On the cover: Mary Bonsu, studying Law with French Law at St Catherine’s College, is one of the 19 Target Oxbridge students who have joined the University this academic year. She is joined by Esther Agbolade (front) and Ruth Akhtar (right). See the full feature on pages 4 and 5.
Botanist Dr Chris Thorogood produced an oil painting for an exhibition earlier this year at Magdalen College titled *The Flora & Fauna of Magdalen College*. The exhibition explored the college’s natural history – from the site’s prehistoric origins, to its modern day gardening.

Chris, based at Oxford Botanic Garden, painted *The Lily Garden* to show the important linkages that exist between art, observational drawing, scientific accuracy and interpretation. The Pre-Raphaelite-inspired work features Madonna lilies which are an important component of Magdalen College’s natural history – featuring prominently in the design of its coat of arms.

The Pre-Raphaelite inspiration is two-fold: firstly because the plant is such an important symbol in the Brotherhood’s 19th-century work; secondly, because the Pre-Raphaelites depicted plants and animals scientifically, carefully studying them from nature.

This is a striking parallel with the art of botanical illustration. This discipline is grounded in close observation, detail and accuracy to produce aesthetically pleasing and scientifically important artwork.

The Mediterranean backdrop in *The Lily Garden* depicts the habitat in which the Madonna lily evolved and still features to this day. It is also vaguely reminiscent of the classical antiquity of Alma-Tadema’s 19th-century paintings, which famously depict scenes of the luxury and decadence of the Roman Empire in Mediterranean surroundings.

Above: *The Lily Garden* now hangs in Magdalen College’s Longwall Library.
Vanessa Worthington, Widening Access and Participation Coordinator for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups (BAME) Students, describes how collaborative work with colleagues across Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach, colleges and student societies is creating and delivering existing and new programmes.

Aiming to engage, support and encourage students to consider applying to the University for undergraduate study, the programmes are targeted at UK-domiciled black African and Caribbean, Bangladeshi and Pakistani students from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds. These groups are currently under-represented within undergraduate admissions.

We support Target Oxbridge, both financially and in-kind, because we know that the programme works, and it enables us to reach high-calibre students who may not otherwise have considered applying here.

Dr Rachel Buxton, Senior Tutor, Merton College

Colleges and Target Oxbridge

Target Oxbridge is a free programme that aims to help black African and Caribbean students and students of mixed race with black African and Caribbean heritage make competitive applications to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge.

In 2018, with the strong support and financial contributions of colleges, Target Oxbridge was able to expand the programme to 160 participants, with 60 students visiting the University at Easter and a further 27 visiting in the summer. As a result of the colleges’ commitment to the programme, the University has welcomed 19 Target Oxbridge students from the 2017 cohort.
Ensuring that I continue to contribute towards outreach schemes has been a major priority since I began my undergraduate degree. Working with Pakistani and Bangladeshi students through UAO has been especially important to me. Being of Pakistani heritage, I can usually understand the more nuanced challenges that these students may face in the application process. Speaking to these students openly about their thoughts, feelings and concerns pertaining to higher education in light of this understanding, allows for such challenges to be addressed in a more impactful way.

Ruha Akhtar, Third-Year History Student
UNIQ Alumna, Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach Student Ambassador and Keble at-large President (2017–18)

Impact of collaborative widening access programmes

Working collaboratively has allowed Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach to provide multiple opportunities for prospective students from our target groups to engage with the University, be that through our BAME specific activities or through the UNIQ residential, UNIQ Digital or Oxplore. These opportunities have encouraged students to act as champions for widening access and outreach in their departments, colleges and the University once they have enrolled as a student.

Want to find out more?

To learn more about Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach widening access programmes and the ways which you can support, call 01865 270 251, email wap@admin.ox.ac.uk or visit the Widening Access and Participation pages at http://www.ox.ac.uk/wap

Feeling represented in a space brings about feelings of empowerment and promise. Representation matters. It breaks the boundaries of impossibility and fear. As representatives of Oxford University, we engage with younger students from under-represented backgrounds and help to open up and demystify Oxford.

Esther Agbolade, Second-Year PPE Student, President of Oxford African and Caribbean Society

One of our noteworthy events is our Access Conference. We invite 200 prospective applicants to have their myths about the University dispelled and any concerns or questions they may have addressed.

Oxford’s support has spanned from promoting the event to having members of the UAO come in to provide a detailed insight into the admissions process. I believe the relationship between the ACS and the UAO is paramount in improving representation at Oxford and one that I look forward to developing in the next academic year.

Ope Oreyemi, Second-Year Law Student
Target Oxbridge Alumnus, Senior Access & Outreach Officer for the Oxford African and Caribbean Society and Keble College JCR Ethnic Minority Representative

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Chris McIntyre, Media Relations Manager with the Public Affairs Department, speaks to researchers across the University about the impact of the technological advancements being provided by AI (Artificial Intelligence).

Every solution to a problem seems to create new complications. Improved access to healthcare and technological advances have greatly improved our lifespans and contributed to higher populations than ever before. But rising demand for access to healthcare, coupled with more people living into old age, also places an increasing strain on healthcare providers.
As society becomes ever more mobile, it is important to make sure that patients’ records can follow them to make GPs and hospital doctors aware of their full medical history. But moving patient data from paper to computer is yielding far greater benefits than just improved administration.

Researchers at the University of Oxford’s Radcliffe Department of Medicine have been using machine learning – a form of (AI) – to examine echocardiograms of patients visiting hospital suffering with chest pain. The new system can detect 80,000 subtle changes that would be otherwise invisible to the naked eye, improving diagnosis accuracy to 90%, potentially saving the NHS millions of pounds in avoidable operations and treatment. This is just one of many new applications of AI to healthcare.

Alison Noble is the Technikos Professor of Biomedical Engineering in the Oxford University Department of Engineering Science, and has been developing technology to assist ultrasound scanner operators.

One of the programmes Professor Noble has been developing is able to recognise the key features that doctors look for in the normal development of babies during routine ultrasound scans of pregnant women. Once the computer has recognised a feature such as the head or heartbeat, it notifies it to the technician who can then move on to look for the next feature.

‘This active assistance from the computer is particularly useful for less-experienced practitioners, ameliorating the effects of lower levels of training in remote areas where women may not have easy access to hospitals,’ Professor Noble adds.

The ability of AI to look through the noise in medical scans is also yielding interesting results in preventative healthcare.

Charalambos Antoniades is Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at Oxford, and leads the Oxford Translational Cardiovascular Research Group. His team has developed a new technology that analyses coronary computed tomography (CT) angiograms and can flag patients who are at risk of deadly heart attacks years before they occur.

‘The standard software currently used with CT scanners is designed to filter out certain types of tissues, such as fat, to make it easier to see organs like the heart,’ he says. ‘However, huge amounts of data are obtained with each CT scan, which are currently not used because we don’t know what they mean; this is what our research brings to the surface and analyses.’

He adds: ‘The more data you can put in, and the wider the pool it’s collected from, the better the computer will be at discerning between what is and what isn’t a sign of future health risk.’

The University has launched a campaign focused on Artificial Intelligence. This is the first in a series of campaigns highlighting research and innovation at the University. Find out more: www.ox.ac.uk/ai
Academic colleagues, external partners, and representatives from funding bodies, government and regional innovation support gathered at Pembroke College in July for the inaugural Vice-Chancellor’s Innovation Awards ceremony.

The awards attracted a total of 78 entries from across the University. More details about the winners and highly commended projects are online at www.ox.ac.uk/research/vice-chancellors-innovation-awards.

The event – this year hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and the outgoing Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Professor Ian Walmsley – recognises and celebrates exceptional research-led innovations and products at all University levels which are having societal or economic impact.

External guests commented on the quality of the projects, the range of areas represented and how inspiring it was to discover the work of the University.

Judging by the enthusiastic conversations afterwards, everyone appreciated the chance to find out more about the projects.

One of the joys of my role has been meeting University staff at all career stages doing exciting, pioneering work with genuine impact locally, nationally and internationally, with a wide range of partners from industry, NGOs and cultural organisations.

Professor Ian Walmsley, outgoing Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation

The range of projects, products and models featured in today’s ceremony are testament to the excellence of the innovation taking place across the University’s four divisions, and there is clearly the potential to innovate even further in the future.

Professor Louise Richardson, Vice-Chancellor, University of Oxford

Innovation means encouraging students and researchers to exchange knowledge across disciplinary and institutional boundaries. To take risks and to realise the latent potential of their intellectual capital. The impacts of our innovation may take many forms, including entrepreneurial activity, social enterprise or cultural engagement, but all share their common roots in a commitment to creative and lateral ways of thinking, connecting and problem-solving.

The Oxford Innovation Working Group Report
**Award-winning projects**

**INSPIRING LEADERSHIP WINNER**

Professor Aditi Lahiri (Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics)

Presented by David Docherty (Chief Executive, National Centre for Universities and Business)

Professor Lahiri has developed an automatic speech recognition system that examines the acoustic properties of a speech sound and extracts distinctive features from it. The system employs theoretical insights from the study of how the human brain processes speech to emulate this process on the computer.

Based on these principles, a mobile phone language-learning application was produced, enabling second-language learners to improve their pronunciation.

**EARLY CAREER WINNER**

Ms Alice Purkiss (Humanities Division)

Presented by Nicola Blackwood (former MP and board member of Oxford University Innovation)

Trusted Source, a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) between the University of Oxford and the National Trust, responded to the challenge of creating resilient, long-term relationships between the heritage sector and academia.

Trusted Source is a growing collection of concise, engaging articles about history, culture and the natural environment crowdsourced from academia and the National Trust. The articles feature on the National Trust’s website and are used in their property interpretation, training and marketing materials.

The new National Trust Partnership Office at the University of Oxford will continue to support this initiative.

**TEAM WORK WINNER**

Dr Ian Griffiths, Dr Raka Mondal (Mathematical Institute)  
Professor Sirshendu De, Dr Sourav Mondal (Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur)

Presented by Professor Sir John Bell (Regis Professor of Medicine)

The Ganges–Brahmaputra Delta in the Bengal region of South Asia is a global hotspot for arsenic groundwater contamination.

Dr Griffiths has developed a mathematical framework which, when applied to a new arsenic filtering technology, discovered by his colleagues, enables engineers to maintain the current filters and deploy new filters in a cost-effective manner. The filters serve more than 5,000 people and 40 community-scale filters are now being deployed.

**BUILDING CAPACITY WINNER and OVERALL WINNER**

Dr Robert Hope, Mr Patrick Thomson, Ms Johanna Koehler, Mr Alex Fischer  
(School of Geography and the Environment)  
Dr David Clifton, Dr Achut Manandhar, Ms Heloise Greeff, Ms Farah Colchester  
(Department of Engineering Science)

Presented by Rebecca Endean (Director of Strategy, UKRI)

844 million people across the world lack access to clean drinking water. Most live in Africa and Asia, often depending on handpumps, which lift groundwater. A multi-disciplinary team of academics created and installed an electronic device in the handpump’s handle, which alerts maintenance providers when remote sites are broken. The research has led to a change in the Kenyan Water Act, two social enterprises, and a trust fund blending user, private and public finance. With UNICEF, they are testing the approach in Bangladeshi schools.
Having been described as the playing field for the researchers of Oxford, Wytham Woods is also renowned by local residents for being a stunning outdoor retreat easily reached from the bustle of the city centre.

The Woods are often brimming with film crews. It is a regular location for television nature programmes – and the star of its own popular documentary series *The Laboratory with Leaves*. Recent visitors include Sir David Attenborough and Professor Brian Cox.

So, when they’re not looking after media production crews, just how do Nigel Fisher and his team of four manage the 1,000 acres of woodland?

Foresters Kevin Crawford, Nick Ewart and Neil Havercroft have a wide-ranging seasonal duty list to ensure the day-to-day maintenance of the ancient woodland with its 400,000 trees, 26 miles of paths and 6.5 miles of fencing.

Alongside this they carry out a multitude of other tasks. These include providing firewood for the Woods’ three pottery kilns, leading groups of visitors on badger-watching sessions and recently digging...
five new ponds to house the great crested newt population. That’s not to mention managing the car park at large events, cooking up barbecues and helping with the occasional art installation. In addition, they assist researchers with their unique experimental needs.

“They recently helped install a flux tower which will measure the exchanges of carbon dioxide, water vapour and energy between the biosphere and atmosphere in the Woods,’ explains Nigel.

“They also ended up rescuing the lorry that got stuck delivering the concrete to create the base for the tower – all in a day’s work.”

Team Administrator, Lucy Lyndon-Jones, enthusiastically deals with the team’s varied administration needs, organises events and helps to fuse all the elements of the team’s work together. Lucy also manages the permit scheme with its 10,000 members.

“The Woods are open to all and everyone is welcome,’ says Nigel. ‘But being an important research area we do need people to sign up for a permit before allowing them to wander around by themselves.

‘And for obvious reasons we cannot allow dogs in at any time – they could undo months of research in a five-minute digging session.’

This year the team celebrated the 75th anniversary of managing Wytham Woods following its bequest to the University by the fennell family in the 1940s. Aside from ensuring the Woods continued to be used for research, a condition of the bequest was that it would remain a space for the community to enjoy.

‘We’re delighted to fulfil this commitment,’ says Nigel smiling. ‘We organise art workshops, pottery classes, citizen science projects, woodland walks and talks, foraging, extreme camping experiences with a survival expert – and that’s just off the top of my head! We’ve also just introduced an app for tracking ash tree dieback which anyone can use whilst walking in the woods.’

The citizen science projects are proving especially popular. Two recent additions were Oxford Plan Bee and a butterfly count. The Oxford Plan Bee project created a network of bee hotels across Wytham Woods (and elsewhere in the city) to improve the habitat offer for cavity-nesting solitary bees.

‘Visitors to the woods really enjoy being involved in something that is genuinely useful. We will now use the data they have gathered to make changes.

‘One example is managing areas of the Woods where both bees and butterflies gather. Meadows and pathways will be managed more effectively to provide nectar sources throughout the spring and summer.’

‘The team work proactively with a multitude of school groups. ‘We’ve run forest schools for more than 15 years. These involve a class adopting a hectare of land and using it as an outdoor classroom, both for playing games and to observe nature.’

They also offer practical work placements to pupils starting their A-Level studies and offer regular activities that complement current exam syllabuses.

Looking ahead, what’s in store for the next 75 years of management?

‘Hopefully, lots more of the same,’ replies Nigel. ‘As a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest, one of the most researched pieces of woodland in the world, and a popular visitor space, we aim to continue to provide a valuable playground for everyone.’
Public Engagement with Research describes the many ways that the public can be involved in the design, conduct and dissemination of research

The Wellcome Trust reports that 73% of researchers are motivated by a strong sense of responsibility for public engagement, therefore, providing opportunities for Oxford’s research community to gain ideas, knowledge and skills in this area is key.

Oxford’s inaugural Public Engagement with Research Conference, which took place in July 2018, brought together 200 researchers and other staff from across the University with representatives from the key UK research funders to take part in workshops, talks and debates and share their views, successes and challenges.

ENGAGE!

The conference not only provided a way to develop skills and share best practices, but also to debate some of the deeper issues such as the future of public engagement and how it could shape research culture and practice.

Reflecting on the event, Professor Alison Woollard, the University’s Academic Champion for Public Engagement with Research, concluded that:

‘As an academic who has undertaken lots of public engagement, this conference has shown me that there are always opportunities to innovate, learn and improve one’s practice.

‘Furthermore that engagement should never be a box–ticking exercise or a mandatory requirement – it should only take place when it adds value.

‘Our work at the University will continue towards the aspiration that public engagement with research is valued, supported and encouraged across all the departments and colleges.’

Top Tip: planning your activities

‘Before thinking about how you want to engage, think about who you want to engage and why?’ says Dr Lesley Paterson, Head, Public Engagement with Research, Research Services.

‘For example, is it to inspire young people about your research? Or inform your research questions by listening to the patients? Or do you want to involve the public in the collection of data through citizen science?’
Conference: case study highlights

Public Engagement with Refugee Research:
Professor Alexander Betts, Oxford Department of International Development

Alexander (pictured shaking hands on the right) shared the findings of his engaged research that provided evidence on the positive socioeconomic contribution made by refugees. Central to this project was the training of refugees as peer researchers who also became co-creators of the research. Alexander has also raised awareness of the research findings to policy makers – via the media and by giving talks – reaching hundreds of thousands of people and informing public debate on this issue.

My Little Pony Fan Fiction:
Dr Sam Henry, Department of Physics

The principle of fan fiction is writing your own stories using existing characters.
Sam selected My Little Pony – an animation pony adventure series – to engage his audiences with physics. There are some criticisms that science communication activities only ‘reach and preach’ ie reach the usual suspects and preach to the converted. However, Sam’s stories and blog posts, incorporating unicorns and Pegasus pony characters talking about the physics of rainbows and nuclear reactors, have been viewed over 100,000 times and introduced these topics to many new audiences of young people and adults.

Let’s Cook and Learn:
Dr Jieun Kiaer, Faculty of Oriental Studies

Increased understanding in languages is important for the future of global trade.
Jieun and her team have run hands-on language learning through delivering cooking sessions using Asian languages, targeting youths from socially deprived areas. These informal sessions, in which language learning is combined with cooking food from the same country, have enabled the team to raise young people’s awareness of different cultures and brought people from different communities together.

Co-creating research questions with the public:
The Yarnfulness Project:
Dr Anne Ferrey, Researcher, Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences

There have been many claims that craft-based activities are good for mental health.
Anne (on the right hand side of the photo), together with her colleague Dr Emma Palmer-Cooper, University of Southampton, spoke about their research engagement project in which they are working with the craft community to co-design a pilot study to empirically investigate the impact of yarn-based hobbies on health and wellbeing.
Away from the office my passion is photography. I bought my first digital SLR camera in 2012 and I’ve been hooked and honing my skills ever since – and I’m still learning!

Although I enjoy all types of photography, I particularly enjoy capturing wildlife, both at home and away. I try to focus on animals that I think are particularly important to capture before they potentially disappear, as sadly we’re losing many species along with their habitats.

Through my passion for photography, I have been motivated to travel to various destinations including sub-Saharan Africa and Antarctica. On my travels I have been privileged to enjoy some very special animal encounters along the way. On a recent trip to South Africa our safari vehicle was surrounded by several large bull elephants, who just wanted to say hi! Somewhat intimidating – but a decidedly unforgettable moment.

On the same trip, we also spent time in overnight hides where we had to keep very quiet and alert, never knowing what might turn up. We weren’t disappointed; several herds of buffalo stopped off to drink at the watering hole during the night. They were joined by a wonderful elusive spotted hyena who stayed two minutes – just long enough to capture its beauty before it disappeared.

Apart from getting close to wildlife and nature, the other thing I love about photography is that it gets me out and about in all sorts of weather, at all times of year and at all times of day – from dawn to dusk. It can often mean very early starts to take advantage of the best light for wildlife photography – but it’s worth it!

Check out Jill’s profile at www.photocrowd.com/photographer-community/92529. All rights reserved; copies of images available upon request.

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Outside of work I’m the voluntary Oxfordshire Area Coordinator for Canine Concern – a small charity that provides care-dog wellbeing visits for schools, hospitals, care homes and hospices.

I started volunteering in 2016 with Chip, my Lhasapoo. A year later I was asked to be the Area Coordinator for Oxfordshire. Starting with just three care-dogs, we’ve now grown to 30, all provided by local volunteers.

I strongly felt that our care-dogs could help students wellbeing. With the support of Shazeaa Ishmael, a Lincoln Middle Common Room Welfare Rep, we organised a pilot in February 2018.

We had a lot to consider, including where dogs were not allowed, and dealing with allergies. However – with amazing support from the college team – the pilot was successful and received great feedback from students.

Lincoln now has regular care-dog visits. They help bring people together and provide an opportunity to forget about exams and deadlines – if only for the afternoon.

I’m proud to have been recognised as the Canine Concern 2018 Supporter at the Annual General Meeting awards for my work setting up the College Care Dog programme. I have also been made a trustee, which means I can help promote the importance of dogs for students nationally.

Having a care-dog as part of an overall student wellbeing programme can make a positive impact. If you would like to volunteer with your dog or would like a care-dog visit, please contact oxfordshirecanineconcern@gmail.com. For more information visit www.canineconcern.co.uk.

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If you’d like to share details of a pastime or project you’re involved with in your spare time, please send your submissions to blueprint@admin.ox.ac.uk
Spotted hyena captured by Jill Fardon in South Africa
Michaelmas 2018 marks the 150th anniversary of Oxford allowing its undergraduates to reside in lodgings outside their colleges for the first time since the early modern period. Mark Curthoys, a Senior Research Editor with the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography – a research and publishing project of the History Faculty and Oxford University Press – explores this period of transition and its impact.
In Michaelmas 1868 Oxford broke from its long-established requirement that undergraduates should be residents within the walls of a college or hall. In the University's earliest form, scholars had lived in the houses of townspeople. But a series of measures from the early fifteenth century onwards ordered scholars to live in halls or colleges, and made membership of a college or hall a condition of University matriculation.

In the mid-Victorian years, as student numbers stagnated, professors lacked audiences for lectures. With the colleges appearing exclusive and inward-looking, reformers sought to re-create the vitality of the early medieval University.

By permitting undergraduates to live in lodgings, the artificial limits of college accommodation would be removed; and, more radical still, by allowing undergraduates to matriculate as members of the University without belonging to a college or hall, poorer students in lodgings might gain an Oxford education as 'scholares non ascripti' (unattached students).

In the late summer of 1868 hundreds of Oxford householders and tradespeople came forward to offer accommodation. Lodging houses were licensed by University Delegates, operating from an office in the Clarendon Building. A Delegate personally inspected every property before a license was issued. Regulations issued by the Delegacy required lodging house keepers to ensure their outer doors were locked after 10pm, and to report student latecomers to the authorities. Those who failed to do so risked having their licenses revoked.

In under a decade, over 550 houses had been licensed by the Delegates, providing sets (a bedroom and a sitting room) for up to 1,100 lodgers. Student numbers had grown by a third in the same period, largely accounted for by the 774 undergraduates in lodgings: 606 members of colleges or halls, and 168 'scholares non ascripti'. These included Christian Cole, recently commemorated as the first black African to graduate at Oxford, who was an unattached student throughout his undergraduate career.

Annual printed lists of licensed lodging houses indicated what was available: highly priced sets in Beaumont Street, Broad Street and High Street catered for wealthy students from fashionable colleges; others (and especially the unattached students) found less expensive rooms in Walton Street or in the area between the Iffley and Cowley Roads. After the First World War, a separate list was privately circulated, without prices, of lodgings approved as suitable for women students, most of which were in north Oxford.

The war had driven many lodging housekeepers out of business, and from 1919 the problem facing the Delegates was that of encouraging Oxford householders to offer rooms to students. Bed-sitting rooms became standard, in place of 'sets'. A period in 'digs' became a normal part of an Oxford education, especially after the Second World War, when more than half of the male student population lived outside college.

The tide, though, had turned by 1965 after a decade in which colleges brought into use 1,600 new units of accommodation. Among these were accommodation blocks which opened in 1964 at St Catherine's, the college which grew out of the Victorian experiment in non-collegiate membership of the University.

Other forces were undermining the lodgings system. There was growing demand for married accommodation for postgraduates. Traditional landladies were in decline. A new generation of students disliked being required to live under the roof of a resident landlord, and resented supervision by the Delegacy.

In 1970 the Delegacy and its paternal regime was wound up, to be replaced by an Accommodation Committee. The Delegacy's records of Oxford's once-numerous lodgings and their citizen keepers, which made possible the growth of the modern University, were handed over to the University Archives, where they are now preserved.

Below: Map detailing lodging houses in 1878
DAY IN THE LIFE OF

DALE WHITE

Facilities and Services Supervisor in Estates Services and On-Call Fire Fighter

Shaunna Latchman speaks to Dale about his second role at the Rewley Road Fire Station
Dale’s day starts at 6.45am when he begins working through a detailed checklist at the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, where he is responsible for four buildings, the courtyard, goods-in, parking and five members of Facilities Management team.

Most of his time is spent preparing rooms for meetings and large events, coordinating contractors and dealing with ad-hoc emergencies – but he is always aware of the small pager that sits on his hip, and that could go off at any second.

This is because Dale has a second role to fulfil, working for the Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service, at the Rewley Road Fire Station. As a member of the crew, Dale is on-call for 40 hours a week and is ready to tackle everything from floods and fires to large-scale accidents. Yet, this rarely impacts his day-to-day tasks at the ROQ.

‘My team know that I am always on-call and I try to ensure they are prepared for the possibility that I may have to leave suddenly,’ says Dale.

‘Proactivity and communication are key to making this work. And having contingency plans for contingency plans!’ These were key components when he approached his managers about taking training to become a firefighter. After extensive research and in-depth conversations with his wife and young family and his line managers, Dale was given the go-ahead to proceed.

What prompted Dale to take on such a big responsibility? ‘The events at Grenfell Tower in 2017 really struck a chord with me. It was such a heartbreaking and utterly devastating event – I felt the need to do as much as I could to serve my own community.’

Dale has been on around ten callouts since beginning his training this January. Only three happened during his regular working hours and each call was resolved in around 90 minutes. After the callout he returned to his normal day.

A call can of course happen at any time. This September, during the Oxford Open Doors weekend, Dale was seconds away from placing a toy firefighter hat on his four-year-old son’s head when the alarm was raised for ‘persons trapped in a road traffic collision’. Dale and the crew arrived on the scene to find the family of four had managed to escape the wreck moments before it burst into flames. Fortunately, apart from a few scrapes and bruises, no one was badly hurt.

‘The role really offers life changing opportunities,’ explains Dale. ‘There’s the chance to make a massive difference to the community and the sense of fulfilment you get from helping someone, the environment or even an animal is second to none.’

If there were concerns over the amount of time or energy being taken from his role in Estates Services, they have disappeared. ‘If anything I am more organized at work in anticipation for any eventuality and I am more aware of the importance of my team – both in the fire service and at the University.’

Dale is quick to acknowledge that a team working in harmony means a smoother delivery of services and in more extreme circumstances can saves lives.

If you are aged 18 or over and live or work within five minutes of your local fire station, you can apply to become an on-call firefighter. The role requires a reasonable level of fitness and suits people that enjoy being challenged and thrive in a team-orientated environment.

More information is available at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/call-firefighters
Why have we launched the Sexual Violence and Harassment and Support Service?
It was one of the recommendations in a report by the working group set up to look at this issue across the collegiate University. We know from our students that sexual harassment and violence happens in Oxford, as it unfortunately does at all universities.

We are already doing a lot of work to try and tackle this issue, including consent workshops and training. This new service will build on that work by providing sector-leading support for any student who has been affected.

What will the new service offer to students?
Free, confidential and independent support for any student who has experienced sexual harassment and/or violence. Our team of specialist advisors will work with students to explore options and help them to make decisions at their own pace.

The service is there for all students in all situations, whether the experiences of sexual harassment or violence happened in Oxford or elsewhere – and whether it was recent or in the past. It is a collaboration between the colleges, the University and Oxford Sexual Assault and Rape Crisis Centre (OSARCC).

Gillian Hamnett, Director of Student Welfare and Support Services (SWSS), discusses Oxford’s new Sexual Violence and Harassment Support Service with Abby Swift, Communications Officer, Academic Administration Division. Gillian highlights the importance of tackling sexual violence at Oxford, and how the service fits in with the wider work of SWSS

What advice would you give to staff who have learned about an incident of this type?
Staff should refer students to the service as soon as possible. Our specialist advisors have the appropriate training and experience to support students safely. The service will also offer training to staff in welfare roles during Michaelmas term.

How does the service fit in with the wider work of Student Welfare and Support Services?
Our existing services already offer disability support, harassment advice and counselling for our students. The new support service is an extension of our existing work and collaboration with Oxford Sexual Assault and Rape Crisis Centre (OSARCC) to bring our students the very best response and ongoing support.

How do you expect your services to develop in the future?
We have seen an increase in demand for all of our services over the last five years and would expect this to continue. With the launch of the support service we do expect to see a rise in the number of students wanting to talk about incidences of sexual harassment and violence and to get help and advice.

Referrals can be made via supportservice@admin.ox.ac.uk and further information is available at www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/supportservice.

Sexual harassment and violence is any unwanted sexual behaviour which takes place without consent. It is totally unacceptable in any form, and the University is committed to preventing and responding to all incidents. Oxford takes a zero-tolerance approach, and everyone at the University and beyond has a responsibility to take action. For further information, visit www.ox.ac.uk/againstsexualviolence
A growing body of evidence highlights that students who take part in sport are better equipped to cope with stress, are happier, and can even earn more after graduating.

But despite these benefits, some Oxford students report that they don’t always find the chance to get active, and can struggle to fit in competitive sport alongside their studies.

To address this, a new campaign running during Michaelmas term, has launched to encourage students to take part in sport and physical activity.

Backed by the van Houten Fund, Active at Oxford promotes opportunities for students to take part in both casual and competitive sports, and emphasises the mental and physical health benefits of an active lifestyle. It also encourages students to take part in sport in a responsible way and offers resources and support to students on balancing sporting commitments with studies.

Martin Williams, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education), says: ‘Sport has played a notable role in Oxford’s history, and it remains an important part of many students’ lives today. There are huge benefits to sport and physical activity, with some fantastic clubs and opportunities across the University for students. There is always a way to balance sports with studying and we actively encourage students to get active while they are here.’

Case study

A student’s view:
Kinga Nesselfield, Second-Year undergraduate, Lady Margaret Hall

I am studying classics and alongside my degree I play for the Handball Club. Our team plays both in University championship and league matches, and in addition I am Secretary of the Committee.

We have two or three practice sessions per week and any games take place at the weekend so I have to be careful to manage my time and not miss an essay deadline because I am away for a game. However, the club is very considerate of student schedules and practices never clash with any lectures or classes I have.

Doing sport has definitely taught me to manage my time better and the time spent playing handball helps me to reduce my stress level and it gives me a fresh perspective once I return to college to continue working.

Furthermore, winning the Varsity Cup has given everyone in the team an incredible boost of confidence so I can honestly say that it is worth doing any kind of sport to complement your university experience.

A tutor’s view:
Dr Amin Benaissa, Associate Professor and Tutorial Fellow in Classics, Lady Margaret Hall

I have no doubt that sport can have a positive impact on students’ physical and psychological wellbeing. Students engaged in sports generally seem to be happier bunnies.

While I wholeheartedly encourage my students to take part, I emphasise from the start that academic work must always come first (that is why they’re here) and can never be an excuse for late or uncompleted assignments.

In my experience good and well-organised students (like Kinga) are able to manage their time and commitments well, and their sporting activities do not affect significantly the quality of their work. Injuries and competitions during term time, however, have been an issue in the past.

Of course, if there are unavoidable clashes during a tournament, I’m willing to be flexible in scheduling tutorials (within reason!). When I notice that a student’s sporting – or indeed any other extracurricular – activity is beginning to impact negatively on their academic work, I talk to them about it and urge them to achieve a more sustainable balance between work and play.

For more information on the benefits of getting active, and the evidence behind Active at Oxford, visit: www.ox.ac.uk/activeatoxford
Helen Pooley, Primary Education Officer from the Museum of the History of Science, tells us about her favourite object in the collection

Boasting a central spot of the Top Floor gallery, you can’t really miss the armillary sphere on a journey around the Museum of the History of Science.

The kind of scientific instrument you might expect to find on the opening sequence of Dr Who or the Game of Thrones, it is in fact a Ptolemaic model of the universe.

Measuring a meter from top to bottom, it comprises a sphere (representing stationary Earth) surrounded by rings (representing the heavens) mounted on three imposing lions.

Beautiful, but also functional, closer inspection reveals images of the zodiac, the points of the compass in their Latin form, a number scale and curious human figures. The pathway of the sun, as it travels through the constellations of the zodiac, is represented by a broad band encircling the sphere.

School children often ask me what sort of person owned this amazing object. It’s always fun telling them about its former owner, Henry Percy – the 9th Earl of Northumberland – also known as the Wizard Earl.

The Earl, suspected of being involved in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, was imprisoned in the Tower of London for almost 16 years (albeit comfortably with spacious apartments and attended by 20 servants). He used this time to pursue his scientific interests, with a visitor to the Tower describing finding him ‘engaged in mysterious rites’ involving crucibles and a zodiac table suspended from walls, revolving celestial globes and a human skeleton holding an hour glass in its hand!

Personally, I find the sphere intriguing both as a working mathematical model and as a work of art – and also because of its wonderful connection to a mysterious figure from the past.
As the centenary of the First World War comes to a close, a new exhibition, *Oxford: the War and the World, 1914–19*, a city-wide project, examines both the city’s and the University’s role in the conflict and its immediate aftermath.

Oxford’s First World War story is both local and global. Some of the community left Oxford and travelled abroad. Others stayed behind or were drawn to the city. All of these people were involved in, and contributed to, the war in different ways – with twelve of them commemorated in this mini-exhibition.

The twelve people featured include Hardit Singh Malik, an Indian student who became a fighter pilot, Constance Coltman, the pioneering female minister who served in Cowley and East Oxford, and pacifist Violet Oakshott Slater, who was harassed in the streets for handing out anti-war leaflets.

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**Oxford: The War and the World, 1914–19, free and open to all, will show at five venues:**

- 1 to 29 November: Somerville College
- 1 to 20 December: The Rumble Museum, Cheney School, Headington
- 22 December to 30 January: Cowley Library
- 1 to 28 February: Westgate Library
- 19 March to 31 July: The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock

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**ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM**

**Exhibition – Spellbound: Magic, Ritual & Witchcraft**

Until 6 January

Spellbinding stories, fascinating objects...from crystal balls and magic mirrors to witch bottles and curse poppets

Explore the history of magic over eight centuries in this immersive and thought-provoking exhibition. The intriguing objects on display show how our ancestors used magical thinking to cope with the unpredictable world around them.

The exhibition asks us to examine our own beliefs and rituals. It aims to show how, even in this sceptical age, we still use magical thinking and why we might need a bit of magic in our lives.

For more information visit:

- www.ashmolean.org
- Twitter #SpellboundExhibition
Housing the University’s internationally significant collections of entomological, geological and zoological specimens, the Museum of Natural History is attracting interest with its new exhibition and permanent display.

**Exhibition: Bacterial World**
19 October 2018 to 28 May 2019

As soon as we hear the word ‘bacteria’ most of us think of illness and disease, but a fascinating and enlightening new exhibition helps break this long-held myth.

*Bacterial World* seeks to rehabilitate the reputation of bacteria and counter the popular misconception that all bacteria are bad or to be feared. The exhibition demonstrates how science is lifting the lid on the secret lives and hidden stories of the smallest of organisms.

Incorporating more than 55 exhibits, *Bacterial World* demonstrates how these tiny organisms wield huge influence over us, shaping the past, present and future of life on our planet. We really are living in a bacterial world.

For more information visit [www.oum.ox.ac.uk/bacterialworld](http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/bacterialworld) and follow [@morethanadodo](https://twitter.com/morethanadodo) on Twitter.

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**Permanent display: Out of the Deep**
From September 2018

An exciting new display features the fossilised remains of two large plesiosaurs. These extinct reptiles swam in the warm seas of the Jurassic Period – 165 million years ago.

Visitors to the museum can view the rare and remarkably complete skeletons of the two plesiosaurs, marine reptiles which became extinct around 66 million years ago. The display is brought to life through the inclusion of digital animations, physical models and touchable elements.

The short-necked plesiosaur, also known as a pliosaur, was discovered by a former museum curator in the 1990s in Yarnton, Oxfordshire. The larger long-necked plesiosaur was found in a quarry in Cambridgeshire in 2014 by the Oxford Clay Working Group.

For more information visit:
[www.oumnh.ox.ac.uk/out-of-the-deep](http://www.oumnh.ox.ac.uk/out-of-the-deep)
**Who built Stonehenge?**

Despite over a century of intense study, we still know very little about the people buried at Stonehenge, partly because many of them had been cremated. Now, a new University of Oxford research collaboration suggests that a number of the people buried at the Wessex site had moved with, and likely transported, the bluestones used in the early stages of the monument’s construction – sourced from the Preseli Mountains of west Wales.

The research combines radiocarbon-dating with new developments in archaeological analysis, pioneered by lead author Christophe Snoeck during his doctoral research in the School of Archaeology at Oxford. Snoeck demonstrates that cremated bone faithfully retains its strontium isotope composition. This technique could be used to help determine where these people had lived during their latter years.


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**What has recent research revealed about addictive behaviours?**

New research from an international team led by Oxford University’s Department of Zoology and the National-Kapodistrian University of Athens shows that an ancient retrovirus – HK2 – is more frequently found in drug addicts and thus is significantly associated with addiction.

The human genome is ‘littered’ with remnants of ancient retrovirus infections that invaded the germline of our primate ancestors. One of these that may still be proliferating in modern humans is named HERV-K HML-2 (HK2), and not all humans have the same HK2 viruses in their genomes. One specific uncommon HK2, which lies close to a gene involved in dopaminergic activity in the brain (RASGRF2), is more frequently found in drug addicts and thus is significantly associated with addiction.

The research teams have shown that HK2 can manipulate nearby genes, providing strong evidence that uncommon HK2 integrations can be responsible for the unappreciated pathogenic burden of addictive behaviours.

Find out more: [www.ox.ac.uk/news/2018-09-25-addictive-behaviours-have-strong-links-ancient-retroviral-infection](http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2018-09-25-addictive-behaviours-have-strong-links-ancient-retroviral-infection)

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**What’s been uncovered by an Oxford historian?**

A previously unknown letter from Annie Kenney (pictured below left, with Christabel Pankhurst), the working-class activist who became the first woman imprisoned for campaigning for the vote, is now on public display after being uncovered by Oxford historian Dr Lyndsey Jenkins during her research.

Sent by Annie to her sister Nell in October 1905, it reads, ‘You may be surprised when I tell you I was released from Strangeways [prison] yesterday morning.’ The letter offers an intimate insight into the complex and competing emotions that Annie experienced as she left prison – and her delight at the impact her unprecedented act had made in the local community.

The letter is on display at Gallery Oldham, Greater Manchester, until 12 January 2019 – an exciting contribution to this year’s centenary celebrations of women gaining the right to vote in Britain.

Find out more and read the transcript: [www.ox.ac.uk/news/arts-blog/missive-militant-testimony-first-british-suffragette-revealed](http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/arts-blog/missive-militant-testimony-first-british-suffragette-revealed)
A consultation process in 2016 highlighted the need for a more intuitive and user-friendly VLE system. However, it was soon established that more than just a mere technology replacement programme was needed.

A new learning environment was wanted that would allow academics to explore and extend their teaching practice, as well as provide new tools and opportunities for collaborative learning plus streamline students’ access – which was a big ask.

Following a rigorous process, Canvas was chosen to deliver the aim of advancing education by providing an intuitive digital programme for all. Dr Kate Blackmon, Associate Professor in Operations Management and Canvas project sponsor, explains: ‘With the large technical challenges involved in transferring around 24,000 students and hundreds of courses, it’s probably something of a mega-project in Oxford terms.’

Kate, who teaches an MSc at Said Business School, continues: ‘I can already see that Canvas will help free me up to do lots of self-directed learning for my students. I also want to explore how I can create the conditions that will allow my students to practice and learn from each other – and challenge themselves.

‘Canvas can help fulfil our needs but, as with any tool or technology, how we use it is key. The potential exists to unlock new ways of teaching and learning that we haven’t really focused on doing before.’

Although WebLearn will be supported until at least the end of the 2018/19 academic year, the roll-out to Canvas began this summer with an early adopters’ phase. Further phased tranches will allow academics and course administrators to schedule their transition to fit in with their teaching.

The University has signed up to the Mindful Employer Charter and launched this on 10 October to coincide with World Mental Health Day (www.mindfulemployer.net/charter).

This shows our commitment to securing an open and supportive culture where staff feel confident to disclose mental ill health issues. We want staff to know that they will be listened to, and receive the support they need to perform well, without fear of discrimination and stigma.

To progress this important work a cross-University working group is working to identify priority actions. These will help us to achieve culture change and ensure our University is a positive and supportive workplace for all.

Your involvement is encouraged. This might include responding to surveys, providing simple acts of support to others or sharing good practice within your work unit.

Find out more: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/mindfulemployer

If you are experiencing mental ill-health and need to talk to someone, please feel you can reach out:

- At work this could be your line manager or supervisor.
- The Occupational Health Department also offers a wide range of excellent resources and information about mental wellbeing and resilience: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/uohs/mentalwellbeingresilience

- External, independent support services are also available: www.mind.org.uk/need-urgent-help/finding-out-what-support-is-out-there
**NEWS**

**New labs for Chemistry Department**

Chemistry students were welcomed back this term to their new state-of-the-art teaching labs accessed via Mansfield Road. The fully-accessible labs are spread over two floors, each with space for up to 100 students. The new building has a large seminar room and write-up and social areas for students.

With the new building comes a new team, headed by Dr Malcolm Stewart, Director of Teaching Laboratories. Four newly-created posts of Departmental Lecturers in Practical Teaching and the appointment of a new Schools Liaison and Outreach Officer will help make best use of the improved facilities – introducing the delights of chemistry to a wider audience and encouraging the brightest and best school students from all backgrounds to study chemistry.

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**SMARThealth Pregnancy project**

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Louise Richardson joined The George Institute (TGI India team in Delhi in October. TGI India Director and Co-Director of the Oxford–India Health Research Network, Professor Vivekanand Jha, showcased the SMARThealth Pregnancy project, a new model of healthcare which aims to improve women’s life-long health in rural India.

The project is a collaboration of researchers in Oxford, Delhi and Sydney, offering low-cost, high-quality healthcare delivery through community healthcare workers and innovative smartphone technology to identify women at risk of chronic disease, manage their treatment and reduce premature deaths.

The Systematic Medical Appraisal Referral and Treatment (SMART) system is borne of a clear need. Every year, millions of women die from heart disease, stroke and complications of diabetes, with the greatest number of deaths occurring in low-resource settings, such as parts of rural India.


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**Conference Oxford joins the Meetings Industry Association**

Conference Oxford, the official guide to booking University of Oxford and college spaces, has become a member the Meetings Industry Association (mia), one of the fastest-growing associations in the conference, meetings and events sector. In addition, Conference Oxford venues have also secured AIM accreditation – the nationally recognised scheme from mia which benchmarks a venue’s professionalism and quality against a strict array of criteria.

If you need help sourcing the ideal University or college venue for an event, email the team at enquiries@conference-oxford.ox.ac.uk or call (2)76190.

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**Vice-Chancellor’s Oration 2018**

Professor Louise Richardson delivered her annual Oration to the University in Convocation House on 2 October. The full transcript of her speech is available at: [www.ox.ac.uk/news/2018-10-02-vice-chancellors-oration-2018](http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2018-10-02-vice-chancellors-oration-2018)

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**USS Pension Scheme**

A reminder that a staff discussion forum relating to the USS Pension scheme, together with background information and news updates, are available at [www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working-at-oxford/pensions-comms](http://www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working-at-oxford/pensions-comms)
Subfusc gowns made from recycled plastic …

Yes, really! The University of Oxford shop has been working with their gown supplier to produce an ethically made, standard subfusc gown that started out as 18 recycled plastic bottles. This year they’ve become the first University shop to sell an ethically made gown.

The polyester gown fabric is woven from Envirotex, made entirely from post-consumer PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic waste assessed against the Global Recycling Standard (GRS) Version 3 (a product standard for verifying the content of recycled materials). The bottles are collected, recycled into plastic flakes, made into plastic chips, extruded into yarn, woven into fabric and made into gowns. This process aims to reduce the impact on landfill.

More information at: www.oushop.com

Research becomes animated with Oxford Sparks competition

Have you ever wondered about the mysteries of mud? Or wondered what discoveries are being made in treating dementia? Now you can find out by watching two new animations created by Oxford Sparks, the University of Oxford’s digital engagement platform for sciences.

As part of a competition that took place last year, researchers were offered the opportunity to turn their research into a high-quality, engaging animation with teaching resources.

The two winners were: Brooke Johnson from the Department of Earth Sciences of the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division, and Hazel Hall-Roberts from the Alzheimer’s Research UK Oxford Drug Discovery Institute of the Medical Sciences Division.

Ancient Mysteries in Marvellous Mud:
Brooke Johnson’s animation, entitled Ancient Mysteries in Marvellous Mud, takes a deep dive into the history of life on earth and asks the question: Why did complex life take so long to develop?

Discovering life-changing Dementia Treatments:
Hazel Hall-Roberts’s animation, called Discovering life-changing Dementia Treatments, showcases how researchers at the University are developing drug treatments for Alzheimer’s disease.

Both animations can be watched via www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk

Visa Loan Scheme

The University has launched a new scheme which provides interest-free loans to assist current or prospective non EEA (European Economic Area) employees and their dependants with payment of UK visa fees, fees for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) applications and/or Immigration Health Surcharges (HIS) costs. The Visa Loan Scheme is part of the University’s broader efforts to assist international staff with the mounting costs of fees from the Home Office.

The maximum loan available under the scheme is £7,500, and can be repaid over 24 months. Loans are available for any applications submitted after 1 August 2018.

Since the employing department or faculty is required to underwrite the loan, all loans are subject to the approval of the employee’s department or faculty. The scheme is not, unfortunately, available for ‘college-only’ appointments.

Find out more: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme
NEWS

Capture daily life at Oxford

The Digital Information team is running a photo competition to help them represent digital learning at Oxford, using the hashtag #TodayAtOxford on Twitter and Instagram. Students and staff are invited to enter images of their daily life at Oxford for a chance to win weekly prizes of £25 plus an overall prize of a £100 Amazon voucher. How to enter:

- Follow @acitoxford on Twitter or Instagram
- Tag your photo #TodayAtOxford
- In addition, tag your photo @acitoxford to help highlight it

Vote for your favourite:

The team want you to vote for your favourite photo by giving it a ‘thumbs up’. The weekly winner will be announced every Tuesday at 5pm until the competition closes, based on the highest number of likes of the reposts and regrams.

Closing date is 15 December and full details are at: www.digitaleducation.ox.ac.uk/photo-competition-michaelmas-term-2018

Digital solutions

The seventh Oxford Energy Day, Digital Change and Energy, held on 1 October at the Museum of Natural History, focused on the interactions between energy and digital solutions. Bringing together leading Oxford researchers and experts from the energy sector, delegates discussed the implications for consumers, networks and markets.

There was broad agreement that:

Transitional and distribution grids face challenges from a range of new decentralised technologies. Smart solutions can do a lot to reduce reliance on simply increasing network capacity, but require changes in the operation of networks and the use of new control and storage solutions.

New market structures are both likely and required. Digital solutions can facilitate decentralised markets, but the value of different business models is both contested and dependent on regulation. Reform of both network charging and retail licensing is likely to be needed.

Next year’s event will take place in October.

Find out more: www.energy.ox.ac.uk

Career Support Network for administrative and support staff

Applying for a new role at the University? Would you like guidance about what makes a great application or to improve your performance at interview? The University’s Careers Support Network, comprised of experienced recruiters, provides a mentoring service to help you develop these skills.

Find out more: www.learning.ox.ac.uk/coach-mentor/careers

Below at the conference: (left to right) Nick Eyre, Chair; Chris Llewellyn-Smith, Former Chair; Anne L Ryan, Oxford Energy Co-ordinator; Phil Grunewald, OE Steering Group
The Hub Café

Situated in leafy North Oxford, the Hub Café is the perfect place to meet with friends and colleagues. Serving breakfasts, light lunches, sweet treats and snacks, as well as a range of hot drinks, the Hub Café is open to everyone.

Eco-friendly and ethical

The Hub Café is the University of Oxford’s first Passivhaus, which means the building is low energy and environmentally friendly. Discounts are available every time you use a reusable cup when purchasing hot drinks.

How to find us

We are located in the grounds of Kellogg College between 62 and 64 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6PN.

www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk | facebook.com/kelloggoxford | @kelloggcollege | @KelloggOx

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Photos: Chris Andrews Publications, Oxford University Images / Bodleian Libraries
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Oxford University Innovation (OUI) is now even more accessible to all staff and students.

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See [www.innovation.ox.ac.uk/hotdesks](http://www.innovation.ox.ac.uk/hotdesks) for full details of where and when OUI staff will be available.
Anthony F. Heath
Director, Centre for Social Investigation, Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Social Progress in Britain
In his landmark 1942 report on social insurance, Sir William Beveridge talked about the ‘five giants on the road to reconstruction’ – the giants of Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor and Idleness. Heath investigates how much progress Britain has made in tackling the challenges of material deprivation, ill-health, educational standards, lack of housing and unemployment since Beveridge’s report.

Published March 2018

Su Wheeler, Marketing and Sales Coordinator at Bodleian Library Publishing, reveals two newly published books that celebrate the history of the University and its fascinating collections. Available from the Bodleian Shop or www.bodleianshop.co.uk

Laurence Brockliss
Emeritus Fellow of Magdalen College, University of Oxford

The University of Oxford: A Brief History
A succinct account of the University’s colourful 800-year history. Richly illustrated with archival material, it explores how a university in a small provincial town rose to become one of the top universities in the world at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Published September 2018

Kate Diston
Head of Archives and Library

Zoë Simmons
Curator in the Entomology Collections

Rare & Wonderful: Treasures from Oxford University Museum of Natural History
Since its foundation in 1860, the museum has become a key centre for scientific study. This beautifully illustrated book offers a unique insight into the collections, ranging from David Livingstone’s tsetse fly specimens to crabs collected by Darwin during his voyage on the Beagle to a meteorite from Mars.

Published October 2018

John Kay, Internal Communications Manager at Oxford University Press shares a small sample of the works published by the Academic division of OUP this year

Anthony F. Heath
Director, Centre for Social Investigation, Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Social Progress in Britain
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Published March 2018

Andrew Briggs
Professor of Nanomaterials, University of Oxford

Hans Halvorson
Stuart Professor of Philosophy, Princeton University

Andrew Steane
University Lecturer and Fellow, Exeter College, University of Oxford

It Keeps Me Seeking: The Invitation from Science, Philosophy and Religion
A fresh look at how science contributes to the bigger picture of human flourishing, through a collage of science and philosophy, richly illustrated by the authors’ own experience and personal reflection. They survey the territory of fundamental physics, machine learning, the philosophy of human identity – and more.

Published September 2018

David Dwan
Associate Professor in English, Hertford College, University of Oxford

Liberty, Equality & Humbug
In this fascinating and brisk-paced account, David Dwan shows how his writings engage with some of the most fundamental questions of political thought. He studies the whole sweep of Orwell’s writings, paying close attention to his key political parables, Animal Farm and Nineteen Eighty-Four.

Published October 2018

Kelley Swain

Below: Double-page spread from Rare & Wonderful

The Dodo Gavotte
"Will you visit my Museum?" said the Dodo to the Bear.
"There are great things to discover if you spend some hours there."
"Beneath these vaulted arches all of Science is displayed: with grand Victorian drama, "Truth to Nature" is our aim."
"Will you, won’t you, will you Love Geology?"
"Within this light-drenched Cabinet of plants in iron and stone you can see the largest Sperm Whale jaw and the first-named-Dino bones."
"Where “Darwin’s Bulldog” and “Soapy Sam” sparred, with elocution, whilst Lady Brewster fainted at the case for evolution."
"Will you, won’t you, will you Love Zoology?"
"At the old cliffs of Lyme Regis Mary found an Ichthyosaur: it now lies in my Museum with a thousand fossils more."
"You can cuddle a tarantula, feel stones become pyrite, wonder at the Thylacine, see ancient Trilobites."
"Will you, won’t you, will you Love Palaeontology?"
"For mapping complex molecules in two and three dimensions Dorothy made history – won Nobel Prize attention."
"Come visit my Museum with the gemstones and the bees, you can study all of Science and you’ll never want to leave!"
"Will you, won’t you, will you Love Entomology?"
"Come to where extinction lives, come see where fish can fly, where insects see in infra-red: where Wonder lights our sky."
"Will you, won’t you, will you Love Natural History?"
Megan Thomas, Communications Executive, Oxford Education at Oxford University Press discusses a decade of collaboration between Oxford University Press, Southern Africa (OUPSA) and the Mandela Rhodes Foundation (MRF)

OUPSA and the MRF marked this milestone together with a lively symposium on Re-imagining Higher Education in Africa. Kate Harris, Managing Director at Oxford Education, gave a speech at the event about the importance of the MRF partnership to OUP. Staff and guests shared ideas for the future, viewed a celebratory exhibition and enjoyed live performances.

Founded by Nelson Mandela with the central purpose to ‘build exceptional leadership capacity in Africa’, a Mandela Rhodes Scholarship provides full funding for up to two-years of postgraduate study for an African citizen under 30 years of age.

Since 2008 the MRF has held a 25.1% stake in OUPSA. Dividends produced over this 10-year period have resulted in contributions of £4.7m to the MRF scholarship.

The Foundation has, to date, supported 444 Scholars from 25 African countries. This year, as South Africa commemorates the 100th anniversary of Nelson Mandela’s birth, there are fittingly 100 scholars in residence – the largest cohort since its inception in 2005.

To learn more about the incredible impact the scholars are having across industries, take a look at the newly launched Young African magazine on the MRF website: https://mandelarhodes.org

Above: Viewing the exhibition boards
We live in ever-changing times, so information we can trust is more important than ever before.

Futuremakers invites you to the key debates happening inside the college walls.

You’ve read a hundred articles discussing the future; now hear from those who are making it. Futuremakers finds Oxford academics at the forefront of their profession, to take on the key challenges facing society today. The first series focuses on Artificial Intelligence (AI) from the automation of jobs, to the inherent bias of algorithms, to the impact of AI on our health.

Download Futuremakers from wherever you get your podcasts, or visit: http://po.st/futuremakers