



CLARE HALL
CAMBRIDGE

INTRODUCTION



Professor Alan Short, LittD
President, Clare Hall

CLARE HALL's star has been rising rapidly in the firmament of Oxbridge colleges. All serving Cambridge Heads of House have now visited the College and indeed met with the Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellors here earlier this year at the Colleges' Committee of all Masters and Presidents. Clare Hall's President is Deputy Chair for two years and will be the Chair from 2026, serving as a Trustee of the University on the University Council and appointed to the University's General Board and two of its committees, not least the University Research Committee. We have our finger on the pulse. Geographically, the University's centre of gravity is shifting to lie above our College as West and Northwest Cambridge approach completion balancing against the Maths Faculty, the University Library and the Humanities campus to the Southeast. The old centre has become a museum of the Gothic and the English Baroque, besieged by tourists. This is the place to be. Many Clare Hallers are members of the Biomedical campus, the other great magnet for Cambridge researchers. Despite the distances they are keen attendees of seminars, colloquia, symposia and our Special Interest Groups (SIGs), our own species of dining club.

The real wealth of Clare Hall is in its members, its absurdly grand Fellowship, nineteen full Grade 12 Professors as of this summer – it is out of all proportion as the smallest college by student numbers. We recently welcomed Prof Ioannis Brilakis and Prof Ben Allanach to our Fellowship, and we were delighted that Lori Passmore FRS became an Honorary Professor at the University. The twenty-four Research Fellows, eight elected per year, four in the Humanities, four in the Sciences, compete ferociously in the annual competitions, the victors taking up their full voting seats on the College Governing Body. The Vice Chancellor told us that Oxbridge may become the sole protectors of the Humanities as funding and opportunity is stripped away by horribly misguided officers of the state. These truly are dark times for our intellectual wellbeing and what better to invest in than our brilliant graduate students in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Professoriat of the future, worldwide.

The idea of harbouring a sizeable community of visiting academics for up to a year to produce their career defining work was clearly absolutely fundamental to the core idea of Clare Hall, more so even than having a small number of graduate students alongside the Fellows. There is now a huge diaspora of Visiting Fellows returning as Life Members. These marvellous sabbaticals are only available to well established academics with substantial publication records and tenure. Very many give back to the College over the years and make a very important contribution. The Governing Body is launching a parallel scheme to attract early career stars for a term and it would be wonderful to be able to fund some.

One distinguished Head of House for whom I have the highest regard, said to me as she was leaving a meeting, 'Your lovely food makes up for the Architecture'. I was a little taken aback but bit my tongue. How wrong she was! Ralph Erskine's collection of buildings, listed Grade 2* by the Secretary of State (only 5% of listed buildings in Britain are 2*), is one of the most important post war buildings in Europe. Having just returned from Stockholm before journeying on to kneel in Alvar Aalto's studio in Helsinki, I can confirm that our Erskine buildings are very Scandinavian. Fiona Lamb, one of our leading conservation architects, has published her Conservation Management Plan for all of the Erskine fabric and we are in very fruitful discussions with Historic England, the regulator in effect for the historic environment. At last we can seriously restore and complete Erskine's vision, inside and very importantly outside. The buildings were never completed to his final designs. This is a fantastic opportunity to complete a great Twentieth Century architect's vision, much as St Catherine's has achieved in Oxford with Arne Jacobsen. We have a fabulous scheme for the planting, paving and lighting along the connecting pathways through the Erskine buildings, his recreation of Stockholm's island old quarter, the Gamla Stan. Our task is to raise the funding and deliver it. So Clare Hall is a success, an extraordinarily happy and cohesive community.

Almost half of our students row, some out of sporting ambition but most for the sheer joy of the experience with good comrades in sometimes truly awful conditions. The senior colleges plan for 500 years here, the less overbearing for 200 years. I'd put us in the latter category with ambitions towards the former. We will certainly be here in 200 years so do invest in us. Your money will be put to really excellent use resonating down the generations.

A Journey Down Memory Lane at Clare Hall

Clare Hall is a place that brings people together from all walks of life, from all over the world. Many friendships, romances, and other relationships have blossomed at our beautiful college, and remain strong to this day. Join us on a journey down memory lane with a few of our Life Members, as they reminisce on the meaningful connections they formed during their time at Clare Hall.

Lindsay Falvey

Life Member **Lindsay Falvey** and his partner **Simone Falvey-Behr** were given an opportunity to spend six months together at Clare Hall, living together while working on respective research projects. Simone took sabbatical leave from her role overseeing the intercultural dialogues programs of the Council of Europe, while Lindsay shed his responsibilities at the University of Melbourne to focus on writing, 'Religion and Agriculture: Sustainability in Christianity and Buddhism'.

"Clare Hall blessed our budding relationship. We strolled the pathways, attended concerts, presented at meetings, enjoyed Hall dinners, joined the annual cricket match and entertained some guests that Clare Hall kindly accommodated. Our relationship deepened over home-cooked dinners in our flat, often with other Visiting Fellows. It was an idyllic time for us. As we neared the end of our stay with Lindsay's book completed to final editing, we moved to Bangkok where Simone had been attracted to a UN position. We married the next year. Now, 20 years on we still recall the quiet industry of Fellows and students in that spring and summer atmosphere. Photos of our time there remind us of the beauty of having time together, one favourite image of those days is that taken by a colleague as we relaxed in a punt."



Lindsay Falvey & Simone Falvey-Behr
(aka Bernhardt), 2005.

David Chernushenko

It all started with an email to Life Members about the annual bike cull at Clare Hall, to remove bikes that have been left behind by previous members. When Life Member **David Chernushenko** received this message, he was immediately reminded of his black Cambridge bike that he sold to an incoming student in September of 1988, even passing on his lock and combination. The thought of his bike still locked up against a post in college 36 years later made him laugh, and he decided to write back with his recent endeavours.

By coincidence, David was about to embark on a cycling tour from Vienna to London, and would be arriving in Cambridge as part of his journey. He had also published his own novel a few years back, featuring main characters that meet while studying at Cambridge, two of them from Clare Hall, who must navigate a time of political and ecological breakdown.

When he finally arrived in Cambridge in October 2024, David held a reading of his book, *Burning Souls*, at Clare Hall, and also spoke about the benefits of cycling for the environment. His passion for green initiatives and generosity in donating the profits made from the sale of his book led to establishing the Sustainability Fund at Clare Hall, which supports essential projects such as sealing windows, improving insulation, decarbonising our buildings and installing solar panels.

We were delighted to have reconnected with David and for the memories and stories he has shared with us.

Right: David Chernushenko cooking with housemates in Leslie Barnett House (formerly known as Keyneside).

Far right: A little spring afternoon cricket with a fellow student. Pictured on the right is David's road bike leaning against the wall, as he had just returned from a ride in the countryside and stumbled upon an informal cricket game in need of a wicketkeeper.



Above: Rowing training with the Clare Boat Club in March 1988, with David in the second seat from the cox. There was not yet a Clare Hall Boat Club, so David and several others rowed with various Clare crews.



Right: Alihan and Sarah attending Sarah's graduation ceremony at Clare Hall.



Below: Sarah (bottom left) and Alihan (third from left) celebrating their win at Peterborough Regatta with Clare Hall Boat Club.



Above: Alihan and Sarah at their wedding reception outside of the Richard Eden Suite.

Sarah Brooke & Alihan Hüyük

"For our love story, I think of Clare Hall as being the incredibly friendly community where two very different people could cross paths, have a laugh, and then all at once, fall in love with each other."

And that's exactly what happened with Life Members **Sarah Brooke** and **Alihan Hüyük**, who met at Clare Hall while pursuing their respective courses in architecture and applied maths. Being two of the most active participants of Clare Hall's Board Game Club, Sarah and Alihan became fast friends, meeting at least once a week in the common room on Sunday evenings. As their friendship blossomed, they started to spend more time together outside of board games getting to know each other.

"There's a very sweet affectionate term in Turkish – *Bitanem*. When you Google it, it comes up as 'My Only One' but, as it was explained to me, it's actually describing the feeling of oneness – of completeness – your partner gives you, as though you are two puzzle pieces that were always destined to interlock. That's what I like to think happened one night. We just completely clicked into place."

Clare Hall became the perfect place for developing their relationship over regular lunches and dinners in the dining hall, spending time on the common room sofas under Jill Swarbrick-Banks' painting *Ffurnais*, and visiting the ALB where Sarah worked as a student bartender. Furthermore, Sarah and Alihan were active participants in the Clare Hall Boat Club together, where they both rowed bumps and participated in races.

As Clare Hall had been such an instrumental part of their relationship, Sarah and Alihan decided to host their wedding reception in the Richard Eden Suite in April 2024, where they welcomed loved ones from around the world to celebrate their love in the place where it all began. They recently celebrated their one year anniversary in April 2025, and are looking forward to returning to Clare Hall in the near future to relive their joyful memories.



Dorothea Barrett

Life Member **Dorothea Barrett** was a Research Fellow of Clare Hall from 1987-1989 after completing her PhD under the supervision of **Professor Dame Gillian Beer**, former President of Clare Hall. Dorothea met her husband Federico Romero there through their mutual friend **Vibeke Sorensen**, who was the Carlsberg Fellow in History from 1987-1988. Both Gillian and Vibeke attended her wedding in Florence in 1991.

"At the end of that academic year, Vibeke returned to the continent to pursue her career and was eventually appointed to the History Faculty at the University of Groningen. I stayed on at Clare Hall for another year before joining the Department of English Literature at the University of Glasgow. In 1991, I moved to Florence, married Federico, and our son Marco was born. Vibeke came to our wedding and visited us occasionally. Once, she brought Marco a little red model racing car; it's still on a bookshelf in our apartment... Even now, when my own hair is white, my heart leaps if I see a tall blonde woman in the street, and I think for a split second that it is Vibeke."

Sadly Vibeke passed away on 8 January 1995. Her friendship and kindness has made a lasting impact, and she will be missed dearly.

Above: From left to right: Vibeke Sorenson, Dorothea Barrett, and Gillian Beer at Dorothea's wedding in Florence.

Snezhana Shevchenko & David Luchford

Life Member **Snezhana Shevchenko** first arrived at Clare Hall in October 2022 to pursue her MPhil in Education. Feeling a mix of nerves and excitement, she wandered into a welcome coffee-and-cake event for new students, where she met **David Luchford** for the first time. David was also pursuing his MPhil at Clare Hall, studying Classics, and from their first meeting in the common room, Snezhana and David connected instantly.

"He was incredibly intelligent, talented, endlessly curious, genuinely interested in others, full of kindness, and always made me feel heard. And he was – and still is – a true gentleman, in the thoughtful way he treats me and others," Snezhana shared.

They formed a beautiful group of friends around Clare Hall – especially with David's neighbours from the Salje Building. David proposed to Snezhana on his birthday, at the top of the London Eye, and they managed to both finish their MPhil dissertations and plan their wedding for July.

By the end of the year, Snezhana and David's Clare Hall friends had become their wedding guests – and five of them stood beside Snezhana as her bridesmaids. We were delighted to host the reception for their wedding in the college's Dining Hall, and be part of their special day in the place where it all began.

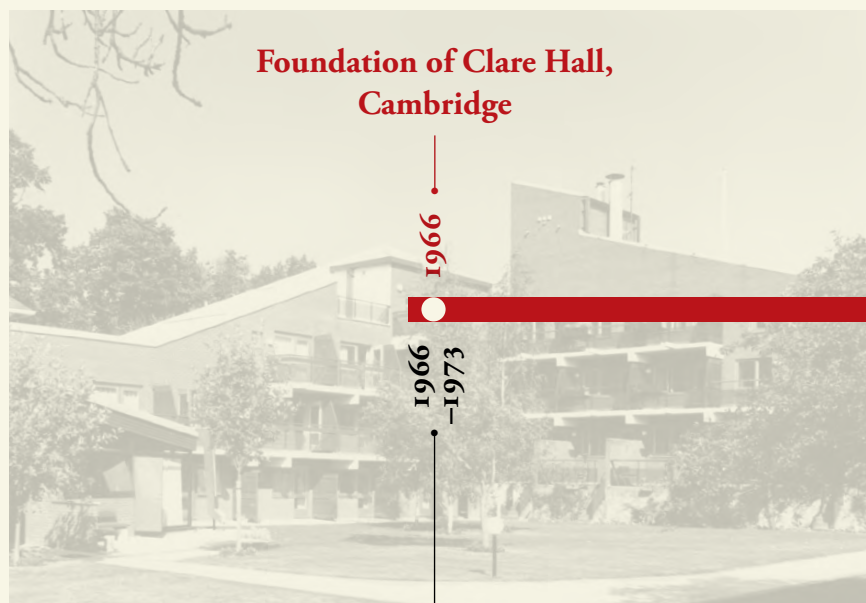
David is currently pursuing his PhD in Classics at the University of Cambridge, while Snezhana has joined Clare Hall as a member of staff in the development team.

"It all started with cake and coffee – and turned into the greatest love of my life."



Right: Snezhana Shevchenko and David Luchford joyfully leaving the church as newlyweds.

Timeline of Historical & Academic Milestones of the Fellowship at Clare Hall, Cambridge 1966-2026



Foundation of Clare Hall,
Cambridge

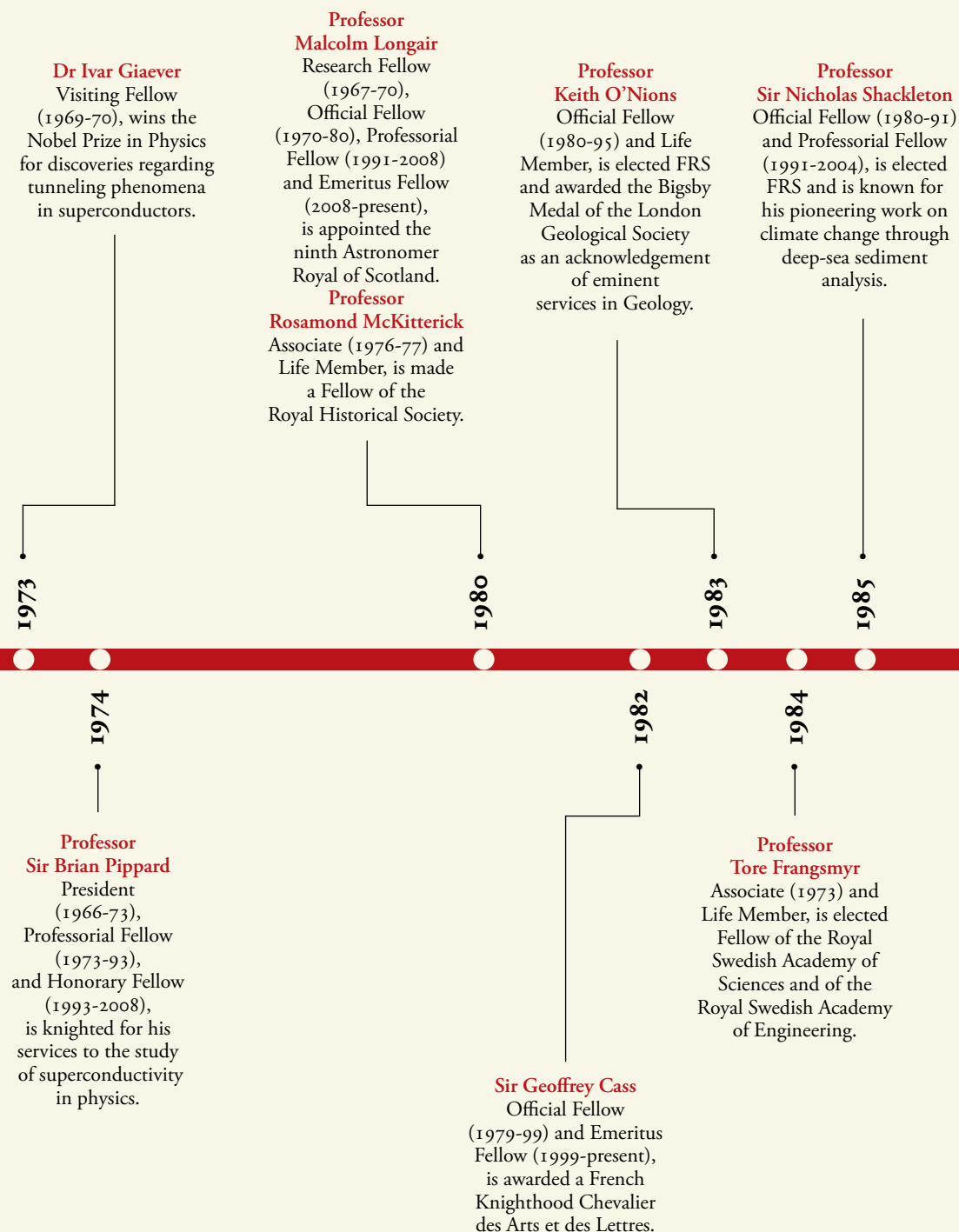
1966

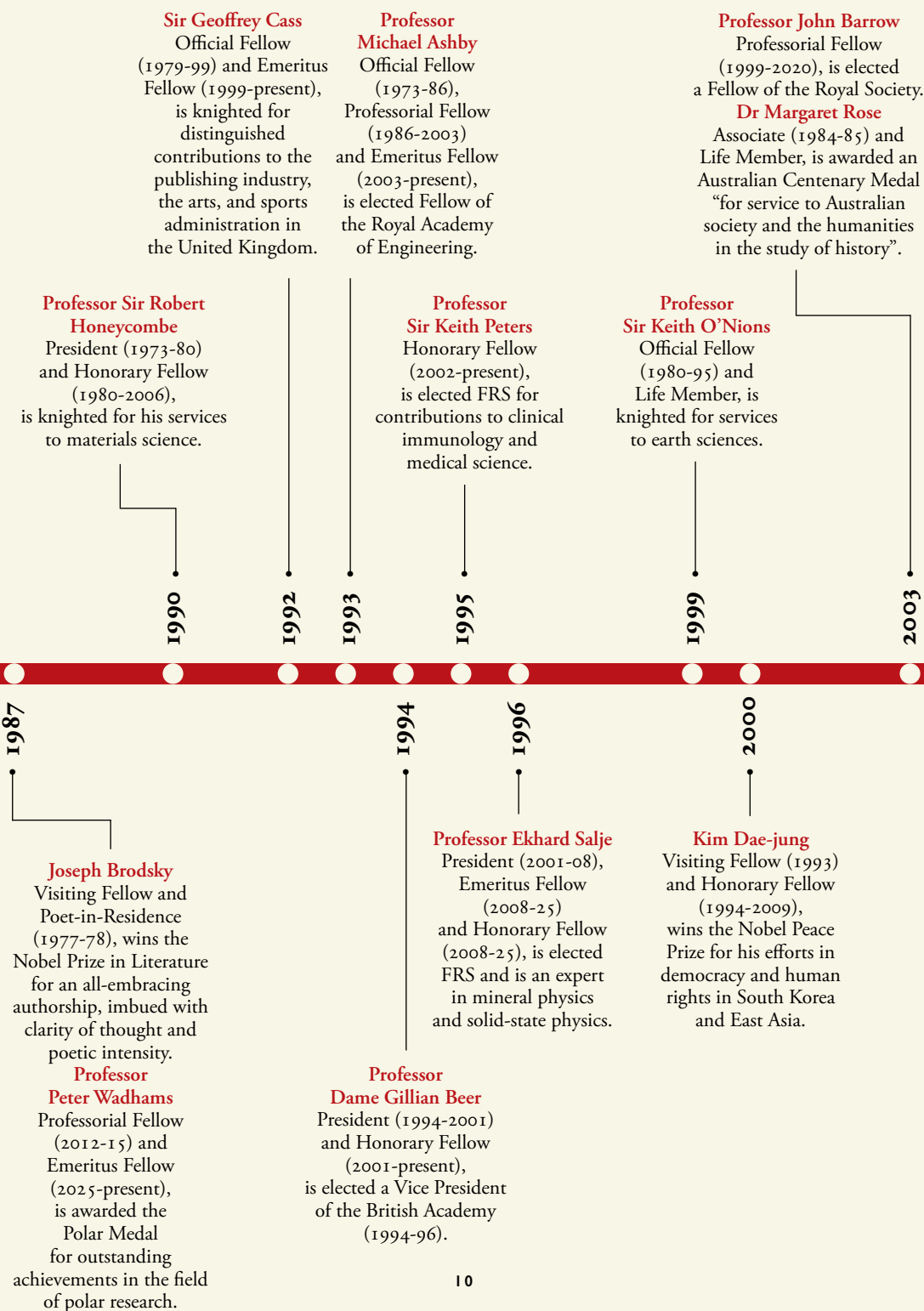
1966
-1973

Presidents of Clare Hall 1966-present

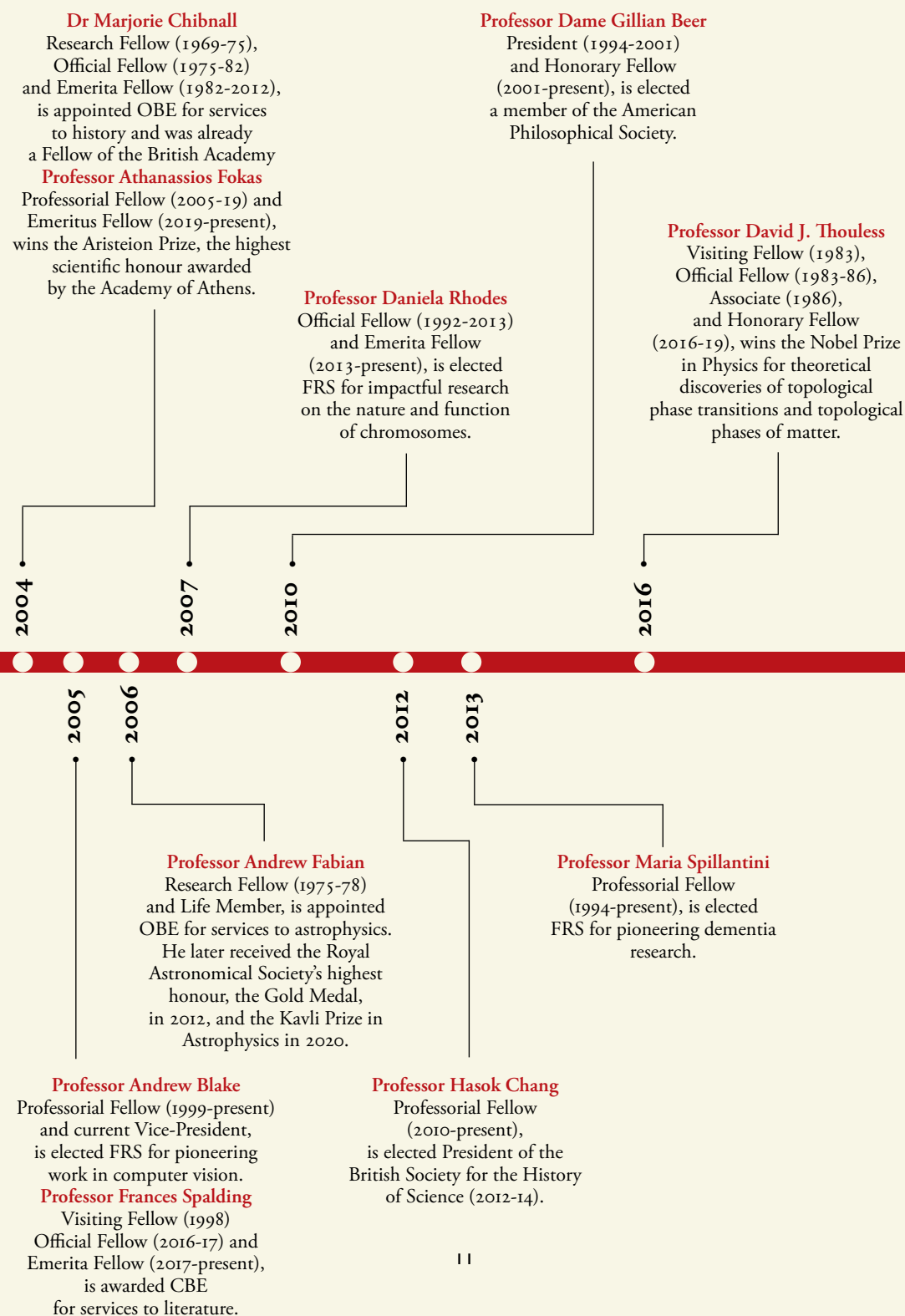
Prof Sir Brian Pippard (Physicist): 1966-1973
Prof Sir Robert Honeycombe (Metallurgist): 1973-1980
Prof Sir Michael Stoker (Virologist): 1980-1987
Prof Anthony Low (Historian): 1987-1994
Prof Dame Gillian Beer (Literary Critic): 1994-2001
Prof Ekhard Salje (Mineralogist): 2001-2008
Prof Sir Martin Harris (Linguist): 2008-2013
Prof David Ibbetson (Legal Historian): 2013-2020
Prof Alan Short (Architect): 2020-present

**Professor
Sir Brian Pippard**
serves as the first
President of Clare Hall.
He was elected FRS
and is known for his work
in superconductivity and
solid-state physics (1956).

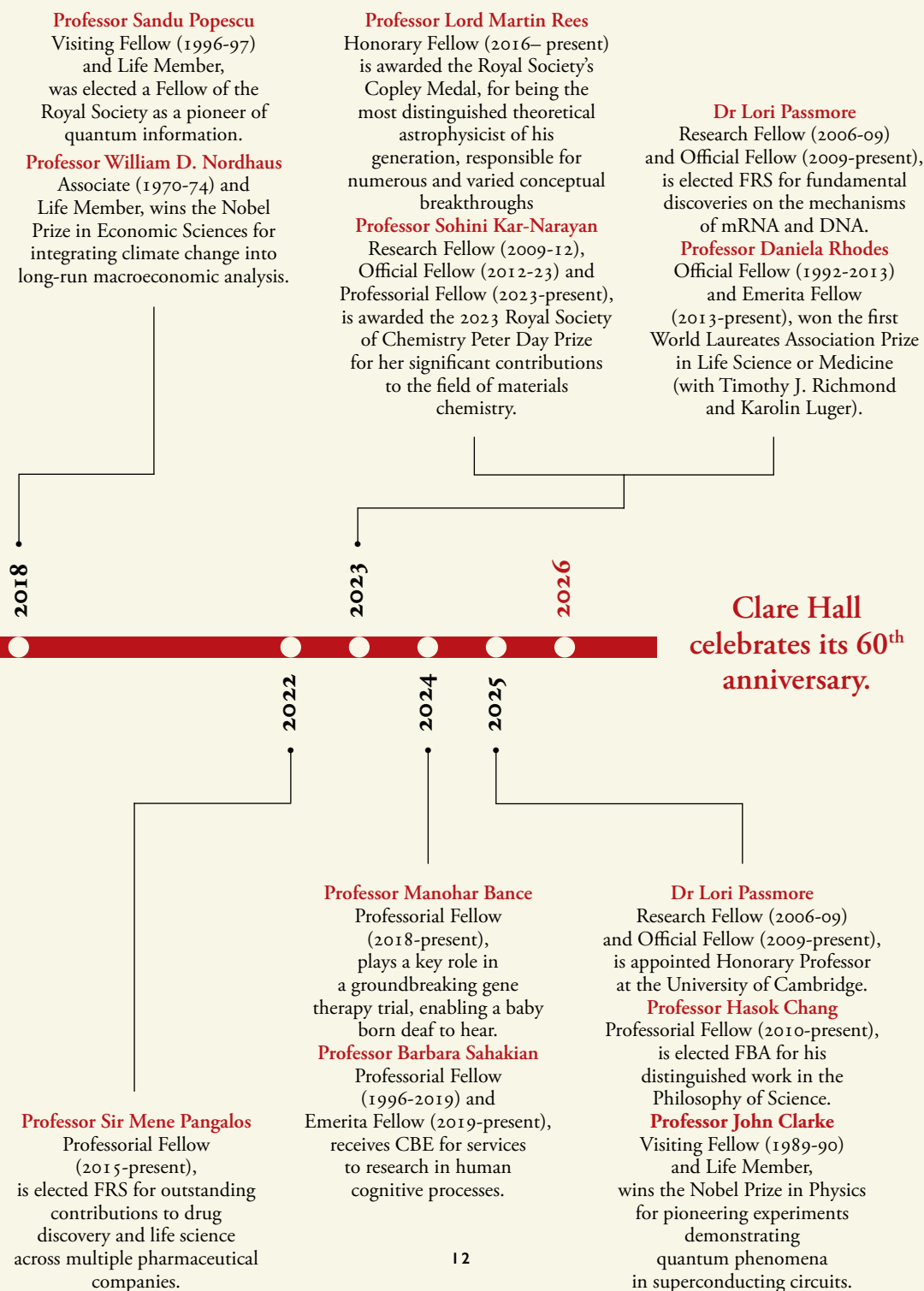


CLARE HALL 60TH ANNIVERSARY

TIMELINE OF HISTORICAL & ACADEMIC MILESTONES



TIMELINE OF HISTORICAL & ACADEMIC MILESTONES



CLARE HALL 60TH ANNIVERSARY

STORIES OF STUDENT SUPPORT

Emilija Jovanović
(PhD in Stem Cell Biology)

Karussell Robinson
(MPhil in Development Studies)

Sara Pickrell
(MPhil in Medieval Studies)

Tililenji Phiri
(PhD in Education)

THE IVAN D. JANKOVIĆ FUND

Emilija Jovanović

PhD in Stem Cell Biology

The 2024-25 academic year has been a transformative chapter for PhD student Emilija Jovanović, whose work at the Cambridge Stem Cell Institute focuses on advancing treatments for liver disease. With support from the Ivan D. Janković Fund and Clare Hall, she explored how cholangiocytes – cells lining the bile ducts – respond to injury, a critical area for conditions with limited treatment options. Her theory of cellular memory in these cells led to a collaboration with the Medical University of Vienna, where she conducted experimental work in Professor Michael Trauner's lab.



Emilija also helped develop a new platform for modelling bile ducts and drug screening and contributed to a newly published paper on gene therapy for a rare mitochondrial disorder. “Our findings played a key role in helping our collaborators secure approval for a gene therapy clinical trial. This is a breakthrough, especially considering the disease’s extreme rarity.”

Beyond the lab, Emilija engaged with the wider community through Addenbrooke’s Charitable Trust, ran the Cambridge Half Marathon for cancer research, organised fundraising events like a charity bake sale, and gave talks to Serbian students to inspire future scholars.



“I feel incredibly grateful to the Ivan D. Janković Fund for the chance to be part of Clare Hall and the University of Cambridge.”

Emilija Jovanović

THE PIPPARD FUND STUDENTSHIP

Karussell Robinson

MPhil in Development Studies

Thanks to the generous support of the Pippard Fund Studentship, Karussell Robinson pursued a thesis examining the financialisation of agriculture and the role of global institutions – particularly the UN's International Fund for Agricultural Development – in enabling large-scale land acquisitions. As a farmer's daughter, the topic feels personal. "The average farmer's wage certainly isn't enough to pay for the course tuition fees that the fund so kindly covered," she adds.

The fund also made it possible for Karussell to return to competitive rugby after a long injury break, covering club fees and allowing her to fully rejoin the sport she loves. "It's been an honour to wear the light blue," she writes, describing the Varsity experience as "challenging yet cherished." The support helped her thrive both academically and athletically.



"Thank you once again for your truly transformative support," she says. "It has allowed me to thrive academically, personally, and athletically, making this year an unforgettable and deeply rewarding experience."

Karussell Robinson

THE MARJORIE CHIBNALL BURSARY

Sara Pickrell

MPhil in Medieval Studies

The Marjorie Chibnall Bursary has allowed Sara Pickrell to spend an extraordinary year at Cambridge.

Her dissertation explored Crusade romances from

the 14th-century Auchinleck

manuscript, particularly

Floris and Blancheflour, *Guy of Warwick*, and *Beves of Hampton*.

While often read through a chivalric lens, Sara explores how these texts also reflect feminine identities and ideologies in medieval society, highlighting themes such as independence, marital obligation, and international relations.

Through hands-on work with rare manuscripts, studies in Latin and paleography, and deep archival research, Sara has thrived academically.

Beyond her studies, Sara played weekly for Clare Hall's five-a-side team and joined the University's Blues Varsity team, where she started as centre back in their final match – a 3-2 victory over Oxford.

“The Chibnall Bursary has enabled me to participate fully in my degree, the Clare Hall community, and the Cambridge community at large!”

THE BOAK FUND &
THE CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
STARTER FUND**Tililenji Phiri**

PhD in Education

With support from the Boak Fund and

the University of Cambridge Public

Engagement Starter Fund, Tililenji

Phiri returned to rural Zambia to share

her research with the communities that

shaped her work. Her project explored

how limited expectations affect

young people's identity and ambition.

The travel award enabled her to lead

workshops with students, parents,

teachers, alumni, and local leaders.

“From the outset, I was committed to

ensuring that the knowledge shared by

participants would be returned to them

in a form that could inform practical

and contextually relevant change,”

she reflects.

The sessions sparked critical

conversations on how school-based

guidance and mentorship can support

learners in areas where education is

often disrupted. One outcome was the

co-development of an identity-centred

intervention programme. “The main goal is to empower

young people to understand themselves more deeply

and expand their capacity to aspire.” Tililenji adds,

“I am deeply grateful to the Boak Fund for making this

engagement possible and remain committed to carrying

this work forward beyond the life of my PhD.”



‘Tililenji Phiri returned to rural Zambia to share her research with the communities that shaped her work.’

The Clare Hall 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund

The Clare Hall 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund has been established to celebrate sixty years of academic excellence, community, and innovation. This fund is designed to be a flexible and forward-looking resource, enabling the College to respond dynamically to emerging needs and opportunities. It will support a wide range of initiatives that align with Clare Hall's mission to foster intellectual exchange, interdisciplinary research, and a vibrant, inclusive community. It is intentionally broad in scope, allowing the College to allocate resources where they are most needed and where they will have the greatest impact. Contributions to the 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund will help secure Clare Hall's legacy and ensure its vitality for future generations of students, Fellows, and Visiting Fellows.

The 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund will support, but is not limited to, the following areas...



I

Endowment Growth

To strengthen the long-term financial sustainability of Clare Hall and all our operations, ensuring continued excellence in every aspect of College life.

2

Research Fellowships

To attract and support outstanding scholars from around the world, fostering a dynamic and diverse intellectual environment.

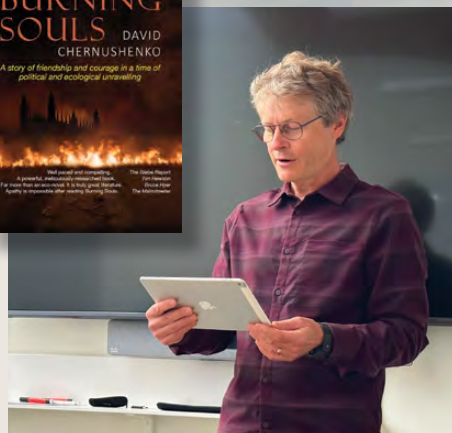
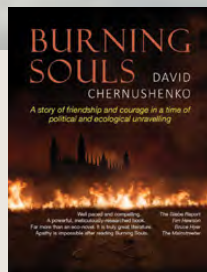
60TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN FUND



3

Sustainability Initiatives

To advance the College's commitment to environmental responsibility through green infrastructure, energy efficiency, and sustainable practices.

60TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN FUND

“Clare Hall’s spirit lies in its people – students exploring new ideas, researchers developing new knowledge, and our community pulling together, on and off the river. Supporting the 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund will help us continue to nurture talent across the academic and research pipeline, and support networks and friendships for generations to come.”

Dr Holly Hedgeland, Senior Tutor

4

Ralph Erskine Building Restoration

To preserve and enhance the architectural heritage of the College through the restoration and revitalisation of these iconic buildings and our estate.



5

Student Support

To provide scholarships, bursaries, and wellbeing initiatives that enable talented students from all backgrounds to thrive at Clare Hall.

6

Music, the Arts & Sport

To enrich the extracurricular and cultural life of the College through support for musical performances, exhibitions, and sports, including the Clare Hall Boat Club.



“The ability to provide student bursaries, fund research fellowships, host prestigious lecture series and accommodate our students, Fellows and Life Members has only been possible through the past generosity of our dedicated community of members and donors. The College has ambitious plans for the future, including restoring the unique Ralph Erskine Buildings and further enhancing the ability to provide support, whether directly or through the income generation of an enlarged endowment, for academics at all levels, in order that Clare Hall continues to attract the best students and most talented fellowship from around the world. I would encourage you to donate to support the future growth of Clare Hall through giving to the 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund, which will ensure the College continues to thrive over the coming decades.”

Per Reiff-Musgrove, Bursar

60th Anniversary Festival of Events Programme

Join us from 16–19 April 2026
to celebrate 60 years of academic excellence
at Clare Hall!

THURSDAY 16 APRIL

10am

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM
Tour of part of the Museum.

2pm

PARKER LIBRARY
Tour of the Parker Library,
Corpus Christi College.

4pm

MEETING ROOM
Talk on Clare Hall's Ceramics
– **Helen Ritchie**, Associate of Clare Hall
and Senior Curator of Modern
& Contemporary Applied Arts,
Fitzwilliam Museum.

5pm

**ROBINSON COLLEGE
LECTURE THEATRE**
Tanner Lecture – **Prof. David Nirenberg**,
Director and Leon Levy Professor,
Princeton Institute for Advanced Study.

6pm

**ROBINSON COLLEGE
LECTURE THEATRE**
Ashby Lecture – **Prof. Denis Lo**,
Vice-Chancellor and **Li Ka Shing**
Professor of Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

7.15pm

COMMON ROOM
Drinks reception.

7.45pm

DINING HALL
Feast.

FRIDAY 17 APRIL

9.30am

WHIPPLE MUSEUM
Tour of the Whipple Museum of History
of Science with **Prof. Hasok Chang**,
Fellow of Clare Hall and
Hans Rausing, Professor of History
and Philosophy of Science.

11am

RICHARD EDEN SUITE, WEST COURT
Lecture by **Prof. Dame Caroline
Humphrey**, Honorary Fellow of Clare Hall.

2pm

PRESIDENT'S LODGE
Session on Netherlandish Art with
Prof. Alan Short, President of Clare Hall.

3.15pm

COMMON ROOM
Afternoon tea.

4.30pm

MEETING ROOM
Talk on Clare Hall's Art Collection by
Prof. Frances Spalding, Emeritus Fellow and
Chair of Clare Hall's Art Committee.

6pm

DINING HALL
Anniversary Music Concert.

7.30pm

COMMON ROOM
Drinks and buffet.

9pm

RICHARD EDEN ROOM, WEST COURT
Whisky tasting with **Stephen Bourne**,
Emeritus Fellow of Clare Hall, and
Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes,
Fellow and Postgraduate Tutor of Clare Hall.

SATURDAY 18 APRIL

9.30am

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL
Tour of King's College Chapel
with **Prof. Jean Michel Massing**,
Fellow of King's College.

11.30am

DINING HALL
Talk by **Prof. Lord Martin Rees**,
Honorary Fellow of Clare Hall,
and a Q&A afterwards
with **Dr Alexandru Marcoci**,
Assistant Professor in Global Risk
and Resilience at the Centre
for the Study of Existential Risk.

12.30pm

FELLOWS GARDEN
Garden Party.

3pm

DINING HALL
Talk on the architecture of Ralph Erskine
by **Prof. Alan Short**,
President of Clare Hall.

7pm

ROBINSON COLLEGE CHAPEL
Continuum Concert.

SUNDAY 19 APRIL

10.30am

COMMON ROOM
Science showcase
with networking brunch for science and
technology research and innovation.

6pm

QUEENS' COLLEGE CHAPEL
Evensong led by
the Clare Hall Choir.

Registration for these events will open nearer the time,
but please save these dates in your diaries in the meantime.
For enquiries regarding the Festival of Events in 2026,
please contact us via:

development@clarehall.cam.ac.uk

Join us in Shaping the Future of Clare Hall

As we celebrate sixty years of academic excellence, community, and innovation, we invite you to be part of Clare Hall's next chapter. Your support for the **60th Anniversary Campaign Fund** will help us fortify the College, preserve our unique heritage, empower the brightest minds, and build a sustainable, inclusive future for generations to come. Support the 60th Anniversary Campaign Fund today and help Clare Hall continue to thrive for the next sixty years and beyond.

Your gift – of any size – will make a lasting impact.

Donate

Donate by either scanning the QR code below
or by visiting our online donation form
via the following link:

www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk/online-donation-form





www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk