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PROFESSOR NEIL MERCER ON ORACY@CAMBRIDGE, A NEW STUDY CENTRE AT HUGHES HALL

SPEECH! SPEECH!
Dear World,
A woman’s place is wherever she likes.

Yours,
Elizabeth

Elizabeth Phillips Hughes (Newnham College 1881), first Principal of Hughes Hall and campaigner for women’s education cam.ac.uk/YoursCambridge

Founder features in new Cambridge campaign

Last weekend the University of Cambridge launched their new “Dear World… Yours, Cambridge” campaign, which aims to raise £2 billion to help Cambridge shape the future.

The campaign showcases the great Cambridge figures and the world-changing discoveries made by Cambridge researchers.

“Dear World,
You sent us Newton. We sent you gravity. You sent us Darwin. We sent you evolution. You sent us William and Samuel. We sent you Wordsworth and Coleridge. What will we send next? A postal test for depression? A swallowable test for cancer? A theory of everything? For eight centuries, our impact on the world has been huge. But to impact all our futures, we need your support: Yours, Cambridge” – www.cam.ac.uk/yourscambridge

We are delighted to see Elizabeth Phillips Hughes, the first Principal of Hughes Hall, featured in the pantheon of Cambridge greats.
Greetings from Hong Kong! One of the best aspects of being President of Hughes Hall is the opportunity to meet so many of our alumni from around the world – from 116 countries and counting. I am here with our Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Richard Berg Rust, to talk with some of our most generous donors and to join the annual Hong Kong alumni group dinner. It is a significant point in the Hughes calendar each year, a vibrant celebration of our strong links with this marvellous city.

This is all a far, far, cry from our humble beginnings as the Cambridge Training College for Women teachers. What would Elizabeth Phillips Hughes have made of the scale and breadth of the College that now bears her name? She would I hope have been delighted, if somewhat embarrassed, to see the poster on the opposite page that bears her name in the context of the largest ever fundraising campaign for the University “Dear World…, Yours Cambridge”. She would, as one of the great educators, have approved of the new Centre for Oracy (p12-13) founded by Professor Neil Mercer. One development she could not have imagined is the concept of global social media, which we are beginning to use to connect our alumni through the Hughes-Hub (p9), though it is known that she was a citizen of the world and a great internationalist. The scale of the College would be surprising to her, with 575 students this year and a range of developments to house more of them in College accommodation, the centrepiece of which is the Gresham Road development – though we might speculate that her boldness of vision would be consistent with the aim of expansion.

We continue to be inspired by our great founder and I think Miss Hughes would have enjoyed this magazine, reflecting the richness of her College 130 years after its foundation.

I hope you enjoy it too.

Dr Anthony Freeling
President
Hughesian Anne makes history as Birmingham’s first female Bishop

Anne Hollinghurst (MSt Comparative Religions, 2007) has been consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby as Suffragan Bishop of Aston, Birmingham’s first female Bishop. The consecration service was held at St Paul’s Cathedral on 29 September.

Anne has been Vicar of St Peter’s, a city-centre church in St Albans, since 2010, where she has led the church in a strategic vision for mission and ministry, having previously worked in Manchester and Nottingham. She has developed the church’s wider relationship with the city and enhanced its civic links, as well as developing relationships with other churches in St Albans. Anne has also served the Diocese of St Albans as a member of the Church of England General Synod.

Anne described her appointment as a ‘joyful surprise’ and went on, “I hope to contribute my experience and practice in mission in a whole variety of contexts, in walking alongside the many clergy and lay people of the diocese, who are doing all sorts of wonderful and exciting things—helping to focus together on God’s priorities and God’s call”. We are sure that our Founder Miss Hughes would have been very proud of Anne’s achievement.

Sik Yan Tse made Honorary Fellow of Hong Kong University

Sik Yan Tse (MPhil Education, 2007) has been made an Honorary Fellow of Hong Kong University, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Hong Kong education and academia.

His citation for the Fellowship, delivered by Professor Stephen Andrews, Dean of Education at HKU, noted Sik Yan’s life-long commitment to teaching, curriculum development and public examinations. Tribute was also paid to Sik Yan’s philanthropic work at Hong Kong University.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and a Chartered Biologist (London), he is the current Chairman of the Hong Kong Sino-British Fellowship Trust Scholars’ Association and Honorary Secretary of the Hong Kong Sino-British Fellowship Trust Scholars’ Foundation. He is the Founding Chairman of the Hong Kong Society of Biology and of the Hong Kong Outstanding Teachers Association, Chief Examiner of the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Biology Examination and Chief Examiner of the London GCE Advanced Level Practical Biology Examination.

Our congratulations to Sik Yan, who founded the Tse Family-HKU/Hughes Hall Scholarship in 2013. He is pictured with Dao Zi Huang (MPhil History), the 2015/16 Tse Family Scholar.
A new Bursar for Hughes

The College is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Bursar at Hughes Hall, Mrs Victoria Espley. Victoria will join us from Westcott House in Cambridge, where she has been Bursar since 2010, having previously held senior positions in a series of large commercial organisations including GE Capital and Swiss Re. Victoria will take over from our current Bursar, Neil Taylor, who is retiring after over 13 years of distinguished service at the College, though we are pleased to say he will remain with us until September 2016 to oversee completion of the Gresham Road Development.


Gabrielle returns to meet first Sacconaghi Bacon Scholar

Alumna and scholarship donor Gabrielle Sacconaghi Bacon (MPhil International Relations, 1989) returned to Hughes in October for the first time in many a year to meet this year’s Gabrielle Sacconaghi Bacon Scholar, Yuan Yi Zhu.

Gabrielle was pleased to see a door plaque has been installed – marking a student room in the Wileman building as the official Gabrielle Sacconaghi Bacon Scholar room. After meeting Yuan, Gabrielle met the President and Development Director and a number of Hughes Fellows.

The Scholarship award is open to two groups: final year students at McGill who are currently undertaking a course including either a Major or Minor in International Relations or related subjects such as Political Science; and alumni of the Page Programme (House of Commons or Senate) in Canada. We are delighted that a Page Programme graduate, Joelle Nadeau has also joined Hughes for the MPhil. Said Gabrielle: “How unexpectedly emotional for me to meet Yuan after learning so much about him on paper: not only was it insightful for me to hear from him firsthand a little more about his life and his journey (while witnessing his first taste of English tea and scones!), but then to extrapolate, in my mind, where he might be going in intellect, heart and spirit, after a year in Cambridge. Yuan merited the scholarship, but the even greater joy may have been mine.”

This year’s scheme is now open for applications – find out if you are eligible for a fully funded MPhil in International Relations 2016/17 on www.hughes.cam.ac.uk/gsb.
In October, we were delighted to welcome to the College the Great Nephew and Niece of our founder Elizabeth Phillips Hughes. The visit came in the same month that our founder took her rightful place in the pantheon of Cambridge University greats who feature in the new Development Campaign (see page 2).

David Price-Hughes and his sister Diana O’Flynn, who, at the age of three, was the last member of the family to meet with Miss Hughes, were joined by David’s wife Christine Vinnicombe for a tour of Hughes, and then presented our Development Director, Richard Berg Rust, with several wonderful Japanese prints from Elizabeth Hughes’ collection.

The welcomed guests enjoyed a tour of the College, which has seen many changes since the last visit of David and Diana some years ago, and were briefed on future plans.

We are very proud of our founder, and it was inspiring to renew links with the descendants and to have a sense of their enthusiasm for new developments at the College, including the Gresham Road building, now rising quickly on the other side of Fenner’s.

A long way from our modest beginnings at Newnham Croft in 1885, and a tribute to the power of Miss Hughes’ remarkable and pioneering vision.

Elizabeth Phillips Hughes was born in 1851 in Carmarthen, daughter of John Hughes, surgeon, and Anne Hughes (née Phillips). Her paternal grandfather Hugh Hughes was a famous preacher; on her mother’s side her descent was partly Jewish. After her schooling at Hope House, Taunton, and Cheltenham Ladies’ College, she taught for four years at Cheltenham before going up to Newnham College, Cambridge, in 1881. There she studied Moral Sciences and was placed in class one of that Tripos in 1884 and in class two of the historical Tripos in 1885. In the same year she was appointed the first Principal of the Cambridge Training College for Women Teachers, later to be named in her honour as Hughes Hall. This was a new venture, and its great success was attributable in the main to her pioneering efforts.

Leaving Cambridge in 1899, Miss Hughes, a great internationalist, undertook lecture tours in Europe and America for a number of years, and spent time in Tokyo as a Visiting Professor of Tokyo Women’s University. Proudly Welsh, she took up the cause of higher education of women in her native country, and was an active member of the Association for Promoting the Education of Girls in Wales. “I felt that the quickest, most effective way of improving education was to induce teachers to be trained, and to try and improve training.” She was the only woman on the committee that drafted the original charter of the University of Wales and, in 1920, the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on her. She died on 19 December 1925.
A new chapter awaits

After 26 years, much-loved Receptionist and Conference Officer Barbara Algar retires

On 30 January 1989 Barbara Algar walked down Wollaston Road for an interview at Hughes Hall – her first interview in 10 years.

As she walked in, she saw friendly faces and fondly remembers the lovely buildings, homely feel and ‘family-like’ atmosphere that the college radiated.

Barbara joined Hughes as a Bursary Clerk, with fewer than 200 students to look after. 26 years and 6 Heads of House later, Barbara is still going strong as she heads for retirement. During her time, she has seen many buildings rise from the rubble: the Centenary Building; Chancellor’s Court; Fenner’s Building; and now the Gresham Road building, which we hope she will come back to see when it is completed next year.

Among many fond memories Barbara described was one of her early years, when a departing student cried upon leaving, having been reminded that he also cried upon arriving when his family left. “We created such a home here that he was just as upset to leave his College family behind.”

Where to now for Barbara? Enjoying time with her family and travelling are the big things on her agenda. She is excited for what lies ahead, however sad to leave Hughes after so many years.

After such a significant contribution, everyone at Hughes Hall and our alumni throughout the world will be sorry to see her go, and will miss her greatly. We wish her the very best in her retirement and the next chapter in her life.

Neil Taylor, the outgoing Bursar, paid tribute to Barbara. “Barbara will be sadly missed. 26 years is a long time and I know that many alumni and students, as well as fellow staff members, are very thankful for her contribution to College life.”

Gresham Road, stormy Autumn evening

A dramatic picture of the Gresham Road building, where construction is going well. The project is now two weeks ahead of schedule, even after an autumn storm or two. The building will be watertight by Christmas, and 85 student rooms and a resident students’ study space will be completed for the September 2016 intake.
Hughes Fellow Dr Sara Melville on making a difference in West Africa

That Africa is full of bright young scientists who want make a difference on their own continent is indisputable, and the 21st century is bringing new opportunities to do that. Widespread access to the internet has reduced isolation and given rapid exposure to ideas and scientists across the globe; and funders increasingly focus on both helping PhD-holders return to their countries and improving PhD training opportunities in African institutions.

Young scientists need to travel and interact with the international community, but in the end the continent needs home-grown scientists seeking solutions to Africa’s problems.

The Institute of Infectious Diseases of Poverty/Institut de Recherche sur les Maladies de la Pauvreté (IIDP) was born of a group of individuals committed to exploring a capacity-building model that would retain home-grown talent and promote an inter-disciplinary approach to diseases that disproportionately affect poor populations. The group brings together public health, social and molecular scientists, parasitologists, epidemiologists, pharmacologists and others, working in stronger and weaker institutions in West Africa, each with links to policymakers and implementers in the region.

As its first scholars near completion, IIDP assembled “Mentors, Scholars and Stakeholders” in Abuja, Nigeria in summer 2015. In his opening address the representative of the Vice Chancellor of Modibbo Adama University of Technology – seat of the IIDP Director and Secretariat in Yola, Nigeria – gave one example of the many hurdles faced by the group when he explained why “we must bring Yola to Abuja”. Yola lies in the North-East. “It takes someone like our VC, Prof Kyari, to refuse to close, even as [Insurgents] were less than 200 km away, even as aircraft crashed around us, to remain with everybody on campus and keep classes open”. Infectious diseases associated with poverty often follow on the heels of civil unrest and population displacement, and IIDP has been able to furnish a facility in Yola for work on IDPs.

This passion and determination for higher education is obvious when working with the students, says founding member and Fellow of Hughes Hall, Sara Melville, who developed and delivered the course on professional skills and career development for young scientists. “They unite across nations, languages and religions, and as a close-knit group they are inspiring,” she says. “As with all students, I urge them to keep their standards high and to identify their goals clearly, then they will compete on the world stage”. The same enthusiasm and engagement were evident in the Higher Degree Supervisors’ Course, also delivered for the second time by colleagues from Monash University (Kuala Lumpur), leading to calls for its institutionalisation across the region. With the graduation of IIDP scholars seeking jobs in West Africa, IIDP aims to sow the seeds of a train-the-trainer network for both supervisors and students.

Sara Melville has conducted research on African sleeping sickness and worked with TDR, a Special Programme for Research and Training in Diseases of Poverty within the World Health Organisation. The founding members and ideas of IIDP arose from collaborations within WHO/TDR. IIDP was funded by the Wellcome Trust 2009-2015 and presently works in Nigeria, Mali, Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire.
Hughes-Hub
Linking the Hughes global network

With the College now greater than medium size in Cambridge terms at 600 students, our alumni network is growing accordingly. Its global reach is expanding too – we now have 7000 contactable alumni in 116 countries throughout the world, working across almost every discipline imaginable, in a huge range of roles.

To harness the power of the global Hughes community we have set up Hughes-Hub an internet-based network which includes an interactive map to reveal the extent of our global reach. Hughes-Hub allows Hughes Alums to connect with others socially, and to share career experience and advice with other Hughesians if they wish.

You can benefit from our global network not only online but also from joining one of our alumni groups. Our new interactive map and directory illustrates where our alums are located across the globe. We have alumni events in Europe, the US and Asia, so if you feel your local area is not represented, why not become an alumni representative in your country and set up a new alumni group?

To find out how you can get the most out of your global network, visit the Hughes-Hub page online to see what’s new and how to get involved, or contact the Development Office at development@hughes.cam.ac.uk. For over 5500 out of 7000 contactable alumni we have up-to-date email details – if you are one of the 1500 for whom we have postal addresses but no email contact, do please get in touch with your email address. All alumni will receive a password for Hughes-Hub.

All alumni will receive individual passwords for Hughes-Hub in January 2016 – look out for the email marked Hughes-Hub log-in!

Apollo appointed Deputy Prime Minister of Buganda

Apollo Makubuya (LLM, 1991) has been appointed Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Buganda, the largest of the subnational kingdoms within Uganda, comprising all of the country’s central region including the capital Kampala. A graduate of Makerere University Uganda, he is a lawyer by profession, and is also Attorney General of Buganda.

Apollo commented. ‘I was very honoured to be appointed as a Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Buganda. As you know the Kingdom is a revered institution within Uganda and beyond. I have been privileged to serve in various positions for over two decades. My current role as a Deputy in charge of Justice and Constitutional matters gives me a great responsibility to the King and the People of Buganda to ensure that their concerns in this regard are addressed.”

Hughes in Happy Valley

Our Hong Kong alumni turned out in force as usual for the annual dinner, this year held in the splendid surroundings of the Hong Kong Football Club in Happy Valley, with Dr Edwin Leong as guest of honour.

The event is such a regular fixture in the Hong Kong calendar that one alumnus speculated that it might soon feature alongside Chinese New Year, Thanksgiving and Christmas as an official public holiday. Hughes Day – now that is a good idea. Our thanks to Winston Chiu and Frank Lee for organising the memorable event.
Dr Helene Gautier, PDRA

Co-author of Neuronal activity regulates remyelination via glutamate signalling to oligodendrocyte progenitors (Nature Communications, October 2015).

The study may have significant implications for the development of future medicines for disorders that affect the myelin sheath, the insulation that protects and insulates our nerve cells. For our brain and central nervous system to work, electrical signals must travel quickly along nerve fibres. This is achieved by insulating the nerve fibres with a fatty substance called myelin. In diseases such as MS, the myelin sheath around nerve fibres is lost or damaged, causing physical and mental disability.

Principal Investigator Dr Thora Karadottir commented “This is the first time that we’ve been able to show that damaged nerve fibres communicate with stem cells using synaptic connections – the same connections they use to ‘talk to’ other nerve cells.”

www.nature.com/ncomms/2015/151006/ncomms9518/fig_tab/ncomms9518_F4.html

Bill Nuttall, Fellow

Appointed Honorary Editor, Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Energy

www.icevirtuallibrary.com/toc/jener/current

Dr Qi Guo, PDRA

Dr Guo’s paper on large scale breast cancer prognosis was recently published in JNCI (Journal of National Cancer Institute). This is currently the largest study investigating genetic variation associated with breast cancer survival.

www.nature.com/ncomms/2015/151006/ncomms9518/fig_tab/ncomms9518_F4.html

Dr Suzanne Turner, Fellow


Dr. M. Hadley-Brown, CGCM Tutor

Presented at the WONCA, the International Global Forum for Family Medicine Conference, Istanbul in October around the topic of Perspectives of clinicians and people with Type 2 diabetes on Diabetes management: results from the EXPLORE International Survey. A paper highlighting differences in perception between patients and clinicians regarding target biometrics and achieved changes for patients with Type 2 Diabetes.

Also co-investigator on the Norfolk Diabetes Prevention Study, which will be one of the largest studies ever undertaken on preventative lifestyle interventions.

Professor Nabeel Affara, Fellow and Dr Carole Sargent, Fellow


Dr Andrew Gould, Fellow

Appointed to the governing Council of University College London.

Dr Alastair Lockhart, Fellow

Delivered a paper on Qualitative and Quantitative Aspects of Popular Religiosity During World War Two to the annual conference of the
Dr Charles Moseley, Life Fellow


In November, Charles published *Latitude North*, part travelogue, part history, featuring his adventures and experiences in the far north, from the lost Viking settlements of Greenland to encounters with polar bears.

Dr Daksha Trivedi, Senior Member

Appointed to the Regional Advisory Committee of the National Institute for Health Research in September 2015.

Dr Paul Siklos honoured at West Suffolk Hospital

This spring, the Siklos Centre for Clinical Skills and Simulation was officially opened at West Suffolk Hospital – named in honour of Dr Paul Siklos, Hughes Fellow and the first Director of the Cambridge Graduate Course in Medicine (CGCM), who has made such a significant contribution to the study of medicine at Cambridge University.

As the CGCM – a four-year course for 20 students, shared between Hughes Hall, Lucy Cavendish and Wolfson – has developed since its inception in 2001, greater emphasis has been placed on clinical skills. The new purpose-built centre provides a setting where specialist tutors are able to work with realistic artificial ‘body parts’ to teach and assess these skills.

The centre has space for an interactive mannequin, viewing room, fully equipped procedures room and rooms for practising and recording communication skills, to be used not only by medical students but also postgraduate doctors and other healthcare professionals.

"The teaching, practising and assessment of clinical skills away from the patient are of obvious importance, but should not be considered in isolation. The firm intention is to translate the acquisition of these skills into effective and safe patient care," said Dr Siklos.
Instead, we have evolved with a brain designed to enable us to learn the skills we need, partly through direct experience but mainly through the example and guidance of older members of our communities. And so although we are specially designed to learn the language(s) we hear around us, we depend crucially on the people we hear speaking to provide the kinds of experience that will enable us to become fluent, effective communicators.

Schools and other educational and training institutions have been set up to provide the kinds of learning experiences that will enable young people to acquire the knowledge and skills they need. It is surprising, then, that so little attention is given in mainstream education to helping young people to become effective speakers and listeners. In the UK, for example, educational policy has typically highlighted the so-called ‘basics’ of literacy and numeracy and given little attention to the development of oracy (spoken language) skills in the classroom. The former Secretary of State for Education Michael Gove made his views clear when in 2013 he said, "Children naturally learn to talk; they do not naturally learn to read, or to play the violin, or to carry out long division." Yet business leaders and managers commonly say that although they want to find employees with good oral communication skills, suitable recruits are hard to find. However, it seems that such skills are well developed amongst those educated at the English ‘public schools’ attended by so many of today’s students.

Spoken language is a unique and important human attribute. It enables us to co-operate, to persuade, to teach and to learn from others. We are the only species with a communication system that deserves the name ‘language’; and of course we are the only species that can name such abstract entities at all. We also differ from other animals in that we are not born with many skills ‘hard-wired’ into our brains as instincts.

ORACY@CAMBRIDGE
Professor Neil Mercer on Oracy@Cambridge, a new study centre at Hughes Hall

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“Schools and other educational and training institutions have been set up to provide the kinds of learning experiences that will enable young people to acquire the knowledge and skills they need. It is surprising, then, that so little attention is given in mainstream education to helping young people to become effective speakers and listeners."
politicians, lawyers, actors and other people of influence, which are not bound by the National Curriculum (and so can give some priority to developing children’s ability to use talk to get things done). From my own research, I know that state school students coming to Cambridge are often taken aback by the confidence and fluency with which their public school contemporaries engage in discussions and make public presentations.

In the UK today we are facing a stark and important issue of social equality. Should the development of skills in oracy remain only the prerogative of those whose parents can afford to buy them expensive private education – or should all British children, young people and adults be empowered by being taught how to use the English language in ways that will help them gain the employment they seek, to work effectively and creatively with other people and confidently to communicate their views and assert their rights in a democratic society?

Research in schools by myself and colleagues has identified some very powerful methods for teaching oracy. These are already used by some innovative classroom teachers (including many who have trained as teachers at Cambridge), but they are not widespread. Information about that research can be found on our website: thinkingtogether.educ.cam.uk. There are also training schemes in industry, the media and the dramatic arts which focus on the development of effective spoken language use. But currently there is little contact between people working in these different sectors, although we could almost certainly learn a lot from each other. Through the establishment of the new Hughes Hall study centre Oracy@Cambridge, my colleagues and I aim to bring together, for the first time, people with this shared interest; other Hughesians involved in the centre are Dr Ayesha Ahmed (Senior Member and Research Associate in the Faculty of Education) and James Mannion (PhD student and a teacher in Brighton). We also hope to enlist wider support for promoting the importance of teaching oracy, with the goal of enabling all young people in Britain to gain the spoken language skills they need to pursue individual opportunities and work effectively together. The centre’s first public event will be a conference to be held at Hughes Hall on 28 February 2016 (details of which will become available soon).

We very much hope we will have the support of Hughes alumni in this new venture, and I would be glad to hear from anyone who feels they can contribute to the centre’s activities in any way.

Professor Neil Mercer
Director, Oracy@Cambridge
nmm31@cam.ac.uk
Only 55 left! 30 Hughesians have generously named rooms in the new building, including our Hong Kong alumni group and a number of individual alumni, fellows and friends. Rooms can be named for £5000 or for £83.33 (inc Gift Aid) per month if you pay monthly over four years. Not only does this raise funds for the building, it also forms an expression of Hughes Hall’s culture and builds a number of narrative threads about relationships with the college.

Our new Gresham Road building is rising quickly – ahead of schedule indeed – with the completion date of September 2016 not far away. Alumnus Kevin Walsh (PGCE, 1991) recently shared his thoughts with us on the reasons why he decided to name a room. He wrote, “When I did my PGCE at Cambridge all those years ago, I had no idea that it would mark the start of a life-long relationship with Hughes. I am a schoolteacher in London these days and I have no doubt that my hugely enjoyable time at Hughes was responsible for setting my career in a favourable direction.”

Kevin is now back in Cambridge taking research degree at the Faculty of Education. “I think the new building is a major step, and you can already sense the difference it will make. Naming a room on a monthly basis fits in really well with my financial situation and so it has been very straightforward.”

Other alumni wishing to name a room in Gresham Road are offered the option to pay monthly, or even find a group to name a room together.

All room naming donors will be listed individually in the Easter Term magazine.

I name this room…….
30 Gresham Road rooms now snapped up
Hughes in '75: a heady, hippy hedonistic year....

Jane Murphy, née Jane Donnithorne, MCR President 1975-1976, holds legendary status among Hughesians as the founder of the College Bar. Here she reflects upon her happy year at Hughes Hall.

In '75 it did not take long to realise that our College, which was not then fully part of the University, was impoverished, balancing the books by hosting conferences for industrial companies such as British Steel.

At the start of term, a terrible realisation came upon us – a quick tour of the place revealed that there was no bar! Joe Nutman and I were responsible for rectifying this sorry state by contacting Greene King and having a couple of barrels of Abbot and St Edmund Ale set up. The President was then Sir Desmond Lee, so the beer was affectionately called 'Sir Desmond Ale'. The bar then went from strength to strength, but we were the 'chaps' who made it happen first!

The initial 'event', held to kindle interest in our bar from the other colleges so we could earn more revenue, was crudely but effectively organised. A number of females rang round common rooms and let it be known that we had great ale and a college with a female / male ratio of 8:1. The stampede from other male-dominated colleges that ensued immediately, wore a path across Parkers' Piece, which many, subsequently, have followed. ....

The chief caretaker and his wife, Mr and Mrs Jacobs, were, at first acquaintance, a ferocious and intimidating couple. You didn’t mess with them. Mrs Jacobs wore a crossover apron, Ealing Comedy style, and a turban over her tightly-permed hair. However their bark was worse than their bite, and you could engage them in conversation for hours about their memories of the high jinx and comic carryings on at the college.

Mr Jacobs defended the place, and especially the roadway outside, with a ferocity that was a sight to behold. Unauthorised people all went under the name of 'Interlopers'. He would lie in wait in his semi basement flat in Annexe 1 and charge out like a demon, flourishing his broom, the second an 'interloper’ drove a bike or car onto the hallowed ground.

Quirky; unusual; bizarre, this was Hughes in the heady, hippy, hedonistic year of 1975, but it also offered academic and professional tuition that was second to none. I loved every second I spent there and now, a whole teaching career, three marriages and a daughter later, I revisit whenever I am lucky and honoured enough to be invited back...

Jane reminiscing in the bar last month.

Jane as Lady Penelope Wintrop Smetherington Hughes, with Fenners the Butler.
Our University rugby players are hoping for better things this year. Fraser Gillies is back for another year and will hopefully wear the number 10 shirt at Twickenham. Ian Nagle, an MBA student at Hughes, has played for Munster so should be a worthy successor to Dan Vickerman (BA Land Economy, 2008-11) in the lock forward berth. CURUFC’s main chance is that Jamie Roberts, capped 77 times for Wales and a British Lion, is at Queens’ reading for a part-time MPhil in Medical Science, having played in four of Wales’ games in the World Cup, and will be the first current international to play for the Blues since Dan.

The rowers too are hoping for better things. Henry Hoffstot (HH BA 2013-16) is now President of CUBC, will hopefully be a worthy successor to Deaglan McEachern (HH BA 2008-10) and Dave Nelson (HH, 2010-12) the last Presidents to win on the tideway. Accompanied by Ben Ruble. Vice-President (HH 2014-16) and Luke Tredell (HH 2015-18) CUBC lost by only 1.5 seconds to the US national four at the Head of the Charles regatta at the end of October. Rosemary Ostfeld (HH 2013-17) hopes to cox CUWBC in their second race against Oxford on the tideway – hopefully she too will go one better than last year.

All this means that HHBC can look forward putting some powerful crews into the bumps, especially in the Mays. To provide inspiration, Hughes world champion Tom Ransley (BA History and Management Studies, 2009) has been installed as Honorary Vice-President of HHBC, an event marked by the generous donation of a set of new top-class blades by Fellow William Charnley. Two of these were christened at a ceremony on 2 November, attended by William and Boat Club members. Our grateful thanks to William for his kind support and to Tom for taking time out of his intensive Rio Olympics training schedule to attend the event.

Moving to dry land, medical student Clark Glasgow took some time from his studies to compete in his first and last ‘Horse of the Year’ Show in Birmingham – and produced a stunning win. Competing amongst veterans of the show and Olympians, Clark could not have ended on a higher note before he continues his medical studies, winning the Thistledown Stakes, which tests the competitors’ International Show Jumping against the clock.
Dr Stephen Cave on the quest for immortality

In September, more than 120 people attended the Alumni Weekend lecture at Hughes, Four Ways to Live Forever by Hughes alumnus Dr Stephen Cave (MPhil Philosophy, 1996), making it the best attended lecture of the wider University of Cambridge Alumni Festival.

Stephen’s book Immortality and How it Drives Civilisation was described by the Financial Times as ‘an epic inquiry into the human desire to defy death – and how to overcome it’. The New Scientist named it as one of its books of the year. Here Stephen explains the genesis of the book, and the story begins at Hughes Hall ...

My research on the possibility of immortality started while I was at Hughes studying for my PhD in philosophy. I was concerned with the question of what kind of thing humans are — partly because the answer to that determines the answer to the question of what humans can survive. If, for example, you are essentially a soul, then you can survive different things than if you are essentially an organism, say, or a set of data, or something else.

This is of course an ancient concern: philosophers and theologians have long asked whether we could survive the death of our bodies, or rotting in the ground and being physically resurrected on the Day of Judgement. Though I was addressing some more high-tech conundrums too, such as whether we could survive a brain transplant, or being frozen and defrosted, or being up-loaded onto a computer.

After my PhD, I left Cambridge to join the Foreign Office and see the world. But I was also moonlighting as a critic for the Financial Times — and that is when I came across the transhumanists, a group who believed that they could use technology to live forever. While writing an article about their techno-utopian fantasies, I saw that there was room for a book in which I used my research in philosophy to categorise and assess the different ways in which we try to dodge the Reaper.

In 2012 that book — Immortality — came out. In it, I explore the ways in which our powerful drive to defy death has shaped our culture, and I categorise the world’s many immortality stories and strategies into four basic forms. What they are and whether any have a prospect of success you can find out in the book!

Since it came out, Immortality has been translated into languages from German to Korean and has taken me around the world. Although I am now mostly working on other topics, like free will and the future of ethics, I always enjoy the chance to discuss our eternal longings. Few questions could be more important than whether we are here for a few decades, or a few millennia, or even forever. So it has always surprised me how rarely this is talked about — but also how enthusiastically people do so when given the chance.

And so it was at Hughes Hall on 26 September, when I had the honour of giving the College’s 2015 Alumni Lecture. The Pavilion Room was packed — including, I was pleased to see, with some familiar faces. I received both a very warm welcome and, as you would expect from Hughesians, plenty of penetrating questions. It was both a great pleasure and, I think, very fitting to take this project back to the place where it all started nearly twenty years ago.

12 October 2015

Stephen Cave
Alumni News

2015

Mike Nellis  
(PhD Criminology, 1985)  
Emeritus Professor of Criminal and Community Justice in the Centre for Law, Crime & Justice at the Law School, University of Strathclyde (having formally retired in December 2010).

David Stevenson  
(PhD Genetics, 1990)  
Published third book in May 2015 The Complex Life of Star Clusters, which tells of some of the enduring mysteries of the universe’s most glamorous associations.

Lorraine Noble  
(MPhil Psychopathology, 1993)  

Stratis Georgilas  
(LLM Law, 1993)  

Mark Partridge  
(BA English, 2002)  
Setting up film production company Imaginarium Limited.

Alongkot Maiduang  
(MPhil Education, 2005)  
Working as an academic officer at the The Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology (IPST), in Thailand. Completed PhD and won Fellowship grant for post-doctoral research in Lyon.

Miguel Angel Guillen Torres  
(MPhil Micro & Nanotechnology, 2005)  
Completed PhD at UBC Vancouver, Canada. Now working in Cambridge Massachusetts, at Analog Devices Inc. as a MEMS Evaluation Engineer.

Wyste Vellema  
(Diploma Economics, 2008)  
Will publicly defend PhD thesis at Ghent University, titled Strange bedfellows? Big business meets small farmer.

Revisited? to be published by Hart in December 2015.

David Van Reybrouck  
(MPhil Archaeology & Anthropology, 1993)  
Awarded Honorary Doctorate from the Université Saint Louis in Brussels, in recognition of his work as a democracy activist.

Duckhee Lee  
(PhD Chemistry, 1994)  
Appointed Deputy Director of the Research & Development Center, Hannong Chemicals, South Korea.

Arjun Jain  
(PhD Development Biology, 2008)  
Won first prize at the Biotech Start-up weekend organised by the Judge Business School in association with AstraZeneca, UK in March 2015.

Diana Lee  
(MPhil Education, 2009)  
Awarded PhD by University of Hong Kong (HKU) in October 2015 and was also one of the research team members who received the annual Best of UNICEF Research (BOUR).

Rebecca Lippman  
(MPhil Latin-American Studies, 2009)  
Selected to carry out a Fulbright research project in Brazil during 2016. Currently pursuing a PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Rakesh Kumar  
(MPhil Micro and Nanotechnology, 2009)  
Won President’s Doctoral Research Award (PDS) for his PhD degree course in the School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, University of Manchester, UK.

Daniel Yu  
(MPhil Planning, Growth & Regeneration, 2009)  
Set up the “Marigold Foundation” in Taiwan in 2015, a charity assisting children under 18 to receive education without discrimination.

Alison Pak  
(MPhil Social & Developmental Psychology, 2010)  
Recently qualified as a Clinical Psychologist from University College London.

Aylin Salzmann  
(MPhil European Literature, 2011)  
Now working as a fiction editor at Ullstein Buchverlage in Berlin.

Roshan Shrestha  
(PhD Genetics, 2011)  
Now Visiting Fellow at the National Cancer Institute/ National Institutes of Health. Co-authored two papers from Dept of Genetics, Cambridge University:  
www.cell.com/biophysj/abstract/S0006-3495(15)00825-5  
www.plosone.org/article/Authors/info/doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0139446

Mariam Malik  
(MPhil Engineering for Sustainable Development, 2012)  
Author of Disaster Management in Pakistan in Municipal Engineer, Journal of the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), focusing on earthquake preparedness in Karachi. Mariam is now working on a DFID funded school reconstruction programme.

Kevin Heffernan  
(MPhil Advanced Computer Science, 2014)  
Won a full scholarship to continue onto a PhD programme at Jesus College.

Aidan Forde  
(LLM, 2015)  
His LLM thesis entitled Implications of the Right to be Forgotten supervised by Dr. Kirsty Hughes of Clare College, has been chosen for forthcoming publication this December in Volume 18 of Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property.
New York

US alumni enjoy cocktails in the 5th Ave offices of Baker & McKenzie LLP before having dinner with the President at the Princeton Club. The Pope and UN General Assembly had inadvertently organised visits on the same day as the Hughes alumni event, leading to major traffic congestion downtown. Our thanks as always to Widge Devaney (LLM, 1994) for generously hosting the event.

Shanghai Investment Conference

Hughesians at Cambridge University International Real Estate Finance and Investment Conference held on 16th September 2015 in Shanghai.

The attendees of the photo from left to right are Austin Liqiang Xu, Reyler Lau Pui Wing, Frank Lee (Senior Member) Fang Zhi Yao (current student) and Richard JT Fu.

Hughes Weddings....

Congratulations to two Hughes Alumni, John Elmer, (PhD, 2002) and Jasmine Rendell, (PGCE, 2005) married on the South Devon coast in December 2014.

Congratulations to Stephen Hall (2011) and Elizabeth Chung-Hall (Purdue University, Indiana) who were married on 7 August 2015.
Changing City: life in Tokyo between two Olympics

Doreen Simmons (PGCE, 1954) has lived in Tokyo for almost fifty years, recently retiring from her post in the Foreign Press Center after nearly thirty six years. Still working as an editor in the Foreign Affairs Department of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors of Japan’s Parliament, she is a well known figure in Japan for her live English sumo commentaries on NHK Television. Her musical life is also rich – whether playing the bhodran at Celtic sessions in Tokyo pubs or, contrastingly, singing in the Tokyo Embassy Choir. Here she reflects on Tokyo between two Olympic Games.

I first visited Tokyo soon after the 1964 Olympics to see the magnificent new infrastructure developments which had taken place. The network of expressways all over the metropolis was awe-inspiring; they were literally “high” ways, since Tokyo is a crowded city and space on the ground is at a premium. So the expressways were mostly held up by great concrete pillars, many over rivers to economise even further on space; and, at junctions, one road soared over another in spectacular curves. Gentle curves featured in the great stadium in Yoyogi Park, too. The major architect Tange Kenzo designed it and it was breathtakingly new. The very first Shinkansen, the so-called “Bullet Train,” was built to link Tokyo and Osaka for the Olympics. Now the Shinkansen lines cover pretty well the whole of this country.

Right, that was 1964. Two years ago, in 2013, Tokyo got the go-ahead for 2020. But what a different world we live in!

Over the years, we have seen that original cost estimates for a raft of sporting events were optimistic at best and often grossly unrealistic; and the time for white elephants is long over. I was keeping a friendly eye on the London Games in 2012, and the ballooning costs made the prospects less alluring. Tange’s lovely stadium has aged and faded and already the ambitious replacement designed by Zaha Hadid of London has been abandoned as being too costly. The expressways, also showing signs of age, are getting a much-needed facelift. By upgrading the old and being careful about building the new, we may have a worthy Games in five years’ time. I wish they could upgrade old ladies in the same way...

Hughes alumnus John Deming on Nevada’s amazing Burning Man event

This year, alumnus John Deming (MPhil, 1986) was a free alumni guide to any Cambridge alumni “brave, curious or dumb enough” to attend the Burning Man.

This annual tradition sees a temporary city of approximately 70,000 people create an oasis of art and unique culture on the arid ‘Playa’ of the Black Rock Desert of northern Nevada. The playa is alive for several weeks as the community comes together to rebuild it with impossible art installations and displays, before completely vapourising without a trace when the event is over.

The city has few forms of commerce, virtually nothing can be bought, everyone must pack in and pack out what they need to survive. For this reason, Reno, which is about 120 miles south of the event, is known as the ‘base camp’ for all essential resources – and John Deming, generously acts as the resource for Cambridge alumni travellers.

We are thrilled to hear that alumni like John continue to be a friendly, familiar face to alums all over the world – even in the desert you can find a Hughesian.
Scholarships, Bursary Awards and Prizes 2015

Congratulations to all and grateful thanks to all our donors

Cambridge International Scholarship
Alex Coburn, PhD (intermitting 2015-16)
Lauren McKenzie-Sell, MRes

Newton Trust for Masters
Bethany Gregory, MPhil
Thomas Lister, MPhil

Hughes Hall Scholarships
Steven Campbell, PhD
Timo Köhler, PhD
Luiz Pereira, PhD

Hughes Hall Bursaries
Rosemary Ostfield, PhD
Min Kyung Lee, PhD (Elizabeth Cherry Bursary)
Alex Justin, PhD
Jennifer Bitting, PhD
Chunming Lam, PhD (HK Alumni Bursary)
Philip Luther Davies, PhD
David (Tim) Archer, PhD

Gabrielle Sacconaghi Bacon Scholarship in International Relations
Yuan Yi Zhu, MPhil (International Relations)

Doris Zimmern Scholarship (Hong Kong University)
Ka Hin Tsang
Joseph Jo Yin Wong

Edwin Leong Scholarship (Hong Kong University)
Alison (Yik Ching) Tse

Tse Family Scholarship, (Hong Kong University)
Dao Zi Huang

Foundation for International Law
Soterios Loizou, PhD
Theophili Elenoglou, LLM

E.M. Burnett Prizes
These prizes are provided by an anonymous donor in memory of Elizabeth Mabel Burnett, who overcame many difficulties to give her children the higher education and independence which were denied to her.

For First Class or Part III Distinction, £200

MASt
Pieter Bogaert
Ben Heuer
Wolfgang Lautz
Julio Parra Martinez, also 5th in year group and awarded the Mayhew Prize
Dominic Rose
Philipp Schoenbauer

LLM
Elliot Luke
Luiza Pereira, also awarded a Clive Parry Prize
Joel Reyes Y Ráfales

BA
James Gray, 2nd year History
Yuqun Lin, 3rd year Chemical Engineering, also 1st in year group and awarded the ExxonMobil Chemical Engineering Prize
Timothy Tay, 3rd year Natural Science
Sheena Wong, 3rd year Law

NB. BA, First Class in 1st year – no prize, but honourable mention
Aaron Koh, 1st year Law
Yi Zheng, 1st year Natural Science
Ziruo Zhang, 1st year Natural Science, also 8th in year group

For exceptional achievement, £200
Ros Ridout, 2nd year BA Music, for a top prize in the CUMS Concerto Competition

For receiving a faculty/department prize, £50
Education
Georgia Aspinall, for a Charles Fox Prize

Lowman Prize in Education
This prize of £100 is awarded by Cambridge Assessment to the ‘highest among those training at Hughes Hall to be teachers of English Language and Literature’ (Syndicate minutes, 1995).
Not awarded in 2014, so two awards in 2015:
Thomas Dineen
Simon Roberts

Godwin-Raffan Prizes in Medicine and Education
These prizes are given by two Life Fellows of the college to reward able students in their own fields of expertise, Medicine and Education respectively.

For Distinction in Medicine Part III or the MPhil in Education, £200

Medicine Part III
Joel Davis
Katherine Horder
Julie Witter

MPhil Education
Katarina Klavenes

For receiving a faculty/department prize, £50
Education

William Charnley Law Prizes
These prizes of £250 for the best First Class Honours in the LLM and BA are provided by William Charnley, Hughes Hall Fellow and partner in King & Spalding’s Corporate practice.

LLM
Cheyne Beetham
Catherine Drummond, also awarded the Whewell Prize

BA
Tobi Olusankunmi
Yet we know little about the famous names who have played at Fenner’s. Australia’s greatest batsman, Don Bradman, was one of the global greats of cricket. His three appearances under the windows of Hughes Hall reveal different angles to his game.

On his first tour of England in 1930, Bradman hit a century in each of the five test matches, including a world record score of 334 at Leeds. But at Cambridge, he seemed “a little more subdued than usual”, scoring only 32. Fenner’s was always a warm-up match for the tourists. The Australians never needed a second innings.

Although Bradman is remembered as a batsman, he also bowled leg breaks. At Fenner’s in 1930, he had match figures of 6 for 103. He took just 36 wickets in first-class cricket — one sixth of them in that match against Cambridge University. Sensationally, in 1934, Bradman was clean-bowled for a duck at Fenner’s. Bradman was vulnerable to aggressive fast bowling — as in the notorious “bodyline” campaign — but J.G.W. Davies tricked him with a sneaky off-break: Bradman assumed it would turn away from his wicket, but it smashed straight into his leg stump. There was a shocked pause before the crowd reluctantly applauded the brilliant delivery that had robbed them of the innings they had come to watch. Davies himself seemed “a shade ashamed” that he had spoiled the fun.

With a First in Classics from St John’s, Jack Davies became secretary of Cambridge’s Appointments Board in 1952. Hughes Hall had formally joined the University two years earlier, and Davies made careers advice for women students a priority.

Captaining the tourists in 1938, Bradman was one of four Australians to score a century. His 137 helped the visitors to a massive 708 for 5 – another innings victory. The Cambridge bowlers hoped for a breakthrough after taking the new ball, but Bradman took the shine off as he repeatedly “banged it away” to the boundary. The mighty Bradman did not bother to play at Fenner’s in his last tour, in 1948.

Famously, Don Bradman was a loner, who rarely socialised with his teammates. Maybe he strolled around the quiet College behind the Fenner’s pavilion?

Ged Martin

For 120 years, Hughes Hall and the University cricket club have been neighbours. On summer days, the Margaret Wileman Building doubles as a free grandstand. Fenner’s Building was designed to enjoy the view.
Garden Corner

In a corner of the Gravel Garden by the Pavilion overlooking Fenners, are two delightful shrubs: an Iceberg shrub rose and a *Salvia jamensis* 'Flammenn'. In this photograph, the Iceberg has just lost some of its petals after a short, early October shower. It is a modern cluster-flowered floribunda rose cultivar, which was developed by rose breeder Reimer Kordes in Germany in 1958. The present varieties of Iceberg are 'Robin Hood', a red hybrid musk rose, developed by Joseph Pemberton in 1927 in England and 'Virgo', a white hybrid tea rose bred in France by Charles Mallerin in 1927. The rose was registered under the cultivar name 'KORbin' by Kordes in 1958, under the trade name Schneewittchen (and known in French as Fee des Neiges and in English as Iceberg).

This rose can be grown as a bush or a standard and has a long flowering season. The leaves are light green and glossy, and the blooms grow in flamboyant flushes on long stems. It is easy to prune into a handsome bush.

A number of related cultivars have been discovered, such as Blushing Pink Iceberg (white flowers flushed with pale pink), Brilliant Pink Iceberg (a deep pink) and Burgundy Iceberg (a rich Burgundy).

‘Flammenn’ would imply. It is remarkable for its continuous abundant flowering from June until November, and has an upright, well branched growth. Like other members of the sage family, this plant prefers sun or half shade and has aromatic foliage and a woody fragrance.

It is surprisingly easy to take cuttings from this *Salvia*, which is fortunate, since sometimes this attractive sage can fall victim to frost, in which case, one or two healthy young offspring can prove invaluable.

Keith McVeigh, Fellow
## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**DESIGN & PRODUCTION:** CANTELLDAY.CO.UK