

IMPRINT



In this issue

Renovating College

The intricacies of renovating our historic rooms

117 terms

Professor David Hills to retire after nearly 40 years at Lincoln

No mountain too big

Mountaineer Rodrigo Jordan works to alleviate poverty in Chile

Contents

College



04 College news

06 Renovating College

Two historic rooms get some TLC

10 Sports and societies

The latest about sports, music and drama



18 The Berrow Archive

The papers of the Marquis de Amodio illuminate an epoch

22 Lincoln's journey to sustainability

How we're making the College greener

Features



24 Embracing uncertainty

Dr Arabella Begin, our first Director of Studies in Clinical Medicine, discusses her approach

26 117 Terms

Professor David Hills reflects on research, teaching and good citizenship



30 Ageing in Old English Poetry

Dr Harriet Soper on how medieval English poets depict the lifespan



Lincoln College

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Lincoln College
Turl Street
Oxford
OX1 3DR

lincoln.ox.ac.uk

@ [instagram.com/lincolncollegeoxford](https://www.instagram.com/lincolncollegeoxford)
twitter.com/LincolnAlumni
[linkedin.com/company/lincoln-college-university-of-oxford](https://www.linkedin.com/company/lincoln-college-university-of-oxford)

Registered charity no. 1139261

© Lincoln College, Oxford, 2023

The opinions expressed in *Imprint* are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of Lincoln College. All content correct at the time of going to print.

Editorial Team

Halley Cohen and Susan Harrison

Development Office

+44(0)1865 279841
development.office@lincoln.ox.ac.uk

Design and Print

B&M Design & Advertising
bm-group.co.uk



Printed on Horizon Offset
FSC® Mix Credit

Cover photo

Stuart Bebb, Oxford Camera

Other Images

5: Fisher Studios
23: Stuart Bebb, Oxford Camera
30: St John's College for Byrhtferth's
Diagram of the Physical and
Physiological Fours
32: Courtesy of the British Library
Board (Cotton MS Vitellius C III fol. 67r)
53: Reinhard Goerner

If you would like to share your opinion, please email: development.office@lincoln.ox.ac.uk or write to us at the address shown.

Alumni



34

At the King's Coronation

Lady Emma Barnard (1982) describes the magic and pageantry of the day



40

Lincoln Entrepreneurs

Neil Wolff (1979) invests in Oxford alums via the Oxford Angel Fund



48

My Lincoln

Interview with Graham Allen (1976) on his distinguished career at the University of Cambridge



52

Development report

On updating our historic spaces and preparing students for life after Lincoln

36

No mountain too big

Mountaineer Rodrigo Jordan (1986) uses his skills to alleviate poverty in Chile

22

Sustainability through ESG

Prerna Wadikar (2020) on the importance of Environmental, Social and Governance initiatives

50

Events report

A look back on a full year of in-person events

54

Alumni news

Updates and news from Lincoln alumni

From the Editor

As a relatively new staff member, I've relished the friendliness and warmth permeating the walls of Lincoln. There's an unmistakable buzz of energy from our students, who not only give their all to their studies, but somehow find time for a myriad of activities. We are proud of their efforts on the stage, field, river and court, and you can read about our thespians, choristers and athletes in the Sports and Societies section.

This year's *Imprint* has an entrepreneurship theme. We meet mountaineer and social entrepreneur, Rodrigo Jordan (1986), working tirelessly

to alleviate poverty in Chile. We also meet social entrepreneur Prerna Wadikar (2020), a pioneer of ESG education in India, whose work garnered a UK India Achievers Award. Approaching entrepreneurship from a different angle, founder Neil Wolff (1979) discusses the Oxford Angel Fund, which invests in startups founded by Lincoln and Oxford alumni.

Also in this issue, Lady Emma Barnard (1982), Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, recounts the magic of the King's Coronation. Professor David Hills discusses the importance of balancing research and

teaching alongside holding College offices. We also meet Dr Arabella Begin (2000), our first Director of Studies in Clinical Medicine, and Dr Harriet Soper who discusses her new book, *The Life Course in Old English Poetry*. In *My Lincoln*, Graham Allen (1976), who was Vice-President of Wolfson College at "the other place", reflects on his Lincoln days and the challenges facing our ancient universities. Huge thank you to alums who shared their news with us. We appreciate this connection with you!

Halley Cohen, Communications and Website Officer

College News



Awards for Lincoln Fellows

Dr Alexander Prescott-Couch, Tutorial Fellow in Philosophy, has been awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship to run from April 2024 until July 2025. His project will examine how ethnography and narrative can help inform our politics by facilitating empathy, social understanding and political deliberation.

We welcomed Dr Alice Thorneywork, Tutorial Fellow in Physical Chemistry, to Lincoln this year. Her research aims to understand transport and fluctuations in soft and nanoscale systems when they are driven out of equilibrium. This work is supported by a Royal Society University and, since October 2022, a £1.2M UKRI Frontier Research Guarantee grant.



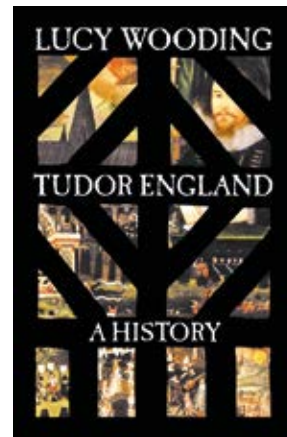
Pathfinders Access Programme

This year has seen the further development of our flagship Access Programme *Pathfinders*. Year Nine students from across Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, who are eligible for free school meals, attended the first event in Lincoln City and the second event in College itself. We are grateful to the Fellows and staff who have given their time to the programme and made it such an enjoyable experience for the pupils. Next year will see the expansion of Pathfinders as we welcome our second, larger cohort to the programme and introduce them to higher education, Oxford and Lincoln life!



Gavin Selerie Archive

The literary archive of Gavin Selerie (1968) is now open for research. A prominent contemporary poet and essayist celebrated for using extensive research to complement his imagination, Selerie's papers document his investigation of the subjects of his poems. The collection also contains a substantial body of correspondence with other modernist and postmodernist poets including Allen Ginsberg, Laurence Ferlinghetti and Edward Dorn. His series of notebooks spanning five decades are being digitised and uploaded to the archive catalogue. Additional material, including his essays on Bob Dylan, will be deposited in due course. It will be exciting to see what insights the exploration of this rich body of material will produce. Gavin passed away on 18 June 2023.



Tudor England: A History (Yale University Press, 2022)

Lucy Wooding (Langford Fellow and Tutor in History) published her new book in October 2022. This account of England under the Tudors sought to bring together some of the more well-known political narratives with recent insights into social, cultural and religious history, paying particular attention to how ordinary men and women thought, wrote, lived, and died. As well as a monarchy under strain and religious transformation, it depicts a population contending with war, rebellion, plague and poverty, with chapters exploring themes such as literary renaissance, confessional division, gender relations and performative political culture.



Matthew Freeman elected Chair of EMBO

Congratulations to Professor Matthew Freeman, Head of the Dunn School of Pathology, who has been elected as the Chair of EMBO Council from January 1st 2023.

He takes the helm of EMBO (formerly the European Molecular Biology Organisation), which is an academy of life sciences, with an international elected membership of about 2000 leading life scientists. Its main goals are to support talented researchers at all career stages, stimulate scientific exchange, and promote research excellence and good practice. Among other activities, it funds fellowships, publishes journals and organises conferences all over the world.



Ukraine Scholarship fundraiser with Nick Revell

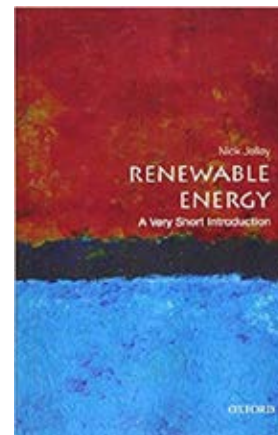
Last November the Lincoln JCR welcomed Lincoln alumnus and award-winning comedian, writer and performer, Nick Revell (1976), back to College for a comedy gig in aid of the Ukraine Scholarship Appeal. The evening was hosted by Archie Turner, JCR President (2022-23), and saw alumni return to College to enjoy an outstanding and fast-paced set by Nick. The gig raised funds that will allow Lincoln to fund a Ukrainian refugee scholar on a one-year graduate scholarship in 2023-24. Huge thanks to Nick and alumni for making this scholarship possible.



Nigel Clifford elected as Lincoln's 40th Rector

We're delighted that Mr Nigel Clifford FRGS, FRSA, FRICS has been elected as our 40th Rector, to succeed Professor Henry Woudhuysen FBA in September 2024.

After graduating with a geography degree from Downing College, Cambridge, he went on to complete an MBA from Strathclyde University. He has held senior roles in a number of high-profile organisations, and has been particularly attracted to historic institutions that make a difference to the world. He is currently President of the Royal Geographical Society, serves as Deputy Chair of the UK's first Geospatial Commission and is the Operating Executive with Marlin Equity Partners.



Nick Jelley's new book on renewable energy

In today's world, energy is vital for a good standard of living. Affordable sources of power that can provide the clean energy the world needs, without the pollution and global warming caused by burning fossil fuels, are crucial. Renewable energy provides the answer, and in this *Very Short Introduction*, Nick Jelley, Supernumerary Fellow, describes the main renewable sources from solar and wind to biomass and hydropower. He explores their innovative technologies, emphasising what they can deliver, and explains their importance in tackling climate change, improving health, welfare and access to electricity, and achieving a carbon-free future.

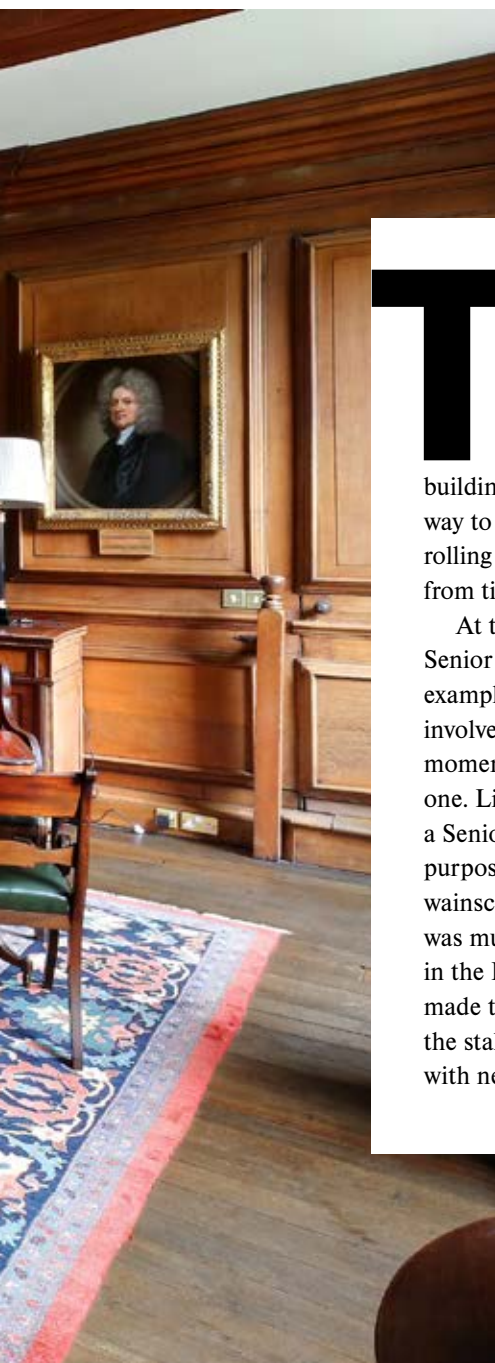
Renovating historic rooms in College

Dr Mark Kirby discusses the intricacies of overseeing the renovation of two of our historic rooms.



“Our initial application to Historic England for listed building consent had been based on what we saw of the problem at floor level, so we had to apply for further permission for the joists as well. They may be rotten joists, but they are seventeenth-century rotten joists!”

Below: The Senior Common Room before the start of work



The College is privileged to be the custodian of some very fine historic buildings and rooms. In the oldest parts of the College – around Front Quad and Chapel Quad – the prevailing spirit of the place is one of mostly late seventeenth-century interiors within buildings which are, of course, much older. The best way to look after historic interiors is to keep up a rolling programme of repair and conservation, and from time-to-time other alterations are needed.

At the moment, work is ongoing in the Lower Senior Common Room, and it has become a good example of what looking after historic rooms involves. It is an attractive room (if a little dark at the moment), as well as being a historically important one. Lincoln College was the first in Oxford to create a Senior Common Room, setting aside a room for that purpose in 1662. In 1684, the room was panelled with wainscot by the Oxford joiner Arthur Frogley. Frogley was much in demand, and also made the carved wood in the Beckington Room, and in the Chapel, where he made the heraldic ceiling, the wonderful statues on the stall-ends and the festoon on the reredos. Together with new furniture, the fitting out of the Senior

Common Room cost £94 12s. Fifty-five members of College contributed £64 5s towards the cost, the rest coming from the College treasury.

We were aware that some of the floorboards had damp-rot around the edges of the room. Our ancestors were remarkably relaxed about building with minimal foundations, and laying floors on top of bare earth, so this was no great surprise. Where floorboards had rotted, the wainscot above had slipped down in some places and was in danger of cracking. So we cleared the room out and lifted the floorboards, carefully numbering each one and recording its location so that those that were intact could be re-laid in their proper places.

This was the point when we found that many of the joists underneath had rotted even worse than the floorboards above. And what began as a four-week project turned into a four-month project. Part of that delay was due to getting the necessary permissions. Our initial application to Historic England for listed building consent had been based on what we saw of the problem at floor level, so we had to apply for further permission for the joists as well. They may be rotten joists, but they are seventeenth-century rotten joists!

This gave us the opportunity to dig further – quite literally. Excavating the soil between and below the joists turned up large numbers of small animal bones, presumably the remains of some rats' supper, several stone roof-slates (probably Stonesfield slates from just north of Oxford), and a broken clay pipe, which is obligatory in all archaeological excavations.

Removing the panels that had slipped also enabled us to examine the wall facing into Front Quad. The core of this wall was built around 1437. The original narrow Gothic windows were widened in 1723 and 1725 to accommodate the sash windows we see now. Knowing that the walls would be hidden behind the wainscot, the masons who did this work were not much bothered by the look of the wall, and it was very roughly done. Between the window-reveals we can see the remains of the limewash on what would originally have been the wall as seen inside the room.

The work is ongoing as this edition of *Imprint* goes to print, and we are looking forward to returning the furniture and paintings to what will be a cleaner and brighter room.

Next to be done is the Beckington Room. In its current form, this was fitted out by Frogley (again) as the parlour for the Rector's Lodgings. In the seventeenth century, if you had a room panelled in oak (like the Senior Common Room) you left it either untreated or lightly varnished so that the grain could be seen. If you used a cheaper wood, you painted it to look like oak. Underneath the 1950s ivory paint we see today in the Beckington Room, might we be able to find some of the original painted-grained scheme? Time will tell.

Dr Mark Kirby

Child-Shuffrey Research Fellow in Architectural History

Below: The walls underneath the wainscot





Top right: Arthur Frogley's statue of Aaron in the Chapel
Bottom right: The Beckington Room c.1900



Top left: The joists revealed
Middle left: Floorboards numbered and ready for removal
Bottom left: The arms of Bishop John Williams in the Chapel ceiling

Sports and Societies

Cricket



Over the past two years, the Lincoln College Cricket Club (LCCC) has grown substantially, making it one of Lincoln's most popular and successful sports. We began this season with a friendly match against Jesus College, which saw us navigate through tricky waters to a fantastic victory and brought a positive start to the season. In our first league game of the season, Tom Newman (2022) and Oli Preest (2021) fought bravely against two Blues-level opponents in a bowl off,

bringing home maximum points. We next faced Oriel in what was one of the closest and most thrilling matches in recent years, chasing down 191 runs in 19.4 overs. This exhilarating chase was led by Tom Newman and Harry Parker (2022), and saw LCCC reach the top of the entire league. Our next two games sadly went to bowl offs due to rain, however, we managed to continue our winning streak. With nothing slowing us down, we prepared to face Keble in what was our last group stage game and, with



both teams unbeaten, it happened to be the decider to determine who would progress to the quarter finals. With the sun beating down on us, LCCC restricted Keble to a mere 107 runs with fine performances in the field from Olly Turney (2022) and Ardal Rooney (2021). Although the chase seemed simple, the tricky conditions caught some of our top order batsmen off guard, but Harry Bridge (2021) stepped up with a fine performance with both bat and ball to lead us to a convincing victory.

Quarter Finals inbound, our net sessions became more focussed on match situations and fielding drills, that reaped rewards in matches. In what was our first home game for the season, we faced off against St Hilda's, limiting them to 108 runs that were chased down convincingly by captain Gaurav Mediratta (2021) and Tom Newman, putting us through to the semi-finals against New College. The boys gave it their all, however, New College came equipped with several university-level cricketers that fared too much for us, and we fell just short in reaching the finals two years in a row. However, LCCC has firmly stamped its presence on the college cricket scene. Gaurav said, "I have full faith that my successor, Tom Newman, shall build on this and what we have brought to the wider college community in the year to come."

Rugby



The 2022/23 Lincoln College Rugby Football Club (LCRFC) season was captained by Ollie Dixon-Szul (2021). A successful first match against Brasenose college (36-12 win) saw the breakthrough of several talents within the new freshers. Despite being knocked out of Cuppers 15s to Queen's College, where the team had several injuries, LCRFC's success came in Cuppers 7s. The team managed to reach the Bowl, where they beat both St John's-St Anne's and St Edmund Hall in the semi-final and final respectively. Both these teams played in the Cuppers 15s final, with St Edmund Hall winning. Notable performances across the season came from Peter Braybrook (2022) and Felix Palmer (2022), next year's LCRFC captains. A mention must go to veteran Alex Greenhalgh (2020), whose graduation will mark the loss of a LCRFC legend.

The OURFC Men's Rugby Blues 2022/23 season featured three Lincolnites in the squad for Varsity: Joe McDermott (2021), Harry Parker (2022) and Harry Bridgewater (2022). The season started successfully with wins against Major Stanley's and Penguin's International. The two backs, wing Harry Parker and fresher fly-half Harry Bridgewater (2022) contributed control, skill and pace alongside front-rower and club secretary Joe McDermott, who showed grit, strength and determination. In the Christmas Vac, the three toured South Africa for 12 days. They experienced the incredible South African culture, wine and scenery whilst playing some thrilling matches against Cape Town and Stellenbosch Universities. Unfortunately, the varsity match did not favour the Dark Blues this year, but all three put in a tremendous number of hours of



dedicated hard work alongside their degrees to represent the College and University in rugby.

The 2022/23 season saw the rise of the most successful Women's Blues team since 2011. With plenty of new blood, including Lincoln student Katie Hains (2022), the women started what was to be a dominant performance in the BUCS Women's Premier South league. Starting with a huge 59-7 win over newcomers UWE, the Blues continued their impressive form with a double win over their opponents. By the end of the season, they racked up six wins and a strong second place finish in the league, putting a Varsity win firmly in their sights. The Blues faced a physical Cambridge side at Twickenham, resulting in a tense first half. However, a stunning second half performance saw the Blues rocket their way to their first Varsity win since 2016, with a final score of 31-12.

Sports and Societies

On the river

A large recruitment drive and strong presence at the Fresher's Fair helped increase in members for Lincoln College Boat Club (LCBC), nearly doubling the Club's membership. These new recruits kept Novice Captains Julia Johnstone (2017), Matteo Sirani (2021) and Julia Kotowska (2017), and Captain of Coxes Madeline White (2019) busy organising regular coached water sessions and ergs to get our novice rowers and coxes quickly up to speed. The novices worked hard to train for the Michaelmas Novice Regatta (formerly known as Christ Church Regatta). The senior rowers weren't going to let the novices have all the fun, and men's captains Tom Saxton (2020) and Ben Tidswell (2020), and women's captains Ruby Firth (2021) and Barbara Krumpholz (2021) (succeeded by Julia Johnstone from Trinity Term

onwards as women's captain) led strong men's and women's campaigns respectively. Lincoln WA accumulated several victories throughout the Isis Winter League, ultimately gaining them a win for the entire league. Lincoln MA consistently finished in the top five of their Isis Winter League, claiming second place in one IWL race.

Following some much-needed rest over the holidays, LCBC reconvened at the start of Hilary Term with fresh legs and a need for speed. Members did not let the dark and drizzly weather stop them from getting their training in. An uncharacteristically well-behaved flag meant that the crews could get out for their sessions each week.

In Hilary Term, LCBC hosted a staggering 31 sessions (combined ergs and outings) per week for its eight crews (W1-W5 and M1-M3). LCBC's effort was

on full display at Torpids, with excellent performances all around. W1 and W2 both won blades in Torpids, with W1 bumping their way back up into division 1 (+7 places) and W2 sitting near the top of division 4 (+5). W3 had a wild ride and secured the bump on day one, only to move back down and then back up again on day three (+0). M1 held their own, bumping up two places to sit comfortably in the middle of division 2. M2 had arguably the toughest Torpids campaign with many appeals and sandwich boat situations. While M2 may not have gotten the result they deserved, they got lots of rowing in, rowing the full course an impressive seven times throughout the week.

In what is becoming a yearly tradition, LCBC headed to Shrewsbury for a four-day intensive training camp organised by LCBC





treasurer Will Hart (2021). Attendees were rewarded with beautiful weather, an empty stretch of water and delicious meals provided by our kind hosts at Shrewsbury each day. We are already looking forward to next year's camp!

In the lead up to Summer VIIIs, LCBC hosted a joint drinks reception with the old members society of the boat club, LCBCS, chaired by Marc Howe (1980). Social Secretary Alexia Korosidi (2021) ensured that LCBC put on a lovely event with sparkling wine and finger fancies under a beautiful blue sky in Grove Quad. The event was a great way for the Club to meet and mingle with members of the LCBCS and following the event, everyone headed down to the river to cheer on the crews participating in Rowing On.

Summer VIIIs quickly followed in all its sunshine and Pimm's-filled glory. The Club fielded an impressive six boats, with four boats on the women's side and two on the men's side. Trinity Term also saw the addition of a lower boats captain, filled by Isabel Karia (2022). M1 bumped up two days to sit at position five in Division 2. Similarly, W1 bumped up two places (some unlucky klaxons and unfavorable appeals denying them the bump on the other two days), to match M1 in position five of Division 2. M2 put in a strong effort and raced well, ultimately ending up in Division 5 after some tricky races. W2 performed admirably, keeping us on our toes as they fought their way through the four days. The first two days were strong for W2, but



on the last two days they were bumped leaving them at their starting position, third in Division 4. W4, a crew that predominantly learned to row this year did an incredible job and rowed over every day, an impressive feat in a division filled with other college's W2 and W3 crews. Finally, W3 were the stars of this year's VIIIs and triumphantly earned blades. The women bumped up five places in the four days to sit in a strong third position in Division V. A very big thanks to Secretary Konstantin Zouboulis (2021) for his work throughout the year, but especially for coordinating the staggering 33 marshalling shifts for VIIIs.

LCBCS Secretary Kate Freeman (2005) did a wonderful job organising the traditional Summer VIIIs dinner, bringing together members of the LCBCS and LCBC committee. It was a fantastic evening celebrating a successful campaign as a Club. The Club presented coaches and boatman James Scott with personalised blades, signed by members of the crews as a token of thanks for their hard work and contributions throughout the year.

In May LCBC officially welcomed two glorious new Filippi first VIIIs into the LCBC fleet, made possible by the generosity of Raymond Dwek (1964) CBE FRS FRSC and Darren Marshall (1984) (Lincoln sponsor rEvolution) with contributions from LCBCS. The ceremony was a wonderful day down by the river, with lots of sunshine, prosecco and a beautiful LCBC cake. Equipment Officer Lindsey Ingrey (VRO 2022) (who

took over from MT Equipment Officer Johana Jandová (2021)) coordinated with the College Development Office to arrange a wonderful celebratory day for the Club and alumni. As per tradition, we concluded the ceremony with the annual alumni race, where the alumni VIII took an impressive win against our LCBC VIII. Communications Officer Peter Rory (2022) - succeeding Ellen Jones (2021) as communications officer from Trinity Term onwards) - kept followers on social media in the loop with updates and some very intimidating crew shots.

While the Oxford rowing season may have wrapped up until Michaelmas Term, our dedicated members have been training over the break, getting ready for a strong return to the Isis come autumn. Looking externally, our WA crew entered and were accepted to row in Women's Henley Regatta (June 16-18th) where they raced for the time trial qualifier on the Friday. The crew put in some strong watts as they took to the historic course and managed to make the top 16 crews, qualifying for Saturday's race! For their side-by-side race, Lincoln WA was seeded against the OUWBC Academic VIII and put in a strong battle. WA gained valuable experience and spent a sunny weekend surrounded by top notch rowing.

It has been quite a year for LCBC, and I am very grateful to have been a part of it all. A special mention goes to Welfare Officer Christian Burke (2020) who has been a major asset to the Club this year. This Club is a major part of my life in Oxford, and I know it is for many others too. It has been an absolute pleasure being President and I wish the incoming committee the best of luck with the Club and all its endeavours.

Alison Rep
LCBC President, 2022-2023

Sports and Societies



Football

As always, football remained an active sport at Lincoln this year, with teams from the JCR and MCR competing in college leagues and Cuppers. The MCR team, captained by Innes Mackay (2021), was unlucky to play the first round of Cuppers against the winning team of the competition. A highlight of the season was the game against Wolfson who had a better team on paper. However, after scoring two really nice goals and a good performance from the keeper, the game finished 2-2, which felt like a win and really helped team spirit.

Everyone and all levels are welcome to join. Indeed, College football is very inclusive and, despite not having a women's team this year, it was great to see women join throughout the season. In addition, 5v5 games were organised regularly. This was a great success and a way of meeting people also from outside College. The players are looking forward to organising it again next year. All in all, football at Lincoln was good fun, while exercising and competing against other colleges in a friendly environment.

Lincoln student and Berrow scholar Fidan Suljik (2019) represented Oxford University in the 138th Football Varsity against Cambridge, and subsequently was awarded a Blue once again this year. He was in the starting XI and scored a goal, helping the Blues secure a 2-0 win in the most important game of the season. It was great for Lincoln College to be represented in this historical fixture.



Tennis

Lincoln College's tennis team showed great unity in the anticipated Tennis Cuppers tournament. Led by Kengo Shibata (2020), Lincoln College's team was composed of exceptional players (Amy Napier 2022, Antoine de Mascarel 2022, Baudouin de Hemptinne 2022, Camille Vion 2022, James Hughes 2019, Kengo Shibata 2020, Manali Patil 2022 and Sacha McDonnell 2019), all of whom represented Oxford University Tennis at different levels. Lincoln College had reached the semi-finals in the past two years and were determined to present a strong performance this year as well.

The team received a bye in the first round and faced off against Hertford College in the second round. They emerged victorious with a resounding 9-0 win, not dropping a single set on the Iffley Clay Courts.

They then encountered the combined Trinity/Balliol college team in the third round and secured a convincing 7-2 victory. The semi-finals proved to be an arduous challenge, as they faced off against St Anne's with top university players on their side. Despite valiant efforts, Lincoln fell short with a 3-6 loss. St Anne's eventually went on to clinch the tournament title. Manali and James from Lincoln fought gallantly against St Anne's top pair, narrowly missing out on victory in a closely contested tiebreak. Kengo and Antoine also played competitive matches, narrowly falling short in two of their key matches.

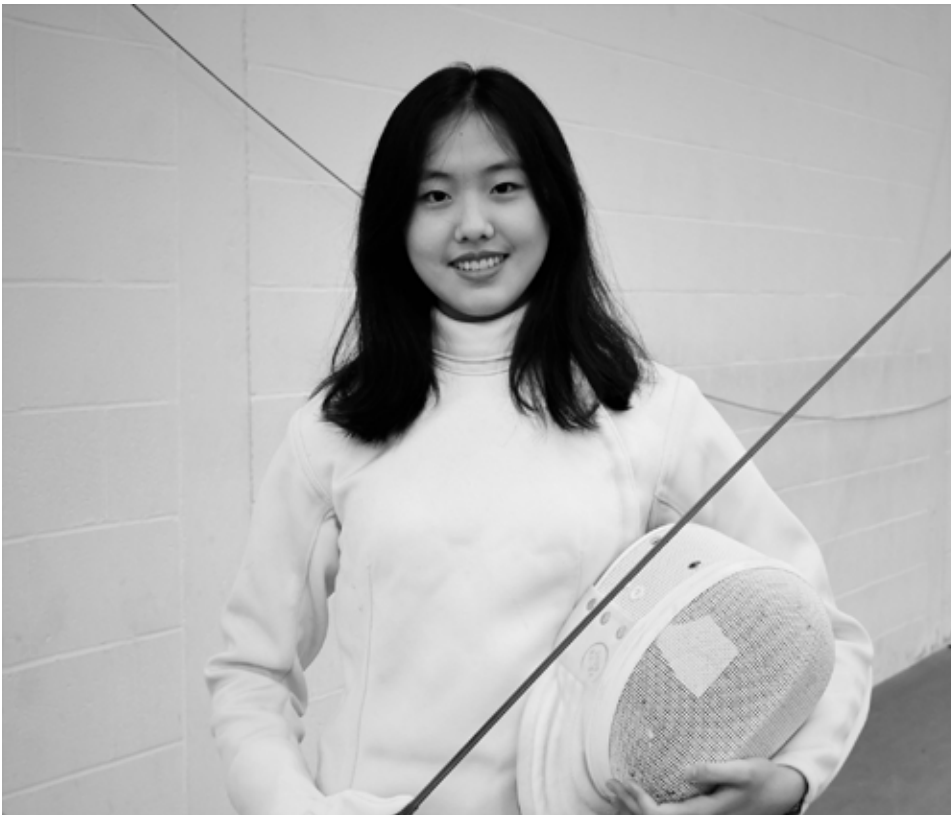
Although Lincoln College couldn't secure the championship, the team displayed unwavering spirit and they look forward to coming back stronger next year.



Fencing

Lutong Hao (2021), mathematics and statistics undergraduate, joined the Women's Blues fencing team this year and began her fencing journey at Oxford. She started fencing at the age of 13 and trained with the BaoShan District fencing team in Shanghai for four years. She was actively involved in regional fencing competitions, winning the silver medal for U16 Women's Épée at the 2019 Shanghai Youth Fencing Championships.

This year has been a tremendous success for the University fencing team. As the reigning champions, they once again emerged as the undefeated winners of the Premier South League, winning every team match. Each match involves a team relay to 45 points in each of the three weapons (foil, épée, and sabre) – the winner is the team with the most points overall. In the Varsity match against Cambridge, the team achieved a surprising feat by winning all three weapons. It is worth mentioning that it has been 18 years since the Women's Blues last defeated Cambridge in épée, and this year they finally managed to bring home all four trophies. Lutong performed exceptionally well in this match, finishing her bouts with a +12 indicator, which made a significant contribution to the team's victory in épée this time.



Sports and Societies

“All the world is a stage...”

Shakespeare said it best, of course, but our Chapel Choir and Drama Society and Revue have certainly taken it to heart, putting on many performances over the past year. Hear also from Emma Kavanagh who describes her first year as our new Lord Crewe Career Development Fellow in Music.



The Chapel Choir

The Lincoln College Chapel Choir is very much running on all cylinders. After a successful recording in the summer of 2022, the Choir has now been published on the Prime Facie label, receiving a very respectable 4-star review from BBC Music Magazine. CDs are now on sale through the Chapel's website and the tracks can also be found on Spotify and all other streaming platforms. This project really helped to grow the choir and give us

something to work towards. This has been reflected in our weekly offering of music at Evensong where we have managed to brush off some works that have been untouched since before COVID times.

Recruitment has been especially good, and the progression of individuals has been enormous. Two of our members auditioned with virtually no choral experience and have now been accepted into Schola Cantorum and the Oxford Bach Soloists

(Francesca German 2018 and Charlie Epps 2020, respectively), with many more intending to audition this coming academic year. We have been extremely blessed by the support of the College and the comradery of the group, leading to successful fundraising and a choir tour to France in the summer of 2023.

Matt Foster (2020)

The Hollingsworth Senior Organ Scholar

Emma Kavanagh: Lord Crewe Career Development Fellow in Music



My time at Oxford began in 2018, when I matriculated to pursue a DPhil in Music at Linacre College. I soon realised that I wanted to pursue an academic career, and specifically to find a path that allowed

me to combine my research with forward-facing work in broadcasting and public engagement. I finished my DPhil in December 2022, and moved just down the road to Lincoln that same month to take up the Lord Crewe Career Development Fellowship.

I am a musicologist and cultural historian, and my research interests focus on opera and musical culture in France between the Revolution and the First World War. This means I spend a lot of time poring over old documents in the archives, to find out what music can tell us about wider social and political life in nineteenth-century France. Alongside my academic work, I have the great privilege of teaching Lincoln's music students, and of supporting the College's Chapel Choir and Music

Society. I have also been able to continue with my own musical engagements, and can often be found working as a freelance singer around Oxford.

For a young researcher entering a new phase of academic life, this Fellowship – billed as “Career Development” – was perfectly suited to my situation. Much of my DPhil was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which inevitably left some gaps in my professional profile. Not only has my Fellowship at Lincoln allowed me to address these, but it has – through the College's close-knit and supportive academic community – given me many opportunities that I might not have had elsewhere. Whatever the future holds, I can safely say that my time at Lincoln will have been the best possible start to my academic career.

Lincoln Drama Society and Revue

This year has been an exciting one for the Lincoln Drama Society and Review. To kick off the year, Aimée Larder (2021) and I directed, in our capacity as Revue Reps, a production of *Grease!* in Michaelmas 2022. So many students got involved, including new freshers and some who had never



performed before. We performed three hilarious shows in the Oakeshott Room, and with Aimée's choreography and the cast's incredible singing and acting, hopefully these shows were greatly enjoyed by the audience! Directing the JCR musical has been such an enriching and valuable experience for both Aimée and myself, and I am sure that we will never forget how much fun we had and the new friends we made during the production.

In Hilary term, Lincoln Drama Society took its boldest step yet. Thanks to our wonderful Producer, Jamie Butler (2020), we were able to book out the Oxford Town Hall Courtroom in order to put on a production of Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*. This production contained many Lincoln students, but was also open to non-Lincoln performers. This meant that we were able to work with people from many different colleges. Not only were the

cast absolutely fantastic, but being able to perform in such a historic venue as the Courtroom was a privilege – it created such a fabulous (and somewhat intimidating) atmosphere. I am so proud of the wonderful cast, crew and the final product we were able to put together.

Next year will be my final year at Lincoln, so I will sadly be saying goodbye to being President of Lincoln Drama Society. I am sure that my successor will continue to put on enjoyable productions in the coming years. Theatre at Lincoln is such a fantastic way to get to know new people across years and courses, and it has been a privilege to work with so many brilliant and creative people.

Hannah Newman (2021)

President of Lincoln Drama Society and Revue Rep



The journey back to Lincoln: The Berrow Archive

Old Member John Julius de Amodio (1929) was a fascinating figure with a life story that rivalled Hollywood films. Born in 1909 to an American heiress and Spanish nobleman, he lived through some of the most tumultuous events of the 20th century. He died in 2003, leaving behind a remarkable archive of personal and professional papers that offer a glimpse into both his own history and the wider epoch.



The Berrow Archive is a treasure-trove of documents, photographs and other materials related to the Marquis de Amodio's life. From his childhood in Paris and London with schooldays at Stowe in Buckinghamshire, he came to Lincoln to study law. Here he was captain of fencing for the University team and founded the Assassins in 1933. He went on to serve in the RAF during WW2 and was retained for post-war diplomatic work. His archive provides a rich and detailed record of this fascinating man.

In 2022, the Marquise de Amodio graciously donated the collection to Lincoln College. In a truly cross-College effort, painter and decorator David Harker and accountant Celia Harker drove their new van to the Marquise's home in Switzerland to collect the material. Conscious of its historic value, they carefully planned their route across Europe to deliver safely the 18 cubic feet of collections to the Archive in Museum Road.

Celia said, "The Marquise made us very welcome and we really appreciated her wonderful hospitality. Everything was carefully and efficiently packed and put in the van. The Marquise's greatest wish was that the Marquis de Amodio's life and his great contributions to Anglo-French and Anglo-Swiss relations, especially to the College, should find a permanent home. With the work in the archives, this wish is being fulfilled."



“The Berrow Foundation Building is another testament to the support of the Amodios.”

From the cool underground location of the Archive, I began accessioning the varied deposit. It is being catalogued with the help of finalist History of Art students Arya Raval (2020) and Isobel Wilcox-Mahon (2020). One cannot fail to be delighted by the glamour of the photograph albums capturing skiing holidays in the Alps, nostalgic kit from his College days fencing for the University team, and the stark reality of war depicted in Amodio's bundles of documents that recount his postings first to Normandy and then to occupied Paris in 1944.

The collection is a mix of documents and objects. We have commissioned specialist packaging to house his RAF Officer's cap and his University mortar board, extra-long boxes for his blazers and trousers, and eventually bespoke boxing for his RAF ceremonial sword. The constant concern about pests in historic collections has led me to install new pheromone traps for clothes moths, which can enjoy a buffet of heritage wool if left unchecked. The photograph albums required particular care to interleave the acidic pages with buffering and protective archive tissue.

By establishing the Berrow Foundation and the Berrow Lord Florey Foundation – named after the village in Somerset where he was taught the Latin required to join the College – the Marquis became a significant supporter of Anglo-Swiss relations. The Berrow Scholarships, initiated in 1985, provide full funding for students from the Suisse Romande to pursue graduate degrees at Lincoln. The Berrow Foundation's remarkable generosity continued after his death, thanks to the determined work of his widow, the Marquise. In 2015, Lincoln opened the Berrow Foundation Building, made possible by the support of the Foundation. Next to the MCR, Isobel and Arya have recently mounted an exhibition in the foyer of the Berrow Foundation Building that aims to highlight different periods of his life through some of the iconic items in the collection.

Isobel says, “I have so enjoyed accessioning and sorting the part of the collection that pertains to the Marquis' time in the RAF as it has provided me with an extraordinary insight simultaneously into the inner workings of the machine of RAF administration and the Marquis' personality, for example in his love for cars.”

Arya says, “Leafing through the photographs and albums of this collection has been truly wonderful, not only to see the handsome portraits of this remarkable family and the history that surrounds them, but equally to engage with the nature of the family photograph – their labelling and annotations, notes and letters and recordings of lives with such affection.”

The Marquis was made an Honorary Fellow of Lincoln College in 1986. His legacy is maintained at Lincoln in multitudinous ways, and now researchers can explore the life that led to that legacy through his archive collection.

Lindsay McCormack
Archivist

Lincoln's journey to sustainability

We are proud of the steps we have taken to improve the College's sustainability by reducing our carbon emissions and increasing our biodiversity. Receiving a gold Green Impact Award this year – a step up from our previous silver – shows that we're heading in the right direction.



Climate change is being felt across the globe today, with impacts ranging from heat waves and wildfires, to droughts and flooding. At the same time, biodiversity loss is raising major concerns for the future of food security. Sustainability is, of course, at the forefront of all of our minds and there are changes that we can all make, individually and collectively, to decrease our environmental impact. Lincoln College, we are pleased to say, has been working hard to become more environmentally sustainable for some time now.

To systematise Lincoln's approach to sustainability, Lincoln, together with Exeter and Corpus Christi Colleges, last year created the first post in any Oxford college that is solely dedicated to sustainability. Since September 2023, Peter Nitsche-Whitfield has been working as the Sustainability Coordinator in Lincoln College, building on the efforts of the College to become more sustainable. He is striving to address sustainability holistically by tackling all the dimensions of our nature crises from carbon emissions to waste and biodiversity.

The last year saw the implementation of various initiatives, including water conservation, energy savings, waste reduction,

electrification of the College van and remaining gardening tools. For example, the College Head Gardener, Mike Hawkins, installed water butts to collect rain water to water our gardens. We successfully completed the first phase to introduce EcoSync smart thermostatic radiator valves, which save gas by stopping us heating empty rooms during the months when we use heat. Lincoln students have also been playing their part with the JCR and MCR running an awareness campaign around reducing the amount of general waste we produce and increasing the share of recycling in our waste. We have also invested in battery powered machinery to ensure our gardening is operated petrol-free. Since the College's van is now electric, gas for heating and hot water is now our only scope 1 (direct) emissions contributor.

In recognition of these achievements, Lincoln College was recently awarded a gold Green Impact Award at the Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Environmental Sustainability. This is a major step forward from our Silver Award last year and shows Lincoln's progress on its journey to sustainability. The Green Impact Scheme brings together students and staff on sustainability initiatives and encourages organisations to effectively work on becoming more



sustainable across a range of categories covering energy, biodiversity, emissions, waste, food, travel, water and engagement.

This year, Lincoln's Green Impact Team was also joined by a Green Impact Project Assistant, Beatrice McWilliams, who focused in particular on further improving biodiversity in College. This work included adding a new pond in the Fellow's Garden to create another habitat for wildlife. More wildflowers have been planted at our Bear Lane site, in addition to our beautiful wildflower meadow next to the library. The College Head Gardener has also set up new compost bins made from recycled plastic that will last for many years. Being able to compost most of our green waste will give us a good supply of annual mulch for our borders. These initiatives will help us save on emissions from haulage and plastic waste that we previously had to buy it in.

Amy Pryce-Jones, the JCR Environment and Ethics Rep, said, "The Green Impact Team this year has been extremely productive as a unit, creating meaningful change in so many aspects of College life. I have been immensely proud to be part of this year's Green Impact submission that showcased the work we've done to promote better energy and waste management, and our amazing

progress in biodiversity. I look forward to seeing the improvements that will be made next year!"

On top of these achievements, we have been developing other long-term plans to make Lincoln more sustainable. The first key step in this has been data collection. The core of this has been to gain a much more detailed overview of our energy and water consumption. Our EcoSync smart thermostatic radiator valves will be particularly helpful in this endeavour as they allow us to gain a better picture of parts of the College that are poorly insulated, such as on the main site on Turl Street. This has highlighted the need to roll out phase two of the installation there before Trinity Term. Collecting data will also be key in our development of a Buildings Decarbonisation Plan, which will aim to improve insulation and assess which renewable heating options are suitable.

As we move towards our 600-year anniversary, it is great that Lincoln is beginning to think about future-proofing the College for the next 600 years!

Peter Nitsche-Whitfield
Sustainability Coordinator

Embracing uncertainty:

A New Frontier for Medical Education



As our first Director of Studies in Clinical Medicine, Dr Arabella Begin leads the way to ensure that our students not only receive the best medical training, but also to equip them to thrive in their careers. With burnout a key factor contributing to rising numbers of junior doctors leaving the NHS, she discusses the importance of training students and healthcare professionals to manage and embrace uncertainty.

I am delighted to have been appointed to the post of Director of Studies in Clinical Medicine at Lincoln College. This new leadership role - created thanks to the very generous bequest from Dr Audrey Tucker and Dr Lewis Cannell - will oversee the delivery of clinical medicine, advise and mentor the students, and ensure Lincoln remains a pre-eminent college to study medicine.

My own association with the medical programme at Lincoln reaches back over 20 years, and my connection and passion for the College is very deep. It truly makes it feel like home. I came up to Lincoln College in 2000 as a pre-clinical medical student, and was here as a clinical student and then as an academic junior doctor at the John Radcliffe. I also completed my DPhil in Pharmacology at Lincoln College under the supervision of Prof Nigel Emptage and it is wonderful now to be in

post with Nigel and Prof David Vaux as my esteemed colleagues.

Healthcare education has often struggled to keep pace with the increasing complexities of delivering modern medicine. While our world is markedly different since Osler's time, what has not changed is the need to train the doctors of tomorrow to be competent, patient-centred, resilient beings who will thrive in a challenging environment and strive to advance medicine. One of the most gratifying parts of teaching medical students is passing on the less tangible aspects of being a physician - how to show respect for all patients and be a true caregiver, whilst ensuring one's own wellness remains of paramount importance.

I bring considerable clinical knowledge and skills, having trained as a frontline clinician in adult, paediatric and neonatal

medicine for nearly a decade. Equally important (and perhaps more so) I also bring experience and qualification in the field of medical education. I hold a Master's of Medical Science in Medical Education from Harvard Medical School, and have developed and led novel curricula and training opportunities both in the UK at Imperial College, and in the USA at Massachusetts General Hospital, where I was the Associate Director for the Center for Educational Innovation and Scholarship and the Associate Program Director for the internal medicine residents, specifically responsible for education and curriculum development.

Throughout the past 20 years, I have sought to help lead pastoral care opportunities, and it is perhaps unsurprising that much of my own academic research has been focused in this space, looking for solutions to mitigate burnout and boost wellbeing. My DPhil thesis expanded the research from my MMSc, focusing on the impact uncertainty has on burnout and exploring the novel use of neurohormones as potential biomarkers of stress and burnout.

The Director of Studies role aims to help Lincoln College lead the way to ensure that our students not only receive the best medical training to see them through their exams and clinical placements, but also to equip them to thrive in their careers. The study of medicine can be extremely trying

“Medicine is a science of uncertainty and an art of probability.”

William Osler





and it is more important than ever before to ensure all students feel included, valued and inspired. Worryingly, junior doctors in the UK are increasingly leaving the NHS before completing their training and we are facing a workforce crisis. Burnout, the zeitgeist of the 21st century, is one of the most common reasons described for the departure of junior doctors. Having studied the management of uncertainty and building resilience, I feel passionately that our students must learn to engage with the unknown and the uncertain in positive and constructive ways, developing their own toolkit to help them thrive in healthcare environments. I see my new role as serving as a lighthouse for the clinical students during their period of education and training by helping to guide, support and ensure their safety.

I am fully committed to advancing medical education, with a focus on the field of uncertainty as it relates to medical decision-making, diagnostic error, patient-doctor relationships and physician wellbeing. The culture of medicine has, for too long, demonstrated a deep-rooted unwillingness to acknowledge and embrace uncertainty. This is driven in part by the scientific community's quest to eliminate uncertainty in clinical decision-making, which has propagated the emergence of evidence-based medicine, precision medicine and biomedical artificial intelligence. The lived reality for students,

junior doctors and faculty is, however, one in which uncertainty is rife. Part of the reason for the discrepancy between culture and reality is a failure in the way we train our healthcare professionals to explicitly manage, communicate and embrace uncertainty. Specifically, we have an education system that prioritises and rewards certainty and assessments that too often focus on the notion of a black-and-white, "right" answer. The psychological distress that is associated with an intolerance of uncertainty has consequences not only for the physical and mental wellbeing of physicians, but also has a detrimental impact on their ability to perform well academically. It is time to change the long-held culture in medicine that ignores, denies and suppresses uncertainty, and ensure our students acquire robust coping strategies for uncertainty as a core clinical competency.

The ultimate goal of any medical research is to provide patient care of the highest quality and safety. Burnout is an accelerating global public health crisis that threatens patient care through both direct and indirect consequences. Mitigating burnout will potentially reduce patient safety incidents, enhance quality of care, improve patient satisfaction and promote better healthcare outcomes. Enhancing a tolerance of uncertainty not only has the potential to positively affect patient care through the reduction of burnout,

but it also promises to reduce medical error due to premature closure and early decision-making as physicians learn to sit more comfortably in the uncertainties of clinical practice without needing certainty too soon. This comfort with uncertainty increases the ability to consider other possibilities after reaching an initial diagnosis, reducing the likelihood of diagnostic error due to blindspots as a result of cognitive biases. These errors currently represent a major source of preventable mortality, morbidity, and cost. Embracing uncertainty may be one step to tackling this devastating phenomenon, enhancing patient safety and ultimately saving lives.

One of the biggest challenges facing the coming era is the authentic disclosure and communication of uncertainty in a meaningful way that enhances trust in the patient-doctor relationship, and improves decision-making and healthcare outcomes. The exponential departure of junior doctors from the NHS is putting an increasing strain on an already stretched healthcare system with an accelerating burnout toll. Never has the need been greater for focused efforts to enhance our knowledge and understanding of drivers and effective measures of burnout allowing interventions to be developed that can be rigorously evaluated and assessed.

In my new role, I see a real opportunity to contribute to the professional development of our medical students, ensuring they are trained not just to become excellent clinicians, but to become outstanding clinician-leaders. I feel confident that sitting comfortably with uncertainty will be a critical skill that is fundamental to good decision-making. As Voltaire so eloquently captured: *"Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is an absurd one."* Understanding and embracing uncertainty could be the most significant contribution of 21st century science to the human intellect. Ironically, only *uncertainty* is a sure thing, and it is *certainty* that is an illusion.

Dr Arabella S Begin

Lewis and Audrey Cannell Fellow and Director of Studies in Clinical Medicine

17 TERMS I WISH IT COULD BE MORE

Professor David Hills retires from his Tutorial Fellowship in September 2023. Here, he offers a reflection on his time at Lincoln. Happily, he will be returning to do some teaching here in October.



I have been very lucky, and particularly lucky with timing. In 1983 I went as a polytechnic (Trent) lecturer to Ann Arbor. During that academic year David Spence, who held a joint mathematics and engineering fellowship at Lincoln, resigned to take up a chair at Imperial. His post was then split into a new applied mathematics fellowship (which went to John Norbury), and a second engineering fellowship for Lincoln. I applied. Not thinking I was a serious candidate, I wasn't particularly nervous at interview, treating it as an opportunity to bring a few books back. I ended up walking into the best dual appointment I could ever have chosen, which I held since 1984.

The luck in timing relates to many things. When I started, the pressure to do research was moderate. And I was lucky to pick up quickly a research grant from the then ESRC that set me off well, studying something of practical relevance underlying what is popularly called *Metal Fatigue*, but without the pressure of immediate application. Being able to stay one step ahead of the pressure to *deliver* (as it is now called) results which can be used tomorrow (but are probably not so helpful the day after, or when applied to a slightly different problem) means that I have been able to research things that I hope will endure, at a good but uneven pace, to fit in with other things.

Being an active member of College means balancing one's research and teaching with the good citizenship of being a Trustee and holding College offices. I'll expand upon each of these themes.

The position of Trustee

Within the College, Fellows also hold the position of Trustee, which conveys an authority and responsibility to help shape the College's future in a meaningful way. I find this a real privilege. For me, it means not simply showing up for College Governing Body Meetings, but participating in the governance and taking the opportunity to do college offices. I have been lucky to do almost all offices (with the exception of Tutor for Admissions) and to step in when needed. Being immersed in the decision-making is interesting and rewarding. One doesn't lose touch with pupils who appreciate that their tutors have the College as the centre of their work, and this reinforces the *domus* as a place of scholarship.

Research

My chosen research subject, within the field of Solid Mechanics, is the study of contact (what happens when *things*, usually engineering things, are pressed together), and how that may subsequently seed the nucleation of cracks. This is called *fretting fatigue*. In 1984 there was barely the concept of a research group in the department, just people who studied whatever they wished to study, but I became part of what is now the Solid Mechanics and Materials group. Within that, Rolls-Royce started its inaugural University Technology Centre in 1989, which I have been involved ever since, including as director for the past 13 years. The company has been hit hard by a number of things, principally the pandemic, and I can only wish my successor the best of luck as I hand over that role over the next 12 months.

Tutorial system

My good fortune at being a Fellow in Lincoln relates partly to colleagues. The arrival of David Kenning at Lincoln in the late 1960s – the first full engineering tutor at Lincoln, who shared an appreciation of the tutorial system, also having seen it from both sides - provided an easy partnership with a relationship with our pupils in the old style, which is something that is perpetuated. I have never found tutorials other than completely enjoyable, and the Platonic style seems to be one that is appreciated when pupils have been chosen well.

Tutorials also provide a break from thinking at full force on a research problem, which many of us can only do effectively in a concentrated manner for an hour or two at a time. Sometimes one can work longer and sometimes one just can't get over some hurdle. It is, I believe, illusory to think that one can conduct efficient research the whole time. Doing tutoring is an excellent way to have a break, and there is, in my opinion, absolutely no tension between doing good original research and devoting one's time to undergraduate tutorials. On their side, tutorials provide undergraduates with the habit of thinking about things 'from the ground up', which means that they learn the techniques to tackle any problem, and are well prepared to do research.

"I have never found tutorials other than completely enjoyable, and the Platonic style seems to be one that is appreciated when pupils have been chosen well."

College offices

The rhythm of the University system inserts other diversions and, in 2003-4, I was fortunate to be one of the last senior proctors who was left free to ensure that the Statues were, as far as possible, upheld. Doing that job for a year was a real privilege, bringing with it duties in the then still active congregations, as well as various disciplinary duties. I think that I was in charge of the University police force for just three days, before it was disbanded (Cambridge still maintains a police force, though with a more eccentric uniform!).

In 2011 it was my turn, in terms of seniority, to be considered for sub-Rector. I was told that it was a sinecure with nothing to worry about and not much to do. Well, within a week of taking office my son, Simon, nearly lost his life in a cycling accident that coincided with a period of ill-health for Rector Langford in the year leading up to his retirement. It was a tiring but rewarding year, watching Simon cope with the consequences of the accident, and being swept up effectively as acting Rector and thrown into a number of development activities. My colleagues made this very easy, and I felt that the *esprit de corps* of the College really shone through. By Easter 2012, we had elected Rector Woudhuysen, enabling me to return to my regular duties.

Since demitting as Sub-Rector, I have turned my attention back to research, and have been lucky to have made progress. I have been fortunate to have a number of very constructive colleagues with complementary talents, and we understand *fretting fatigue* (Bursar Knowles could never say that without laughing) just that bit more fully now. I hope that the things we have found will be of enduring value and interest.



I shall conclude with some personal remarks. I haven't mentioned my relatively newfound sport yet – roller skating – which I still enjoy and where training, always on a Wednesday evening, has kept me from a number of college dinners. My daughter, Emma, is quite a hard trainer and she and my son Simon started the whole skating thing – just something to do on a Sunday afternoon in the early days (she berates me for not taking her earlier now).

By the time you read this, *Deo volente* Emma will have provided Anne and me with twin grandchildren. Anne has had to put up with my devoting some time to College, and I want, here, very much to acknowledge the contribution that spouses bring and the unspoken sacrifices they make.

I cannot say that I am looking forward to retirement. There is too much of interest going on and the whole of our varying academic lives are enjoyable with immediate rewards, including the appreciation of enlightened pupils and the knowledge that what one has discovered cannot be undiscovered. Never mind, I am doing a few hours next year, I hope, to Prof Stavrinou's satisfaction. I wish him, and everyone at Lincoln, the very best of luck in moving things on, but keeping the best the same.

Professor David Hills FREng

Embling Fellow and Tutor in Engineering Science

194

Living and Outliving: Experiences of Ageing in Old English Poetry

Dr Harriet Soper's new book, *The Life Course in Old English Poetry*, will be coming out soon. In this first book-length study of the whole lifespan in the vernacular poetry of early medieval England, she reveals how poets depicts varied paths through life.

I have often suspected that most doctoral research is pursued as a very inefficient form of personal therapy, and mine was probably no exception – I have always been interested in how we define children and adults, and what it means when a child acts like an adult, or an adult acts like a child. I am a medievalist, and part of the appeal of medieval theories of ageing is their apparent clarity. Hugely popular across the period c.650–1550 were schemes of the ‘ages of man’, precursors to Jacques’ mewling infant, whining schoolboy, and so on in Shakespeare’s *As You Like It*. This intellectual tradition offers a striking parallel to modern scientific theories of developmental stages such as infancy and adolescence. So, if we would like a quick route to understanding what being a child, adult, or old person meant in the medieval past, the ‘ages of man’ would seem to be the answer, just as today we appeal to the norms for human growth explored in psychology, sociology, and biological sciences.

This medieval tradition was inherited from patristic (and ultimately classical) models of the ages of man’s – and truly almost invariably man’s – life. Although there is variety between the different incarnations of the scheme, with the number of ages varying between around three to six, these schemes share a presumption

of a fixed norm. They connect the shape of human life with other kinds of natural phenomena and with aspects of Christian history. Take, for instance, the monk Byrhtferth of Ramsey’s scheme from his early eleventh-century *Enchiridion*. In an ornate diagrammatic representation of the many ‘fours’ of natural science and theology, spiralling out from the four letters of Adam’s name, Byrhtferth highlights how the four ages of each human life fall into symmetry with, for example, the four seasons and the four humours.

Schemes like Byrhtferth’s ultimately posit that each person tends to move through each stage of life in more or less the same way, in the same order, all the way from birth to old age, thereby offering a set of norms from which deviance can be measured. The default body that they construct tends not only to be male, but to a large degree heterosexual (given the heavy emphasis on reproductive ability), as well as able-bodied and devoted to productive labour in midlife. The ‘ages’ don’t still straightforwardly construct a cycle, because in what sense does a human life end where it began? It is difficult to see in what sense elderliness can loop back around to infancy, apart from in the spiralling visual arrangements of Byrhtferth’s diagram. But the ‘ages’ do offer a map of how the ageing process should go.

ƿeƿorpes ƿundorlicre lincwed myt ƿe
he brōd alȳred.



Deor þyrt þe man ætior 7 oþrū

This is not the whole story, however, as I argue in my new book, *The Life Course in Old English Poetry* (Cambridge University Press, 2023), based on my doctoral work at the University of Cambridge. The vernacular poetry of early medieval England often challenges and breaks away from the ‘ages of man’ tradition. For example, it emphasises that death is not neatly situated after a stage of old age, as these schemes imply, but can interrupt the life course at any point and in wildly unpredictable ways. In the long heroic poem *Beowulf*, possibly dating from the eighth century, the aged King Hrothgar warns the hero that ‘the glory of your strength’ (‘þines mægnes blæd’) will last only for a short time, because quickly each person will find that they are separated from their strength. This can happen as a result of the swing of a blade, the fire’s grasp, the flood’s welling, or the flight of a spear, or else by sickness, blindness, or old age. The experience of elderliness is here presented as just one possible fate, rather than something each person should expect from their future. It is also – along with sickness and blindness – understood as a compromising threat to ‘strength’ or able-bodiment, with wide-ranging cultural implications.

This is not to say that it was rare for a person to live into old age in early medieval England. Life expectancy in this period has been misrepresented as being very low, playing into the idea that in the Dark Ages life was ‘nasty, brutish, and short’ and everyone died at thirty. Figures have historically been skewed by extremely high infant mortality rates, which dragged the average age at death deceptively low. Effectively, it seems to have been difficult to survive early childhood, but once people did so, they could expect to live into their fifties, sixties, seventies and up. Nonetheless, there were many things that could take a person out before they reached seventy in early medieval England, and that is something that poems like *Beowulf* are very alert to. King Hrothgar’s observations might lead us to think about how old age inevitably constitutes a kind of survival and outliving – in the early medieval period, but also today.

Then again, there are many ways in which living through childhood can be a kind of survival, too. In Old English poetry, we are often pointed to the work involved in raising a child, the huge amount of care, skill, investment and luck that it requires, to keep that child in the world. The opening to the wisdom poem known as *The Fortunes of Men* (possibly composed in the tenth century) describes all the attention two parents lavish on their child. They dress, encourage, and cheer them:

oppæt seo tid cymeð,
gegæð gear-rimum, þæt þa geongan leomu,
lif-fæstan leopu geloden weorpað.
**until the time comes, goes in a number of years, that the
young limbs, life-fast joints, become grown.**

Birth is mentioned earlier in this passage, but it’s just part of the picture: the work of parenting is what’s necessary for the child’s limbs to even become fully formed. *Fortunes* is a great example of a poem declining to present childhood as something that simply follows on for birth like clockwork, in the way we might presume from the ‘ages of man’ diagram. Childhood doesn’t just happen in the same way that winter happens. Instead, this passage treats early life as very much a process of establishment in the world, and one which involves profound reliance on other people.

In both *Beowulf* and *The Fortunes of Men*, then, we find an implication that no life stage is inevitable, and a focus on the circumstances and contingencies that make ageing possible. We might compare this with recent moves in modern philosophy and age studies to push against neat narratives of life’s predictable progression. So, Amélie Rorty, for example, identifies the ‘improvisatory accident-prone dramas of (what passes for) a person’s life’ (2004). Galen Strawson offers resistance to the idea of giving one’s life a narrative at all (‘Against Narrativity’, 2004) and Catherine Malabou focuses on the role of traumatic, life-changing events such as brain injuries in disrupting the passage of life: In the usual order of things, lives run their course like rivers. Sometimes they jump their bed, without geological cause, without any subterranean pathway to explain the spate or flood. (*Ontology of the Accident: An Essay on Destructive Plasticity*, 2009).

This quotation by Malabou highlights what can be appealing about the phrase life course, rather than cycle. It is a well-established term in sociology, and in its watery associations it points us towards fluidity in experiences of ageing.

Rather than positing one normative sequence of ages, the term ‘life course’ helps us think about multiple paths and currents: some fast, some slow, some curling into eddies, or breaking the banks altogether. As such, it helps us appreciate Old English’s poetry’s interest in the deep variability of how people age through their lives, and allows us to question how much we take for granted in presuming the predictability of life’s development today.

Dr Harriet Soper

Simon and June Li Fellow in English Literature

ATTENDING THE KING'S CORONATION

Lady Emma Barnard (Guinness) (1982) attended the King's Coronation last May at Westminster Abbey in her role as Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex. A witness and participant of this historical event, she recounts the pageantry and magic of the day.

When I think back to the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla on 6th May this year, three sensations, if I may call them that, invariably flood over me. First, the humbling knowledge that I am now stitched personally into a tiny part of the fabric of British history; secondly, the touching (and paradoxical) intimacy of the occasion and thirdly, the sheer heart-pounding, hair-raising thrill of an overwhelming sensory experience on every level.

I became Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex on 1st August 2022. The role is an honour I could never have imagined would come to me, its holder being the personal representative of the monarch within a county in England – the lieutenancy areas vary slightly across the United Kingdom. It is purely voluntary and carefully conferred, a privilege and responsibility not to be taken lightly; my retirement age is officially 75.

I had the honour of serving 39 days under The late Queen, and went, with my husband, to her funeral. Lord-Lieutenants went alone, however, to The King's Coronation. I still struggle to believe that I was actually there at both.

The day of the Coronation, 6th May, started at 4am with a mug of extremely strong coffee and several large glasses of water. These were, I had decided, vital to managing the practical considerations of

what would be a very, very long morning. A surprisingly quiet Tube journey to Pimlico followed, just after 6am. A young man in morning dress got into my carriage at Oxford Circus, visibly nervous and probably ex-military. We did that classic English thing of tacitly acknowledging each other and then studiously avoiding eye contact – I, for one, didn't want to call attention to myself any more than my very obviously smart coat did already. I carried my hat (small, so as not to block anyone's view) in a supermarket bag that folded into nothing.

London was uncannily silent, just as it had been on the day of Her late Majesty's funeral, but there was a tingling sense of anticipation that zizzed up the grey murkiness of the morning. I met a friend (a fellow Lord-Lieutenant with whom I had arranged to sit) who happily had just arrived at the front of the queue. Even at that time of the morning it stretched right out across Lambeth Bridge. Dress uniforms, morning dress, smart suits, medals, decorations, Ceremonial National Costumes, feathers, hats, jewels, dresses and coats in every shape and hue – it was an extraordinary sight. Amazingly, the rain was pretty much holding off.

Extremely strict airport-style security took over a vast tent on Victoria Tower Gardens and having cleared that, I feel I must mention the elephant in the room, because without any doubt it is the

question that I am asked most often. Yes, there were temporary facilities outside Westminster Abbey and yes, we were able to use them, when we wanted to, until 10am. But NOT after that!

I was sitting down in the Nave by 7.40am (doors had opened at 7.15), part of a congregation formed of a glorious jumble of the first-come-first-served, in my view absolutely appropriate for being so. Sheer good fortune had led us to seats in the second row with a superb view, just below the great Choir Screen; the Processions passed almost within touching distance. A discreet screen on a pillar opposite us





meant that we could watch the actual Coronation ceremony as it happened, but only that. We were shown no footage of the outside world, nor were we shown the musicians or any other internal views of the Abbey. The effect on the whole experience was very great; it concentrated the mind onto what was most important, included us all, and allowed us to take a proper part.

Time passed in a way I have only experienced a couple of times in my life; once at my own wedding and then at The late Queen's funeral. It became irrelevant and I simply did not notice it passing. I didn't even think about it. It was as if everything outside had stopped; everyone and everything in that great church was concentrated into a singular and focussed bubble of waiting. For all the internal excitement and splendour of the occasion, those moments felt curiously still and very, very simple.

I am sure that nobody was bored. Mobile phones were forbidden, although I think a few people did manage to take a few furtive photographs before conscience and best behaviour took over. Certainly the courteous and eagle-eyed Honorary Stewards of the Abbey (I was told by a friend - who is one - that they had been on parade since 6.30am that morning) were on the watch, but very few people transgressed, as far as I could see. There were, therefore, no distractions or excuses not to be completely *there*, senses



sharpened, relieved of the faint anxiety that inevitably had accompanied the getting there, and very grateful to be part of this historical moment.

Even the tone-deaf or stony hearted, had they been there, would have been moved and exhilarated by the music when it started in earnest at 9am and took us forward to the end of the Coronation on great waves of exquisite sound. Each piece had, of course, The King's stamp; each was jewel-like; each was produced by musicians at the top of their game who clearly sensed that what they were creating was numinous. The sound filled the Abbey to its roof and filed the emotional intensity to razor-sharp. It underscored, amplified and sanctified the solemnity and the strangeness of the - literally - extraordinary rituals. I doubt that the sheer power of that music will have quite come across on television. After the Service, when The King and The Queen had gone and the world's attention had shifted elsewhere, the musicians walked out past us down the main aisle of the Nave. They were given a spontaneous and ecstatic standing ovation.

The Processions (every detail explained in our beautiful Orders of Service) were, of course, spellbinding pageantry. "Spot People You Recognise" also proved an excellent game, but with the arrival of The King and Queen the atmosphere changed sharply from curious to concentrated. Parry's great

anthem, *I was Glad*, sounded out. As they walked slowly past us all to the Theatre of Coronation, I felt as though all the eyes of the world were piercing the roof. My hair stood on end.

The Child of His Majesty's Chapel Royal and The King cut to the heart of it. "Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings." And then came the answer: "In his name and after his example I come not to be served but to serve." I was reminded of that long procession of kings, conjured by the Witches to torment Macbeth. This was the stuff of Shakespeare, of paintings, of opera, of history books, of the Bible. What we were witnessing - the laborious, inexorable forging of another link onto the chain of monarchy - felt very, very ancient, spiritual and sacred. It was impossible not to sense the crushing weight of the moment.

I am unable to define precisely why the emotional heart of this most grand and public of all occasions felt so quiet and so intensely personal. Maybe it was that the place, the rituals and the objects of Coronation - so old, precious and significant for centuries of Christian kingship - threw the frailty and the gallantry of humanity and human hope into focus. A single man was willingly taking on the strangest and most serious of responsibilities, the ceremonial sacrifice of a life for a life. Perhaps, I thought, the dead were also watching.

I am sure there must have been other Lincoln alumni in the Abbey that morning, besides the Prime Minister, the Duke of Norfolk and me. It would be good to know. As we came out into the rain, the bells were ringing and the final words of the Coronation Service lingered in the air: "Your Majesty, as neighbours in faith, we acknowledge the value of public service. We unite with people of all faiths and beliefs in thanksgiving, and in service with you for the common good." Summary, celebration and exhortation to all, whether atheist, agnostic or believer. Long may such sentiments reign. And long may The King!

Lady Emma Barnard (Guinness) (1982)
Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex

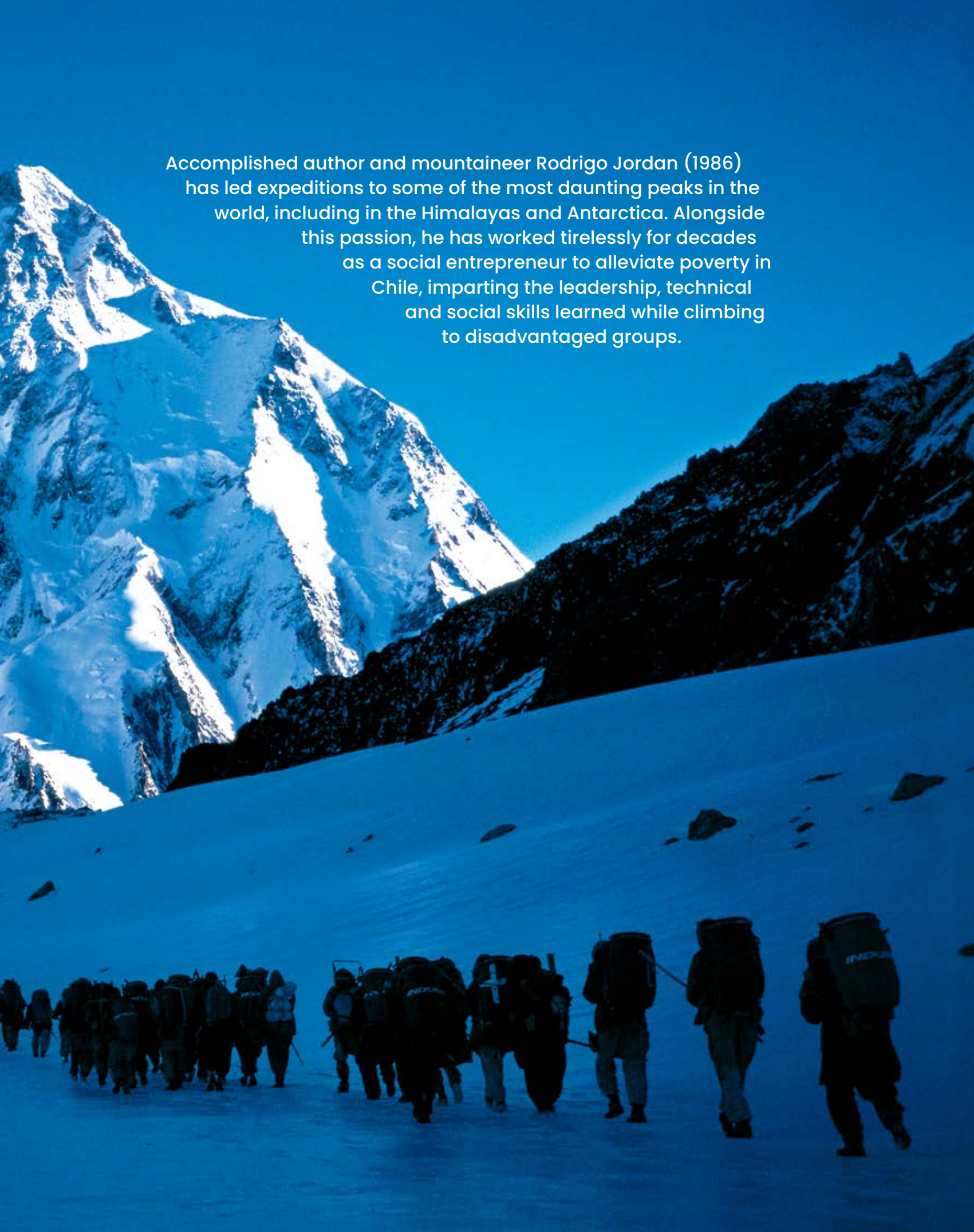
Rodrigo Jordan: No mountain too big

What inspired you to become a mountaineer?

My family had nothing to do with outdoor activities and both of my parents were academics. However, on my seventh birthday, my grandmother gave me a geography book containing a chapter on high altitudes and I saw a photo taken by Sir Edmund Hillary of Tenzing Norgay, the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest in 1953. I was in awe of this picture. Although it wasn't rational, I just knew this was what I wanted to do.

I sought out opportunities to climb and camp and did the Duke of Edinburgh Award as a secondary school student. And later, when I did my engineering degree at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, I took a mountaineering class that taught me not only techniques about mountaineering, but also a way of life. I climbed nearly every weekend, learning about ascents, rope moving and crossing rivers. After graduating, I stayed on as Professor of Chemical Engineering. I loved teaching and the long summer holidays gave me the chance to do a lot of climbing.



A high-altitude mountain landscape. In the background, a large, jagged mountain peak is covered in snow and partially shrouded in mist. The sky is a clear, pale blue. In the foreground, a line of hikers is walking across a vast, flat, snow-covered field. The hikers are wearing dark clothing and carrying large backpacks. The overall scene conveys a sense of adventure and exploration in a harsh, cold environment.

Accomplished author and mountaineer Rodrigo Jordan (1986) has led expeditions to some of the most daunting peaks in the world, including in the Himalayas and Antarctica. Alongside this passion, he has worked tirelessly for decades as a social entrepreneur to alleviate poverty in Chile, imparting the leadership, technical and social skills learned while climbing to disadvantaged groups.

Why did you decide to study at Oxford?

I needed a doctorate to be a professor, and the Engineering School had a programme to encourage this. I applied only to Oxford because I knew in Britain I would find the best mountaineers in the world such as Chris Bonington and Doug Scott. The British Council gave me a scholarship. However, when an opportunity came up to be the deputy leader for the first Chilean Everest expedition, I went back to them to ask for a year's deferral, which they agreed to. I still remember the person at the Council saying, "We are British and understand what mountaineering is about". Sadly that expedition ended up being a total disaster. We failed and lost a member.

How did your time at Lincoln and Oxford shape you?

I started my doctorate at Lincoln College in 1987 and spent three fantastic years researching Innovation and Urban Poverty at the Forestry Institute. Oxford was a very moving place with its richness of diversity and open mindedness. I made excellent friends from all over the world. Chile was just coming out of a long dictatorship, so having political discussions that were intense but respectful showed me a different way of life.

I was able to mix my academic research with climbing in Scotland and Wales, and even had the chance to meet Chris Bonington, Sir Edmund Hillary, George Lowe and John Hunt. It's been a wonderful ride. It's an incredible world.

What is the link between your two passions, mountaineering and alleviating poverty?

Mountaineering has always been central to my life. At the same time, I love teaching. I finally climbed Everest in 1992, leading a South American group up a very difficult route on the east face that had only been climbed once before. Expeditions to Everest are, of course, very expensive and we had gotten immense help from Chile so I wanted to give back. When we came home to Chile, we had acquired some fame around the world. We used that fame to go and ask for funds to start the Vertical Foundation, a nonprofit organisation that aims to alleviate poverty.

A successful climb depends not only on having technical skills, but also social skills such as teamwork, leadership and communication. These skills are not taught in our state educational system but are vital to help people improve their lives. The concept behind Vertical is the relationship between technological innovation and poverty alleviation. My recognition of this stemmed from my academic work in Oxford – where my doctoral thesis examined 200 projects worldwide that introduced technology to alleviate poverty – and from my mountaineering world.

At Vertical, we teach technical and social skills to disadvantaged schoolchildren and others so they can use them to improve their lives. We use the outdoors, the Andes, as our classroom. They camp, share a tent, climb a small hill, cross a river. And while they are learning technical skills, they are gaining important social skills.

Citibank provided some funding for the Vertical Foundation, and later asked us to develop a similar programme for their executives. So we created a for-profit organisation, Vertical Inc, to cater for the needs of private companies. It has worked out well since the profits from that top up the income for the charitable Foundation so we are not as reliant on donations.

What impact have you seen from your work?

The alleviation of poverty is a long-term project. What I can say is that people who completed the Vertical programme come back to us years later to tell us that it changed their lives. Companies have also reported back to us that we were instrumental in their development.

Because of my doctoral thesis and work with Vertical, I was asked in 2004 to join the board of The Foundation for the Alleviation of Poverty, the biggest NGO working in this area. I ended up being the



chairman from 2006-2014, and am still a board member as a past president. We started a programme called Country Service 15 years ago that sends young professionals – such as architects, engineers and lawyers – to volunteer their skills in remote, under-developed areas of Chile for a full year. The idea is that they would come back afterwards to continue their lives. Amazingly, though, 50% of the 5000 we have sent out ended up staying in the remote regions, providing their services where perhaps there hadn't been any before. It's something we're very proud of.

What are you most proud of?

When I started mountaineering seriously, my parents were worried because of the dangerousness of the sport. My father told me, "You don't have the right to kill yourself, so you need to do this in the most excellent way because I don't want your mother to suffer or your brothers, or eventually your wife, and eventually your sons and daughters

when you have them." I replied that it's very difficult to live a life of mountaineering, that it's selfish, and that you don't give back to society, which was something both my parents cared deeply about.

So what I'm most proud of is that I have pursued my career in mountaineering. I've climbed Everest now three times, all from different routes. And I have been able to put that experience and recognition into the service of education and to give back.

How do you deal with fear?

It's not so much fear, but I have respect for the environment. If you understand the mountains and understand the environment, you diminish the risks immensely. For example, the risk of avalanche is greater during the warmer parts of the day, so you don't do it. When we climbed K2, we climbed only at night when it was coldest, eating breakfast at 11:30pm and then climbing for five hours.

Meticulous planning is the key because the chances of having an emergency are high. We bring equipment to cater for all eventualities, which means our backpacks are heavier. So this means more training to ensure we can carry the load safely. When they were young, my daughters would say to me, "Please, Dad, don't get killed. We need you to come back." So I'd say "let's pack together" and I'd explain why I'm taking each item. I'd show them my small water bottle, for example, and explain that it would go inside my down parka so that I could access it in freezing conditions on the summit. They were reassured by all the intellectual activity that goes behind planning and doing a climb.

What one piece of advice would you give your three daughters?

My advice to them has been to follow your passion, find out what motives you, and do it with excellence and to the utmost of your capacity. It can be hard to know what your passion is, but keep seeking it and eventually you'll find it. I think that's what my daughters – a TV producer, an economist and a biologist – have done.

So what's next?

The thing about mountaineering is that there's no date for retirement. You might not climb Everest again, but you can still climb. I've been climbing for 30 years, and I'm still planning new expeditions. This autumn I'll be repeating Shackleton's traverse, sailing 800 miles from Elephant Island to South Georgia. We'll climb the three peaks of Trident and then sail on to Noir Island in the Drake Passage to study its ecology with an ecologist.

In terms of my poverty work, in Chile we have a public sector and private sector, but the social sector has been somewhat scattered. Seventeen years ago, however, we started a small second-floor organisation to join up nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), and we now have 250 under our umbrella working on issues around poverty, health, gender, the environment, etc. I am now the chairman and will continue this endeavour so that NGOs can work together to share information, develop public policy and attract funding.





Is a Lincoln entrepreneur an “IMPreteneur?”

Meet IMPreteneur Neil Wolff and find out more about the Oxford Angel Fund, which invests in early-stage startups founded by Oxford alumni.

Innovation is the norm among Lincoln Fellows, whose research is at the cutting edge of so many disciplines, ranging from the sciences and humanities to law and business. As described in *Imprint* 2019 (page 22), a number of our students have embarked on the startup journey while at Lincoln. Indeed, the entrepreneurship bug bites many Lincoln alumni, some long after their Oxford experience.

Most entrepreneurs found companies. Some “IMPreteneurs”, like Neil Wolff (MPhil Management Studies, 1979) establish the venture capital funds that invest in those companies, and start them on their paths to greatness.

Along with a team of other Oxonians, Neil manages Oxford Angel Fund, an early-stage venture fund with a unique investment strategy: aggregate investment capital only from Oxonians, and invest only in companies founded by the most brilliant, creative and driven people on the planet - Oxford alumni.

Oxford Angel Fund is now investing from its second fund. The first, started in 2016, was intentionally small, raising capital from Oxonians in the San Francisco Bay Area and investing only in local companies founded by Oxford alumni - typically participating in the very first fundraising efforts by these startups. One of the Fund I investments was in Lincolnite Nick Shelly’s company, Apero Health.

Fund I was successful in all respects, proving that there are many Oxford alumni with interesting startup plans, and showing increased valuations relative to when the fund invested.

Oxford Angel Fund II started operations in October 2020 after an unusual, pandemic-limited fundraising effort solely over Zoom (recall those days?) that exceeded the team’s fundraising goal. Fund II has about 80 Oxonian investors, almost all U.S. residents. Four of the fund’s investors are Lincoln alumni.

Like Fund I, Oxford Angel Fund II invests only in companies founded by Oxford alumni. Fund II has a broader geographic scope, investing in companies operating anywhere in the United States, and focuses on early stage (primarily angel, pre-seed, seed and Series A) investments. Oxford Angel Fund II has deployed capital into a variety of attractive investments in a very wide range of industries, including biotech and drug discovery (six companies, including two founded by Lincoln alumni), FinTech, MedTech, social media, gaming, EdTech, data analytics, sustainability, PropTech and even consumer beverages (one gin, one kombucha).

Early-stage venture capital investments take years to mature, sometimes longer than fine wines. It’s too early to tell, therefore, whether Fund II’s portfolio of companies will produce the one or two giant successes that typically generate all of a venture fund’s returns

“Like Fund I, Oxford Angel Fund II invests only in companies founded by Oxford alumni.”

to investors. But early indications are very positive, with most companies growing rapidly and raising more capital at higher valuations than when Oxford Angel Fund invested.

Oxford Angel Fund's core team - three fund managers and nine volunteers, all Oxonians - are spread all over the United States. Their diverse educational backgrounds and industry experience allow the fund to assess investment opportunities in many fields.

The fund has an unusual relationship with its investors compared with the rest of the venture industry, which provides annual and quarterly reports on the investment portfolio, and otherwise keeps the fund investors at a distance from the fund's portfolio companies. Oxford Angel Fund, in contrast, invites fund investors to hear monthly pitches by qualified startups seeking investment capital, seeks their assessment of the pitches they hear, and connects startup founders with investors who have the right experience and contacts to help those startups grow. Fund investors also have opportunities to invest directly, alongside the fund.

Oxford Angel Fund also has an unusual advantage - its close relationship with Oxford Entrepreneurs Network (OxEN), a global community of about 4,000 Oxford alumni who are part of the startup ecosystem (founders, investors, service providers) or who are just interested in the magic of entrepreneurship.

OxEN is a University Alumni Office-approved organisation, with chapters in Boston, New York, Washington DC, the San Francisco Bay Area and London. OxEN provides local and virtual events featuring startups, VCs and industry experts; education for startup founders; mentoring; and a warm,

"...early indications are very positive, with most companies growing rapidly and raising more capital at higher valuations than when Oxford Angel Fund invested."

supportive environment where members can ask questions and get useful answers (a lot like the Lincoln student experience!).

Alumni can find out more about the Oxford Alumni Network - including joining mailing lists about events and news - at oxfordentrepreneurs.net. There is also an OxEN LinkedIn Group.

Planning has started for Oxford Angel Fund III, which Neil expects will accept investments from Oxford alumni in the UK, and possibly Oxonians in other countries. Fund III will continue to invest primarily in US startups, and over time will invest in Oxon-founded startups in the UK and in cities globally that have many Oxford alumni and an active startup ecosystem.

Alumni interested in joining the Fund III waitlist can fill out a form online at www.oxfordangelfund.com/fund-iii-waitlist.

Neil has one request: if you know of a startup founded by an Oxonian - from Lincoln or any of the other colleges - that is seeking early stage capital, tell us about them! Ask the founder to fill out an application on the Oxford Angel Fund website, or send the team an email at fund2@oxfordangelfund.com.

Lincoln alumni interested in Oxford Angel Fund or Oxford Entrepreneurs Network can also contact Neil at neil.wolff@oxfordangelfund.com.

Neil's path to running a fund focused on Oxonian entrepreneurship started when he arrived at Lincoln, curious about how societies could avoid the social strife caused by limited resources. He concluded that people fought to get their share of the economic pie, and thus society should focus on making the pie bigger. He believed that recent history showed how innovation and risk taking - by founders and their financiers - could expand economies and create upward mobility.

After Oxford and law school, he luckily landed in Silicon Valley just as it was starting a 40-year growth spurt. At that time Silicon Valley mostly made silicon chips, floppy disk drives and PCs. The law firm he joined grew geometrically, like its startup clients, giving him the opportunity to help hundreds

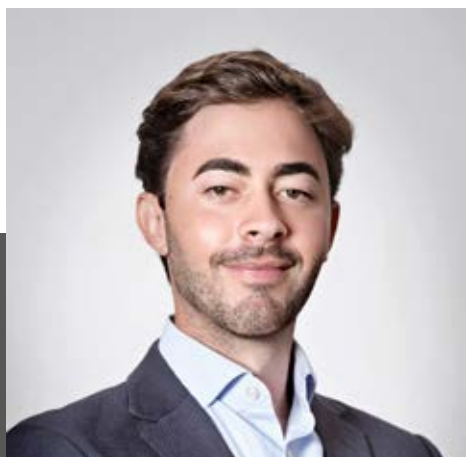
of startups raise venture money, go public or be sold, and to work on thousands of transactions.

He'd always been fascinated by the investor side of Silicon Valley's success, so he jumped ship in 2006 when one of his clients, a big venture fund, offered him a job as general counsel, with a seat on the firm's investment committee.

Neil has always admired the entrepreneur, whom he views as the engine for innovation and economic growth. He raised the first Oxford Angel Fund because he'd written 'angel' investment checks to some of the Oxonians who told their startup stories to the local Oxford Entrepreneurs Network chapter. He saw an opportunity for Oxonians to support Oxford alumni entrepreneurship, a story that's now on its second chapter.

What Neil Wolff wants to see in an early-stage venture capital investment*

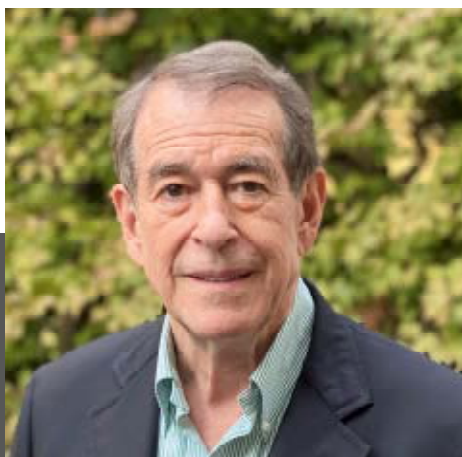
1. A big idea. A big problem crying for a solution
2. Great people, with domain expertise and the skills required to get the company to Series A
3. Geometric growth, assuming outstanding execution
4. A realistic business plan
5. A capital-efficient business model
6. Early traction, or a short path to product-market fit
7. Multiple exit opportunities... not in the distant future



Sebastian A. Brunemeier
Repeat entrepreneur

Sebastian (2019) was a Clarendon Scholar, pursuing a DPhil in the Biochemistry of Aging. He paused his DPhil efforts to co-found his first of four biotech companies (Samsara Therapeutics, Cyclone Therapeutics, Cambrian Biopharma, ImmuneAGE Bio) and has helped launch two longevity-focused venture capital funds (Apollo Health Ventures and Healthspan Capital).

Sebastian's most recent startup, ImmuneAGE Bio, is a biotech company focusing on immunosensence targeting bone marrow stem cells. The company develops small molecules for immune rejuvenation, and has an active research program with a leading Swiss lab. Oxford Angel Fund II has committed to financing ImmuneAGE.

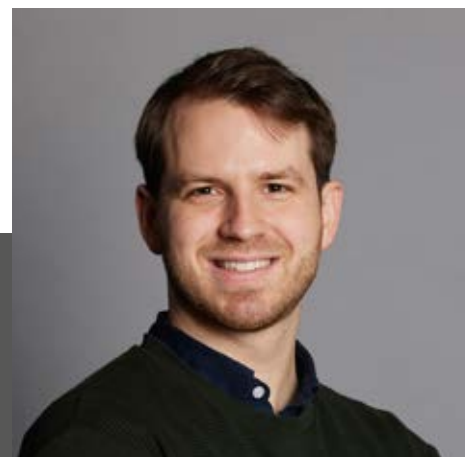


Loren Kieve
Entrepreneur and Oxford Angel Fund investor

Loren came to Lincoln in 1968 and received his BA in Jurisprudence in 1971. He has had a career litigating complex cases as a partner with some of the leading firms in the United States (Debevoise Plimpton and Quinn Emmanuel).

Loren has invested in both Oxford Angel funds. He's also an entrepreneur, an early investor - early enough to be called a founder - in several other companies that are poised to have a significant impact on climate change and materials technology.

He's also a social entrepreneur, serving as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico. IAIA is a Congressionally chartered college, so Board trustees are appointed by the President of the United States. He was appointed twice by Presidents Clinton (whom he met at Oxford) and Obama. IAIA is the leading institution in the world for Native American arts and culture.



Arne Scheu
Co-Founder and CEO of LiliumX

Recipient of Oxford Angel Fund II, Arne Scheu came to Lincoln as a Rhodes Scholar in 2017. With a DPhil in Biochemistry, Arne had the quintessential Oxford start-up experience - spinning technology out of Oxford University Innovation, honing his strategies at CDL and the world-leading Y Combinator, raising funds for LiliumX and receiving a highly competitive Innovate UK grant.

Oxford Angel Fund II has invested in LiliumX. LiliumX uses protein building blocks for drug discovery. The company's approach allows them to freely design drug candidates with custom modifications to create first-in-class therapeutics, in collaboration with other biotech companies and for LiliumX's own drug development.

Pioneering Sustainability:

An adventurous journey into ESG

Meet alumna Prerna Wadikar (2020), a pioneer of ESG education in India whose work has been recognised for a UK India Achievers Award, an honour shared with other luminaries such as the ex-Prime Minister of India. Prerna's work includes the establishment of a new course in this field and here she writes about her inspiration to develop ESG initiatives in India and elsewhere.

I'm an entrepreneur, a board member, a professor and a maverick. In a decade-and-a-half long career, I have embarked on a thrilling odyssey through the world of ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance). From the rugged terrains of Pakistan's border in the Tulail valley of Kashmir to the ancient tribes of Ethiopia and the challenging landscapes of Naxal-affected state of Chhattisgarh in India, my journey as a pioneer of institutional ESG education in India has been an exhilarating exploration of sustainability and its profound impact on our world.

Picture this: a Sunday morning filled with the fragrance of freshly brewed coffee as I sway on my bamboo swing, overlooking the idyllic western ghats mountains drenched in the monsoon rain. This peaceful scene would be perfect were it not for the restless thoughts occupying my mind—thoughts sparked by the critique of ESG from Professor Ashwath Damodaran of NYU, a renowned authority in

the field. In one of his thought-provoking blogs, he ponders whether those working in the ESG space are “useful idiots” or “feckless knaves” - a stark dichotomy between genuine advocates of positive change and those seeking to exploit the concept for personal gain.

So, what exactly is ESG and why does it ignite such passionate debate? ESG stands for Environmental, Social and Governance, forming a comprehensive framework for evaluating companies based on their impact on the environment, their commitment to social responsibility, and the strength of their governance practices. It goes beyond traditional financial metrics, and assesses a company's sustainability and long-term viability.

ESG is often used interchangeably with the term sustainability, but it's important to note that while sustainability is a broader concept encompassing ESG, it also includes economic development and social equity. ESG focuses specifically on the environmental, social and

governance aspects that contribute to managing business risks responsibly.

The roots of ESG can be traced back to 2004 when the then UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, summoned over 50 CEOs from major financial institutions to discuss the integration of ESG into mainstream capital markets. This groundbreaking initiative aimed to examine the role of environmental, social and governance value drivers in asset management and financial research. With the support of the UN Global Compact, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Swiss Government, the stage was set for a paradigm shift in how businesses approach sustainability.

My personal journey into the realm of ESG began years ago during my tenure at Schneider Electric, an electrical distribution and switchgear company. Assigned the task of selling solar-powered lamps to unelectrified regions of India, I witnessed firsthand the stark contrast between urban privilege and rural hardships.

This experience ignited a passion within me to tackle wicked problems and work to drive energy efficiency through innovative solutions.

As the strategy head of the world's largest impact sourcing organisation, I sought to empower rural communities. I spearheaded the creation of an employee-funded community engagement initiative, ensuring that the local communities wholeheartedly supported our operations. The success of this endeavour, even under the present leadership, showcases the transformative power of ESG strategies in de-risking business operations and securing social license to operate.

But my journey didn't stop there. I felt compelled to confront the harsh realities of human exploitation and became the head of an anti-trafficking resource cell. Child labour, bonded labour and sexual slavery still tragically persist in the 21st century, operating in the most unassuming of workplaces. I engaged with the rescued women and children, some as young as toddlers, who had been victims of such abhorrent



practices. This eye-opening experience emphasised the urgent need for social audits across the entire value chain, ensuring that the products we consume align with our ethical values.

I then went to the enchanting land of Ethiopia, where I fell in love with its rich culture and breathtaking landscapes. I worked on the country's national Green Legacy initiative in collaboration with the United Nations to tackle deforestation and climate change.

The topic of offsetting carbon emissions through investments in underdeveloped regions has sparked worldwide debate. While detractors question the ethical implications, proponents argue that it helps reduce the carbon burden of emitters with significantly higher emissions. Critics argue that offsetting carbon emissions by conveniently purchasing credits from underdeveloped regions may have unintended consequences. However, it is essential to recognise that while the continent of Africa contributes to

less than 3% of global carbon emissions, it plays a vital role in reducing the carbon burden of emitters with significantly higher emissions.

My commitment to sustainability led me to pursue an MBA at the Saïd Business School, University of Oxford as a Weidenfeld Hoffmann Scholar and Sloane Robinson Scholar at Lincoln College. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, I engaged with the largest refugee support organisation in Oxfordshire. Working directly with refugees from various countries, I gained invaluable insights into their lived experiences. These encounters sparked an innovative business model to address energy poverty in underdeveloped regions through lithium-ion powered solar chargeable devices. This was recognised as one of the top 15 social enterprises by McKinsey Ventures. I became the first female MBA to receive the prestigious Vice-Chancellor's Social Impact Award at the University of Oxford.



My journey has been marked by the pursuit of knowledge, the passion to make a difference, and the unwavering belief that businesses can thrive while leaving a positive imprint on the world. As a professor, I have had the privilege of imparting knowledge and nurturing a generation of sustainability advocates. As an entrepreneur, I have merged business acumen with environmental stewardship, showcasing how sustainable practices can drive profitability. Through my ventures, I share insights and experiences that inspire others to embark on their own transformative journeys in the realm of ESG.

As the adventure continues, I am filled with excitement for what lies ahead. With each step, I hope to contribute to a brighter, greener and more equitable future. I am neither a useful idiot nor a feckless knave, but a genuine believer in living responsibly and imparting knowledge.

Prerna Wadikar (2020)

“As the adventure continues, I am filled with excitement for what lies ahead. With each step, I hope to contribute to a brighter, greener and more equitable future.”



The left-wing extremist state where Prerna worked on women's empowerment

The state has a 30% tribal population with close to 2% primitive tribes. Tribal societies generally view gender as complimentary and egalitarian. Tribal women enjoy a lot more freedom and have been responsible for leading several social reforms. The picture shows tribal women selling homemade liquor in the village market.



Mursi tribe of Ethiopia

The Mursi tribe of Ethiopia contributes to sustainability with nature-aligned practices. Their deep connection to the land promotes responsible resource management, biodiversity conservation, and soil preservation. Sustainable agriculture, water reverence and minimal ecological impact highlight the value of indigenous wisdom for long-term environmental balance.



My Lincoln

Graham Allen

Graham Allen (1976) has had a long and distinguished career at the University of Cambridge, including being appointed as the University's first Academic Secretary and later, becoming Vice-President of Wolfson College. A chemistry graduate, he shares his reflections about his time at Lincoln, his achievements and the challenges facing our ancient universities.

What brought you to Oxford?

My sixth form college was new and consequently had no record of students going to Oxford. However, I was encouraged to apply by a team of Oxford admissions tutors who visited us. I decided to apply to Lincoln, which was one of a handful of colleges at that time that admitted students through conditional offers. I opted for that, got an offer and was admitted. It was the start of an adventure!

What were your first impressions of Lincoln?

Coming from a northern state school background, the atmosphere of an ancient Oxford college could have been really daunting. Any such fears disappeared very quickly because of Lincoln's small size and its welcoming, friendly atmosphere. No one really bothered about what your background was; we just got on with each other and with our studies.

Why did you choose to study chemistry?

Two very gifted teachers, in chemistry and biology, inspired me. Also, science was seen as a benefit to society in the 70's through advances such as putting men on the moon, and the work of leading scientists such as Martin Rees to make science accessible.

How did your time at Lincoln shape you?

The first term at Lincoln was intensive - a case of being thrown in at the deep end - you either found your feet or could have foundered. The tutorial system was very character forming, since there was nowhere to hide if you weren't on top of your work or you were dissembling. I should pay tribute to Peter Atkins who was a demanding and wise tutor. I learned transferable skills that paid off in later life such as how to analyse data and evidence, put together a rational argument and defend it.

How has your career progressed since graduating?

I had no career plan at the end of my four years. I toyed with the idea of doing a PhD, which would have been, for me, a displacement activity. My first job was at the Open University, where I spent three years working on the development of physics courses and working with students at the Summer School. As well as being fascinating, that played to my interest in science communication and opened up the completely new world of adults who returned to education or had missed out on higher education. That experience influenced me later during my years at Wolfson.

I came to Cambridge University in 1983. In my 40+ years here, I have held a variety of different roles, rapidly progressing until I was appointed as the University's first Academic Secretary, a role I stayed in until 2015. I retired from full-time work at that point but was fortunate to become Vice-President of Wolfson, which is my college. I retired from that post at the end of 2022, after seven fascinating and fulfilling years.

What are you doing now?

I'm currently a Trustee/Director of the Babraham Research Institute, a life sciences institute just outside Cambridge. Also, in a classic case of "poacher turned gamekeeper", for six years I've been a member of the Cambridge University Board of Scrutiny, which is a watchdog body created to make sure the central bodies of the University don't overreach their powers.

What has been your proudest achievement so far?

The nature of the roles I've held means that achievements have been the result of team efforts. So in that spirit, I'm proud that as the sixth Vice-President of Wolfson I led the process that resulted in the election of the College's first woman and scientist.



But there are many other things I'm proud of my involvement in, such as the expansion of the Clinical School, and the construction of the Sainsbury Laboratory for Plant Sciences. Observing change in an 800-year-old institution teaches you the importance of taking the long view!

You have worked at the heart of the University of Cambridge: what do you see as the main challenges facing our ancient universities?

Widening participation in undergraduate recruitment is now firmly established in Oxford and Cambridge which are investing very significant sums of money to sustain the flow of students from state schools and from those with backgrounds who haven't traditionally seen university as an option for them. But we need to continue

to dispel the old *Brideshead Revisited* image of candles in hall, punting on the river, oak panelled rooms and all that stuff.

At the heart of it is developing and sustaining relationships with the schools and convincing teachers to persuade their kids to apply to Oxford and Cambridge because they actually can get in if they've got the potential to thrive; and importantly there's financial support to make it affordable.

Maintaining global competitiveness and showcasing the excellent research work we're all doing is another huge challenge, especially given the uncertainty over funding following Brexit. Remaining internationally excellent is, crucially, dependent on attracting talented young people and faculty members from across the world to pursue their careers at our leading universities in this uncertain climate.

You've spent your career at 'the other place' and at a more modern college: how has that affected your appreciation of Lincoln?

I'm very privileged to be part of a college approaching its 600th birthday as well as one, Wolfson, coming up to its 60th.

Lincoln opened up the world for me. I doubt I would have followed the career that I have had were it not for my time at Lincoln that prepared me to grasp the opportunities that presented themselves. This is something I advise younger colleagues - take the opportunities that come along and usually life will turn out for the better.

What made you decide to leave a legacy to Lincoln?

I recognise the importance of philanthropy to both universities and the colleges, and that we have to do what we can to help ourselves. Public funding isn't sufficient to make opportunities available to all who deserve it and will benefit from an education at Lincoln, while also enhancing accommodation and facilities. I've donated to Lincoln from the time the Development Office was set up and have been impressed by Lincoln's approach to fundraising and stewardship over those years. Giving regularly to a college, even small amounts, accumulates and allows the college to do useful things, particularly supporting students.

“Lincoln opened up the world for me. I doubt I would have followed the career that I have had were it not for my four years at Lincoln that prepared me to grasp the opportunities that presented themselves.”

Events report

Our events' schedule was very much in full swing this year and it was fantastic not only to welcome so many back to College, but also to travel around the UK and beyond to connect and socialise with alumni and friends around the world.

Autumn was especially busy with events. On consecutive weekends in September, we held a Year Dinner for alumni from 1972 and Gaudies for groups from 1980-1982 and 2011-2012. Attendees enjoyed drinks, toasts and speeches over dinner, and it was lovely to see so many familiar faces. Sandwiched in the middle, we held the VacProj Anniversary to celebrate 50 years of the Vacation Project.

In October, we celebrated our 26th annual Autumn Murray Society Day in College. The Murray Society holds two events per year and is a way for us to thank alumni and friends who have included a gift to Lincoln in their Will.

Also in October, we celebrated the 137th anniversary of the birth of Egon Wellesz with a talk and performance of some of his works by Lincoln students and the choir. Many other musical delights took place at the College throughout the year, including a performance by the McCain Duo and an evening of chamber music to celebrate the life of Elman Poole (1953).

We saw out 2022 with a well-attended evening of Festive Drinks at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in London, where the Rector gave an up-beat account of the year at Lincoln.

In February, we held our first ever Lincoln for Life Curling and Cocktails evening. There was a lot of laughter, frantic sweeping and a surprising amount of competitiveness amongst our young alumni!

March and April were, as usual, "event full" months. We held 1962-1965 and 1992-1994 Year Gaudies, and also hit the road to attend dinners and events in different locations across the UK and internationally. It was a real joy to connect and reminisce with so many alumni in so many locations! Susan Harrison, our Development Director, let the train take the strain, and hosted alumni dinners in Edinburgh, Brussels, Geneva and Zurich, as well as a reception in Paris at the home of alumnus Constantine Gonticas (1985).

The Rector and Jane Mitchell then took the baton for a whistle-stop tour of the east and west coasts of the USA, meeting alumni in Washington DC, New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. We are grateful to Sabine Jaccaud (1991) and Pedro Catarino for hosting a lovely event in their home overlooking the Hollywood Hills, and to Loren (1968) and Anne Kieve for hosting a beautiful reception in their home in San Francisco. We are also grateful to Nick (1999) and Lisa Woodfield for hosting the Washington, DC group at the Potomac Boat Club and to Adrian (1974) and Donna Goddard for hosting us at the Grolier Club in New York City. It was fantastic to be able to visit with alumni around the world again and have proper gatherings.

Meanwhile, the London Dining Club Dinner took place at the Carlton Club. Dr Steve Smith (1999), Executive Director of Oxford Net Zero and CO2RE, gave an insightful talk, 'A hot topic: communicating climate change to Lords and little ones', speaking about his experience communicating and advising on climate change, including advising ministers and writing Usborne books.

In May, we were pleased to restart our Spring Murray Day, this year with a tour of the stunning Rousham House and Gardens in Oxfordshire. One of

Top left: Rhodes Scholars' Anniversary Dinner
Bottom left: Alumni Dinner in Edinburgh
Top right: Lincoln for Life Curling and Cocktails
Bottom right: Lincoln Society Eights Week Family Day



England's most important gardens, Rousham represents the first phase of English landscape design and remains almost as its designer, William Kent, left it. After taking in the wonders of the grounds, Murray Society members had a convivial lunch at the nearby Bell Inn.

The last weekend in May was packed with fun and luckily, blue skies and sunshine. On the Saturday, we held our annual Lincoln Society Eights Week Family Day, where alumni and their families mingled in the Rector's garden for a delicious spread of strawberries and cream, scones and sandwiches. We were delighted to see so many children attend and our entertainer was on hand to dazzle them – and the adults – with his circus skills, walking on stilts, juggling, and sleight-of-hand magic and card tricks. The event coincided with the Saturday of Summer VIIIs and you can read more about the performance of our rowing crews in the *On the River* rowing roundup on pages 12-13.

The next day we held a boat-naming ceremony in honour of two new boats. Professor Raymond Dwek CBE (1964) and his wife Sandra Dwek donated a new

W1 boat named Glyco after their institute and Darren Marshall (1984) funded the new M1 named the Mary Garrett in honour of his wife Mary. The two boats – Filippi F54 and F29 models with aluminum wing riggers – are said to be the finest the LCBC has ever owned!

Chapter leaders were also busy planning events and Elana Hain (2015) kindly hosted a private tour of the Renwick Gallery in Washington, DC while Daniel Pascoe (2008) has planned a couple of drinks and dinner events for alumni in Hong Kong. Please contact the Development Office if you would like to find out if there is a Lincoln alumni group in your area.

The Rhodes House Anniversary Dinner for Lincoln Rhodes Scholars took place on 29 June. It was wonderful to see so many Rhodes Scholars back at Lincoln as part of the 120th anniversary celebrations. The oldest matriculated in 1962, the youngest in 2022!

We're planning an exciting programme of events for 2023-2024, so please visit our website at lincoln.ox.ac.uk/events to see the provisional calendar. We hope to see you soon!

Development and Alumni Relations report

Making our historic spaces fit for the 21st century

Our historic site is one of the glories of Lincoln. The ranges around front quad have changed little over the centuries; the Hall remains at the heart of the College, and looking at etchings and photographs taken many decades ago, the set-up is very familiar. Even the relatively recent properties, such as our glorious library in All Saints Church (converted in 1975), retain their original structure and have been modified with great sensitivity.

The College has an obligation to preserve and maintain these buildings and rooms, which it takes seriously. As you can read in Mark Kirby's article starting on page 6, this may not always be glamorous work, but is essential, and somewhat inevitable in buildings of this age. And each refurbishment is inevitably revealing and interesting.

However, we also have an obligation to ensure that our facilities are fit for more

modern purposes than passing the port (a special feature in the Lower SCR). This means paying careful attention to accessibility, especially for those with mobility issues, and to improving the energy efficiency and sustainability of our rooms.

Over the past year, we have begun work on improving some of the areas of our main site in both respects, with much assistance from specific donations and from the Annual Fund. Work is now underway in the Library to install a new platform lift, and disabled-access toilet facilities on the lower level, which will mean that for the first time those with mobility issues will be able to make full use of the Library, rather than being confined to the lobby area. This work has been most generously funded by Lord Crewe's Charity as part of a Tercentenary Grant. The Lord Crewe's grant will also allow us to make much needed improvements to the Beckington Room, which was once Lord Crewe's dining room when he was Rector

of Lincoln (1688-1672). While this remains one of the College's most elegant historic rooms, it is in dire need of providing more comfort. The improvements will include secondary glazing, altering the main access door to the rooms so that it can be entered with a wheelchair, and installation of new heating and lighting. It will remain in the style of an elegant 18th century salon, and we hope that many alumni will have the opportunity to enjoy it at our events. And it will be considerably more pleasant for our students and Fellows as a working space for meetings and seminars.

Sustainability has been another theme this year, and Peter Nitsche-Whitfield's article covers our major activities. A particular achievement has been the installation of Ecosync radiator valves in Lincoln House, Staircase 15, and on the main site. These will enable us to have much greater control over heating, and in particular will mean that radiators in unoccupied rooms can be turned off at weekends and on holidays. While we hope

that over time these will save money as well as improving efficiency, we are very grateful to donors to the Annual Fund whose contributions have covered the cost of installation. Given the challenges of working within such a historic, and protected, site, our gold Green Impact Award is a welcome achievement. Our next project, funding permitted, will be to replace our old boilers in the Grove, which have failed on a number of occasions in the past year, and to install solar panels on the roof space at Museum Road, which will also have a positive impact on both our emissions and costs.

Finally, we are turning our attention to the Rector's Lodgings. This is rather apt as we approach our 600th anniversary in 2027, as the Lodgings themselves were initiated prior to the 500th anniversary in 1927. They are now in need of something of an upgrade, again mainly to improve the services and facilities rather than a complete refurbishment – although as with any work on a listed building, it is a relatively complicated and expensive project. We hope to complete this without undue inconvenience to either Professor Woudhuysen, or his successor – a challenge indeed for the Clerk of Works.



Preparing students for life after Lincoln

In addition to improving the facilities here, and increasing the number of scholarships and bursaries available to our students (which I wrote about last year), we are increasingly conscious of the need to ensure our students are well prepared for life after Lincoln. To that end, we launched our mentoring platform, LincUp last year, with a presentation by Daniel Watts (1999), the CEO of its software provider Aluminate in November. We now have 253 mentors and 257 mentees, and a growing number of mentoring relationships. Our students report that this is a very valuable resource, particularly in their last year, and of course it is also available to alumni to seek mentoring from other Lincolniters, too.

We will also launch a new programme for our students in the next academic year. The Hartley Leadership Programme is the brainchild of alumna Alison Hartley (1980), who identified a need to equip students, both undergraduate and graduate, to transition successfully from College life to the wider world and to provide them with the tools successfully to pursue their goals and to make a difference as leaders in their chosen sphere when they leave Lincoln. A pilot course, led by Jane Jenkins (1982) with the support of other alumni, will be held at the end of Michaelmas 2023. We are grateful to Alison, Jane and others who have put so much work into the establishment of this course.

Alumni News

Lincoln alumni in Parliament



We congratulated **Rishi Sunak (1998)** on his election as Prime Minister in October 2022, the first Lincoln graduate to hold the office. He graduated in 2001 with a first-class degree in PPE, and later studied for his MBA at Stanford University. Before becoming MP for Richmond, Yorkshire, he worked in the financial sector, and was Head of the Black and Minority Ethnic Research Unit at Policy Exchange.



Alumna and Honorary Fellow **Shabana Mahmood MP (1999)** has been a Labour MP since 2010 for Birmingham, Ladywood and was recently appointed as Labour's Shadow Justice Secretary. She kindly came to Lincoln last May to deliver a well-received talk to students about her career and time at Lincoln.

Other Lincolnites who are currently MPs include **Lee Rowley (1999)**, **Danny Kruger MBE (1997)** and **Sir William Cash (1959)**.

1950s

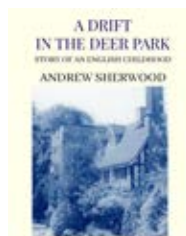
David Jones (1953) and **Patrick Preston (1951)** are now both in the same care home in Worthing.

Lawyers, Messrs. **Chapman, Comer, Piper, Steiner and Tozer** and linguist **Werner** - all of whom matriculated some 65 years ago in 1958 - assembled once again for a splendid lunch at the Oriental Club in London's West End. Sadly Messrs. **East, Gibson and Varcoe** were unable to join them. However, although the times they may be *a'changing*, happy memories of Lincoln in the late '50s and early '60s remain the same as ever.

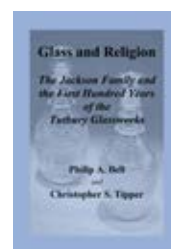


Sir William Cash MP (1959) was appointed to the Order of the Companions of Honour in the 2023 resignation honours list. He will be stepping down from Parliament at the next general election after serving as an MP since 1984.

1960s



Andrew Sherwood (1959) published an updated and illustrated edition of his memoir, *A Drift in the Deer Park*, available as either a paperback or ebook from amazon.com or amazon.co.uk. It includes an action shot of the Lincoln Second VIII making a bump in 1961! His books *Cold War Road Warrior* and *An Accidental Immigrant* are now also available as paperbacks from Amazon.



In retirement, **Philip Bell (1960)** has ventured beyond drug discovery and the life sciences into Staffordshire history and the history of science and technology. He recently published, with Christopher Tipper, *Glass and Religion: The Jackson Family and the First Hundred Years of the Tutbury Glassworks*, as well as a companion volume on the history of a nearby glassworks in Derbyshire. He and Richard Kremer co-authored a paper

in *Antiquarian Horology* (December 2021, Vol. 42/4, pp 467-476) on 'An early sixteenth-century drawing of a spring clock in a fifteenth-century astronomical manuscript'.

After finishing at College, **Michael Mitchell (1960)** worked as a university lecturer in German (Reading 1967-68, Stirling 1968-1995) before taking early retirement to concentrate on his work as a French and German literary translator. His next translation - to be published next month - will be his 98th and, with two already with publishers, he will fairly soon reach his century. After retiring from Stirling, Mike and his wife (a lecturer in mathematics) decided to move farther out into the country, but are still in Scotland in Argyll.

Robert Waterhouse (1960) has had four recent titles from his publishing company, Baquis Press, accepted by the National Art Library at the V&A. The titles document and illustrate work by Hungarian artists who made their lives in Britain during the 1930s. Baquis Press is also publishing, in spring 2024, *Footplate Passenger*, a selection of the columns contributed by E.S. Waterhouse to ASLEF's *Locomotive Journal* between 1935-1964. E.S. Waterhouse, Professor of the Philosophy of Religion at London University, was Robert's grandfather.

Over the past few years (and not least because of COVID), **Roger Allen (1961)** has published translations from Arabic of no fewer than five historical novels. Four of them are by the Egyptian novelist, Reem Bassiouney (*Sons of the People*, *Fountain of the Drowning*, *Al-Qata'i* and *The Halva-Maker*), and one by the Moroccan novelist and Minister of Religious Affairs, Ahmed Toufiq, *Abu L-Abbas's Neighbours*.



Raymond Busbridge (1963) received his PhD from Concordia University, Montreal on 20 June for his study of audience experience at particular Shakespeare's history plays, entitled *Raised from the grave of oblivion: Shakespeare's historical stage*.



Dr Ernest Lucas' (1963) most recent book, *Daniel*:

Sovereignty, Human and Divine, was published by T & T Clark in January 2023. It is an introduction and study guide for students in a series sponsored by the Society for Old Testament Study. After doing doctoral and post-doctoral research in biochemistry, he read theology at Regent's Park College, Oxford in the 1970s and is now Vice Principal Emeritus of Bristol Baptist College and an Associate Research Fellow of Spurgeon's College, London.



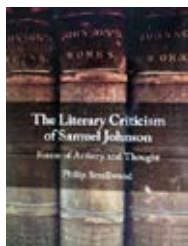
Glenn Babb's (1965) most recent book, *My Joburg Family*, was published April 2023 by Footprint Press. Although Glenn's parents were uncomfortable with the current political situation, he grew up in comfortable surroundings in Johannesburg in the 60s and 70s, well-prepared for a fine education, a degree in law, overseas travel and ultimately a distinguished career. Throughout the narrative, Glenn shows a keen awareness of the political overtones and there are numerous references to the characters he met along the way.



James Russell's (1966) verse novel, *Aeneas and Son*, will appear from Knives Forks and Spoons later this year, and his short story collection, *The Griffin Brain and Other Stories*, will appear from Grand Iota.

Hazel Richmond-Coggan, wife of **David Richmond-Coggan (1967)** died unexpectedly on 1 June 2023 in the Royal Bournemouth Hospital. They met in Oxford and were very happily married for forty-nine years, with two sons, Will and Mike and four teenage grandchildren. They had lived in Iraq, Sudan and South Africa before settling back in Surrey. They moved to Bournemouth during 2019, which was where Hazel had grown up. Hazel was a prolific maker of stitched handmade items, many of which were sold for charity, and helped maintain vestments and items at Christchurch Priory.

Alumni News



Philip Smallwood (1968) continues to write, lecture and publish on Augustan and 18th-century literature. Recent essays include 'Beatus Ille: Pope and the Mythos of Retirement' for the collection *Pope's Mythologies* (Routledge, 2023), while essays shortly forthcoming include 'Critical Friendships in the Lives of the Poets' for *Samuel Johnson and the Powers of Friendship* (Routledge). Smallwood is presently working on an essay on Pope for *The Oxford History of Poetry in English*; his latest book, forthcoming with Cambridge University Press for October publication, is entitled *The Literary Criticism of Samuel Johnson: Forms of Artistry and Thought*.



John Reddish (1968) has been the Honorary Secretary of the Croquet Association since 2021. He has been closely involved in the forthcoming dissolution of the Association and its replacement, as the

National Governing Body for the sport of croquet in England, by Croquet England (a Charitable Incorporated Organisation). He was appointed as the Secretary of the CIO in April 2023.



Tony Coll (1969) is a former BBC journalist who diversified into showbiz. He is a veteran media and presentation trainer whose experience covers hard news, video, TV light entertainment, public speaking, drama and comedy. He helps clients with media interviews, appearing on video and presenting on stage. Tony also writes and performs funny songs to order on any topic, and is a memorable event host and keynote speaker. He is based in Bristol but available worldwide.

1970s



Three Lincolnites rode in the Cape Town Road Race

this March, brothers **Spencer (1976) and Kevin (1986) Fleischer and Simon Roper (1975)**. A beautiful 110 km ride, down towards Cape Point via Simonstown and back via Chapmans Peak in brilliant sunshine. In honour of his brother Felix who died suddenly last year, Simon and his wife Amaryllis, also cycled 1100 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise funds for SeeSaw, a bereavement charity.

In October 2022, **Ted A. Campbell (1977)** was installed as the Albert C. Outler Professor of Wesley Studies at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, (Dallas, Texas). Campbell's inaugural lecture referred to John Wesley's (dubious) claim that the medieval statues of Lincoln College gave Wesley a right to preach anywhere in England for the extirpation of heresy.

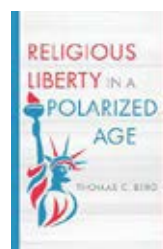
1980s

James Walton (1980) is the co-host of the new Booker Prize Podcast2.

Duncan Black (1981) leads the Financial Regulation practice at law firm Fieldfisher LLP in London. In 2023 he was appointed a Fee-paid Financial Services Member of the Upper Tribunal, Tax and Chancery

Chamber. It hears references of decisions from FCA, PRA, The Pensions Regulator, Bank of England and HM Treasury. He lives in London and is in regular contact with many of his year group, some of whom, like him, are still working!

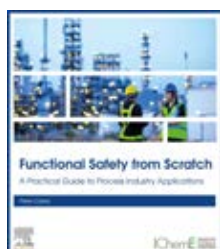
Peter Dawson (1981) has been invited to become the Sir Leon Radzinowicz visiting fellow at the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cambridge. The Fellowship is awarded every two years to "persons who have served with distinction in government, the judiciary Parliament or other public office in the United Kingdom or elsewhere". It was established by Sir Leon Radzinowicz (the Institute's founder) in his testament.



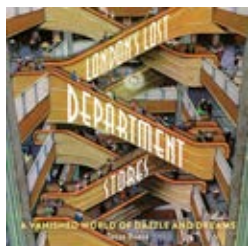
Thomas Berg (1982) has published *Religious Liberty in a Polarized Age* (Eerdmans Publishing 2023), a case for religious liberty protection in the politically and culturally polarized US. He has also published the 5th edition of his US casebook *Religion and the Constitution* (Aspen 2022, with McConnell and Lund) and the collection *Patents on*

Life: Religious, Moral, and Social Justice Aspects of Biotechnology and Intellectual Property (Cambridge U Press 2019, with Cholić and Ravenscroft). He is Oberstar Professor of Law and Public Policy, University of St. Thomas (Minnesota).

Stuart Walton (1983) is currently at work on his seventeenth book, *Sleepless Nights: The Faults and Failings of Love*, which will be published by Academica Press in 2024. It is a critical study of the cultural and psychological paradigms surrounding the conduct of romantic love.



Peter Clarke's (1984) book, *Functional Safety from Scratch*, was published by Elsevier in March this year. The book covers methods for the analysis, design and implementation of automated safety systems in the chemical industry. Further details are available from the websites of Elsevier and xSeriCon.



Tessa Boase (1987) has published her third book of social history, *London's Lost Department Stores - A Vanished World of Dazzle and Dreams* (Safe Haven Books). Remember buying your sub fusc from Boswells? Once the world's second oldest family emporium, trading since 1738, Boswells closed during the pandemic in 2020. Rechristened 'The Store', it's now a boutique hotel with a spa. We've lost 83% of our department stores in the past eight years. Tessa brings to life 50 former 'cathedrals of commerce' now vanished from the capital.

Melissa Clark (1988) has been selected to train as a priest in the Church of England. She begins part-time study in Theology, Ministry and Mission at St Mellitus College, Chelmsford, in September 2023.

1990s

Ray Younis (1990) is completing a new book, by invitation, *Spectral Media and Social Justice in the 21st Century*, which will be published by IGI Global later this year. It explores some ethically questionable

strategies and practices by social media organisations that raise significant questions about the pursuit of social justice in the 'digital age'.



Although working as a securities regulator at FINRA consumes much of his energy, **Thomas Dineen (1991)** was elected Vice President of the American Jujitsu Association (AJA) and Chair of its National Standards and Certification Board. He also founded Defensive Canes For All, a non-profit organisation that offers self-defense-adapted walking canes and training to seniors, the disabled, and veterans, as well as to experienced martial artists who wish to explore the cane's potential as a weapon. Thomas is first row, second from the right in the photo.

Carol Robinson's (1992) book, *Dying in Prison*, an ethnography of what happens when someone dies of natural causes in prison custody, has been published by Palgrave Macmillan. She continues to work as a lecturer in Criminology at the University of York.



Bestselling author **Naomi Alderman (1993)** read PPE at Lincoln. Among other accolades, her most recent novel, *The Power*, was the winner of the 2017 Baileys' Women's Prize for Fiction, longlisted for the 2017 Orwell Prize, and chosen as one of the best books of the year by the New York Times, the Washington Post, the LA Times, NPR, Entertainment Weekly and the San Francisco Chronicle. *The Power* was adapted into a television series that premiered on Amazon last March.



Lieutenant Colonel Ali Lea (1994) married Lieutenant Colonel Stu Elford on 11 April in a small family ceremony. They celebrated by returning to house renovations in Cumbria.

Alumni News



After a successful career in publishing, **Sarah Goddard (1994)** now combines voluntary work—as a charity trustee and a member of Gloucestershire Sight Loss Council—with working as an artist. Based in Cheltenham, Sarah is currently an artist-in-residence at The Wilson, Cheltenham’s art gallery and museum. Being sight-impaired, Sarah’s mixed-media artworks are often based on local landscapes that she can reach on foot, in a style that represents something of the way in which she perceives the world.



Professor Paul Williams (1995) and his research group at the University of Reading won a major prize at the Times Higher Education Awards. They won Research Project of the Year (STEM) for their work on designing greener flight routes. The trophy was presented at a dazzling awards ceremony in London, hosted by the comedian and actor Stephen Mangan. Stephen Mangan is on the left, followed by Paul Williams, and then the rest of his team.

Ed Lawson (1996) is working with the FLG (Four Legs Good) project, specifically collaborating with UK CCs on an innovative semi-native breed programme.

Initial scope is the introduction of small populations of Chacoan Mara and Zedonk. The ultimate aim is a sustainable solution to controlling ‘nuisance’ flora at road sidings without the need for mechanised intervention. It’s hoped that the programme will help divert our dusty track to monoculture!

Mary Harrington (1998) published *Feminism Against Progress* this year with Forum Press.



Antoine Hatzenberger (1998) has edited a collection of philosophical essays due to be published in 2023: *Après Kant* (Paris, Classiques Garnier).



Rubina Raja (1999), Professor of Classical Art and Archaeology and centre director at the Centre for Urban Network Evolutions (Aarhus University, Denmark), received the Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award

from the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung in June 2023 at the annual Humboldt conference in Berlin. She received it for her internationally outstanding research in Classical Archaeology and for having “developed the discipline beyond its current state”. Raja was a visiting fellow at All Souls College in Hilary and Trinity Terms 2023 and visited her old College several times in the spring reminding her of the formative years of study there.

2000



Oliver Munn (2004) married Thomas Bryans on 15 August 2021 at a ceremony in Wells, Somerset. Professionally, Oliver continues his career in the civil service, serving since July 2022 as Director General Health Protection Operations at the UK Health Security Agency.

Sam Brownbridge (née Ivell, 2006) and her husband George are delighted to announce that their first child, Alexandra, was born in February 2023.

Kate Svedang (2006) is thrilled to announce the birth of her son, Max, on 30 April 2023.

2010s



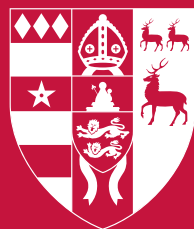
After graduating from Law and Finance at Oxford, **Julia Carnevalli Durigan (2018)** completed an Executive MBA program at Cambridge University. Combining her legal and financial background with broader business acumen, she is poised to make informed decisions and contribute effectively in multidimensional environments.



Dr Saroj Saurya, a 2019 Lincoln College graduate and Lab Manager at Raff Lab, has been awarded the 2023 VC Environmental Sustainability Staff Award. She is the Chair of the Dunn School Green Group at Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, and has mobilised colleagues at the Dunn School to achieve 35 LEAF accreditations and the Gold Green Impact Award.



Scan me to visit the Lincoln Alumni page



Lincoln College

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD