

THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI . ISSUE 66 . TRINITY TERM 2018 . WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK

# Head of the River



Sitting on the bunglines at the start of Summer Eights was pure anticipation. I was silent – waiting for the cannon to go, to be slammed into the back of the coxing seat by eight athletes. We were working towards the goal of Headship. For the first time in 41 years, we were going to achieve it.

A unique aspect of 'bumps rowing', a style of racing primarily conducted at Oxbridge, is the importance of previous crews. The start order each year is decided by the previous year's finish order and crews rise up the ranks by 'bumping' the boat in front. Under usual circumstances crews can only bump a maximum of four times in one year, a difficult feat called 'blades'. Ending the week as the top crew is called being 'Head of the River'.

For the past 5 years, Keble men pushed themselves into a place where they could take that top spot on the river. We rose and rose, and this year it was tangible. Starting second behind Christ Church and in front of Oriel, our crew was primed to take Headship.

This year, the athletes had a wide range of histories, both at KCBC and in the broader rowing world. The rowers' experience ranged from 18 months to a decade. Two members of the crew had learnt to row at KCBC the previous year, while another is currently rowing for Great Britain. This motley crew were whipped into shape by the spectacular coach and gold medal Olympian Tim Foster, dedicated to this goal since he raced in the crew in 2014. For many of this crew, myself included, this was our last chance to realise what we had worked for over four years.

Christ Church and Oriel both train on rivers outside of Oxford so their relative abilities were unknown. We predicted the race would likely last the whole 1300m course and that the crucial bump might occur even later in the week. However, nothing could have been further from the truth; we gained on Christ Church from the outset and bumped in an unprecedented distance about halfway down the course. The rest of the week was nothing but smooth open water, holding off Christ Church, then Oriel. Headship was ours.

This historic achievement for the College was celebrated by carrying *Mr Mac* (a boat with significant history at Keble) through town past the College. I was held aloft, riding the boat, crowds surging and chanting out Keble's victory. The most surreal experience of my athletic career, and what a way to finish!

#### Michael Hobley

2014 Engineering Science KCBC President and M1 Cox

Top left: Keble M1. Bottom right: Michael Hobley celebrating with KCBC.





# College News

#### New Portrait in Hall



On St Mark's Day, 22 April, a new portrait of alumnus Sir James Cameron Tudor (1940 PPE) was unveiled in Hall. Sir James was the first person of African-Caribbean descent to be elected President of the Oxford Union in 1942. He was also the first African-Caribbean to be President of the Junior Common Room.

Sir James subsequently became one of the Caribbean's most influential diplomats and politicians. He was a founding member the Democratic Labour Party of Barbados, which led the country to independence in 1966. He served as Deputy Prime Minister, Education Minister, High Commissioner to Britain, and Ambassador to the United Nations.

The portrait, painted by artist Anthony Oakshett, was unveiled by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Barbados, Senator The Hon Maxine McClean. The Warden, Sir Jonathan Phillips, said: "The College is very pleased that the achievements of such a distinguished individual are being recognised in this way. It signals the College's wish to celebrate the diversity of its alumni and student body."

### Hall Refurbishment

In October we start a project to renew the College's Hall, kitchen and servery. Phase 1 will take five months, during which time the Hall cannot be used. We are taking this opportunity to undertake some much-needed cleaning. The Hall ceiling was cleaned some 15 years ago and the floor has been repaired with new sections of tiling. But the walls are still discoloured by smoke and stained by water, the oak panelling has dulled with age, and the tables need refurbishing. The Hall in all its glory will reopen towards the end of March 2019. During Phase 2 the Hall will remain fully operational, serviced from a temporary kitchen installed in the south-east corner of Newman Quad.

Roger Boden

Bursar, 1965 PPE

# The Access Project at Keble

Keble is launching a new partnership with The Access Project, an innovative education charity that helps bright young people from disadvantaged backgrounds secure places at top universities.

Keble will be part of the expansion of the significant work The Access Project is already doing in the West Midlands by adding a further two schools to the programme. From September 2018 Access-Keble will begin work with Colmers School and Sixth Form in



Rednal, and the funding is already in place to bring a second school on-stream in 2019. The partnership has been made possible by a generous donation from a Keble alumnus.

We are now seeking volunteers from the alumni community to get involved and offer time and knowledge by becoming a tutor either in person if you're Birmingham based or online. If you would be interested in finding out how you can help, please contact the Alumni and Development Office.



### Pizza, Wine and Access

The College held an inaugural Wine and Pizza Evening on 11 May, bringing together students from Birmingham and the West Midlands from across the University, which are areas linked with Keble as part of the University's Regional Outreach scheme. With seventy enrolled students from a variety of colleges attending, the evening was a great success. It gave students from the same area the opportunity to meet and interact, and also to get involved in Keble's access and outreach activities. The event is part of Keble's concentrated efforts to secure longlasting links with schools in the region by involving current members of the University.

# College News

### The Home Straight





The new H B Allen Centre student study bedrooms (left) are starting to look a lot like the original architect renderings (right) as we reach the final stage of the Acland project. The College expects to welcome 230 graduates to their new home in the autumn. Our commercial tenants, who will occupy the Woodstock Road Building and site-wide basement, will arrive later in 2018-19.

#### **Dinosaur Debate Continues**

The origin of this particular species on Blackhall Road is still sparking debate. One 'unimpeachable source' (1979) claims the restoration from the Keble Play Group happened on the last Friday of Michaelmas, 1980: "The necessary courage to embark upon this enterprise of cultural preservation was imbibed at the Turf Tavern...'Remember What Happened to the Dinosaur' was indeed the original caption. A later addition 'Remember What NEARLY happened to the RED dinosaur, was not restored." Further proof is provided by Ian Paterson (1978), who says "with absolute certainty that it was repainted in the early hours of 5 December 1980."



### Make Waves with our Dino T-Shirt

Due to popular demand, we've added new colours and sizes to our Dino Line of merchandise. Designed by a current student and inspired by the dinosaur graffiti, these fabulous Fairtrade t-shirts now come in red and blue and up to size XXL. To order, email

sharon.thomas@keble.ox.ac.uk

Special Summer Offer only £12 for the red and blue colours.

# Celebrating 70 Years

In 1948, the NHS was founded, Prince Charles was born, the "new look" in women's fashion became available and the Drapers Chamber of Trade Summer School arrived at Keble. The executive development programme is uniquely designed for retail managers. Now known as the Oxford Summer School (OSS) Academy, the course aims to help retail professionals become better leaders and give them the confidence to realise their potential. Attendance at the Academy programme is a unique experience for retailers and Keble College forms part of that. Delegates are often awestruck as they walk through the Porters' Lodge and into the Liddon Quad at the superb architecture and scale of the College. We are very proud of our long relationship with the prestigious university city and we look forward to the next 70 years at Keble College.

James Weavin
OSS Marketing Manager



#### The Deirdre Tucker Prizes

The Deirdre Tucker Memorial Prizes are awarded annually in Maths and Computer Science, Law and French. The endowed prize fund was established with a generous donation from Keble alumnus Alistair J Tucker (1955 Jurisprudence) in memory of his beloved wife Deirdre. The French Declamation Competition, won by Bella Imi for her recitation of 'Apparition' by Stéphane Mallarmé, provided an opportunity for Alistair to meet the Prize winners.

Alistair Tucker with Prize winners Bella Imi (2016), Alex Ivory (2016) and Rebecca Weare (2016). Not pictured: Charlotte Rougier (2016, Maths joint winner).



# Student Life



### A Brave New O'Reilly

The Martin Esslin Society (MES) ended the year on a high with a bold Trinity Term line-up featuring the O'Reilly Theatre's most diverse term card so far. The three productions, all directed by female directors, included a student-written adaptation of *Brave New World* in 3<sup>rd</sup> week, an all-BAME (cast and crew - a first for Oxford) version of *Medea* by the BAME Drama Society in 5<sup>th</sup> week, and a single-sex retelling of *Romeo and Juliet* set in a women's prison in 7<sup>th</sup> week. All three shows received excellent reviews.

both for their originality and their superb execution. The bright lights of the O' will now dim until Hilary Term 2019 to allow for works as part of the kitchen and Hall renovation project (p2). However, MES President Isobel Hambleton (2016 History and English) has plans for keeping Drama alive in Keble during the hiatus by holding training workshops, staging regular scratch nights for brand new performers, and working closely with groups like the BAME Drama Society to increase the diversity of voices creating theatre in Oxford.





# Junior Lawyers Against Poverty

Three Keble law students, Amy Broderick, Penny Chamberlain and Beatrice Waters, are currently in the process of setting up an Oxford University Branch of OXFAM Junior Lawyers Against Poverty, which will be up and running by Michaelmas next year.

Junior Lawyers Against Poverty (JLAP), which launched in April 2016, is an initiative to encourage on-campus student participation in the legal aspects of human rights and international development. The organisation will work to alleviate poverty on a local and international level through refugee insight sessions, pro-bono legal clinics, legal research projects in conjunction with OXFAM's head offices and other fundraising activities.



# Women's Rugby

The first Monday of Trinity term saw a thrilling women's rugby Cuppers semi-final take place at Iffley Road, with Keble taking on Pembroke for a spot in the final. Despite a highly entertaining display of attacking rugby, there was nothing between the two teams and scores were tied at nil-all at full time. The breakthrough for Keble came late in the first half of extra time, with flanker Shekinah Opara finding an exquisite line and crashing through the Pembroke wall for the first try of the match. The Pembroke women, however, replied in kind with less than a minute to go to take the match to penalty kicks, where they ultimately prevailed 4-1. Read more at https://tinyurl. com/y8mp4scg.

**Abby D'Cruz** 2015 DPhil

# **Netball Cuppers Victory**

The weekend of Keble Ball saw the College's netball team rise to victory in the annual Cuppers tournament. Having played incredibly competitively throughout the year, coming top of Division 1 in Michaelmas, they entered the competition confidently and did not disappoint. On day one, the team conceded just a handful of goals in the group stage. The following day, they faced Pembroke in the semi-finals,

overcoming their strong defence with a 4-3 victory. All that was left was to beat Somerville in the final. Though Somerville's powerful play up and down court seemed intimidating, Keble were not to be overwhelmed. Bella Soames and Bella Imi's consistent shooting, fed by dynamic mid-court players Emily Ostridge, Viola Lough, Savina

Chahal and Hannah Ford, saw the match end with Keble as champions, winning 10–5. This reflects the focus and talent that the Keble women always bring to the court. The captain, Hannah Stone, would like to thank the team for always playing so tirelessly, joyfully and skilfully, and attributes the team's success to this determined attitude and their simple love of the game.

**Hannah Stone** 2016 Theology



# Student Life



# Keble Women Leading OURFC

Two Keble women are at the healm of Oxford University Rugby Football Club (OURFC) for the 2018–19 season. Abby D'Cruz (2015) and Susannah Rees (2014) were elected to the positions of Women's Blues Captain and Team Secretary respectively. Abby is currently pursuing a DPhil in Clinical Medicine, and is Vice-president of the MCR, while Susannah completed her BA in Theology at Keble and is now working towards her MPhil.

The two will be leading the Women's Blues team to Twickenham this December for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Women's Varsity Match.



### Keble Takes Dancesport Cuppers

One team. One Cuppers match. One sweet, sweet victory. On 19 May, the Keble Dancesport team pulled off a Cuppers win despite the heat, the competition, and a case of food



poisoning. Made up of members past and present, the team often turned parks and parking lots into their practice dancefloors, bringing their desire to dance everywhere. On the day of the

> match, this made them both overall Cuppers winners as well as having the best A-team. As a college, Keble has had a long tradition of winning in the sport, so let's hope it continues.

**Arunima Amar** 2016 ML and Linguistics

### Kennedy Scholarship

Congratulations to finalist Renee Kapuku (2015 History) who has been awarded a prestigious Kennedy Scholarship, which provides full funding for up to ten British postgraduate students to study at either Harvard University or MIT. She will be taking up a place on the International Education Policy Masters at the Harvard Graduate School of Education this autumn.



# Virtual Reality Ball

For those students and alumni lucky enough to get tickets in the three minutes before the 1500-guest ball sold out, 'Apophis' lived up to the annual spectacle that is Keble Ball. Guests danced to Becky Hill and feasted on all sorts of treats, including Oli Baba's Halloumi Fries, White Rabbit Pizza and Naked Dough Cookie Dough, until the early hours. Hall was transformed into a 300sqm planetarium delivering on the promise that it would be a 'ball unlike any you've encountered before'.

As part of our 2020 celebrations, we will be hosting the largest Keble Ball in history. We want to make this a truly 'Keble' affair so if you or someone you know could help us with food, drink or entz supplier contacts, or if you have some good ideas about what you would like to see at the Ball, we would love to hear from you. Please amail alumni@keble.ox ac uk





# A Taste for Cryptography

A duo of Keble graduate students, Klaudia Krawiecka (2017) and Vojtech Havlicek (2016), stumbled upon a cryptographic challenge at the local Wagamama and used their well-honed code-breaking skills to win £500 worth of ramen. The challenge, set on the paper mat in the restaurant, was to decipher the secret message from the following sequence of numbers: 330 33 2 105 55 10 2 2 70 2 105 14 42 11 2 10 154 2 11 70 30 2 70, along with a hint asking if the reader can solve the 'prime' and 'binary' problem. The correct solution did indeed have to do with primes and binary and, being trained as computer scientists, the pair used their awareness of ASCII encoding to crack the problem, earning themselves a well-deserved nutritional boost over the following months. (Email alumni@keble.ox.ac.uk if you would like to see the solution.)





### Queen's Birthday Honours

Congratulations to the following Keble Alumni whose achievements have been recognised in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours list.



Professor Sir Christopher Dobson (1967 Chemistry)

Professor, Chemical and Structural Biology, and Master, St John's College, University of Cambridge. Awarded Knighthood for services to Science and Higher Education.



Paul Johnson (1985 PPE)

Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies. Awarded CBE for services to the Social Sciences and Economics.

# Calling all Football Ghosts

In preparation for the Football Ghosts 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2019, we are compiling a list of Keble Footballers who may have participated in Ghosts' games down the years. So if you have a College Team photo from the years 1970 to 2018 inclusive could you please email the list of players to alumni@keble.ox.ac.uk, indicating which year this Team represents. Many thanks in anticipation.



### Alumnae in Print



#### First in Line

In her latest book, subtitled Presidents, Vice Presidents, and the Pursuit of Power, journalist and author **Kate Andersen Brower** (2002) returns to the subject of

the White House, this time exploring the the men who are next in line to the most powerful office in the world, from Richard Nixon to Joe Biden to Mike Pence.



#### The Wines of Bulgaria, Romania and Moldova

Master of Wine **Caroline Gilby** (1982) has published the first in-depth guide to the Eastern

European wine regions of Bulgaria, Romania and Moldova, which are largely unknown in western markets but are nonetheless a source of fascinating, unique and authentic wine styles based on long-established history.

### Patrick Melrose on Screen



Edward St Aubyn's (1979 English) acclaimed semi-autobiographical Patrick Melrose novels have been adapted for television by Showtime/ Sky Atlantic. The five part mini-series stars Benedict Cumberbatch, Hugo Weaving and Jennifer Jason Leigh, and follows the plots of Bad News, Never Mind, Some Hope, Mother's Milk, and At Last. It opens with a phone call informing Patrick Melrose of the death of his father, precipitating a trip to New York to retrieve his ashes. The story reveals a privileged but traumatic childhood, severe substance abuse and, ultimately, a path toward recovery.

The series premiered on 12 May 2018, receiving critical praise, especially for Cumberbatch's performance.

St Aubyn is the author of nine novels, including the Man Booker Prize shortlisted *Mother's Milk*.

# 150th Anniversary Save the Date

The College is busily preparing an exciting programme of events, both in the UK and overseas, to celebrate our  $150^{th}$  Anniversary in 2020. The full schedule will be sent to our Alumni next summer and will encompass the period between Michaelmas Term 2019 and Trinity Term 2021. In the meantime, we would like to encourage you to add a couple of key dates to your calendars. We will be marking 40 years of co-education at the Keble Reunion on the weekend of 21-22 September 2019 and alumni are warmly welcomed to join us for the occasion. For those with an appetite for a party, we will be holding the largest ever Keble Ball on Saturday 27 June 2020.

# Alumni News



### Penning for the Stage

Playwright in Residence Barney Norris (2006 English) and Katy Brand (1997 Theology) have both staged plays in London in recent months.

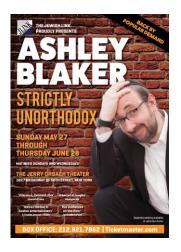
Barney's *Nightfall* ran through May at the new Bridge Theatre. Starring Ophelia Lovibond, Ukweli Roach, Claire Skinner and Sion Daniel Young, the play deals with family ties, grief, and the problems facing rural communities.

Comedian and writer Katy Brand had her first play 3Women at Trafalgar Studios in May and June. Anita Dobson headed the cast, with Debbie Chazen, Maisie Richardson-Sellers and Oliver Greenall. Set in a hotel room, the play reunites three generations of women for one evening, and examines how feminism and women's rights are perceived and how those perceptions have changed through time.









# Strictly Standup

Ashley Blaker (1994 History), Britain's only ultra-Orthodox standup comedian is taking his sellout show 'Strictly Unorthodox' back to the States for a five-week run Off Broadway in June. Closer to home, he will be at the Edinburgh Festival from 1 to 26 August with 'Observant Jew,' and you can still hear his 'Goyish Guide to Judaism' on catch up on Radio Four. An experienced and popular live performer, he's also a comedy writer and producer for radio and TV and was responsible for first unleashing Little Britain on Radio Four.

#### From the KA

The Keble Association (KA) is a charitable association of alumni of Keble. Every term, Keble students can apply for a variety of KA grants to help with costs arising from projects related to their studies. The aim of these grants is to allow students to have the best possible experience whilst studying at Keble, and to lessen financial strain. KA grants help students to attend conferences, conduct fieldwork, be creative, travel for research, and carry out other projects related to their studies by covering either all or part of the costs.

This year, a named award went to a third-year Theologist who is returning to volunteer for Care4Calais, a charity that provides emergency aid for homeless refugees and asylum seekers in Calais, France. Further grants were given to two medical students doing their electives with the Simien Mobile Mountains Medical Service in Ethiopia; one of them was also doing part of their elective with the World Medical Fund in Malawi. A thirdyear Geographer received a grant for an environmental conservation placement with Projects Abroad in San Cristobal Island, Ecuador; and a history graduate was given a grant towards the production of a film about an inter-institutional museum engagement workshop.

The KA welcomes all Keble members who are interested in our on-going work and in supporting the research of current Keble students. For further information, please get in touch via the Alumni and Development Office.

**Nela Scholma-Mason** MSt Archaeology 2011

### **UC** Omissions

Thank you to those who have been in touch with more information about past Keble University Challenge teams. Alumni Mike Laurence, David Ireland and Robert Dale alerted us to the following two teams, which we had missed from our list in the last issue.

#### 1968

A Turner (1966), J Venn (1965), D Phillips (1966) M Lawrence (1966), reserve T Morris (1966).

#### 1981

D Ireland (1980), R Dale (1979), L Blohm (1978), A Wolffe (1977).

### Canine Keble

John Boyd (1956 History) has been in touch with news of an exceptional guide dog called Keble who's been trained by his friend, Sheila Barnfield, in Gloucestershire. Named after Thomas Keble School (which is in turn named after John Keble's younger brother), Keble has proved to be an incredibly bright puppy eager to learn and also to please. He has now been placed with his new owner in Cheltenham where he will continue his training. Keble is scheduled to be a fully-qualified guide dog in late July, almost six months earlier than the usual two years. As Sheila says "I cannot tell you how very proud I am of him. He's a truly exceptional puppy."



#### **Keble College Music Society**

see **www.keblemusic.co.uk** for music events

Alumni welcome

#### 14 - 16 September

#### University of Oxford Alumni Weekend

For booking and programme see www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk

Keble cannot take bookings for University events, but meals and accommodation at the College can be booked by alumni attending.

#### Saturday 15 September

#### 1985-94 Keble Reunion

Invitations sent in June to alumni who matriculated between 1985 and 1994 inclusive.



Saturday 15 September In Conversation with Ed Balls (1985), with the Warden, Sir Jonathan Phillips.

Part of the Keble Reunion Weekend programme.

#### Friday 21 September

**1968 Year 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch** Invitations have been sent. Enquiries to Veronika Kovacs.

#### Friday 21 September

### Douglas Price Society and Talbot Society Lecture and Dinner

Lecture by Alastair Dick-Cleland (1980), Conservation Manager at The Landmark Trust Invitations have been sent.

#### Saturday 6 October

#### Ghosts v College fixtures

Note: Alumni playing in or supporting the Ghosts matches (except 2018 Finalists) are not permitted in College or the College Bar after the fixtures have taken place, but are welcome to visit before the fixtures.

#### Men's Football

College Sports Ground Alumni wishing to play, please contact:

Brian Johns

briandavidjohns1@hotmail.com or

Adrian Grayston

adriang@ graduateinternational.com More details and booking information online at www.keble.ox.ac.uk/events
Enquiries to alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

#### Women's 7-a-side Football

College Sports Ground The College side is a Keble-Hertford team. Alumni wishing to play, please contact:

Kate Dickinson

katedickinson23@gmail.com

#### Men's Rugby

Keble Rugby Pitch, University Parks. Alumni of all abilities interested in playing or providing vociferous support please contact:

Jonathan Mitchell i.h.mitchell@btconnect.com

#### College Sports Ground Alumni wishing to play, please contact:

Women's Netball

Sarah Leviseur

#### sarah.leviseur@gmail.com

### October Entrepreneurs Evening

Details to be confirmed.

Notification of online booking will be in the Michaelmas Term E-Event calendar.

#### Thursday 15 November

#### **London Lecture**

Crossrail: London's newest railway Given by Chris Sexton (1974), Technical Director at Crossrail Venue to be confirmed. Notification of online booking will be in the Michaelmas Term E-Event calendar.

2019

#### Reunion and 40 years of co-education

Saturday 21 September



@KebleAlumni



Keble College Alumni group



Alumni group and Entrepreneurs group

#### **Your Data**

We've updated our Privacy Notice for alumni, donors and friends to make it easier for you to understand how we process your personal data. Our new Privacy Notice aims to more clearly describe how we collect your data, how and why we use it, and, most importantly, your rights and choices. We're making these improvements as part of our response to the new EU General Data Protection Regulation. You can view our Privacy Notice at https://www.keble.net/privacy-notice

If you would like to request a hard copy or if you have any questions about our privacy notice or about your personal data, or if you want to provide updates to your data and make any changes to your communication preferences, please contact: The Data Manager, Alumni and Development Office, Keble College, Oxford, OX1 3PG. Email: dev.off@keble.ox.ac.uk Tel: 01865 282303

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