Professor Sir Geoffrey Lloyd on spending his $1 million prize

Celebrating 500 years of the chapel: the countdown begins

A new approach to teaching the social sciences
For this issue, I spent an hour with Professor Sir Geoffrey Lloyd, who was recently awarded the $1m Dan David Prize for his contribution to our understanding of the modern legacy of the ancient world (see interview, pages 4 and 5). Geoffrey’s work has always spanned a wide range of subjects, and his interdisciplinary approach is increasingly being recognised as the most fruitful way to conduct research.

The trend can be seen, for example, in the revolution in the way the social sciences are taught at Cambridge. From October, undergraduates on the new Human, Social, and Political Sciences tripos will have an opportunity to explore a broader variety of topics in their first year (see page 10 for details).

During our conversation, Geoffrey told me that as an undergraduate the greatest influence on him had been other undergraduates. Several members told graduate student Katie Fitzpatrick the same thing when she spoke to them as part of the King’s Telephone Fundraising Campaign (TFC). Peer-to-peer learning is one of the many great benefits of the Cambridge supervision system, which the TFC seeks to maintain.

Clare Lynch, Editor

Provosts past (and future)

As King’s prepares to welcome new Provost Michael Proctor this autumn, Librarian Peter Jones reflects on the heretics, alchemists and necromancers who have held the post in times past.

The first two Provosts at King’s (William Millington and John Chedworth, since you ask) are best described as inquisitors. Apart from heading the College, their main claim to fame is that they both tried, in the end successfully, to convict Bishop Reginald Pecock of heresy. He lost his bishopric for the crime of writing in English.

In the 16th century, several Provosts themselves were condemned as heretics. George Day, for example, was denounced by the Fellows when he told them off for refusing to say masses in Chapel.

John Cheke (pictured) was, by contrast, a strong Protestant, but made the mistake of supporting Lady Jane Grey as Queen, using the Provost’s Lodge to further the plot. He was sent with Lady Jane to the Tower of London, but at least he came out alive.

It was less dangerous to be a heretic after the 17th century, and some modern Provosts have teased the faithful with impunity. Edmund Leach used radio broadcasts to compare Trobriand Islanders to the worshippers in King’s Chapel, sharing as they did improbable beliefs in virgin birth.

Some King’s Provosts have dabbled in the occult. John Argentein, physician to the Princes in the Tower and to Henry VII’s son Arthur, sought the elixir of life by alchemical means – failing to do his royal patients much good, we must assume. We nearly had another alchemist when King William nominated Sir Isaac Newton as Provost in 1689. If we never had the benefit of Newton as Provost, we ended up as custodians of his alchemical papers, thanks to Keynes’s bequest in 1946.

One Provost was reputed to be a necromancer – Roger Goad. He survived forty years in office from his election in 1570 despite the plots of junior Fellows to remove him. In the 20th century his tomb in the Chapel was opened to reveal only a boar’s tusk, which certainly would have confirmed the Fellows in their belief in his wizardry. Provosts have been obsessed with the need to build, from Robert Hacomblen, who completed the Chapel, to John Adams, who narrowly escaped prison for debt after spending all his income on what became the Gibbs Building. Bernard Williams used his legendary powers of persuasion to argue for a circular library in the Fellows Garden. Provosts of King’s have nearly always made an impact outside the College as well as in, and nearly three-quarters of them have ended up in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (look them up!).

Now we welcome Michael Proctor (a Trinity man like Newton, but this time elected by the Fellowship), who succeeds Ross Harrison in October. We wish them both well.
It’s almost a truism to say nobody listens to modern opera anymore. But contemporary handwringing that new works never get a chance to become part of the operatic canon is nothing new. As musicologist Flora Willson argued in her PhD, 19th-century opera critics were just as concerned that opera was a dead art form. “It’s an old situation,” she says. “In the 19th century, there was the same anxiety that audiences were only interested in going to see the old classics that everyone knew.”

Flora read music at Selwyn before moving to King’s College London for her PhD. She’s using her JRF to examine how opera fits into the broader cultural history of the 19th-century city, focusing on Paris and London. Flora’s work is strongly interdisciplinary, so she values the lively intellectual environment at King’s. “My research overlaps considerably with other disciplines, including literary studies and the history of technology,” she says. “So I really value the opportunity for exchange with academics working on related subjects from different disciplines.”

Flora’s interests often take her outside academia and she’s regularly invited to give talks at venues such as the Barbican, English National Opera, Glyndebourne and the Royal Opera House, and has appeared several times recently on BBC Radio 3. She says: “I love having the opportunity to communicate an academic understanding of opera to audiences who are often hugely enthusiastic about particular works but who may feel they know less about the historical and cultural context.”

She’s also working on a critical edition of Les Martyrs, a Parisian grand opera written by Donizetti in 1840. In 2014, the edition will be performed and recorded (for Opera Rara) by Sir Mark Elder and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. When she’s not in the library or the opera house, Flora is a keen runner and recently completed the Cambridge Half Marathon in the snow in 1 hour 33 minutes. “Having grown up on the edge of the Pennines, I sometimes miss having hills around,” she says. “But there’s no doubt that Cambridge is a fantastic place for running!”

Industry uses about a third of the world’s electricity, around two thirds of which is consumed by electric motors. New JRF Mark Ainslie is looking at ways to make such machines smaller, lighter and more efficient by using high-temperature superconducting materials. “Superconducting materials offer zero to near-zero resistance to the flow of electrical current when cooled below a particular cryogenic temperature,” he says. “And they can carry much higher current densities than conventional materials.”

An Australian, Mark did his PhD at King’s under Tim Flack and decided to remain at the College for his JRF because he likes its sense of community. “Everyone’s an equal here,” he says. “And although we’re all serious academics, it’s quite laid back, which suits my personality and cultural upbringing.” As an undergraduate, Mark combined an Electrical & Electronics Engineering degree with a BA in Japanese at the University of Adelaide (such joint degrees are quite common in Australia). He says: “Languages and science use different parts of the brain and I find it quite therapeutic to put aside physics and equations to study Japanese.”

Prior to King’s, Mark spent time in industry in Adelaide before winning a scholarship from the Japanese government to do a Masters in Engineering at Tokyo University. He says the experience gave him a good feel for industry’s concerns, but the course gave him a taste for academia that convinced him his interests lay in research and teaching. Mark plans to take a research trip to Japan in the next year, to meet up with old colleagues doing similar research to his own and foster new collaborative links. “The field of applied superconductivity is highly multi-disciplinary,” he says. “One of the advantages of academic life is the ability to collaborate and travel to other labs all over the world.”
Comparative Importance

Eighty this year, Honorary King’s Fellow Professor Sir Geoffrey Lloyd has just won the Dan David prize for his wide-ranging scholarship. Here, he reflects on the importance of King’s in his intellectual development – and reveals what he plans to do with the money. By Clare Lynch

Kingsman Geoffrey Lloyd is “gobsmacked”. He’s just been awarded the 2013 Dan David award, which comes with $1m prize money. The figure may be extraordinary, but the accolade itself should really have come as no surprise. Created to recognise innovative research that cuts across traditional disciplines, the prize seems destined for a scholar whose studies of Ancient Greece and Ancient China embrace philosophy, anthropology, history, sociology, psychology and neuroscience.

Laureates of the prize donate 10% of their prize money to graduate students in their area, thus nurturing a new generation of scholars. The money hasn’t come through yet, but Geoffrey already has a fair idea of what he’d like to do with it.

“I hope to set up some kind of foundation with a preference for the kind of crazy things that I do,” he says. “That is to say, comparative studies and interdisciplinarity.”

“I think the main constituency that needs help is post-docs. Graduate students are carrying a lot of debt, poor dears, but they’re better off than post-docs. Once you’ve got your PhD it’s extremely difficult.”

On the plus side, intellectually, post-docs are “footloose and fancy-free” because their research interests don’t necessarily have to be tied to a particular department. It’s the kind of intellectual freedom Geoffrey himself enjoys at the Needham Research Institute, the Cambridge centre for the study of the history of East Asian science, technology and medicine.

Eighty this year, Geoffrey describes himself as retired – by which he seems to mean he’s travelling a little less. From his office at the Institute, he is currently writing up the Tarner Lectures on the Philosophy of the Sciences, which he delivered last Michaelmas term.

He says of the project: “It’ll be the fourth in a series of books about human cognitive capacities and the question of the psychic unity and diversity of human beings, which I think to be rather important to the world in which we live.”

So the kinds of questions Geoffrey has been wrestling with in recent years include: how did academic disciplines become set in stone? How are we to understand the Amazonian societies that believe jaguars think the blood of their victims is manioc beer? And how does an fMRI scan of someone’s brain tally with their subjective account of being angry or afraid or in love?

“It’s pretty ambitious stuff,” he says. Geoffrey’s cross-disciplinary approach was nurtured from his earliest days at King’s. He arrived from Charterhouse as a Classics undergraduate in October 1951 – and the place was a revelation.

“I was at a very philistine public school, where you had to conceal the fact that you read poetry. When I arrived at King’s it seemed like paradise. Intellectual paradise.”

It was a paradise populated by contemporaries such as Neal Ascherson, who was to become famous for his journalism. Neal had done active service in Malaysia and counselled Geoffrey on whether to become a conscientious objector on being called for National Service. In the end Geoffrey decided against objecting and was eventually sent to Cyprus (where he was the only member of the Intelligence Corps who could speak Greek).

“What I noticed always – it applied to me and maybe it still does apply – is that the main educational influence on undergraduates is from other undergraduates. The educational structure and the supervisions may not be the most important thing.”

But he also encountered figures such as Eric Hobsbawm, who he happened to sit next to at lunch in his first term.

“There was this chap with an extraordinary craggy face and he was obviously absolutely alive with ideas. He invited me back to his room for a coffee. There were about eight or ten people there and the conversation...”
What I noticed always – it applied to me and maybe it still does apply – is that the main educational influence on undergraduates is from other undergraduates.

Later in his studies, a whispered conversation with Edmund Leach during a ceremony in the Chapel for the admission of new fellows inspired him to take his anthropological interests further.

Clearly, much of Geoffrey’s intellectual development took place outside of formal supervisions and lectures. Indeed, a word that often crops up when he talks about his Classics tutors, such as John Raven, is “tolerant”.

As a PhD student, too, Geoffrey was very much left to his own devices. He spent time in Athens, learning the bouzouki and getting nowhere with a study of abstract nouns in Ancient Greece.

Eventually – and despite the scepticism of his PhD supervisor, Geoffrey Kirk – the thesis ended up as a study of Greek thought that was much influenced by anthropology.

“It would be absolutely impossible now,” he says. “Today, you have to say what you’re going to do, when you’re going to do it and what you’re going to find – and if you haven’t made progress your grant is discontinued. It was a completely different system then, thank goodness.”

The thesis – which was later published as Polarity and Analogy – was written up in three months from a Paris hotel room, to which Geoffrey had moved in order to be with Janet (or “Ji”), his then wife to be.

Both Ji and Geoffrey owe much to French intellectuals such as the historian Pierre Vidal-Naquet and the anthropologist, classicist and Resistance fighter Jean-Pierre Vernant. They were introduced to such thinkers by Moses Finley, Cambridge Professor of Ancient History, shortly after he came to the UK as a voluntary exile from the USA to escape the McCarthy purges.

In fact, the first of Ji’s translations (she has published more than 70) came courtesy of Moses, and both Vernant and Vidal-Naquet – whom she also translated – proved to be important intellectual influences on Geoffrey.

“When I go lecturing in America, I blither on about this and that and the other and I introduce Ji and they say, ‘You’re THE Janet Lloyd? Thank God for you!’”

A two-hour interview with Geoffrey Lloyd by Alan Macfarlane, in which he talks about his life and work, is available online. Simply search for “Geoffrey Lloyd” on YouTube.
During her BA in Social and Political Sciences, Halliki Voolma had a chance to do research with the Cambridge Women’s Aid outreach centre. The project involved evaluating a support programme for survivors of domestic violence – something one in four women experiences at some point in their lifetime.

“I was always interested in working with people and I thought it would make a change from writing essays,” says Halliki. “I was just nineteen and interviewing women with these terrible stories. I found it all so unjust.”

For her BA dissertation, Halliki asked Women’s Aid what aspects of domestic violence demanded more research. Their answer: domestic violence against immigrant women, a particularly vulnerable and “invisible” group. Halliki expanded on her undergraduate research into domestic violence against immigrant women for her MPhil and continues to do so for her PhD.

For her doctorate Halliki is carrying out a comparative study of government responses to domestic violence against immigrants in the UK and Sweden. She chose Sweden as a comparative case because it ranks highly for both gender equality and immigrant integration – on paper, at least.

“In both the UK and Sweden, the government rhetoric is all about ending violence against women,” she says. “But in practice, access to support can be limited, especially for women with insecure immigration status.”

Halliki’s aim is to understand the whole system from the local to the global – and how it ends up excluding such vulnerable women. So she is analysing how EU and international frameworks on violence against women and migrants’ rights are translated into national frameworks. Interviews with domestic violence survivors and stakeholders (such as service providers and politicians) will reveal how much impact such legislation actually has on women’s lives – and where the gaps lie.

Halliki is in the second year of her PhD and on completion hopes to work on migration and violence against women for international organisations such as the EU and the UN. Last summer, she did an internship in New York at UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. The creation of UN Women shows women’s rights and gender equality issues are finally getting attention at a high level within the UN system, although, as Halliki points out, it was only founded two and a half years ago.

When not studying, Halliki competes in the Cambridge University Dancesport team and is a highly accomplished fundraiser for King’s. In last year’s Telephone Fundraising Campaign, she raised £120,000 for the College – half the total raised by the seventeen students who took part. She puts her success down to not taking “no” for an answer.

“King’s has supported me since my BA and fully funded my MPhil,” she says. “So I’m personally invested in fundraising for the College. I know I’ll want to give back when I leave.”

When PhD candidate Halliki Voolma isn’t examining domestic violence against immigrant women, she’s either representing Cambridge on the dance floor or raising money for King’s. And if you’ve ever received a call from her as part of the annual Telephone Fundraising Campaign, you’ll know she’s very persuasive indeed.
Like a lot of porters, I used to be in the forces. You come out of the army and you naturally gravitate to institutions.

You’ve got to have an awareness of safety and security to be a good porter. You also have to be a people person – there’s an element of pastoral care to the job.

As head porter I only get to meet the really bad and the really good students. I tend to see either those who’ve been in trouble or those on committees who put a lot into the College. The other porters see the people in the middle, but not me.

I think it’s important the students are protesting. We lost our way a bit after the 70s, didn’t we? There’s an expectation from other colleges that King’s will get involved in politics.

Everyone wants a piece of King’s. We’ve had people knocking on the door on Boxing Day saying, “I’ve come all the way from Australia. Can I come in?” That’s the difference between King’s and the other colleges – the massive tourist dimension.

People say it must be wonderful working at King’s. I tell them the walk to my office is really beautiful, but like any job I spend a lot of time in front of the computer doing admin.

I’m a University Constable, so I have police powers within six miles of Great St Mary’s. But I wouldn’t use them because we haven’t been trained.

Cambridge porters don’t tend to socialise because we work shifts. But every term, there’s a meeting of the Head Porters Association where we share our experiences.

All the colleges are connected to a system called College Watch. If someone’s had a bike stolen or there’s a suspicious person around, we can alert other colleges straight away.

The biggest challenge of the job is getting things done. Because we’re out and about 24/7, porters see things others don’t and we want to get them sorted straight away. You need momentum with fire safety and security.

Each term brings its own different things. Tomorrow, the BBC will be here to do an outside broadcast from the Chapel. This term, summer, is a term of two halves – exams and celebrating. You have to find the balance between those who’ve finished and those who’ve not.
Vocal Work

Richard Lloyd-Morgan gave up a singing career to become King’s College Chaplain. Here, he tells King’s Parade about the ups and downs of a job he’s enjoyed for the last ten years.

Richard Lloyd-Morgan’s last job before taking up full-time residence as King’s College Chaplain involved donning a rubber mask in a disused gas storage tank in Amsterdam. A professional baritone for 25 years, he had a part in Pierre Audi’s Amsterdam production of Vivier’s opera Kopernikus, a work with no story, no named characters and sung in a made-up language. The production was a hit.

His current role, which he’s had for ten years, entails nothing so avant-garde. There is, nevertheless, an element of performance to being Chaplain. As well as sharing the singing of responses with Jeremy Morris, the Dean, Richard spends some time each morning rehearsing students who have volunteered to do readings at Chapel services.

“If the Choir works its collective socks off, it seems rational that the ones teaching the congregation from the Scriptures should get it right,” he says. “When they crack the Chapel’s acoustics – which are hard for the spoken word – they achieve a kind of stature. It can be extraordinary watching people find a voice.”

“A lot of people who are ordained want to be needed.”

The job offers other satisfactions that are not to be had in a singing career. In particular, Richard enjoys being there for students coping with anything from academic pressures to relationship problems.

“A lot of people who are ordained want to be needed,” he says.

So two nights a week during exam time, anyone can pop round to his house for a cup of hot chocolate and a game of Scrabble or Monopoly (the Cambridge and Turing versions, naturally). Every Shrove Tuesday, Richard hosts a party where he’ll toss up to 100 pancakes. And for two evenings a week during the exam period in the Easter term, part of the Chapel is given over to a “chill-out zone” where students might relieve exam stress by popping bubble wrap or even getting a head massage.

Richard’s door may always be open and his mobile always on, but his first instinct is never simply to invite students to offer up a problem to God (though he often does himself). Indeed, shortly after his appointment, he received a letter from Harry Williams, his old Dean of Chapel at Trinity, which gave him some advice he’s always worked to: God has longer than the three undergraduate years.

“All we can do is open a window,” he says. “We offer as a gift a level of worship to a whole lot of people we might never see again. But my real gift to students is my time and my ear.”

Richard says he and Jeremy work extremely well together as Chaplain and Dean. But before Jeremy arrived, Richard twice had to take on additional responsibilities after the sudden deaths of the two previous Deans, Christopher Ryan and Ian Thompson.

“I remember being very, very frightened,” he says. “I’d never run a parish, I didn’t know how to do personnel and I didn’t know how to look at a spreadsheet. I only knew how to stand up and sing Verdi. But faced with coping or going under, you cope.”
**Choir Releases New CD of Mozart’s Requiem on College’s Own Label**

*Mozart’s Requiem: Realisations*, a new CD by the Choir of King’s College under conductor Stephen Cleobury, is available now. As well as a performance of the *Requiem* itself, this innovative two-disc release includes a unique bonus audio documentary on the composition and reception of the *Requiem*. The CD also features extracts of music with which Mozart was familiar and which influenced his work.

The CD is the second to be released under the College’s own record label, called The Choir of King’s College, Cambridge. The new release demonstrates the ways in which the label is enabling the King’s Choir to have complete control over the artistic direction it wishes to take.

In September, a third disc in this new venture will commemorate the centenary of the birth of Benjamin Britten and will include the *St Nicolas Cantata*. The first disc, released last October, celebrated 95 years of *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* and the more recent televised Carols from King’s service. *Mozart’s Requiem: Realisations* is available from The Shop at King’s at shop.kings.cam.ac.uk +44 (0)1223 769342

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**Chapel to Celebrate 500 Years in 2015**

In 2015 the Chapel will celebrate 500 years of its completion and use for worship. Building contracts for the Chapel ceased in 1515. It is likely that not only was the fabric finished by then, but that regular use of the Chapel for the College’s worship began in the same year, probably towards the end of the year, since stone work seems to have stopped in August.

The familiar fixtures and fittings of the Chapel – particularly the glass, and the stalls and screen – took another twenty years or so to complete. They were essentially embellishments to the remarkable structure begun in the 1440s by Henry VI but completed four reigns later under Henry VIII.

The Chapel is not only one of the finest examples of the English perpendicular style, but is also an emblem of King’s and of the University and city of Cambridge, familiar the world over. The 500th anniversary of this great building is an exciting opportunity for the College to celebrate its architectural, musical and educational heritage, and to galvanise fresh efforts to preserve this heritage and help it to flourish.

There will be various celebratory events throughout the year, including services, concerts and public lectures. A major new publication, edited by King’s Fellows, will celebrate the history and life of the Chapel since 1515. Do look out for news of all these things!
Major Changes in the Teaching of Social Sciences

From October, a new tripos merges much of the old Arch and Anth and PPS courses. As a result, undergraduates will have greater choice and a broader perspective in their studies.

Cambridge is transforming the way it teaches the social and political sciences, giving students an opportunity to explore a greater variety of approaches to the study of human life.

Archaeology, Biological Anthropology and Social Anthropology are merging with much of the old Politics, Psychology and Sociology (PPS) programme (formerly Social and Political Science or SPS). The new tripos, Human, Social, and Political Sciences, also incorporates Politics and International Relations.

By offering both breadth and specialisation, the new degree will be attractive both to students who know exactly which subject they would like to study at university and to those who want to keep their options open and explore areas they have not previously studied at school.

The new course is a particularly exciting development for King’s because the College has always been strong in Archaeology and Anthropology. King’s Fellows were also instrumental in shaping the old SPS tripos.

James Laidlaw, a King’s Fellow and social anthropologist, whose specialisms include Indian Jainism and Buddhism, helped develop the new tripos.

He says: “The changes end an artificial separation between subjects in the human and social sciences so that students no longer need to make a decision at seventeen on the basis of not much information.”

The first intake of HSPS undergraduates will arrive in October and, says James, applications have already risen sharply. Sixteen students have accepted offers at King’s for the coming year, making the subject one of the largest in College.

“No college is better placed to teach the new tripos than us,” says Sharath Srinivasan, a King’s Fellow who specialises in African politics. “We’ve always had the highest number of undergraduates in these fields and now we can give them a more rounded education, reflecting a rich diversity of subjects.”

In an environment where many other degrees are increasingly specialised, the new course builds on the traditional Cambridge strength of offering a broad perspective in the first year.

The programme expands the number of subjects students can choose from in their first year, including papers on Politics, International Relations, Sociology, Social Anthropology, Biological Anthropology, Archaeology, and Psychology. In subsequent years, students can then specialise in the areas they have found most interesting. Alternatively, undergraduates may select closely related disciplines from the outset so their studies focus on a particular subject of interest.

Those students who are interested in combining two HSPS disciplines can study them both through joint tracks during the second years.

In the past, there has been quite a lot of traffic between Archaeology and Anthropology and SPS, as often students who had committed to one area before arriving at Cambridge realised they wanted to switch courses at the end of the first year. By bringing many more subjects under the same umbrella, the new course will fix that problem.

But, more importantly, the course will develop in students an interdisciplinary and multicultural outlook that will equip them with the skills for a wide choice of careers. Those who want to specialise further on graduation will also be better prepared for research.

“There’s nothing better than students’ eyes being opened up to a new array of possibilities, both intellectually and professionally,” says Sharath. “It’s increasingly clear that collaborative research is the direction things are going in and we are preparing the researchers of future generations.”
King’s celebrates Tim Munby with conference on great book collectors

In June, King’s will be marking the centenary of the birth of King’s Librarian A.N.L. (Tim) Munby with a conference about book collecting and collectors. Tim was Librarian at King’s from 1947 to 1974, and occupied many other College offices. The conference theme is “Floreat Bibliomania – Great Collectors and their Grand Designs”.

Tim was a celebrated pioneer of the study of British book collecting and the use of sales catalogues to trace the history of taste in books. He was Fellow and Librarian of King’s College, Cambridge, having worked previously in the antiquarian book trade. He was Lyell Reader in Bibliography at Oxford 1962-63, a Founding Trustee of the British Library, President of the Bibliographical Society and co-founder of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society.

He won many friends through his generosity and indomitable capacity to entertain (as a prisoner of war, he produced a Baedeker-style tour guide to the camp where he was interned).

The conference will include distinguished speakers and a celebratory dinner. Delegates will have the chance to visit private exhibits at the Cambridge University Library, the Fitzwilliam Museum and the King’s Library.

Register now
Floreat Bibliomania – Great Collectors and their Grand Designs
28–29 June 2013
King’s College, Cambridge
For more information about the conference programme, and to register for it, go to the events section of www.kingsmembers.org or email the library at library@kings.cam.ac.uk

Lily Cole invites you to share your time and skills on new website and app

King’s graduate, model and actress Lily Cole has created a new social networking venture designed to promote a culture of giving.

Called “Impossible”, the new website and app will allow people to offer their time and skills for free. Users of the site post a wish or fulfil someone else’s wish, and expect nothing in return.

Lily, who read Art History at King’s, started the venture with Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales, and launched the app in May on the front lawn of the College. Initially, “Impossible” is only for invited members, including Cambridge students. It will be released to a wider audience later this year. To find out more, visit www.impossible.com
LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AT 15 BENET STREET

The College’s new student hostel is nearing completion, with the first students set to move in this August. The opening will mark a milestone in King’s long-term strategy of accommodating the majority of its students on one continuous site.

Work is progressing on the transformation of 15 Benet Street into a new student hostel with 32 rooms and two flats for Fellows (as reported in the last issue of King’s Parade).

Formerly housing a branch of Barclays Bank, 15 Benet Street has been a building site since spring 2012, and initial progress was good, involving clearing out the building and removing the top floor. However, as is so often the case with complex building projects, there have been some delays to completion of the project. Thankfully, because the building work has been overseen by external developers, King’s did not have to bear the costs of appointing project managers.

The hostel is expected to be finished this summer, with graduate students set to move in as “guinea pigs” in August, to test the systems. It is also hoped that the central part of the basement, which hitherto provided the vaults to the bank, will be converted into a small gym by the start of the Michaelmas term.

The Benet Street Hostel is situated just across the road from the College’s Spalding Hostel and near to Market Hostel, completing King’s presence on the far side of King’s Parade. The three buildings allow the College to accommodate the vast majority of its students on one continuous site. This approach is in line with the College’s strategic plan of whenever possible replacing outlying accommodation with more central living space.

Initially, undergraduates on short-term contracts will be accommodated in the hostel. This will enable the rooms to be allocated for conferencing business and bed and breakfast outside of term time. It is expected there will be high demand for the rooms, because of its location in the heart of Cambridge.
During April, you may have received a phone call from one of our current students as part of our annual Telephone Fundraising Campaign. This year, non-resident members (NRMs) donated £201,213.38.

If you are one of those who donated, thank you for your generosity. If you received a call but weren’t able to donate this time, we hope you enjoyed the call anyway.

This year’s campaign was particularly important because it was the first since university tuition fees increased to up to £9,000. Consequently, student support was one of the College’s priorities for the campaign.

Member donations are absolutely crucial if the College is to continue providing an exceptional standard of education and college experience. They will also allow us to offer this experience to any student, regardless of their financial background.

Even small, regular donations add up to make a big difference. In the words of Robin Osborne, Senior Tutor: “The good news is there are enough NRMs that if you all offer us a modest regular gift we really can step in where the state has stepped out.”

For example, if 200 donors were to donate just £5.56 a month for three years, that would cover an undergraduate’s tuition and maintenance for three years.

If 1,000 NRMs were to donate £22.23 a month over three years, it would cover a year of supervisions for every student.

Fundraising continues until the end of June; please do consider making a gift or a pledge to the College in support of the campaign. For more information, contact Adam Middleton, Deputy Director of Development on 01223 331313 or adam.middleton@kings.cam.ac.uk

Katie Fitzpatrick is the President of the King’s College Graduate Society. A first-year PhD candidate in the field of biological anthropology, she is researching the menarche and the menopause in the Hadza, a population of hunter-gatherers in northern Tanzania. She recently took part in the King’s Telephone Fund Raising Campaign, raising nearly £50,000. Here, she tells us what she got out of the experience.

Why did you get involved in the Telephone Fundraising Campaign?
I’m funded by the Cambridge Overseas Trust and a King’s Studentship, so it was a way of giving back to a college that is supporting me. Also, as President of the Graduate Society, I want students to engage more with alumni. The Campaign was a way to make a personal connection with those alumni.

Why is the Campaign so important?
The money raised isn’t just about the numbers. The average cost of the supervision system is £1,000 a year for one student. But that system is extremely special. Several alumni told me that often they learned as much from their peers in supervisions as they did from their professors.

What were the conversations like?
I enjoyed hearing about the different paths people had taken since leaving King’s. Plenty wanted intellectual conversations, while others were interested in the social side of King’s. The most touching story was a man whose father died just before he was about to come to King’s so he wrote to the then Provost saying he didn’t think he could afford to come. The Provost wrote back saying “just come anyway”.

Anything else you’d like to say to non-resident members?
I was surprised at how many alumni didn’t realise they could get six free high-table dinners a year. So my advice is to take advantage of that – it’s a special opportunity to meet the Fellows and students!
King’s Fellow István Hont, 1947-2013

The historian and King’s Fellow István Hont died on 29 March, aged 65. He was a noted teacher and writer on the history of political thought, in particular on the influence of the Scottish Enlightenment.

István was born in Hungary and studied History and Philosophy at the University of Budapest, where he also completed his MA and PhD. His thesis was on David Hume and Scotland.

He began work as a Research Officer at the Institute of History in the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, but in 1974 he and his wife took the decision to move to the UK. István had to restart his academic career and studied for another PhD, this time at Oxford under the supervision of Hugh Trevor-Roper.

In 1978 he was elected a Fellow of King’s and directed, along with Michael Ignatieff, the newly established Research Centre project on Political Economy and Society 1750-1850.

Apart from a short period at Columbia University (1986-9), István remained at King’s. He became University Lecturer then Reader in Political Thought in the Faculty of History.

He argued that it was eighteenth-century political economy (in particular that of Hume and Smith) that established the framework for modern thinking about politics. In 2005, his major papers were collected in the prize-winning volume Jealousy of Trade. Before he died, István Hont completed a study of the thought of Adam Smith and Jean-Jacques Rousseau which, it is to be hoped, will be published posthumously.

King’s College Association to be dissolved

The committee of the King’s College Association (KCA) has decided the Association should be dissolved. The necessary resolution will be proposed at a general meeting of the KCA to be held at King’s College, Cambridge, on Saturday, 28 September 2013, at 12 noon in the Keynes Hall (adjacent to the Chetwynd Room) to consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution that the KCA should transfer all its property, including cash, investments and records, to the College and that, subject to such transfer being completed, the Association shall be dissolved.

King’s College Association to be dissolved – Notice of General Meeting

A general meeting of the Association will be held at King’s College, Cambridge, on Saturday, 28 September 2013, at 12 noon in the Keynes Hall (adjacent to the Chetwynd Room) to consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution that the KCA should transfer all its property, including cash, investments and records, to the College and that, subject to such transfer being completed, the Association shall be dissolved.
King’s Cosmologist and Team Unveil Pictures of the Early Universe

Readers may recall the interview with cosmologist George Efstathiou in the autumn 2010 issue of this magazine. At that time, George told us he was busy interpreting images of the early universe beamed back by the Planck satellite, which he had helped to launch in May 2009.

In March, George and his team unveiled one of those images to the public.

Pictured here, it is the most detailed map ever created of the cosmic microwave background – the relic radiation from the Big Bang.

Overall, the information extracted from Planck’s new map confirms standard ideas about the Big Bang. But the map’s precision is high enough to reveal some peculiar unexplained features of the universe that may well require new physics if they are to be understood.

“Our ultimate goal would be to construct a new model that predicts the anomalies and links them together,” George told the press. “But these are early days; so far, we don’t know whether this is possible and what type of new physics might be needed. And that’s exciting.”

A new online magazine has created a virtual version of King’s College: a space where people of different nations, generations and disciplines can come together and share ideas.

Drawing on an international network of writers and thinkers, King’s Review aims to provide broad, timely coverage of important world issues while maintaining the rigour of a peer-reviewed journal.

The magazine is based in the College and published bi-monthly. Recent articles have included an examination of the role of business schools in creating a mendacious economic elite, and a critique of the flawed reasoning behind the UK government’s Justice and Security Bill.

To read King’s Review, visit http://kingsreview.co.uk/magazine/. If you would like to contribute to the magazine, email editors@kingsreview.co.uk. You can also follow the magazine on Twitter: @Kings_review.

The editors are also hosting weekly pub nights on Thursdays from 9pm at The Punter (3 Pound Hill, CB3 0AE). The evenings aim to promote stimulating conversations that will provide ideas about what King’s Review should cover in future issues.
Save the date Member and Friend Events

27 June
General Admission

28–29 June
Floreat BibliomaniA
A centenary conference in memory of A.N.L (Tim) Munby

29 June 2013

30 June 2013
Fellows’ Garden Open Day

2 July
King’s and St John’s Joint Evensong

7 September
Legacy Lunch (by invitation)

27-29 September
Cambridge Alumni Festival

27 September
50th Anniversary Dinner (1963)

28 September
Members’ Lunch

28 September
1972: A Conversation

28 September

30 November
1441 Foundation Dinner (by invitation)

17 December
Choir at Royal Albert Hall and London Reception

Concerts at King’s 2013

8 June
Organ recital (Robert Dixon), The Chapel

15 June
Organ recital (Douglas Tang), The Chapel

17 June
May Week concert, The Chapel

17 June
King’s College Music Society May Week Concert

23 June
Singing on the River
River bank, King’s College

30 June
Tokyo String Quartet
The Chapel

12 July
Beethoven Celebration
The Chapel

20 July
Opening concert: Festival Chorus
The Chapel

26 July
Monteverdi Vespers
The Chapel

To purchase tickets for concerts at King’s, please contact The Shop at King’s +44 (0)1223 769342.

Choir on tour 2013

9 June
Choral service
Aldeburgh Festival
Aldeburgh Parish Church

8 August
Choir concert
Seongnam Arts Center, Seongnam, Seoul

10 August
Choir concert
National Centre for the Performing Arts, Beijing

14 August
Choir concert, Sha Tin Town Hall Auditorium, Hong Kong

15 August
Choir concert
City Hall Concert Hall, Hong Kong

17 August
Choir concert
The Esplanade, Singapore

20 September
Choir concert
Muziekgebouw, Eindhoven

21 September
Choir concert
Groningen
(Booking details to be announced)

29 September
Choir concert
Eton Chapel, Windsor

29 November
Christmas concert
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

7 December
Christmas concert
London Barbican Hall, London

More information about College events is available online at www.kings.cam.ac.uk/events

The Development Office is happy to help you with questions about events, giving to King’s or planning a visit to the College. You can reach us on events@kings.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 331 313.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Meet up with old friends from King’s and Cambridge

This year’s University of Cambridge Alumni Weekend – renamed the Alumni Festival – is another opportunity to delve into the University’s current, future and past research through a programme of lectures, talks and private tours.

The annual event is a chance to catch up with old friends, meet new ones and introduce friends and family to the charms of the University. The festival will run from Friday 27 to Sunday 29 September and you can come for the whole weekend or just one or two days.

Highlights of the festival include “Come and Sing”, an opportunity to rehearse and perform Brahms’ German Requiem under the fan vaults of King’s Chapel. Non-singers can attend the concert on the Friday and see the Chapel at night with its screen closed. On the Saturday, Professor Simon Goldhill of King’s will give a lecture entitled “What is Greek Tragedy for?”. The lecture will look at Greek tragedy in the context of its fifth-century production and ask why ancient tragedy has become so popular on the modern stage in the last twenty years.

King’s will also be hosting anniversary events and activities and a Members’ lunch. Book places on the College’s website at www.kingsmembers.org or on the email and address in the purple box above.

Global Cambridge: At Home, Alumni Festival, 27-29 September 2013
Book online at www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/weekend/
Booking 15 July to 16 September.

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