

changinglives



Newnham College Newsletter

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roll@newn.cam.ac.uk



We want to reach out to our alumnae – please send us your news and views!

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Cover photo: Two-year-old Freya Tracey, the granddaughter of Anne Thomson, College Archivist. If you have any photographs of your children at Newnham that you would like to share, please email them to communications@newn.cam.ac.uk and we will print a selection in the next edition of *Changing Lives*.

1 fromthelodge



Professor Dame Carol Black

For nearly 150 years, women and some men – including our founder Henry Sidgwick – have striven to give women education equal to that given to men. Women have not only accessed and embraced higher education, but they perform exceptionally well in their chosen fields. They enter many different professions and careers, and they balance home and work – so one might ask what challenges remain?

As I write I am preparing to address that question when I deliver a special Tanner Lecture at Ochanomizu University. The women's university in Tokyo can trace its roots back to 1875 – just four years after Newnham began as a house for five students in Regent Street. Presented annually, the Tanner Lectures aim to advance and reflect upon the scholarly and scientific learning related to human values. This will be the first Tanner Lecture to be held in Japan and my lecture, titled *Women: Education, Biology, Power and Leadership*, will examine the challenges women encounter to achieve success in a world that is still not equal.

The choices, fully embraced or otherwise, that women make will be considered, along with the importance for women today of confidence or lack of it, resilience or the opposite, the burden of perfection, the fear of risk-taking and failure and the need to be courageous. How early in life do these factors come into play?

Atsuko Toyama, Honorary Doctorate of Ochanomizu University, will also deliver a lecture – hers is titled *To Our Leaders of Tomorrow*. She intends to highlight the considerable progress that has been made before she addresses why Japan has traditionally lagged behind the rest of the world in terms of gender equality.

During my trip, I am looking forward to having lunch with a group of alumnae and it will be a privilege to hear their memories of Newnham and their stories of facing and overcoming barriers to success.

With the unwavering support of our alumnae, we do a lot of work at Newnham to help our students prepare for life after Cambridge – from organising *Life Skills* classes on everything from negotiation skills to how to interact with the media, to hosting specific one-to-one mentoring sessions. We hope that by equipping women for the challenges ahead, we can help effect the change that is needed to create a more equal society.

The Tanner Lectures were established by the American scholar Obert Clark Tanner, who hoped that these lectures would contribute to the intellectual and moral life of humankind. It makes me very proud indeed to lead a college where we have educated thousands of women who all contribute to the intellectual and moral life of humankind.

2 collegenews

Newnham women take centre stage as part of this year's Cambridge WOW Festival

A candid and frequently hilarious discussion about life's #EpicFails was held at Newnham as part of the Cambridge WOW Festival. Former MP Patricia Hewitt (NC 1967), journalist Eleanor Mills, Dame Carol Black, Principal, and Professor Rae Langton, Fellow, talked about their career lowlights and how they went on to achieve success.



WOW Panel

Julie Etchingam (NC 1988), ITV news anchor, chaired the #EpicFail to #EpicFuture event in March which covered everything from being passed over for promotion to failing to get into Oxford.

The packed audience laughed at anecdotes from the eminent panel who recounted memorable occasions of when life didn't go to plan. But the evening had a serious message, which Etchingam conveyed, she said: "We need to communicate to the women behind us that we've all screwed up and pretty much all of the time the sky didn't fall in – and not only that but it became an essential part of how we progressed."

Cambridge's first McWhirter Conference takes place at Newnham

Sixth-form students from around the country experienced life at a Cambridge college at the inaugural Rosalind Franklin Conference.

The McWhirter Foundation presented the two-day event which was named after the Newnham scientist who famously helped discover the structure of DNA.

Historian Jenifer Glynn (NC 1948), Franklin's younger sister and also a Newnham alumna, made a special return visit to the College to meet some of the students who were taking part. Glynn said Franklin would have been 'honoured' to have a conference named after her.



Jenifer Glynn, centre, with Dame Carol and students

The conference was titled *Cyber-Security: Nothing to Hide, Nothing to Fear?* and it explored issues which affect society. Participants heard from eminent speakers and had opportunities to debate and discuss their views. Dame Carol Black, Principal, was instrumental in bringing the conference format to Cambridge after she spoke at the Dicey Conference, run by the McWhirter Foundation, in Oxford in 2014. We are very grateful to Fiona Yeomans (NC 1975) and Claire Berryman, Principal's Secretary,

Art project inspired by the history of Newnham unveiled

Award-winning artist Sinta Tantra was commissioned to create an installation stretching the length of the historic red brick corridor between the Kennedy Building and Peile Hall.



Artist Sinta Tantra with her art installation in the corridor between Kennedy and Peile.

The artwork and light installation combines striking coloured geometric motifs on the inner walls and a series of stunning hand-blown glass pendants suspended from the ceiling. It is titled *A Means of Liberation* which references a quote by 20th century artist Henri Matisse, 'Colour, even more than drawing, is a means of liberation'.

Motifs, shapes and colours for the installation were inspired by histories and stories of and from Newnham – the Newnham Coat of Arms, the curved architectural lines of the building and objects and artefacts from the College archive.

The result is an artwork that becomes immersive and activated as people walk through.

The corridor project was formally opened by Dame Carol Black, Principal, at a special ceremony on Friday, January 29 which was attended by Tantra, Fellows, staff, students and special guests. Dame Carol said: "The artwork has transformed the busy corridor and turned it into a reflective space. The project combines the language of industry – as seen in the machine cut wall panels – as well as traditional craft, as demonstrated by the hand-blown pendants."

Law Networking Lunch and memories of Catherine Seville

When faced with the very hard decision following Dr Catherine Seville's death as to whether we should hold the Law Networking Lunch just ten days later, one of her students put it in a nutshell: "Of course you must hold it – she would be furious with you if you cancel!"

A group of 85 legal alumnae gathered, determined to continue the tradition of the law network which Catherine had established and about which she cared so passionately. Jean Gooder, Fellow Emerita and Catherine's former DoS, spoke of Catherine's intellect and exceptional academic career. Two law students bravely regaled the audience with hilarious stories of Catherine enjoying rollercoasters, teaching them how to drink good wine, tearing their essays to pieces and pulling water pistols out of her gown sleeves at Formal Hall. Many of her former students shared similar experiences of their much loved Director of Studies.

Clare Adams (NC 1989), General Counsel for Alexander McQueen, spoke over lunch of her fascinating career under the title: "*I have learnt that what is important in a dress is the woman who is wearing it.*" – Yves Saint Laurent.

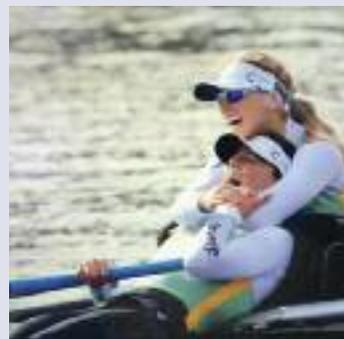
We were glad that we had celebrated the strength of Newnham's unique legal community – Catherine would have been proud.

3 studentnews

Best day of my life so far captured on camera!

When Lexy Wood's mum bought her a six week *Learn to Row* course for a Christmas present, little did she know that in a few short years she would be watching her daughter representing Cambridge on the Tideway.

Lexy, who became the first recipient of the Anna Watkins Studentship in October 2015, first tried the sport during the final year of her A-levels. She said: "I was hooked. I rowed throughout my time at Northumbria University and again at Durham and I won quite a few competitions. It was a nerve-racking wait to find out if my application for the Anna Watkins Studentship had been successful as I wouldn't have been able to afford to study at Cambridge without it."



Lexy Wood

Lexy, who is studying an MPhil in Education – Children's Literature, rowed to victory in the Blondie crew on the Tideway during the Boat Race in March. It has been an intense journey since she first dropped her blades off at The Goldie Boathouse: a journey which included an injury – a fractured rib – which kept her out of the Blue Boat. She explained: "Trialling is tough, gruelling and addictive and lifelong bonds are forged on the river. When Blondie won, it was the happiest moment of my life so far – utter joy and relief that all the training had paid off."

All the rowers knew the conditions were bad, but the Blondie crew set off before they heard the fate of the Blue Boat crew. She said: "Their loss was our loss too. But rowing is full of highs – it has always been a privilege to watch the sun rise on the river and there is no greater rowing high than rowing at Cambridge."

Hundreds visit inaugural feminist art exhibition

Hundreds of people flocked to Newnham Curatorial Collective's inaugural feminist art show, *A Revolutionary at Heart: Experiments in the Female Gaze*, which was held in the Old Labs.

The opening night reception featured a speech from Sue Owen (NC 1973), President of the Newnham Associates and Permanent Secretary for Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and Professor Dame Carol Black, Principal.



ADDY SUSNICK

Newnham Curatorial Collective

Visitors enjoyed a variety of musical performances as well as the exhibition, which featured a small library consisting of women's art books and feminist zines. The exhibition also included art of diverse media, all by Newnham students, loosely based on the theme 'the female gaze'. These were displayed with items from the College's Archive and Rare Books Collection, including seventeenth-century works by Mary Astell and Judith Drake. The reception was held on April 21 and approximately 400 people viewed the exhibit until it closed on April 24.

Women's Varsity: Then and Now



Jess Charlton and her team

Newnham medic Jess Charlton (NC 2011) made history by playing in the first ever Cambridge University Varsity women's match to be held at Twickenham Stadium on December 10 2015. The Cambridge team dominated the game, beating their Oxford counterparts 52-0.

But Jess is not the first Newnhamite to act as a trailblazer in the history of women's rugby. Barbara Skelly (NC 1985), Director of Studies in Clinical Veterinary Medicine and Fellow, was one of three Newnham students who competed in the first ever Women's Varsity match in 1988.

Playing alongside two other Newnham students Catherine Slater (NC 1985) and Caroline Blackford (NC 1985), Barbara scored the first try in Cambridge's historic 8-6 victory over Oxford.

Whilst Jess and her teammates stepped out onto Twickenham's legendary pitch to play the 29th fixture against their Oxford competitors, Barbara's side played at the Iffley Road Rugby Ground in Oxford on a Thursday. Her team were not allowed to wear the Cambridge blue and white, and were instead forced to wear a red and blue striped kit. Today, Jess and her team are able to wear the same blue strip as their male counterparts and women rugby players have the opportunity to be awarded full Blues.

Preparation for the two matches could not have been more different. For Barbara's side there was one warm-up match, where Hull University hammered the Cambridge team in what Barbara describes as a 'horrible game'. Now, Jess's side competes alongside Oxford in the Premier South Division, British Universities and Colleges Sports League. Training for the Cambridge team is a serious commitment, and Jess jokes that while preparing for the Varsity match alongside her medical degree she went a few weeks without seeing her new husband.

Before joining the Cambridge team Barbara had no experience of women's rugby, but she was a keen sportswoman, rowing for Newnham's first boat and playing lacrosse. Jess, who had already played four seasons of University rugby before December's historic match, joined Stockport RFC at the age of nine, after encouragement from her father, also a rugby player. This early exposure to rugby, alongside her enthusiasm and aptitude for the sport, meant that Jess has represented Cheshire, the North of England, and Eastern Counties.

Yet, for all these changes, some things have remained constant. The camaraderie and bond between team members remains as strong as ever. Barbara recalled the fun of the game and post-match celebrations, and Jess speaks warmly of the rugby team as her 'university family'. Barbara said she and her teammates were aware that they were making history. Jess was also aware of the importance of her Varsity match, although feels that there is more to be done. Reflecting after the match, she noted that the number of spectators for the women's match was lower than the men's match, something that hopefully will change. And as we reported in the Winter 2016 issue of *Changing Lives*, the Newnham alumnae were the most enthusiastic with more than 30 turning out to support the students. Newnham is proud of its sportswomen and the role these pioneering women have, literally, played.

4 researchnews

Making the planet cleaner: Carbon, Supercapacitors and Energy Storage

Dona Galhena (NC 2012), PhD Engineering Student



With climate change and the decreasing availability of fossil fuels, we are observing an increase in renewable energy production from sun, wind, ocean waves, geothermal, and hydropower. Since the sun does not shine during the night, wind does not blow on demand and we all expect to drive our car with at least a few hours of autonomy, energy storage systems are starting to play a larger part in our lives. At the forefront of these are electrical energy storage systems, such as batteries and supercapacitors.

Batteries keep our devices working throughout the day but they can take hours to recharge. However, rapid energy delivery and recharging are needed in a number of applications, and this role has been given to the supercapacitors. Supercapacitors, also called electric double layer capacitors or ultracapacitors, are power devices that can be fully charged or discharged in seconds. Moreover, they can last for up to a million charge-discharge cycles. They play an important role in the

energy storage field in complementing or replacing batteries. One such application of supercapacitors is regenerative braking, used to recover power in cars and electric mass transit vehicles that would otherwise lose braking energy as heat.

Supercapacitors mainly use porous carbon-based electrode materials with high surface area and they store energy through reversible adsorption of ionic species on these pore surfaces. However, the understanding of the ion adsorption in the confined space of sub-nano pores, which are smaller than the solvated ion size, still remains limited and has been a subject of intense debate. This is partly due to the difficulty of experimentally assessing the complex pore structure and surface area of common electrode materials and partly due to the limited availability of direct *in-situ* insights into working supercapacitors.

My research is focused on understanding this mechanism of ion adsorption and transport in pores smaller than the solvated ion size and thereby understanding capacitance variation in sub-nanometer pores of the supercapacitor carbon electrodes. My paper, recently published in scientific journal *ACS Nano*, details how interlayer constrictions in graphene oxide, which is a layered carbon material, is

introduced as a model system for electrode pores. For the first time, this allows pore sizes to be both controllably tuned and studied *in-situ* during supercapacitor device use and to directly assess how the specific capacitance of the model electrodes scales with interlayer constriction size. This novel approach circumvents the debated use of complex pore size distribution evaluations and the results we report experimentally support the hypothesized link between loss of ion solvation shell and the anomalous capacitance increase in sub-nanometer pores.

Understanding the fundamental mechanisms is the key to improving the performance of electrical energy storage systems which is a critical issue in the transition to a renewable energy economy. It will be impossible to eradicate fossil fuels if we don't develop much better and more efficient solutions for electrical energy storage and I believe that my research will help to make this planet cleaner.

With the support from Hilda Richardson Studentship, a Newnham Research and Travel Grant, and a book grant not only could I successfully complete my research project, but I could also present my work at international conferences. Newnham gave me so much: a safe and friendly environment and long-lasting friendships. Thank you, Newnham!

5 roll&development

'We need to learn to look death in the face'

Rabbi Baroness Julia Neuberger

Something that happens to us all that everyone wants to avoid was the topic of the inaugural London Speaker Series event – death.

An evening with Rabbi Baroness Julia Neuberger DBE (NC 1969) was held at Coutts on Monday, April 25 2016 thanks to the support of Annette Spencer (NC 1988) and her husband Matthew Spencer.



Julia with Pam Alexander

Rabbi Neuberger, who is an Honorary Fellow of Newnham and a cross bench member of the House of Lords, said:

"We have gone into a collective silence about death.

"Almost every family lost someone in the First World War or in the major flu pandemic that came afterwards, the Victorians almost rejoiced about people dying but after the Second World War, people didn't use the word dying anymore.

"It was 'passed away' or 'popped their clogs' – it was as if the nation went into a form of trauma."

Neuberger, who was Britain's second female rabbi and the first to have her own synagogue, is now a Senior Rabbi of the West London Synagogue.

She famously chaired the Review of the Liverpool Care Pathway for Dying Patients and she discussed her findings and the process with the packed audience of Newnhamites.

She traced the foundation of the NHS and its importance and how the modern hospice movement was created and urged 'a roomful of the most intelligent women in the country' to ensure they draw up an advance healthcare directive – known as living will – so that their wishes are followed by their family and healthcare professionals.

She also talked about her work with young asylum seekers.

The lively and empowering discussion was praised as being one of the 'best Newnham events' by members of the audience, who asked Rabbi Neuberger probing questions about the role of faith and death, her views on assisted dying and public mourning for celebrities.

Pam Alexander (NC 1972), President of the Roll Committee, chaired the Q&A session.

Neuberger concluded: "We need to learn to look death in the face again – it is coming for us all."

Newnham does TEDx – your reminder!

Hold the date: 17 February 2018

The Roll Committee and the Associates are working hard towards gaining a platform licence for a TEDx event that will be a first for the Newnham community – we are shaping an event that will be a ground-breaker for us all. If you are not familiar with TED talks now is a great time to go online and look at these brilliantly inventive lectures.

How can you help?

Think about participating as a potential TEDx performer – we will be sending you all an invitation towards auditioning in due course.

Decide to host a group of Newnham friends and neighbours to watch this amazing event. We will send you a 'how-to host' TedX pack and put your name on our live map. You can choose whether to host your event simultaneously with the live event, or screen the talks at a later date.

This is a fantastic opportunity to make many new College friends in your area and be a host as one of our Regional Convenors. Many thanks to those who have volunteered already – we are excited that we have Roll members as far afield as Barbados taking on the challenge of hosting. We are keen to hear from many more hosts across the UK and Europe too.

Your participation will light up the map of Newnham across the world!

Take the next step and get in touch with the Roll and Development Office for more information:
E: roll@newn.cam.ac.uk T: 01223 335757

And that's not all – we have a packed Day of Celebration to come in 7 July 2018 with a wide range of events, music making, book clubs, memory sharing, science, arts and sports spotlights.
So pop this date in your diary as well!

HOLD THE DATE – MORNING 17 SEPTEMBER Women and Public Appointments

Newnham and its alumnae have a long tradition of public service. We are therefore pleased to be hosting a special seminar on 17 September, aiming to inform women about the possibility of second careers in the public sector, as well as increasing female representation in public appointments. Lucy Frazer QC (NC 1991), MP for South East Cambridgeshire, is organising the event with the Cabinet Office and the College. The morning will feature a variety of speakers from the public sector, who will share their expertise on the kinds of jobs available and tips on how to apply. There will also be a chance for one to one consultation with the speakers, and with specialist head-hunters in this field. You can book your place here: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/women-in-public-service-tickets-25839409369



6 youngalumnae

My first job – Emily Keogh (NC 2002)



It's rather startling to think that I flew the Newnham nest eleven years ago now. I left in a hurry for London. An impatience to get my career started, combined with the lure of a big city, meant that I was lining up interviews across the capital without any measured consideration about what I really wanted to do long term. The truth is, I didn't know. I had read English and enjoyed it. But I wasn't sure how to apply that to 'real life'.

On leaving Newnham, the Principal's rousing speech had left us all puffed up. We were certain that employers would be falling over themselves to snap up ambitious Cambridge grads as soon as we set foot through their revolving doors.

The reality was an awful lot of interviews at an awful lot of different places, all with the same response: I needed hands-on experience in order to become 'employable'. I remember that being a bit of a shock to the system, definitely a dent to the ego. However, the truth of the matter is that as an employer now, I am looking for the same thing.

So I did my stint of work experience for a magazine launch at News International where I made endless cups of tea, did sandwich runs for the editor, wrote Cilla Black's answers for her problem page, some of which were quite racy (yes, really!) and generally tried very hard to make myself indispensable to the editorial team.

With a strong reference, I went on to land my first Public Relations role at global consultancy Ogilvy working on large consumer accounts, such as Unilever and Seven Seas. It provided a brilliant grounding for my career.

I launched Palm PR six years ago. We're based in the heart of Shoreditch in a relaxed and friendly office complete with an occasional office dog. Palm is a public relations and social media consultancy specialising in food and drink, which has always been my passion: www.palm-pr.com

And that would be my one piece of advice here: follow your passion. Do what you truly love so that even when work is crazily exhausting – which it will be – you still enjoy it.

7 legacy

Your legacy to Newnham



'I remember devoted teachers, lovely rooms, beautiful gardens and lifelong friends that I made at Newnham. Leaving a legacy seemed a small way to say thank you.'
Rosemary Emanuel
(NC 1957)

Watch our short film about legacies and find out more about why Rosemary and other alumnae are generously supporting Newnham www.newn.cam.ac.uk/alumnae/giving-to-newnham/giving-in-your-will/

Our exciting new brochure outlining the importance of legacies to Newnham will also be available very soon. To request a copy or if you would like to discuss your plans please contact the Development Office on 01223 335757 or email development@newn.cam.ac.uk.

8 spotlight

Miriam Margolyes (NC 1960) returns to Newnham to talk about Cambridge, her career and Harry Potter



Miriam Margolyes is the last person off the train from King's Cross to Cambridge.

Not just because her arthritic knee is playing up, even though it is, but because she got talking to, "This absolutely fascinating man! He needs to get to Histon and I have told him how utterly impossible it is to get a taxi at Cambridge train station so we absolutely must drive him!"

The amiable passenger, who seems to be have been as thoroughly entertained by Miriam as she was by him, declines but did pass on his card to her before Fran from the Development Office pulls up to drive us back to Newnham.

Miriam, who has just turned 75, delights in saying exactly what pops into her head – often with hilarious results – which makes her a firm favourite on talk shows.

She is struggling to walk because she is waiting for a knee operation that had to be timed around her filming schedule, but nothing can dampen her enthusiasm for Newnham when we arrive at the Porters' Lodge.

The award-winning actor is a Newnham Associate and returned to College to take part in the annual CV and interview clinic run by the Associates to help current students.

She explains, "I felt I must do something to give back to Newnham and I was free so here I am! I am going to see Jean Gooder for lunch later and I



cannot think of a nicer way to spend a Saturday."

Before the Associate Workshop, she takes the time to give an exclusive talk to Newnhamites about her time at university, her illustrious career and why she is 'so angry' that she wasn't cast in BBC One's *Dickensian*.

Miriam, with her trademark humour and honesty, exclaims, "It should have been me! Dickens is the greatest writer who ever lived and I'm just so angry that I wasn't cast as Mrs Gamp. Pauline Collins, who is a dear friend, was. She is very good, but it still should have been me."

Dickensian is the BBC's soap-opera style reimaging of Charles Dickens' stories. Miriam goes on to read a few lines as Mrs Gamp to illustrate her point.

Miriam, who has enjoyed a hugely varied career on radio, stage and screen, talks about her role as Professor Sprout in the Harry Potter films, working with Leonardo DiCaprio in Baz Luhrmann's 1996 version of *Romeo and Juliet* and why actors don't have to be intelligent "but it helps!"

The born performer was recently seen in *The Real Marigold Hotel* and credits her time at Cambridge for launching her acting career. She says,

9 infocus



“Newnham was the beginning of me, being at Cambridge was like being at drama school. I owe everything to Cambridge. The friends I made at Newnham are still my friends today.”

She reminisces about celebrating her 21st birthday on the banks of the River Cam in Grantchester, and gives students an insight into her famous appearances on *The Graham Norton Show* alongside stars like Matthew Perry.

She laughs, “I made him very uncomfortable. But I always tell the truth, I don’t see the point of not telling the truth. Don’t placate people, you only have one life and this is not a dress rehearsal.”

Her walking pace might be slow, until she has her much-anticipated knee operation, but life with Miriam will never stop being constantly in the fast-lane.

A link to the footage of her Q&A session will be sent out in the next alumnae e-newsletter.

I love being outside, even in the winter, as there is something very satisfying about watching the seasons change.

That is one of the reasons I love being a gardener, it is a privilege to be able to spend so much time outdoors.

I have a degree in Plant Ecology and I spent 12 years working at Christ’s College, eventually working my way up to Deputy Head Gardener.



Newnham has one of the best gardens in Cambridge so when the vacancy for a Head Gardener was advertised, I knew I had to apply.

I wore high heels to my interview, which is one of the most ridiculous things I have done, I am not really sure what I was thinking! But I have got gardener’s hands so the panel could definitely see that I was used to getting my hands dirty!

I actually really enjoyed the interview and I had a good feeling about it – I was delighted when I was offered the job.

I arrived at the end of January and it has been a busy few months – I have taken on three new members of staff, established allotments for the students to use so they can grow their own veg, and we are introducing beehives.

With an area of more than 18 acres to cover there is always pruning work to do so we have been spending a lot of time eradicating weeds. There are exciting times ahead with the building project and I am already working closely with the Garden Committee and landscape architect to discuss the plans.

I have been coming up with plans to develop the Principal’s garden; it is a wonderfully big space and I hope to extend the garden season at Newnham so there is always something new to see.

Newnham’s secret gardens are so special in Cambridge – it isn’t a college just with beautiful lawns – the gardens are a space that people can spend time in all year round. People should use gardens, that is the whole point of them and every time I walk in through the gate, I feel lucky to work here.

Lottie Collis, Head Gardener

10 feature

Planning permission granted for new student accommodation

Newnham has been granted planning permission to build en-suite student accommodation, a new Porters' Lodge, gym, cafe, conference facilities, supervision rooms and suite of offices.

Cambridge City Council also approved plans to demolish Strachey, the Porters' Lodge, and to partially demolish Fawcett to enable them to be replaced after a planning application was submitted.

Plans for high quality social areas and additional covered cycle parking spaces have also been given the go-ahead.

A total of 86 student bedrooms will be removed and replaced with 90 en-suite bedrooms.

Walters and Cohen Architects was appointed by Newnham College in November 2014 to design the 'inspirational' student accommodation.

The practice has designed award-winning buildings in both the public and private sectors

and has completed projects for Kew Gardens, the Bank of England, the Horniman Museum and many education institutions.

The submission of the College's planning application followed extensive pre-application consultation with Cambridge City Council, Cambridge Design and Conservation Panel, Historic England and local residents and neighbouring colleges which helped to influence the development of the designs.

A Building Steering Group (BSG), led by the Bursar, was established to oversee the project and its membership is comprised of Fellows and Heads of Department.

BSG is working closely with a Design Team, which is made up of external consultants

appointed by College, to engage with College committees and to instruct the formation of small advisory groups in specialist areas to ensure the project runs smoothly.

Multiple internal consultation events have been held to ensure that the designs are practical for the students, staff and Fellows who will be using the new spaces, as well as being attractive.

Jenny Raine, Bursar, said: "Newnham is always evaluating what it can offer students – undergraduate and graduate.

"The proposed developments will ensure that the long-term needs of the students are met with an exciting new environment that is sensitively integrated with the College's existing historic buildings and gardens."



An artist's impression of the new Porters' Lodge from Sidgwick Avenue

An Art Strategy Group, led by Professor Jenny Morton, Newnham Fellow, interviewed six shortlisted artists and recommended that Cathy de Monchaux be appointed to produce the public art which is an integral part of the building project.

Governing Body appointed de Monchaux, who was previously shortlisted for the Turner Prize. The artist, who has worked in a wide range of media, is keen to



An artist's impression of the new courtyard



An artist's impression of the view of College from Newnham Walk

engage with the College to develop her proposals to create something specific to Newnham and it is expected that she will produce a work which would be a 'destination piece' to attract visitors to the College.

A project plan has been created to set out the tasks that are required to be completed before the demolition work can go ahead and a detailed decant schedule has been devised to ensure that all Fellows, staff and students, where appropriate, are

relocated to other locations in College.

Minor enabling work is already under way and more significant enabling work will begin after the end of term when contractor SDC, which has extensive experience of working in Cambridge and with other Colleges, will start their site set-up in the RFB car park.

Both the Fawcett and RFB car parks will be unavailable during the period of the building work,

with the RFB car park being returned to use after the project is complete. The reduction in car park spaces is being carefully managed by College.

A temporary Porters' Lodge will be created at the ground floor garden entrance to Clough.

Ms Raine added: "We have been working very closely and carefully with Fellows, staff and students and we have been delighted by the consistently high level of engagement shown at the consultation events.

"This is an exciting project for the College and the planned improvements will meet the educational needs of the students and help maintain the College's status as a world-leading education facility."

Building work is expected to begin in September 2016.

Hold the date for a ceremonial swinging of the sledgehammer on the Saturday afternoon of Alumni Festival – 24 September. We will be holding an open afternoon with Strachey tours, barbecue (vegetarian included) hog roast and Pimms – and you might even be able to write your name on the bedroom walls of Strachey without risk of a fine! Come and see the fabulous view from the roof too. Invitations will be mailed early summer.

11 internationalnews

Newnhamites host events to welcome Principal to Far East

The Principal's trip to Singapore and Hong Kong was particularly vibrant this year.

We were delighted to meet with nearly 70 alumnae in the Far East at private events generously hosted by Newnhamites.

Our groups in each city go from strength to strength and it is particularly gratifying that some of you are helping school students with practice interviews for Oxbridge.

We are also very grateful to those of the Hong Kong alumnae who are joining together to establish a bursary award for a Hong Kong student.

The Principal and Development Director spoke at 10 schools to encourage their students to aspire to Cambridge (and Newnham in particular).

The College had a leading role in the University of Cambridge's international launches of Cambridge's 'Dear World, Yours Cambridge' £2 billion fundraising campaign.

Every donation made to the colleges during the period of the campaign will stay with the College but counts towards the total and the fact that Dame Carol spoke passionately about the importance of the colleges, as the only Head of House on the platform, had a big impact on the packed alumni audience.

She reminded them: "What makes Cambridge really special is our unique constellation of 31 colleges which stimulate intellectual and cultural collaboration.

"Within each college our supervision system ensures that every mind is carefully nurtured and can blossom and bloom. She repeated the powerful message she gives to school students when she speaks to them and said: "Cambridge teaches students *how* to think, not *what* to think."

We were very grateful to Dr Manu Chhabra (NC 2006) in Singapore and Cathy Yuen (NC 2011) in Hong Kong who accompanied Dame Carol onto the stage and spoke passionately about Newnham and how studying at Cambridge had changed their lives.



Hong Kong



The Principal on stage



Singapore

12 inspiringwomen

Snapshots of Newnhamite lives

Lucy Gossage (NC 1997)



Lucy is an oncologist and 4x Ironman champion based in Cambridge. Since completing her PhD in March 2014 she has been training and racing as a full time triathlete.

I wasn't sporty at school, in fact I was so bad that I came last at cross country and at Newnham the most I did was run from College to Grantchester. But doctors tend to work hard and play hard so I decided to do a triathlon as a challenge. Then, when my boyfriend split up with me, a New Year's Eve dare led me to agree to do an Ironman. The Ironman is a test of physical and mental endurance which involves a 2.4 mile swim, followed by a 112 mile bike ride, before a 26.2 mile run. I didn't set out to excel, I fell in love with the sport and I discovered that I love

being outside and pushing myself. Mental strength is critical – I would say that determination is my main talent; it is how I managed to juggle my PhD with training. On a good race day I am completely in the zone, on a bad day it can be mentally tough, particularly if I have a bad start. I spend at least 30 hours a week training. I also think have proved the point that you don't have to be sporty at school to find your passion later in life – I feel very lucky.

Brontë Philips (NC 2013)



My year studying Persian Literature in Iran

I arrived in Iran in January with pockets full of money because card machines don't work here. I had to carry everything I had with me until I could open a local bank account. That has been the scariest part of my trip – despite the warnings from concerned friends and family before I left who were worried about my safety, everyone has been so welcoming. I have just been offered free food by a stranger as 'heaven points' – the hospitality and kindness never ends. Iran is so difficult to characterise as there are all kinds of people and cultures. I am studying Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and I decided I wanted to spend my year abroad in Iran. It wasn't easy getting here, I had to go to Dublin just to get the visa. I have been the

first student from Cambridge to finish the language course at the Dehkhoda Language Institute in Tehran and as far as I know I'm the first Cambridge student to gain a place at Shahid Beheshti University, one of the top universities in Iran, to study Persian Literature. All of this was made possible thanks to Newnham. I am a recipient of the Lady Eleanor Hamilton Trust Bursary from the Hamilton Fund which supports my living costs at home and abroad. I am often the first foreign person people have seen so I am always the centre of attention. Iran is starting to open up and it is changing a lot. I am returning to Newnham for my fourth year, but I will definitely return to Iran, it is a very special country.

13 didyouknow

Comedian visits Newnham to talk feminism and women's magazines

Award-winning comedian Sarah Millican and journalist Hannah Dunleavy came to Newnham College to talk to students, staff and Fellows about feminist website *Standard Issue Magazine*.

The women's College run by women, for women welcomed the women's online magazine run by women, for women on Friday, March 11.

In just seven years Millican has gone from winning the Best Newcomer Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival to becoming one of the UK's most successful comedians.

Millican said: "*Standard Issue* will never tell you who to be, what to wear or how to look. We believe that every woman should feel empowered to be themselves. It's relatable, like a long lunch with a group of brilliant friends, and it tells it like it is."



newnhamassociates

I currently head up a global marketing function for Thomson Reuters, a company that provides data and technology to help professionals make fast, accurate decisions. I support a multi-billion dollar business and lead a team of 30+ people who deliver campaigns targeted at financial services and corporate clients via social media, events, lead generation programmes, branding, thought leadership initiatives, and targeted PR.

I'm not sure that I could have envisaged that I'd end up here when I walked into Newnham to study Architecture more than 10 years ago!

I had no idea what I wanted to do when I graduated so was lucky to get a job at Accenture – a global management consultancy firm – which meant I didn't have to specialise too early. I moved from there into a start up tech company, before joining HM Treasury to support a major internal change program and the marketing of a launch of a UK-wide children's savings product. I then went back to Accenture, initially working with clients to help them communicate change programmes, before moving into the marketing team, where I delivered extensive marketing programmes, working with board members, clients and sales leaders.

I am happy to discuss any aspect of my career with Newnham women, and can be contacted via the Associates website: www.newnhamassociates.org.uk or LinkedIn – <https://uk.linkedin.com/in/antonia-wade-5859464>

Research shows Newnham is the best represented Oxbridge institution on BBC Question Time with graduates like **Diane Abbott (NC 1973)**, **Patricia Hewitt (NC 1967)** and **Mary Beard (NC 1973)** appearing on the QT stage. Three Newnhamites featured on BBC Radio 2 – a nun, a life coach and a television broadcaster. **Clare Balding (NC 1990)** was joined on her Good Morning Sunday BBC Radio 2 programme by **Clare McGregor (NC 1991)** and **Sister Gemma Simmonds (NC 1977)**. **Professor Jane Humphries (NC 1967)**, former Fellow, was the first woman invited to deliver the prestigious Ellen MacArthur Lectures. Newnham launched its new website – do spend five minutes exploring it and enjoying the fabulous photography and refreshed alumnae pages. And pop back to keep up-to-date with the latest news and events. **Srishti Krishnamoorthy (NC 2013)**, PhD student and Special Supervisor, won the prestigious Glasgow Ancients debating tournament. She competed with a former Cambridge debater and was also judged to be the best speaker of the competition. **NCBC's W1 crew** won blades for the first time in 25 years in the Lent Term Bumps. **Principal Dame Carol Black** spoke about her life and career on *Desert Island Discs*. Philosopher **Professor Rae Langton**, Newnham Fellow, delivered two prestigious series of lectures – the George F. Hourani Lecture Series 2016 and the 2016 Magoletsi Lectures. Third-year HSPS student, **Asia Lambert (NC 2013)**, was elected as President of the Cambridge Union for Michaelmas 2016. Newnham was visited by Google Street View to record footage of Newnham's spectacular library, stunning gardens and Clough Hall. The behind-the-scenes shots provide 360-degree views and the footage is now live for virtual visitors to explore. Three more distinguished women have been elected as Honorary Fellows of Newnham College to acknowledge the exceptional contributions they have made to their chosen fields: **Rabbi Julia Babette Sarah, Baroness Neuberger, DBE, M.A., (NC 1969)**, **Joan Bakewell (NC 1951)**, and **Sandi Toksvig**, an alumna of Girton College. **Professor Mary Beard** presented a new four-part documentary series. *Mary Beard's Ultimate Rome: Empire Without Limit* was broadcast on BBC Two. **Patsy Glazebrook**, College Nurse, was awarded a BEM for her charity work. Other Newnhamites to receive Honours: **Professor Henrietta L Moore (NC 1979) FRSA** appointed DBE for services to Social Sciences; **Professor Linda M McDowell (NC 1968)** appointed CBE for services to Geography and Higher Education; **Professor Amanda C Howe (NC 1973)** appointed OBE for services to Primary Care; **Hillary F Willmer (NC 1960)** appointed MBE for Voluntary Services to Disadvantaged Communities in West Yorkshire.



Changing Lives is produced by the
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14 events

Forthcoming events

Women in Public Appointments 17 September

Hosted by Lucy Frazer (NC 1991) and Newnham, this event will aim to inspire, encourage and inform women about the possibility of second careers in public service. Delegates will have the opportunity to hear from people who work in a variety of public sector roles, expand their networks and improve their skills.

Alumni Festival 23 – 25 September

Alumnae who matriculated in 1961, 1976, 1986 and 1996 will be invited back to Newnham for a weekend of reunion events.

Strachey Celebration Event 24 September

Alumnae and their families are invited to return to Newnham to celebrate Strachey before demolition begins. This afternoon event will feature a hog roast and vegetarian barbecue.

London Speaker Event 2 November

The hugely successful inaugural lecture sold out within 24 hours and we are thrilled to be moving forward with the second event in the series in November.

For further information about all the events listed here and in the calendar please contact the Development Office at:

E: roll@newn.cam.ac.uk
T: 01223 335757



Follow the tweets
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the latest news



Newnham College Business Alumnae
Sign up to the alumnae-run LinkedIn group and join the thriving Newnhamite network

calendar

2016–2017

17 September	Women in Public Appointments
23 – 25 September	Alumni Festival – for alumnae who matriculated in 1961, 1976, 1986 and 1996
24 September	Strachey Celebration Event – all welcome
15 October	NewnhamRoll Mums Forum – Parenting in 21st century families: What really matters for children's psychological development?
19 October (TBC)	Formal Hall (MVST)
26 October (TBC)	Formal Hall (Classics, Philosophy, Theology & Religious Studies)
2 November	London Speaker Event
3 November (TBC)	Formal Hall (NSP, HPS, Chemical Engineering)
16 November (TBC)	Formal Hall (History and Geography)
23 November (TBC)	Formal Hall (ASNC, English, Media/Screen/ Visual Arts and Education)
27 November	Music for the Festive Season and Friends Reception
2017	
25 January	Formal Hall (NSB)
27 January	Formal Hall (Archaeology, HSPS and PBS (including Archaeology & Anthropology; and PPS)
2 February	Formal Hall (Law, History of Art, Music, Management Studies, Economics)
15 February	Formal Hall (Land Economy, Computer Science, Mathematics)
25 February	Literary Archive Event
1 March	Formal Hall (Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, Architecture)
8 March	Formal Hall (AMES, MML, Linguistics)
8 April	Commemoration Weekend – Alumnae who matriculated in 1947, 1957, 1967, 1992 and 2007 will be invited back to Newnham.

Please note: anybody wishing to attend a particular Formal Hall should check the website in advance in case of alteration.

Call for email addresses

The Roll & Development Office is keen to send out more mailings via email where this would be welcomed by our alumnae, as it helps keep costs down and is more environmentally friendly. Please let us know your preference and check that we have your up-to-date email address.

roll@newn.cam.ac.uk

for an up-to-the-minute listing of events, please visit
www.newn.cam.ac.uk