The UK general election
There’s nothing new about insurgent parties holding the balance of power, says Dr John Stevenson. Page 6

Social sciences that matter
Our plan to raise the profile of the study of social sciences by creating more Nuffield graduate scholarships. Page 11

Our new JCR President
Chris Jacob talks about life at Nuffield, his research, and what he wants to achieve during his time as JCR President. Page 14

Upcoming events

Alumni events

Thursday May 14
General Election Seminar
5pm, Europe House, Smith Square, London
Following the general election on May 7, the Nuffield Society will host a seminar on the subject “Who won the UK general election, how, why and with what implications for Britain and Europe?”. For more details of speakers, please see page 5. This event is currently over-subscribed; to be added to the waiting list, please contact the Development Office.

Tuesday July 14
Bowls Match
2pm, Nuffield Place, Hungercombe
Last year, the annual Nuffield bowls match was won by the College’s bursary team. This year, Caroline van den Brul is forming an alumni team with hopes of claiming the glory. If you are interested in taking part, please get in touch with the Development Office.

Friday September 18
Nuffield Society AGM & Alumni Weekend Dinner
AGM: 6pm, dinner: 7.30pm, Nuffield College
In celebration of the start of the University’s annual Oxford Alumni Weekend, Nuffield College will host an alumni dinner for all former members visiting for the weekend’s events. The dinner will be preceded by the Nuffield Society AGM, to which all former students/fellows are warmly invited to share their ideas for future Nuffield alumni activities. Invitations will be sent soon.

Saturday September 19
Margery Perham Anniversary Seminar
10am, Nuffield College
In commemoration of 120 years since the birth of Dame Margery Perham, Nuffield’s first Official Fellow, Dr Brad Faught of Tyndale University, Toronto, will present a seminar entitled ‘The Making of an Africanist: Margery Perham from Sheffield to Somaliland’. There will also be a Margery Perham exhibition in the College following the seminar, open for alumni to view until 3pm on the day. Invitations will be sent soon.

Seminars

Friday May 8
Media & Politics Seminar:
Professor Ivor Gaber and Dr Maya Even
5pm, Butler Room, Nuffield College
‘Reflections on the general election and the Media: Two perspectives’
Ivor Gaber is a Professor of Journalism at the University of Sussex, and Maya Even is a Visiting Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the study of Journalism. All are welcome.

Friday May 15
Media & Politics Seminar: Anthony Barnett
5pm, Butler Room, Nuffield College
‘New forms of media, new forms of democracy? Some reflections on new media and the election drawing on the experience of openDemocracy’
Anthony Barnett is the founder of openDemocracy. All are welcome.

Friday May 22
Media & Politics Seminar:
Dame Margaret Beckett MP
5pm, Butler Room, Nuffield College
‘Politicians and the media – a 40-year view’
Margaret Beckett is the MP for Derby South and former Foreign Secretary. All are welcome.

Tuesday May 26
Art Talk: Focus on Nuffield’s Flemish Proverbs
6.15pm, Chester Room, Nuffield College
Nuffield’s Flemish Proverbs, an early sixteenth century copy of an original by Pieter Breughel the Elder, is being returned to College after extensive examination and restoration work. Dr Jon Whiteley and Ruth Bubb will present the findings made during the conservation of this unique piece in the College’s collection. Wine and refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

Friday May 29
Media & Politics Seminar:
Sir Nicholas Macpherson
5pm, Butler Room, Nuffield College
‘The UK post the election – what does it mean for the Treasury?’
Nicholas Macpherson is the Permanent Secretary to HM Treasury. All are welcome.

Friday June 5
Media & Politics Seminar: Michael Crick
5pm, Butler Room, Nuffield College
‘The changing face of elections and television’
Michael Crick is the Political Editor for Channel 4 News. All are welcome.

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From the Editor

As I write this on my second day at Nuffield, I am already deeply impressed by this College.

Having had strong relationships with other Oxford colleges, I can see immediately that Nuffield is unique in the collegiate University, standing out as a specialised graduate College as well as for its close-knit community and keen academic focus. Walking into the quad on this sunny morning in April, I was amazed by how peaceful this College seems, despite the Oxford traffic surrounding it. This is clearly a wonderful place to think, write, and converse.

Joining just three weeks before the general election, I can’t help but be struck by how many Nuffield members are linked to such a decisive event in the UK’s calendar. This general election edition of the newsletter celebrates this relationship, which we hope will help spread the political discussion in College to our members in all corners of the globe: let our seeming quietude transform into lively discussion!

I look forward to developing a personal relationship with all of you. This new development office will work hard to make the College your home in Oxford and to make you feel part of this vibrant community. We want you to be involved in our quest to seek funding for the very best students and to strengthen our leading position in the study of social sciences. In addition, we would like to create a series of events that are cross-generational and international, appealing to all our alumni. With the appointment of our Development Executive, Emma Shires, a few months before my arrival, we have already started to develop this programme.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope to meet you in person soon.

Caroline Kukura
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

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What goes around, comes around

It is often perceived that coalitions and minority parties holding the balance of power is a new phenomenon, but Dr John Stevenson proves otherwise.

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If you have a Twitter account and would like to be updated with news and events taking place at Nuffield College then please follow ‘NuffieldCollege’ on Twitter.

If you have a Facebook Profile and would like to be updated with news and events taking place at Nuffield College then please like our Facebook page ‘Nuffield College’.

If you have a LinkedIn Profile and would like to reconnect with Nuffield College Alumni, search ‘Nuffield College Society’ at www.linkedin.com (run by John Hemingway).
Our rich endowment to British elections

By Professor Iain McLean

Nuffield has always had strong links to British politics, meaning that the UK general election is an exciting time for the College. Professor Iain McLean, Director of the College’s new Gwilym Gibbon Policy Unity, gives an overview of this relationship through Nuffield’s history.

Lord Nuffield was determined that his College should be ‘for the study by co-operation between academic and non-academic persons of social (including economic and political) problems’. This was reinforced by the early, generous, bequest from the estate of Sir (Ioan) Gwilym Gibbon, who had been a senior UK civil servant, and whose Will states the same purpose.

The most famous fruits of this study have been the Nuffield general election studies of every UK election since 1945, when Sir David Butler worked as a research assistant to the first team. The series is still flourishing, and David’s involvement in election studies is expected to continue right up to this year’s election.

The ‘Nuffield studies’ give an authoritative non-partisan narrative of events up to the election, and provide an unbroken series of data, back to 1959 and available to any social scientist, showing how British political attitudes have changed, and how they have not changed, in all those years. One of the current co-directors, Professor Geoff Evans, is an Official Fellow at Nuffield.

Staying with surveys, the other mainstay, ‘British Social Attitudes’, is now more than 30 years old. Over the years Nuffield College has had a sizeable hand in this too. In both cases, and with many other surveys, Nuffield-trained social scientists are to be found running them in institutions all over the UK and beyond.

Nuffield researchers have been involved more directly with policy advice. In the 1960s and 1970s this focused on industrial relations, and also included tutorials for Chancellor-elect Jim Callaghan before Labour took office in 1964. In recent years it has covered a wide range of issues, including spectrum auctions, property taxation, monetary policy, and the famous ‘Barnett formula’ (don’t ask, but if you buy me a pint I will explain it). The College can be proud that it is honouring its commitment to Lord Nuffield and Sir Gwilym.

The 2015 general election in College

Election day at Nuffield: May 7

On May 7, the College is holding some short informal talks in the SCR. All former and current members are welcome to drop in and out throughout the day. Topics include:

- Professor Ben Ansell, Elections in an Era of Economic Crisis
- Sir David Butler, Elections 101
- Max Goplerud, It’s now or never? Why uncompetitive parties stand for election
- Sir Andrew Dilnot, Manifestos, Statistics, and Elections
- Professor Iain McLean, What happened when nobody won? General Elections 1885-1918
- Dr Giedo Jansen, Voting Behaviour of Entrepreneurs
- Dr Elefni Kechagia-Ovseiko, Elections in Greece
- Dr Andreas Murr, Election Forecasting Models

We know that many of our members can’t be in Oxford on voting day, so we hope they get involved in other ways. We have asked Nuffield members to Tweet or Facebook us with their quirkiest election day photo using the hashtag #GENuffield. The winning photo will be announced on 8 May, and the photographer will receive a bottle of College champagne.

General election seminar: May 14, 5pm

A week after the election, the Nuffield Society is holding a seminar at Europe House in London, entitled ‘Who won the UK general election, how, why and with what implications for Britain and Europe?’.

PANEL ONE

CHAIR
- Maya Even, Visiting Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

SPEAKERS
- Professor Geoff Evans, Member of the 2015 ‘British Election Study’ team and Official Fellow at Nuffield College
- Professor Jane Green, Member of the 2015 ‘British Election Study’ team, Professor at the University of Manchester, and Nuffield alumnus
- Peter Kellner, President of YouGov and former Visiting Fellow at Nuffield College

Panel topics:
- Who won the UK general election, how and why?

PANEL TWO

CHAIR
- Anthony Teasdale, Director-General, European Parliamentary Research Service and Nuffield alumnus

SPEAKERS
- Professor Vernon Bogdanor, Professor at King’s College, London, and Nuffield alumnus
- Sir Ivor Crewe, Master of University College and Honorary Fellow of Nuffield College
- Professor Kalyvas Nicolaides, Professor at St Antony’s College, and Nuffield alumnus
- Lord (Gus) O’Donnell, Former Cabinet Secretary and Honorary Fellow of Nuffield College

Panel topics:
- What are the implications of the general election for Britain and Europe?

Please note that the general election seminar has been extremely popular and, at the time of this newsletter going to press, there is a waiting list for spaces. Do contact the Development Office if you are interested in attending, so we can let you know if any places have become available.
The two elections of 1974 saw it fall to only 75 per cent. As a result the general election of February 1974 was the first post-war election in which a coalition was canvassed as a serious possibility, at least in terms of numbers, in order for Edward Heath to remain as Prime Minister with support from Jeremy Thorpe’s Liberals.

When coalition soundings failed, Harold Wilson was called to take office to lead a minority government – a result both of the neck-and-neck character of the result and the presence of significant numbers of MPs from other parties – and then seek a fresh mandate later in the year. Labour obtained, for similar reasons to the previous election, a bare overall majority that October, complicated by the new sizeable presence of MPs from the “insurgent” parties of the day, 13 Liberals and 14 Scottish and Welsh Nationalists. As a result, coalitions or less formal inter-party arrangements were in the air throughout the rest of the decade, ultimately leading to the ‘Lib-Lab’ pact to prop up James Callaghan’s precarious Labour government in 1977/78.

Moreover other parties were beginning to make an impact in the number of candidates and share of the vote at general elections. The National Front put up 303 candidates in the 1979 election, the Ecology Party (forerunner of the Green Party), 53, and the Workers’ Revolutionary Party, 60. Although they took no seats, between them they took more than 4 per cent of all votes cast.

But the largest and most significant insurgent party was to emerge in the aftermath of Labour’s defeat in 1979 with the formation of the breakaway Social Democratic Party in 1981 led by the ‘Gang of Four’, Roy Jenkins, David Owen, Bill Rogers, and Shirley Williams. There followed the formation of the alliance with the Liberal Party and a sensational series of by-election successes. For a few remarkable months in the winter of 1981/82, the new grouping achieved more than 40 per cent in Gallup’s poll of voting intentions, reaching a remarkable 50 per cent in December 1981.

No recent insurgent party has achieved anything near that figure in England and Wales, though the SNP did come close to it in some polls in Scotland during the early months of 2015. Alliance soundings failed, but with the nationalisation its existence consolidated the permanent inroads made into the two-party hegemony of the immediate post-war period.

Although “first past the post” gave smaller parties a relatively small number of MPs, even in the era of Labour dominance between 1997 and 2010, the two major parties never took more than three-quarters of the total vote at general elections and in 2010 under two-thirds. If the decade of two-party dominance has been happening for decades, albeit unevenly, the “new normal” of anticipated coalition government and multi-party contests would come as no surprise to anyone who studied British elections before the Second World War.

Britain was ruled by coalition governments from the second year of the Great War in 1915 and continued with them into the post-war era under Lloyd George until 1922. His fall was followed by an era of genuine three-party politics in which Liberals, Labour, and Conservatives vied for support in four general elections the last of which, in 1929, brought a minority Labour Government to power, dependent for a majority upon Liberal support.

Its collapse under the pressures of the financial crisis of 1931 produced a National Government, confirmed in the general election of October 1931, in which an overwhelming Conservative majority was joined by most of the Liberal MPs, but led by the ex-Labour Prime, Ramsay MacDonald, with a rump of his Labour followers. Britain remained governed by this nominal coalition, though one increasingly Conservative in complexion, for the rest of the 1930s, until it was replaced by another, Churchill’s even broader wartime coalition, formed in May 1940.

If new parties, coalition governments, and multi-party elections are nothing new in the longer perspective of British electoral history, the idea of an insurgent nationalist party potentially holding the balance of power is something our former Warden, the late Dr Michael Brock, would remind us had happened before.

In his edition of the letters of the Liberal Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith, he renews a Premier on the eve of the Great War in late July 1914 having ‘his feet held to the fire’ by the Irish National Party, which held the balance of power in the Commons. As Europe teetered on the brink of Armageddon, he was poring over maps of County Tyrone, trying to arrange an acceptable Ulster opt-out to Irish Home Rule in order both to maintain Irish National Party support in the Commons and to avoid civil war in Ireland.1 Whatever constitutional problems the May 2015 elections may throw up, we can be almost certain they won’t be entirely unprecedented and we can only hope the circumstances prove less threatening than in 1914.

But how unprecedented are these features? ‘Recent times’ and ‘living memory’ are elastic terms and a survey of British general elections and electoral performance over the past century reveal that much that is seen as exceptional about May 2015 has ample precedent.

In electoral terms the dominance of two parties at general elections has been declining since the 1950s.
An afternoon at Nuffield Place

Nuffield Place, Lord Nuffield’s home from 1933 until his death in 1963, was closed to the public on April 26, for members of the College and friends of Nuffield Place to visit.

The small house in Huntercombe, near to Henley-on-Thames, formerly belonged to the College and is now a National Trust property.

Around 100 guests joined us for this special day which included guided tours of the house and gardens, as well as an opportunity to enjoy the bluebells in the neighbouring woodland.

We will be returning to Nuffield Place on Tuesday July 14 for the annual College Bowls Match. Last year, the bursary was the winning team. Caroline van den Brul will be leading the first alumni team in this year’s match. Do get in touch with the Development Office if you would like to take part.

Development news

Economics reunion dinner

Economists from all over the world visited the College on March 20 for the triennial Economics alumni dinner.

With nearly 100 people in the dining hall, this was an exciting evening, with guests including former students and fellows who were at the College between 1950 and 2014, along with current students, postdocs, fellows, and associate members.

It was a beautifully clear spring evening, and the event began with welcome refreshments as guests caught up with old friends (and made a few new ones!), ahead of Sir Tony Atkinson’s seminar.

The pre-dinner seminar explored topics from his new publication, *Inequality: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford University Press, 2015), examining a rise in inequality in Britain in recent decades and suggesting some possible methods for alleviation.

More event photos and a video of Sir Tony’s seminar can be viewed on the alumni pages of the College’s website: http://tinyurl.com/pz7adgl.

The game that Sky missed

As part of the Economics reunion celebrations, we arranged a current students vs. alumni football game. Alberto Behar, captain of the alumni team, reports.

What an extraordinary way to begin my time at Nuffield: having the opportunity to meet some of our alumni in Vienna at such a special event, the triennial Economics alumni reunion. While there may be a passionate debate about Britain’s future in the EU in the run-up to the election, there is certainly no argument against bringing together a group of 180 Oxonians to one of Europe’s most culturally and historically important cities.

There were many highlights during the weekend, and I can only encourage more of you to sign up for future European gatherings.

Firstly, our Professorial Fellow in comparative politics and expert on Ukraine, Professor Gwen Tasse, was invited to be a speaker on one of the panels as part of the academic programme. Nuffield could not be prouder to have had her addressing pressing questions about Ukraine’s future. Throughout the weekend, numerous alumni of other colleges kept pointing out how much they valued this particular discussion.

Secondly, I would like to thank all those who signed up for our college dinner at Palais Daun-Kinsky, which was held jointly with four other graduate colleges. Here again, the academic part of the evening, a talk given by Professor Rana Mitter, wonderfully complemented the social part of the evening. Rana shed light on the historical impact of Confucianism and why it was making a comeback in modern Chinese society.

My personal highlight, however, was the feeling that our group of nearly fifteen Nuffield alumni grew closer and closer over the weekend. There was time for many conversations about the College, but we also talked about other aspects of life in general.

Finding out about Donogh McDonald’s book on the Lehman Brothers (due to publish in October 2015) or Clia Ng’s work at the Vienna International Centre on drug policy, along with her personal memories of Nuffield, filled me with enthusiasm to meet more of our alumni. You all really made this weekend such a great and enjoyable experience for the Warden and myself and we look forward to meeting more of you in the future, both in the UK and abroad. Thank you.

Nuffield visits Vienna

As part of the University’s ‘Meeting Minds: Alumni Weekend in Europe’, the Warden travelled with Caroline Kikara, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, to Vienna at the end of April. Caroline reports on the alumni weekend and the Nuffield members she met there.

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Around 100 guests joined us for this special day which included guided tours of the house and gardens, as well as an opportunity to enjoy the bluebells in the neighbouring woodland.

Moment of controversy: Denied alumni’s penalty appeal. Some say it was because the referee still remembered the striker’s dubious appeals during his Nuffield career. Others claim the referee said he didn’t give it because of the alumni’s 3-0 lead.

Final score: 6-2 to the alumni.

After the success of this football match, the College is considering forming a cricket team, bringing together former and current Nuffield members. If you are interested, please contact the Development Office.

Players from left to right

Alumni team in yellow, goals in brackets

Back row: Henry Thomson, Renaud Foucart, Bastie Grass, Lewis Hammond, Anthony Harris, Thomas Norman, Alex Hoare, Alberto Behar, Nathaniel Frank, George Wood (1), Henry Thomson, Renaud Foucart, Thomas Norman, Alex Hoare, Alberto Behar

Front row: Elliot Abbott, Alex Keene with the game mascots Vixen and Blitzen, Noah Carl, Philip Suttle, George Wood (1), Henry Curr (1), Megan Laws (1), Tom Ogg, Edoardo Gallo (2), Stefan de Wachter, Max Eber, Paul Stoddart (2)

My personal highlight, however, was
# Development news

## Social sciences that matter

Nuffield has always been dedicated to excellence in Economics, Sociology, and Politics, with students and fellows working together closely to answer some of the most pressing questions of our time.

Our plan for the future is to further strengthen this position and to become a reference point for social sciences research around the world. In order to achieve this, Nuffield’s long-term aim is to become the first UK higher education institution to fully fund every student who is admitted.

This will ensure Nuffield is the first choice for the very best graduate students, strengthening an academic community whose understanding of the world will encourage better policy choices.

## New graduate scholarships: hopefully the first of many

Nuffield College has already been able to endow two new graduate scholarships in perpetuity thanks to two generous donations from members of the College. We hope that the Oxford-Jerry Hausman Scholarship and the Oxford-Adrian Swire Scholarship will be two of the first of many endowed Nuffield scholarships, and we would like to thank both Professor Jerry Hausman and Sir Adrian Swire of the Swire Educational Trust for being two of the first Nuffield members to champion this vision.

These scholarships have also been made possible thanks to the University’s matched funding initiative: of the total cost of the scholarship donors contribute 60% with the University covering 40%.

The scholarships are awarded to applicants who have demonstrated excellent academic ability, who will contribute to the University’s research, and who will go on to contribute to the world as leaders in their field, pushing the frontiers of knowledge. The two new scholarships are only tenable at Nuffield College, but all students applying to study social sciences at graduate level in Oxford will be considered.

### The Oxford-Jerry Hausman Graduate Scholarship

This scholarship is open to all students of any social science discipline, although priority will be given to those undertaking a DPhil in Economics.

Professor Hausman received his Economics DPhil at Nuffield in 1973, and he is now the John and Jennie S. MacDonald Professor of Economics at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He has taught at MIT for more than 40 years, is the Director of the MIT Telecommunications Economics Research Program, and is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Economic Association.

In 1985, Professor Hausman received the John Bates Clark Award for the most outstanding contribution by a US economist under the age of 40. In recognition of his long-standing support for the College, the Warden has nominated Professor Hausman to become a member of the University’s prestigious Vice-Chancellor’s Circle.

### The Oxford-Adrian Swire Graduate Scholarship

This scholarship is open to all students from Hong Kong, China, or Macau coming to study any of the social sciences at Nuffield College. The College’s previous J. K. Swire Scholarship has been converted into this new permanent endowment, named in honour of Sir Adrian, Honorary Fellow and former Visiting Fellow of the College.

Sir Adrian Swire commented, “At the Swire Educational Trust we believe that education is the greatest tool to change lives. The Trust has sponsored around 300 students from overseas since 1989, which has included students at Nuffield College from the very beginning. We are pleased to be able to convert our support into a permanent scholarship, and we look forward to hearing of the great achievements made by future Oxford-Adrian Swire scholars.”

### The Oxford-Chelly Halsey Graduate Scholarship

Nuffield College plans to create a graduate scholarship in social policy or sociology in Professor Chelly Halsey’s memory to honour the huge impact he had on many generations of students here. The Warden will be writing to all members of the College later this year with more details about this project and to let you know how you can become involved.

To find out more about the College’s development programme, please visit the College website (http://tinyurl.com/pmshmoc) or contact Caroline or Emma in the Development Office.
A little piece of Warhol and Morris at Nuffield

Jeremy Deller’s Strawberry Thief, the art committee’s new acquisition, arrived at Nuffield in March, marking the end of the artist’s celebrated ‘Love is Enough: William Morris and Andy Warhol’ exhibition at Modern Art Oxford.

The Turner Prize winning artist, Jeremy Deller, cites William Morris (the textile designer, rather than our engineering founder) and Andy Warhol as his biggest influences. A seemingly unconventional combination at first, his ‘Love is Enough’ exhibition and Strawberry Thief reveal the parallels Deller draws between these two fascinating artists.

As an art history student, Deller met Warhol in the mid-1980s and spent time at his ‘Factory’ in New York. Deller identifies with these two fascinating artists.

Inspired by the thrushes who would steal strawberries from his garden at Kelmscott Manor, Morris designed one of his most popular textile designs, ‘The Strawberry Thief,’ in 1883. Taking this motif as a starting point, Deller has created a Pop Art neon as a homage to both Morris’s and Warhol’s radical re-imagining of the role that art can play in society.

“I see them both as propagandists for art and for art making.”

The artist’s celebrated ‘Love is Enough: William Morris and Andy Warhol’ exhibition at Modern Art Oxford and Visiting Fellow at Nuffield College, for making this acquisition possible.

Celebrating Jane Bown

Jane Bown, the renowned Observer photographer died at the end of last year. Nuffield pays tribute to her life and work with a Library exhibition of the images she took for the College.

Jane Bown CBE (1925–2014) was best known for her work as a portrait photographer for the Observer. Her signature style was black and white, using natural light to striking effect. In a long career she photographed such luminaries as Bertrand Russell, Orson Welles, John Lennon, and the Queen.

In 1992, after she photographed Anthony Heath for the Observer, Nuffield commissioned Bown to take portraits of all its fellows, which are now on display in the College Library. The subject interests of the fellows are matched with the subjects of the books on each floor so that sociologists can be found on the fourth floor, political scientists on the fifth and sixth floors, and economists in the basement. Many of these fellows are still at Nuffield.

There is also a temporary exhibition of alternative portraits in the Current Affairs Room (first floor of the Library) capturing our fellows in more candid moments. The images will be available to view until the end of the academic year, and alumni are welcome to visit during opening hours (Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 5.30pm).

Drawing together policy makers and the public: Nuffield’s Centre for Social Investigation

Nuffield College established the Centre for Social Investigation (CSI) in September 2014.

The Centre is an independent source of interdisciplinary research, to be communicated in an accessible way for a wide audience, in keeping with the College Charter’s emphasis on ‘the study by co-operation between academic and non-academic persons of social (including economic and political) problems’.

The initial focus of the Centre is on the measurement of social progress in Britain, both before and since the 2008 recession. The Centre has examined the tackling of the ‘five giants on the road of reconstruction’ identified by Sir William Beveridge in his 1942 report, which laid the foundation for the post-war welfare state. The most authoritative data has been used to show the overall levels of progress in defeating Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor, and Idleness.

CSI’s Director, Professor Anthony Heath, was Oxford’s first Professor of Sociology, and has been a fellow at Nuffield College since 1987. He is a fellow of the British Academy, Professor of Sociology at Manchester University, and has been the director of four British Election Surveys.

The Centre was launched at a British Academy event on March 17, when Professor Heath and his colleagues introduced some of the Centre’s key findings covering topics such as:

- What progress has been made fighting Beveridge’s five giants?
- Are we living longer and more healthily?
- Is the well-being of the ordinary citizen increasing?
- Is crime really going down?
- Are we becoming more or less divided along lines of ethnicity, gender, and class?

The Centre’s initial briefing notes on social progress and inequalities can be viewed on the CSI website: http://csi.nuff.ox.ac.uk/.

“Too often, commentators, politicians, and even academics select whatever statistics best fit their own agenda, without paying attention to their limitations. Our task is to be up-front about what the data can and cannot tell us and how much confidence we can have in it.”

“Too often, commentators, politicians, and even academics select whatever statistics best fit their own agenda, without paying attention to their limitations. Our task is to be up-front about what the data can and cannot tell us and how much confidence we can have in it.”

Professor Anthony Heath
Director of the Centre for Social Investigation

“A mark of a civilized society is how it treats its more vulnerable members. Too often commentators look at the overall trends without recognizing that some groups have been left behind. Our job is to establish empirically just how different sections of society have fared.”

Professor Anthony Heath
Director of the Centre for Social Investigation

Current Affairs Room (first floor of the Library) capturing our fellows in more candid moments. The images will be available to view until the end of the academic year, and alumni are welcome to visit during opening hours (Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 5.30pm).
**Colleges news**

**Introducing the 2015/16 JCR President**

Chris Jacoby arrived at Nuffield in 2014, after completing his undergraduate degree at the University of Essex and his master’s at Oriel College, Oxford. We interviewed him shortly after he became the new JCR President.

Why did you apply to study at Nuffield?

Nuffield is the best place for the research in the social sciences and a fantastic community, it is very supportive academically. I’d always wanted to come to Nuffield and I initially considered it for my master’s too, but I thought if I was going to be in Oxford for a long time it would be good to have two different College experiences. It also helped that I knew that the kuchen here is great!

Tell me a little bit about your research at Nuffield

I’m working with Professor Francesco Billari, Head of the Department of Sociology. I study multidimensional mental health from a sociological perspective; the predictors and trajectories of positive mental health in particular. Many researchers have often only analysed negative dimensions of mental health such as depression, or unidimensional indicators of positive mental health such as happiness. There is a rich psychological literature, however, that shows how mental health overall is best conceptualised in a multidimensional way. Without a multidimensional framework large amounts of heterogeneity in mental health outcomes may be unexplained or not even detected. For example, in many studies it is found that a person who has gone through a divorce is more likely to be depressed than a continuously married one, perhaps because of the stress of marital breakdown and the stigma attached to divorce. At the same time and despite being more depressed on average, that person could have a higher sense of autonomy and better social relationships with his or her friends as a result of cutting ties with a negative relationship. At the moment, I’m particularly interested in the effect of neighbourhoods friends as a result of cutting ties with a negative relationship.

What would you like to achieve during your year as JCR President?

Procedurally, I’d like to improve the efficiency of meetings and increase communication. As part of this, I’ve already been working on a JCR web forum, which I hope will improve communication and help everyone to feel involved and able to share ideas. Of course, I want to support everyone in College and all the other initiatives that are going on, my predecessors have done a great job of getting up some fantastic JCR events, such as the art auction and wine tasting and I defiantly want to continue these. I want to encourage as many people as possible to take part in JCR activities. I’d also hope to motivate the Nuffield community to do more charitable work.

How do you feel about your future relationship with Nuffield and what will it be like when you become an alumnus?

I want to stay in touch with the Nuffield family after I finish my studies here. I’ve made helping friends, so I’ll definitely be coming back. I met some alumni when they were here for the recent Economics reunion, and I really enjoyed getting to know them and hearing about their time at Nuffield. It will be great to see them again soon!

**College sporting successes**

Hilary was a fantastic term for Nuffield sporting achievements.

The boat club, made up of members from both Linacre and Nuffield Colleges, achieved success at Torpids, with the men’s first team and women’s first and second teams all getting medals; an unheard of result for Nuffield. The two first teams both went up a division, rising more places than the teams have done in over 20 years.

With Nuffield students as President of the boat club, Captain of the men’s team, and in crucial positions in the boats, Nuffield is really punching above its weight in this joint College sporting venture. During the same term ‘The Foxes’, the graduate College’s women’s football team containing three Nuffield players, won the Cappers Championship. This was a first for the graduate team, who defeated the Pembroke/Corus Christi team 3-2 in the February final.

**Where are they now?**

Nuffield catches up with former politics student, Paul Jowett, who has recently moved back to the UK after many years in Germany.

After gaining my PhD at Nuffield in Politics in 1984 and co-authoring, with David Butler, a book on the 1984 European elections, I moved to London Business School and Templeton College, Oxford. My publications that followed, The Economics of Information Technology, Performance Indicators in the Public Sector and Risky in Retail Financial Services, were eclectic and gave no hint of the specialization that was later to come. I moved over to strategy consulting in 1986, working for Monitor, an American company. As a German-speaker, it fell to me to open Monitor’s first Munich Office in 1990, and my work was dominated by helping private East German companies. I moved to a British strategy consultancy, L.E.K., in 1995 to head up their Munich Office, and turned my attention to the support of private equity companies in their evaluation of acquisition targets. My business grew, and I became a commercial due diligence specialist. Between 2007 and 2010, I co-authored, with my wife, Private Equity. The German Experience, which was published in 2011. During these years I also chaired the new Nuffield Society, renewing old acquaintances, and making some new ones. Having accepted that my life in Germany was to be permanent, having two daughters (Geraldine and Emily) born and raised in Germany, I moved at the end of 2010 to a German firm, Roland Berger, along with a number of my L.E.K. colleagues, little suspecting the consequences such a move would bring. After barely twelve months at Roland Berger, I was asked to head up their London Office. This move back to the UK involved a period working away from my home in Germany, and I signed up to study for a four-year part-time BSc in Biomedicine at Birkbeck, University of London, from which I hope to graduate in 2015. It is never too late to learn!

**Alumni news**

Sadly we note the deaths of the following former members

**ROY BHASKAR**
ECONOMICS STUDENT, 1967-1969, died on November 19 last year. Roy was a British philosopher and World Scholar at the Institute of Education, University of London.

**ALAN HOLMANS,**
ECONOMICS STUDENT, 1956-1959, died on February 18. Alan was a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Housing and Planning Research, University of Cambridge.**

**IVOR LYN GOWAN,**
POLITICS STUDENT, 1947-1949, died on January 26, 2014. Ivor was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, whose work in psychiatry transformed Britain’s approach to mental health.

**ALEC GEORGE FORD,**
ECONOMICS STUDENT, 1951-1953, died on February 18. Alec was an Economics Professor at the University of Warwick.

**HENRY ROLLIN,**
POLITICS STUDENT, 1947-1949, died on February 6 last year. Henry was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, whose work in psychiatry transformed Britain’s approach to mental health.

**ALFRED SHERSTYNO,**
ECONOMICS STUDENT, 1950-1953, died on March 14. Alfred was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, whose work in psychiatry transformed Britain’s approach to mental health.

**ROBERT FORD,**
POLITICS STUDENT, 2003-2007, Rob co-authored Rovt on the Right: Explaining Support for the Radical Right in Britain (Routledge, 2014), which won the Political Book of the Year in the Politics and Power Political Book Awards in February. Rob is a Senior Lecturer in Politics at the University of Manchester.

**SUNDAS ALL,**
POLITICS STUDENT, 2007-2013, Sundas launched the MCB census report ‘British Muslims in Numbers’ in February this year. The study is based on the 2011 census, showing that Muslims are still a small minority of the overall British population. Sundas is a Lecturer in Politics at Herford College, Oxford.

**CALLEE YONG,**
POLITICS STUDENT 2009-2014, Caleb was awarded the Political Studies Association’s Sir Ernest Barker Prize for his political theory dissertation. Caleb is a Postdoctoral Fellow at McGill University.

**PETER MORRIS,**

**ADAM CURTIS,**

**ROB FORD,**
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