THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI . ISSUE 72 . TRINITY TERM 2021 . WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK

Keble People

The Alumni and Development Office launched the #KeblePeople and Talbot Fund 2021 website on 6 June 2021. We are sharing alumni and student stories and news of fundraising impact and progress by email on a weekly basis across June and July.

#KeblePeople is an invitation and reminder to please keep in touch with College and with Keble friends. It is also a celebration of the remarkable support Keble alumni and friends provide for current students and an opportunity to help us keep up the good work.

This initiative developed from our 'remote' experience over the past year, and the 150th Anniversary in particular. Although not the original plan, Keble celebrated the milestone online and on social media on 6 June 2020. Thanks to alumni, Fellows, staff and students who got involved in the most spectacular way, the trials and tribulations of 2020 were set aside for a day, and a unique and special celebration unfolded. Two striking features stand out—camaraderie and goodwill. Hundreds (if not thousands) of alumni posted pictures, birthday messages, shared stories, and took the time to contact Keble and their Keble friends. We invite you to do the same again in July, using #keblepeople on social media.

One fascinating, and previously unrecorded, alumni story that has come to light through #KeblePeople arrived from Revd Dr Patricia Allan, one of two visiting students from the University of Canterbury, who came to Keble in 2011 after the devastating earthquakes in New Zealand ten years ago. See Alumni News.

Who knows what other stories may emerge?

Hundreds of alumni also made an astonishing number of gifts for the $150^{\rm th}$, raising over £450,000 in a very short space of time. Every gift, whether £15 or £150 contributed to an overwhelming lift to our provision for students and a massive boost to morale at a very difficult time. To see just how important that has been for Keble students, all bright and talented individuals with huge potential, please watch our video here: $\frac{\text{https://talbotfund2021.hubbbb.net}}{\text{https://talbotfund2021.hubbbb.net}}$

It will take time for College to recover from the deep financial scars created by the pandemic. If you value your time at Keble and want to make a difference, please do make a gift if you can.

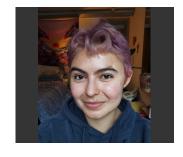
Join us online and on social media to share stories and photos using the hashtag #KeblePeople, make a gift that really matters for current students and keep an eye on the Talbot Fund 2021 website to see the activity online. See you there!



























College News

Teaching in Trinity Term 2021...

In Trinity Term 2020, the brick (issue 70) shared Keble students' stories of learning during the pandemic, remotely or otherwise. A year later, we turn to our Tutors, who talk about what it has been like to adapt to a new way of teaching, conducted largely online.

Dr Ian Archer, Tutor in Modern History:

Provided the connection was good and the cameras switched on, tutorials on Teams were just fine. Maybe even improved: screen sharing meant one could share images, talk through online resources and so forth. But the provisos are significant. Wifi bandwidth was an issue though I'm pretty convinced that several students still don't understand what an Ethernet cable is (they are available at £2 from the porters' lodge!), or know where the wall socket is. Some were working from home and, though there were close shaves, that by and large worked. I hosted regular online

socials for the freshers which I think helped with cohort solidarity. Graduates, especially taught masters, had a tough time: because the teaching is through classes, they weren't able to benefit much from the in-person possibilities of Michaelmas term. My low point: a two hour class on Shakespeare which the students (none of them from Keble, and a couple with cameras off) said they'd been looking forward to but to which they contributed little. When remonstrated with, apologies poured forth: they were suffering from 'zoom fatique'. Hmmmm. At the peak, I was doing up to eight hours a day online teaching and meetings. Have pity. Those who know me will be surprised to learn that I bit my tongue, and kept quiet. High point: the



online drinks party in lieu of the schools dinner: I think we were on for five hours. No zoom fatigue possible in the face of the razor sharp wit of the History finalists!



Dr Felix Leach, Tutorial Fellow in Engineering Science:

What a year it has been! If you'd told me a year ago that I'd just have finished an entire year teaching online, I'd have never thought it possible. It has actually not been too bad. I have managed to mix a limited amount of face-to-face teaching in Michaelmas and

Trinity terms with a lot of online teaching. My office has been converted into a covidsafe teaching space (see photo), with the communal round table replaced with social distancing, exam-style tables, and screens. "Well-ventilated" is Keble-code for freezing in the winter! Online, there have been highs (drinks for the 2020 leavers on Teams was very worthwhile, albeit no Schools' Dinner) and lows (sitting in my kitchen in January recording 8 hours of lectures just me talking to my laptop - with no feedback at all, that is soul destroying). Some things work very well: it is clear that being able to split a lecture into chunks that are not an hour, and more like 15 minute content-driven videos is better for everyone. Some don't: no matter what tech is available, Teams Whiteboard, Miro, Jamboard, etc are no match for three people gathered

round a board in a tute. Undergraduate admissions interviews on Teams were surprisingly effective. I'll find out in October whether my impressions of that are correct. If I had one request to make a tutor's life easier, it would be this: Please turn your camera on there is nothing worse than talking to a screen entirely made up of Teams purple halos. Also, never look at the viewing stats for your prerecorded lecture!





Dr Kazbi Soonawalla, Tutor in Management:

I am deeply conscious that perceptions and experiences vary and that many students hadn't anticipated spending the bulk of the year in Teams tutorials. There are many plusses and obviously some downsides too! Online screen-sharing tools made sharing workings and solutions of technical topics more straightforward than usual. The same with sharing online resources and interesting articles in real time. Only a couple of occasions where the internet totally packed up (I think from my side) and classes needed to be rescheduled.

Lectures can be a mixed bag. On the whole, I think they worked well and there were timing gains for students who don't want to drag themselves to Business School for a 9am start. Midway coffee breaks and breaks to stretch legs were much more efficient as they didn't involve 70+ students queuing at the coffee machine and then straggling back to lectures

after the second half had started. I sensed that some students missed the opportunity for the quick clarifying word after or before a class but this was easily overcome in smaller group settings. There was probably less of the usual banter but again in smaller settings spirits seemed high. My incredibly polite students kept themselves muted and this prevented some of the spontaneous jumping in with points and queries. Perhaps I should insist on "unmuted" students for the very small groups. I think online tutorials made it easier for the students and me to be flexible on timetabling as the usual half hour to get anywhere on either side didn't need to be factored in! Overall, I can't complain.

College News





Expanding Outreach

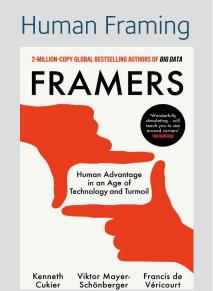
Keble College is pleased to announce the launch of a brand new partnership with the education charity The Access Project and Waverley School in Birmingham, following on from our highly successful programme with Colmers school in Rednal, which began three years ago.

The initiative is grounded in the local community, and is part of Keble's wide-reaching efforts to help students from the West Midlands make successful applications and transitions to leading Universities.

The partnership is based on an intensive programme of support for students starting in Year 10. The Access Project offers bright young students from disadvantaged backgrounds free weekly tuition in the subjects they need most help with, along with expert guidance through the university application process.

An ever-growing number of Keble students and alumni are participating as volunteer tutors, while The Access Project's specialised Oxbridge programme organises visits and tailored support for students in collaboration with Keble.

The virtual launch was attended by West Midlands Mayor Andy Street (PPE 1982, Honorary Fellow), along with representatives from the school, TAP and College. Current Keble student and JCR President Japji Gaba, who also attended the launch, told Waverley School pupils: "Someone like myself from an ethnic-minority, first-generation university student, and working-class background is testament to the fact that if you believe in yourself and have confidence...if you put in the work, there's no reason you can't do it...once you get into Oxford, you make leaps and bounds."



Keble Professorial Fellow Viktor Mayer–Schönberger has teamed up with co–author of the bestselling *Big Data*, Kenneth Cukier, and Francis de Véricourt, to give us an insight into a unique human cognitive ability —framing. To frame is to create a mental model of the world that enables us to see patterns, predict how things will unfold, and make sense of new situations.

Although traditionally eschewed in favour of traits like memory and reasoning, recent computing advances allowing machines to outshine humans at those cognitive tasks has meant that framing now stands out as a critical function—and only humans can do it. *Framers* (WH Allen, 2021) advocates turning this innate human ability into a skill to solve our 21st century challenges.

Impact Award

Congratulations to Keble Computer Science Fellow and Tutor Professor Bernardo Cuenca Grau, who has received a Commendation in the MPLS Division 2021 Impact Awards.

The awards recognise academics' exceptional efforts and achievements in ensuring the Division's research benefits society



and the economy.
Professor Cuenca Grau
was commended in the
Commercial Impact category
for his work with Ian
Horrocks and Boris Motik
on Enabling Applications of
Ontologies in Healthcare and
in Industry via Reasoning
Systems.

MATHEMATICAL

LIFE SCIENCES

More on Lear

Keble English Fellow and Tutor Professor Matthew Bevis' ongoing project, Knowing Edward Lear, has recently been awarded follow-on funding by the AHRC to support an exhibition at the IKON Gallery in Birmingham. Due to open this Autumn, Edward Lear, Moment to Moment will be the first exhibition solely devoted to Lear's sketches and landscape drawings from across the whole span of his career.







KA Report: Celanese Spondon Internship

Seth Furniss reports on his Keble Association–sponsored Internship in the Technology and Innovation Department at Celanese Spondon.

The Celanese Spondon manufacturing facility produces Clarifoil®. The film is used to meet many applications such as packaging, anti-fog visors, and tamper-evident film. During my two week internship, I was given a flavour of the department and contributed to each project they were working on, including improving the thermostability of anti-fog visor film to be more efficient under harsh conditions for winter sports (skiing and snowboarding).

I also shadowed work being done on improving the biodegradability of plastic film used for food packaging. We formulated new samples and prepared them for compost and retrieved samples which had been composting for a month, some of which had nearly perished.

Finally, an independent project was initiated to improve a new tamper-evident film (LOKI) which wasn't brittle enough for application. Building on previous work, I investigated why the film becomes brittle, by mixing up eight



formulations and casting them into films of equal and appropriate thickness and determining the force required to tear each sample: a qualitative measure of its brittleness. As a result of my formulations, observations, and data, further investigation has been able to take place.

Seth Furniss Chemistry 2019



Summer Torpids

This year, the traditional 'Summer Eights' rowing regatta ran under the 'Torpids' rules to help organisers mitigate both the COVID-related risks and the lack of training time for crews. While the usual cheering crowds were missing from the banks, all four days were streamed live and are still available to view.

Keble entered three crews. M1 finished 8th on the river in Division 1, which is the highest Torpids position in 32 years. W1 finished 7th in Division 1, maintaining the position from the previous Summer 8s, while Keble M2 finished 2nd in Division 5.

Remarkably, more than half the W1 and M2 crews had never competed before, with some individuals only having taken up rowing in Trinity 2021. The full results are available <u>here</u>.



Congratulations to Joshua Bowesman-Jones (Chemistry 2019), who was part of the winning GB Men's Eight crew at the 2021 U23 Rowing World Championships.

All-Innovate

Theo Kelly led a team of Keble students to the final of the 2021 All-Innovate Ideas Competition, run by the Saïd Business School's Oxford Foundry. Team Distill, originally founded as part of the <u>Student Entrepreneurship Programme</u> (StEP), pitched their idea for an automatic way of detecting signs of disease in medical scan images.

All-Innovate offers an excellent opportunity to stress-test your business proposition before you sacrifice large amounts of time and money trying to realise it. In the case of our startup, Distill, this feedback was invaluable. Our proposition was software designed to improve the quality of ultrasound scans, to improve clinical diagnosis of foetal abnormalities. Throughout the bootcamp, we were grilled on our 'edge', or our 'unfair advantage' in building the product, relative to other students. We soon realised that our primarily non-technical team, reliant on outsourced labour for development, would have a much greater chance of success with a less technically demanding proposition. Harsh realisations aside, the bootcamp gave me crucial experience in how to translate an abstract idea into a compelling pitch, and has made me much more confident in approaching my next venture

Theo Kelly Human Sciences 2018

Strangeways

While there's the fig. for art and the brick for alumni, there's no dedicated platform for showcasing Keble students' writing—this is where <u>Strangeways</u> comes in. The new student magazine covers anything and everything: culture, politics, op-eds, satire, Keble gossip. And if the name sounds



familiar, no, this isn't the first *Strangeways*. The original, founded by two Keble students, came onto the Oxford literary scene in 1995.

Student Life



Sustainable Society

The Oxford Sustainable Business and Entrepreneurship Society (OSBE) is a society co-founded by two Keble students. Saskia Lord and Francesca Battaglia Trovato, with many of the committee members also at Keble. OSBE hosts an array of events exploring cutting-edge ideas from sustainable start-ups, as well as well-established multinational corporations who are adapting to meet a progressive environmental standard. The society has received a great response, welcoming over 240 members in its first year of launching, and it is now keen to reach out to Keble alumni.



Please contact <u>osbesociety@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in forming a relationship with the society, for example through speaking at their events or providing sponsorship.

Saskia Lord Geography 2019

Outreach on YouTube

Keble at Large (our student access society) and the College's Access and Outreach team have upped their digital game in 2020/21, including launching a Keble Outreach YouTube Channel, with new content created termly.







New Goals

This term, apart from the usual summer sport of cricket, tennis and netball, it was decided to see if there was enough interest to play football to make up for the lost sport last term due to Covid restrictions. Keble, and St Hugh's, who share our ground, showed huge interest and each college had at least four teams!

It was very difficult to schedule all the games with only one pitch so, thanks to the generosity and kindness of alumni, we were able to purchase another set of 5-a-side goals and have two pitches which saw plenty of action across Trinity.

Ade Roche

Gardens and Grounds Manager

Back on the Pitch

To miss out on the annual Ghosts fixture and the standard 11-a-side league and cuppers tournament was naturally disappointing; my dreams of captaining Keble to a return to the Premier Division were over before they had begun. What's more, the freshers began Trinity term with their only experience of college football being a handful of sessions before lockdown in Michaelmas. I think, however, that this only made the players more enthusiastic for our fixtures this term. We won four out of our six fixtures in the 5-a-side cuppers tournament, narrowly missing out on qualification to the knockout stages; we also played a number of 11-a-side friendlies. More importantly, we improved massively as a team during these games and developed a real team spirit, which makes me even more excited for the return to league football next year. I began the term with concerns about how the firstyears would manage leading the club next year, with such little experience. I am now

very confident that next year's captain Theo Lewis and the incoming committee will lead the club to a successful season. I'd also like to say a massive thank you to our groundsman, Ade Roche, whose hard work meant we had two brilliant 5-a-side pitches to play with all term.

Jonathan Chen

JCR Football Captain

Stepping back onto the pitch this term has been amazing, particularly after being deprived of team sports for so long! All players have shown great commitment, desire and real enthusiasm in matches and training sessions, with everyone wanting to make up for lost time on the pitch and put in some good performances. Here's to a full year of football next year!

Charlotte Morgan

Women's Football Captain







B&B Rooms and Conferences at Keble



The College is looking forward to the return of its successful B&B and conference business as part of its continuing recovery from the pandemic.

Alumni can now once again book one of our ensuite bedrooms at a reduced price on our website. Please email us for the discount code.

Did you know that you can also organise company events and conferences at Keble? On the main site, the 250-seat O'Reilly lecture theatre, versatile breakout spaces, and Hall, together with on-site

accommodation, are available during the vacation periods.

The H B Allen Centre will now also be available for events throughout the year. A state-of-the-art hybrid lecture theatre, additional breakout spaces and a magnificent quad are just some of the benefits.

Should you be interested in hosting an event with us, you can contact our experienced <u>Conference Office</u> who will be happy to talk through all of the available options on either of our unique sites.

Back in the Boat

After nearly two decades in commodity trading, David Streule (Physics 1997) returned to Keble not only to study for his Executive MBA degree, but to rowing, competing in this years' Summer Torpids in the M1 crew, as well as re-joining the OU Lightweight Rowing Club. David is now searching for new opportunities working in sports management.



From Christchurch to Oxford



Patricia, right, at Keble in 2011.

Ten years ago, Christchurch New Zealand suffered a terrible series of earthquakes. The University of Canterbury, where I was an Honours student, suffered too. In early 2011, we were having lectures in tents when Oxford offered help and 43 of us were invited by the University during Trinity Term.

I was extremely fortunate to be a student at Keble for an unforgettable term and was enabled to complete my BA Hons. I am very grateful for the outstanding hospitality I received in College and at Oxford.

In 2017, I received my PhD in Anthropology with the thesis 'The Once and Future Cathedral', tracking the social drama of the controversy around what should happen to the badly damaged Christ Church Cathedral. It is currently being rebuilt.

Rev Dr Patricia Allan Visiting Student 2011

A&D Team

As we look ahead beyond the 150th Anniversary, the Keble Alumni and Development Office is welcoming two new members of staff: Rachel Page and Jessica Torrance-Cameron.

They will be joining Director of Development Jenny Tudge, Alumni Relations Manager Veronika Kovacs and Phil Clarke, who is taking on greater responsibility for financial reporting and the management of the Talbot Fund



Rachel Page Senior Development Assistant

Rachel Page, currently with the Pitzhanger Manor and Gallery in London, will be joining the team in August as Senior Development Officer. Rachel brings valuable experience in major gift fundraising at Oxford, having spent two years in a similar role at Jesus College.



Jessica Torrance-Cameron *Alumni and Development Assistant*

We are delighted to welcome back Jessie to the team as Alumni and Development Assistant. She originally joined the team in June 2019 for a year to assist with the 150th Anniversary celebrations. Her most recent role with the Oxfordshire Community Foundation widened her skill set even more, and she is excited to re-join on 2 August.

Alumni News





Saving the Lamb

Many alumni will be interested to know that a project initiated by a Keble alumnus to save the Lamb & Flag, which had closed on January 31, 2021 because of financial pressures, is well underway and gathering great support.

The long tradition of post-tutorial gatherings in the Lamb and Flag has made it a venue where extraordinary, world-changing ideas have been born. The Inklings used to meet (and create) here. The Lord of the Rings, the Narnia chronicles, hobbits and orcs...so many legends were conceived here. It's believed that Thomas Hardy wrote Jude the Obscure in the pub itself. Scientists have also loved the Lamb and Flag. When the closure was announced, Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter (Mathematics 1971) tweeted, "Very sad about this news: I learned much of my maths in that pub."

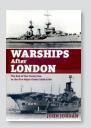
Led by a Keble alumnus, The Inklings Ltd intends to make sure that the Lamb and Flag's best years lie ahead. This requires funding, passion and community involvement. As a community project, the focus will be on maximum inclusivity and diversity in both our shareholder and customer base. Everyone is welcome. The only criteria: you love Oxford and love the Lamb and Flag. Interested to find out more? Get in touch via the Alumni and Development Office.

Alumni in Print



Roman Bath

There have been excavations carried out in Roman Bath for almost three hundred years. **Peter Davenport** (1975), having been involved in most of the archaeological work there since 1980, attempts to tell its story thus far, in *Roman Bath: A New History and Archaeology of Aquae Sulis*.



Warships After London

The second volume of a study by **John Jordan** (1966) of the impact on the major fleets of the Washington Treaty of 1922, Warships After London looks at the designs for cruisers, destroyers and submarines during the 1930s that emerged from the newly-imposed quantitative and qualitative limitations



The Heart of the Renaissance

Richard Lloyd (1976) has written *The Heart of the Renaissance, The Stories of the Art of Florence.* The book acts as a practical guide to art lovers exploring Florence, as well as being an appreciation of the splendours of the city, its history, its art and its architecture.



Retail Recovery

Mark Pilkington's (1976) latest book *Retail Recovery*, published by Bloomsbury Business on 19 August, offers a fascinating insight into how retailers can recover and thrive in retailing's 'new normal', after the devastating twin effects of the internet and the coronavirus lockdown.



Lost Art

Anja Shortland's (1991) *Lost Art: The Art Loss Register Casebook* is a fascinating guide to the dark side of the global art market based on ten cases from the Art Loss Register, a private database dedicated to tracking down stolen artworks.

The Invention Helping Seabirds

Pete Kibel (1985 Biology) and his brother Ben were 2021 European Inventor Award finalists in the Small and Mediumsized Enterprises category for their invention, the Hookpod, which prevents the accidental deaths of seabirds and is endorsed by Sir David Attenborough. Longline fishing has a devastating effect on seabirds, killing 300k each year. The brothers invented a simple solution: a pod that covers baited hooks and only opens once 20 metres underwater, out of reach for most birds. The device is effective, inexpensive and gaining popularity.



Pete Kibel, left, with brother Ben, right.

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

September

Keble Association Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM and Trustees' Meeting will take place online to ensure more members can participate regardless of any COVID-related restrictions. The Trustees' meeting will precede the AGM. Details to follow. Invitations will be sent to members in August.

13-14 September

Meeting Minds Global

Back in April, MMG created the virtual opportunity for alumni around the world to come together and experience an array of exciting and innovative talks. In September, Oxford University will once again be hosting a global virtual event and looking forward to seeing you there.



17-18 September

1995-2007 Keble Reunion

Save the date
Invitations to alumni who
matriculated between 19952007 inclusive will be sent by
email after Monday 19 July. The
weekend will include a casual
dinner on Friday, a lecture on
Saturday culminating in the
Gaudy Dinner. Rooms in College
will be available.

Enquiries to

alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

Saturday 25 September 1970 and 1971 Years 50th

Anniversary Lunch *Save the date*

This year, due to the postponement of the 1970 anniversary lunch, we will invite two year groups to come and celebrate 50 years since matriculation. Invitations will be sent via email after Monday 19 July.

Saturday 25 September Douglas Price Society and Talbot Society Lecture and Dinner

Save the date

Drinks reception, lecture and dinner in Hall for members of our legacy and regular giving societies. Invitations will be sent via email after Monday 19 July.

Saturday 9 October

Ghosts v College Fixtures

Compete in or support the alumni teams against current students. Fixtures include Women's Netball, Men's Football, Women's 7-a-side Football, Men's Rugby and Women's Rugby (7s). More information including how to sign up will follow in August.

October

Entrepreneurs' Evening

Details to be confirmed. Notification of online booking will be in the Michaelmas Term e-Events calendar.

Important Information about our Events

We very much hope to return to in-person events from September, but please note that the above events can only go ahead if all College, University and Government restrictions, including the need for social distancing, are fully lifted. For the time being, we will only be able to accept payments through online registration or via cheque, as this will enable us to process refunds smoothly and promptly in case an event needs to be cancelled. We will also have less flexibility accepting last minute registrations and will set the registration deadline to 10 days prior to the event. Thank you for your understanding.

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. 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



@KebleAlumni



Keble College Alumni group



Alumni group and Entrepreneurs group



@keblealumni

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