

the brick

THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI • ISSUE 73 • HILARY TERM 2022 • WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK

Breaking Barriers



When Keble opened its doors in 1870, it did so with a clear access agenda. One hundred and fifty-two years later, access is still a primary focus.

The economic impacts of the pandemic and the disruption to schooling have made a University education seem even further away for many young people. The pandemic has also put pressure on the College's finances, but access has never been more important, and we are committed to expanding our programmes.

The inequalities in access to Oxford result from a complex mix of factors, and there is no one-size-fits-all solution. Keble's approach has therefore been a multi-programme one, designed to support disadvantaged young people to apply to Oxford and thrive on their University journey—from providing insights into university life, advising on subject choices and delivering tutoring at GCSE and A-Level, to supporting applications, and providing bursaries and study skills tuition.

Our Outreach and Access work is managed by Dr Foteini Dimirouli, Outreach Fellow and

Career Development Fellow in English, and India Collins-Davies, Access and Outreach Officer. Programmes focus largely on the West Midlands (because of Oxford's [Regional Outreach](#) scheme), a number of them being delivered in partnership with sector-leading charities, focusing on sustained, evidence-based interventions. These include:

Keble's comprehensive programme of **in-person visits and virtual events** for non-selective state schools—offering students the opportunity to attend tailored programmes on a weekly basis, with the assistance of our enthusiastic student ambassador community, **Keble at Large**.

Teachers' and Parents'/Carers' events—providing information and support enabling teachers and parents to guide young people to make their own choices and realise their ambitions.

The Access Project—securing mentoring and guidance for students through a team of school-based Access Officers.

The Brilliant Club—mobilising the PhD community to share its academic expertise with state schools that most need help.

Target Oxbridge—working with students of mixed or sole black African and Caribbean heritage to increase their chances of getting into Oxbridge through mentoring, academic seminars, application advice and interview practice.

This year we wanted to highlight two new access developments:

Our digital work—Keble now runs a hybrid form of Outreach, combining face-to-face and online programmes to maximise outcomes. Our YouTube Outreach channel counts 34,000 views, and each webinar reaches circa 450 participants. The Ambassador Platform is an online forum where prospective students can speak to current students from similar backgrounds: 50% of those engaged in conversations on the platform in 2021 applied to Oxford, and 25% of these applicants received offers.

Our Study Skills Programme—conscious that students arriving via access programmes may not be equipped to manage the pressures of an Oxford course, we appointed two study skills tutors, in Humanities/Social Sciences and in Sciences/Medicine. They provide both one-to-one sessions with students addressing time management and essay writing and tailored classes to subject year groups.

We are very grateful to the many donors who enable us to fund these important projects.

Pictured: Our Outreach and Access team, Dr Foteini Dimirouli (DPhil 2009) (left), and India Collins-Davies (LMH 2012).

in this issue:

college news • student life • alumni news • forthcoming events

Who's Lived Here?



This term has seen the first of many [room-naming plaques](#) installed across College. We're thrilled to finally see this project come to life, and are incredibly grateful to all the alumni who have added their names to their student room(s). Since we launched the project in 2016, we have generated £1.3m+ for the Campaign, with over 320 alumni choosing to etch themselves into Keble history. We plan on continuing to add plaques, so it's not too late to join in and help create a wonderful record of Keble students—imagine the impact that could have for the long term. If you are interested in hearing more about sponsoring your room, please contact Phil Clarke, Data and Annual Fund Manager: philip.clarke@keble.ox.ac.uk.

Access and Outreach in Numbers

- In 2021, we accepted **24** undergraduates from areas with low participation in HE against a target of **8**, and **19** from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds against a target of **18**.
- In 2022, **70%** of our final UK intake were applicants from state schools.
- Keble has a relatively high proportion of UK-domiciled undergraduates who self-identify as 'BME': **24.4%** in 2018–20, compared with **21.4%** for the University overall.
- Pre-pandemic, in 2018, over **3,700** people visited Keble on school trips, and we interacted with **700** more in outreach activities in schools.
- We currently have **150** trained student ambassadors at Keble.
- Keble's YouTube online outreach events reached **34,000** unique views.
- Online outreach events reached up to **450** participants per session.

Library Windows

We are delighted to announce the completion of an appeal to restore the twelve Library windows. Keble's Butterfield buildings make it one of the most memorable and striking of all Oxford colleges. We are the guardians of these unique buildings and remain responsible for preserving the architectural heritage entrusted to us.

In late 2021, following an extensive survey, the restoration of the Library windows was identified as urgent. Areas of concern ranged from the bowing of some stained-glass panels to masonry movement; proposed repairs were costed at £48k. Twelve generous alumni came to the rescue quickly, offering to each sponsor the restoration of one of the windows.

Stained glass specialists CJL Designs began restoration in the Easter vacation, and the work should be completed by summer 2022.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the donors for helping us maintain Keble's heritage for generations to come.



The restoration team from CJL Designs, l-r: Erica Holt, glass painter and designer, Chris Worrall, proprietor, Claudio Checchia Jnr, cherry picker driver.



The Blaine Pike Travel Fund

After alumnus Blaine Pike (French and German 2005) sadly took his life in 2021, a group of his friends came to the Keble Development and Alumni Office to explore establishing a fund in Blaine's name. Blaine's passion for languages never diminished and he made it clear that some of the best times of his life were during his four years at Oxford. It was agreed that a fitting tribute would be an annual award of £500 in Blaine's name for a Modern Languages

student from a low-income background, to support costs around their year abroad. A target of £15k was set to endow an annual award of £500. The appeal was launched on Friday 18 February, and to date we have raised just over £14k, a wonderful testament to Blaine. We aim to make the first award in spring 2023. If you would like to make a gift in support of this appeal, you can do so [on our website](#), selecting the Fund in the drop-down menu.



Energetic Conversations

On 10 March, members of the Keble Community gathered in-person and online for our latest Keble Conversations event, chaired by Dr Felix Leach, Associate Professor of Engineering Science and author of *Racing Toward Zero*. Joining him were Philip Dunne MP (PPE 1977), Chair of the UK Parliament Environmental Audit Committee, and Rhodes Scholars Grace Henry (2020 MSc in Energy Systems) and Emeka Nwangele (2020 MSc in Energy Systems).

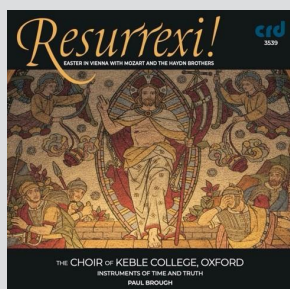
The highly engaging conversation included topics such as the challenge of achieving truly global sustainable energy, and how this can be accomplished without compromising quality of life. All of our panellists agreed that the challenges are enormous and can't be tackled independently in silos, but require an integrated, holistic approach since environmental issues respect no national boundaries. The discussion also highlighted that, in addition to managing the transition to renewable/green energy resources, it is vitally important to consider reducing energy demand across the globe, and that the time to act is now. After a very insightful conversation by the 'experts', it was great to see the audience engaging with challenging and highly technical questions.



Congratulations to Keble Fellow Felix Leach, whose book, *Racing Toward Zero: The Untold Story of Driving Green*, has won the [2022 Independent Press Award](#) in the Environment category.

New from the Choir

The Choir's latest CD, 'Resurrexi! Easter in Vienna with Mozart and the Haydn Brothers', is out now. Recorded with Instruments of Time & Truth and conducted by Keble Director of Music Paul Brough, the album is a celebration of Easter in music. Available [online](#), or from the Lodge.



Farewell from the Chaplain

Keble has been an amazing place to live and work for the last five and a half years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Chaplain, and it has been a great blessing to offer worship in Oxford's most beautiful chapel with Oxford's best choir! There are many things that make Keble Chapel distinctive and there are many aspects of Chapel life that I will miss: the Advent Carol Services, Ascension Day from the roof of the Chapel and all those parts of the church's year that Keble marks so well; the Holocaust Memorial Service, which is always so moving and speaks so powerfully every year of the sanctity of human life; and of course the Chapel community. I hope the Chapel has been a place where people feel able to ask the big questions, to reflect, and to pray. The pandemic has meant we have not had a Mitre Club Dinner for a couple of years now, but it was always an embodiment of the less serious side of our community life. I'm sure that it is a tradition that will return!

After my first year as Chaplain, I took on the role of 'Welfare Fellow,' responsible for coordinating student welfare provision at the College level. The past five years have had their challenges on this front, not least because of the effect of the pandemic on the student experience. I am extraordinarily grateful to the many students and staff who have sought to maintain a sense of community over this time.

One of the distinctive aspects of the Chaplaincy at Keble is the relationship with the sixty-nine parishes of which Keble is patron. It has been wonderful to get to know groups from these parishes on their visits to the College, to be involved in the appointment of clergy in the parishes, and to feel part of a community of prayer stretched out across the country.

I am leaving Keble to take up the Chaplaincy of the Church of the Resurrection, Bucharest. It is a challenging time for the chaplaincy there, not least because of the large number of Ukrainian refugees in Romania. I am not sure what my ministry will be like there, but I am certain that I will carry with me the love, kindness and friendship that I have known at Keble.

The Revd Nevsky Everett
Chaplain, 2016–2022



KA Report: COP26

In Michaelmas term, the Keble Association awarded study grants to Jennifer Harker (2018), Georgia Hammersley (2021) and Neriya Ben-Dor (2021), all studying MSc Nature, Society and Environmental Governance, to attend the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow.

Jennifer described COP26 as “one of the most important climate events that has occurred thus far in my lifetime. This represented an invaluable experience for me, as a young climate activist looking to pursue a career in meaningful environmental governance, to see first-hand the international environmental governance occurring in the face of the threatening climate crisis that looms ever closer.

We kicked off our trip to the conference by joining the long march through the city (pictured) where people had gathered from around the country and beyond to protest the state of current climate governance.

My trip to COP26 illuminated the realities of environmental governance in a visceral and broad sense that I had never considered before. It also taught me that much is to be improved in environmental governance—made evident by the disappointing outcomes of the conference. Here is where I hope to make a real difference.”

Georgia reported that “COP26 provided real-world context of environmental governance at a global scale, whilst also illuminating the intensely personal experiences of the climate crisis.

Unfortunately, attendance within the ‘blue zone’ was restricted due to its being the central site of UN negotiations. I was able to attend various events within the ‘green zone’, where the public, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, youth groups, charities, academics, artists and businesses could make their voices heard through events, workshops, talks and exhibitions.

I am especially grateful that I was able to attend this event alongside fellow Keble students and course colleagues. A particular highlight of the conference was our attendance at several Indigenous and First Nation events, where we were able to actively engage with the importance of ‘decolonialism’ for addressing the climate crisis, a key theme of our master’s course.”



Global Day of Action for Climate Justice march, 6 November 2021.

Georgia Hammersley



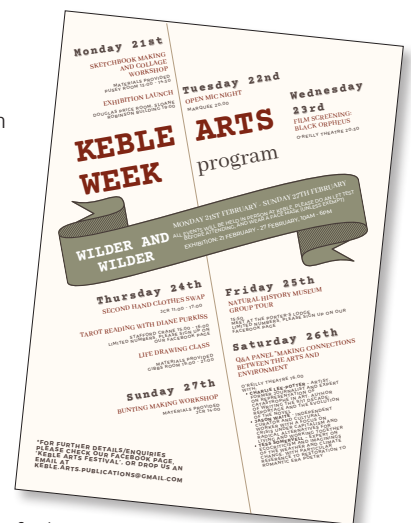
F1 Engineering Scholarship

Keble student Fabbih Kalam (Engineering 2021), pictured far left, was part of the first cohort of talented young engineers to receive a new scholarship supporting undergraduates from under-represented backgrounds into careers in the motorsports industry. The award, announced by Formula 1 as part of #WeRaceAs1 initiative, covers the full cost of tuition, together with a living stipend and opportunities to engage with both Formula 1 and the Formula 1 teams.

Arts Week

Keble Arts Week was a great success. Our week kicked off with the exhibition launch with a great bunch of artists and students coming together to celebrate each other’s work. Tuesday held another opportunity for a gathering of artists from across the University with our open mic night. The wildness continued with a showing of Black Orpheus in Keble’s own O’Reilly theatre.

We were then lucky enough to receive a fascinating talk on tarot by Professor Diane Purkiss, along with a live reading. Life drawing on Thursday evening again drew a crowd of talented artists from across the University. At the end of the week, we turned our attention to the role of art in responding to catastrophe with a live Q&A panel featuring a group of fascinating experts on the topic.



Keble Arts Festival Committee

Viva Competition

Congratulations to 6th year medic Alexander Hayes, who has won this year’s Sir Roger Bannister viva competition. The competition is held annually, thanks to a donation from Sir Roger during his lifetime wishing to reward excellence in the study of neuroscience by Oxford medics. It has continued to take place following his death in memory of his lifetime of work in the neurosciences.



A Tony and an EMBA

Keble EMBA student Adam Blanshay's *production* of *Moulin Rouge* opened in the West End in December, after snapping up ten Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Balancing my EMBA studies with work has been an efficaciously challenging positive, and the support of my classmates has been indispensable. It's been an honour to give voice to the Arts in my classroom, and I marvel at the diversity of my cohort, and how our individualism is championed and heralded. Saïd Business School excels at celebrating all facets of corporate life in the composition of their cohorts, all the while giving us the frameworks,

challenges, and encouragement to further diversify our environment and experiences at Oxford. The discipline and content of our studies has already had an immediate indispensable effect on the leadership and management of my team and our productions. Moreover, I'm thrilled that we've finally settled into our performance schedule post-Omicron (with no further delays and cancellations), and I can share the West End production of *Moulin Rouge* with my classmates and the greater Oxford communities.

Adam Blanshay
EMBA 2021

Challenging Data

Three Oxford postgraduates, including Keble student Natalia Hong (MSc 2019, DPhil), tested their mettle at the annual Huawei data science hackathon, winning the second prize of £5,000.

The 4-week hackathon, hosted virtually, gathers data science students across the United Kingdom seeking to take their skills to the next level, through rigorous data-related challenges.

All three team members are students at the Centre for Doctoral Training Health Data Science, the others being Jiazheng Zhu from Lady Margaret Hall and Munib Mesinovic from Jesus College.



Moot Success

Christopher McHugh (Jurisprudence 2020), pictured second from left, was part of this year's Oxford University team, which has won the 2022 UK National Championships of the prestigious Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, subsequently progressing to the final 16 at the International Rounds.

Jessup is the world's largest moot court competition, with participants from 700 institutions in 100 countries, and is a simulation of a fictional dispute between countries before the International Court of Justice.

Torpids 2022

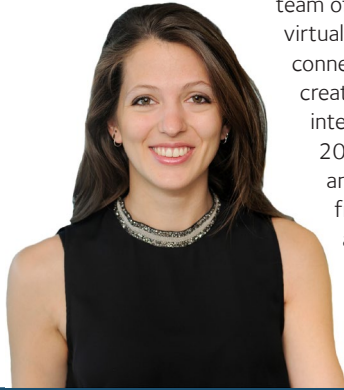
Torpids 2022 was the first 'normal' Torpids to be held since 2019. Keble entered four crews: two women's and two men's. However, the unpredictable weather made this event erratic. Heavy and continuous rain on the first day meant only senior coxes were allowed to cox races. While this was highly disappointing for the three Keble coxes that could not race, all four Keble crews could still race on the remaining days. The main highlights included the W2 bumping thrice within the first few hundred metres of the race, the W1 finally achieving the bump on Hertford (in front of Keble boathouse, no less!) after chasing them for all four days, and a member of M2 falling in the river because of an ejector crab, but only after they got the bump, of course!

Maryam Sajjad, Engineering 2018, KCBC President



Creative Counsel

Convinced by the power of art in the workplace, Oriane Cannac (Jurisprudence 2010) recently founded a virtual gallery, [Law & Art](http://www.lawand.art), that exhibits art made by lawyers from around the world, whether working in private practice or in-house. In addition to the permanent gallery, Law & Art spotlights one new lawyer-artist each month. By creating an international team of lawyers who are also artists, and exhibiting their work virtually, Oriane has enabled lawyers from around the globe to connect, rediscover their colleagues through a different angle, and create new cross-border ties with law professionals who share an interest in art. The launch of the Law & Art Gallery in September 2021 was welcomed with open arms by the legal community, and Oriane received works of art and messages of support from lawyers across all continents. If you are a lawyer and an artist, or know someone who is, and would be interested in displaying your art, you can get in touch with Oriane on the [virtual gallery](http://www.lawand.art), or simply by adding Oriane on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/oriane-cannac).



At right, some of Oriane's work, on www.lawand.art



New Year Honours

Congratulations to the following Keble alumni whose achievements have been recognised in the 2022 New Year Honours list.



William Blanchard (1985)

Director, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. CMG for services to British foreign policy and National Security.



James Hollow (1997)

Japan President, Fabric Inc and lately Chair of the Board of Trustees, The British School, Tokyo, Japan. MBE for services to Education and the wider community in Japan.



Gavin McGillivray (1977)

Development Assistance, British High Commission, New Delhi, India. OBE for services to International Development.



Julius Wolff-Ingham (1982)

Head of Marketing and Fundraising, The Salvation Army, UK and Republic of Ireland. OBE for services to Charitable Fundraising.



Father and Son

Award-winning playwright Barney Norris (2006) and his father, the internationally acclaimed pianist and broadcaster David Owen Norris (1972, Honorary Fellow), pool their creative talents in this genre-transcending intimate autobiographical work, which examines that age-old story of a boy and his dad, and how they can relate to one another, in every sense of the word. *The Wellspring* premiered in March at the Royal & Derngate, Northampton, and is [currently touring](https://www.royalnderngate.co.uk/production/the-wellspring).

A Portrait of Keble II Call for Nominations

In September 2019, we launched a [special exhibition in Hall](https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/keble-ii) to mark 40 years of co-education, an ambitious installation of photographic portraits celebrating the rich diversity of the College community. The 28 portrait subjects included alumni, undergraduate and graduate students, current and former staff and fellows, and represented different genders, ethnicities, disabilities, socioeconomic backgrounds and LGBTQ+ communities. All were nominated by their peers because they have made or are making a major, positive difference to Keble, Oxford and the world.

The exhibition has been a terrific success and so, three years on, we are embarking on a second round with the same objective of celebrating the rich diversity of the Keble community. If you would like to nominate someone to have their photographic portrait hung in Hall, please do so by [following the link here](https://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/keble-ii). (Deadline Friday 13 May 2022)

All the images will be taken by professional photographer Fran Monks during June and July. The exhibition will be launched in September 2022 for the new academic year.



Adrian Grayston (1972) and Theo Lewis (2020) with the Ghosts Trophy.

Ghosts Football Returns

On Saturday 9 October, the Ghosts once again set foot on the 'hallowed turf' at the Keble Ground, after a two year pause for Covid. This gap proved to be too big an obstacle for the Ghosts to surmount. The College won the 2nd XI game 5-4, and so a run of several consecutive wins for the Ghosts came to end. In the 1st Team game, the College were chasing Ghosts and the Ghosts were chasing shadows. Those shadows were fit, strong, purposeful, and deservedly won 5-0, a harsh lesson as a strong Ghosts Team was simply outclassed on the day. But the real winner was Tradition, as the College managed, despite Covid, to play the fixtures. A big thank you to those involved in planning for Covid safety and managing to make the returning Ghosts very welcome. We look forward with anticipation to playing the fixtures again in October 2022.

Adrian Grayston
PPE 1972
A Veteran Ghost

Counting Down

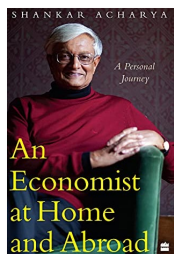
Anne-Marie Imafidon (Maths & CompSci 2006, Honorary Fellow) had a blast covering for Rachel Riley on Countdown over the last five months.

An experience I never expected to have, with all manner of surprises along the way. To be an Arithmetician, on the longest standing gameshow, daily on national television with a compulsory good grasp on my 75 times tables! 5 episodes a day, filmed 3 days in a row, sometimes finishing late at night, after dinner. It was a pleasure to be able to be me and represent so much more within such an institution. 60 episodes later, I think I'm ready for any new challenges and unexpected experiences. Thanks to you all for your well wishes and messages of support.

Anne-Marie Imafidon
Maths & CompSci 2006

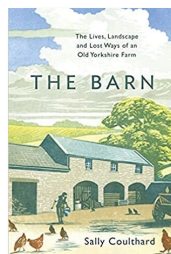


Alumni in Print



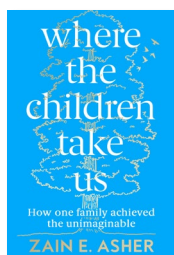
An Economist at Home and Abroad

Shankar Acharya (1964) is a world-renowned Indian economist, and currently honorary professor at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, Delhi. *An Economist at Home and Abroad* tells the story of his richly varied professional and personal life spanning continents.



The Barn

Best-selling writer **Sally Coulthard's** (1994) latest book *The Barn* is a socio-historic exploration of a small patch of Yorkshire countryside—hidden, insignificant, invisible to the rest of the world—which has experienced extraordinary changes, from the last of the enclosures to the boom days of Victorian high farming.



Where the Children Take Us

In *Where The Children Take Us*, CNN journalist **Zain Asher** (2001, Honorary Fellow) pays tribute to her mother in this stunning memoir. A story of strength and resilience, this is an exploration of a mother's journey and determination to raise her four children successfully in the shadow of not just personal tragedy, but also poverty, racism and crime.



The Five Phases of Leadership

The Five Phases of Leadership by **Justyn Terry** (1983) describes the five typical stages of leadership—establishing trust, cultivating leaders, discerning vision, implementing plans, and transitioning out—offering an overview of the leadership life cycle from a distinctively Christian perspective.

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

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

Sunday 24 April
Leavers' Tea

St Mark's Day Service
 The Chapel, 5.30pm

Monday 25 April
**The Choir perform
 Haydn's 'Nelson Mass'**
 Sheldonian Theatre, 7.30pm.
 Tickets available [here](#).



Wednesday 27 April
**The Warden in Conversation
 with Prof Louise Richardson**
 The Law Society, 113 Chancery
 Lane, London, from 6pm.
 All welcome.
[Book online.](#)



Saturday 30 April
Harris Society Dinner
 Hall from 6.30pm
 After dinner speaker
 Sir Geoffrey Nice QC (1964)
[Book online.](#)

Saturday 7 May
Degree Day for 2021 Finalists
 Details to Graduands were
 sent in March.

Friday 13 May
**Eric Symes Abbott
 Memorial Lecture**
 Securing a Europe of peace,
 freedom and justice by Lord Adonis
 The Chapel, 5.30pm
 All welcome, free of charge.

25–28 May
Summer Eights

Saturday 28 May
College Garden Party
 2nd year undergraduates
 and their families.

**Rowing Society AGM
 and Dinner**
 Dinner open to all.
 Book online.

Wednesday 1 June
The Poets Essay Seminar
 American poetry of the 20th
 century: Robert Creeley
 Pusey room, from 4.30pm
 All welcome, free of charge.

Friday 17 June
**Keble Association
 London Dinner**
 Lansdowne Club, London
 All welcome.
[Book online.](#)

Saturday 2 July
2022 Summer Dinner
 Special Invitations sent to those
 who attended during the Warden's
 tenure (Matriculation years
 2008 onward)

Presentation on Keble's Access and
 Outreach programme, Evensong
 (joined by alumni singing), drinks
 reception, and dinner in Hall.

Save the date.
 Invitations will be sent shortly.

**2022
 Reunion
 1995 – 2007**
 Saturday
 September 17

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



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