

# **FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY**

## **Annual General Meeting**

### **28 September 2024**

Notice is hereby given that the 2024 Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday 28 September 2024 in the Reddaway Room, Fitzwilliam College.

### **Agenda**

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Secretary's report (see attached)
- 3 Treasurer's report and accounts (see attached)
- 4 Report on the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund (see attached)
- 5 JCR Report (see attached)
- 6 MCR Report (see attached)
- 7 Election of officers
  - a. President for the year 2024-5
  - b. Secretary – Helen Bettinson (1982) is eligible for re-election
  - c. Treasurer - Robin Bell (1965) is eligible for re-election
  - d. Editor of the Journal – Dr Nicola Jones is eligible for re-election
- 8 Election of committee members

The members due to retire in rotation this year are Stepjan Mandic (2008) who is standing and eligible for re-election, and Peter Bates(1958) and Tim Sullivan(1976) who are standing down. Members standing for election are Andrew Foster (2000) and Elizabeth Dagleish (2010).
- 9 Election of Honorary Independent Examiner

Roger Smith FCA (1967) is available for re-election
- 10 Any other business

Helen Bettinson  
Secretary

**FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY**  
**SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE AGM**  
**ON SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2024**

This year has seen the marking of the centenary of the Society's foundation in 1924. The annual Society dinner, which was formerly held in London, is now established as a College-based event and took place on Saturday 11 May. The benefit of holding the dinner in Cambridge, in addition to the cost saving for guests compared with London prices, was being able to stage a small symposium entitled 'Postcards from 1924' in the College Auditorium. Our speakers were Fitzwilliam Fellows Prof Kasia Boddy (English), Dr Jean-Michel Johnston (History), Prof Matthew Wingate (Physics), and alumnus Prof Mark Blagrove (NatSci 1979). The event was chaired by Society President, Dr Paul Chirico. Pre-dinner drinks in the Auditorium Foyer were enhanced by the accompaniment of a jazz trio, led by student, Louis Henry, and the chance to see an exhibition on the history of the Society produced by Dr John Cleaver. Dinner was held in the main hall, and the menu took inspiration from the founding 1924 dinner. 161 alumni, Fellows and their guests attended.

Alumni had the opportunity to congregate on several other occasions during the year. In September 2023 more than 200 former students and their guests attended Reunions for matriculation years up to 1963, and 1983, 1993, 2003 and 2013. A further 219 guests came to the triennial Golden Matriculation Reunion for years 1973, 1974 and 1975 this July. Sporting events included the Fairbairns Dinner organised by the Billygoats, and the Sports Dinner. There were subject events this year for Medics and Vets in February, and Law and MML in March. The MML Dinner (137 attendees) was preceded by a memorial service in the College Chapel for Dr Geoff Walker, a Fitzwilliam alumnus and Fellow, and leading member of the College and University MML community. Honorary Fellow Lady Justice Asplin (Law 1979) gave a talk at the Law Reception in London (117 attendees). In addition, alumni events in College included the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the Chapel, delayed from 2021 (78 attendees) and the annual 1869 Foundation & Master's Circle Lunch in June. More than 100 alumni attended the Society's London Drinks held in February at the George and Monkey pub in Clerkenwell.

Further afield, the Master, Bursar and Development Director held a high profile reception at the old Parliament Building in Singapore in January, to commemorate the centenary of the birth of former student and Honorary Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew. This was attended by Singapore's Prime Minister, Lee Hsien Loong (son of LKY). The PM, Master and two Fitzwilliam Scholars addressed an audience of more than 100 guests. Gabriel Fong (Economics 1989) and his wife Vena hosted an event in Hong Kong (55 attendees). A Fitzwilliam alumni evening in New York was attended by the Master and Development Director in October.

The scheduling of the Reunion Dinners continues in the 2 dinner pattern. The first dinner took place yesterday (with booking priority for 2004 and 2014 matriculants), and the second

is this evening, with priority for matriculants from pre 1964, 1984 and 1994. There is a strong turnout.

Your committee has as usual met twice in the last year. The May meeting was held in College, before the Centenary Dinner, and was again arranged as a hybrid meeting to enable some committee members to attend remotely. The second meeting took place on 19 September, and was held remotely on *Teams*.

The Grants sub-committee, chaired by Rachael Webb, received 11 applications for grants to support student activities and projects under the programme which started in the academic year 2014-15. This sub-committee liaises with the MCR and JCR Presidents in the Michaelmas term to discuss the process, timetable and criteria for applications for grants. The sub-committee benefits from the advice of the Senior Tutor and Tutorial Committee to ensure that applications do not overlap with other sources of potential funding (e.g. the JMA) and are feasible projects. This year the maximum sum available was again £3,000. In total £2,432 was awarded to the 8 successful applicants. A wide range of projects were supported: Artistic Endeavours, Black Girls' Blues, Fitz Pump Society, Fitz Green Society, Ents Committee, Fitzwilliam Jewish Society, Land Economy Society, and the updating of the MCR Presidents' board. Particular thanks are due to Rachael for her hard work in driving this programme and providing feedback to the applicants.

The Trust sub-committee, formed to liaise with the College about the annual programme of awards from the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund, did not meet this year. The College administers this in accordance with details agreed with the Society in 2007, when the charitable company which had previously made the awards passed to the College the custody and management of the trust fund and the administration of the awards. The trust fund was built up over many years from donations, and its income is used to make the awards. They include academic scholarships and prizes, a grant to the library, prizes for debating and grants for music and arts projects. The role of the sub-committee is to consider, and if thought fit to approve, any changes to the awards programme proposed by the College. A detailed report on the Trust Fund awards for 2023-24 has been provided separately.

Thanks are due to many people for their support of the Society during the year, including Baroness Sally Morgan, the Master, Dr Nicola Jones, the Director of Communications and Engagement, Peter O'Connor, the Development Director, Dr Miles Stopher, Acting Senior Tutor and Rod Cantrill, the Bursar, together with their respective teams. And finally, we must thank our President, Dr Paul Chirico, for chairing committee meetings and hosting the Centenary event in May. He has just resumed his 'day job' as Senior Tutor.

Helen Bettinson, Secretary, 12 September 2024.



## THE FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY

### RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - year ended 31 July 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Receipts</b>			
Subscriptions	1	15,080.00	14,616.00
Donations received	2	704.00	741.00
		15,784.00	15,357.00
<b>Payments</b>			
The Fitz Journal - cost share	4	9,500.00	8,500.00
Journals for the Student Café	6	283.99	-
Grants to MCR and JCR	7	2,795.97	2,670.00
Trio Band for the 100th Anniversary Dinner	8	200.00	-
		12,779.96	11,170.00
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<b>£3,004.04</b>	<b>£4,187.00</b>

### BALANCE SHEET - at 31 July 2024

<b>Assets</b>			
Loan to Fitzwilliam College	9	58,326.66	55,322.62
Balance at NatWest Bank		-	1.00
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>£58,326.66</b>	<b>£55,322.62</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Accumulated fund at 1 August 2023		55,322.62	£45,334.61
Surplus for the year 2023-24	10	3,004.04	4,187.00
Accumulated fund at 31 July 2024		<b>£58,326.66</b>	<b>£55,322.62</b>

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS:

1. The subscriptions shown above are those received in the period from members currently at the College.  
Subscription levels were reviewed in 2014-15, with all students (JCR and MCR) now paying on an equivalent basis.
2. Donations received from members of the Society towards the costs of printing and postage of the Journal.
4. The Society and the College share the cost of printing/distributing the Fitzwilliam Journal to those members of the College who are members of the Society. The figure has been revised this year to include £2,000 for printing and postage and £7,500 towards the Editor's costs, the balance being met by the College.
6. For Time, National Geographical, and the New Scientist in the Student Café.
7. The Society made nine grants (total £2,796 - last year £2,670) to the MCR and JCR.
8. The Society funded the provision of the Trio Band at the 100th Anniversary Dinner on 11 May 2024
9. The Society's assets are on loan interest-free to Fitzwilliam College, to the benefit of the Society's Trust fund at the College. The fund supports the College by awarding scholarships and prizes, funding research awards and the Milner Walton Music & Drama Awards, and an annual library grant.
10. The surplus of £3,004 remains quite high, although the Society's share of Journal costs has increased by £1,000 - from £8,500 to £9,500 or 12% - following this year's review.




**Robin G Bell, Honorary Treasurer**

5 August 2024

#### HONORARY INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I have examined the Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 July 2024 and the Balance Sheet at that date together with the records and vouchers of the Society, and confirm them to be in accordance therewith.



**Roger N Smith, Independent Examiner**

01 September 2024

## THE FITZWILLIAM SOCIETY

### Hon Treasurer's Report on the accounts for the year to 31 July 2024

The Society's surplus of £3,004 shows a year-on-year reduction of £1,184 compared with the previous year's surplus of £4,187.

A dinner was held in college on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society's foundation in 1924. The dinner was a memorable success and was well attended. The Society paid for the Trio Band at the dinner but, as attendees funded the dinner, no other costs were incurred.

The 2023 Journal was produced. Following the rationalisation of student subscriptions in 2014/15, subscription income has reduced and since that time the Society has met a reducing proportion of Journal costs. The Society met a total of £9,500 (£8,500 in 2023). A proportion of the Editor's costs is met by the Society (£7,500) while the College meets the balance of her costs. £2,000 is contributed towards printing, postage and other costs.

The Society provided student grants for nine projects totalling £2,796 (£2,670 in 2022). The grants sub-committee selected the projects from a total of eleven submitted by the JCR and MCR and were very much assisted in their task by the Senior Tutor. The "Student Grants for Projects" cycle and guidance are now well-established. Its operation is under review for future years.

The net assets of the Society were £58,327 (£55,324 in July 2023). These are lent interest-free to the College to the benefit of the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund, income from which supports a range of student and research activities.

I should like to thank the Honorary Independent Examiner, Roger Smith, for his work.



Robin Bell  
5<sup>th</sup> August 2024

### Financial Statement for the year ended 31 July 2023

Market Value as at 31.07.2023	£398,440 (Endowed/Permanent Capital)
Annual Interest for 2022-23:	£10,209
Unused Investment Interest as at 31.07.2023:	£14,613
Spend 2022-23:	£8,814
Donations 2022-23:	£1,736

### Report on awards from the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund 1 August 2023 – 31 July 2024

The following awards were made from the Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund:

Fitzwilliam Society Scholarship	£175
Fitzwilliam Society Coleby Scholarship	£175
Fitzwilliam Society Skinner Scholarship	£175
Fitzwilliam Society Taylor Scholarship	£175
Fitzwilliam Society Stratton Prize	£110
Fitzwilliam Society Research Grants	£5,849.70
Fitzwilliam Society JRW Alexander Book Awards	£500
Fitzwilliam Society Library Grant	£750
Fitzwilliam Society Milner Walton Awards	£450
Fitzwilliam Society Brewster Prizes	£0
<b>Total: Fitzwilliam Society Trust Fund</b>	<b>£8,359.70</b>

The College, and the present generation of students, are very grateful for the Society's valuable support through these well-established awards, as well as through direct grants to students.

Dr Paul Chirico, Senior Tutor  
 Mariana Petrasova, EA to the Senior Tutor  
 September 2024

## **Fitzwilliam Society awards for exam results**

### *Fitzwilliam Society Scholarship*

*Nadvi-Byrne, S Education £175*

### *Fitzwilliam Society Coleby Scholarship (Land Economy)*

*Le Riche, Z Land Econ £175*

### *Fitzwilliam Society Skinner Scholarship (Economics)*

*Kong, F Economics £175*

### *Fitzwilliam Society Taylor Scholarship (History)*

*Mardling, A History £175*

### *Fitzwilliam Society Stratton Prize*

*Timmers, D Nat Sci £110*

## **Fitzwilliam Society Research Grants**

<i>Almanzor, E</i>	<i>£800</i>
<i>Aly, R</i>	<i>£800</i>
<i>Frengley, S</i>	<i>£800</i>
<i>Kim, S</i>	<i>£317.50</i>
<i>Lui, A</i>	<i>£335</i>
<i>Mohamed Faqarh, M F B</i>	<i>£800</i>
<i>Rauwald, J</i>	<i>£800</i>
<i>Stryjniak, M</i>	<i>£250</i>
<i>Szij, C</i>	<i>£93</i>
<i>Tam, S</i>	<i>£54.20</i>
<i>Xie, W</i>	<i>£800</i>

## **Fitzwilliam Society JRW Alexander Book Awards (LLM/MCL)**

<i>Bafna, P</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Berndt, H A</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>O'Boyle, P J</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Ruan, W</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Szij, C</i>	<i>£100</i>

## **Fitzwilliam Society Brewster Prizes (Debating)**

*The Brewster Debate did not take place in 2023-24.*



## **Fitzwilliam Society Milner Walton Awards**

<i>Best, K</i>	<i>HSPS</i>	<i>'Come Dance With Me'</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Ogunlana, A</i>	<i>Medicine</i>	<i>'Black is the Colour of My Soul'</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>Thomas, E</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>'Poetry Slam Tournaments'</i>	<i>£250</i>



FITZWILLIAM JCR 2024 REPORT



## **Fitzwilliam Society Committee Meeting - JCR Report**

Dear Fitzwilliam Society,

As I look back on this year, I'm filled with gratitude for our incredible committee. With the largest team in recent years and only two positions left unfilled, our collective enthusiasm and dedication have truly shone through. Our year began with a spectacular FitzUp event in Lent Term, where the Y2K theme brought a nostalgic flair to the night. The event was a major hit, with all 300 tickets selling out effortlessly. This success set a high bar for what was to come and paved the way for our subsequent initiatives.

Capitalizing on the momentum from FitzUp, we launched new college merchandise in collaboration with a manufacturer. The high demand for these items demonstrated a strong sense of community and pride among our students, as many embraced the opportunity to show their college spirit.

Our LGBT officers have been pivotal in enhancing our college's vibrant social scene. Their well-received events—including the LGBTQ+ bar crawl, an arts and crafts night, and a bingo night—highlighted their commitment to inclusivity and fun. Given their success, we're excited about the possibility of introducing similar events during Freshers' Week to welcome new students into our lively community.

Meanwhile, our commitment to real-world issues was exemplified by our charity officer's fundraising bake sale for the Save the Children Gaza appeal. Raising £150, this initiative reflected our broader values and demonstrated the community's willingness to support meaningful causes. Environmental concerns have also been a significant focus. The re-launch of the Fitz Green Society underscores our ongoing dedication to sustainability and our desire to make a positive impact on the environment.

In addition to these efforts, I'm thrilled to share that we've launched a new JCR website. This revamped platform will enhance our ability to communicate and keep everyone informed about our activities, making it easier for all to stay connected and engaged.

Looking back, it's clear that this year has been marked by a series of interconnected successes and initiatives. Our committee's energy and commitment have driven us forward, and I am confident that we will continue to build on this momentum in the year ahead.

—

From this year's JCR committee,

Presidents - Aaron Lardi (Land Economy, 2022) and Jayden Bafoa (History, 2022)

# FITZWILLIAM MCR 2023/24



## MCR Committee 2023/24:

<b>President:</b>	Agne Kuraite (23/24), Melissa Watt (24/25)
<b>Vice President:</b>	Patrick Carter-Cortez, Alex Jarvis
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Melissa Watt (23/24), Awais Nawab Ali (24/25)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Laura Ciuches
<b>Welfare Officers:</b>	Yoana Dancheva (22/23), Zephie Gollin (23/24), Stephanie Mronziski (23/24)
<b>Environmental Officer:</b>	William Ruan
<b>Technical Officer:</b>	Dan Behiyat
<b>Access Officer:</b>	Lianna Harrington
<b>Academic Officer:</b>	Soura Chakraborty
<b>Social Secretaries:</b>	Awais Nawab Ali, Agne Augustinaite, Robert Cantwell, Lilien Ezeugwu, Louisa de Gooijer, Liliana Prevedello, Alexander Von Both



Running dinner



Graduate Salon



Valentine's BOP



Fireworks Punting



Garden Party

I would like to give enormous thanks to the MCR Committee who have put so much work and energy into their roles to deliver a really enjoyable year for the MCR, full of happy memories and new friends. Some highlights from social events organised by the Committee throughout the past year are presented below.

Melissa Watt, MCR President 2024/25

## WELFARE & COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENTS

We ran a plethora of events this the year, enabling postgraduates to socialise in a friendly, relaxed setting. Some popular examples from our 2023/34 term cards include:

Ice Skating	Bowling	Board Games Nights
Graduate Salon	LGBTQ+ Mixer	Yoga
Friendship Bracelet Making	Fen Drayton Lakes Walks	Gardening in the Allotments

We also enjoyed formal swaps with Churchill, Corpus Christi, Darwin, Downing, Girton, Lucy Cavendish, and Magdalene Colleges, and hosted a highly popular African Formal.

## BOPS & LARGER EVENTS

### Michaelmas 2023

#### Welcome Party

The first BOP of term where new postgraduates can make new friends and have a boogie in the MCR!

#### Fitzmas Formal and BOP

Our merry celebration to round off the year, featuring the iconic annual performance of The Twelve Days of Christmas!

### Easter 2024

#### Running Dinner

A dinner party where each course is hosted in a different Fitz MCR kitchen.

#### Garden Party

Our final party of the year to celebrate the end of the exam period.

#### Trinity May Ball Fireworks Punting



### Lent 2024

#### Burns Night Formal & Ceilidh

An evening of Irn Bru, Tunnock's Teacakes and dancing in the MCR!

#### Valentine's BOP

Our largest BOP of the year held in the Auditorium. This year we enjoyed a live band and our social secretaries made a sparkly photobooth!

### Summer 2024

#### Football and Olympic Screenings in the MCR