

Wadham Connects, January 2022

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Wadham Connects!

Bringing our community together



January 2022, Issue 58



Celebrating academic excellence

"While it is too soon to declare a return to normality, it is very good to be able to celebrate the academic excellence that, despite the pandemic, remains at the heart of everything we do. This newsletter shows just some of the impact our Fellows are having within and well beyond Oxford," writes Warden, Robert Hannigan. "The effort which our community puts into Access to Excellence, is ultimately motivated by this academic achievement. We want the most able young people, irrespective of background, to have the opportunity to benefit from this world-class teaching and research; and we believe that the great academics of the future will be drawn from the most diverse pool possible"

[Update from the Warden, Robert Hannigan](#)

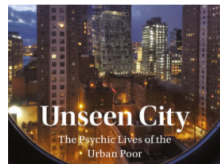
Penrose portrait unveiled

Wadham Emeritus Fellow Sir Roger Penrose, Nobel Laureate in Physics, is the subject of a fabulous new painting by Jennifer Anderson.

[Penrose portrait](#)

Nature Recovery

A £10 million grant has been awarded to create the Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery with Wadham Professor Nathalie Seddon as a co-director.

[Leverhulme Centre](#)

Unseen City: The Psychic Lives of the Urban Poor

"Unseen City is an extraordinary, brilliant, and important book that re-draws the lines between literature, psychoanalysis, post and anti-colonialism, and activism in bold and urgent ways." A new book by Wadham Fellow, Professor Ankhi Mukherjee

[Unseen City](#)

Recognition of distinction

Four Wadham Fellows have been conferred with the title "Professor" by Oxford University - Sandy Steel (Law) (left), Alexander Paseau (Philosophy), Dominic Parviz Brookshaw (Persian literature and culture) and Margaret Hillenbrand (Chinese literature and culture).

[Distinction](#)

Journalist of the decade

Wadham Honorary Fellow Amelia Gentleman (Russian and History, 1991) has been named Journalist of the Decade for her work on the Windrush scandal.



[Journalist of the decade](#)



Prize-winning essay

"The Whanganui River became the first river in the world to be considered a legal person." Nicholas Clark (Law 2020) wins the Cheney Prize for his essay exploring how 'being' and personhood shape our legal system.

[Winning essay](#)



Talking climate change

Warden Robert Hannigan is joined by Professor Nathalie Seddon, Fellow in Biology, to discuss COP26 and Nature-based Solutions to climate change.

[Climate change](#)



Rowing into 2022

"We have done it before so we can do it again!" Wadham College Boat Club Head Coach Rod Andrews reports on a disrupted year of rowing and the challenges ahead.

[Rowing into 2022](#)



Forthcoming events

[Event Update](#)

15 Feb: Covid Vaccine Equity - 2022 and Beyond

9 March: "Unseen City". Professor Ankhi Mukherjee shares her research.

March: North America events coming soon.

2 April: 1990-1993 Gaudy (save the date)

[Events](#)

Wadham in the News

— "It is difficult to think of a case more appropriate to be decided by a randomly selected panel of local people." Honorary Fellow Ken Macdonald QC comments on the decision in the Colston Four case saying ministers would be "very foolish" to try to challenge the verdict. [The Guardian](#) | [The Week](#)

— Rebecca Simson, Junior Research Fellow, writes on how place of birth shapes chances of going to university: evidence from 7 African countries. [The Conversation](#)

— Dr Sandy Douglas (DPhil Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, 2009) explains the need to make a 'seed' virus quickly to create and manufacture vaccines at speed. [Daily Mail](#). He comments on an Omicron-targeted version of the vaccine. [Financial Times](#)

[Wadham in the News](#)



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