

THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI . ISSUE 69 . HILARY TERM 2020 . WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK

Looking Forward



2020 is a highly significant year for Keble, and we have been looking forward very much to celebrating our 150th Anniversary with as many members of our community as possible.

However, we write this at a time of great uncertainty, as a result of the impact of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

We have already had to cancel a number of events, including our very special birthday on June 6th—the anniversary of the College receiving its Royal Charter—which we had hoped to celebrate with informal gatherings of alumni around the world, and a special Garden Party in College for current members.

We hope that there will still be exciting events to look forward to, including The Alumni Big Birthday Weekend in September and, in December, a special concert at the Sheldonian, featuring College Honorary Fellow Anne–Sophie Mutter and the Keble Choir. The Anniversary Ball has been postponed to 2021, and we look ahead to that with renewed excitement.

We are all immensely proud of the progress that Keble has made over the last 150 years.

But the focus is now entirely on the next 150, and beyond. And the College is in very good shape to make an enormous impact over that period.

There are two particular reasons we feel able to make that statement with absolute confidence. First, the great strides that Keble has made, especially over recent decades, not only in terms of the undoubted growth of its academic reputation.

Butterfield's original Keble, so long dismissed by some as something of an aberration, is now regarded as one of the finest examples of Victorian Gothic architecture anywhere. Since the centenary, it has been progressively complemented by fine new buildings: de Breyne, Hayward, ARCO and Sloane Robinson.

The H B Allen Centre completes the list. Opened by the Duke of Cambridge in October 2019, it provides the very best accommodation for our graduate students, 250 of whom, full- and part-time, are normally located there, as well as visiting academics. The Centre is also host to Oxford Sciences Innovation, with its mission to support spin-outs from University research, and the Oxford Robotics Institute which is world-leading in its work on developing what robots can do for us. These represent a step change in the College's offer and one which has global resonance.

Second, Oxford has changed too, and continues to do so. Traditionally, Keble folk have tended to automatically turn right on exiting the lodge in order to pursue their studies. That's no longer the case. The vast majority of the University's 21st century developments are located to the north of the central area, Keble territory, indeed. Central to this is the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, the vision of which is to be the very heart of the modern University. Its current and future constituent elements include:

- The Blavatnik School of Government, with its mission to create a world better led, better served and better governed.
- The Mathematical Institute, housed in a building named after the famous mathematician, Andrew Wiles, who proved Fermat's Last Theorem.
- The planned Stephen A Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities with a focus on demonstrating the role of those disciplines in helping answer fundamental questions of the 21st century.

Also close by in the triangle are most of the science departments, including the Department of Physics, with its own brand new Beecroft Building just opposite the Keble Chapel.

In 1870, as Keble was finding its feet, it did so from a location at the very edge of the University. In 2020, it sits at the centre.

It's for this reason, together with the outstanding nature of the College's offer, that we feel so confident in saying that, while respecting the past, we are fully focused on inspiring the future.

Pictured: The Woodstock Road Building façade at The H B Allen Centre.



college news • student life • alumni news • forthcoming events



College News

Our Heritage, Digitally



Many of our readers will have noticed that the College has updated its ageing, though much loved, website to a new shinier model. Some among those may have also noticed that a treasure-trove of material on the history of Keble does not appear to have made the cut. We can assure you that this is not the case, and we are busily preparing the material for a

new microsite focusing on the heritage of the College, just in time for the 150th Anniversary.

The new site will include all of the original material on Keble's past from our old website, plus many, many new features.

We have a special new Archives exhibition and a blog from Archivist Faye McLeod where she shares some of the interesting and unusual items and stories she comes across in her work.

Our Librarian Yvonne Murphy has been preparing a section on the College Special Collections, from the Regensburg Lectionary to the Martin Esslin drama collection.

Last but not least, we will be publishing video material from Dr Ian Archer's very successful Victorian Symposium, which took place in September 2019.

The site will be launched in Trinity Term 2020 at https://heritage.keble.ox.ac.uk

Image: Keble's Royal Charter

Damehood for Sarah Whatmore



Congratulations to Professor Dame Sarah Whatmore, FBA, who has been made a dame in the New Year Honours for services to the Study of Environmental Policy. Sarah Whatmore is a Professorial Fellow at Keble, Professor of Environment and Public Policy at the School of Geography and Head of the Social Sciences Division.

Chat to Our Students

Keble is about to go live with The Access Platform, an online forum that links school students and current undergraduates. We anticipate that the introduction of this digital engagement tool will greatly enhance our widening participation initiatives, and will be invaluable during the coming months while traditional access activities like school visits will not be possible. In the long run, the platform will help us build strong links with remote student populations, and include our undergraduates more actively than ever in the ongoing conversation about life and study in Oxford. A big thank you to Alumni for making this possible via the Talbot Fund.



Fellows' Honours

Two Keble Fellows have been elected to the following prestigious positions in their fields.



Professor James Goudkamp

Elected as an Academic Bencher of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple.



Professor Chris Gosden

Elected as a Corresponding Member of the German Archaeological Institute.

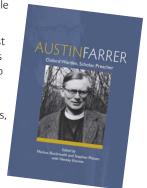
Warden, Scholar, Preacher

The launch of *Austin Farrer: Oxford Warden, Scholar, Preacher*, published to mark the 150th anniversary of Keble College, took place at The H B Allen Centre on Friday 28 February. Austin Farrer served as Warden of Keble between 1960 and 1968, and is regarded as one of the greatest Anglican Theologians of the twentieth century.

Based on a symposium held at Keble in January 2019, the volume is edited by Professorial Fellow Markus Bockmuehl and Bishop Stephen Platten, with Keble Chaplain Nevsky Everett. It brings together essays by leading scholars including Mark Goodacre, Michael Lloyd, Judith Wolfe, John Barton (1966) and Keble

History Tutor Ian Archer.

The book is divided into two parts, the first of which deals with Austin Farrer's work as Warden and his distinctive contributions to the areas of New Testament studies and philosophical theology, his profile as an Oxford literary figure and friend of CS Lewis, and on Farrer as a preacher. The second part includes four previously unpublished lectures delivered in the US while Farrer served as Warden in the 1960s.



College News

Change of Key in Chapel Music

In late April, Matthew Martin, Keble's Director of Music, departs to take up an equivalent post as Precentor at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. In his almost five years with us, there have been many outstanding choral performances. These have included four broadcasts of Evensong for the BBC, three fantastic CDs, the third of which, a recording of Christmas music, will be released in September 2020, and larger scale concerts in successive Keble Early Music Festivals. And we haven't heard the last of him yet. He has composed a *Missa Brevis* for Keble as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations which will be sung for the first time in Michaelmas Term.

His successor is Paul Brough who joins us having spent the past two terms, coincidentally, as interim Precentor at Gonville and Caius. Paul will combine the Keble role with ongoing appointments as a Professor at the Royal Academy of Music and as Director of Music at St Mary's Bourne Street in London. He was Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers from 2011 to 2016. We greatly look forward to welcoming him to the College when we return to normal service.







Paul Brough

Farewell to

We are very sorry to report the death of two much-loved members of the Keble community: Professorial Fellow Steve Rayner (1953–2020) and Honorary Fellow Professor Jim Griffin (1933–2019).

Steve Rayner was the James Martin Professor of Science and Civilization and Director of the Institute for Science, Innovation and Society in the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography at Oxford University.

Professor Jim Griffin was a Fellow in Philosophy at Keble from 1966, a position he held for 30 years. He was appointed an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1996.

A fuller appreciation of both will be published in the Trinity Term 2020 *Keble Review*.

KEMF 2020

Keble's annual Early Music Festival returned to the Chapel on February 26th, drawing distinguished musicians from across the country for four days of performances and workshops. Curated by Director of Music Matthew Martin, the festival culminated in a performance of Bach's St John Passion alongside the Academy of Ancient Music. This is Keble Choir's latest collaboration with the Academy, following a new CD recording of Francisco Valls' *Missa Regalis*. For information about pre-ordering this recording, visit www.aam.co.uk/product/valls-missa-regalis.

Concerts showcased the ancient alongside the contemporary: the Gabrieli Consort's programme ranged from Allegri to Macmillan, whilst a recital by James O'Donnell—Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey—spanned de Grigny and Messiaen. Friday saw the premiere of Martyn Harry's 'At His Majesty's Pleasure', performed by His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts. Educational events included a Gabrieli workshop, led by Benjamin Nicholas, and a baroque string workshop for schools with the Instruments of Time and Truth. The St John Passion, performed to a sold-out chapel on Saturday, brought a fitting conclusion to another year of world-class musicianship.

Àine Kennedy Organ Scholar, 2017 Music



Oxford Preservation Trust Conservation Award

It has been noted before by the College what a marvellous job all those involved in the Hall and Servery restoration project have done, but praise from the wider world is always welcome, especially when it comes from an organisation that knows a thing or two about old buildings.

The College received a Conservation Award at the 42nd annual Oxford Preservation Trust Awards, which celebrate the contribution that buildings and environmental projects can make to Oxford's character, its streets and its green spaces. The award ceremony took place in November, with representatives from the College, Bidwells Property Consultants and Original Field Architects accepting the award.

L-r: Peter Moore (Bidwells), Sir Jonathan Phillips (Warden), Luigi Bruno (Estates Manager), Roger Boden (Bursar, 1965), Andrew Dawson and Joelle Darby (Original Field Architects).





Mapping an Outbreak



The global spread of COVID-19 has brought us to an unprecedented time in history. Access to detailed epidemiological information is critical to understanding the spread of the disease and the risk factors of infection. However, this is rarely made available in real time during an epidemic. Since late January, I have been working with a group of interdisciplinary researchers from the University of Oxford, China, and the United States to create a centralised, freely accessible repository of individual-level confirmed COVID-19 cases, starting with China. This includes their travel history, location (at the highest resolution available), symptoms, reported onset dates, and basic demographic information. As the epidemic progressed to a pandemic, we started collecting these data for all regions. The data we have collected have already been used in several high impact COVID-19 research studies. I hope that our database will continue to help inform public health planning, response, and containment in the UK and abroad.

Sabrina LiDPhil Geography 2018

Image: Data are mapped daily on the HealthMap dashboard (<u>www.healthmap.org/covid-19</u>). A detailed explanation of our repository can be found at https://rdcu.be/b3c2i

Al Impact Weekend

Keble MSc Law and Finance student Katharina Plavec (2019) was part of this year's winning team of the Oxford Foundry Al Impact Weekend, receiving a cash prize of £6,000. The yearly competition encourages interdisciplinary teams to develop ideas to address salient issues using artificial intelligence. In 2020, the challenge focused on climate change and brought together 140 students split into 26 teams.

This year's winning team, "Cinderella", included Katharina, Dylan Barratt (St Cross 2017), Willem Bonnaffé (St Cross 2017), Arnab Ghosh (St Cross 2017) and Albérico Pereira Sobrinho (Green Templeton 2019). Their project focused on reducing shipping emissions with Al predictions based on weather. This would allow ships to better coordinate their arrival times at ports when these are congested, reducing speed and thereby lowering fuel consumption and consequently emissions.

The team will use the prize money to further develop their idea.



The winning team on stage with the judges. Katharina Plavec (2019) third from the left.



Student Award

Congratulations to Luke Rogers (Engineering 2019), who was awarded a Diamond Jubilee Scholarship by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). The awards offer financial support to a number of talented engineering students in the UK, as well

as mentoring and work experience placements through the IET's extensive networks.

The IET hope these awards will encourage the younger generations to take a career in engineering, whatever that might look like.

Luke accepted his award along with students from across Oxford and the UK at the official celebration ceremony for the 2019 winners on 27 February at IET London, Savoy Place.



Luke with other Oxford students awarded the scholarship at the official ceremony.

Student Life



KA Report: Biology in Borneo

Every term, the Keble Association (KA) gives out grants to Keble students to help them pursue various projects. This time, we feature Zhengxin Yang, who received a KA Grant for a field trip to Borneo, Malaysia (Sabah). The trip formed part of an optional module for third-year biology students, taking them to the Danum Valley, which is a protected area of tropical rainforest where the University of Oxford has carried out research for decades.

The trip included themed workshops, lectures and tutorials, as well as several days of hiking and touring to see the effect of deforestation and logging on the surrounding area. Students also worked in small groups to design research projects related to tropical forest ecology.

Zhengxin says: "Seeing the contrast in diversity between untouched forest and logged forest has really made me realise the devastating effect of human exploitation and I would like to take part in helping tackle such problems."

From a report written by **Zhengxin Yang** (Biological Sciences 2017).

Edited by **Nela Scholma-Mason** (MSt Archaeology 2011), KA Student Liaison Officer.



Virtual Tour

With the opening of The H B Allen Centre, Keble has increased its number of graduate students, who now make up about half of the student body. Graduates are an emphatically international group, and, unlike our undergraduates, are not always able to tour the colleges or visit on an Open Day before applying. With this in mind, the Graduate Admissions Office is producing a series of casual video tours of Oxford and her Colleges, and Keble is one of the first to be featured. In November, MCR President Annie Welden (2018) was filmed showing off our excellent graduate facilities and sharing what it's like to be a graduate student at Keble. Let her show you around:

https://youtu.be/LpOngqEp1bQ



Student Life in TT2020...

Student life will undoubtedly look very different next term, but the College is doing everything it can to support our students as they navigate a period of great upheaval. Although many have returned home for the Easter vacation, for some that has simply been impossible and Keble is still home to over 100 graduates and undergraduates. Our staff are doing a fantastic job of ensuring that they get food, where they are not self-catering. Of course, we have had to close communal facilities such as the Library, the Bar and the Gyms.

At the time of writing, there is still much to be thought through in terms of continuing to deliver the best possible teaching and learning for both our graduate and undergraduate students. University Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education Martin Williams has been in regular contact with students and there is a dedicated page on the Keble website with all the necessary links to the latest updates from the central University and faculties (www.keble.ox.ac.uk/covid-19-information). At this point, teaching and learning in Trinity term will be moved to an online format where possible, and there will be no conventional written paper exams.

We are enormously grateful to all our students, staff, and Fellows for their hard work and resilience at this time.

Keble Netball

Keble Netball has had a great term with a majority of wins. The club is the biggest it has ever been, with a total of 32 members across all three years.

In addition to this, our A team squad have full personalised Keble match kit and training tops for the first time ever, thanks to the Talbot Fund!

Georgia GibsonCaptain
Modern Languages 2018









A Grand Celebration

On 1 February, a record-breaking 160 alumni and friends, representing eight decades of matriculation, came together in the grand ballroom of the Lansdowne Club for the Keble London Dinner. The venue provided the perfect background to celebrate two significant anniversaries: 100 years of the Keble Association and 150 years of Keble College.

The Keble Association's mission is to enhance the Oxford experience for all students of the College, irrespective of their financial means, and, prior to the dinner, two recent beneficiaries of the Keble Association grants, Jonathan Lim (2018) and Ada

Humphrey (2014) presented their projects to the quests.

Speeches were given by the president of the Keble Association, Jeremy Mooney (1976), and the Warden. After David Welch (1949), the oldest college member present at the dinner, proposed a toast to the Junior Members, the audience was treated to an excellent, conversational response from JCR president Annie Johnson and MCR president Annie Welden. They shared interesting insights to the current life of the common rooms, as well as the positive impact Keble Association grants have on the student community.

Keble Golf

Keble continues to enter a team into the annual inter-collegiate golf competition, which is held at Frilford Heath Golf Club each spring. Nick Kane (1964), who has been coordinating the Keble team over the past decade, is passing on the role to David Grimshaw (1981) as of this year. A sincere thank you to Nick for the time and commitment in organising and leading the Keble challenge.

If you are interested in joining the Keble golf community, please contact David at keblegolf@outlook.com and he will be pleased to send further information.

David Grimshaw (Medicine 1981) and **Nick Kane** (PPE 1964)



New Year Honours for Alumni

Congratulations to the following Keble Alumni whose achievements have been recognised in the 2020 New Year Honours list.



Elizabeth Beattie, née Wilkes (Modern History 1979)

Secretary, Oxford University Society, Victoria, Australia. MBE for services to education and UK/ Australia relations.



Professor Lynn Gladden (PGCE Chemistry 1982)

Executive Chair, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. DBE for services to Academic and Industrial Research in Chemical Engineering.



Michael Sayers (Jurisprudence 1962)

General Secretary, Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies. OBE for services to promoting law reform and the rule of law.



Christopher Ward (Theology 1985)

Lately Neighbourhood Inspector, Thames Valley Police. BEM for services to the community in West Berkshire.

Alumni News



On the Frontline



I studied PPE because I wanted to understand the ideas and systems that govern our world and mould people's lives. To me, it seemed like a natural move to go into social work—understanding how these macro structures affect individuals and families.

I am training to be a Child Protection Social Worker with Frontline, a government-funded graduate training scheme. Every day is so different. I support multiple families to make changes to ensure that their children are not subject to neglect or abuse.

I really enjoy the mixture of theory and practice—social work is far more academic than I had realised—all of the reports and assessments I write are grounded in research and there is a new ethical dilemma every day. I feel very lucky to be joining a profession that has human rights and relationships at the heart of everything that we do.

Lucy Miles PPE 2016

Who wants to be ...a Keble Bursar?

As many of you may already know, Roger Boden is set to retire at the end of this academic year, after many years of distinguished work for the College. We are, therefore, now seeking his successor. Further details and instructions for how to apply can be found via the agency supporting us, Saxton Bampfylde, using the link below. We would welcome the thoughts, advice, and interest of our alumni community and encourage you to be in touch directly with Saxton Bampfylde.

www.saxbam.com/appointment/keble-college-oxford

High Court Appointment

Our congratulations to Thomas Linden QC (Jurisprudence 1984), who was appointed a High Court Judge assigned to the Queen's Bench Division. He took up his post in January 2020.



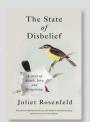
50 Years of Ghosts

On 12 October 2019, Keble's Football Ghosts played their 50^{th} match against the College. This annual fixture, played without a break since its inception in 1969, was the brainchild of the late Dick Yarrow (1959 Physics), after whom the Trophy is named. In the 2^{nd} XI game, the College took a 4-1 lead after 48 minutes, but the Ghosts dug deep and the 'Miracle on the Woodstock Road' saw a 5-4 Ghosts' victory. However, the College 1^{st} XI narrowly won their game.

Other sporting fixtures played across the day included Men's Rugby and Men's and Women's Netball.

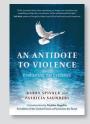


Alumni in Print



The State of Disbelief

When **Juliet Rosenfeld**'s (nèe Soskice, 1988) husband died only seven months into their marriage, nothing she had learned about death as a psychotherapist prepared her for the devastating loss. Juliet explores and rethinks the long held therapeutic idea of 'working through stages of grief.'



An Antidote to Violence

Barry Spivack (1973) and Patricia Anne Saunders examine the possibility that Transcendental Meditation (TM) can create peace not just for individuals, but for society as a whole. Drawing on his PPE studies and TM teaching, the book suggests ways in which TM can reduce conflict and increase co-operation between nations.



In The Palace of Flowers

This debut novel from **Victoria Princewill** (2009) tells the tale of two slaves in the court of the Iranian Shah in the 1890's, a precarious time of growing public dissent and foreign interference. Themes of love, friendship and bitter politics add contemporary relevance.



Quantum Image Processing

Salvador Venegas-Andraca (2000) is one of the world's leading scientists in his field. Co-written with Professor Fei Yan this book provides a comprehensive introduction to quantum image processing, a discipline at the intersection of science and engineering.

More details and booking information online at **www.keble.ox.ac.uk/events**

Dear friends,

We find ourselves writing the text for this edition of the brick in difficult and unprecedented times. We realise that many alumni may find themselves isolated by the situation and we want to remind you that you are part of the Keble community; we are here to help and offer support through these difficult weeks and months ahead.

Very sadly, we have had to cancel many of our planned events. You can find a full list of the cancellations and postponements on the website **www.keble.ox.ac.uk**. It is a great disappointment to have to change so many plans in this special year for the College, but we are keeping things in perspective and will pick up again when it is safe to socialise and welcome you back to Oxford, hopefully kicking off with The Alumni Big Birthday Weekend in September (11–13) to coincide with the University Reunion; all are very welcome.

Thank you to all who have sent messages of support and encouragement to us; it is lovely to hear from you and very much appreciated. Meanwhile, if you have any news items, stories, or observations which may be of interest to the alumni community, we will continue to communicate these regularly via the website and social media.

In the meantime, we hope you stay safe and keep well.

With very best wishes,

Jenny and the A&D Office team

Enquiries to alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

Saturday 6 June Keble's 150th Birthday and Alumni Giving Day



Let's celebrate the past and help build an even brighter future by joining our online 150th event. Details will be sent by email in May.

Party online

Use social media to send messages and photos from across the globe. You can see the messages coming in from around the world on our 150th Birthday website.

Become an Ambassador

Sign up as a Social Ambassador to help spread the word and get everyone connected.

Make a Birthday Gift

What better time than on the birthday itself? Help secure the next 150 years of Keble for all current and future students. All new regular gifts will qualify for a rare, this year only, 150th blue brick!

11–13 September

Keble Reunion: The Alumni Big Birthday Weekend

A festival for all alumni, including:

Lecture from **Ben Brown** (1978), BBC News Special Correspondent and former Foreign Affairs and War correspondent for the BBC

University Challenge, Keble Edition (let us know if you are interested to be on one of the teams!)

Afternoon tea with birthday cake

Formal Dinner in Hall BOP



@KebleAlumni



Keble College Alumni group



Alumni group and Entrepreneurs group



@keblealumni

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

Contacts

Alumni and Development Office Keble College Parks Road Oxford OX1 3PG

www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni dev.office@keble.ox.ac.uk alumni@keble.ox.ac.uk Jenny Tudge (Director of Development) jenny.tudge@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272794)

Camilla Matterson (Deputy Director of Development) camilla.matterson@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282506)

Veronika Kovacs (Alumni Relations Manager) veronika.kovacs@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282338)

Jessie Torrance-Cameron (Alumni Relations Assistant) jessica.torrance-cameron@keble.ox.ac.uk

Martha Baskerville (Alumni Events and Project Manager) martha.baskerville@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272799)

Philip Clarke (Data Manager) philip.clarke@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282303)

Sharon Thomas (Executive Assistant) sharon.thomas@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272794)

Rebecca Coker (Major Gifts Officer) rebecca.coker@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282036) maternity leave to Sept 2020



the brick is written, designed and produced by the Alumni and Development Office with the assistance of current Keble students and staff.

Editing and setting by Boriana Boneva (Communications Manager). Printing and distribution by Acorn Press. Proofreading by Les Hearn (1968). the brick is copyright © 2020 Keble College, Oxford, OX1 3PG.

All rights of the individual contributors are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or translated in any form, by any means mechanical, electronic or otherwise, without prior consent of the publisher. The views expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the Governing Body of the College.