

Emma Weekly Quiz Answers

Week 4: Thursday 23rd March 2020

1. The original Chapel at Emmanuel was in what is now the Old Library and reflected our nonconformity in pointing north-south, a deliberate statement that there was no need to point east-west. When William Sancroft became Master in 1662, he wanted to build a chapel with a more conventional orientation. Although he resigned in 1665 to become Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, he remained interested in the plans and provided significant financial help. He also selected Christopher Wren as architect, with whom he was working at St Paul's. In 2004, a bequest enabled us to restore the Chapel to Wren's design. What is the date above Chapel clock and what does it signify?

Answer:

1673, the date when the exterior of the building was finished

2. The College grounds have many fine trees. The Oriental Plane was planted in the nineteenth century and is shown on the front cover of Thomas Pakenham's Meetings with Remarkable Trees. It inspired a Spanish poet who was living in Emmanuel during the Second World War, who wrote about it in his poem, El Árbol, the first verse of which translates as: 'By the side of the waters stands like a legend in its walled and silent garden the beautiful tree, surrounded by grass, interweaving its leaves, a canopy where a shadow of Eden still exists.' Who was the poet?

Answer:

Luis Cernuda

3. In the early seventeenth century, several students at Emmanuel became mathematicians and astronomers. Jeremiah Horrox, who predicted the Transit of Venus, was one. Another invented the sign for infinity and discovered logarithms to Base 10. Who was he?

Answer:

John Wallis - see <https://www.emma.cam.ac.uk/about/history/famous/?id=7>

Week 3: Thursday 16th April 2020

1. Last Michaelmas term we rehung the Hall with portraits of women, to mark the fortieth anniversary of women coming to Emmanuel as undergraduates. At the same time we unveiled a portrait of the Master, and shortly afterwards we managed to buy at auction a portrait of Mary, Countess of Westmorland, the Founder's granddaughter-in-law. How many portraits of women are there in Emmanuel? And who painted the Master's portrait?

Answer:

7

Joyce Frankland

Queen Elizabeth I

Alice Sancroft

Mary Countess of Westmorland

Mary Mildmay

Unidentified lady

Master (painted by Alastair Adams) (see

<https://www.emma.cam.ac.uk/about/discover/paintings/>)

2. In 1775, James Essex remodelled a range of buildings facing onto St Andrew's Street, and created a new main entrance to Emmanuel, leading into what became Front Court. Where was the entrance to the College until then?

Answer:

In 'New Court', through what is now O staircase

3. Dame Fiona Reynolds ('Dame Fi' to the students) was elected Master in 2012. She had previously been Director-General of the National Trust. How many Masters has the College had, and who was the longest-serving?

Answer:

27 Masters

The longest-serving was R T Cory (see

<https://www.emma.cam.ac.uk/about/history/masters/>)

Week 2: Thursday 2 April 2020

1. Emmanuel College was founded as a place to educate protestant preachers. We were thus distinctive and grew rapidly so that by the 1620s we were the largest college in Cambridge. Of the first 100 Cambridge graduates who emigrated to New England, 35 came from Emmanuel. How many can you name?

Answer:

**Blackstone, William
Bradstreet, Simon
Browne, Edmund
Cheever, Ezekiel
Cotton, John
Denison, Daniel
Dudley, Samuel
Firmin, Giles
Greene, Henry
Harvard, John
Hooker, Thomas
James, Thomas
Johnson, Isaac
Knight, William
Leverich, William
Maude, Daniel
Mellowes, Edward
Mildmay, William**

**Pelham, William
Perkins, William
Phillip, John
Pruddon, Peter
Rogers, Nathaniel
Sadler, Richard
Saltonstall, Richard
Sheppard, Thomas
Stone, Samuel
Streete, Nicholas
Symmes, Zachariah
Walton, William
Ward, John
Ward, Nathaniel
Waterhouse, Thomas
Whiting, Samuel
Youngs/Yong, John**

2. Thomas Hobson was a seventeenth-century Cambridge carrier, whose rule that customers had to take the next available horse led to the saying 'Hobson's choice'. When he died in 1631 he left a bequest to guarantee the continuation of a public water supply to Market Hill. There are three branches to Hobson's Conduit, one of which feeds the pond in Chapman's Garden, then goes under Old Court to the pond in the Paddock. Where does the Conduit go to after it leaves Emmanuel?

Answer: Christ's

3. An unusual, and much-loved, feature of Emmanuel is the tunnel linking North Court with the rest of the college. When was it constructed and why?

Answer: The Cambridge Council was considering making a road from St Andrew's St to Drummer St further north and in 1902 agreed to close Emmanuel St. When the time came to implement this in 1906 the council held an acrimonious debate and referred it back to the committee, and then by one vote agreed not to proceed. In some embarrassment they offered compensation to the college for the needless expense we'd undergone in preparing for the closure, and the Bursar suggested the town should approve and pay for the tunnel, which opened a way to what became North Court, which was opened in 1914.

Week 1: Thursday 26 March 2020

1. Chapter one of *Gulliver's Travels* starts:

My father had a small estate in Nottinghamshire: I was the third of five sons. He sent me to Emanuel College in Cambridge at fourteen years old, where I resided three years, and applied myself close to my studies; but the charge of maintaining me, although I had a very scanty allowance, being too great for a narrow fortune, I was bound apprentice to Mr. James Bates, an eminent surgeon in London, with whom I continued four years.

Why did Jonathan Swift send Lemuel Gulliver to Emmanuel College for his education?

Answer: Because he was amanuensis to William Temple, an Emma graduate (who paid for the tables and benches in the Hall in 1693)

2. Our Fellow Peter Burke wrote about polymaths in the [2017 edition](#) of the College Magazine.

Thomas Young was an Emma man; what was his range of interests?

Answer: He was a doctor, discovered the wave theory of light (the story is that this was by observing the ripples created by swans on the Emma pond), deciphered the Rosetta stone, and worked on tides and elasticity.

3. In the sixteenth century, any student found swimming was flogged for a first offence, and sent down if repeated. Customs changed so that by the mid-eighteenth century bathing had become popular and the ornamental pool shown on Loggan's plan of 1690 became a cold bath, with a summerhouse. Substantial alterations were carried out in 1855, marked by a stone on the floor of the pool with William Castlehow, the then Bursar's name, inscribed.

Which other colleges have open air swimming pools?

Answer: Christ's, Corpus Christi (Girton and Clare Hall have indoor pools)

CHECK BACK NEXT WEEK FOR MORE ANSWERS!