Weekly events, tips, and reflections
Week 4 - Hilary 2021
This Week's Mansfield Public Talk

Friday 11 February 2022
Where is the Centre of Gravity?
Public Service in Fractious Times

Sir Ian Blatchford, Director of the Science Museum, recent past Chairman of the National Museum Directors' Council and alumnus of Mansfield, reflects on navigating the choppy waters of ‘public service’ in times of fiscal austerity, Culture Wars and Covid.

Sir Ian Blatchford

Sir Joseph Hotung Auditorium Admission Free | All Welcome
Sign up www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk/mansfield-college-public-talks
A message from the Principal

Dear Mansfield,

I am proud and honoured to share with you the news that a new statutory professorship in the history faculty, in conjunction with Mansfield, is being announced today. The Jonathan Cooper Professor of the History of Sexualities, to be in post from October 2023, will lead the University’s research into LGBTQ+ histories, and do a substantial amount of undergraduate teaching. The post has been endowed by the Arcadia Foundation, so it will exist in perpetuity, and we hope it will make Mansfield a research hub for the untold stories of LGBTQ+ people’s experiences and contributions.

More information on next page.

Helen Mountfield QC (she/her)
Principal
The Chair has been named in honour of Jonathan Cooper OBE, a barrister with expertise in international human rights law and the role of public law in upholding them, who died suddenly in September 2021. Mr Cooper was an inspiring advocate and activist for LGBTQ+ rights across the globe and a commentator on issues such as trans rights, conversion therapy and the rights of people living with HIV.

Over the last 50 years, the rise of histories of diverse sexualities and genders has been one of the most significant transformations in the discipline of History. LGBTQ+ History has a strong and growing presence in Oxford’s curriculum at all levels, and there is a large appetite to study it from graduate and undergraduate students. The Jonathan Cooper Professor will steer the direction of this strand of research and teaching. The existence of the Chair will act as a catalyst for developing scholarship in LGBTQ+ History at Oxford and also enable it to develop an interrelated series of courses to enhance the student experience, while attracting applicants who may not have considered pursuing study at Oxford before.

Mansfield College is now acting to secure the remaining funding required to establish a research cluster around the Chair which will push research boundaries, spark debate and nurture new scholars in this burgeoning area. This aims to ensure that the Chair is supported by a Career Development Fellow, and that new fully-funded graduate scholarships exist at Oxford in the field of LGBTQ+ History. It is fitting that the Professorship will be in association with Mansfield College because of its commitment to inclusion and diversity. Mansfield currently has the highest intake of UK undergraduates from the state sector and one of the most diverse communities of all the Oxford colleges in terms of the social, educational and ethnic backgrounds of its students.

Link to Guardian article: https://www.theguardian.com/education/2022/feb/08/oxford-history-sexualities-professorship-lgbtq-activist-jonathan-cooper
It’s Mansfield’s 135th birthday and to celebrate we are holding our next Community Week and Giving Day. We want to celebrate the Mansfield community and get as many members of College involved as possible. The week will also include Giving Day (on 10 and 11 March).

During this 36-hour fundraiser, we'll be completing challenges and raising donations from Mansfield alumni to help support our College and students.
Here’s a sneak preview of what we are planning for the week:

- Mansfield's Birthday Bake-off
- Egg painting
- Gingerbread decorating
- Giveaways
- Performances
- Erg challenge: can we get to 135 miles in 36-hours?
- Laps of the Quad challenge: walk, jog, run... it’s up to you, but help us complete 135 miles in 36-hours.

Full details to be released soon. The countdown to Mansfield’s Birthday Community Week and Giving Day has begun.

Any questions? Contact Eleanor Crawford in Mansfield's Development Team at eleanor.crawford@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
MCR Valentine's Bop

New date: 19th February, 9PM

It's the twist to your favorite Greek myth that you've all been waiting for. Don your cupid's arrows (not real ones pls), hottest ❤️ reds, & prettiest 💜 pinks as you dance the night away at the first Mansfield MCR Bop in who knows how long!

Don't own any red? Has Valentine's day done you wrong this year? Then show us your fiestiest grungiest punk looks—the 90s are back, baby.

Where: Mansfield JCR
What: Drinks & Dancing
**Free Entry**
Cash Bar
Paul Lodge, live at The HMV Shop
Saturday (12 February) 11:00-13:00

Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, Mansfield College and musician Paul Lodge will be FREE, LIVE and LOCAL at the HMV shop this Saturday.

Paul produces philosophy songs.

No booking required.
Book deliveries, Contemporary Fiction collection, accessibility webpage and new book suggestions!

A few reminders from the Library team:

Sally and Clare are very happy to deliver books to self-isolating students (or any others who can’t make it to the Library in person due to accessibility issues). These can be for academic studies or something from our Contemporary Fiction collection to offer some light relief.

Please contact us on library@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
There is more information about our accessibility equipment & procedures, along with recommended self-help & study skills reading, available here: https://www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk/assistive-equipment-procedures-and-recommended-self-help-study-skills-reading

If you would like to suggest a book for purchase, please use the book suggestion form on our website: https://www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk/form/book-suggestion-form Suggestions are always welcome and, if approved, usually available within a day or so.

Thank you,
Clare and Sally
Michael Mahony
Graduate Seminar

Thursday | Week 5 | 17.02.2022
5:30pm: Pre-seminar drinks in the MCR
6pm: Talks in the auditorium
7:30pm: MCR/SCR dinner

Please RSVP to asima.qayyum@mansfield.ox.ac.uk with your dietary requirement by Friday 11 February

How do robots “sense, think and learn”?

Since the Industrial Revolution, machines and automation have had a significant impact on society and our lives. Seeking to liberate people from mundane, unpleasant or dangerous tasks, engineers have been striving for a utopian future in which machines are autonomous. Recently—thanks to remarkable progress in computer technology, the increase in processing power and the leveraging of mathematics—the development of advanced robots with superior perception, adaptability and mobility has become possible. In particular, robots with legs and arms have been proposed to replace humans in undesirable jobs. Aimed at a general audience, this talk will explore the inner workings of legged robots, shedding light on how they "sense, think and learn", and argue for their mass adoption during our lifetimes.

Uneven roads to office? African Americans in southern county governments

In 2013, the Supreme Court struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, known as coverage. Yet, little is known about the Act’s effect on African American descriptive representation in county bodies lying at the heart of local governments in the U.S. South. Using novel data on African American elected officials to county governments between 1962 and 1990, I exploit geographic variation in coverage and pre-determined exposure to federal intervention to causally estimate the Act’s effect, showing that it led to significant but uneven progress in African American office-holding. Gains in county commissions were swift and substantial, whereas law enforcement and judicial bodies remained overwhelmingly white.
The Bodleian Libraries’ **Reader Survey** is open until **19th February**, and this time there are two incentives to take part. Participants can choose to enter the prize draw for a chance to win one of ten £50 Amazon or Blackwell’s vouchers AND the College with the highest proportion of student responses will win a visit from a herd of alpacas!

The survey only takes about 10 minutes to complete but it provides vital information that feeds into decision making and helps improve library services. A link to the survey is here: [https://www.libqual.org/survey/RWSLJQP2PE886X8H4A](https://www.libqual.org/survey/RWSLJQP2PE886X8H4A)

So, help Mansfield win a trip from some alpacas (beating other colleges!) and contribute to improving library services – a win win!
Stories for Life

DEEP LISTENING SKILLS FOR EMBRACING CULTURAL DIVERSITY

22ND FEBRUARY - 3RD MARCH 2022

Join us in the beautiful Forest of Dean for a 10 day course exploring storytelling as a tool to deepen intercultural communication.

You will join youth workers, community leaders, educators and change makers from across the UK and Europe for this EU funded programme. We actively encourage applications from anyone with broad cultural heritage, living outside their culture or identifying as displaced. You must be over 18 to attend.

This is a fully funded residential course; training, accommodation and all meals are included.

For more info please contact: maris@ashacentre.org | 01594 822330

The ASHA Centre, Gunn Mill House, Flaxley, GL17 0EA
WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN UNIVERSITIES.

JOIN US

25/2/22

full details on next page
A group of Oxford students is organising “Silence Will Not Protect Us”, a symposium (online and in-person) about sexual violence in higher education on **February 25, 2022**.

The symposium will focus on the history of sexual misconduct in the university; the activist movements who resisted it; how university policies and processes re-traumatise those who come forward; and the ways we can advocate for changes that makes us all safer.

The symposium challenges the silence that universities seek to impose around sexual misconduct. It foregrounds collective resistance and solidarity, because none of us will be safe until all of us are.

Sign up to attend: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/silence-will-not-protect-us-sexual-violence-and-power-in-academia-registration-214794525207](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/silence-will-not-protect-us-sexual-violence-and-power-in-academia-registration-214794525207)

Website: [transformingsilence.org](http://transformingsilence.org)
Twitter: [@transfrmsilence](http://@transfrmsilence)
Instagram: [@transformingsilence](http://@transformingsilence)
A DOCUMENT OF EXPRESSION: QUEER CULTURE AT MANSFIELD COLLEGE

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Submit your poetry, art, writing, experiences, and more to be a part of this archival document.

For more details, visit the JCR Instagram and Facebook page or contact the LGBTQ+ officer: Matthew.Bowen@Mansfield.Ox.Ac.UK
MCR Wine and Cheese

Wine and Cheese event is back this term on Thursday evenings for the first several weeks! Events will begin at **7:30 pm in MCR**. Come and join us!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>27th January 2022</th>
<th>7:30 pm – 9:30 pm</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>3rd February 2022</td>
<td>7:30 pm – 9:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>10th February 2022</td>
<td>7:30 pm – 9:30 pm</td>
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FREE PILATES & YOGA

MONDAYS, WEEKS 1-8, HILARY TERM 2022
IN THE JCR

17:30-18:25 PILATES
18:30-19:30 YOGA

Sign up via https://forms.office.com/r/W1pQNWVhPu or scan the QR code:

Sessions are fully subsidised by College. We ask that you attend at least 6 of 8 sessions. If you sign up and then don't attend, the cost of the sessions for the term (£16 per course) will be debited to your bennetts.
Join us on March 7-18th.
For our two-week, online festival to celebrate and debate open scholarship.

Learn
Debate
Innovate

#OxFOS22

http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/oxfos
College Funding for University Sports

A reminded that all members of the Mansfield JCR and MCR playing sport at University level or higher are eligible to claim an annual set amount to cover expenses relating to this sport.

The amounts are as follows:
- £150 per annum for Mansfield members who have achieved Blue status
- £100 per annum for Mansfield members who have achieved Half-Blue status
- £75 per annum for Mansfield members who are representing the University in any sport, regardless of its Blues status

You may be able to apply for additional funding, up to a maximum of £100 per annum (depending on circumstances). If you would like to claim this financial support please submit this application form: https://forms.office.com/r/nVFxncpYhV

The deadline to apply for this funding is Monday of 4th Week HILARY TERM (7th February) and amounts will then be credited in 6th Week battles unless other arrangements are agreed individually. If you have already submitted an application this academic year, you do not need to do so again.
Mansfield Sunday Recitals in Hilary Term

At the start of every **Even Week of this term** (23rd Jan, 6th Feb, 20th Feb, etc.) there will be a Sunday afternoon recital at 4pm in Mansfield Chapel showcasing a few of our great musicians, which is free to attend and open to all (we ask that people take an LFD test before attending and wear a mask unless exempt.) There will also be some extended performance recitals at the start of Odd Weeks, so keep an eye on Virtual Quad and the Music Society mailout (if you are not on the mailing list, sign up here: https://mansfieldcollegemus.wixsite.com/oxford/join_us)

Recitals will be followed by free refreshments and a chance to socialise with musicians. We still need lots more volunteers for our recitals this term - if you’d be interested in performing a piece, in any style/genre of music, at any level/standard, on any instrument or using your voice, by yourself or in a group, then please fill in this form: https://tinyurl.com/hilaryrecitals

(continues on next page)
Perform in a Chapel Service!

Mansfield’s Chapel Services are held by our Chaplain every Wednesday at 6:15pm, and the Choir sing hymns and one piece of choral music. But there is also an opening for instrumentalists to play a piece in our services this term. You don’t have to be religious; any musicians are welcome to come and play a short, reflective piece of music of your choice. It is good performance practice with a fairly small congregation/audience, and as a bonus, you can join the Choir for free formal dinner (and drinks) afterwards. If you are interested in playing in a service or would like more information, get in touch with Tom our Director of Music at tomhammonddavies@gmail.com

Chapel Choir are seeking Tenors and Basses

Mansfield Chapel Choir is a friendly, non-auditioned choir, who rehearse every Monday at 7:30pm, and every Wednesday at 5:15pm, followed by singing in the Chapel Service and then enjoying FREE drinks and FREE formal dinner together. Our choir are currently in need of more tenors and basses, so if you or anyone you know can sing low parts and might be interested in joining choir, feel free to contact Flora, Music Society President, at flora.walker@mansfield.ox.ac.uk or Tom, Choir Director, at tomhammonddavies@gmail.com or simply turn up on Monday!
COVID Regulations

Student Dining
Routine student dining will remain the same as Michaelmas Term with no pre-booking required. We will continue to maintain reduced numbers in Chapel so please try and make the best use of full meal times available. You will need to continue signing up against your printed name on the undergrad, postgrad or VSP sheet at each meal you attend. Meal charging arrangements remain the same throughout Hilary term and for the 2021/22 Academic Year. This is as discussed by the Finance and Resources Committee with their decision ratified by Governing Body.

Formal Halls
Formal Halls will be held most Wednesdays and Fridays up to the allocated student spaces available. Pre-booking is required and the new Front of House Manager, Ionela Rosca, will send out a booking email to all students in advance. The first email will be sent either tomorrow or Thursday for week 1, Wednesday and Friday Formals.

Crypt
The Crypt cafeteria will be open throughout the day until 8 p.m. The College Bar will re-open from next week on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays until 11 p.m. throughout term.
Events
Large internal events are not encouraged during the first half of term so please try and keep to smaller event numbers for a few weeks. Organisers of smaller events may also wish to require evidence of a recent negative LFD for their event attendees.

To arrange a public room booking or a student event
Firstly get in touch with lynne.quiggin@mansfield.ox.ac.uk to check room availability and that your planned event doesn’t clash with any other activity taking place in the College calendar. I’ll advise you whether specific permission is required from the Dean. Once room availability is confirmed and relevant permissions sought, a student event-form should be completed (this has been circulated by email). The student event form will need signing by either the Kitchen Manager or Front of House Manager where food is being consumed and the Bar Manager before any alcohol provision can be agreed. The completed event form is then returned to me in the Domestic Bursar’s office so that your event can be booked and appropriate staffing requirements arranged. Please allow as much notification as possible to arrange a social event, preferably 14 days minimum. All bookings should be kept within the reduced capacities displayed for each meeting room. Please remember to let plenty of fresh air into any facilities you are using in College to reduce the risk of covid-19 transmission.

We are keen to return to normal operations, room capacities and event arrangements as soon as possible and will keep you posted if there are any changes. If you have any questions, please send them to lynne.quiggin@mansfield.ox.ac.uk.
You can pick up **free LFD kits from the porters’ lodge** and other University LFD Collect points. Alongside other measures, such as face coverings, regular testing with LFDs is a very effective way of reducing the spread of the virus (a positive LFD indicates infection in more than 99.5% of cases). Please be aware that if you’ve had COVID-19 less than 90 days ago, you can still get re-infected so you should therefore take an LFD test if you experience any possible COVID symptoms.

To make life easier, pick two days each week to do your testing and set yourself a reminder, so it becomes part of your routine. It’s also really important to remember to report your results. We know that a lot of people are testing, which is great, but not always reporting. The University relies on the **reporting of positive results** to provide effective infection control and the **reporting of negative results** to demonstrate to the government (who provide our tests) that they are being used. Also, coming soon, look out for a for a chance to win prizes each week when you report in the SU free prize draw.

You should get a quick link when you pick up your tests to make reporting easy to the University on a mobile, but you can also use the links below:

Report an LFD result to the University’s Early Alert Service:  
[https://earlyalert.medsci.ox.ac.uk/earlyalert/booking/selfreportlfdr esult](https://earlyalert.medsci.ox.ac.uk/earlyalert/booking/selfreportlfdr esult)

Report an LFD to the NHS:  
Poetry Workshops

Drop-in poetry workshops every Thursday between 2pm to 6pm in MB1 and Saturday between 4pm and 6 pm in MB1, available to all members of the college.

Mansfield's writer in residence Kate Clanchy is also available for 1-to-1 poetry sessions between these times. To make an appointment, email Kate on k.s.clanchy@reading.ac.uk

Kate Clanchy
Got a difficult task to focus on? Can’t get started? Can’t stay focused?

In “Shut up and Focus!”, we get together and make a commitment as a group to focus, studiously, with purpose and without distractions. We are in it together. It’s a limited time with company, coffee, tea and cake. It’s for everyone in college – JCR, MCR, staff.

Old Hall, 10am to 12.30 pm, every Wednesday, weeks 1-8 (except 5)

How it works:
• Beforehand: Choose a task to bring to focus on.
• Get coffee/tea/cake.
• Focus!
• Have some free coffee/tea/cake and congratulate yourself.

IMPORTANT UPDATE:
SUAF is cancelled for week 5
One-to-one study skills support for any undergraduate student of any subject. Please contact your subject mentor by email to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

- Gail Leckie (Philosophy)  
gail.leckie@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
- Yashua Bhatti (Theology)  
yashua.bhatti@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
- Rachel O'Nunain (English)  
rachel.onunain@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
- James Harris (Maths, Physics, Engineering, Materials)  
james.harris@chch.ox.ac.uk
- Henry Tann (History)  
henry.tann@balliol.ox.ac.uk

If your subject is not mentioned, please contact Gail Leckie, as Tutor for Academic Support, who can signpost you to a source of support for your subject.
Would you like to have the skills and confidence to offer a helping hand to other students in your department? Contribute and engage with your student community? Promote and create welfare and wellbeing spaces in College?

Training as a Peer Supporter is a great way to develop personal and social skills that will be useful in all your relationships as well as making a positive contribution to the welfare support in your department. The Peer Support Programme offers experiential training focusing on active listening, assertive communication, diversity awareness and support skills, self-awareness and self-care.

Please feel free to email The Peer Support Programme with any questions you may have at peersupport@admin.ox.ac.uk.

Find more information at https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/peersupport
Who the Careers Service supports

The Careers Service supports all 12,510 **undergraduate students**, 13,044 **graduate students** at Oxford.

The Careers Service's dedicated support extends to more than 5,800 **research and research support staff**.

Oxford **alumni** can engage with the Careers Service for LIFE through access to 1:1 sessions with careers advisers, jobs board, careers fairs, workshops, and more.

Each **college, department** and **faculty** has a careers adviser dedicated to them.

**Student societies** can engage with the Service by advertising opportunities, attending a careers fair, co-host events, and more.

hello@careers.ox.ac.uk
01865 274646
56 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6PA
www.careers.ox.ac.uk
Drop-in sessions will run every Thursday. Alternatively, contact us via Facebook Messenger or email to arrange a time to chat.

Peer supporters are here to talk about anything that is concerning you. Peer supporters have over 30 hours of training with the University Counselling Service in order to listen effectively, maintain confidentiality, and respect boundaries.

Mahati
mahati.garimella@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Efa
efa.bowen@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Lumi
lumi.westerlund@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Mitch
mitch.marshall@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Kate
katerina.panesova@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Anabel
anabel.riley@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Peer Support outside of Mansfield:

Feel free to contact one of the Teddy Hall JCR peer supporters

Katie  (katie.long@seh.ox.ac.uk)
Greg   (greg.halliwell@seh.ox.ac.uk)
Meet the Junior Dean Team

**Main Site**
Cerise Jackson -- Welfare Junior Dean (Main Site)
cerise.jackson@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
Duty Phone (6pm-2am): 07707 130 350

Yashua Bhatti – Welfare Junior Dean
yashua.bhatti@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (6pm-2am) 07707130350

**Ablethorpe/Rhodes Wolfson**
Ben Wilkinson-Turnbull – Residential Junior Dean
ben.wilkinson-turnbull@ell.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (11pm-7am) 07741071156

Juan Alvarez Velasquez – Residential Junior Dean
juan.alvarezvelasquez@physics.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (11pm-7am) 07741071156

**Cowley Road Houses**
Darshini Nadarajan – Welfare Junior Dean
darshini.nadarajan@education.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (6pm-2am) 07453370008

Zelimhan Akhmiev – Welfare Junior Dean
zelimhan.akhmiev@linacre.ox.ac.uk
Duty phone (6pm-2am) 07453370008
Equality Allies

(AActing) Tutor for Women
Elizabeth Drummond can be approached by students with concerns or issues they feel would best be communicated to a woman tutor.
elizabeth.drummond@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

LGBTQ+ Tutor
Ros Ballaster may be contacted by email and can meet by phone or by Microsoft Teams
ros.ballaster@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Tutor for Racial Inclusion
Helen Mountfield co-organises the termly forum for Amplifying Voices of Students of Colour and can be contacted by email on principal@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Tutor for Disabilities
Andrew Higgins deals with disability related welfare issues. andrew.higgins@mansfield.ox.ac.uk
Royal Literary Fund Fellow: Jon Stock
provides academic writing support for all students, undergraduate or postgraduate. One to one sessions are for 50 minutes and take place online.

To book a slot, email jon.stock@rlfeducation.org.uk.

Academic Support Tutor: Gail Leckie
offers one to one study skills support for any undergraduate of any subject, to discuss any concerns you have about your academic work broadly construed.

Email: gail.leckie@mansfield.ox.ac.uk for an appointment.
Where can I get support?

Medical Professionals
if you need immediate medical attention CALL 999

University Support
UniversityCounselling Service Email
counselling@admin.ox.ac.uk for an appointment.

NHS 111
If you have an urgent medical problem and you’re not sure what to do, dial 111 and they can put you in touch with an out-of-hours GP or mental health nurse.

College GP
St Clements Surgery,
39 Temple Street,
OX4 1JS
tel: 01865 248 550

Tutor for Welfare:
Chaplain:
Stephen Hearn
chaplain@mansfield.ox.ac.uk