Summer Blues
Clare sport in Olympic year

Rising Talent
Harriet Muller
Artist

Six Questions
Dr Alice Welbourn
HIV awareness
University Challenge – drama of the quarter finals

Clarke’s 2012 and 1973 University Challenge teams met similar success in their quest for glory: they stormed through to the quarter finals but lost out to the eventual winners, Manchester University and Trinity College, Cambridge, respectively.

This year’s team was captained by Jonathan Burley (Natural Sciences), Daniel Janes (History), Kris Cao (Mathematics) and Jonathan Foxwell (Natural Sciences). Highlights included walking to their places on the studio set in Manchester to the Rocky theme music. Their mascot was inherited from the 2010 team’s choice – a stuffed goat! The 1973 team’s efforts are described by David Holmes (1972): “The radical students of the 70s, sporting pro-Marxist badges to subvert this bourgeois TV pap! Not quite. “Even close examination will not reveal that our captain is actually wearing a Donny Osmond badge, while my preference was Slade.

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[Image of the 1973 team]

Question from 1973:

Who was the French commander at Trafalgar?

Question from 2012:

Etymologically unrelated, what short name links a French département, named after a tributary of the Loire, with a US singer and actress, whose films include The Witches of Eastwick and Moonstruck?

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SIX QUESTIONS: DR ALICE WELBOURN ON AIDS AWARENESS

ONE
Why did you chose to work in HIV?
Because I was diagnosed with HIV in 1992 when I was expecting a baby. This was before the medication, which now keeps me alive, healthy and fully productive, was developed.
So in those days my diagnosis was a death sentence. Because of this and because the baby would have had at least a 30% chance of having HIV too, I was advised not to have the child.
I couldn’t tell any but a very few close family and friends because of the stigma that existed (and still exists) around HIV.
Their support was immense but it was still devastating.
I decided that, since I was lucky enough to have that crucial support, I would do what I could to try to make that support the norm rather than the exception.

TWO
How common is HIV in the UK now?
Few people realise that there are now more women than men with HIV in the world.
Even in the UK, one third of all 82,000 adults with HIV are women. Even if people realise they may be vulnerable to HIV (and that includes anyone who ever has unprotected sex), they assume that now the medication is there it’s no longer an issue.
But even though many people with cancer thankfully now feel able to be open about this, most people with HIV still dare not share it openly. That’s because the stigma is so great that they fear they will be judged harshly. I only decided to go public about my HIV, to raise awareness about it, once my older children had grown up and left home. But it’s still been hard for them and for my wider family.

THREE
So what have you done in your work?
When first diagnosed I was supported by colleagues to develop a training programme on gender, HIV communication and relationship skills, called Stepping Stones, which has now proliferated and is in use by many communities around the world in many different languages.
My PhD at Clare was a great background for this. It was on the social construction of authority in relation to gender, age, and access to goods and produce.
Many of the issues around HIV for women are fuelled by poverty, gender inequities and gender-based violence. I have also been involved at the global policy level with the United Nations, trying to change things from the top as well as the grassroots.

FOUR
Why does speaking out about your status help your work?
Most people still assume that the face of HIV is black or male or gay or ill or poor.
I don’t fit into any of these boxes. So I am able to challenge people’s assumptions about what HIV is and what it isn’t. HIV is just a bug in my body, yet there is still so much stigma and discrimination out there about it.
Yet HIV, like cancer, TB, divorce or many other events in life, can happen to anyone. Most of these are met with compassion now but HIV isn’t yet.
So I hope that by talking about my own experiences – and those of the amazing people with HIV I have had the privilege to meet around the world, with far more challenges than mine, I am able to raise awareness of the enormity of the issue and the immense human tragedies.

FIVE
What are you campaigning on right now?
So many things! There have been some huge scientific advances. Anti retroviral medication is extraordinary. If someone is stable on treatment, like me, it is now really hard to pass HIV to someone else, even without condoms.
With medication, we can even have babies safely, with normal delivery, 99% HIV-free. So 30 years into this pandemic, an “AIDS-free generation” is within our grasp.
But the body-blow is the global financial crisis and lack of political will to continue funding the medication. This can cost about US$200 per person per year, and can keep people with HIV – and their children – happy, healthy, in education or jobs, paying taxes and contributing to their countries’ economies.
This is a miniscule investment for the returns on offer. Yet we now face a huge global political funding crisis – for malaria and TB prevention and treatment also.
Moreover, over 30% of the 34 million adults with HIV globally are now women and this rate is growing. And young women are especially vulnerable. It’s really a crisis of human rights and power imbalances.

SIX
What about your own health?
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Summer Blues

In this edition, we unearth yet more sporting superstars who, in typical Clare fashion, bask just out of the limelight…

SWIMMING

Great Britain triathlete

Trisha Greenhalgh (Medicine 1977) holds the unique distinction of having captained both the Cambridge and Oxford Swimming teams.

She qualified for a full Swimming Blue for Cambridge in 1979 (one of the first females to do so) by winning a team gold medal in the British Universities freestyle relay in a record time.

After university, Trisha took up triathlon, competing for Great Britain in 1986-87, including a team gold medal in the 1987 European Ironman Triathlon. Over the years she has won a handful of UK Masters gold medals in several events.

Cycling from Land’s End to John O’Groats has been a recent adventure and she does a daily 22-mile cycle ride to work. The last time she came to Cambridge with her husband, they cycled from London.

Trisha is Professor of Primary Health Care at Bartholomew’s Hospital and the London School of Medicine. In 2001, she was awarded an OBE for her work in evidence-based medical care. She gave the speech at Dr Gordon Wright’s 90th birthday dinner at Clare on behalf of over 1000 of his past students. Gordon regularly had to tell her off when she was a student, for example for climbing Memorial court (pictured).
ATHLETICS

Sprint record holders

Mark Dyble (2008) ran the fourth fastest 100m on record at Cambridge with a personal best of 10.83 seconds. He captained the University Athletics team to a record-breaking victory over Oxford in 2011, with 17 out of the 20 events won by the Light Blues.

Training for two hours a day, he won the Blue Riband 100m event in all three of his Varsity matches, as well as all three 4x100m relays and the 200m as a fresher. Mark also captained the combined Oxbridge team against the combined Yale and Harvard athletes in last summer’s match at Wilberforce Road.

Harold Abrahams, the great Olympian and also a former President of CU Athletics Club is a hero of Mark’s, as is American runner Tyson Gay, whom he describes as “a sprinter’s sprinter”. Mark graduated with a First in Biological Anthropology and is now doing a Master’s at Oxford, where he has already competed against his Light Blue alma mater.

The second fastest time ever for the 100m by a Cambridge student (10.7 seconds) was recorded by Clare alumnus Anthony Gershuny (1972) as a freshman. The year before, a Selwyn student ran 10.6 seconds.

Anthony came up to College with the fearsome reputation of never having been beaten as a schoolboy (he was at Haberdashers’ Aske’s) and for having set a National Schools 200m record of 21.7 seconds, aged 17.

He competed for the Light Blues in the long jump as well as the 100m, 200m and the sprint relays on the old cinders track in Cambridge (“cold and windy with no shelter”). Fortunately for Anthony “my running was all natural and I didn’t have to do too much training, unlike sprinters of today”.

College rugby, hockey and rowing also occupied some of Anthony’s time in addition to his medical studies under Dr Gordon Wright. Anthony is now a clinical oncologist in London, specialising in bowel cancer.

Anthony ran for Thames Valley Harriers after Cambridge but now keeps fit through walking, tennis and taking photos in beautiful locations, including the Masai Mara and Rwandan mountains.

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Blue scratch

Geordie Ting (2010) is the latest in a long line of distinguished Clare golfers and won his Blue in the 2011 Varsity match at the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club. Geordie lost one game, won another, and at the end, was as proud as punch to pull on his Blues blazer. 

From Singapore and playing off handicap, Geordie wanted to participate in serious golf in Cambridge largely because of the fixture list. “We have the opportunity to play at great clubs like Sunningdale, Walton Heath, and Royal St. George’s. The connection between the Cambridge University Golf Club (CUGC) and clubs around England is remarkable. To be part of the fabled history of the CUGC is something I will always be grateful for!”

“Getting a Blue in my first year was definitely something really special. I had to put in a lot of time and effort into training, but it was well worth it in the end”. Brian Chapman (1953) learned to play golf by sneaking out of the house and trying to hit golf balls over the oak tree in the garden onto the 9-hole, rather decrepit course “that lay alongside.”

He joined Porters Park, his local club, as a junior member in 1947 and, after his prep school burned down two months later (“yet my fault”), spent a glorious summer mixing golf with watching Edrich and Compton bat for Middlesex and England.

At Bradford College, he was encouraged to play by his housemaster who had been an Oxford Blue. After National Service with the Royal Artillery, he came up to Clare which was the leading golf college of the time, having had six out of ten Blues in 1953.

There was at least one Clare man in every University Golf team between 1947 and 1962. The “1953 Six” were Ian Biggatt, MFI Twigg, WR Alexander, J Whitmore, OS Blair and AM Barrie-Adshead. Both Alexander and Whitmore went on to become captains of the Royal and Ancient.

Also in College at that time was Murray Grindrod (1954), who was the Blues captain in Brian’s second year and later South African Amateur Champion.

Brian won his Blue as a freshman at Formby and went on to win some 50 singles matches during his time at Clare. “I sank putts at crucial times” he says. He played in three University matches, in his second one partnering Peter Cooper (1956) who went on to captain the Blues in 1959.

Brian then represented England in the Home Internationals and played in the 1961 Walker Cup when his opponents in the foursomes were Jack Nicklaus and Dean Beman. Brian and his partner lost 6 and 5 (“could have been worse over 36 holes”). In 1962, Brian reached the semi-final of the Amateur Championship (“I should have won it”), and also played for Great Britain v the Rest of Europe. Family and work put an end to serious competition but he has been a member of Hoylake and the R&A for around 50 years.

He worked in the oil and engineering industries before starting his own business and is now happily settled in the wilds of Lancashire.

Female first

Kate Dunham (1988) was the first woman to win a full cricket Blue, largely for being part of the Young England squad as well as representing Middlesex during her Cambridge career.

Growing up with a cricketing father and two brothers (one of whom, Guy Dunham, preceded her at Clare in 1983), the sport was a way of life. She was born to be driven off at the Lade’s Club one day on the way to the Men’s and that was that. Kate played for Gunnersbury Ladies for several years before arriving at Clare.

She opened the batting for Cambridge for three years in what was a half-Blue sport, captaining the team in her third year (although the Varsity match that year was rained off).

She founded the Clare Ladies Six-a-Side team in her second year and led them to Cuppers glory in 1991.

Kate found that her mathematics degree left her with afternoons to play sport: badminton (half-Blue), hockey, football, squash and tennis. After College, she captained Middlesex Seniors for four years as well as her club in the Premier League and won the National Knockout Cup. Kate then took up golf and is currently working on reducing her sixteen handicap.

She qualified as a Chartered Accountant at Deloitte Touche after university and is now the Planning and Analysis Manager for Compass Group based in Surrey.
A message from Clare’s Development Director

Fran Malaree is the new Development Director and a Fellow of Clare. She was previously Development Director and Fellow at Girton College, where in ten years she raised nearly £25 million. She has undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from the London School of Economics, and is a keen football player, rower and tennis player.

On joining Clare I have been impressed by its considerable academic achievements, the beauty of its architecture, the excellence of its musical offering, the variety of College intellectual, social and sporting life, and the spirit of co-operation which exists at all levels between students, fellows and staff. It is a stimulating environment, and one in which students at all levels, and of all backgrounds, have opportunities to thrive. Clare is a pioneer in the area of access, starting from the momentous decision to admit women forty years ago, ending centuries of educational inequality. We will celebrate this anniversary with a series of events from October this year, and with a special edition of Clare News. Clare continues to champion access today under the leadership of the Master, Professor Tony Badger, and has the best programme for access in Cambridge. The challenge for the future is to continue to fund the access programme, build-up more bursaries to deal with increased tuition fees, and fund the supervision system, all activities the College funds thanks to its endowment, support from donors and conference income.

However, this role is about more than fundraising – we encourage you all to get involved in many different ways, from being career contacts, to supporting events, to visiting the College to reunite with old friends. The expertise of alumni is a valuable resource for College, and there are many opportunities for all alumni to get involved.

I am very much looking forward to meeting as many alumni as possible soon, both in the UK and overseas or back in Cambridge. If you return to visit, you will always find a warm welcome.

Fran Malaree

JD Watson scholar

Last summer, Anne Turberfield (2009 Natural Sciences) spent nine weeks of her holiday researching developmental regulation of microRNA at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) in New York. She did so as the inaugural recipient of the J D Watson Undergraduate Scholarship, established by Clare College in conjunction with the Watson School of Biological Sciences at CSHL. The scholarship enables one Clare student each year to participate at the Watson School. Anne worked in the Hammell Laboratory studying systematic RNAi screen on a mutant strain of the model organism Caenorhabditis elegans. Accommodation for the research students (28 people from around the world) was organised between labs as well as kayaking at the beach and a visit to a Broadway show. James Watson (1951) himself entertained at the beach and a visit to a Broadway show. When not pursuing research, Anne plays violin for the Cambridge University Symphony Orchestra as well as Clare College Music Society and also participates in ballet and ballroom dancing. She would like to do a PhD after graduating.

Anne Turberfield

Marriage first

In the previous edition of Clare News, we asked who were the first members both at Clare to marry. It was, according to our information, Peter Wright (1971) and Dorothy Manders (1972) on May 3, 1974.

Peter Wright and Dorothy Manders

Dr Sheldrake is also currently conducting two lines of research, namely the form of trees and telephone telepathy. His son, Merlin (2008), has followed his father closely: they had the same rooms in Old Court (A4); they both won the Greene Cup, were College scholars and spoke at the Dibetanco Society 48 years apart. Merlin is now doing postgraduate research in South America. For more information on Rupert’s work, see sheldrake.org.

Clare’s musicians, supported by the Master and Ruth Badger, worked with English Touring Opera and the Royal College of Music in the Michaelmas Term, to give English operatic performances at the College. It was immensely proud of his Clare days: he played squash and tennis, rowed in the 4th Boat, climbed for the University Mountaineering Club and read sciences as an Exhibitioner, tutored by Harry Godwin. He served as a captain in the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers during World War Two and then taught at various schools and in further education, introducing biology as a subject to the curriculum.

“I retired in 1971, so I’ve been retired longer than I worked”, he said when Clare News went to visit him.

Peter Wright

Noel Hartley

Queen’s honour

Current Clare postgraduate student Damian Platt was awarded an MBE in the Birthday Honours list for his work in the shanty towns of Rio de Janeiro.

In the New Year’s Honours list, there was a KCB for Alexander Allan (1969) formerly chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee, and a CBE for Dr Andrew Sentance (1977) for services to Economics.

Damiann Platt with his father Julian (1966)

Inheritance tax reduction

From April 2012, if you leave 10 per cent of your net estate to charity, your Inheritance Tax Rate can drop from 40 per cent to 36 per cent. For more information on this land membership of Clare College’s Samuel Blythe Society, please contact the Deputy Development Director, Rowan Kinn, on rmck2@cam.ac.uk or 01223 3333218.

The new Business Contacts service for students (and alumni) is developing quickly. The Development Office puts students in touch with alumni in the professions or companies in which they are interested, for advice on the phone or by email.

New successful contacts include Sarah Ling (2nd year Classics) who was put in touch with Simon Robinson (1974) at Slaughter & May, whilst Owen Churton (2008) spoke to Brigadier Rod Croucher (1970) about a choice of Army regiment for his forthcoming Sandhurst entry. Please contact the Deputy Director, Rowan Kinn, on rmck2@cam.ac.uk if you are able to help.

Proposals sought for Alumnus of the Year 2013

Suggestions for candidates for next year’s award would be gratefully received by the Development Office. The award is for charitable work or philanthropy, exceptional contributions to a community, outstanding dedication to the care or development of others, or an act of heroism.

Clare centenarian

Noel Hartley (1930) reached his 100th birthday on December 12, 2011. He is immensely proud of his Clare days: he played squash and tennis, rowed in the 4th Boat, climbed for the University Mountaineering Club and read sciences as an Exhibitioner, tutored by Harry Godwin. He served as a captain in the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers during World War Two and then taught at various schools and in further education, introducing biology as a subject to the curriculum.

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Praising her beauty, being blessed. Nothing to wear but her very best. Our Avenue’s dressed herself for Spring, Clare’s colours wrought in bold. Iron gates, black and gold, Daffodil, daisy, scylla too. Yellow, white, a dash of blue, Knowing summer you will re-create. Waiting whilst you re-grow your grace, We who love you in patience wait, Our Avenue must bear nature’s pace. Till summer comes undress must do. Gone the yellow, the white, the dash of blue, Scruffy, bedraggled, withered and worn, That Spring dress’ all tattered and torn, Clare, Late Spring The Avenue: The Avenue: UPDATES A LIFE IN THE DAY The Acting Master, Professor Paul Cartledge Hats – and mortarboards – off to Tony Badger, the real Master of Clare. What follows is a composite description of an imaginary day in the life of his current locum, to whom ‘Acting’ all too often seems an all too painfully accurate description. For Tony’s is a very hard act to follow. My little dog’s day might begin with a working – I hardly dare venture ‘power’ – breakfast. Around a baize-clad table in the Godwin Room in the southwest corner of Old Court from 8.15am sit the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, the Development Director, the Steward – and the (Acting) Master, notionally ‘in the chair’. These are the College’s ‘officers’. Topics freely discussed under Chatham House rules might range from the (stellar) quality of the food produced by the Kitchen staff to the Coalition Government’s latest scheme for enhancing (as they see it) the quality and nature of our ‘access’ programme. In the morning – when not trying to carry out his normal allotted ‘stint’ as the Classics Faculty’s endowed A.G. Leventis Professor of Greek Culture – the (Acting) Master might find himself meeting with, say, David Miliband MP – an encounter engineered and facilitated by the University’s Director of External Affairs and Communications, who just happens also to be a Fellow of Clare. Over lunch – ‘working’ of course – the (Acting) Master might be having a one-on-one with the University’s Head of the International Strategy Office (you’ve guessed it, another Clare Fellow), discussing the various institutionalised academic links Clare enjoys overseas – with Yale and elsewhere in North America (the real Master chairs the board of Trustees of the Kennedy Foundation), with the city of light (no, not Eindhoven, but Paris), with the Iberian peninsula, with China (the University’s Joseph Needham Professor of Chinese History, Science and Civilization is a Fellow of… yes, Clare). Or he might be presiding over a meeting of the trustees of the Nicholas Hammond Foundation, which is dedicated to facilitating and improving the supervisory and pastoral care of students and helping them on their way to the world of work and even careers, for instance through engaging them in running the extremely successful Student Investment Fund. (Nick, as many will know, was a longtime Fellow of Clare, some time Senior Tutor, as well as a war hero in Greece and a first-rate Classical historian.) In the afternoon, tempting though it might feel to try to snatch a quick Mediterranean-style siesta, the (Acting) Master would in hard fact merely change chairs – to chair the Council or the Finance Committee (each of which sits twice a term). In the early evening, it is let us say a corporate self-affirming and enhancing ritual, presided over by (I almost wrote ‘graced by’ – well, he does read a grace both before and after the meal) the (Acting) Master. Come the early evening, it is let us say a Wednesday at the start of a new term, and so the due season for the formal admission, in Chapel in a short but telling ritual orchestrated smoothly by the Dean, of new Fellows – who might be joining our society from at least several corners of the globe. Wednesday dinner itself is a closed affair so far as the senior members are concerned – Fellows only, no guests, and so another corporately self-affirming and enhancing ritual, presided over by (I almost wrote ‘graced by’ – well, he does read a grace both before and after the meal) the (Acting) Master. After the meal in Hall Fellows repair to the Senior Combination Room to, well, ‘combine’ – that is, enjoy a dessert of fruit and sweetmeats washed down by various vinous beverages (imbibed in suitably controlled quantities). If we are especially fortunate, the (Acting) Master then gets to introduce from among our number a speaker, typically but not always one of the younger members of the Fellowship, someone rather nearer than some of the rest of us to the start of a glittering career up the academic ladder. She might be regaling us on, oh, the structure of Edward Gibbon’s magnum opus, to take a recent instance. But decline, let alone fall, are not of course on our – or at last not on the (Acting) Master’s – agenda, or even consciousness. Onward – and upward. Floreat Collegium de Clare. **The Acting Master, Professor Paul Cartledge**
CLARE IN FOCUS

The Cholmondeley Room at the House of Lords was the venue for the oversubscribed London Clare alumni dinner in February, hosted by Lord Geoffrey Filkin (1963). Tours of the House preceded dinner, followed by a speech from Peter Wright (1971), Editor of The Mail on Sunday.

A very successful Alumni Dinner was held in February for those who matriculated between 1972 and 1975. To start our series of events marking the 40th anniversary of the entry of women to Clare, a special reception was held in the Lodge before the dinner for the 1972 year group.

The annual Benefactors’ Feast in the Great Hall in January was preceded by a wonderful concert in the Chapel and followed by time in the cellars. From left are Andy and Dominie Walters (both 1975) and Elizabeth and Adrian Buckmaster (1967).

In February, the Development Office organised the annual event for parents of first year students including a tour of the College, a Q&A session with the Acting Master and Senior Tutor, Evensong in Chapel and dinner in Hall.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All events will take place at Clare, unless stated

May 12
Samuel Blythe Society Luncheon.

June 29
The Choir will sing Evensong at Westminster Abbey.

June 30
Alumni Day.

July 11-16
Clare College Music Society is touring France.

August 4-15
Clare Choir will tour Australia.

September 14
Reunion Dinner 1988/89.

September 21

November 14
Roger Raphael Masterclass series (Schubert Ensemble).

December 3-17
Clare alumni tour of Egypt.

March 23, 2013
MA Congregation (2006 matriculation)

For further information please contact the Development Office on +44 (0)1223 333218 or events@clare.cam.ac.uk

CONTACT US

Clare News very much welcomes news, information and views from alumni

The Editor, Clare News, Clare College, Trinity Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1TL

t. +44 (0)1223 333218
e. editor@clare.cam.ac.uk
w. www.clarealumni.com
f. www.facebook.com/clarealumni
   www.twitter.com/clarealumni

Editor: Rowan Kitt
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