



Dear Alum,

We are delighted that for the first time HMC was placed third in the Norrington Table 2021/22.

We also made our debut at the University's *Meeting Minds* weekend last September, with FOUR stellar sessions:

- Alumni authors **Rosie Talbot** (2009, BA History of Art) and **David Wienir**, (JYA 1993-94, PPE) discussed the Future of Publishing.
- **Dr Sarah Ogilvie**, Senior Research Fellow, author of *The Dictionary People: The Unsung Heroes Who Created the Oxford English Dictionary*, and HMC Research Fellow and TV presenter **Dr Janina Ramirez**, author of *Femina: A New History of the Middle Ages Through the Women Written out of it*, talked about their recent books.
- And the **Oxford Alternatives**, Oxbridge's first a capella group, celebrated its 30th anniversary with a concert here where it all began.

Finally, we extend special thanks to all the Fellows and students who organised the *Works in Progress* event to showcase current

academic research at HMC, which debuted before the Alumni Dinner.

You can see pictures from the *Meeting Minds* events and our Alumni Dinner [here](#).

As a reminder, our **2024 Annual Alumni Dinner** is on Saturday 21st September. Booking is already open [here](#).

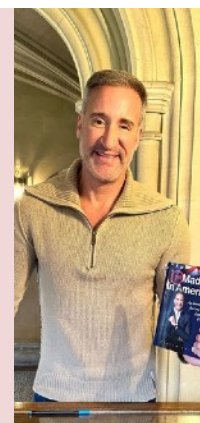
Sincerely,



Shona Nicholson
Development & Alumni Relations Manager

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Projects and Plans

The Tate Library – The Heart of Academic Life

Thankfully rumours about the death of the physical book are premature, and futuristic ideas about everything being available online have not yet been realised.

Nonetheless it is true to say that the world of libraries has been rocked by technological advances in the recent decades. Information has notably shifted away from print to online and students are increasingly digital natives, comfortable with accessing their primary information needs virtually.

Keeping our Library up to date is important in this fast-changing, highly online environment, but the technological advances and digital savviness of students make these exciting times. We are determined to make the Tate Library thoroughly relevant in this hybrid world where the physical and digital co-exist.

The Library remains central to the lives of students while they are at HMC. The richness of the architecture, magnificent stained-glass windows and imperious Martineau statue all make it one of the most beautiful study spaces in Oxford. This, combined with the splendid gallery installed 11 years ago, ubiquitous Wi-Fi, 24/7 access, self-service machines and up-to-date collections, ensures that the Tate is in great shape for students now and in the future.



But the Library is more than the Tate reading room. Behind closed doors in temperature-controlled stacks there exists a fantastic array of Library treasures. These unique archival items and rare and important books speak eloquently of our history and intellectual pedigree.

We believe our rich and unique collections deserve to be more widely known and more easily accessible. To help us achieve this we are working on an ambitious project of digitising key works and papers. An initial exciting selection of files is now available on the Digital Bodleian and more will be made available when funding allows.

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Of course, we are also fully aware of our critical role as custodians and carers of the physical collections, and we are working to preserve and conserve our fragile material alongside our digitisation activities. Ensuring the collections we have in our care are available for future generations remains one of our fundamental responsibilities.



Awaiting restoration



Restored books

Digitising items and undertaking essential conservation work costs money. **Your support for our Library Fund is crucial** in helping the College conserve these collections and promote them to students, researchers and the general public.

For further information please contact:
Shona Nicholson, Development & Alumni Relations Manager
shona.nicholson@hmc.ox.ac.uk

My Story, My HMC

Christina Loucas (2002, BA Jurisprudence)
Mother, Writer and Food Photographer

What I'm doing now

Currently living in Victoria, BC in Canada, I have been concentrating on raising our two children since 2020. When time permits, I am working on my second cookbook and food writing. There are plans for a coffee shop on the horizon, but not until I have time to drink my coffee without microwaving it five times to keep it warm!

(afroditeskitchen.com
@afroditeskitchen)



Best memories of HMC

For me, it was more the feeling that I remember having while studying at HMC that has stayed with me all these years. It felt as though anything in life was possible because I was surrounded by so many inspirational, interesting and intelligent people.

Favourite activities at HMC

These were all the little moments – making tea and playing pool in the JCR during study breaks (of which there were many), all the fancy dinners, cooking for 20-plus people on the weekends in the kitchens, where I learnt how to perfect my recipe for roast chicken. Playing volleyball for the university team was a big highlight, and I don't think I have ever been in such good shape as I was back then! Other special moments included learning how to play croquet on the HMC lawn and having the opportunity to play tennis on grass for the first time.

Why HMC?

I was really drawn to the people at HMC. The student body in College was so diverse. Many already had so much life experience and were so talented in areas beyond academia. Studying law at Oxford University was my

second degree, and I wanted to be surrounded by people who were older than those typically pursuing their first degree.

Why is giving to HMC important?

Studying at HMC and at Oxford gave me the opportunity to fine tune many of the practical skills that I still rely on today. I feel that my time there opened so many doors after I left, and for this I am forever grateful to both the University and the College. In my view, giving back to HMC, whether financially or by providing advice, is something that goes without saying. If anyone has questions about how to forge a new career path – or writing cookbooks – I would love to help. And if I could ever be of assistance in Canada as an ambassador for the College, I would be thrilled! If any HMCers find themselves on Vancouver Island, I would love to meet them.

My advice to current students

Try to stay in touch with your fellow HMCers after you leave, even though it will always feel as if you are too busy. Everyone leads busy lives, but the connections and the experiences you share at HMC will stay with you forever, and it is rare to make such connections later in life. Also, if your plans don't exactly work out as

“Forge your own path ... and be true to yourself.”

predicted once you leave University, just remember that things really will work out. You are all intelligent people with bright futures, and if you find yourself wanting to make a career change later in life, take a pause and come up with a plan. Have faith in yourself that you can do it even if some around you think you can't. There is no expectation of anyone to continue in a career solely because they have the ability to excel at it. Forge your own path, and don't be limited by society's expectations. Be true to yourself. Your education is something no one can take away, and you graduate from Oxford University with much more than a degree. The practical life skills of juggling so much is something that will serve you well, whatever path you pursue.

College News

Simon, Lord Woolley, Principal of **Homerton College**, was inducted as an Honorary Fellow of Harris Manchester College, in front of Fellows, staff and students in our Chapel. Homerton is our sister college at the University of Cambridge, with whom we share a similar history of dissenting. It's particularly poignant that his induction was part of HMC's Charter Dinner celebrations, when we commemorate becoming a constituent college of the University of Oxford in 1996. The HMC community welcomes our distinguished new member.

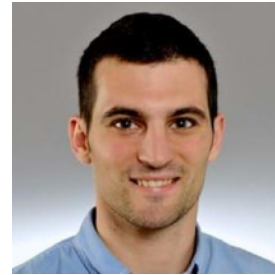


On a cold night in October, HMC Domestic Bursar **Dagny Natanson**, along with **Vice-Chancellor Irene Tracey** and a number of business and academic leaders, slept beneath the stars at University College Sports Ground, Oxford. The event was part of World Homeless Day, and Oxfordshire Homeless Movement used it as a way to raise awareness of the realities of homelessness and to raise funds. So proud of you Dagny!



HMC's Upton Lecture for 2023 was given by **Professor Susan James FBA**, Professor of Philosophy at Birkbeck, University of London. In *Fake News: Learning from Spinoza* Susan explored how the work of 17th-century Dutch-born philosopher Baruch Spinoza can help us

to examine questions of truth in our own time. This year's lecture was generously supported by **The Sekyra Foundation**.



Professor Emilio Martínez-Pañeda has joined HMC as Supernumerary Fellow. Emilio is Associate Professor of Engineering Science, where his research has focused on

identifying the scientific obstacles that can expedite our journey towards achieving a carbon-neutral society, simultaneously addressing the urgent issues surrounding our energy and climate crises.

Professor Robert Klassen has been elected to the University's Statutory Chair in Education. Prior to coming to HMC, Robert was Professor of Psychology in Education at the University of York. His research explores how motivation beliefs influence teacher



effectiveness, applying theories and methods from educational and organisational psychology to strengthen the teacher workforce.

Professor Mark Harris has been appointed as the Andreas Idreos Professor of Science and Religion, which is attached to a Professorial Fellowship at HMC. He was previously Professor of Natural Science and Theology at



the University of Edinburgh. As a physicist working in a theological environment, he thinks of himself as a theologian of science, interested in the complex ways that the natural sciences and religious beliefs relate to each other.

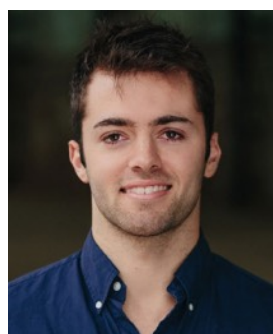
College News (continued)

Through the generosity of **Steve Jensen**, HMC Regent and founding partner at Direct Management Group, and his husband Mark Grace, the **HMC Jensen-Grace Choral Scholarships** are given to experienced singers, and to members of College seeking to enhance their choral skills. Scholarships of up to £300 per annum are available to auditioned singers, who will help to lead the choral music at Wednesday evening services and other musical events during term time. The 2023 Scholars were: **Isobel Mackie** (2022, MSc Medical Anthropology), **Christina Burjan** (Modern Chinese Studies), **Ella Speckeen** (Archaeology) and **Senith Abeynayake** (2022, MSc Economics for Development).

HMC Research Fellow **Dr Elizabeth Solopova** has been jointly awarded (with Professor Freimut Löser, University of Augsburg) a major grant by the joint UK-German Funding Initiative in the Humanities (UK Arts and Humanities Research Council – Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft).



The Engineered Biotechnology Research Group, led by Fellow and Tutor in Engineering **Professor Harrison Steel**, will be the only



international member of a cross-disciplinary team led by Harvard Medical School as part of President Biden's recently announced initiative, the DARTS (Defeating Antibiotic Resistance through Transformative Solutions) project. Its

remit is to scale up existing technologies, translating them to clinical use to support the global fight against antimicrobial resistance. You can read more [here](#).

Current student **Klara Lindstroem** (PPE) went to Istanbul, Tel-Aviv and Tbilisi recently to interview Russian nationals on their thoughts about the war in Ukraine, particularly regarding collective responsibility of citizens and the actions of the state. She says: "I am very grateful for the generous scholarship from College, which provided a significant contribution to the funding of my field trip."

2022-23 has been another year of academic success for HMC students:

- **Steve Allsopp** (Psychology): Congratulatory First
- **Jonathan Cheung** (Philosophy & Theology): Faculty Prize for best Prelims performance
- **Joe Foye** (Jurisprudence): Law Faculty's D'Souza Prize for best overall performance in 2nd BA Law, (funded by HMC alumnus Aron D'Souza (2009, BA Jurisprudence))
- **William Kitchen** (Jurisprudence): Falcon Chambers Prize for Land Law and Faculty Prize for Constitutional Law
- **Ting Ming Neo** (Economics and Management): Saïd Foundation Prize for best performance in Entrepreneurship.

And in sport at the University level:



- **Kieren Tan** (Jurisprudence) – JCR Sport Officer; Squash (First Team, Full Blues Award Recipient). Kieren also received Distinction (First Class Honours) for Prelims
- **Joshua Nurse** – Men's (Field) Hockey Blues Captain. Also reading for an MSt History – Intellectual History.

College News (continued)

“It is later than you think, but it is never too late”

These are familiar words inscribed on the Siew-Sngiem Clock Tower at HMC, which speak to the role of the College in educating mature students.

So, in thinking about life-long learning, it was a natural next step to launch **Oxford Next Horizons**, a six-month experience for mid to late career participants with expertise in any field, giving time to think, explore and reinvent. It's the first of its kind in Europe, designed by Harris Manchester College and the Rhodes Trust. The Principal is Co-Director of the programme with the Warden of Rhodes House.



In early January, HMC welcomed 19 distinguished participants and four associate participants from across the globe. These inspiring, inquisitive and intrepid early-adopters brought their passion for learning to our mature student community.

You can see more information about the 2024 cohort [here](#).

Here's their response to the programme so far:

“ **Robert K. Maloney:** HMC has been so welcoming to this mature American student. Actually, a bit over-ripe to be honest. Haven't they got the message that the English are supposed to be reserved? To be immersed in an intellectual community in the city of spires with no purpose other than to learn and grow – what a blessing that is! HMC has welcomed the misfits, the reformers, the radicals for over a century. Now they welcome me! What an honour to be included in that tradition.

OXFORD NEXT HORIZONS



“ **Tushara Dilanie:** It has been very special to return to HMC for the inaugural Oxford Next Horizons programme. I have enjoyed every moment during the first few weeks – the welcome activities, Faculty and leadership, seminars and lectures, dining in College, tutorials, advisory group meetings, the students – and even the weather! I cannot think of anything I have not liked yet! The credit goes to the programme team for all the thoughtful preparation and exceptional execution. The HMC community has been wonderful and feels like home already. Oxford is a magical place and I feel grateful for the opportunity to be here.

“ **Laurance Splitter:** Being a member of the inaugural ONHP cohort is a real privilege. The programme thus far, is intellectually stimulating and immensely enjoyable, due both to the incredible planning and organisation by our directors and support staff, which has given us access to some of the best minds at Oxford, and to the degree of friendliness and mutual support shown by and toward members of the cohort itself.

“ **Alex Burger:** Scintillating peers, virtuoso leadership that veers from BioTechnology to Shakespeare to global politics, the universe of Oxford always unfolding. Who could ask for more?

“ **Alison Van Rooy:** I've been delighted at the exceedingly high calibre of the speakers – many of whom hail from HMC – and the ideas we've been able to bounce around with them in our cohort. HMC has been an extremely welcoming home for us, too: the students, faculty, and staff have been friendly and curious about who we are and what we can bring to the community.

And that's only the first term!

Booking for the next cohort is now closed. But for further information about the programme and how to apply, you can visit the Oxford Next Horizons website [here](#).

College News (continued)

Peter Watts, research fellow at the Christian Life Centre, has been awarded a DCL (Doctor of Civil Law) by the University. The DCL is a higher doctorate, similar to DLitt. Higher doctorates are awarded by the University to recognise excellence in academic scholarship. Full details about higher doctorates at can be found [here](#).

HMC is delighted to welcome its first professional Archivist to the Library team. **Julia Donaldson** joined HMC in summer 2023 with a remit to increase the proportion of historic material that is fully catalogued, and therefore available to researchers, and to improve the discoverability of our collections through digitisation.

Julia has worked in both private and public archives and specialises in caring for material



Pictured left to right: Sophie Floate (Special Collections), Julia Donaldson (Archivist), Kate Alderson-Smith (College Librarian), Sophie Gibson (Senior Library Assistant)

dating from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Before qualifying as an archivist, Julia had a career in communications and corporate reputation management.

Student Spotlight

My name is Fabian Bello, and I was born in Havana, but when I was just 3 years old my parents emigrated with me and my grandmother to Miami to escape Fidel Castro's communist Cuba. That escape gave me a deeper insight into, and appreciation of, the unique values and opportunities available in the USA.



My book, *(re)Made in America*, recounts the struggles my family endured and the price we paid to start our new lives. Despite the trials and tribulations of growing up in a new country, my path in life and business is a testament to the American Dream.

Although I went to quite ordinary schools, I always kept my eye on what success looks and feels like, and made it my goal every step of the way.

At the age of 26 I became the youngest director, responsible for Operations, Business Processes and Quality for the Americas, in a top worldwide logistics

company with over \$3 billion turnover and 15,000 employees.

Through a chance meeting, in 2014 I became the founding member of Journey Aviation, a certified air charter firm based in Boca Raton, Florida, with over 25 aircraft located around the world today. In the last decade I have led our company through notable growth to more than \$500 million in overall

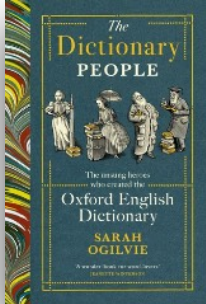
revenues, establishing it as an industry leader and preferred quality operator.

One thing I felt was missing in my life was being able to say that I had been to one of the greatest schools in the world, specifically for an advanced degree. This perceived lack led me to apply to the Saïd Business School at the age of 46, and although I didn't have the grades, I knew my professional success meant I would be considered seriously.

The first year of an Executive MBA has been one of the most exhilarating and fulfilling opportunities of my life, and today I am proud to be a member and student at Harris Manchester College.

Books, Publications & Broadcasts

The Dictionary People: The unsung heroes who created the Oxford English Dictionary, by HMC Senior Research Fellow **Dr Sarah Ogilvie** has received rave reviews from readers, journalists and book reviewers alike. Described as 'enthraling and exuberant', it's the story of people around the world who contributed to the world's largest dictionary. Recent awards include being



longlisted for the **2024 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction**. Listen to a podcast of *The nudist, the vegetarian vicar and Karl Marx's daughter* on ABC Listen [here](#).

Handwritten: Remarkable People on the Page is a celebration of the art of handwriting, including samples from famous writers, scientists, and historical figures drawn from the treasures of Oxford's Bodleian Library.

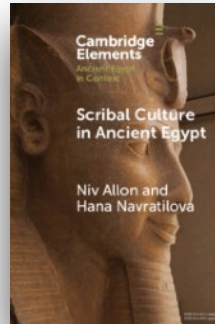


Originally a lockdown project in 2020, **Professor Lesley Smith**, HMC Fellow and Tutor in Politics and Professor of Intellectual History, spent many happy hours in the Rare Book Reading Room to put together the human stories

behind some of the Library's treasures. Listen [here](#) to Lesley speaking about her book on BBC's *Arts & Ideas*.

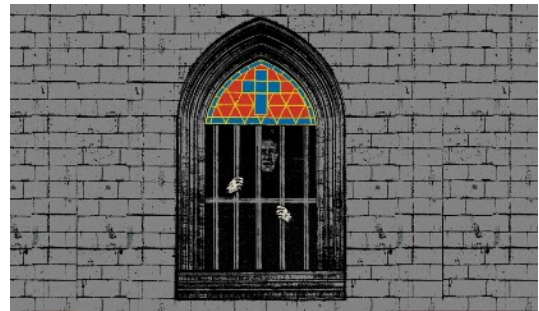
The Vanity Papers is a termly Oxford literary review published by **The Harris Manchester Literary Society**. A home to many writers from the University and influential voices of the future century, contributors have written for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Independent*, *The New York Times*, *JStor* and *The Oxford Magazine*. They have won many accolades, including The Gower Prize, The PenCraft Book Award and The Oxford-BNU Creative Writing Award. There are currently various submission opportunities for fiction, poetry and essay listed on their [website](#).

In late 2023, HMC Research Fellow **Dr Hana Navratilova** was elected a Fellow of the **Royal Historical Society (FRHistS)**.



Hana joins several Harris Manchester colleagues who are also Fellows of the Society, including Principal Professor Jane Shaw, Fellow and Tutor Professor Lesley Smith, and Research Fellow Dr Janina Ramirez. Hana's most recent book, *Scribal Culture in Ancient Egypt* –

Elements in Ancient Egypt in Context is available on the Cambridge University Press [website](#).



Ben Jones

A new article by the Principal **Professor Jane Shaw**, *Repair and reconcile? The Church and slavery*, asks if the Church of England, despite being complicit from the 17th century in the trade of captive human beings, can find reconciliation with the communities that suffered. You can read it online [here](#).

Research Fellow **Dr Janina Ramirez** is back on BBC2 with her series *Raiders of the Lost Past*.



You can catch up with the series online [here](#). Or book to hear her speak on *Eastern Journeys: The Incense Route* at the Gloucester History Festival

[here](#) on Sunday 14th April at 2pm at Blackfriars Priory in Gloucester.

Alumni News



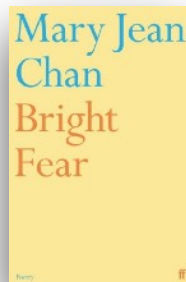
All friends and former students of HMC will be dismayed to hear that alumnus **Johan Floderus** (2011, BA PPE), who is now a Swedish diplomat at the EU, has been detained in Iran. Pictured here during a video call from prison, Johan made

several trips to Iran to visit refugee camps in his capacity as an EU diplomat. However, he was detained after a short holiday there in 2022. Friends and family have set up a [website](#) with more details.

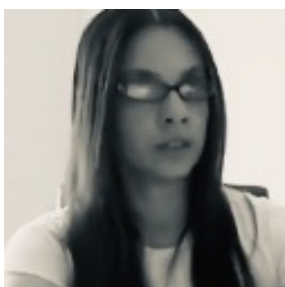
Many thanks to...

Alumnus **Charles Curtis** (1982, BA English) for his generous gift to help refurbish the Carpenter Room, to provide better study space for our students.

This keenly anticipated new collection from the Costa Poetry Award-winner and 2023 Booker Prize Judge, **Dr Mary Jean Chan** (2012, MPhil Development Studies), speaks 'out of fear and grief into splendour and joy'. Come and hear Mary Jean at our Alumni Dinner on Saturday 21st September. You can book [here](#).

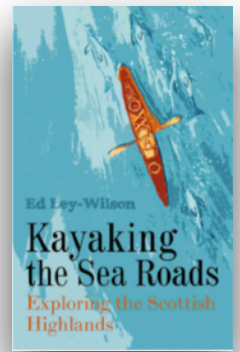


Psychology Professor Monika dos Santos (2015, Sustainable Urban Development), at the University of South Africa, has been awarded a **Rosalind Franklin Society Award in Science**



for advancing a *Theory of Everything*. This award is given to the best paper of the year by a woman or underrepresented minority in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects.

Wonderful coverage on *Quad News*, the University's Alumni website, of alumnus **Ed Ley-Wilson** (1994, BA Archaeology and Anthropology) and his new book *Kayaking the Sea Roads - exploring the Scottish Highlands*. It's about his journey, kayaking 56 days alone up Scotland's west coast, together with a broader investigation of personal and political issues relevant to the area. You can read the University's article [here](#).



Qaiser Khan (2017, MSc Taxation) has been chosen to serve as an Entrepreneurship Expert with the Entrepreneurship Centre at the Saïd Business School (SBS). Qaiser is the founder of Infinitum Education, an EdTech start-up that has been incubated and supported by Oxford University Innovation. For more information, visit the SBS website [here](#).



Congratulations to...

- **Dr Matthias Fahrenwaldt** (2019, MSt Historical Studies) who has been appointed Affiliated Professor of Actuarial Science at the University of Copenhagen.
- **Karen Wong** (2014, MSc Law and Finance) and Bill Chan on their recent nuptials. We are especially pleased to see their lovely wedding photos in our College. Many thanks for sharing your special day with us.
- **Professor Arthur Petersen** (2015, DPhil Theology), Professor of Science, Technology and Public Policy at UCL, for the completion of his degree and publication of the resulting book *Climate, God and Uncertainty: A transcendental naturalistic approach beyond Bruno Latour*, which can be downloaded for free [here](#).



Alumni News (continued)

The 2023 judging panel for the **PEN Hessell-Tiltman Prize** included environmental humanities scholar, art historian and alumna **Sria Chatterjee** (2009, BA History of Art).



Currently Head of Research and Learning at the Paul Mellon Centre in London, she directs a project on Climate & Colonialism and has published widely in the histories of art, science, and environment. Information on the winner can be found [here](#).

For the first time in the College's history two alumnae, HMC Chaplain **The Revd Dr Claire Macdonald** (2015, Ministry Studies) and **The Revd Kate Dean** (2015, Ministry Studies) Minister at Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel, led the weekday Chapel service in term. The theme on Wednesday 28th February was 'Finding our Quiet Centre', a contemplative reminder about finding space for quiet. The service included our wonderful choir led by Choir Conductor **Stephen Taylor** and our Organ Scholar **Sarah Lister ARCO**.



Special thanks to alumnus **Nick Alun-Jones** (1988, BA Modern History) and Peachey & Co LLP for sponsoring the second of our annual **Taylor Talks** Dinners in London, this time at the iconic Middle Temple Hall.



Hosted by HMC Fellow, Director of the Department for Continuing Education and Professor of Law and Society, **Professor Matthew Wait** (below left), our speaker was **The Rt Hon the Baroness Scotland of Asthal KC** (below centre).



She is a British diplomat, barrister and politician, serving as the sixth Secretary-General of the Commonwealth of Nations. She is the second Secretary-General from the Caribbean and the first woman to hold the post.

The evening commenced with a tour, including highlights of the Hall with its magnificent double-hammer beam roof, completed in 1573, followed by a drinks reception and a magnificent dinner. More photos can be found [here](#).



We are starting to make plans for next year's event. If you have an idea about venue and/or speaker, please drop us an email at alumni@hmc.ox.ac.uk.



Alumni News (continued)

In addition to the research undertaken by the Biology Department, for the past decade **Wytham Woods** has hosted the wood-fired ceramics kilns of anthropology researcher, Director of the Oxford University Kilns and HMC alumnus, **Dr Robin Wilson** (2011, MSc Visual Anthropology). The Woods are owned by the University and have been the subject of continuous ecological research since the 1940s. They are often quoted as being one of the most researched pieces of woodland in the world, and their 1000 acres are designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest.



The Oxford Kilns were designed as an outdoor real-world laboratory to facilitate through participant observation research (the methodological approach of social anthropology) a better understanding of the functioning of arts and crafts in contemporary global society.

Built into the project is a commitment to public outreach and engagement with research. Two recent outreach projects are the UNESCO school's initiative in 2023, and the schools outreach project with hard-to-reach youngsters in London.

The UNESCO project was part of a global Symposium held in September 2023 in Kyoto.

Oxford Kilns was entirely responsible for the UK component. Around 700 children from state schools across the West Midlands had the opportunity to participate in clay building workshops in which potters from a



community pottery in Birmingham went out to schools to teach children about Japanese teabowls or *chawan* and how to make them.

Children from the schools visited the site and thus came in to contact with academics, professional potters and the bundle of academic

disciplines and topics that Wytham Woods engenders – including ecology,

climate change, arts, crafts, anthropology and archaeology, as well as the technical aspects of firing ceramics. Of the 700 pots, twenty were selected to be exhibited at the Kyoto Symposium, and the children who made them attended in Japan as representatives of the UK.



In 2023 Robin was awarded the **Ambassador's Commendation** at the Japanese Embassy in London for work on the Kilns Project at Oxford. For any further information about the research, or to participate or donate to the project, please contact him at robin.wilson@arch.ox.ac.uk

Dates for your diary

HMC's Annual Alumni Dinner – Saturday 21st September 2024. Join your fellow alumni and their guests for our annual dinner. Our speaker is alumna **Dr Mary Jean Chan** (2012, MPhil Development Studies), who is the author of *Flèche* (Faber & Faber, 2019), which won the Costa Book Award for Poetry and was shortlisted for multiple prizes, including the International Dylan Thomas Prize, the John Pollard Foundation International Poetry Prize and the Seamus Heaney Centre First Collection Poetry Prize. Chan's second book *Bright Fear* (Faber, 2023) is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation and was shortlisted for the 2023 Forward Prize for Best Collection. In 2022, Chan co-edited the acclaimed anthology *100 Queer Poems* with Andrew McMillan. Chan is the 2023-24 Judith E. Wilson Poetry Fellow at the University of Cambridge and served as a judge for the 2023 Booker Prize. [Booking is now open.](#)

Alumni Carol Service – Saturday 7th December. [Booking open.](#)

Other HMC Events

HMC Chapel Services – led by our Chaplain, alumna **The Rev Dr Claire MacDonald**, under the theme *Gathering Light*, at 5.45 to 6.25pm every Wednesday in term. Mid-week services use elements of Evensong as our guide, with music from our College choir.

Book Launch – Thursday 25th April – *Unfair Terms in Banking and Financial Contracts* by **Professor Danny Busch** (HMC Senior Research Fellow and Fellow of the Commercial Law Centre) and **Professor Matthias Lehmann** (Professor of European Business Law, Radboud University, Nijmegen). More information on this event can be found [here](#).

Upton Lecture – 29th April at 5.15pm in the HMC Chapel. *You take an object from your pocket: stories, families and objects in exile,*

by **Edmund de Waal**, internationally acclaimed contemporary artist whose recent work is around the idea of migration – of people, ideas and objects. Booking open [here](#).

HMC Summer Event – Friday 3rd May. This year's theme is *Starcrossed: An Evening with the Capulets*, which promises you a great time at our fabulous masquerade party.

Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race – Saturday 30th March: 194 years of rivalry and counting. Women's Race is at 14.46; Men's Race at 15.46.

Oxford Literary Festival:

- Professor **Fiona Sampson** (1989, BA PPE) will be speaking at 2pm on Thursday 21st March at the Oxford Martin School Seminar Room about her year walking in the footsteps of the Romantics to discover how these poets, writers, artists and philosophers were shaped by their environment. [Book here.](#)
- Senior Tutor and HMC Fellow, **Professor Lesley Smith** will be speaking at 10am on Friday 22nd March with **Dr Samuel Fanou**, Head of Publishing at the Bodleian's Weston Lecture Theatre. She'll be talking about her book, *Handwritten: Remarkable People on the Page*. [Book here.](#)

College events – Visit hmc.ox.ac.uk/events for more information and to book.

If you live or work in West Sussex, you might be interested in joining the **Oxford University Society for West Sussex**, which has recently been reinstated and has a thriving social and networking programme for Oxford alumni of all ages. For more information, please contact ouswestsussex@gmail.com



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