron Atkinson's racist remarks after a Champions' League game in Monaco. He was a guest at a wedding in Dubai where he watched the local TV coverage which picked up Atkinson's supposedly off-air comments about Marcel Desailly not broadcast by ITV. Charlie filed the story from his hotel and Atkinson resigned soon afterwards.

In 2009 Charlie published The Bumper Book of Bravery and his latest enterprise was the launch of an online adventure sports magazine – Vigour (www.vigouronline.com). He was organising a revival of the UK's oldest Ultra Marathon from London to Brighton, and continued to write on a freelance basis, most notably for the FT's "How to spend it". He was also working on a semi-autobiographical novel and some children's stories.

He co-founded a charity, Flying for Heroes, and raised many thousands of pounds for other good causes, including the British Exploring Society where contributions as a result of his Daily Telegraph magazine article helped 15 underprivileged children go on an outward bound expedition in the Carpathian Mountains this summer.

Charlie married Morag "Rags" MacGregor in 2011 and left London to live in Dorset. They had two children together, Louis (3) and Nora (1). He is much missed by his family and many friends.

MAGDALENE IN SOUTH LONDON

The Master, Lord Williams, (a Trustee of MCYT and Patron of Cambridge House) writes: 'Magdalene has a long history, like many other Oxbridge Colleges, of involvement in the life of some of the more deprived and challenged communities of London.



The old 'settlement' pattern – a centre where students from the universities can stay to do voluntary work – has had its critics, and it can't work today in the same way it did a century ago. But the vision is still valid and important, and we need to find ways of carrying on the tradition of exposing our students to some of the most demanding social settings in our environment, and supporting creative and capacity-building work in these communities. The article that follows explains what is happening in this regard with our historic link in South London, and I hope it will assure our members that some exciting things are happening. Many thanks indeed to all those Magdalene people who have worked hard for Cambridge House over the years, especially in administering the Trust funds.

The long-standing involvement of the College in youth work in south

London is moving into a new phase. Magdalene first made a contribution to a boys' club in Camberwell in 1904. From this initiative developed The Magdalene College Boys' Club (girls' sections were added later). This operated in its own premises until the Second World War. During the war the premises were taken over as a day nursery. The youth work was co-located with that of other Cambridge colleges and of Cambridge House itself in the latter's premises. In 1969 the club ceased to operate as a separate entity. After consideration, the Magdalene College Youth Trust (MCYT) was formed, under a Charity Commission scheme dated 1976, to administer the assets (particularly from the sale of the building) and income.

In practice the original mission of working to improve the lives of

young people in inner south London has been fulfilled by making grants to Cambridge House and Talbot to support their youth work.

Cambridge House dates from 1889 and has its origin in the same motivation among Cambridge (and Oxford) colleges to work to improve lives in the inner city. It has since developed into a multi-disciplinary people's centre working *One person, One family and One community at a time*, to reduce poverty and improve social justice. Cambridge House currently serves 105,000 people facing multiple disadvantages and complex needs each year. The portfolio of services includes:

- arts and sports activities for children and adults with disabilities to improve their psychological, emotional and physical health and well-being;

- youth empowerment and successor generation projects which support young people to develop the skills they need to become successful contributing members of society – these have been commended by both Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, and Rob Wilson MP, Minister for Civil Society;
- specialist free legal and advocacy services that prevent homelessness and protect the rights of vulnerable adults and children;

- community development activities that tackle worklessness and provide office and events spaces for other charities and community groups.

Over the past few years, the Trustees have been re-thinking the role of MCYT. A key priority has been to facilitate the rebuilding of links between Cambridge House and Magdalene, and thence with the wider University. This has been successfully accomplished and we

have come to the view that our aims can now best be accomplished by merging the MCYT with Cambridge House, thus avoiding the need to administer a separate charity. The resources will still be used only for youth work but can be employed flexibly where they will do most good.

Please contact Mr Chris Babbs, Honorary Secretary MCYT on 020 8668 2775 for more information.

Silk Scarves Featuring One of Magdalene's Trees



Howard Guest, a Cambridge photographer, has produced a range of beautiful silk scarves featuring close-up photographs of bark from trees growing in gardens in Cambridge and Edinburgh. The photographs were originally part of an exhibition of large-scale prints in Summerhall, Edinburgh. The collection includes an image of the Cider Gum Eucalyptus, which grows in the Fellows' Garden.

The scarves are 100% silk and are printed and made in Britain. They come in a box with a pamphlet that describes the trees. The perfect gift. The scarves are available to buy at howardguest.co.uk and the College will receive 20% of the purchase price (of any of the scarves) if you use the code below at checkout.

In 2008, Howard Guest was commissioned by the Fitzwilliam Museum to produce a series of portraits as part of the 800th anniversary celebrations.

Code: MagdHGScarf

Forthcoming Events

20 NOVEMBER 2015

Magdalene Dinner in Frankfurt

23 NOVEMBER 2015

W B Yeats 150th Anniversary
Commemoration

4 DECEMBER 2015

Magdalene College Choir Carol
Concert in London

10 DECEMBER 2015

Varsity Rugby at Twickenham

16 JANUARY 2016

Medical Society Dinner

28 JANUARY 2016

MiC event in London (details TBC)

12 MARCH 2016

Magdalene Dinner in Edinburgh

15 APRIL 2016

Hong Kong Drinks Reception

29 APRIL 2016

Paris Cambridge Society Annual
Dinner (featuring the Master as the
guest of honour)

30 APRIL 2016

Magdalene Luncheon in Paris

14 MAY 2016

MA Day. Invitations will be sent to
Members who matriculated in 2009

4 JUNE 2016

Buckingham Society Luncheon

11 JUNE 2016

English Reunion

26 JUNE 2016

Family Day

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

Non-resident Members' Guest Nights 2015-2016

23 January 2016	22 April 2016
5 February 2016	28 May 2016
5 March 2016	10 June 2016

[www.magdalenecambridge.com/
nrm-nights](http://www.magdalenecambridge.com/nrm-nights)

Reunions

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

Reunions in 2017

FRIDAY 31 MARCH

Dinner for those who matriculated in
1983-1985

SATURDAY 6 MAY

Lunch for those who matriculated up
to 1957

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in
1986-1988

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in
1989-1991

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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.



His Majesty the Asantehene and his entourage in First Court during the 20th Anniversary celebration of the Mandela Magdalene Scholarships.