

Spring 2025



Lincoln College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

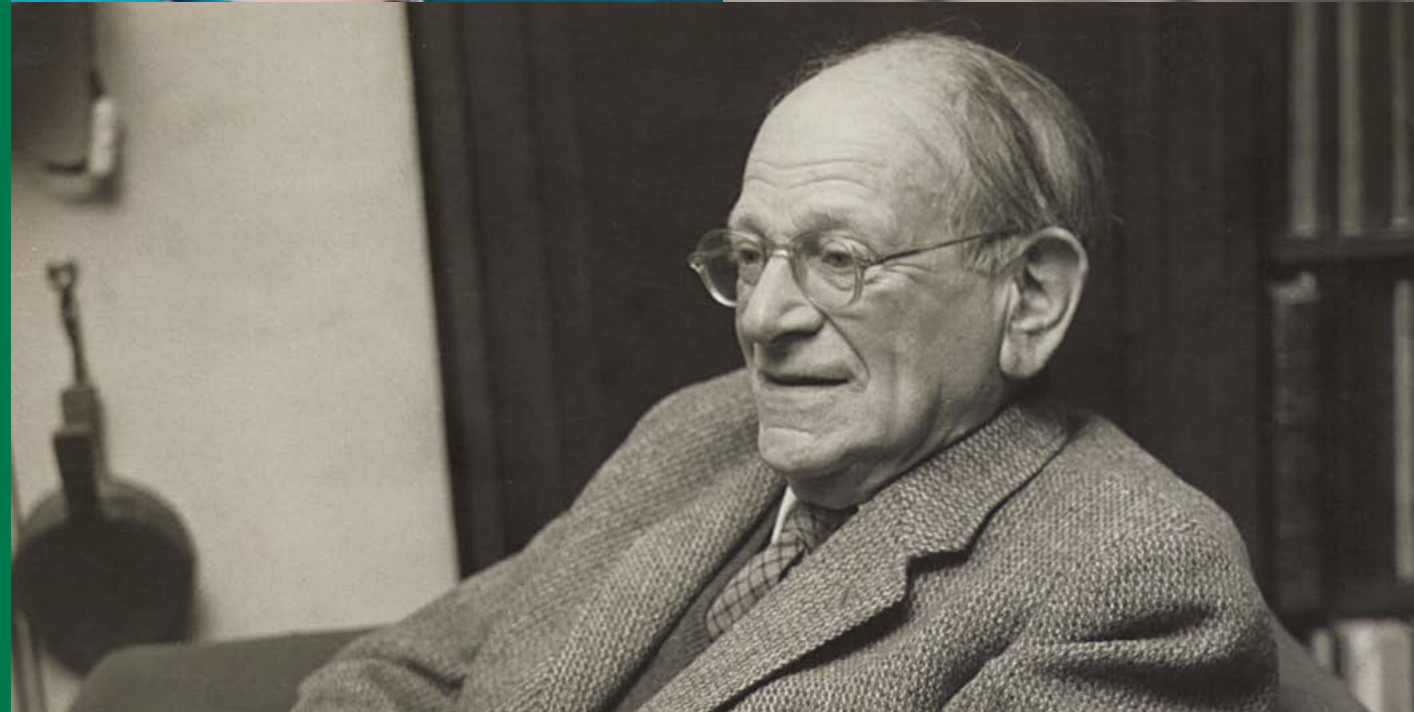


THE GROVE

Lincoln College Murray Society Newsletter

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Report from the President of the Murray Society

The Murray Society continues to thrive and its members to enjoy their time together. We spent Spring Murray Day at [Dorney Court](#), a beautiful early Tudor manor house near Windsor. It was a lovely day, and every prospect pleased.

In the autumn, we ventured to the Weston Library where Dr Laure Miolo, Dilts Research Fellow at Lincoln and Lyell Fellow in Latin Paleography in the History Faculty, showed us treasures from Lincoln's manuscript collection, so precious that they are kept in the Bodleian. Her grace, knowledge and enthusiasm were infectious.



Dr Martin Kauffmann, Head of Early and Rare Collections, was also there to reveal the secrets of the manuscripts. None of us were prepared for the wonders that we saw nor knew the splendour of the College's manuscripts. Only one manuscript has been fully digitised so far: you can see it [here](#). These revelations were followed by lunch in College and by a chance to meet our new Rector, Nigel Clifford, and his wife, Jeanette.

Although the Murray Society is esoteric and intimate, it always welcomes new members. This year's Spring Murray Day will take place on Saturday 14 June with a visit to Downing, our sister college, and the Polar Institute in Cambridge. The [Development Office](#) will be sending invitations to Murray Society Members shortly.

Susan Brigden

Leaving a legacy

Leaving a legacy to Lincoln enables you to invest in the future of the College with a gift that endures beyond a lifetime. Making a bequest to Lincoln in your Will is a lasting contribution to the College, which will support the generations to come. Lincoln takes great care of the legacies it receives, recognising the trust that donors place in us. Over the centuries, bequests have had the greatest influence on the development of the College, and have supported scholarships and bursaries, funded academic posts, redeveloped rooms and buildings, and helped us grow our endowment for the benefit of future generations. As needs increase, we are grateful for every legacy, regardless of size. The [Development Office](#) team is available to provide further information.

How to leave a legacy to Lincoln

It is easy to remember the College in your Will. Our official name is ‘the College of the Blessed Mary and All Saints, Lincoln, in the University of Oxford, commonly called Lincoln College’, but it is acceptable to shorten this to Lincoln College, Oxford. UK tax payers are advised to include our charity number (1139261).

There are a number of different ways of making a legacy. The most common are to leave a residuary bequest (a percentage share in your estate) or a pecuniary bequest (a specific amount of money). You can also make a reversionary legacy, which will

enable you to provide for members of your family in their lifetimes, and then revert to Lincoln or another charitable organisation. It is also possible to nominate Lincoln as a beneficiary of your pension or SIPP (Self Invested Personal Pension).

When making or adjusting your Will, we recommend you seek professional legal advice from a qualified solicitor. If you are interested in making a specific gift or legacy to the College, for example to establish a scholarship, we recommend that you talk to us first to ensure that we can honour your wishes.

Benefits to you

Inheritance tax is payable following your death if your estate is worth more than a certain net amount after the deduction of any liabilities. At present, the threshold is £325,000 (or up to £650,000 for married couples or registered civil partners), and anything above that may be taxed at 40%. If you leave 10% of your estate to a charity in the UK, your estate will qualify for the reduced inheritance tax rate of 36%.

Lincoln is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a charity (number 1139261) and pays no tax on gifts of money or property received either during your lifetime or on your death. Bequests made to tax-exempt beneficiaries, such as the College or other recognised charities, can be deducted from the net value of your estate, thus reducing the amount on which your estate is liable to pay inheritance tax.

When you remember the College in your Will, you will be playing a part in the future of Lincoln. In recognition of this, you will be invited to join the Murray Society. As a member, you will receive the following (subject to change from time to time):

- invitations to exclusive Murray Society events, including the annual Murray Day luncheon and talk
- an annual issue of this newsletter, *The Grove*
- an exclusive Murray Society tie and/or scarf in Lincoln colours

For more details and information about legacies or planned giving, please contact [Susan Harrison](#).

Egon Wellesz and his collections in the archives

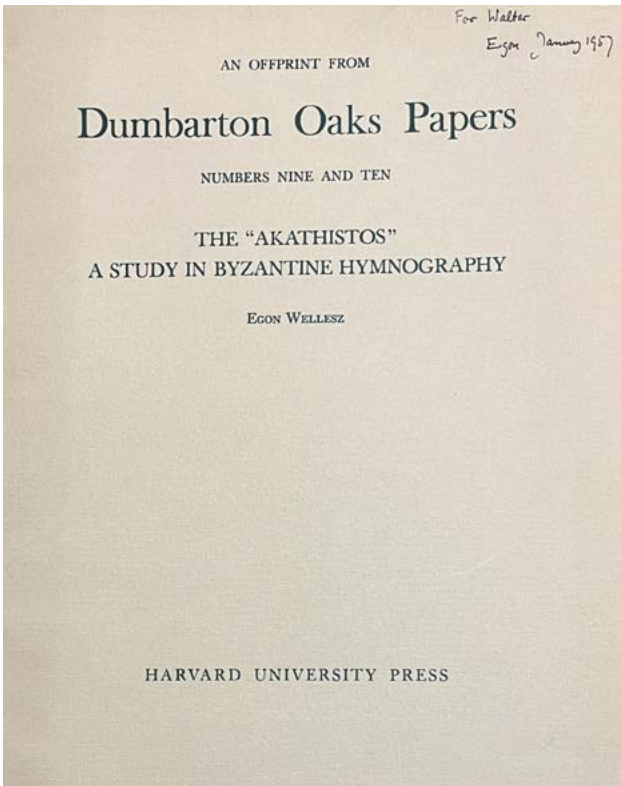
Last year, Lincoln College commemorated the 50th anniversary of Music Fellow Egon Wellesz's death. Alison Ray highlights his life and works with the collections of the College Archive.

Musicologist and composer Egon Wellesz was born in Vienna in 1885 and was a practising Catholic of Hungarian Jewish descent. Wellesz first joined the University of Vienna in 1913 as a lecturer, specialising in the field of Byzantine and other early Christian music, and was later appointed professor in 1929. Outside of his research, he was a respected composer of modernist classical music and co-founded the Internationale Gesellschaft für Neue Musik, today known as the International Society for Contemporary Music. Wellesz was additionally awarded an honorary doctorate in music from the University of Oxford in 1932.

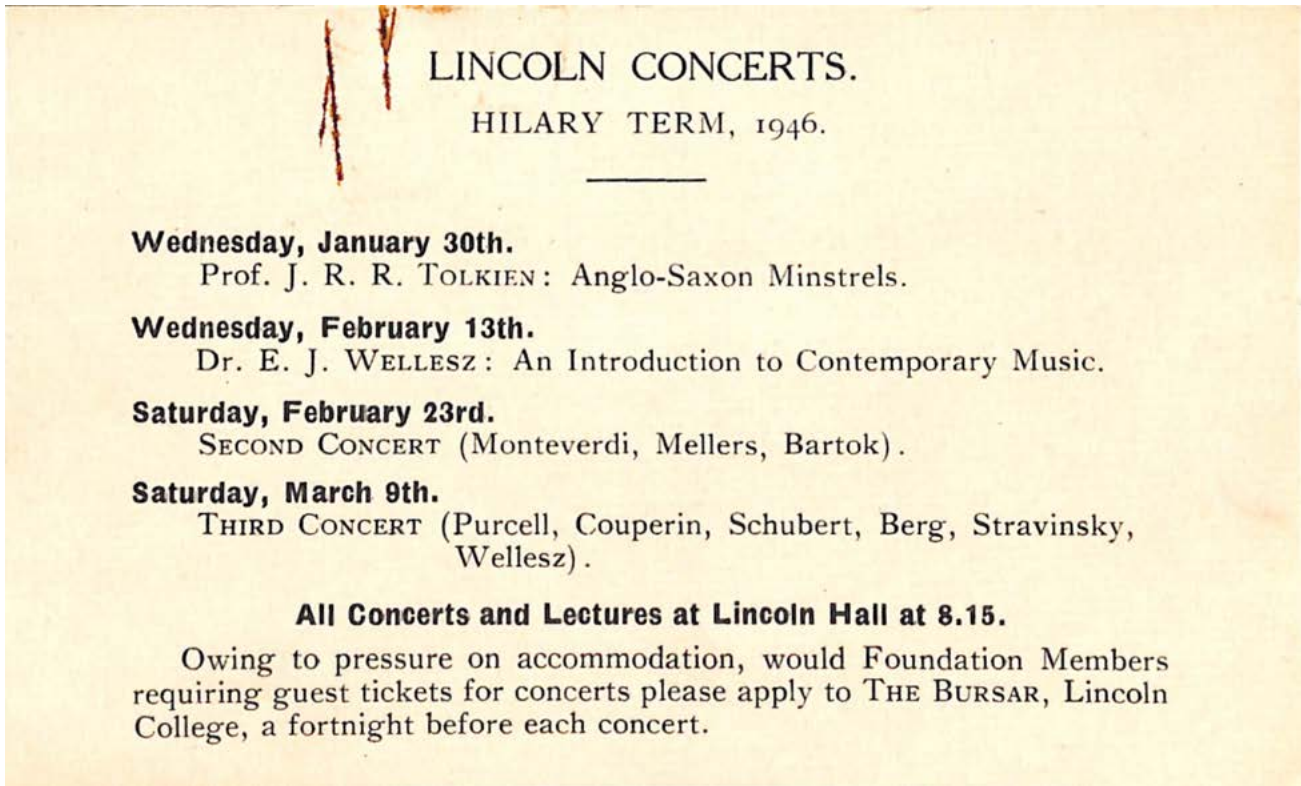
He was forced to flee Vienna in 1938 following the Anschluss, the annexation of Austria by Nazi Germany, and eventually reached England with his wife, art historian Emmy Wellesz (née Stross) and their two daughters, Magdalena and Elisabeth. They were detained as enemy aliens in May 1940 at the Hutchinson Camp on the Island of Man, yet soon released thanks to the intercessions of composer Ralph Vaughan Williams and H.C. Colles, music critic of *The Times* and Honorary Fellow of Worcester College. Following the outbreak of World War II, Oxford

Photograph of Egon Wellesz, dated c. 1960





Egon Wellesz, 'The "Akathistos": A Study in Byzantine Hymnography' (1956), copy gifted to Rector Walter Oakeshott



Term Card from Hilary 1946, featuring lectures by J.R.R. Tolkien and Egon Wellesz

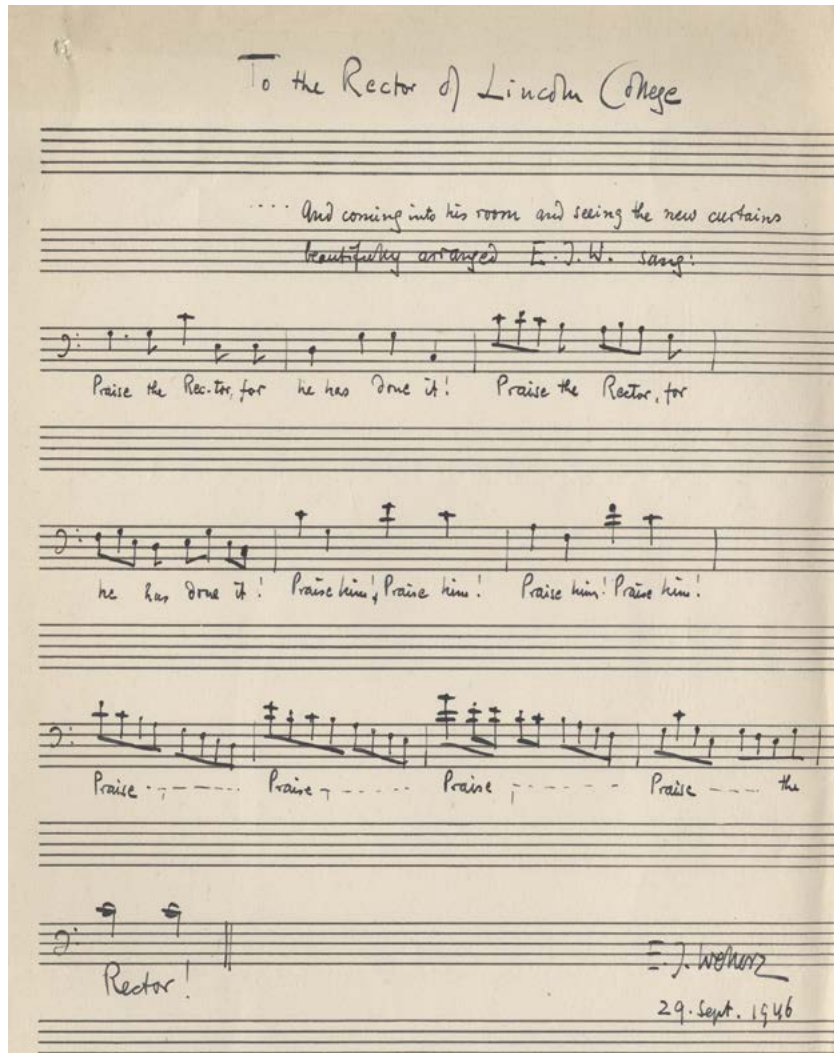
University welcomed a number of refugee academics and Colles then supported a fellowship grant for Wellesz at Oxford University.

Wellesz was elected a Fellow of Lincoln College in 1939 before his internment, and appointed by the Faculty of Music as Reader in Byzantine Music in 1948. He was an active member of the College until his death in 1974, and the Archive now holds a range of materials relating to his academic research and composition work. His scholarship on Byzantine music contributed greatly to the field, such as his editorial work on the *Monumenta Musicae Byzantinae*. He also continued to compose music

after the war, and in total wrote nine symphonies, six operas, a number of string quartets, and a wealth of chamber music. Wellesz held Lincoln Concerts of medieval and Renaissance music, and renewed attention in Britain to his Viennese contemporaries, such as Arnold Schoenberg, Alban Berg and Anton Webern. The Bodleian Library further holds Wellesz's archive correspondence with his daughter Elisabeth and music collaborator Elizabeth Mackenzie.

Later in life, Wellesz received international recognition for his music and research, travelling frequently to the United States and continental Europe. He was awarded

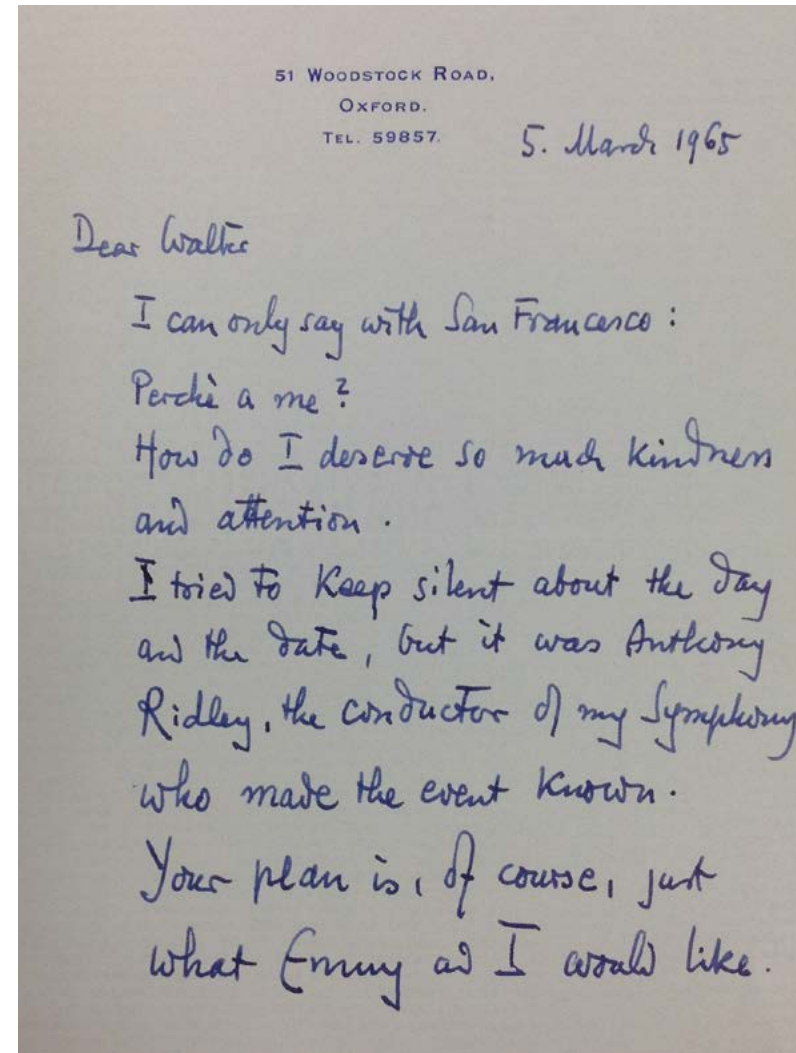




A humorous piece for Keith Murray by Wellesz entitled 'Praise the Rector!', dated 29 September 1946

the City of Vienna Prize for Music in 1953 and made a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 1957. Lincoln College commissioned artist Jean Cooke to paint Wellesz's portrait in 1968, which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1970.

Wellesz' appreciation for the Lincoln College community can be seen throughout his correspondence, and he expressed his delight when the College arranged a dinner



Wellesz thanking Walter Oakeshott for arranging his 80th birthday celebrations, dated 5 March 1965

and performance of his works to mark his 80th birthday, writing: 'I can only say with San Francisco: *Perché a me?* How do I deserve so much kindness and attention.' His piece 'Ah! Fading Joy' from *On Time* (Op. 63) was performed most recently in Lincoln College in October 2024 as part of the Oxford International Song Festival.

Dr Alison Ray, College Archivist

The Wellesz JRF in Music Appeal

As we approach our 600th Anniversary, we are keen to ensure that music, in all its forms, is celebrated in College. To that end, we are raising funds for a Junior Research Fellowship in Music, who, in the tradition of Egon Wellesz, will be both musicologist and practitioner. Our last Lord Crewe JRF in Music, [Dr Samantha Ege](#), was a great exemplar of this, encouraging student performers and bringing inspiring musicians to play in Lincoln.

Funding from Lord Crewe's Charity for this purpose has now ended, and we are seeking funds for a three-year post in the first instance. Our target for this appeal is £150,000, and if you would like to contribute, please get in touch with susan.harrison@lincoln.ox.ac.uk.

From undergraduate to MSt: how funding shaped my academic path

Probably as early as my first year of my undergraduate degree in history at Lincoln, I knew that I wouldn't quite be ready to leave by the time I reached the end of my final year. Third year was certainly intense, but even in the midst of revising for my finals, I continued to enjoy refining my knowledge, reading more and developing new interests within my existing papers. That is why I was thrilled not only to be accepted back into Lincoln for a year of study, on the MSt in Intellectual History, but to secure the generous support of a Lord Crewe's Charity and a Woldenberg Bursary in helping me to fund this degree. The application process for the MSt was by no means easy. It involved testing out a number of proposals to judge which topic would be the most interesting to pursue. Nonetheless, with hard work, juggling the application with my ongoing

undergraduate work, and especially the support of my tutors at Lincoln, I was lucky enough to receive an offer.

Principally, this funding has enabled me to pursue my interest in 17th-century English political thought and, in particular, the writings of the political philosopher, Thomas Hobbes, for my dissertation. I developed this interest throughout my undergraduate degree, beginning with an Optional Paper in my first year and continuing with my Further Subject paper in my second year. So far, my dissertation research has been challenging but hugely rewarding. I have been able to dedicate far more time to getting to grips with a huge variety of primary source material, which the fast pace of my undergraduate degree had not always allowed for. By having the opportunity to be more exhaustive



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in my research, I feel I have been able to become more deeply familiar with my sources, as well as explore a wide range of scholarship that I had previously not encountered. These experiences, I hope, are likely to make me a better historian.

Partly to my surprise, my master's has also exposed me to a huge range of new topics and areas of interest beyond my dissertation. I had known a little about the additional papers contained within the degree when applying, but I had assumed that these would be primarily to support the dissertation. Instead, I have been pleasantly surprised to find myself immersed in brand new topics from the outset, beginning with a term

on various historical methodologies. Alongside these new papers, I have loved getting to know new graduate students with all sorts of academic experiences and interests, both within classes and in the vibrant environment of Oxford's immersive graduate seminars, lectures and talks by both world-leading academics and other graduate students.

I cannot express how lucky I feel to be able to spend this year in Oxford, doing what I love. I will be forever grateful for the support of my tutors, Lincoln College and the benefactors who made this year possible.

Freddie Maud (2021)



My favourite space



Invited to nominate and describe my favourite space in the College, I considered our many beautiful interiors, both ancient and modern, and the deep attachments I feel to them. I found it difficult to choose just one. Letting the question of choice hang in the air for a while, I realised that there was a particular external space for which I had a deep affection: the parapeted enclosure at the top of the College Gatetower. The fabric of this space is treated simply; plain stonework and lead roof covering; but the views afforded of the College and its environs are thrilling. Whether looking directly down into the bounded space of Front Quad, or south along the length of Turl, past the Mitre, the Chapel, the Rector's Lodgings and the spire of All Saints, or north or west or east, each turn of the head brings each view into one glorious panoramic sweep of the College, University, city and the far horizon beyond.

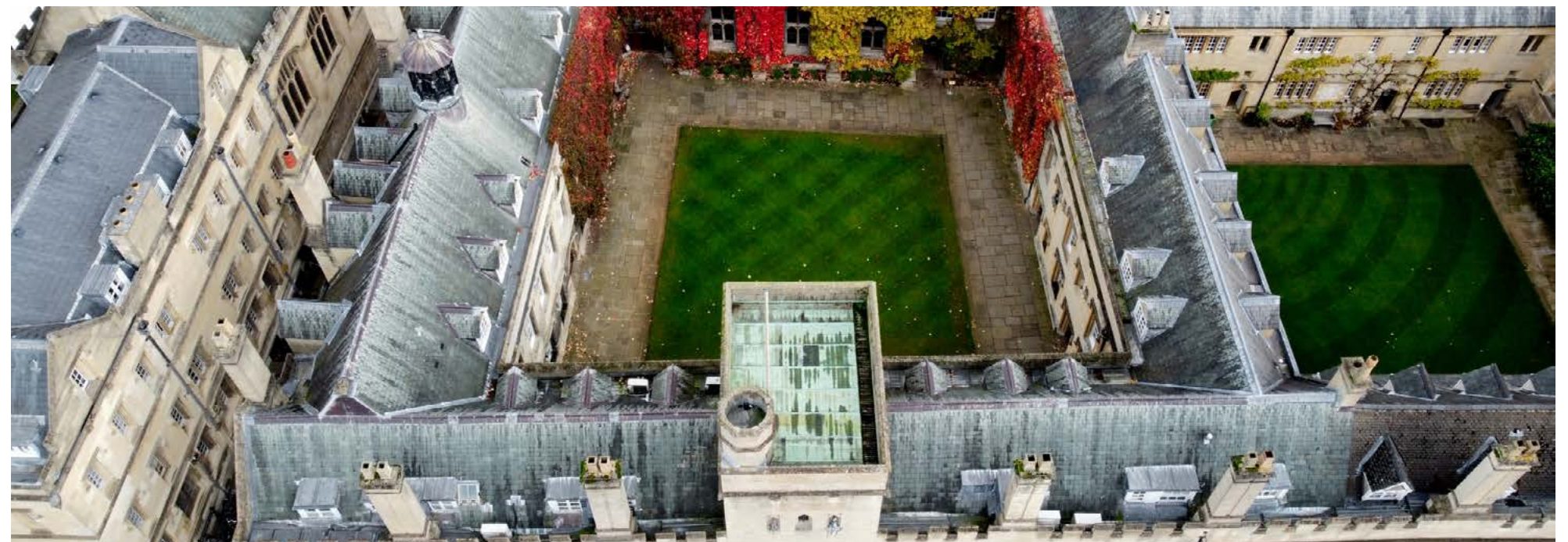
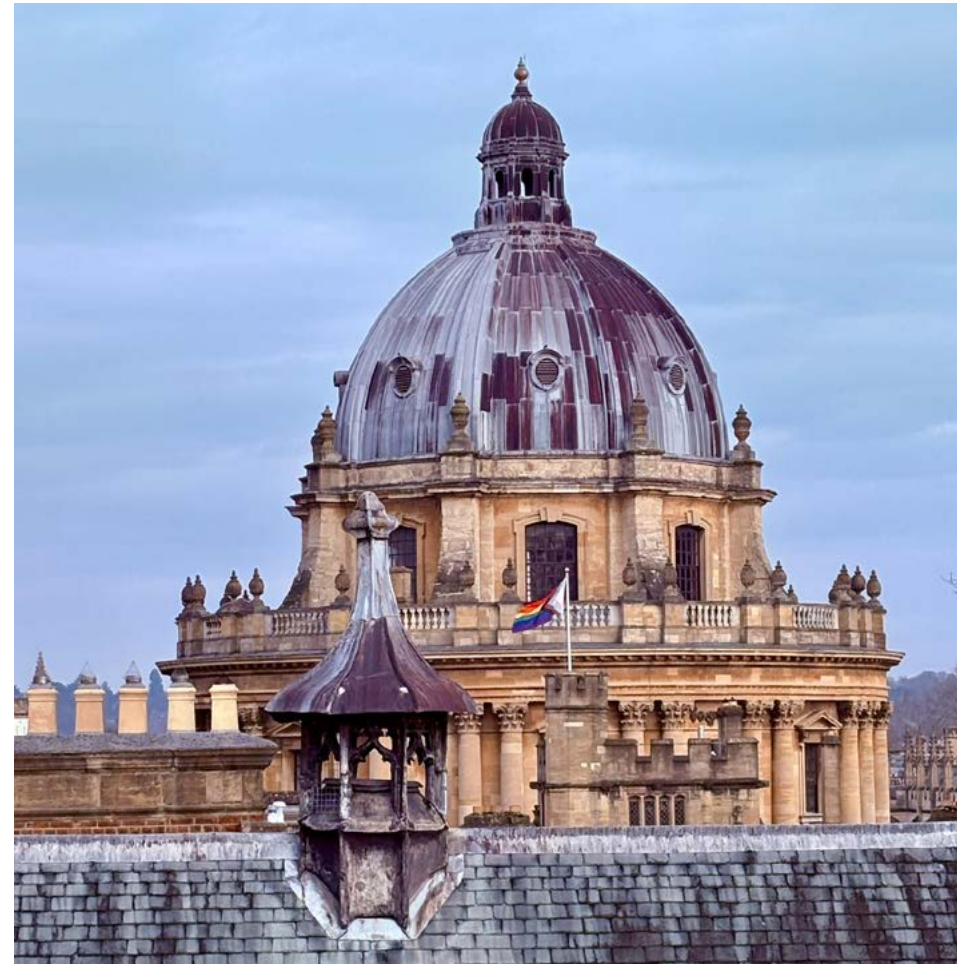
In tandem with the thrill of the wide-angle view comes the pleasure of seeing, at close range and thus with keener appreciation, individual elements of the College fabric that are otherwise seen only from a distance or from a low angle. I have taken particular pleasure in the closer view of the bell turret over staircase 3, enjoying the elegant sweep of its ogee-curved cap, topped by the delicate silhouettes of the windvane. Turning to the right of this, the striking visual juxtaposition of our ancient Hall Louvre against the backdrop of the massive dome of the Radcliffe Camera invites poetic contemplation!

The Tower platform is reached by a very steep and very narrow spiral stone staircase built into the wall of the 15th-century Tower and entered from within the first-floor chamber over the gate – in its earliest years, this was the Rector’s chamber. The stair’s location and construction are eloquent of its function as a security system against fire as well as theft. This, the only stone staircase in the College until the 19th century, also connected the Rector’s Chamber to the original Treasury of the College, in the room directly above. In this space the College’s charters, precious plate and money were kept. It remained in use as a muniment room until 2011.

The old Rector’s chamber itself has been assigned in recent years as the Senior Tutor’s office and it is doubtless from this that my attachment to the Tower developed. I have vivid and happy memories of Ascension Days past; meeting groups of choir members and Common Room officers at the stair entrance and then, taking up the last place as the backstop in the spiralling procession, joining them on the roof for the festivities.

This stunning aerial footage allows us all to see, for the first time, a kinetic view of the Tower roof.

Dr Louise Durning, Supernumerary Fellow



Events 2025

To see the full list of events, please visit our [website](#).

<div>Monday 28 April</div> <div>Berrow Foundation 40th, Anniversary Apéro in Geneva, Switzerland</div>	<div>Thursday 15 May</div> <div>London Dining Club Reception and Dinner</div>	<div>Saturday 7 June</div> <div>Lincoln Family Garden Party</div>	<div>Saturday 4 October</div> <div>1975 Year Dinner in conjunction with the Library 50th Anniversary Event</div>
<div>Saturday 14 June</div> <div>Spring Murray Day</div>	<div>Saturday 9 August</div> <div>Rotherham Circle and Donor Appreciation Brunch</div>		
<div>Saturday 13 September</div> <div>2015 Year Gaudy</div>	<div>Saturday 20 September</div> <div>Alumni Guest Dinner</div>	<div>Friday 26 September</div> <div>2004-2005 Year Gaudy</div>	<div>Saturday 18 October</div> <div>Autumn Murray day</div>

Photo credits

Cover photo

Stuart Bebb

Other images

[Dorney Court](#): 3

John Cairns: 4

Halley Cohen: 10, 11, 13

Sebastien Behaghel: 11