

# NEWSLETTER

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

SUMMER 2015



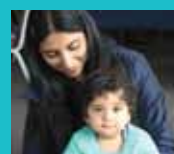
## Art for dementia: an enriching project



UNIVERSITY OF  
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**On the knock:  
gathering data**

page 8



**Helping overseas  
staff feel at home**

page 10

# SNAPSHOT

**In Kindersley's footsteps:** To celebrate the centenary of David Kindersley's birth, the Cardozo-Kindersley Workshop has devised a new walking tour of the letter cutter's work. From the Fitzwilliam Museum to Kettle's Yard, the route traces Kindersley's extraordinary impact on the stone, glass and metal of Cambridge streets, colleges and museums. Pick up a map of the Kindersley Centenary Walk at Cambridge University Press Bookshop, the Fitzwilliam Museum, Kettle's Yard or Heffers.

CARDOZO KINDERSLEY WORKSHOP



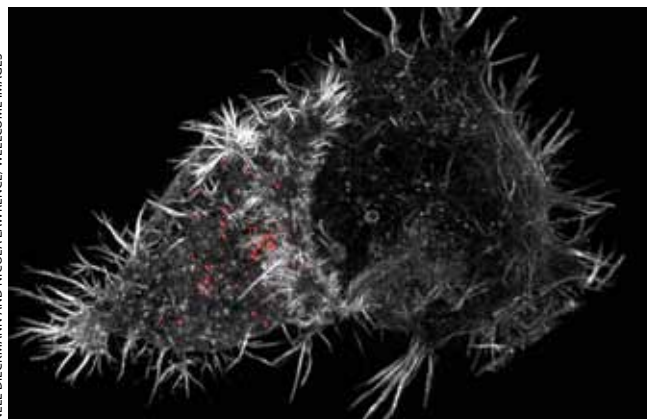
**Collage of a college:** Lucy Cavendish has commissioned a colourful collage to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Made from hand cut and torn recycled paper by Cambridge-based artist Emma Bennet, and inspired by the college's grounds and buildings, the collage will be on permanent display at Lucy Cavendish's latest development, the new Student Centre on Histon Road which opened this year.

LYNN FRASER



**Killer shot:** A super-resolution micrograph of a natural killer (NK) cell by researchers at CIMR and the Gurdon Institute is one of the winning photographs in this year's Wellcome Image Awards. NK cells can recognise and destroy some infected or cancerous cells. In this image, a roundish cell on the right is under attack by the pointier NK cell on the left. When the NK cell releases toxic chemicals – shown in red – the second cell will self-destruct.

NELE DIECKMANN AND NICOLA LAWRENCE/WELLCOME IMAGES



**Metal guru:** Six months after she trundled through Cambridge after a late night at her namesake college's May ball, Clare the *Tyrannosaurus rex* has moved to her new home. The half-size metal sculpture is now a permanent feature outside the entrance to the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences. Made for the primordial-themed ball by Doncaster-based blacksmith Ian Curran, Clare will be surrounded by plants similar to those that lived 65 million years ago when *T. rex* roamed the Earth.



## CONTENTS

### Cover

The University's museums are a world-class resource for researchers, students and the public. Now a pioneering project is using Cambridge's collections to enrich the lives of people with dementia. Becky Allen reports.



### 2-5 News round-up

### 6-7 Cover feature

### 8-9 Behind the scenes

Cambridge researchers make major contributions to public health through large-scale studies. Jessica Penrose meets the research interviewers whose dogged determination makes such research possible.

### 10-11 Know your university

Academic life is an international business, but moving countries and continents can be challenging. Fortunately, Cambridge offers overseas staff and scholars plenty of support, as Paul Kirkley finds out.

### 12 People

### 13 Small adverts

### 14-15 Prizes, awards and honours

Front cover photograph: Alice Boagey. From 'Close-up and Personal', a temporary exhibition of gold boxes from the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Collection on loan to the Victoria and Albert Museum, London

## NEWSLETTER

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### NEWSLETTER ONLINE

[www.cam.ac.uk/for-staff](http://www.cam.ac.uk/for-staff)



## Attenborough building a new era for CCI

THE ARUP BUILDING, home to the Museum of Zoology, has been renamed the David Attenborough Building. The building on the New Museums site is currently being refurbished and when it reopens next year will provide a new city centre habitat for several leading conservation organisations.

The new building will become a hub for the Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI), a collaboration between the University and the Cambridge-based cluster of conservation organisations such as Fauna and Flora International and the RSPB, and the Museum of Zoology.

The David Attenborough Building has been designed to provide an environment that will foster innovation, generate solutions to conservation challenges and inspire future generations. It will house more

than 500 academics, practitioners and students from the University.

According to Dr Mike Rands, Executive Director of CCI: "Sir David Attenborough's work, introducing and enthusing millions of people to the beauty, fragility and our scientific understanding of the natural world, makes the naming of this building in his honour particularly significant.

"The David Attenborough Building will act as a collaborative hub for the conservation community within Cambridge and beyond. Creating a collaborative and dynamic space in which experts from academia, practice and policy can interact and work together on a daily basis will help shape the future of life on Earth and the relationship between people and the natural environment on which we depend for our own wellbeing and survival."

The refurbishment to the Museum



of Zoology will create new displays to inspire and engage audiences, and new stores to preserve its outstanding collections for the future. Professor Paul Brakefield, Director of the Museum of Zoology, said: "The refurbishment of the Museum of Zoology will allow many new audiences to discover these wonders

for themselves, as well as maintaining the museum's key role in University teaching."

Work on the David Attenborough Building should be completed at the end of 2015, and the Museum of Zoology is due to reopen in the summer of 2016 with a series of public events.

## Raising funds to raise the whale

THE MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY has launched a campaign to raise £150,000 to clean and rehang its largest and best-loved specimen, the fin whale.

The £150,000 campaign will also pay for the cleaning, conservation and re-display of other large skeletons in the collection, including the polar bear, giraffe, giant sloth and hippopotamus.

The 70-foot fin whale skeleton had been in storage since 2013 when refurbishment work began on the Arup Building.

In June this year the skeleton – starting with the huge skull – began to return to the new Whale Hall being built to house it. The museum also revealed its new logo, featuring the whale.

When the Museum of Zoology reopens in 2016 the fin whale will welcome all visitors. It will be

suspended from the ceiling of the new Whale Hall – a glass extension to the David Attenborough Building that will form the museum's new entrance.

The museum has commissioned a unique soundscape for the Whale Hall. Created by the renowned wildlife sound recordist Chris Watson, the soundscape includes voices from Cambridge communities and natural sounds from the watery fen landscape.

The fin whale was washed ashore in Pevensey Bay, East Sussex, during a winter storm in 1865. After being displayed on Hastings Cricket Ground, the whale's skeleton was bought by the University in 1866, where it hung in the old Museum of Zoology from 1896 until the building was demolished in the 1960s.

To make a donation to raise the whale visit <http://tinyurl.com/pqobyjk> and tweet #raisethewhale

**Ever thought about bringing a national or international conference to Cambridge but wondered where to start?**

**We'll help you tick a few things off your to do list!**

The Cambridge Ambassador Programme is open to members of the University and offers free advice, support and resources to help you bid for and host a successful event.

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- Identify conferences in my field of expertise
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- Create a professional conference bid
- Photography
- Video
- Site visits
- Letters of support
- Budgeting
- Conference organiser
- Suppliers
- Create the Cambridge experience

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Conference Cambridge

## New campaign aims to raise £2bn

CAMBRIDGE WILL LAUNCH a philanthropic campaign this autumn to raise £2bn for the University and colleges. The campaign will launch on 16-18 October, followed by further campaign events in the US this autumn and globally in 2016.

The campaign goal – which exceeds the £1.2bn raised during the 800th anniversary campaign – is seen as vital for Cambridge's future. According to Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz: "For the first 700 years of Cambridge's history, philanthropic giving built and sustained this institution, and our ambition for the future demands that it do so again.

"Our continued performance at the very top of global league tables is a powerful tribute to the extraordinary people who work here. But whilst our achievements on budgets smaller than our American peers speak volumes, this will not in itself be enough to consistently attract transformational philanthropy, nor will it enable us to remain a world-leading university in the long

term. The reality is that the financial gap is widening, and quite simply, we need more resources to keep pace with the competition."

Alison Traub, Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations, said: "A campaign galvanises support by raising visibility externally and internally and provides a framework for engaging donors, alumni and academics. But it also builds fundraising capability systemically throughout our institution, accelerates momentum for a step-change and embeds philanthropy as an instrument of change."

She also emphasised that the campaign was for all collegiate Cambridge. "This is an opportunity for us to come together to secure the future of collegiate Cambridge. We pursue our ambitions through the distinctive collegiate system of supervisions, which teaches students how to think, not what to think.

"The colleges are one of the main instruments by which Cambridge succeeds. The success of the University is inextricably linked to that



Cast in stone: a commemorative plaque on the Benefactors' Staircase, Old Schools

of the colleges, and vice versa. The campaign is an opportunity to bring University and colleges together and to achieve maximum benefit to all."

Academics across the University benefit from philanthropy. One of these is Professor James Wood, whose chair in Equine and Farm Animal Science is endowed by the Alborada Trust. "We are lucky enough to have not just one but two positions endowed here, a lectureship as well as my chair. That has been transformative for the work that I

have been doing in the Vet School, but also transformative because of the other funding the Alborada Trust has given to other programmes across the University," said Wood.

"My position is in the new key area of veterinary science and epidemiology. Through this work myself and the lecturer have brought £10-15m in additional funding to our programme over the last five years."

→ Contact CUDAR at [contact@philanthropy.cam.ac.uk](mailto:contact@philanthropy.cam.ac.uk)

## Philanthropy at Cambridge: the gifts that keep on giving

*Philanthropy at Cambridge is centuries old and many of the University's iconic colleges, institutions and fellowships were established this way.*

- > The first Cambridge college – Peterhouse – was founded in **1284** by Hugh Balsham, Bishop of Ely. As well as completing Henry VI's vision for King's College, Henry VIII also founded Trinity College and endowed five Regius professorships.
- > In **1704**, Thomas Plume bequeathed funds to build the observatory and for a professorship, and in 1816, Richard Fitzwilliam, 7th Viscount Fitzwilliam of Merrion, left the University £100,000 and his art collection, establishing the Fitzwilliam Museum.
- > In the **20th century**, the Rockefeller Foundation funded half the cost of the new University Library and, in the 1960s and 70s, the Wolfson Foundation gave funds to build the University Centre, establish the Institute of Criminology, and found a college.
- > Funded by the Gatsby Foundation and opened in **2011**, the Sainsbury Laboratory is pioneering research in plant development. Understanding how plants develop will inform our long-term use of plants for food, fuel and other materials.



King's: a royal vision



KEVIN O'NEILL

Fitzwilliam Museum



SEBASTIAN STAMMLER

Wolfson College



The Sainsbury Laboratory

## Portraits of women: framing debate

IMAGES OF WOMEN are replacing those of male Masters this year as a number of colleges examine the gender balance of portraits on their walls. Now, as part of celebrations marking 30 years since women arrived at Pembroke, the college has opened an exhibition of photographs of female Fellows.

Its replacement of traditional portraits of past Masters in its dining hall with photographs of female Fellows is the latest addition to a project called PemWomen@30.

Earlier this year Jesus replaced some male portraits in its dining hall with images of women by French artist Agnès Thurnauer.

Those in colleges with a tradition of hanging female portraits say it is important to have images of women on show. According to Dr Gillian Sutherland of Newnham: "Having female portraits upon walls matters, signalling not only to students but to senior members that they are part of, and inheritors of, a distinguished tradition."



CINTHIA WILLAMIAN

Portraits of women cover up the traditional paintings hanging in Pembroke's dining hall.

Professor Loraine Gelsthorpe, Graduate Tutor at Pembroke, and chair of PemWomen@30, is one of the women depicted in the show.

She said: "Pembroke cannot avoid its history, having been founded by a woman – Marie de St Pol, Countess of Pembroke – then not having admitted women to study in the college until 1984, but there is genuine concern to establish gender equality and to think more broadly about diversity and inclusivity. This photographic initiative, covering old Masters,



captured the spirit and aspirations of our year-long celebration of 30 years of women being admitted as students in the college."

Monica Wirz, Head of the PemWomen@30 Committee, said the project had been about encouraging people to think.

"It's been a chance to reflect on the past, consider how things have changed over the past few decades and to talk about how we might move forward," she said.

"Pembroke thrives on

conversations, between generations and disciplines, between undergraduates, graduates and senior members, between current students and alumni, and between the academy and the wider world. As such, the PemWomen@30 events fit perfectly with the college's wider aims."

For the exhibition 12 Fellows were selected to have their photographs included, and the project used images taken by Emeritus Fellow Ian Fleming, who has captured a photograph of every Fellow on their admission for several decades.

A single painting of a woman hangs above the High Table. Marie de St Pol is the Foundress of Pembroke and her image signifies the fact that women have long been an important part of the community. However, as women were not admitted to the college until 1984, all of the other portraits depict men.

→ For more on PemWomen@30 go to [www.pem.cam.ac.uk/pemwomenat30/](http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/pemwomenat30/)

## University adopts new green targets

THE UNIVERSITY HAS LAUNCHED a new environmental sustainability policy and strategy that will see its world-leading research in this area matched by improved operational performance and impact.

The Environmental Sustainability Vision, Policy and Strategy will help Cambridge cut its carbon emissions, conserving natural resources and making positive environmental impacts through its research and teaching.

The policy sets out clear objectives, such as eliminating all non-hazardous waste to landfill by 2020, reducing water consumption by 20 per cent by 2020, and ensuring that 75 per cent of staff regularly commute to work by sustainable

modes of transport by 2016.

These aren't easy targets, but a number of positive steps have been taken over the past two years to make them achievable.

The first, under the leadership of Pro-Vice-Chancellor Jeremy Sanders, was to establish a new Environment and Energy Section in Estates Management.

The team, led by Joanna Chamberlain, worked with the new Environmental Policy Review Committee to consult with the University and produce recommendations.

Chief among them was the formation of a new, high-level Environmental Sustainability Strategy Committee (ESSC). This has absorbed

the functions previously overseen by the Environmental Strategy Committee, the Energy and Carbon Reduction Project Board and the Living Lab Advisory Group.

The ESSC will be a joint committee of the University Council and General Board. Its membership includes the Pro-Vice-Chancellor with responsibility for the University's environmental sustainability policy, a member of Council, two Heads of School, the Directors of Estate Strategy, Finance and Information Services, as well as two student members.

The Environment and Energy Section – now 12-strong – will look after day-to-day implementation of the policy. Key areas of focus

will include carbon management, sustainable procurement, the University's Travel Plan, sustainable construction and sustainable food.

The Environment and Energy Section will also be responsible for engaging staff and students, and developing a culture whereby the University community is inspired, empowered and supported in improving personal and collective sustainability practices.

The policy also sets out ways in which research relating to environmental sustainability can inform effective operational practice, and for staff and students to access learning opportunities to deepen their knowledge and practical skills in this area.



PHOTOGRAPHS: ALICE BONGEY

# Portals to the world

There are 850,000 people with dementia in the UK today. While researchers focus on finding effective treatments and diagnostic tools, museums across Cambridge are using their rich collections to enrich the lives of people with dementia and their carers. Becky Allen reports

IT'S A BRIGHT SPRING morning when I meet Barbara and Roger Goodden at the café in the Fitzwilliam Museum. They've agreed to speak to me about Portals to the World, an art appreciation course for people with dementia and their care partners.

"You're freezing!" Mrs Goodden exclaims when we shake hands. As we look at the menu and decide on tomato soup – and before anything like a question forms in my mind – she adds: "My memory's not very good you know – but Roger will fill in the details."

Filling in the details is something Mr Goodden has had to do increasingly often since his wife was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease four years ago. Walking around the museum after lunch, we stop in front of some of the exhibits, from Papal bronzes to Monet paintings, they covered during the course last year.

"Coming here you don't feel alone," he says, "because you can talk to others – customers and staff – who understand."

In the UK, 850,000 people have dementia. The disease costs £24bn a year, much of it met by an army of 706,000 unpaid family carers. And while we currently lack biomarkers to diagnose dementia and effective therapies to treat it, what we can tackle now is the isolation that accompanies the disease.

Which, five years ago, is what Edye Hoffmann decided to do. Having worked in the dementia community since 2003, first as carer for her mother-in-law, and then as a care home activities coordinator and trainer, Hoffmann realised she could make most difference by offering the support she had sought while caring for her mother-in-law. So in 2010, she set up dementiaCOMPASS in Cambridge and the following year



developed Portals to the World.

People with dementia are doubly stigmatised. They are older and have a complex condition that's a mental health issue. It's a double whammy," she explains.

### **An isolating disease**

"People say the thing they never expected was the isolation. We have to understand, earlier in the journey, ways of connecting people to communities and one another in order to serve them better in later stages where we see crisis and breakdown. If we can do that as a community then our situations will be much better."

A series of annual, intensive art appreciation courses piloted at the Fitzwilliam in 2011, Portals to the World is now expanding into other University museums, including the Polar Museum, and holds regular alumni events at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Kettle's Yard and the Museum of Classical Archaeology.

The courses are intimate – each caters for eight couples – with around 20

**"The idea is to discover and rediscover things you might have had an interest in before the diagnosis"**

attending alumni events, but it has been so successful that people travel from across the region to attend. The course runs for nine consecutive weeks, each two-hour session offering a 20-minute talk or handling session followed by a tea break and a creative activity linked to that week's talk.

At the Fitzwilliam alone they have covered everything from fans and angels to Japanese prints and exotic tea pots, but for the museum's Outreach and Access Officer, Joanna Holland, one particularly memorable session featured a Roman sarcophagus.

"Dr Lucilla Burn, our Keeper of Antiquities, talked about the Pashley sarcophagus, an ancient, carved marble extravaganza that engages people in a really special way," says Holland.

"Afterwards, we worked with clay to focus on a key part of the sarcophagus, this amazing elephant. We asked people to create their own, and they produced some exquisite and beautiful things. Having something to take home, a talking point for where they've been but also beautiful in its own right, is a critical part of Portals."

### **Respite – together**

The other defining feature is what Hoffmann describes as 'respite together'. "You come together, experience together, so you have a break from the dementia rather than a break from each other. It's a different type of respite, and the idea is to discover and rediscover things you might have had an interest in before the diagnosis."

As well as being popular and enjoyable, the course has longer-lasting benefits. Over nine weeks people make new social connections, learn from each other and share resources, all of which reduce isolation.

Crucially, by focusing on what people can do, rather than the things they cannot, it opens up opportunities that the diagnosis and isolation have foreclosed. Many alumni have become Friends of the Fitzwilliam, others visit the café or attend lectures, and two have signed up for painting courses, says Holland: "a lot of things that are really important in terms of their world not being as small as it was."

Rachel Sinfield, Head of Communications and Engagement at the Fitzwilliam has watched Portals to the World grow since its inception. "What's so important about this project is that the focus isn't on reminiscence,

it's creating an enriching experience that can happen now – a new experience and something to share," she explains. "That's important because for many people, the onset of dementia is a time when they feel constrained and acutely aware of what isn't possible."

### **Dementia-facing staff**

Making sure the programme achieves its ambitious aims is not easy, and success depends on meticulous planning. Noise, lighting and reflections from cabinets are all considered to create as familiar and stress-free an environment as possible. There is a high ratio of volunteers to participants, and staff, speakers and volunteers are all fully trained.

"It's been good for staff," says Sinfield. "We all have different needs and learning styles, something in the learning department we think about all the time. But it's been very good for collections colleagues who are very sensitive to audiences to be able to receive that training and learn to speak a little slower, smile, and use eye contact."

It's a determination that Roger notices and appreciates. "I felt so conscious of the care, attention to detail and genuine concern that the people involved have for the participants; all the thought about what's appropriate and how unhurried it all is," he explains.

Hopefully the research across Cambridge into the nature, causes and treatments of dementia will in future make significant improvements in the lives of those with the disease. Until then, the University can use its rich collections not only for teaching and research, but also to enrich the lives of some of our community's most isolated members.

"I'm a passionate advocate of the fact the Fitzwilliam is here, it's free, and we have a responsibility to work with everyone in our community – not just those who can do it easily", says Holland. "For me, it's all about a sense of entitlement and ownership, and that it doesn't just belong to the University – it belongs to everyone."



### **FIND OUT MORE**

*The next Portals to the World course at the Fitzwilliam Museum takes place this autumn, with bookings taken from 1 September. For more information, visit [dementiacompass.com](http://dementiacompass.com)*

# The secret life of the research interviewer

Large-scale health studies make a difference to all our lives. But how is this wealth of data gathered? Jessica Penrose investigates the role of the research interviewer – that small band of dedicated people who make this research possible



ILLUSTRATIONS: ANNA BETTS

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY'S LARGE PUBLIC health studies provide a rich seam of valuable information for researchers to mine. They have already led to important findings on dementia and the way the brain adapts in later life, but they rely on the careful collection of raw data. Huge amounts of it. Data on diet, physical exercise, memory, cognitive function, family relationships, health problems, housing and more.

The data needs to be gathered by people who know the importance of consistency and keeping participants on track. People who are prepared to slog along dark winter streets and down rutted country tracks to speak to real human beings – like you and me – and find out what is really happening in our lives.

These are the research interviewers (RIs) who – armed with laptops and determination – go out day after day, interviewing randomly selected volunteers in their own homes.

"It's a wonderful job. Participants are incredibly kind, and very generous with their time," says Sarah Shippey, who was an interviewer on the Cognitive Function and Ageing Study (CFAS) for 15 years before retiring in 2013. "You

meet some fascinating people."

Potential participants – the people who are approached for interviews – are picked at random from GPs' registers, and sent a letter telling them about the study and inviting them to take part. If they don't say no at that point, the RI, who only has their name and address and date of birth, will visit their home to arrange a date for the interview.

"It's not cold calling, because they've had the letter, but it can still be a little tricky when you knock on the door," explains Mandy Castle, who worked on the Cambridge Centre for Ageing and Neuroscience (CamCAN) study. "You've got to be friendly and open. The smile is key!"

Bridget Peake, a former occupational therapist who was an interviewer on the CFAS study for five years, was very aware of how those first few seconds on the doorstep were vital to making the right impression.

"Being able to communicate very quickly who you were and why you were there was very important. You needed to convince people straight away that you weren't trying to sell them something."

This gentle persistence is key to

**"Our research interviewers are an essential component of the study team. They are the public face of the study and without them the study is not possible"**

ensuring that as many people as possible take part. CFAS and CamCAN operate on an 'opt-out' system – giving selected participants the opportunity to drop out at any time whilst working hard to try to keep them on board, rather than waiting for people to put themselves forward.

"With an opt-in system, you tend to only get fit, active and socially inclusive people taking part," explains CFAS National Coordinator Linda Barnes. "But if you want to be able to properly study the population in general you have to get as broad a range of people as possible, and opt-out makes that a lot easier."

Having the friendly face of an interviewer on the doorstep can make all the difference to those who might never dream of taking part otherwise. And for many, a couple of hours of answering detailed questions about their life and being the focus of attention, is a welcome and surprisingly enjoyable experience.

"Some people, especially the more elderly and isolated, are very chatty and love having you there," says Peake.

It can be a delight for the interviewer to be given a brief glimpse into the life of the person sitting in front of them. Peake learnt a lot about local history from interviewees' descriptions of their school



days and first jobs. Shippey has heard fascinating stories about the early life of retired farmers out in the fens, back in the days when horses were the main means of transport.

"Rural life has changed unbelievably in the last 50 years and it's been wonderful to hear such vivid memories of a world that's now disappeared," she says.

There are sad stories too, from the recently widowed, or people supporting loved ones with chronic illnesses such as dementia. Being a good listener, with a caring and empathetic side, are crucial attributes for an interviewer, but so is a solid awareness of the purpose and boundaries of the role.

"As a former nurse, sometimes it was hard for me to hear about people's problems and not be able to help them," said Shippey. "Of course, you've got to hold back and not go off the interview."

Each interview has to be conducted in exactly the same way, ensuring that any differences in the data are down to the participants themselves not the way in which the interview has been delivered. And that takes tenacity and excellent people skills.

"You need to keep pulling them back to the interview, and not get sidetracked," says Castle. "Consistency is very

important in big epidemiological studies like these. But you could stay on after the interview for a chat, and I did that from time to time."

Any concerns could be flagged up with the study office, but otherwise, once the interview was over, that was the end of the interaction between interviewer and interviewee.

It can be a lonely job. RIs arrange their own interviews and set their own hours, with only occasional visits to the office to punctuate the weeks. For some, who trained together initially and kept in touch, informal support networks emerged.

"You can feel out on a limb, especially when you first start," recalls Shippey. "But there was a small group of us who would meet and share tips on how to handle difficult situations, such as the odd time when you might get a door slammed in your face."

The other side of lone working is, of course, the issue of personal safety. Yet despite the number of visits to strangers' homes, sometimes at night, there have thankfully been no worrying incidents.

"We do a thorough training course, over four days, which includes personal security and advice from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust," explains Barnes. "We



## From interview to evidence

Public health studies overseen by Professor Carol Brayne (Department of Public Health and Primary Care), including CFAS and CamCAN, have provided:

- important evidence on the prediction of risk for development of future dementia
- contributions to large consortia which have highlighted the role of particular patterns of genes to clinically diagnosed Alzheimer's Disease
- major impact on understanding about what it is that happens in the brain in the older population which can lead to the loss of cognitive and mental skills
- evidence of a drop in the prevalence in dementia, for which the most likely explanation is higher education and better vascular health
- indications which suggest that higher education protects from the clinical manifestation of disease and that higher education, social class and late life intellectual activity can help aid better recovery from impairment, and
- CFAS has helped to inform policy on both a local and national level. It was a contributor to the G8 summit on dementia and a major contributor to the Alzheimer's Society Dementia UK 2nd Edition. CFAS is also one of the contributing cohorts of the newly formed Dementias Platform UK.



encourage interviewers to talk to us if they ever feel uncomfortable or would rather not go to a particular house or area, as we can always send another interviewer with them for support."

Over thousands of interviews, vital data has been gathered which has resulted in many important findings in the study of dementia and ageing. And it couldn't have happened without the small band of dedicated interviewers who go out day after day, carrying out their unseen work.

"RIs are absolutely integral to the study. Without the data they collect, we have nothing to analyse," says Barnes. "We need their professionalism, their skill and their dedication. They are absolutely crucial."



### FIND OUT MORE

[www.iph.cam.ac.uk/our-research/research-into-action/carols-research-programmes](http://www.iph.cam.ac.uk/our-research/research-into-action/carols-research-programmes);  
[www.cfas.ac.uk](http://www.cfas.ac.uk); [www.cam-can.org](http://www.cam-can.org)

**"Our research interviewers managed to recruit hundreds of adults to participate in an interview, as well as a range of additional tests including brain scans"**  
CamCAN

Lora Mjolsness and her daughter Ada enjoy an Newcomers and Visiting Scholars session. Lora is an academic at the University of California, Irvine and her partner works at the Sainsbury Laboratory



# New arrivals: making a home in Cambridge

From housing and visas to loneliness and language barriers, arriving at a new university, in a new country, is a challenging part of academic life for many people. Paul Kirkley looks at the support Cambridge has to offer

TO BE THE BEST, you have to attract the best – and for the University of Cambridge, that means securing talent from every corner of the globe.

“Research is an international activity,” says Karina Prasad, Head of the University’s Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPdA). “You cannot nowadays do research without an international element. It’s just impossible. That means people need to move from one country to another, and we need to be supportive of that. Mobility of researchers, and how to facilitate that, is a really important issue facing research staff today.”

It’s a position few would argue with. But leaving behind everything you know for a new life – be it temporary or permanent – in Cambridge brings with

it many challenges, from getting a visa to finding a home, overcoming cultural, social and language barriers, or simply dealing with loneliness and isolation.

Fortunately, the University boasts a comprehensive support network designed to make life for overseas staff and scholars less stressful, more productive and more enjoyable.

“There is a huge amount of help available,” says Prasad. “In OPdA, we like to think we look at the whole lifecycle of the community. So it’s about before you arrive, when you get here, while you’re settling in, while you’re working here, preparing to leave, and beyond leaving.”

May 2014 saw the opening of a new, dedicated Postdoc Centre at 16 Mill Lane. Catering to the University’s 3,600

postdocs – more than 2,000 of them from overseas – the centre’s team of volunteers offers a range of advice to visiting scholars, their partners and families.

“A big part of what we do is signposting,” explains Prasad. “We could be referring people to the University’s immigration team, to the Accommodation Service, to people who can help with childcare, payroll, schooling, careers or counselling. There are so many resources, both inside and outside of the University.”

The OPdA works closely with Postdocs of Cambridge (PdOC) – the society representing postdoctoral research staff and Junior Research Fellows – as well as the Newcomers and Visiting Scholars (NVS) service. Founded in the 1960s, this team of volunteers supports new arrivals to the University with a programme of activities aimed at staff and, in particular, their partners and families.

“Often, the partner who’s working goes out to a recognisable lab or department and is swept into the reasonably familiar structures and scaffolding of the work environment,” explains NVS committee member Nicky Chaplin. “But the family arrives and everything is up in the air: they don’t know how to do things or where to find things. They’re friendless, effectively.”

Every Tuesday, around 60 to 80 such people gather at the University Centre to take advantage of free language lessons, a lecture by a Cambridge academic and a walking tour of the city. But perhaps more important is the chance to ask questions, and to share a coffee and a chat with like-minded people in the same

situation. In addition, the NVS also runs a busy programme of events, including college tours, visits to National Trust properties and children’s storytelling events. Group members regularly form their own book groups, film clubs and knitting circles.

“Generally, it’s helping people find their feet,” says NVS administrator Julie Darsley, “and reassuring them that, actually, it’s going to be all right – just give yourself six weeks and you’ll feel like you’ve been here forever.”

Hediyetullah Aydeniz, a visiting scholar from the Faculty of Communication at Marmara University in Istanbul, arrived in Cambridge five months ago. He describes the NVS as “an informal culture and diplomacy service”, adding: “I’ve learned many things from them, in an informal way, about Cambridge, about the University, and about British culture. I spent a year in London during my PhD, and there was nothing like this. It’s an exceptional service.”

Like many others, Aydeniz found his way into the support network via the University Accommodation Service. Shortly after his arrival from Turkey, accommodation officers helped him find rented accommodation and also assisted with checking his rental contract. “And then they gave me information about NVS, who gave me information about the Postdoc Centre,” he says. “So it wasn’t just about finding a place to live – through them, I found out about many University services I can benefit from.”

Darsley, who also works in the Accommodation Service, says they are about much more than bricks and mortar. “The head of the service, Nicky Blanning, has always made it very clear that we should be an office that gives information across the University,” she says, “and we do act as the welcome centre for the University, even if not in name. People are able to contact us, and if we don’t know the answer, we’ll find out for them and pass them on to the right people.”

When it comes to overseas staff, the attention is very much on postdocs and visiting scholars. “We do help senior academics, many of whom seem to like the personal touch, but others prefer to make their own arrangements, helped by the University’s HR relocation agents,” says Darsley. “Postdocs are the real focus. They’re the ones who need extra help – especially if their first language is not English, or if they have families.

“There are a lot of universities that



PHIL WYNOTT



**“Academic life isn’t just about books – it’s about your environment and other people; without the connections I’ve made, my life here would be less rich”**

**Top:** Visiting scholar Hediyetullah Aydeniz  
**Above:** Neelam Debata with her daughter Ava enjoying a Newcomers and Visiting Scholars session

don’t have their own accommodation service,” she adds. “A lot outsource it and, with those, I don’t think you have the same feeling of ownership. I feel terrible if I get a bad report about someone who’s had an unhappy experience. Your goal is then to make it better.”

Since opening a year ago, the Postdoc Centre has become a gateway hub for newcomers. Professor Chris Abell, Director of Postdoctoral Affairs, Karina Prasad and their team have been making themselves very visible – by, for example, making the Getting Connected induction sessions mandatory, and visiting “every corner of the University and colleges” to make sure new arrivals know what is available to them.

“What the University has put behind [the Postdoc Centre] is exceptional, and a testament to its commitment to staff,” Prasad says.

It’s this ethos that has helped Hediyetullah Aydeniz navigate his way through his first few months in Cambridge. “When you start a new life in a new city, the first steps are the most important,” he says. “You need to connect with the city. Academic life isn’t just about books – it’s about your environment and other people; about feeling things you can’t find in a library. And if I hadn’t been able to make the connections I’ve made, my life here would not be so rich.”



**FIND OUT MORE**

**Newcomers and Visiting Scholars**  
nvs.admin.cam.ac.uk  
**Office of Postdoctoral Affairs**  
opda.cam.ac.uk

## Help with housing

One of the biggest challenges faced by newcomers to the city – finding somewhere to live – is about to get a lot easier, thanks to the new North West Cambridge development.

“We will have 700 key worker housing units available in the first phase,” explains Karina Prasad. “Ultimately, there will be about 1,500. They will primarily be for postdocs, at a very affordable rate. The number of postdocs is growing at a rate of about 100 a year, so hopefully it will be ten or 20 years before we need to build another North West Cambridge! It really will ease the pressure,” adds Julie Darsley.

## Three new Heads of School announced



Professor Abigail Fowden

**Professor Abigail Fowden** is to be the Head of the School of the Biological Sciences from 1 August, while from 1 October **Professor Philip Allmendinger** will become Head of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The new Head of the School of the Physical Sciences will be **Professor Lindsay Greer**. He starts his post on 1 January 2016.

Allmendinger takes up his role after being Head of Land Economy and Deputy Head of the School for the past three years. As well as preparing for the next Research Excellence Framework (REF), he says fundraising will be a key



Professor Lindsay Greer

challenge for the School.

“The success of the next campaign will be critical to future investment in posts and student support, particularly in an era of uncertainty over public finances. An important target for Humanities and Social Sciences fundraising are PhD bursaries,” he said.

He will also focus on housing. According to Allmendinger: “I want to use my time as Head to work with the University and local authorities to tackle the city’s housing affordability problem.”

Fowden began her academic career in Cambridge in 1972, completing a PhD in foetal



Professor Philip Allmendinger

physiology. She has held a personal chair since 2002, and served as acting Head of the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience.

“To be Head of School is a great honour but a great responsibility. The research at the School is very diverse, from plants to clinical medicine. There are a large number of people here and much of the work is driven by PhDs and postdocs – so we have a young group doing the coalface work. One important thing will be engaging with donors, industry and alumni,” she said.

“Biological Sciences in Cambridge is exceptional in its strength, diversity

and quality. The main challenge is nurturing the environment for excellent research and education in the biological sciences. I want to keep the School at the forefront of biological research internationally, and that is a challenge with funding as we need to build infrastructure for the 21st century. Making old buildings fit for purpose without spending enormous sums of money is a key challenge.”

Greer, currently the Head of the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy, began his academic career at Cambridge and has spent the majority of his working life here. “It is a great privilege to be Head of the School. You cannot find a university that has a better reputation across physical sciences than Cambridge,” he said.

Like Allmendinger, his priorities include the REF and funding. “The School did well in the REF and we will look to do the same again. Fundraising will be an opportunity for us to build on,” said Greer.

“Cambridge performs very well on the world stage but the financial base on which we run that success is much smaller than our competitors in the USA for instance. We really need to do something about that,” said Greer.

## OBITUARY

### Jane Ridley

**Jane Ridley**, who died in March this year after a short illness, was a key member of the Human Resources Division and an inspiring example of the vital contribution that good HR can make to institutions and people. Upbeat, driven, with an infectious commitment to her work, Jane provided outstanding support to many areas of the University. She was heavily involved in the organisational development of the University’s Information Services and the Cambridge University Development and Alumni Relations office, and assisted many other departments with employee relations advice.



Jane joined the University in 2009 as HR Business Manager for the School of Arts and Humanities, having held senior HR positions at

Barclays and BT. She quickly gained the confidence of senior University figures, while demonstrating a genuine concern for the wellbeing of staff at all levels. A move a few years later to become the Business Manager for the Unified Administrative Service and Non-School institutions saw her take a more active part in the ongoing development of the central administration. It was in this role that she oversaw an immensely successful staff survey within the UAS, the model for which was deployed across a number of Cambridge institutions, including the Library and Clinical School. That project helped many areas of the University better understand their relationship with their staff, and focus on particular areas of need.

In the HR Division, Jane was known for her impeccable style, and appreciated as a supportive and caring manager, eager to assist junior members with their work and development – qualities she used as a patient governor of the Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Her passion for team-building and professional improvement were greatly appreciated by two directors of HR, just as her generous, offbeat sense of humour was appreciated by all of her close colleagues.

Jane was driven by a deep respect for people, and the possibilities for great things when they fulfilled their potential. She herself achieved much during her time at Cambridge, inspired those who worked with her, and leaves many happy memories.

## OBITUARY

## Professor Sir Christopher Bayly (1945-2015)



**Professor Sir Christopher Bayly**, described as the single most influential figure in the field of modern Indian history, died this April in Chicago aged 69.

World renowned for his enormous contributions to the Centre of South Asian Studies in Cambridge and to his subject, he held many positions during his time at the University including being the centre's Director, President of St Catharine's, and Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History in the Faculty of History.

He also held positions outside Cambridge including the Vivekananda Professor at the University of Chicago. It was while in Chicago, during one of his annual spring visits, that he died of a suspected heart attack.

Professor Bayly arrived in

Cambridge in 1969 after completing his PhD at Oxford under the supervision of Jack Gallagher.

He was a member of the Centre of South Asian Studies for more than 45 years. As its Director, he oversaw the centre's move from Laundress Lane to the Alison Richard Building and launched the MPhil in South Asian Studies.

Despite retiring as Director last year, he maintained a base there. Professor Joya Chatterji, the current Director, said her predecessor was a "crucial point of continuity" in its history.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that Chris has been the single most influential figure in the field of modern Indian history. Every one of his monographs, from his first book on Allahabad in 1975 to his last book on Liberalism in 2012, broke new

ground, whether in political, social and economic, or latterly intellectual history," she said.

"His prodigious productivity, the stunning range of his scholarship, and his talent for thinking comparatively, and in a connected way, about a range of historical questions, established the reputation for which he was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 2004 and received a knighthood in 2007."

Dame Jean Thomas, Master of St Catharine's, said that many people had paid tribute to Professor Bayly. "It is clear that he was held in high esteem not only in Cambridge and St Catharine's, but around the world. We have lost a friend and valued colleague, and he will be sorely missed. We extend our deepest sympathy to Susan and his family," she added.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

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## HOUSES TO RENT (UK)

→ **Butley, Suffolk**

Comfortable, spacious, well equipped cottage with piano in Butley, Suffolk. Available for Aldeburgh Festival, weekends and short breaks throughout the year. Close to Orford, Sutton Hoo, Snape and Minsmere. Sleeps up to eight. Call Miranda on (01223) 357035 or email [info@butleycottage.co.uk](mailto:info@butleycottage.co.uk). See more at [www.butleycottage.co.uk](http://www.butleycottage.co.uk).

→ **Cornwall**

Traditional granite cottage in peaceful countryside between St Ives and Penzance. Sleeps five in three bedrooms, with comfortable sitting room, kitchen-breakfast room and bathroom. Sunny garden and off-road parking. Close to beaches and coves, coastal path, sub-tropical gardens, historic properties. Email Penny on [pb29@cam.ac.uk](mailto:pb29@cam.ac.uk) or phone (01638) 507192. Details and photos at [www.tinminerscottage.co.uk](http://www.tinminerscottage.co.uk).

→ **Minnis Bay, Kent**

Two bedroom well equipped bungalow in a quiet seaside village on the North Kent coast within easy reach of Whitstable, Canterbury and the Turner Gallery in Margate. Off road parking and an enclosed sunny garden five minutes walk from the sea. Sleeps four comfortably but

flexible enough to sleep seven.

Available weekends and weekly breaks throughout the year. Contact Gill on 01223 360541 or email Vince at [vrw10@cam.ac.uk](mailto:vrw10@cam.ac.uk).

→ **Scottish Highlands**

Highland holiday cottage with sea view near Helmsdale. Palm Tree Cottage Retreat. Sleeps four to six people (two double bedrooms and two small chair beds suitable for small children). £350 per week or £820 per month (mention this advert). Sit in front of an open fire, 10 minutes' walk to the beach, Wifi, washing machine, dishwasher and bread maker. Ideal for a writing retreat, golf or fishing holiday. [www.palmtreecottage retreat.com](http://www.palmtreecottage retreat.com), tel: 07954 358174, email: [carandlor@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carandlor@yahoo.co.uk).

→ **Southwold, Suffolk**

17th century Leman cottage, three bedrooms, well equipped, Wifi, in peaceful countryside. Off-road parking, enclosed sunny garden. Weekly lets in school holidays, flexible short breaks rest of year. Easy walk, cycle or drive to explore Heritage Coast, historic churches and more. Personally managed. More info and for more cottages sleeping two to eight see [www.suffolkcoastalcottages.co.uk](http://www.suffolkcoastalcottages.co.uk) or phone Trish Gower on 01502 478078.

→ **Yorkshire Dales**

Beautifully refurbished cottage at Pateley Bridge on the borders of Yorkshire Dales National Park. Very comfortably furnished. Sleeps up to six in three bedrooms. Underfloor heating and log burner. Courtyard garden with studio. Linen and towels provided. Excellent local amenities, spectacular countryside and many wonderful places to visit nearby. Prices are £425-£695 per week with short breaks available. For further details and booking: [www.cuckoocottageyorkshire.co.uk/](http://www.cuckoocottageyorkshire.co.uk/), email [cuckoocottageyorkshire@gmail.com](mailto:cuckoocottageyorkshire@gmail.com) or phone 07528 595295.

## ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Seeking summer let in or near Cambridge for a couple, double room or similar, ideally in a cat friendly house. If you are able to help please contact Claire O'Reilly at [clo34@cam.ac.uk](mailto:clo34@cam.ac.uk).

## HOUSES TO RENT (OVERSEAS)

→ **Athens, Greece**

Beautiful fourth floor apartment with veranda at the city centre (Kypseli, Fokionos Negri area), furnished to a high standard. Contains double bedroom, study/

living/dining rooms, kitchen, bathroom, storage and cloakroom. Close to all amenities with easy access to the University, national library, archaeological museum and the historical centre. Ideal for visiting academics. Available January-June (negotiable). £400/month for one person, £600 for a couple, including bills. Contact Dr Anna Melidoni, [amelidon@ebi.ac.uk](mailto:amelidon@ebi.ac.uk).

→ **Prodromi, Cyprus**

Large, spacious, well equipped townhouse in the village of Prodromi, between Latchi and Polis. Small complex (13 properties) with shared pool and private parking. Two double bedrooms. Available for short and long-term lets. Prices start from £300 per week. For further details and bookings contact Bridget on [bridgetwoodley@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:bridgetwoodley@tiscali.co.uk).

→ **Amalfi Coast, Italy**

Small B&B in peaceful, traffic-free mountain village above Positano. Ideal for those seeking a quiet mountain retreat with modern conveniences. All rooms ensuite with panoramic sea views of the Amalfi coast. Situated on famous Sentiero degli Dei (Footpath of the Gods). English speaking host. Double room and breakfast from 70 euros per night. Easyjet flights to Naples from Stansted. Phone Penny

Marrone on 01954 210681. Further information and photos at <http://ninobb.moonfruit.com>.

→ **Umbria, Italy**

House to rent in Umbrian countryside in Italy. Equidistant between Cortona and Perugia, close to Lake Trasimeno. Traditional old farmhouse, refurbished to a high standard in 2013, overlooking beautiful valleys. It includes a large, mature and shady garden with an olive grove and a swimming pool with glorious views. Walking trails direct from the house. Sleeps eight. Still some availability for 2015. Price ranges from £900 to £1,800 per week. Contact [dbd25@cam.ac.uk](mailto:dbd25@cam.ac.uk) or phone 07771 700501.

→ **Provence, France**

Large, comfortable flat in famous Côte Bleue resort of Carry-le-Rouet, close to the Camargue, Marseilles (European capital of culture 2013) and all Provençal places of interest such as Arles, Avignon, Aix-en-Provence, St Rémy-de-Provence. Seafront, beach and coves within 100 metres. Excellent for swimming, snorkelling, scuba diving, sailing, walking and cycling. Thirty minutes from Marseilles airport or Marseilles TGV railway station. Sleeps six comfortably. Private parking. WiFi network. Contact Anita Ogier on [ao10001@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ao10001@cam.ac.uk).

# PRIZES, AWARDS AND HONOURS

## Awards

→ PhD student **Wafa Mohammed Abutaleb** of the School of Clinical Medicine has won a European Society of Radiology Rising Stars Award at this year's European Congress of Radiology Rising Stars.

→ **Professor Ali Alavi**, **Professor Jane Clarke**, both from the Department of Chemistry, **Professor Anthony Edwards** (Gonville and Caius), **Professor John Robertson** and **Professor Zoubin Ghahramani**, both from the Department of Engineering, have been elected fellows of the Royal Society.

→ **Professor Margaret Ashcroft** (Department of Medicine) has been made an honorary member of the Royal College of Radiologists.

→ Five Cambridge academics are among the 48 researchers from across the UK who have been elected fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences. They are **Professor Roger Barker** (Department of Clinical Neuroscience), **Professor Sarah Bray** (Department of Physiology), **Professor John Danesh** (Department of Public Health and Primary Care), **Professor Fiona Gribble** (Department of Clinical Biochemistry) and **Professor David Klenerman** (Department of Chemistry).

→ **Dr Julie Barrau** (Faculty of History) has been awarded the 2015 Prix Saintour for her book *Bible, Lettres et Politique: L'Écriture au Service des Hommes à L'époque de Thomas Becket*. The award by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres is given for the best book on the Middle Ages or Renaissance.

→ **Professor Alison Bashford** of the Faculty of History is one of three new trustees of the board of the Royal Museums in Greenwich, which comprise the National Maritime Museum, Queen's House, the Royal Observatory and the Cutty Sark. The appointment – made by the Prime Minister – runs to January 2019.

→ **Camille Bilger**, a PhD student in the Department of Engineering's Energy and Fluids group, has won an Airbus Group UK TechMaster Award.

→ **Professor Sir David Baulcombe** has been elected an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

→ **Luca Calatroni**, a PhD student in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics has won the fourth annual Smith Institute TakeAIM competition for his work on new mathematical medical imaging methods.



Professor Jane Clarke



Dr Robert Macfarlane



Professor Alastair Compston



Professor Ben Simons



Professor Beverley Glover

→ **Professor David Cardwell** of the Department of Engineering has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science by the University of Warwick.

→ **Professor Alastair Compston** (Department of Clinical Neurosciences) has been awarded the 2015 John Dystel Prize by the American Academy of Neurology and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society of the USA for his research into multiple sclerosis. He has also won this year's Hughlings Jackson Medal of the Royal Society of Medicine for advancement in the science of neurology.

→ **Dr Donal Cooper** of the Department of History of Art has won the Art Book Prize 2014 for *The Making of Assisi: The Pope, the Franciscans and the Painting of the Basilica*. Described by the *Daily Telegraph* as a "lavishly illustrated and thought-provoking work of exemplary and accessible scholarship", the book was written together with Dr Janet Robson and focuses on the famous fresco cycle of the life of St Francis often attributed to Giotto.

→ **Clare and Emmanuel colleges** shared the honours in this year's Cambridge Culinary Competition, taking the overall title and the Stewards' Cup. Clare's Byron Franklin was named chef of the year and other colleges winning awards were Corpus Christi, Darwin, Emmanuel, Sidney Sussex and Trinity Hall. "The 2015 competition has proved bigger and better than ever with a record number of competitors," said Lee Corke, the competition committee chairman. "This bi-annual event is a highlight of the college calendar, celebrating the talent and commitment of our catering teams. For the competitors, this presents a great opportunity to continue to learn new skills and develop as part of a busy catering team."

→ The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and Environment in Scotland has appointed **Professor Beverley Glover**, Department of Plant Sciences and Director of the Cambridge Botanic Garden, as a Trustee of the Board of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Keen to exchange skills and knowledge between Cambridge and Edinburgh, Glover said: "I'm really delighted to take on this important role, because it is a marvellous opportunity to share ideas and experiences about the ways in which botanic gardens fulfil their crucial mission to curate, conserve and explain the diversity of plant life."

→ The Institute of Electrical and

Electronics Engineers has awarded **Professor Frank Kelly** (Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics) its Alexander Graham Bell Medal for his outstanding contributions to telecommunications.

→ **Dr Vasant Kumar** of the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy has been awarded the Kroll Medal and Prize.

→ **Professor Gopal Madabhushi** of the Department of Engineering has received the IGS-ONGC prize for his research on the structural integrity of offshore wind turbines. Awarded biennially, the prize is presented to the best research in offshore geotechnical and marine engineering and is offered jointly by the Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS) and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, India.

→ **Dr Robert Macfarlane** (Faculty of English) has won the Royal Geographical Society's Ness Award for his innovative writing on landscape, place and nature. *The Guardian* described his new book *Landmarks* as a "joyous meditation on land and language" and "a love letter to the British Isles".

→ **Dr Alexandra Mullen** has been awarded the 2014 James Henry Breasted Prize by the American Historical Association for her book *Southern Gaul and the Mediterranean: Multilingualism and Multiple Identities in the Iron Age and Roman Periods*. Now at the University of Oxford, the book is based on her PhD research in the Faculty of Classics at Cambridge.

→ **Professor Nicholas Postgate** of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies has been awarded the 2014 Frank Moore Cross Award by the American Schools of Oriental Research for his book *Bronze Age Bureaucracy*.

→ **Professor Lalita Ramakrishnan** (Department of Medicine) has been elected a member of the US National Academy of Sciences.

→ **Professor Ben Simons** (Cambridge Stem Cell Institute) has been awarded the 2014 Franklin Medal and Prize by the Institute of Physics.

→ **Professor Sir Mark Welland** of the Department of Engineering has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science by the University of Bristol.

→ The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) has announced the election of 58 new Members, including **Professor Carlos Caldas**, **Professor Simon Tavaré**, and **Dr Duncan Odom**, from the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute.

## Funding boost for SPRI

THE SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH Institute has been awarded £500,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Part of the HLF's £5m funding programme Collecting Cultures, the award will go towards SPRI's *By Endurance We Conquer: the Shackleton Project*, a targeted purchasing strategy designed to develop its collection of material on Sir Ernest Shackleton.

The centenary of Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic (Endurance) Expedition (1914-17) is a once in a generation opportunity to develop SPRI's collection of Shackleton-related material. Public interest generated by the centenary celebrations means that a large number of items relating to Shackleton's life and expeditions will either return to the market from private collections or become available for the first time, and *By Endurance We Conquer* will enable SPRI to seize this opportunity.

● **A new research hub for German studies** is being created at Cambridge thanks to an award of €1m over the next five years from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The hub – which opens in 2016 – will build on existing research and create a public platform for the UK where German themes can be explored.

According to Vice-Chancellor Sir

Leszek Borysiewicz: "The University has a critical mass of scholars working on German themes unrivalled in the United Kingdom and probably anywhere in the world outside German-speaking Europe. Few nations can boast such a powerful tradition of scholarship and learning as Germany, which plays a critical economic and political role at the heart of Europe. We therefore welcome this golden opportunity to foster an even greater partnership between Cambridge and Germany."

Professor Margret Wintermantel, president of the DAAD, said: "Building on the University's already remarkable position in this respective area, the hub promises an outcome at an even higher academic level with international acclaim."

● **The Museum of Zoology** received another major boost following an award of £200,000 from the Wolfson Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). The news comes on the back of a previous £1.8m funding award from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Polly Hodgson, Museum Project Manager, said: "Our aim is to completely reimagine the Museum of Zoology and provide a truly world-class home for our world-class collections. The DCMS grant is another huge step forward for



**Sir Ernest Shackleton:** lottery funding puts SPRI in pole position to expand its Shackleton collection

our plans and will allow us to exhibit more of our animals, insects and skeletons than ever before.

"The new gallery displays will celebrate animal diversity, explore its evolution and the threats it faces, and open up the stories of the people behind our understanding and protection of it."

The museum is due to reopen in 2016.

## CUSU awards thank staff for great teaching and support

THE CUSU STUDENT-LED teaching awards have recognised staff from around the University for their excellent teaching and pastoral care.

Winners in the Lecturer Category were **Dr Laura Moretti** (Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies), **Dr Rory Finnin** (Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages), **Dr Katharine Hubbard** (Department of Plant Sciences), **Christine Counsell** (Faculty of Education), **Dr Richard Turner** (Department of Engineering), and **Dr Fiona Maine** (Faculty of Education).

Winners in the Supervisor Category were **Dr Richard Barnes** (Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience), **Dr David Whitebread** (Faculty of Education), **Dr Jason Rentfrow** (Department of Psychology),

**"The awards celebrate the excellent teaching that occurs at the university every day"**  
CUSU

**Dr Helen Thaventhiran** (Faculty of English), and **Dr Jenny Koenig** (Department of Pharmacology).

Special mentions in the supervision category were **Dr Ruth Abbott** (Faculty of English), **Dr Julian Sale** (Department of Pathology), **Dr Yannis Galanakis** (Faculty of Classics), **Professor Graham Virgo** (Faculty of Law) and **Matthew Simpson** (Faculty of Philosophy).

Winners in the Pastoral Category were **Dr Louise Joy** (Homerton), **Dr Paola Filippucci** (Murray Edwards) and **Dr Kevin Greenbank** (Wolfson).

Winners in the Non-Teaching Category were **Don Stebbings** (Faculty of Divinity), **Katheryn Ayres** (Department of Veterinary Medicine), **Karen Kempton** (Robinson) and **Libby Tilley** (Faculty of English).



A winner in the Supervisor Category, Dr David Whitebread, surrounded by his students

If you have an awards story, send your text (maximum 70 words) to the Editor at [newsletter@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:newsletter@admin.cam.ac.uk). We reserve the right to edit contributions.



## Come again soon...

Kettle's Yard has closed to allow work to begin on a major new development project. *Kettle's Yard: Looking Ahead* will create a new education wing, environmentally controlled galleries and better services for visitors, including a café.

Many exciting projects are planned for the closure period, including:

- a display at the Fitzwilliam Museum
- the Open House project in North Cambridge
- an exhibition at the Jerwood Gallery in Hastings.

For details on events, and how to donate to the project, go to [www.kettlesyard.co.uk](http://www.kettlesyard.co.uk).

Kettle's Yard thanks all its visitors for their support and looks forward to seeing them again when the development is complete.