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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. For further information or if you would like to submit content for future issues please contact the Communications Officer, Matthew Moon, or the Editor.

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

Photo on the front cover 'Snowdrops in the Fellows Garden' courtesy of Matthew Moon.



2018 Telephone Campaign Student Callers.

COMMENT from the Development Director

Dear Members,

Some fifteen months ago we launched the College's Capital Campaign, *Future Foundations*, with a number of parties in London, Hong Kong and New York. After a whirlwind of activity and the warmest possible response from all of you, we have raised an astonishing 70% of our target. Please turn to page 10 for an overview of the first year of the Campaign.

We look forward to the relative calm of Easter Term after this year's Telephone Campaign which is running as I write this in the Easter vacation. Our students are the most marvellous ambassadors and best placed to remind you of the rhythms of College life. They are dedicated, hard working and fun loving, making the most of their time here and by taking part in the annual telethon and talking to you they hopefully evoked happy memories of your Magdalene years. Many of you are kind enough to write to say how much you enjoy speaking to the students and many more choose to support the Campaign by making a gift. We have been looking to the whole Magdalene community to help us realise our goal of raising £25 million and you have responded to the College's clarion call in droves; thank you so much. Those of you who wish to learn more or indeed donate can find regular updates on the College website www.magd.cam.ac.uk/support.

The student callers (pictured on the left) raised £184,623 during just ten days' of calling and over 70% of those contacted chose to make a gift to the Campaign. It is because of your exceptional generosity that we are looking forward to breaking ground for the new Library, beginning to formulate strategies for the new Art Gallery and Archives Centre, and working to formulate detailed plans for the restoration and reconfiguration of the ground floor space in the Pepys Building. There is still a long way to go to reach our total but what a marvellous start!

MRS CORINNE LLOYD
EDITOR AND DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

OUTREACH UPDATE

BY MR SANDY MILL

2017 was a remarkably successful year in terms of Magdalene College's Outreach work in Merseyside and North Wales.

In total we ran or were involved in a record 110 events, reaching over 11,000 students and 1,800 teachers drawn mostly from our link areas.

Our biennial Outreach event at Goodison Park in March 2017 was a resounding success. We had over 400 students and teachers join us to find out more about university life at Cambridge from a number of our current students and Fellows and attend academic sessions in Medicine and Law. The annual Easter residential is ever growing in popularity and once again saw over 50 potential students engage in a variety of academic sessions, a formal dinner at St John's College and a punting trip along the Cam.

We have seen particular success with our work with the Seren Network in North Wales – a Welsh Government initiative designed to help the brightest students from across the country achieve places at prestigious universities. Magdalene engaged with students through Seren at 27 events in Wales, and over 1,600 students attended these sessions. We also represented the University of Cambridge at the annual Seren Conference in Newtown. Magdalene College, and our



Schools Liaison Officer, Sandy Mill, prominently featured in a Seren promotional video, alongside two successful applicants from our link area in Gwynedd and Anglesey. This was used to inspire the incoming Seren group of the level

of success they can achieve. A link to the video can be found at www.magd.cam.ac.uk/seren2017. Figures show that this regional work in Wales is having a significant effect, with Welsh applications rising 15.8% over the last two years.

In terms of overall Magdalene applications, a record 17 of our applicants came from Merseyside and North/West Wales, making up over 6% of our applications despite our link areas covering only 3.8% of the total national population. This fully demonstrates that our Outreach programme is having an important effect raising aspirations for many students, and the intake to College and the University as a whole.

A visit from the Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Education

Kirsty Williams AM, the Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Education, visited Magdalene in April to celebrate Welsh success at Cambridge and to congratulate and thank the Magdalene and Churchill Admissions Offices for their ongoing work supporting Wales's brightest young academics with the Welsh Government's Seren Network.

The event featured an address from the Master Dr Rowan Williams (himself, of course, a Welshman) followed by presentations on the impact of our Outreach activities from Kirsty

Williams and Magdalene Schools Liaison Officer, Sandy Mill, whom Mrs Williams personally thanked for all his hard work making Cambridge more accessible and welcoming to students from across Wales.

Following the presentation there was a reception and conversation with current Welsh students to help inform our ongoing work aimed at helping future Welsh students achieve success at Cambridge, both in terms of making a successful application, and supporting students when they arrive.



FELLOWS' NEWS



DR CECILIA BRASSETT (2009), has been involved in the organisation of and gave the pre-dinner

talk at the annual conference of the Junior Trainees Group of the British Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in Cripps Court from 6–7 January 2018. The Chair of the JTG is Mr Shadi Basyuni, who supervised the College's second-year medics in Head and Neck Anatomy last year.

Dr Brassett was elected to the Council of the British Association of Clinical Anatomists and appointed an MRCS Examiner for the Royal College of Surgeons of England last December.



PROFESSOR TONY COCKERILL (2008), as part of the Economics Faculty's contribution to

the University's annual 'Festival of Ideas' last Michaelmas Term, once again offered a digital simulation game based on 'Running the British Economy'. Designed as a schools' outreach event for students in Years 12 and 13 and set within the Festival's general theme of 'Truth', the simulation this year was set around '*Economic Models: Fact or Fake?*' More than 50 students took part, with their staff members in support, from schools in the East of England, London and the South East. Each team of four to five students ran the economy for ten 'years', taking a sequence of decisions about government spending, tax rates and monetary policy. The prize for the winning team, in line with the policies applied and justified, was a box of fudge.



PROFESSOR SIR JOHN GURDON (2003), former Master and Honorary Fellow since 2002, was awarded the Golden Plate Award from the Academy of Achievement in October last year. He has also received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 51st Annual Miami Winter Symposium in January this year.

Dr Allègre Hadida (2003), Wins Pilkington Prize for Excellence in Teaching



DR ALLÈGRE HADIDA, Fellow of Magdalene College and University Senior Lecturer

in Strategy at Cambridge Judge Business School, was named by the University of Cambridge as one of 12 winners of the 2018 Pilkington Prize for excellence in teaching.

Allègre is the first female faculty member at the Cambridge Judge Business School to be recognised for the prestigious teaching awards since they were inaugurated in 1994. The prizes, awarded annually by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, aim to raise the profile of teaching within the University by

recognising individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to teaching and learning.

Allègre pioneered teaching and research in Cultural, Arts and Media Management and on Creativity in Business at the Cambridge Judge and on the Cambridge MBA. During her three years as Director of the University of Cambridge MPhil in Management (2013–16), Allègre restructured the programme and developed it into a flagship course. She is the recipient of two Cambridge Judge Faculty Teaching Prizes and four Cambridge MBA Professor of the Year Awards for her innovative MBA Strategy core course, which was also ranked second worldwide by the Financial Times in 2017.

Dr Hannah Critchlow (2003), Outreach Fellow



DR HANNAH CRITCHLOW, Outreach Fellow at Magdalene College has been busy this academic year

working on some very interesting and eclectic projects.

She has been co-presenting the new series of *Tomorrow's World Live*, as part of the BBC's dedicated science season. The third episode in the series was filmed at Glasgow Science Centre on a topic close to her heart – *Future of the Mind* – where she was joined by a panel of experts to explore how we will care for, treat and use our minds over the coming decades. The series was broadcast live on YouTube and Facebook and an edited version also appeared on BBC iPlayer. Previous episodes in the series have garnered lots of interest, interaction and enthusiasm, with over 200,000 views for the first show alone.

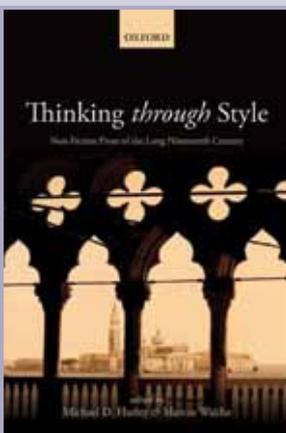
In November Hannah took part in a fantastic outreach event organised by the pharmaceutical company Roche, held at their site in Welwyn Garden City. *GenerationXt 2017* was a day crammed with scientific activities aimed to inspire students aged 16–18 about careers in science, technology, engineering and maths. Hundreds of students from surrounding schools were bused onto the site for the day. Hannah delivered the opening lecture and helped organise scientific workshops with fellow Cambridge neuroscientists.

Over Christmas and the New Year Hannah has been busy reading a lot of books as one of the judges for the Wellcome Trust Book Prize. This prestigious award celebrates the many ways in which literature can illuminate the breadth and depth of our relationship with health, medicine and illness. The winner was announced on Monday 30 April.

Finally Hannah is very excited that her own book (her first!) will be published in June. It's a clear, simple and entertaining introduction to one of life's most interesting questions: what does it mean to be conscious? Published by Penguin as part of their Ladybird Expert series, *Consciousness* takes readers on a voyage to discover what allows the grey matter in our skulls to produce such complex emotions, personality traits, thoughts and memories. Hannah will be launching the book at the Hay Literary Festival in Wales. She will be discussing consciousness from a neuroscientific and theological perspective with the Master Dr Rowan Williams on Saturday 26 May 2018, 5.30pm. Public tickets have sold out for this event, but a limited number are available for Magdalene Members via the Alumni and Development Office, so do get in touch if you would like to join us! There will also be a Magdalene College wine reception after the talk.

Thinking Through Style – Dr Marcus Waithe (2010)

DR MARCUS WAITHE has co-edited a new collection of essays with Dr Michael Hurley (St Catharine's), entitled *Thinking through Style*, which looks at Non-Fiction Prose of the Long Nineteenth Century.



Style has often been treated as something merely linguistic, independent of thought, ornamental; stylishness for its own sake. Or else it has been said to subserve thought, by mimicking, delineating, or heightening ideas that are already expressed in the words. This ambitious and timely study explores a third, more radical possibility in which style operates as a verbal mode of thinking

through. Rather than figure thought as primary and pre-verbal, and language as a secondary delivery system, style is conceived here as having the capacity to clarify or generate thinking.

Leading scholars survey twenty authors to show where writers who have gained reputations as either 'stylists' or as 'thinkers' exploit the interplay between 'the what' and 'the how' of their prose. The study demonstrates how celebrated stylists might, after all, have thoughts worth attending to, and that distinguished thinkers might be enriched for us if we paid more due to their style. More than reversing the conventional categories, this innovative volume shows how 'style' and 'thinking' can be approached as a shared concern. At a moment when, especially in nineteenth century studies, interest in style is re-emerging, this book reevaluates some of the most influential figures of that age, re-imagining the possible alliances, interplays, and generative tensions between thinking, thinkers, style, and stylists.

COINCIDENCE IN CALAIS

– Mr Mike Hollow (1971)

MIKE HOLLOW and ADRIAN CRISP (1968) did not quite overlap at Magdalene, but when Mike read about Adrian's book *Colonel Belchamp's Battlefield Tour* in the November 2017 issue of *Magdalene Matters* he made a surprising discovery.

Six months earlier Mike had delivered to his publisher *Firing Line*, the fourth of his *Blitz Detective* crime novels set in the autumn of 1940 at the height of the Luftwaffe's attacks on London. The story starts with a young woman found strangled in a flat during an air raid, and as Detective Inspector John Jago of the Metropolitan Police investigates, he encounters family jealousies, violence, robbery, and the underworld of political terrorism.

One of the book's characters is Richard Lewis, a keen motorcyclist

who joined the Territorial Army as war approached. Mike's research for an appropriate London-based unit led him to place Lewis in the Queen Victoria's Rifles, a TA motorcycle battalion, and in the story Lewis is sent with the battalion to help defend Calais against the advancing German forces in May 1940.

Hence Mike's surprise: this was the very battalion in which Adrian's main character James Butland was serving, and they were fighting in the same action at Calais. Mike got into contact with Adrian via the Magdalene Alumni Office, speculating that the two fictional soldiers might have known each other, and the authors read each other's books. Nor did the coincidences end there, as Mike discovered that the fictional Butland shared his father's birthday.



Firing Line was published by Lion Fiction on 23 March 2018, and a couple of weeks earlier the two authors met for dinner at Magdalene to compare notes on the art of novel-writing – preceded, of course, by a toast to the Queen Victoria's Rifles at the Pickerel.

For more information about Mike's books, see www.blitzdetective.com

Firing Line (The Blitz Detective) • Publisher: Lion Fiction • ISBN: 978-1782642572

COMING TO TERMS

– Dr Charles Moseley (1981)

Cambridge has a way of getting under the skin of anyone who spends time here – whether as a student, a long-term resident, or even as a passing tourist. CHARLES MOSELEY'S new book, *Coming to Terms: Cambridge In and Out* is a personal and quirky account of the Cambridge he has known for the past half century. It is a delightful, serendipitous, collection of anecdote, history, and memory. His story also draws on the changing life of Cambridge's countryside where he has lived and worked and sometimes successfully grown things.

The author companionably shows you the place he loves and brings present, past and future startlingly and wittily together. The book ranges from the visits of Elizabeth I, Samuel Pepys and Daniel Defoe – and many others – to the author's arrival from Lancashire as a nervous student; it ranges from University ceremonies, the author's academic and personal life, to vignettes of the changing countryside, farming and wildlife, and how to grow good onions. Dip into it, read at length, and share it with friends, Town, Gown or neither.



Charles Moseley has also written *Latitude North* (2015), *Between the Tides: A Lancashire Youth* (2014) and *Out of Reach* (2010), all of which were highly praised.

Coming to Terms • Publisher: IndieBooks • ISBN: 978-1908041487

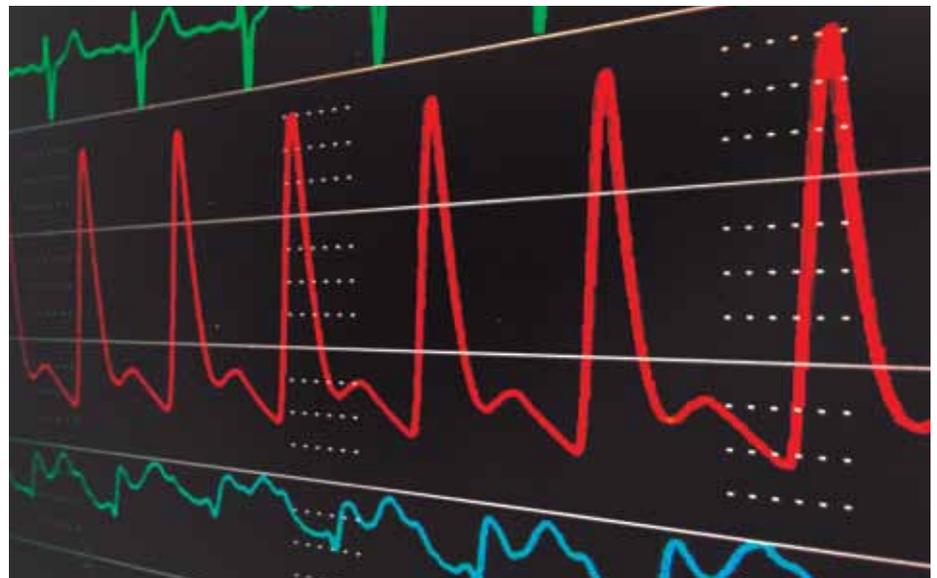
FROM 'DATA DROUGHT' TO 'DATA DELUGE'

BIG DATA AND INTENSIVE CARE

BY DR ARI ERCOLE (2014)

Data in healthcare

There can be few areas of modern life that have not been profoundly influenced by information technology and the rapid and easy availability of data: it is hard to imagine a world without internet banking, online shopping or email. In contrast to other areas of our lives, the world of healthcare has, due to a vast legacy of notes, an inherent complexity of services, regulatory difficulties, legitimate privacy concerns and perhaps a degree of professional conservatism, been slower to adapt to the information revolution. As a result, most medical data remains machine-unreadable. Hidden away and unstructured in paper notes and incompatible systems. This is a lost opportunity. First of all for the patient. For a treatment decision to be sound, it must take holistic account of the totality of the patient's history and not just a snapshot from the clinic: impossible if records are 'siloes'. Secondly, for society. Increasingly we realise just how heterogeneous both individuals, disease and the interaction of the two are. If healthcare data, with all its inherent complexity, were more accessible and amenable to automated analysis then perhaps hitherto unappreciated patterns with prognostic and treatment importance might emerge.



Medical data is now increasingly available in electronic form. A sizeable proportion of US healthcare providers now use electronic systems. The ill-fated NHS's National Programme for Information Technology was rather less effective in promoting change, but the UK is now finally catching up and electronic healthcare is here to stay.¹

Big data and intensive care

Of all the areas of medicine, critically ill patients who have the misfortune to need the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) provide us with examples of by far the most data-dense episodes of patient care imaginable. Patients on the ICU

are some of the most profoundly sick in healthcare and they can, and do, deteriorate in a life-threatening way even over a matter of minutes (sometimes even seconds). As a result, they are more extensively monitored and investigated than any other group in the hope of detecting and intervening in a timely way to prevent harm or even death. Continuous measurement of heart function, blood pressures and life-support information generates gigabytes of data per day. This poses its own problem: it is impossible for a clinician to spot potentially complex inter-relationships between different parameters over time. As a result, we use very little

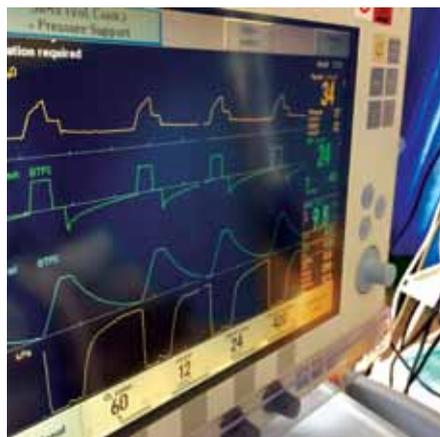
...continued

I have no doubt that Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques will become commonplace in medicine...

of the data that we collect. This is an example of what has become known as 'Big Data': data that is so voluminous or otherwise complex that humans struggle to make sense of it.

Humans are good at making complex (and even satisfactory life or death) decisions based on limited or imperfect information, weighing this up with judgements and understanding regarding individual preferences and wishes. Few would seriously suggest that computers will take this away. On the other hand, computers are able to process large volumes of data searching for patterns. Algorithms to search for, and make inferences from, complex associations in Big Data have been developed, primarily in other fields such as commerce and engineering and are becoming increasingly sophisticated. These techniques, which fall under the umbrella of 'Artificial Intelligence', include a variety of so-called 'Machine Learning' strategies that allow computers to 'learn' associations in data.

This, of course, assumes that such associations exist and are missed by humans. But there is evidence that they do and are. Recently, we used anonymous routine data to look for features that might predict unexpected readmission to ICU. Such readmissions, which result from subsequent unexpected life-threatening deterioration in patients



who were stepped down to the ward are important: a number of studies have linked unexpected readmission to increases in hospital length of stay and even mortality. Since the doctors making the decision to discharge the patient were in full possession of the plethora of recent and historical results, presumably such events are simply an unpredictable matter of chance? Not so, it turns out. By applying contemporary machine learning algorithms to a set of 76 parameters, we were able to credibly predict many such readmissions and indeed we not only outperformed the human clinicians, but also simple scoring systems which have been described previously.²

Big Data approaches allow us to understand things that we could not before. Dr Chris Meiring (2010), who previously studied Medicine, is currently undertaking an MPhil at Magdalene using Machine Learning to look at the logical framework behind the ethics of ICU admission decision-making. The best medical decisions are made when the physician has the most accurate information. This is particularly the case with ethically challenging decisions; clear, accurate information provides the proper context. The ICU is an environment in which ethical principles become real decisions every day; the duty of care to each patient in terms of not inflicting necessarily painful, degrading and burdensome treatments when they

may in fact be futile and the just allocation of limited resources are always in balance. At the same time, to deny someone such treatments on the assumption of futility without further assessment is self-fulfilling. However, we do not know where that balance is. How long should we treat before we can predict with sufficient confidence what the outcome may be so that the patient (or clinician, in partnership with the relatives of those patients who lack the capacity to speak for themselves) may make a decision about what is an acceptable balance of outcome and burden?

Tools have been developed to aid prognostication in the intensive care setting. However, the most widely used tools have major drawbacks. For example, they typically use only information collected on admission; definitive prognostic decisions are often made after several days however. Chris's work aims to tackle this. Does it make sense to keep patients for several days on a precious intensive care bed before making a definitive decision? Does each new day add new information which significantly improves prognostic ability? We are using both traditional statistical methods and machine learning algorithms to build the best predictive models we can for each progressive day in intensive care, based on objective, observable parameters. Comparing these will show us whether days two and three add important new information for prognostication. If they do, then a new predictive model which takes them into account could substantially improve on the current tools. If not, then a question is raised about whether definitive prognostic decisions should be made earlier.

The project has required Chris to engage with new challenges including complex statistical modelling, parallel processing and management of computing resources, and the clear graphical representation of

complicated results. He has been stretched in expanding the limits of his computing and statistical knowledge whilst confronting difficult ethical questions.

However, the closer we look at data, the more we find. There is hidden information, folded unseen within the many waveforms and traces that are continuously recorded in ICU. Dr Stephen Egle (2017), Official Fellow in Mathematics at Magdalene and Reader in Computational Neuroscience, and I are working together on an innovative project under the auspices of the Cantab Capital Institute for the Mathematics of Information to examine the information content and structure in data from patients with severe neurotrauma in the hope of identifying new, hitherto unrecognised signatures of disease within the signals recorded from the body and the brain.

Where now?

I have no doubt that Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques will become commonplace in medicine and UK academics are well placed to be at the vanguard of such developments. To study Big Data we need large amounts of data. To date, the largest research repository for ICU data is MIMIC III in the US. Cambridge has played its part as we have helped to establish the Critical Care Health Informatics Collaborative (CCHIC).³ This database continues to grow and now rivals the US counterpart in the number of patients included, but also has the advantage of being multi-centre and linkable allowing us to address questions about the long term impact of intensive care on survivors once they go home, a hugely important area that has nevertheless achieved little attention. The CCHIC dataset is still relatively new but it underpins Chris's work, and we hope that it will begin to rapidly bear scientific fruit.

Medical data is inherently potentially sensitive and precious to us and this must be respected, particularly when we step beyond the individual and look to the population. There is nothing new about using potentially sensitive medical data to understand population health. However, of particular public concern is the involvement of industry, in many ways pioneers of Big Data technology. The recent high-profile DeepMind case shows how rapidly public faith can be eroded when data is not properly governed, despite good intentions.⁴ Online banking demonstrates that it is possible to keep large volumes of highly sensitive data secure, even in the hands of industry. However it is for researchers to convince society of the benefits for patients of Big Data research in medicine and demonstrate our ongoing trustworthiness.

Finally, we need to ensure that our doctors and healthcare professionals of the future are equipped for a potential paradigm-shift in medical research. We should not aspire to replace the doctor. Treatment decisions at the individual level are deeply personal and ultimately require the intangible qualities that allow humans to understand each other's personal and cultural perspectives. No matter how clever algorithms become, uncertainty will always remain and only humans can deal with this in a societally and individually acceptable way. Nevertheless, I think it is likely that data-driven techniques will become increasingly important in medicine. Such approaches are fundamentally transdisciplinary and require a confluence of expertise from both medicine but also computing, mathematics and data science. Our healthcare professionals need to be equipped for this Tower of Babel, at very least, with the appropriate languages to make informed decisions based on new evidence.



DR ARI ERCOLE is a Fellow in Clinical Medicine at Magdalene. Dr Ercole directs studies for Part II of the Medical Tripos and he is an Honorary Senior Research Associate in the Division of Anaesthesia. In addition to his role at Magdalene, Dr Ercole is a consultant in neurosciences and trauma intensive care at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. His clinical interests focus on the physiological measurement, support and resuscitation of critically ill patients, in particular patients that have sustained life threatening severe trauma.

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FUTURE foundations

THE CAMPAIGN FOR MAGDALENE

One Year On

The warm response from the wider Magdalene community gave us the courage to believe we could raise £25 million in five years.

Avid readers of the College's publications will be aware that we launched a very ambitious fundraising campaign in March 2017. Our stated aim at the time is as true now as it was then, to ensure that our students have the best possible facilities and support here at Magdalene to enable them to succeed. Our commitment to academic excellence includes the provision of financial support, the best possible teaching and pastoral care and a new library building. It will offer spacious work areas with excellent IT facilities, a dedicated archive centre, an art gallery and a social hub for students, Fellows and visitors alike. The need for this additional building is particularly apparent this term when every available room throughout the College is used for extra study space for the students. We also remain determined to conserve and enhance our historic estate and, once the new, state-of-the-art library has been built, we will be focussing on restoring the splendid Pepys Building.

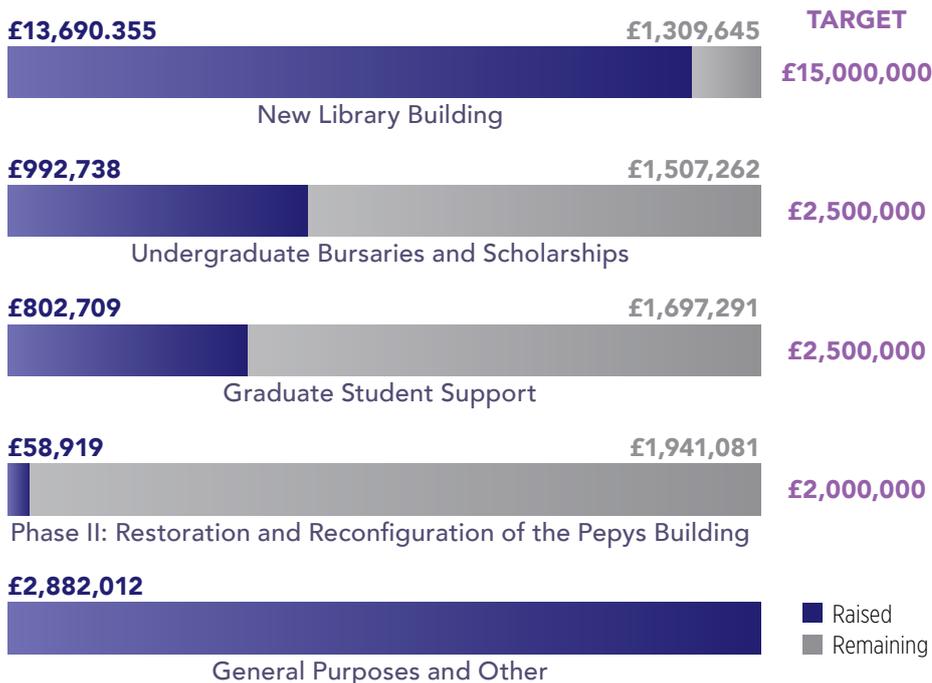
We announced our target of £25 million a year ago knowing we had secured gifts and pledges worth £10 million in the period running up to the 'public phase' of the Campaign.

The gifts, the pledges, the warm response and the offers of help from the wider Magdalene community gave us the courage to believe we could raise such a huge sum – £25 million – in five years.

We were right! The College has received £18,426,733 (to 30 April 2018) for the Campaign in gifts and pledges, of which £13,690,355 is for the new Library. This truly fantastic result allows us to break ground for the new library this September and to look forward to the opening the new Library building in two years' time ready for Michaelmas 2020. We have been most fortunate and are immensely grateful to have received a number of very large benefactions but are equally humbled by the generosity of the entire Magdalene community, as 1,505 Members have already contributed to the Campaign so far.

Looking at the chart below, I hope you will agree that every gift, large and small, makes a very real difference to our success. Thank you!

Campaign Funds Raised to date



We invite you to take part in this remarkable endeavour – a gift of £17.78 per month (with Gift Aid) over the remaining 45 months of the of the Campaign will add up to £1,000 and ensure that your name will be added to the Wall of Benefactors in the main central reading room on the first floor of the new building, the Magdalene Members' Reading Room.

More information can be found at www.magd.cam.ac.uk/future-foundations

SEVEN VARSITY RUGBY MATCHES – A UNIVERSITY RECORD!

BY MR WILL BRIGGS (2009)

As my penultimate academic term draws to a close, I've had an opportunity to reflect on life at Magdalene and University sport, two pillars of my time at Cambridge.

I have been immensely privileged to represent the University in seven Rugby Union Varsity Matches, a record which would not have been possible without the support of people in College.

When I arrived at Magdalene (in 2009!), intent on playing rugby, I was told that colleges generally frowned upon extracurricular activities, particularly in the sporting domain. I found the attitude at Magdalene to be anything but. Be it Bob, the College Marshal and biggest Northampton Saints fan I've ever met, my medical Directors of Study, my Tutors, or my PhD Supervisor, every single one of them went out of their way to help me achieve my academic and sporting goals. I have found this attitude reflected in the actions of the alumni too. When I lost my third Varsity Match, as Captain in 2013, it was a kind letter from Ian Peck (1976), a former Magdalene student and CURUFC Captain, that helped me gain perspective. When the cost of playing rugby became prohibitive, it was an award donated by Sarah Springman (1988), a former Magdalene student and GB Triathlete, that sustained me. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all and extend this thanks to other members of the Magdalene community who have been so helpful. It is for your actions and this community spirit that Magdalene will forever hold such a special place in my heart.

The Varsity Matches themselves have been a great lesson in resilience. I've had the dubious honour of playing in five successive defeats, as part of the longest losing-streak in Varsity Match history. When your season revolves around a single season-defining match, and you see all that you have



Will Briggs leading out the Cambridge Blues Squad at Twickenham for the Varsity Match.

invested and forgone come to nothing, five losses really start to add up. I certainly came close to quitting on more than one occasion and probably would have, were it not for fierce friendships forged on the rugby pitch. If I had quit, I'd have missed the fairy-tale ending and I'm now able to leave Cambridge happy, having won the last two Varsity Matches and finally thrown the monkey (gorilla!) off my back.

Truth be told, the Rugby Club was not in a position to compete with Oxford for the first few years of my time in Cambridge. However, more recently, the Club has taken huge strides forward to close the gap. This was best illustrated in December, when both the Men's and Women's Blues won their respective Varsity Matches, making it a Light Blue double victory at Twickenham! This highlights the other great shift at CURUFC during my time, the coming together of men's and women's rugby as a single club and the spotlighting of the women's game in its relocation to Twickenham. For context, even England Women rarely play at Twickenham and it's been fantastic to see the CURUFC ladies leading the charge for gender equality.

All this being said, there is still work to do, both in terms of promoting gender equality in rugby and securing the sustainability of CURUFC. The Club is looking to do just this as it builds towards its 150th anniversary in 2021. To anybody who supports these ambitions, please take the time to find out more at www.redlion150.curufc.com.





MAGDALENE BOAT CLUB UPDATE

Magdalene Boat Club (MBC) rowers have had great success this year at University level.

M2 braving the snow during Lent Bumps.

It is indeed a very special year with the Cambridge crews winning their races against Oxford, a fantastic achievement, and Magdalene were well represented across the Blue boats.

Nicholas Rice (2013) and Catriona Bourne (2017) represented Cambridge in the Men's Lightweight Reserves Race against Oxford (at 2 and as cox respectively), smashing them by ½ a length. Olivia Hamilton (2015), who learned to row at Magdalene, raced in the Women's Lightweight Boat, also beating Oxford by ½ a length. Daphne Martschenko (2015), CUWBC President and MBC Member, rowed in Blondie, defeating Oxford. Patrick Elwood (2012), MBC Men's Captain 2013-14, rowed in the two seat in the Cambridge Men's Blue Boat, beating Oxford and finishing off a perfect day. Huge congratulations to everyone involved in rowing this year: the hard work, early starts and dedication all paid off!

MBC's racing kick-started in October with the Senior Men competing in the Huntingdon Head of the River Race, where the first four won and set a new record. The second four finished third. Three weeks later, both fours raced in the Cantabs Winter Head; the first four came joint-first with Pembroke and the second four finished second in their event.

Emma Sprints provided our novices with their first taste of racing. There were some fantastic costumes: Vikings with huge beards, Jurassic Park keepers and a T-Rex cox. MBC entered two men's and two women's boats; the highlight of the day being the Novice Women's Second Crew (NW2), who came third in their division and sped ahead of Lucy Cavendish, Darwin and Emmanuel. The Novice Men's First Crew (NM1), Novice Men's Second Crew (NM2) and Novice Women's First Crew (NW1) all achieved one win and one loss.

In Novice Fairbairns, NM1 and NM2 finished 14th and 38th out of 56 crews, and NW1 and NW2 finished 24th and

33rd out of 47. The Fairbairn Cup took place the following day, with the Senior Women entering a solid VIII and nicely finishing in 18th place. The Senior Men had a fantastic row and the first four won the event, finishing 0.6 seconds ahead of Pembroke. Our second four were the fastest second boat and placed 6th out of all College fours.

During Lent term, the Men's First Crew (M1) entered the Winter Head to Head, finishing 5th overall. The First Women's Crew (W1), Second Men's Crew (M2) and Third Men's Crew (M3) raced the Newnham Short Course, and M1 and W1 then both entered Bedford Eights and Fours Head, with M1 finishing 3rd out of 209 crews. Pembroke Regatta followed, where W1 conquered Wolfson before being knocked out by Lucy Cavendish and M1 defeated St Edmund's, LMBC and Trinity before losing to Caius in the final.

Three crews entered Lent Bumps, and despite cancellations due to chilly conditions, a great experience was had by all. W1 were bumped three times, M2 rowed over twice, and M1 bumped twice.

Both W1 and M1 then took to the Tideway to race in the Women's Eights Head of the River Race and the Head of the River Race. W1 finished 180/300, jumping up 41 places from the previous year, and M1 finished 140/300, rising 122 places – a fantastic result for both crews.

In mid-April, MBC members kicked off preparations for the May Bumps by heading to Lake Bled in Slovenia for a week-long training camp at the International Rowing Centre. A wonderful time was had by all and some serious training took place – May Bumps here we come!

MR JAMES RICHARDSON (2015)
MAGDALENE BOAT CLUB CAPTAIN

REUNION OF MBC CAPTAINS AND PRESIDENTS



All Captains and Presidents since 1950 were contacted and invited to an MBC Reunion last November. Forty-seven were able to attend and a very convivial evening was spent exchanging happy reminiscences. MBC is indebted to the Nationwide Building Society who generously hosted the evening at their main London office.

THE MALLORY CLUB

The Friends of MBC have metamorphosed into the Mallory Club. The core aim remains to give financial and other support to MBC but with a developing interactive social network of alumni who want present and future Members of Magdalene to benefit from every opportunity the Boat Club has to offer.

Alumni have already begun racing under the Mallory Club name and colours; indeed they were class winners first time out in a coxed IV in the Fairbairn races in December 2017.

The Mallory Club invites alumni to the Mays Marquee on the Long Reach on the afternoon of Saturday 16th June and also to apply for places at the Mays Boat Club Dinner on the same evening. Reunion crews are particularly encouraged.



For more information please visit the Magdalene Boat Club website www.magdaleneboatclub.co.uk or write to info@malloryclub.com. Friends of MBC who have not received details of the Mallory Club are particularly requested to make contact.

MR PERRAN ZAIR (1968), MBC ROWING COACH

News about Regulatory Changes

DATA PROTECTION

Members may be aware that the law relating to Data Protection has changed: the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will come into force this month. Together with the other Colleges, Magdalene has been working closely with the University of Cambridge to ensure that we comply fully with the new law. Part of this process has been to update our Data Protection Statement (available online at www.magd.cam.ac.uk/alumni-data-protection), which transparently explains how we look after your data and the legal basis upon which we do so.

FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

The College has also recently registered with the Fundraising Regulator, a new independent body which sets standards for charitable fundraising. As part of this process we have published a 'Fundraising Promise' online at www.magd.cam.ac.uk/fundraising-promise, although it should be noted that Magdalene has held itself to these standards for years.



MIDDLE COMBINATION ROOM UPDATE

Magdalene's MCR reflects on a good year as the Committee approaches handover.



Lafayette

MCR Christmas Banquet.

It's been a busy year here at Magdalene for the MCR Committee. We started our term of office with the opportunity to transform the traditional Summer Banquet into something more accessible and more affordable to the wider MCR community. Ticket prices took more than a 50% cut and the traditional banquet was accompanied by prosecco and some light jazz in Second Court beforehand and afterwards a superb DJ set in a transformed dimly lit Benson Hall. The Committee were very quick to make their mark on the MCR social calendar with this very enjoyable conclusion to the academic year.

After a summer packed with lab work, research trips and writing, Freshers' Week quickly arrived, welcoming 97 fresh faces to the MCR community.

The Freshers were quick to get to know their fellow matriculands, making the most of all that Freshers' Week had to offer and even taking the initiative to organise a few of their own events, such as a board games night during Term. During Michaelmas Term we took the chance to test out a few new events, starting with an Open Mic Night. This was an evening enjoyed by all and a fantastic opportunity to showcase some of Magdalene's hidden talents. Michaelmas Term concluded with our annual Christmas Banquet which was enjoyed thoroughly by all. Singing carols over mince pies and a few glasses of port was a wonderful way to end the year.

Lent Term was a busy one, with BA Formal tickets selling out every week within a few hours of going on sale.

We also saw the start of our MPhil Parlour Talks, a great opportunity for the MPhil students to present their research to the rest of the MCR. As well as the continued success of the MCR subsidised yoga, as part of our welfare initiative, and our infamous formal hall swaps.

The end of Lent Term saw the MCR Executive Committee elections. I'm very pleased to report that the MCR is being passed into the very capable hands of Roxine Staats, Mike Lewis and Petros Chatzimpaloglou, as President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively for 2018/19. I wish them all the best of luck for their year in office.

ROWENA DOWNIE (2015)
MCR PRESIDENT 2017/18

JUNIOR COMBINATION ROOM UPDATE

The new JCR Committee has worked hard to follow on from the great achievements of the last committee.

In January, over 130 students travelled to Oxford for the third annual Magdalene-Magdalen Sports Day, competing in over ten sports from rugby and football to lacrosse and darts. The day was a great success and a lot of fun was had by everyone. We look forward to hosting Oxford next year.

Kit, the Green and Charities Officer, organised a fantastic Green and Charities Formal to raise money for our charities, *Leonard Cheshire Disability* and the *Against Malaria Foundation*.

Our Ents Officer, Giri, organised two fantastic bops, with themes including 'Memes' and 'UV'. We hosted the first ever Wedding Formal to celebrate the

Freshers' College marriages and raise money for next year's Freshers' Week. Prosecco, decorations in Hall and a photographer made this a highlight of the Term, and we hope it is something that will be repeated for many more years.

As Exam Term slowly approaches, Welfare Officers, Alex and Sarah, have worked hard to relieve students' stress. Donut and coffee events in the bar, individual drop in sessions and sexual health clinics have all been instrumental in this.

The Women's Officer, Rachel, put on a fantastic celebration for International Women's Day and Services, Bar and Buttery Officer, Harry, organised a

wonderful Halfway Hall for the second years. Domestic and Academic Officer Hannah's careful organisation ensured that the Room Ballot ran without a hitch and IT Officer, Edwin, organised a Room Ballot website with 360 degree room photos. LGBT+ Officers, Nathan and Laura, organised a series of events including an LGBT+ Superhall, whilst our Access Officer, Lucy, has overseen a number of access events.

Overall, the JCR Committee has achieved a great deal as a team, and we are grateful for the continued support of the students and staff.

SAM ASHBRIDGE (2016)
JCR PRESIDENT

Magdalene KeepCups BY HEATHER RIGBY (2015)

The recent 'David Attenborough Effect' has led to a surge in interest in cutting down on plastics. This has led to single use plastics and disposable items such as coffee cups coming under scrutiny. Within the University, steps are being taken to reduce waste including a University-wide initiative to cut down on single use cups. In 2015, the University's Environment and Energy Section reported that the University had stopped 382kg of waste from being sent to landfill, saved 28,617MJ of energy, and preserved 11 mature trees' worth of carbon. This, all due to introducing sustainably made reusable 'KeepCups'.

This was all thanks to a scheme run by the University Catering Service team to reduce waste and carbon emissions, by selling refillable travel cups and



offering discounts on hot and cold drinks. Disposable cup use decreased dramatically and, during the 2014/15 academic year, 27,280 disposable cups were saved due to the scheme. That's almost one saved for every student and staff member at the University!

This initiative spread quickly to a number of different colleges who started to sell their own KeepCups.

As JCR Green and Charities Officer, I saw this as an opportunity to introduce Magdalene-branded KeepCups. In collaboration with the Development Office, we worked to design three different KeepCups in two sizes. Their success was immediate, as students rushed to order them.

Once used 15 times, you reach the breakeven point of the KeepCup's life cycle. Every time you use it after that, it's a bonus for the planet. This illustrates the significant impact reusing your Magdalene KeepCup can have on the planet. In a world where ocean pollution, climate change and biodiversity loss are looming large, small steps such as cutting down on plastic waste as individuals and as a College can make a big difference.

If you are interested in buying a Magdalene KeepCup, go to: www.magd.cam.ac.uk/keepcup

Forthcoming EVENTS

26 MAY 2018

Magdalene Event at the Hay Festival

2 JUNE 2018

Buckingham Society Luncheon

16 JUNE 2018

May Bumps Marquee

21 JUNE 2018

Boston Dinner

22 JUNE 2018

Chapel Choir Tour, Concord MA

24 JUNE 2018

Chapel Choir Tour, Darien CT

25 JUNE 2018

Cape Cod Dinner and Choir Performance

27 JUNE 2018

Graduands' Garden Party

1 JULY 2018

Family Day

4 JULY 2018

Magdalene in the City Summer Drinks Party

7 SEPTEMBER 2018

Magdalene Dinner in Hong Kong

8 SEPTEMBER 2018

Magdalene Dinner in Singapore

12 OCTOBER 2018

Magdalene Dinner at the Oxford & Cambridge Club

27 OCTOBER 2018

Triennial Alumni Choir Association Dinner

8 NOVEMBER 2018

Magdalene Dinner in Washington DC

9 NOVEMBER 2018

Magdalene Dinner in New York

10 NOVEMBER 2018

Magdalene Dinner in Toronto

24 NOVEMBER 2018

50 years of the Magdalene Law Society – Law Dinner

3 DECEMBER 2018

Annual Carol Concert

Additional events may be added; please check www.magd.cam.ac.uk/events and look out for updated listings in Magdalene eMatters. Please email events@magd.cam.ac.uk to register your interest in any of the above events.



FAMILY DAY

We are looking forward to welcoming Members and their families to the annual Family Day celebrations in the Fellows' Garden on Sunday 1 July, from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. In addition to the traditional family BBQ there will be a range of entertainments for adults and children, including a band, face painting, games and much more.

Non-Resident Members' Guest Nights 2018–2019

13 October 2018	:	These evenings are hosted by a group of
16 November 2018	:	Fellows and include pre-dinner drinks.
26 January 2019	:	They offer Members the opportunity of
9 March 2019	:	bringing one guest to dine at High Table.
27 April 2019	:	Please note that numbers of NRMs are
25 May 2019	:	limited to a maximum of ten at any one
19 October 2019	:	night. Please book via the Alumni &
15 November 2019	:	Development Office.

REUNIONS

Reunions in 2018

FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in 1995–1997

FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in 1998–2000

Reunions in 2019

FRIDAY 12 APRIL

Dinner for those who matriculated in 2001–2003

SATURDAY 4 MAY

Lunch for those who matriculated up to 1959

FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in 2004–2006

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

Dinner for those who matriculated in 2007–09

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

Those who matriculated in 2012 will be invited to take their MA in person or in absentia in 2019.

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