



THE EMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022

FELLOWS' NEWS

The college community is saddened that Dr Derek Smith, Emeritus Fellow at Emmanuel and former Lecturer in Engineering died on 23 February.



Derek was elected into an Official Fellowship as college lecturer in engineering in 1981. He read engineering as an undergraduate at St John's College, and was awarded the Rex Moir Prize and a distinction in thermodynamics. He joined Rolls-Royce when

he graduated, then returned to Cambridge for a PhD investigating metal-cutting vibration. After working for Staveley Research and Matrix on machine tools, he returned to Cambridge for a third time, as an Assistant Director of Research on gear-cutting machines, and then as lecturer in mechanics from 1968. His research continued in gears, machine tools and vibration; he published *Gear Noise* (1999), *Vibration Measurement and Analysis* (1989) and, with D B Welbourn (Emma 1934), *Machine Tool Dynamics* (1970). Vibrations in gearboxes are symptoms of underlying problems, and they can, and do, lead to catastrophic failures. Derek devised equipment to measure vibrations, determined their source, and advised how they might be eliminated.

His interests included skiing, Scottish dancing and his cottage on the west coast of Scotland, which he built. He and his wife Rona have two daughters (Lynn did her PGCE at Emma 1994–95) and a son.



Dr Jonathan Nicholls – Emeritus Fellow at Emmanuel and the former Registry at the University of Cambridge – sadly died on 7 March. He studied at the college under Professor Derek Brewer, our Master between 1977 & 1990, for his PhD, published in 1985: *The Matter of Courtesy: Medieval Courtesy Books and the Gawain-Poet*. He was also the college's Herchel Smith Scholar to Harvard in 1981–82.

His successor as Registry, Ms Emma Rampton, paid tribute to his life & time at the university: "Jonathan was an immense presence, bringing intellect, a deep understanding of the UK higher education system, and a formidable work ethic to his role... He cared deeply about the role that the UAS (Unified Administrative Service), and wider community of professional services staff in Schools, faculties and departments, played in supporting our academic mission."



Research Fellow, Matthew Seah, has been awarded the ESCEO-IOF Young Investigator Awards at the World Congress on Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases. The award is given to young investigators for their contributions in the field of bone and mineral research.

ARCHIVES BLOG

The Gog Magog Olympics

As we enjoyed the spectacle of yet another Olympic Games, in this case the Winter variety, it is intriguing to note that almost exactly 400 years ago Cambridgeshire was preparing to host its very own 'Olympics'. Scheduled for early July, 1620, the games were to be held in the Gog Magog hills, a few miles south-east of Cambridge.

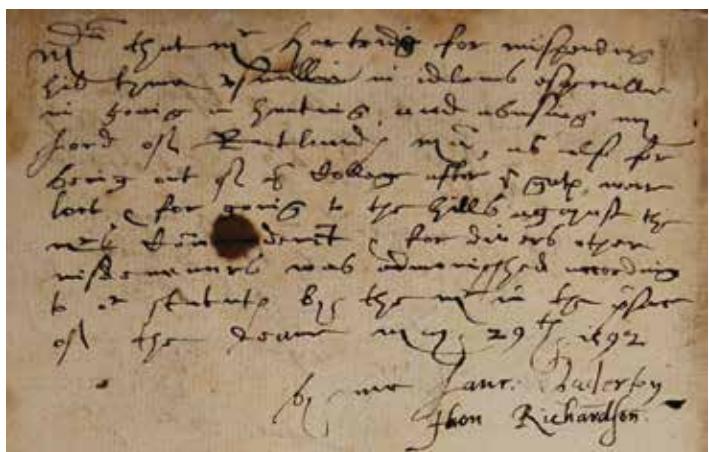
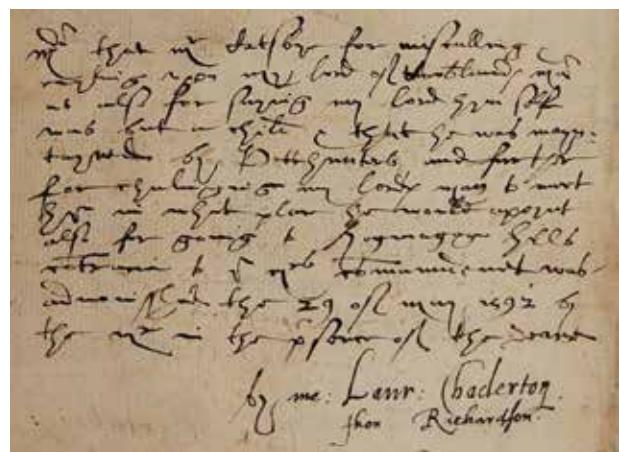
Similar events had been staged there occasionally in the previous half-century, usually at Whitsuntide, to the increasing vexation of the university authorities. On 28 May 1574 the vice-chancellor, John Whitgift, informed William Cecil, Lord High Treasurer of England, that for the past two years the Gog Magog gatherings had been an 'occasion of moche disorder among the youthe of the universite', a particular cause of concern being the illicit gaming that had gone on. Appalled by rumours that these 'infamous' games were to become an annual fixture, Whitgift entreated Cecil to revoke the licence which a 'very lewed' man, Richard Robinson, claimed gave him authority to hold the event.

Without waiting for Cecil's response, on 29 May the vice-chancellor issued a university Order imposing financial penalties on any students spotted within half a mile of the games. The fines were to be paid by the miscreants' tutors, who stood to have their goods distrained if they refused; a clever (if unpopular) stratagem aimed at enforcing collegiate cooperation. Whitgift also ordered that the Gog Magogs be patrolled by university proctors and bedells for the duration of the games; a kill-joy attitude, perhaps, but Cambridge undergraduates could be as young as fourteen or fifteen, and the games offered many unwholesome temptations. In the ensuing decades the authorities made repeated attempts to suppress the Gog Magog revels, but their allure was such that students continued to defy the prohibition on attendance.



Frontispiece to a collection of poems extolling the merits of the Cotswold Games, published in 1636

Things finally came to a head in 1620, for the July gathering promised to be a particularly rowdy affair, lasting several weeks and including horse racing, bull and bear baiting, 'loggattes, ninehoales, ryflinge, dicing & other such unlawfull sportes and games'. On learning of this, the vice-chancellor, Robert Scott, immediately rode out to the hills and hauled the event's convenor, John Adamson, back to Cambridge, where he threatened him with instant imprisonment if the games were not called off. Adamson had no choice but to comply, whereupon the booths were dismantled, the company dispersed, and the 'sportes and shows were utterlye disappoyneted'. This seems to have been the nemesis of the Gog Magog gatherings, for they are not mentioned again in the university annals.



The admonition book censuring George Catesby (L) & Dennis Hartridge (R) for various misdemeanours, 29 May 1592



The cancellation of the games would have pleased Symonds D'Ewes (left), a rather priggish young student at St. John's College, who had noted in his diary for July 1620 that the 'vain and needless' entertainments to be held at the Gog Magogs would include bowling, running, jumping,

shooting and wrestling, 'under the designation of the Olympic games! This is the only contemporary reference to the games as 'Olympic', an adjective surely bestowed by Cambridge students, who would have been familiar with the Ancients. The better-known 'Cotswold Games', initiated by Robert Dover at some date after 1611, may well have been inspired by the Gog Magog gatherings, for Dover had been up at Cambridge in the 1590s. The Cotswold games were also called 'Olympics', certainly by 1630.

Emmanuel College's puritan authorities naturally deplored the Gog Magog shindigs, and the students were strictly forbidden to go near them. Nevertheless, on 29 May 1592 two fellow commoners were formally admonished for 'going to Hogmagog hills contrarie to the Masters commandement'. The lads in question, Dennis Hartridge and George Catesby, were also reprimanded for idleness and neglect of studies, 'going a hunting', being out of college after the gates were locked, abusing the young Earl of Rutland's sizar, challenging him to a fight, and 'divers other' misdemeanors. How seriously these two delinquents regarded their verbal warnings is anyone's guess, but at least they were never caught frequenting the Gog Magogs again.

Amanda Goode
College Archivist

University Challenge 2021–22

Many congratulations to Emma's *University Challenge* team, who reached the semi-finals of this year's competition! Sadly, they were unable to beat eventual winners, Imperial College London, but made a valiant effort nonetheless. Well done to Nicole, Nikolas, Cara and James, (and mascots, Ellie the Duck and Manny the Lion).



Emma Gives 2022



We'd like to thank warmly everyone who helped make *Emma gives* (our Giving Day) a success on 15 & 16 March. At the end of the 24 hours over 285 members,

Fellows, staff and friends had given and, including challenge and matching funds, you helped us raise over £95,000 for *Emma enables* and the *Emma experience* programme! Thanks also to those of you who submitted a song or piece of music for our wellbeing playlist, which you can listen to anytime. It can be found on the College YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/emmanuelcollegecambridge

Alumnus triumph on Countdown

One of our recent graduates, Dan Byrom (2017), appeared on Channel 4's *Countdown* programme, and scored 140 points: achieving the highest-ever debut score.



We're delighted with his progress – having appeared as the audience member who solved the conundrum after a failed attempt from both contestants in 2017 – and look forward to his continued appearances. After winning his eight games, Dan has qualified for the series finals which will be screened from 9 to 17 June. We're hoping that he wins the coveted *Countdown* teapot!

New Year Honours for Emmanuel members

We are delighted that three members of the College have been recognised in the New Year Honours 2022.

Dr Geoffrey Lambert (1997, PhD Chemistry), who is Deputy Director of Covid Infection Survey Operations at the Office for National Statistics has been appointed OBE for his services to Statistics and Public Health. A CMG has been awarded to the former HM Ambassador Yangon to Myanmar, **Daniel Chugg** (1996, MPhil Musicology) for services to British foreign policy. Finally, Commander **Katie Muir** (2000, Geography) has been appointed OBE from the Royal Navy awards. Our congratulations go to all of these members!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

17 May

Zoom talk from Alice Strang (1992) Senior Specialist, Modern & Contemporary Art, Lyon & Turnbull

An (Almost) A to Z of Modern Scottish Women Artists

Alice Strang (1992), curator of the landmark National Galleries of Scotland exhibition *Modern Scottish Women: Painters and Sculptors 1885–1965*, will take us through an (almost) A to Z of Modern Scottish Women Artists, from Mary Armour to Anna Zinkeisen, based on works in UK public collections.

25 May

Entrepreneurs' Workshop (Zoom) with

Chris Kaye (1991)

Chris is the CEO and Co-Founder of Sherpa Insurance, building a new way for people to understand and manage their risks.

10 June

Dinner in Leeds

The Society would love to see members who are based in the north of England and the Midlands for dinner with the Master. There will be a drinks reception, with a battle of armoured knights, followed by dinner in the Tournament Gallery.

Places are charged at £80/person (pre-2016 graduates & all guests); £45/person (2016 & later).

17 June

Cricket Vs Old Emma

The annual College vs Old Emma cricket match will be held at Wilberforce Road. Supporters of both teams are warmly welcome.

9 July

Emmanuel Garden Party

We're delighted to invite all Emmanuel Members to return to Cambridge this summer for this year's Garden Party. With drinks, games, optional lectures and a chance to see the new development, the Garden Party is an amazing opportunity to explore the grounds and get together with friends in person for the first time since COVID.

Further details on all events listed will be released in due course in Emma Connects and on the website.

REQUEST A BOOKING FORM OR BOOK ONLINE AT:

www.emma.cam.ac.uk/members/events



Careers Database

Join more than 900 members by adding or updating your entry to the Emmanuel Careers Database.

Do sign up even if you graduated relatively recently, as advice on applications, surviving interviews and getting started in a new job can all be really valuable.

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