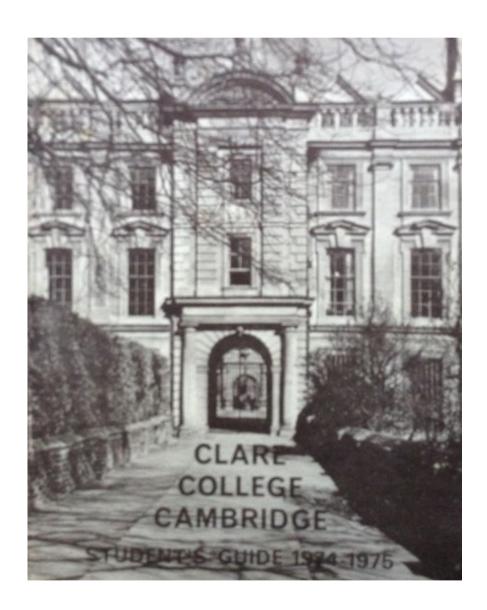
Cambridge Part 1

Vignette: Clare College, Cambridge 1974



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Clare College, Cambridge 1974 to 1977 (Part 1)

Hospital with TB (September to October 1974)

These notes were written in 1977 during my travels through Greece...

A period of limbo – between leaving Africa and embarking on a new stage of life in Britain. An agonizing setback, making for an unsatisfactory start to Cambridge and for a difficult first year there... Through this I learned that "every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1 v 17) – from God. Going to Cambridge was not something to be taken for granted. God literally had to work a 'miracle' to get me out of hospital in time for me to start my first year there (this miracle, the turning point in my illness, came about partly through the prayers of faithful brethren from the Louth Pentecostal Church).

God had 'threatened' to withdraw my place at Cambridge (at least for a year), and then had graciously given it back again. So I learned that it was God who had put me in Cambridge; it was a gift and a calling from Him, and so my time there was to be used for His glory... And in the depths of my illness, I was able to say, by faith, the words of Psalm 16 v 8 and 9; "I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure..."

Through this experience I also learned humility and that we must take nothing for granted. Even the air we breathe, and the lungs to breathe it, are gifts from God. During convalescence, after I was discharged from hospital, I was able to thank God for being able to walk, to see grass, flowers and trees – to feel the breeze in my face and hear the sighing of the wind in the beech trees overhead (see autumnal photographs of Legbourne Abbey attached) – a joyful rediscovery of the simple, beautiful things that God has given us to enjoy.

Through this experience I also learned something about suffering for Christ. If I had not gone to Kenya, none of this would have happened... yet I learned something of the joy that comes from the privilege of being able to suffer for the cause of Christ ("provided that we suffer with him, in order that we may also be glorified with him..." Romans 8 v 17).

Letters from family and friends (September to November 1974)

Note from Richard, dated 1st September 1974, from Trinity College, Cambridge:

Firstly, welcome home, and I hope you've had a marvelous time in Kenya and that you're managing to adjust to the faster place of life here! I'm really writing to let you know about the CMS [Church Missionary Society] fellowship at Cambridge. We meet every Wednesday lunchtime in Full Term in the Latimer Room, Clare (*you* won't have any difficulty finding it!) at 1:00 pm for a bread-and-cheese lunch followed by either a talk or a tape or discussion etc. About half the group are ex-YSAs, and most of these (like myself) ex-Kenya. Although it's not quite finalized yet, our programme for next term will be (I hope) quite an interesting one, entitled "The Challenge of the Gospel", in which we shall be looking at various different areas of the world, including Britain! Our first 'official' meeting next term will be on Oct 16th, but we will be having a business meeting on the first Wednesday to which I hope you will be able to come. In any case I shall call in and see you before then, and give you a copy of our term's program...

Letter from my Aunt Antonia, dated 23rd September 1974, from Broomrigg, Dollar, Clackmannanshire:

I have just heard from Mary about you being rushed to hospital. What a drama! I hope you are now feeling much more perky and that the pain isn't too bad. I am so sorry – but at least now they can get to the bottom of it and you might have gone on for ages feeling awful with nothing much to show for it. I am rather in favour of crises. They are like battles – you can fight them and know what you are doing. What about coming with Mary and recuperating at Dollar? It is super in the autumn, when the bracken on the Ochil turns yellow and the mornings are bright with hoar frost.

We have millions of fungi at the moment, and Ruari is determined to eat them all. We have two books with colour plates, and long and heated discussions rage before we finally decide whether to try or not. So far all is well! I fry them in butter and some taste lovely. We also have millions of blackberries ('brambles' in Scotland) and I am picking these as well. I am just reading (on Virginia's recommendation) a 3-decker novel on Robert the Bruce by Neville Tranter. Very good, so if you want a little light reading, ask Virginia to send you her copy. I expect you have read the two Mary Renaults' 'The King must Die' and 'The Bull from the Sea'. They are marvelous – so if you haven't, get them from the hospital library. They are bound to have them. Koestler's 'The Sleepwalkers' is another absorbing book – on the early astronomers, mainly Kepler and Galileo. I think you would find it interesting....

'Get Well' card from my elderly friend and mentor, Hedley Warr, retired Headmaster of Louth Grammar School and a long-standing friend of the family, dated 23rd September 1974:

I was very sorry to hear last night... that you had landed in Hospital – just when I was looking forward to a long *tête-à-tête* with you about your travels. Most exasperating for you to go to Grimsby instead of Cambridge! Commiserations! However, I hear you are in Dr Rupert Steele's hands, than which there could be no better; so he will soon have you on your feet again. He restored me after a coronary some years ago. He is pure gold. I shall glean reports from Legbourne, so don't bother to answer this. I suspect that what you need is a good rest. Have it. Yours affectionately...

Letter from my cousin Neville, dated 25th September 1974, from Heswall, Cheshire:

I was so sorry to hear that you are not well, and of the unfortunate end to a marvelous holiday in Inverpolly. I enclose from us all 'August 1914', by Solzhenitsyn, which I trust will help to pass away the time. I was very sad to hear also that you will miss the start of Cambridge. Do let me know at Emmanuel what date you eventually come up. If there is anything that I can do to help in your absence, I should be delighted. Just let me know. All the best to you, get well soon, and see you in Cambridge as soon as possible. Yours sincerely...

Card from Paul K, dated 29th September 1974, from Trinity Hall, Cambridge:

You probably don't remember who I am (!), but I spoke about overseas student work in Cambridge at the YSA debriefing conference. Well, anyway, Geoff D tells me that you have been fairly ill – because he was hoping to see you at his party. I was sorry to hear this, especially since you looked fairly fit and healthy at the conference. So I hope you get well soon – in time to come up to Cambridge. I would be very pleased to see you if you are ever around Trinity Hall, particularly as I managed somehow to miss greeting you at Foxbury! God bless...

Letter from Geoff D, dated 30th September 1974, from Woodford Wells, Essex:

I am sorry to hear of your illness, which sounds pretty serious despite your very cheerful letter. I'm glad you got up Kilimanjaro, even if the after-effects were somewhat severe. Dawn from Gillman's Point I shall treasure as the most beautiful sight of my life. Glad also that you enjoyed your debriefing – they have obviously improved it since last year. I met

Stephen L in London last week which was very interesting since we have been corresponding for a year on the basis of one brief meeting. My little party went off all right – by coincidence the majority of those able to come were YSAs, which must have been very boring for those who weren't!

I hope you got the card I forwarded to you from Paul K, of whom you will doubtless be seeing more, as he is at Trinity Hall, as you probably know. I am hoping to get over to Cambridge some time next term to see various people, and look forward to seeing you then. Meanwhile, get better quickly!

Letter from Richard Rhodes-James, my Housemaster, dated 2nd October 1974, from Melvill, Haileybury College, Hertford:

Many thanks for your long and interesting letter. You poor fellow! We were distressed to hear of your illness, which sounds no light matter. To be laid up at such a time is so frustrating and how much patience you will need. God's ways are clearly not our ways. We will certainly pray much for your speedy recovery.

It was fascinating to hear of your adventures in Africa. Your mind and your spirit must have been greatly enlarged by your experiences, and you will have much to tell us and teach us. The speakers for the rest of the term's Sunday meetings are: 10 November John Hamilton; 17 November Tim Maughan; 24 November Stephen Ruttle; December 1 OH's (I am hoping to ask someone from Cambridge! Can you come then?)

[December 1st was the day I made it back to Haileybury to give a talk to the 'R-J's' group – I remember the talk well (it included the story of the moonlit walk down from Wundanyi after my weekend in Mombasa), but I don't remember clearly who drove me from Cambridge...]

December 8: Andrew Briggs. (Mr Nash and Mr Fletcher came earlier). We have been having great times here. In fact this term our meetings have been unprecedented, both in size (we were over 60 two weeks ago) and in spirit. It is amazing how the Spirit continues to flow through Haileybury. The group of senior Christians here now is a more powerful body than I have ever seen before. Great openness and hunger for the faith, record numbers for the voluntary services. It is marvellous.

It is difficult, amid all this, to concentrate on the matter in hand, which is teaching and looking after Melvill! The House seems in reasonably good shape, and has a good Christian nucleus, though perhaps not at its peak. My wife sends her regards. The children are doing splendidly in every way and are a great joy to us. We have been greatly blessed. We pray for you and may you have many blessings in your confinement...

Letter from Dan Hearn, teacher at Haileybury, dated 4th October 1974, and addressed from Haileybury, Hertford, SG13 7NU:

I am so sorry to hear you are laid low. But sometimes hospital and sickness can teach one a lot – and you can come out a stronger person. I am sure with your shining faith that this will be the case. The Lord is continuing to do wonderful things here. Indeed, never has the Spirit been so alive – working through some of the boys. You can feel the warmth and joy of Christ in this place. I think the preparation in prayer (by those outside Haileybury) for David Watson's Mission helped enormously. And the prayers that continued after David left have given a real base for the miracles that have continued. We must pray for this to continue, but more give praise and thanks for His gifts to us all and Haileybury in particular.

We look forward to seeing you here again so that you too can rejoice. But we also give thanks for your work and your prayers in all this. You are a marvellous example to us all. Our Thursday Bible Study continues and is a real source of strength and you are in our prayers then. The group – David C, Nick W, Steve G (a marvellous conversion), Richard T-D (strength to strength), Jerry T (real prayer man) and Barry G (what can you say!) With every blessing...

Letter from Aunt Griselda, dated 10th October 1974, from Heswall, Cheshire:

I really wish I could say something that would wave a magic wand over this whole affair and put you in Clare. This is all very bad luck and we are all longing to hear of your progress. It will all pass, and you will look back and see this all fall into place, but it is not easy at the moment. I had similar trouble with a leg, but it does clear up. I hope very much that as part of a convalescence you can get over here with Mum for a few days. I know you will be longing to get away to Cambridge, but a guick change of air?

It must seem a long way from the top of Coigeach. We have some lovely slides of the Inverpolly holiday. The last film came only yesterday, and we have a *lovely* one of Geoffrey opening the book. Also one of he and your mother together. The three *femmes fatales sur la chaise longue* is pretty ghastly but I will get a copy done. Of course the colouring was superb, and therefore some of the views are really wonderful. My term grinds on pleasurably but busy and our half term is next week. We go and collect the caravan from Langdale – and it remains here until March 1st when we take it back up there. I hope you and Neville will use it some time.

Keith is very busy – he has just changed his job very slightly and is now a specialist in all water-work ailments! He has been doing this in all but name for 10 to 12 years but it is now all official. He seems to be away at a lot of meetings just now. Neville is well and will be writing to you no doubt. We had a very successful day last Sunday and did the double journey in 4 + hours from here. There was great excitement, and certainly for this year he has a jolly nice room. I know he is looking forward to you going up. There seems to be so much going on – so much music, so much this and that. To someone like Neville who has been at home and under rather scruffy conditions at school it must be super. Anyway we left him, happily ourselves, and he also to sort himself out. We had a quick phone call but no further news. His course only started on Thursday. Are you alright for reading matter? I haven't sent anything else yet, but will chat to Mum during the week. If you have any particular wants let me know via her. I know your only want is to be better, to be home, to be well. It will come...

Letter from Neville, dated 15th October 1974, from Emmanuel College, Cambridge:

How are you? It really is very bad luck that this should happen now. I wish you all the best, the speediest of recovery, and I hope to see you soon. Life here is very good fun, but very confusing. I have been literally bombarded with bumph about this society, that club, or the Union! It has taken quite a time to get used to Cambridge. Only now do I feel that I'm beginning to 'click'. But it's all very good fun. The weather this last week has been terrible – and only in the last few days has it cleared up, and I've begun to see Cambridge as it should be. I went last Sunday to a service at Kings, which was wonderful. I've joined the Emmanuel Choir, and the Union Society. I've also joined the Medical Society. Money just seems to have vanished! However – All the best, and see you soon...

Letter from Ben, a close friend from school, dated 18th October 1974, from Emmanuel College, Cambridge:

I hear that you won't be around for a little while yet, as you had a deep vein thrombosis last week. I was expecting you to arrive here about now at the beginning of term, but I suppose you will be another 2 weeks now at least? As you can imagine, I was very surprised and sorry to hear that you are ill. Andrew, my brother, is not well at the moment. He should be starting at the Westminster Hospital for his clinical course, but he is at home with infectious hepatitis (I think the major infection is over, but he is very yellow and still not feeling well). This term has started quite well for me, but today is the first good day I've had after a sore throat or cold which I picked up on the first day of term. However, all very well of me to complain, but I feel lucky seeing these maladies around me. Please let me know how you

are getting on, and when I'm likely to see you – Clare Christian Union is waiting to greet you!

I've met Neville, but someone else has been to speak to him about his position. He seems, as you said, ready to join in with us, but is possibly being held up by his position with his girlfriend, who seemed to know you. Enough said, as I will explain when I see you. Did you know he went to a VPS camp (Llandudno) when he was about 12? (Even earlier than you!) However, he hasn't been since, but certainly the seeds were planted, and it seems they have potentially flowered.

How is your mother? Neville said she was very worried about you last week, but she seemed cheerful when I spoke to her on the phone. Is she trusting in the Lord Jesus for your health? You did say to me some time ago that she had started praying seriously again. Love to hear from you. You have my prayers, and God's love!

Excerpts from a letter from James, written from Trevelyan, Haileybury, dated 15th October 1974, and received while in hospital:

I hope you are feeling a bit better now. I know you'll be up soon and I can't wait to see you again... I don't know if you have heard about any of the marvelous wonders the Lord has worked in Trevelyan since you left. The Lent Mission of course had a great deal to do with it and this is still the basis of our thanks to God. In the Easter term a number of younger boys were being confirmed. So I invited them along to our meeting which they seemed to enjoy tremendously. Then came the Mission (excuse me if I just stop for a moment to think and thank God about it!). After that we split into two groups. Then, praise the Lord, Sean became a Christian... What an incredible change Jesus has wrought in him! He is so strong. Thank you, Lord.

This term surpasses any other I have known. We now have three Bible Study Groups! Although the numbers are such that we could just make two, some are just starting... while others have been coming for some time, and I find I have to take the passage more in depth with the older ones than the youngsters. I am praying about it however, and I know the Lord will show me what He wishes. This term has been so amazing. I just couldn't describe it. We have Bash [Mr Nash] coming to R-J's on Sunday. How everyone is going to get in I just do not know.

One of the latest plans which has cropped up is a 'sing-song' (forgive the inappropriate word but I'm not quite sure how else to describe it) after lunch on Sunday, singing songs like those in 'Come Together'. Oh how beautiful that music is! And the words too are super. On Sunday we had a great concert in Bradby from a group called 'Meet Jesus Music'. The music was really great – electric guitars and so on – that sort. Then afterwards another person gave a talk, a powerful talk at that, on how we are not moving, and so the Spirt who moves (Genesis 1 v 2) cannot move within us as He should. Then he asked all those who would like to ask Jesus in, and let his Spirit move in them, to come up to the front. He also asked those who were Christians to come up as well, to rededicate themselves. So we did this and we spent a fantastic time standing at the front with Jesus, singing His praises. It was incredible! There was a problem however which I think it is right to mention, as it is an objection raised by many people, the Master for example (thank the Lord for his example and support) – that some people who were not Christians might have gone there because everyone else did, because they were influenced by the music, the talk and the atmosphere. They have a point, but I know that for those who were Christians who took part, it was a profound experience.

The greatest steps at the moment seem to be in personal evangelism. Praise the Lord for Stephen, who is really talking all the time to people about Jesus...

Mike has just come in and would like to write a couple of lines about half-term...

Note from Mike, appended to James's letter:

I have so much to tell you, so I must come and see you over half term, probably 30th or 31st October. See you then. By the way, I can't describe my feelings about the term. Can you put the Holy Spirit in a nutshell? But things are moving Spirit-wise!

Letter from Robert, a close friend I had known since the age of eight, dated 6^h November 1974, from New College, Oxford:

I've heard via the grapevine that having pleaded guilty and been convicted your health forfeited bail and absconded. I am praying for your recovery. It's heartening to see that you are able to say that everything is at the moment working together for good. I hope that you won't be overawed by the prospect of having to start when everyone else have begun to feel that they are part of the university and not just confused onlookers!

Well, I shall sew together the patchwork quilt of my summer vacation: I started by working in a solicitor's office in London for a month. The commuting was as tiring and as greying as I thought it might be, and it made me appreciate why my father slumps to sleep in the evening. I became rather possessive about my time, but fortunately I was cajoled into joining the youth fellowship at home despite my yearning to curl up in front of the record player! In London I 'came across' a morning service held by the Mission to Seamen, which helped me to cast off dull sloth and on Thursday lunch time I went to St Helen's Bishopsgate where I met Neville [an Old Haileyburian, and mutual friend].

I then went down to 'A' camp at Iwerne where I was joined by John [Robert's younger brother] who came down a few days later because he was playing in the Youth Cup. He enjoyed the days (humanly speaking I thought he was going to feel totally out of place!) and he continues to think. We both get on very well (from our interests in music both listening and playing and in sports), yet curiously enough there is embarrassment and reticence when I talk to him about Christ. Anyway, Stephen (who came to Iwerne and really enjoyed it) is not slow to 'tackle' this. I hear that he has been to several of R-J's talks. In a way his position seems to be similar to mine. All through my time at Haileybury I tried to do Christian things, but despite several missions and myriads of Sunday mornings at R-J's the gospel did not penetrate till the Sunday morning service at St Aldates in Oxford. Perhaps if John got to Oxford (he's trying the entrance exam this term to New College to read Classics) he might tread the same path.

The next patch to be joined to the quilt was a month spent travelling round Europe by train. I went with an old friend from home, and left England burdened down with tent and cooking equipment in each pack weighing 50 lbs! We attained a good balance between sightseeing in bustling cities and hunting the dryads in the Black Forest and other pastoral areas. We spent several glorious days walking in the cathedral quiet of the pines, deliciously verdant lunch breaks spent lolling in the meadows. In Austria we camped in a field by an ice-cold mountain stream – the idyllic nature of the spot only slightly marred by nettles and mosquitoes! All in all, it was a good time, but I was surprised to find how much one was absorbed in routine things like planning where to camp, what to see and what to eat. Hardly any esoteric thoughts, only a few books read (Brothers Karamazov) and very little deep communication with my friend – a sort of truce or tacit acceptance of differing standpoints, as seems to be the case in marriage sometimes.

The next event after an abortive two weeks of academic work was a Mission in Ashstead run by St Aldates. About 65 students went and we each stayed with a family. There were many challenging situations: door-to-door visiting, visits to schools, housing trips and three major talks. The family I was staying with was tremendous – three young daughters aged 11, 9 and 7 who were very vivacious. One of the most enjoyable aspects was talking with the parents in the evenings. The husband had one or two intellectual problems (suffering for instance), but it was wonderful to arrive back one evening to find a note saying that after hearing Keith de Berry he felt he could take the first step on to the rung of the ladder to Jesus! Hopefully I will be able to go and see them in the coming vacation.

The term started at a hectic pace: each of us in the New College Christian Union had written to those coming up to read our particular subject, so we tried to get in contact. Quite a lot of people were interested, but so many people seem to peter out there. One has to obtain a delicate balance between befriending people and treating them as people, and not being hesitant to speak of Christ: between talking *to* people and talking *at* them. David Watson came to give three talks, and once again people were interested but there does not appear to be any more positive reaction than that. Several of my close friends refused to go (I now know how you must have felt when I avoided going to R-J's!). We have just been reading Revelation in our College Bible Study: "Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb..." (7 v 10).

You're correct in presuming that I am starting my last year. It's quite a traumatic change from the indolence of the second year to the start of the third when you start studying, but these Elysian fields of Oxford will soon be merging into the concrete of the outside world. I have found it rather challenging to translate the intellectual acceptance of Ephesians 2 v 10 into a practical dependence. Up till now I have been considering becoming a solicitor in a rather vague sort of way. At the start of term, I realized with a start that I was drifting into Law rather than being convinced it was the right thing to do. People have been saying that one should consider the Ministry. I must admit that until the beginning of the term I had refused to contemplate the idea, but I suppose I am becoming more open to the possibility. However I feel reluctant to engage in out and out declaration of where one stands and to take on such a terrific responsibility. The idea of teaching and speaking in public does not appeal!

I'm still playing the flute quite a bit and in the vacations I have an occasional lesson, so when we meet we must play duets (the Bach flute sounds are great). As for listening I really enjoy the limited range of classical music that I have heard but have still retained a healthy appetite for King Crimson and other esoteric rock music! Well, I must sign off, Your brother in Christ... PS My letter writing is still as disorganized as usual!

Letter from Catharine W to my mother, dated 7th November 1974, from Mbale, Kenya:

Dear Mrs Hall, Many thanks for writing to me – we were *most* concerned to hear of Adrian's sickness and have heard in more details from Adrian himself. It must have been a time of real anxiety for you all – he ran these temperatures from time to time here – and it seemed to me just a case of tiredness and maybe over anxiety to do things to the best – he was always so scrupulous. Maybe these were all a sign of something that needed coping with? I wonder if the guinea pig tests have yielded any helpful results. To have had a thrombosis following the chest problems was just very hard luck (where is the physio in that hospital to get the patients doing passive exercises? Says the nurse in me!) Adrian wrote to say that November 9th, the University ½ term, was the deadline – that is this weekend. We do wonder how he'll have fared. We have been praying for him and you all so much.

Adrian's successor Timothy B (whose father is a Professor at Cambridge in Moral Theology) has settled in very well – certainly Adrian left all his teaching notes in very clear order. Tim's complaint was that Adrian had done all the exciting experiments and just left him with the ordinary ones! His parents hope to come out at Christmas – a 25th Wedding Anniversary treat, Tim said – what a pity that we never saw you both – maybe we'll meet up some day.

The O-level exams have got underway this week and I'm involved as supervisor at Mgalu — my first experience at this, but it does give a chance to catch up on correspondence in between all that paperwork! Andrew has gone school visiting in the coast schools this week — he intends to spend 4 weeks doing this, just coming home for weekend duties here — so Margaret and I are rattling round our big house. I'm teaching Margaret 2 hours a day now — she's an apt pupil and we have great fun — I do a correspondence course, which is very helpful. Susanna and John write happily from school — we are fortunate that they have such a fine place to go to. The 'autumn' rains have come — wonderful long soaks followed by hot muggy mornings and midday, then soaks again evening and night — just what everyone needs.

With all good wishes to yourself and your husband. There is no need to reply to this; I know how busy you are, we can keep in touch via Adrian, who I trust we won't lose contact with (pardon the grammar!) Yours very sincerely, Catharine W.

A letter from Peter O, dated Monday 11th November 1974, from Melvill, Haileybury, Hertford:

I was thrilled to receive your letter the other day. I am sorry that this letter will have to be forwarded on to you. Mark and I are going to re-start a Melvill prayer meeting. Sean, I was told by James today, is very depressed. Still, Mark and I will speak to him and so will the Holy Spirit. I am at the moment listening to a tape of 'Meet Jesus Music' – they came to visit us by arrangement of Andrew M earlier on this term. Yesterday I took the Lawrence Bible Study. I really felt the Lord speaking through me – stopped to think a second, and it was not me speaking – I was not or could never be so fluent! There were 7 Lawrence guys. The only house that has no Bible Study is Edmonstone.

Alex is carrying on but Satan still gets him down and sometimes he is having a rough time. Julian has unfortunately been led astray, as with Mark. Jeremy is still going strong, Bob is my great assistant, Rex is still going strong, and his younger brother. Nick has started up, along with Barry, a weekly chorus singing in Bradby at 2 pm on Sunday afternoons. No 1 yesterday was very successful. Have you heard of the 'Come Together' musical? It is certainly very popular here. Both Nick and James had a tape of it and both tapes are worn out! R-J's was packed yesterday – John Hamilton, with about 70 or so, like Bash 3 weeks ago! Even some of the girls are coming along. "Nothing but the love of Jesus – We have to sing about it, We have to talk about it" is piping in my ears at the moment, through rather run-down batteries! Hurry up Dec 1st. God Bless you brother.

First days at Cambridge

Saturday, 9 November 1974 – At last, after five weeks in hospital with TB, and a few more weeks recuperating at home – it was time to 'go up' to Cambridge, just half a term late. It was the 'division of term', and my father drove me to Cambridge. We arrived in the late afternoon on a chilly, damp November day. Students were wandering up and down Trinity Street outside Heffers Book Shop, dressed in duffle-coats and bell-bottom trousers. We must have got to my rooms in Memorial Court, Clare College around 4 or 5 pm, and my first cousin Neville (studying first year Medicine at Emmanuel College) and Ben (old school friend and studying second year Medicine also at Emmanuel College) were there to welcome us. Ben had even bought some cream buns from 'Fitzbillies' Bakery so that we could all have tea together! Later that evening, as I walked along the avenue and over Clare Bridge to Old Court, there were fireworks in the distance beyond the University Library, perhaps because this was the first Saturday after Guy Fawkes night...

On the Sunday morning (10 November 1974) I went to Chapel for the early Holy Communion Service. I remember two things. Firstly, the visiting preacher happened to be the Chaplain from New College Oxford (my brother Nick had graduated from New College some two years previously); the text for his sermon was "Can two walk together unless they be agreed?" (from Amos Chapter 3 verse 3). Secondly, I met for the first time Professor Moule, the Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity, and affectionately known as 'Charlie Moule' – with his school-boy face and beaming smile – and his brother who was staying with him, who was a friend of Hedley Warr (retired Headmaster of Louth Grammar School, and a close friend of our family); he asked me to pass on his fond greetings to Hedley when I next saw him, so we got chatting!

I don't remember much about the middle of the day – I think I met members of the Clare Christian Union over a bread-and-cheese lunch (Vernon, Janet, Steve, Joy, Dave). However, I clearly remember that in the evening Ben called round again and took me to St Matthew's for the evening service. I was delighted to find some other school friends there

(including Piers, Ed and Brand), and I heard Reverend Sidney Sims preach for the first time. I am sure that we must have sung "Tell out my soul the glories of the Lord..." to a piano accompaniment!

The next day, Monday – I went to my first lecture at the Cambridge University Engineering Laboratories (CUEL) on Coe Fen. Dr Pascoe was giving a Materials Science lecture, and talking about 'Brinell hardness'...

Life at Cambridge had truly begun!

Term 1 (November to December 1974)

These notes were written in 1977 during my travels through Greece...

Finding my feet in a strange new way of life... Ready involvement in several Christian groups – CICCU, Clare CU, St Matts, CMS group. Trying to recover something of the old life (Haileybury friends)... Handicapped to some extent by the aftermath of illness...

So reads the note written in haste in 1977 as part of my analysis of 'The first six years'. But this note does not capture the complexity and intensity of that short first term, lasting as it did from early November to late December.

I was still convalescing, and trying to reconnect with old friends and Christian fellowships, whilst at the same time breaking new ground and making new friends.

At CUEL I attended lectures in Maths, Mechanics and Materials, Structures, Thermodynamics and Fluid Mechanics, Electricity and Electronics. I also did some drafting at the Drawing Office, and participated in Practicals, including a Boiler Trial.

I made two trips back to Haileybury, to see old friends (like Richard T-D, Jeremy and Nick, and of course Mr and Mrs Rhodes-James), and on one of the occasions (on Sunday December 1st) I spoke at R-J's (Bible Reading Society), sharing some of my recent experiences of Kenya. I remember the boys were particularly impressed with the story about my bus journey back from Mombasa into the Taita Hills towards the end of my year, when I learned to praise God in all circumstances, and when the thunderstorm that threatened became a beautiful clear moonlit night as soon as I got off the bus at Wundanyi!

I recall all first year engineers received a photocopied circular notice informing us that a "Professor Lapine of Imperial College" was going to demonstrate some new radio-wave technology that superseded the old methods of generating radio waves (or something like that), and that because of possible health hazards the demonstration would take place in a remote shed at the far end of Coe Fen (some ¼ mile walk from the main CUEL buildings) – and there was a Warning Notice that read: DANGER: KEEP OUT OF THE RESTRICTED AREA. It all looked very 'official', so 15 minutes before the demonstration was due to start (12:15 pm), we all left the buildings and solemnly trooped down the tow-path to the far end of Coe Fen... only to find that it was all a big hoax!

One of the highlights of that first term was joining the Clare Choral Society and to sing in Berlioz' *L' Enfance du Christ*, including that lovely anthem the Shepherds' Farewell. We performed this in the Clare Chapel at the end of term, close to Christmas. I especially remember a trio of sopranos singing a beautiful anthem from the gallery (I think it was the point in the Christmas story when the Christ-child was born, and the angels worshipped).

Letters from family and friends (November to December 1974)

Postcard from my mother, dated Monday 11th November 1974, from Legbourne, addressed to A M D Hall Esq, Clare College, CAMBRIDGE:

Greetings and love from us all. I hope you are managing to do all you want, but NOT TOO MUCH! Plans for this coming week all a bit uncertain, but we may look in on Saturday.

Letter from my mother, dated Monday 11th November 1974, from Legbourne:

Lovely having a talk last night – what fun it all sounds, and I am longing to pay a visit – probably on our way north from Dover on Saturday. Herewith your diary. I think I should buy small saucepan, egg cup and spoon – cereal bowl? I am going south by train – Daddy has the car – and these things will be a bit of a nuisance to pack. I really should have found some last night I suppose, but was too tired. I have suddenly remembered that I forgot to mark your mac – I should do it in biro in case you leave it around somewhere. Must do my WRVS Report this afternoon!

Letter from my mother, dated Monday 18th November 1974, from Legbourne:

We are just packing the car for London again, so this is rather a hurried note. Firstly, it was lovely seeing you in Cambridge on Saturday, and thank you so much for the splendid tea. I must say, I think the rooms are terrific, and the whole of Clare quite lovely. Cambridge certainly smiled on us, and it was marvellous to see you – so well, and coping too. Sorry I had not galvanized myself sufficiently to bring beads for the natives – will do that on my next visit. We had a good drive north and were back here before 8.

Later that evening the telephone rang - Dr Glen, to say that they had just had the result of the last tests – and they were positive, so you did have T.B. – NO CAUSE TO WORRY – This was suspected from the first, and you had the treatment for it in hospital. It was a mild form and not infectious – and had cleared completely by the time you left Springfield – BUT you have now to take a long course of whatever-it-is pills - otherwise there should be no need to alter your mode of living, apart from having periodic checks and X rays. The first we will fix as soon as you get back from Cambridge. Dr Glen would like to see you then. Dr Glen asked about your Cambridge Doctor - so did Dr Redfern. I told them the name, and told Dr Glen that Dr Irons was writing to him about you anyway. (Dr Redfern was away for the weekend. David Crook likewise, which is why the prescription is signed by Dr Oke. I collected it in Louth this morning.) It looks to me - cursory glance - that you have 2 sorts of pills on this prescription, so I think you will have to have a desk calendar or something and tick them off. Alternatively, it's a good idea to put the day's supply in a small jar each morning – anyway a system will doubtless evolve, to maintain the important continuity. It is unlikely that you would have been ill so quickly had you acquired this TB in England or Scotland (though I am suggesting all Inverpolly-ites be X-rayed in case there are unknown carriers!) So the assumption is that Kenya was the beginning. I am therefore writing to Miss Sills and to Mrs W, to warn them to be on the lookout for this in the future.

Well, there we are – and Dr Glen said that in fact he was quite glad that there was a known and curable cause of your illness – 'virus' is always vague – and TB, though it has an emotive past history, is now a very simple thing. I hope you *won't* worry... and get on to feeling 1,000%!

Letter from my mother, dated Wednesday 20^h November 1974, from Bexhill:

Brief letter, as I am having a lazy afternoon here. Daddy went off to Taunton this morning, and we meet again tomorrow to drive to Portsmouth for Herald's commissioning. But I decided not to stay in London, but to come to the Carlisles for the night. Pouring wet day, but it looks as tho' it might clear. Two important matters: First, can you tell me as soon as possible which day you plan to get back to Legbourne? I must fix an appointment for you with Dr Glen, and all the various X-rays and tests that have to be done – and this may be a bit tricky in the 'holiday' period. I have had a letter from Nick saying that he might drive over to Legbourne on December 20th to collect some books etc. and take you back with him. But I am going to write to him about the TB etc. – and on reflection I think a trip then

to Huddersfield would be unwise. I don't want to fuss, but you will have had a busy and energetic Cambridge term, and I think you ought to stay put to start with – not go haring round the country. It will be difficult to organize from my point of view – with visits to hospital / specialists, and then clothes and train meeting – with the Christmas house-party bursting on us at the same time. I think I am coming to the limit of what I can cope with. So I would rather you deferred your visit to Nick till the end of the vac.

The other important thing is nicer! I sat next to a charming man at the RGS [Royal Geographical Society] dinner on Monday – one Andrew Sharman, a civil engineer (just back from Cairo having signed a contract to build a harbour at the south end of Suez). We talked about our various young (one son of his is a planner and a Marxist in Newcastle, the other is becoming a Church of England parson!) At the end of the dinner he said – quite without asking from me – that if you wanted a 'job' in the long vac you must certainly see him – or if he was abroad, his personnel manager – Colonel Ramsay. The firm is Sir William Halcrow & Partners, Newcombe House, 45 Notting Hill Gate, London W1 3JX. It might be worth thinking about this, which presumably would be paid, instead of a Government Training Scheme? We could have a council at Christmas. Incidentally, please let me have ideas for Christmas too. But the main thing is to let me know end-of-term plans so that I can fix the clinic. Hope you can read this. I am getting very sleepy by a large fire!

Letter from my father, dated 25th November 1974, from Whitehall:

I'm so glad to hear that all is going well and that you are settling down to University life, taking part in extra-curricular activities, making friends and generally 'participating': also that you are managing to keep up with the course despite the handicap of your late start. Don't overdo it, though. You are bound to feel a psychological urge to make up the lost ground, but you can do that gradually and steadily; it would be a great mistake to try to do it 'overnight' so to speak. The human frame can cope with just so much stress and no more – and it would be very unfair on a frame still recovering from a serious illness to impose even normal stresses on it. So take it easy, view things philosophically, and do not worry if you are a bit behind hand.

We discovered, on looking through 'Burke's Landed Gentry' the other night, that even more of your Hall ancestors were at Clare College than we had thought. In fact, apart from a good many uncles, cousins etc., there is an unbroken line of them at least back to your great great-grandfather (Thomas Dickinson Hall), who was at Clare about 1826 to 29). Actually, the line is not unbroken because I broke it by going straight into the Navy – rather to my father's surprise, but to his undisguised relief!

I certainly wish you well for your three years at Cambridge – and am sure you will live up to the best traditions of the family and make a great success of it; and in later years you'll probably regard it as the best period of your life. Make the most of it, be true to yourself – and 'beware of false gods'... I have only one more admonishment, and that is that you should avoid emotional involvement with the fair sex while you are a student, that you should regard marriage as totally out of the question until you are earning your own living and standing firmly on your own two feet – and that when the time does come you should choose wisely...

Letter from my mother, dated Sunday 1st December 1974, from Legbourne:

I had meant to write long letters today, but Daddy has asked the M's in before lunch and we rehearse the Rossini with the soloists this afternoon. Also it's being a busy weekend removing everything from V's room. The ceiling came down last week and will have to be replastered, which is an incredibly dusty business, and Daddy and I will soon qualify as removal men. We have done some re-bedding upstairs too, and I will have to do a bit of shifting around for the Christmas invasion. Last week in London was fun and interesting. Salmon and Trout lunch and meeting. Lovely theatre with V: "Saturday Sunday Monday" – an Italian comedy, most perfectly produced and acted, then a dinner for the editor of Reed's Almanac, where guests were very distinguished and included Sir Alec and Lady Rose (round-the-world

sailor)! I was in Louth yesterday and collected the photos. Interesting that the colour of prints is not as good as the original slides... Must post this in Louth on my way to church, so forgive the rush. PS I thought there was to be a print of you and Peter m?

Letter from Nick, dated Monday 2nd December 1974, from Huddersfield:

Sorry this is the first word since your letter – we meant to ring Cambridge Saturday then Haileybury yesterday with these dates: but got soaked and bathed and slept till it was far too late. Hope you can still arrange things with your friend. Dept Huddersfield for St Ives – Christmas Eve (with any luck arrive before Santa Claus). Leave St Ives for Huddersfield either Dec 31st of Jan 1st or 2nd – most likely Jan 2nd – Thursday – as we expect to want to stay there as long as possible. It'd be lovely to meet you on the 3rd, though cupboards will at first be a bit bare having just got back (not for long!)

Letter from Virginia, dated Tuesday 3rd December 1974, from Ferme Park Road, London N8:

In usual mad rush! Thanks for your postcard which arrived this morning. Alas – the weekend of 14th to 15th December is not really on. I am going out to supper on the Saturday, and lunch on Sunday, preceded by St Paul's and post-ceded by Carols at All Souls in the evening. I don't really think I can cancel them. Could we fix a weekend next term? I'm sure you could get away for a Saturday night during term, or even come over early on Sunday. I hope this doesn't sound terribly inhospitable. Did you incidentally go to the CU [Christian Union] in Cambridge last Sunday when Michael Baughan was preaching? I'm just rushing off to an art class (evening class) so can't really stop. I'm glad Cambridge is proving such fun – life very busy here – am off to Dr Faustus on Thursday and saw Richard II (for the 3rd time!) last week. How are you going up to Louth? Via Lincoln, or do you want to stop-over in London? So sorry about that weekend – but let's synchronise diaries at Christmas.

Letter from my mother, dated Sunday 8th December 1974, from Legbourne:

Many thanks for your letter – rather a rushed reply... Now about journeys. There is a bus, Lincoln to Louth 12:20, Lincoln to Legbourne 15:00, Lincoln to Louth 18:50. They take one hour plus to get here. In fact more like $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and the train lady was not over helpful. But I gather there is only one through train, Cambridge 14:58, Lincoln Central 17:01. If you decide to get that I'd better come and collect you, as 'Carols for All' starts at 7:30 pm and I am committed to that. There is a train Cambridge 08:42 changing at Ely, Lincoln Central 11:30, and there is a train 10:51 changing at Ely and Peterborough arriving Lincoln St Marks 14:40. I am a little suspicious of these times. You had better check them if you can.

We loved your letter and what a splendid hoax. It all looks so official, but I suppose the Prof Lapine might have been suspect! Thank you for the Christmas suggestions. Daddy will organize driving lessons, I think. I have just been checking the old toaster here, which seems to be OK, so you can certainly have that, and I'll look around for some other things this week. For us – how difficult – we have so much, and books and records are so costly nowadays. I do love Schubert though – the Octet? Or some songs – small record. But I will try and think during the week. Must rush now or I'll miss the post. Mrs Price and I have done some furniture shifting. V's room still evacuated completely so there are books all over the floor – landing and spare room!

Postcard from cousin Catriona, dated Sunday 8th December 1974, from Kingston, Surrey:

I saw V this Saturday, Andrew and I thought we would drive over next Sunday and see you for lunch? We can pick you up at Clare College. Either ring and confirm or write! Are there any good concerts on Sunday in Kings or somewhere? Andrew is working in Northampton... Do hope you will be free next weekend.

Card from Sister Allen, [from the Grimsby Chest Hospital], Scartho, Grimsby, Lincs:

Just a few quick lines to say thank you for the lovely plant – what a lovely surprise it was. I was pleased to hear you are now feeling much better. Keep the good work up. Sincerely...

Letter from Jackie (fellow YSA in Kenya), dated 23rd December 1974, from Birmingham:

I was sorry to hear that you had been ill. Thanks very much for the slides – I had completely forgotten which slides you wanted, but will now get done those you mentioned. I am very happy at college, for although the course is not always very inspiring, I have met some really nice people.

Hope you have had a good time at Cambridge despite all the work. Last week I met Andrew, Jacqui and Francis at the briefing conference for January YSA's. I think we enjoyed ourselves as much as the YSA's, especially doing a skit on what you mustn't do as a YSA visiting an African family! Hope you had a good Christmas – best wishes for the New Year. God bless...

Christmas cards, December 1974

Selection of Christmas cards received during December 1974:

Christmas and New Year Greetings from Mr Nash ['Bash']: *Delighted* to hear from you. Hope to see you *soon*!

To you all at home, With Every Good Wish for Christmas and the New Year, Hedley Warr.

Hope you have fully recovered from the term and illness now. Lydia Sills wrote the other day and told me to have a chest X-Ray in case I had TB; having been in contact with you! See you next term, God Bless, Paul K.

Every Blessing for Christmas, with our Love, Prayers and Good Wishes, Andrew, Catharine, Susanna, John and Margaret. PTO – We were relieved to hear from your mother, and hope that you are recovering, and that the TB clears up (*pole sana*) – we praised the Lord that you got to Clare at ½ term.

With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year, Robert. John says he saw you at Haileybury, so I presume you have recovered! I am going to the Eastbourne conference so I may see you there. John came up for interview with several other Haileyburians, but no news yet.

Unto us a Son is given: His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor... The Prince of Peace, Isaiah 9 v 6. Heard no news from you since you wrote a sad-sounding letter from Africa. Did you get my reply? Heard from Henry (whom I saw yesterday) that you'd had to miss the first 4 weeks of term. Do hope health is OK again now. Have you managed to catch up lost ground all right? Terrific effort required I should think. Do drop a line if you can with your news – I hope to see you sometime – Eastbourne? Peter K.

With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Alan. The enclosed came from Harry F! My regards to your parents – I hope you have a really restful Vac. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from Harry and Maude F [Hoddesdon Old People's Home].

Christmas Vac 1974

These notes were written in 1977 during my travels through Greece...

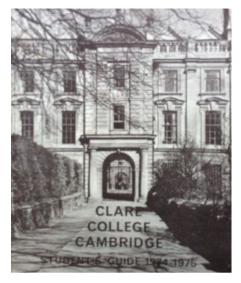
Christmas in familiar surroundings. Good feeling of being home with family somewhat offset by a feeling of 'back to a secular Christmas', after the refreshing Christ-centredness of last year. Robert and Neil stayed with us at Legbourne. It was a good and spiritually uplifting experience in many ways – but there was a feeling

that I had changed and they hadn't – and I longed to recover the pure simplicity and vitality of their faith in Christ and walk in the Spirit...

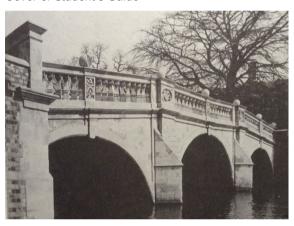
Then I stayed with... this was an amazing time of almost non-stop witness and Christian dialogue, with a sense of the Spirit's having given me courage and fluency – "My grace is sufficient for you; for my power is made perfect in (your) weakness..." (2 Corinthians 12 v 9).

But I remember feeling great distress as I went, with tears – perhaps it was a difficult situation to face, and the contrast after Christian fellowship was too hard...

Clare College Student's Guide, 1974-1975



Cover of Student's Guide



Clare College from the River Cam



Clare Bridge





Loggan's Print of Clare, 1688...

I Membership and Administration of the College

Clare College was the first of the Oxford and Cambridge foundations to provide for a Master, Fellows and Scholars in a single community, and remains today a society of teachers and students brought together by a common interest in learning, teaching and research.

The Students

The College admits both men and women, and expects to offer places to about 120 undergraduates each year, approximately 80 man and 40 women. The total number of undergraduates in residence at any time is thus about 360, and there are about 100 graduate students.

Undergraduates come to Clare from a wide range of schools, and in recent years there has been a welcome increase in applications from schools, which have had little or no contact with Cambridge...

Senior Members

Music:

Natural Sciences:
Astronomy

Biochemistry

Botany

The Senior Members include the Master, Lord Ashby, and the Fellow, of whom there are at present 52. Seven of these are now in retirement... The other Fellows and College Lecturers, with their subjects, are... [selected fellows and lecturers only]

Lecturers, with their	subjects, are [selected fellows and lecturers only]
Architecture and th	e
History of Art:	
Classics:	
Economics:	Professor W. B. Reddaway, Professor of Political Economy
	Dr C. H. Feinstein, Lecturer in Economic History
Engineering:	Mr B. R. Cooper, Lecturer in Engineering
	Dr P. G. Lowe, Lecturer in Engineering [my Director of Studies]
	Dr C. E. Maloney, Lecturer in Engineering
English:	
History:	
Law:	Professor K. Lipstein, Professor of Comparative Law
	Mr C. C. Turpin, Lecturer in Law [my Tutor]
	Dr C. E. Maloney, Lecturer in Engineering
Mathematics:	
Medical Sciences:	
Modern Languages	:

Chemistry

Crystallography

Geology

Metallurgy

Physics

Physiology

Philosophy:

Social and Political

Sciences:

Theology: Professor C. F. D. Moule, Professor of Divinity

The Rev. Dr A. R. Peacocke, Dean

II The College Buildings 1326-1974

Early History of the College

Clare is the second oldest College in the University. It was founded in 1326, under the name of University Hall, by the then Chancellor of the University, Richard de Badew, who sought and received a royal licence to establish a college of a Master and fifteen Fellows. To house and support them, he was empowered to acquire two messuages (gardens and dwelling houses) belonging to the University in Milne Street, together with other lands, tenements and rents elsewhere. These messuages were roughly on the site of the present College. Milne, or Mill, Street, which no longer exists (though parts survive as Trinity Lane and Queens' Lane) ran parallel to the river to the mills; lands or 'hythes' ran at right angles from it to wharves on the river, which was then, and continued to be for centuries, an important thoroughfare for trade.

Twelve years after its foundation University Hall was in decline, its buildings partly dilapidated by fire and its general fortunes low. Since its restoration and proper maintenance was beyond Richard de Badew's resources, he sought ad succeeded in obtaining the interest of a very exalted patroness, a granddaughter of King Edward I and heiress of many lands, Elizabeth de Clare, Lady de Burgh. In 1338 she received from him his rights and claims over the institution, and refounded it as Clare Hall. Her aims and provisions for the College are recorded in the statutes, which she provided for it later, in 1359, the year before her death. These make references to the loss of many educated men in the Black Death (the bubonic plague of 1349), and propose the recovery and extension of learning for the greater service of the Church and State. The Foundation was to be twenty Fellows, electing as Master one of their own number, and also ten poor scholars, boys receiving free board, lodging and education.

Little is known about the first phase of the College buildings and it was terminated by an extensive fire in 1521, which besides other damage destroyed the Master's Lodge and college treasury (and almost all the old records). Following this, the court seems to have been virtually rebuilt, certainly on its western and northern sides, during the 1520s and 1530s; a new chapel was built as part of the court in 1535. The whole of this sixteenth century court has disappeared.

The Present Buildings, 1638 to 1769

The main visible history of the College begins in the seventeenth century, when it was decided, in view of the dilapidated condition of the Tudor court, to erect a completely new building... At the outset, an important change of site was agreed on. The completion of King's College Chapel had left only a narrow gap between the chapel and the south-east corner of the College. It was decided therefore to move the College building further away from the chapel, westwards towards the river, by about 70 feet. Construction began with the north-east corner of the new court (A staircase) – that is, inside the old court and adjacent to the west end of the 1535 chapel. A foundation stone was laid dated 16 May 1638; this stone can be found, recently reset, at the east end of the chapel undercroft, the new Junior Combination Room. The architect of this first part of the College is not known; the mastermason was John Westley, and members of a well-known family of Cambridge masons, the Grumbolds, who played a great part in the architectural history of Clare and other Colleges in the seventeenth century, were employed in the construction. The east (front) range was built in the years 1638 to 1641 and combines architectural motifs spanning several hundred years. Concurrently with the east range, the bridge over the river was built, its designer apparently being Thomas Grumbold. It is the oldest bridge now spanning the river.

Work on the south range (overlooking King's lawn) was begun in 1640, before the east range was finished, and completed in 1642. (the old Tudor court was progressively demolished as building of the new proceeded.) Its basic elevation design followed that of the east range. The foundation of the west (river) range had been laid, when all building work was stopped in 1642 by the outbreak of the Civil War. It was not resumed to twenty years, and then the construction of the west and north ranges was carried forward in a more complicated fashion. Meanwhile the building materials collected by the College were seized by the Parliamentarians to contribute to the strengthening of Cambridge Castle; representations and petitions eventually secured indemnification from Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector in 1656.

Work began again in 1662, when the inside court wall of the west range was built up along its whole length to a height of 10 feet, incorporating the archway. Then for some reason work stopped again for another seven years. Beginning in 1669 the south half of the west range, up to but excluding the gateway, was erected, being finished externally in 1671 and internally in 1679. On the inside of the court the motif of advancing and receding bays was continued for the east and south ranges. On the outside a new motif was introduced. The influence of Wren now made itself felt, mediated through local craftsmen, in the form of a giant order of pilasters and large windows – not was they are now, but with heavy bottom sills and stone mullion and transom crosses (as in St Catharine's, on which Grumbold was also employed, or in Third Court of St John's).

The west range was left uncompleted, and work now began in 1683 on the north range, starting at the point where the building of the new court had been initiated 45 years earlier, at A staircase. The design of this range, by Robert Grumbold, now shows the full influence of the Wren style. (Trinity College Library, Wren's main creation in Cambridge, on which Grumbold worked, was being raised between 1676 and 1690). The large public rooms of which most of this range is composed necessitated a more massive scale of window, and the whole range is surmounted by a heavy cornice overtopping the east and west ranges where it meets them. The Hall and the original Butttery (now the Small Hall), with the Senior Combination Room above and cupola on the roof, were built first; then in 1689 the Kitchen with Library above was begun. The completion of the whole range was celebrated with a dinner in the new Hall on 20 April 1693. At the time the north range was nearing completion (about 1690), the Queen's Road gate piers were erected; the causeway was raised and an avenue of lime trees was planted. There remained the gap of the north half of the west range. In this a Master's Lodge and gateway to the bridge were built between 1705 and 1707, under Robert Grumbold's direction. The internal fitting and completion of this section occupied another ten years, 1709 to 1719.

The court was now complete, 81 years after the laying of the foundation stone; the remaining portions of the west range of the old Tudor court, which lay inside the new court, had been demolished as the west range was put up. Loggan's print of 1688... gives an impression of the new court from the east at roughly this time, though he guesses, sometimes inaccurately, at the portions of the court which were still unbuilt. All that now remained of the Tudor court was the 1535 chapel, with library above, in the north-east corner of the old court, but now left outside the new building by the westward shift of site. In 1714 iron gates, by a local smith called Warren, were fitted to the Trinity Lane gate piers, replacing wooden ones; the iron railings of the present street wall are of the same date. To the same year belong the gates at the bridge, also probably by Warren, and the Queen's Road gate ironwork. A final phase of building work began after an interval in 1762. An important standardization and modernization was carried through in that year when the battlementing of the older ranges was replaced by the new motif of balustrading, and the pointed windows were converted to square-headed ones. The drastic change of taste and effect on the character of the building can be appreciated by comparing the Loggan print with the completed transformation.

The last major reconstruction on the Trinity Lane site was the demolition of the Tudor chapel. The books and the 1627 bookcases in the library above it were at some point transferred to the new Fellows' Library, or partly stored in the attics above the Hall; and in 1763 the old Chapel and Library were pulled down. A new Chapel was designed by Sir James Burrough, Master of Gonville and Caius, but he died early in the work, and the main responsibility is that of James Essex, who did much work in Cambridge. The design introduced yet further new, Italianate features into the gradually modulating styles of the court. Its main aspect was the contrasting barrel-vaulted chapel and octagonal ante-chapel, the latter lit by a high timber lantern and unique in the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. The altar piece is an Annunciation by Cipriani, of 1763.

The court was now substantially finished in its present form. It had been under construction from 1638 to 1769. Such alterations as have been made to the court subsequently are of detail or of internal structure. An internal alteration of 1818 registers the increase in undergraduate numbers which began in the early nineteenth century: the space above the Hall and Senior Combination Room, which had remained unfitted and had been used as an overflow for the Library, was now carved out into undergraduate rooms. No other important changes were made in Old Court till 1870 to 1872, when the Hall was remodeled by Sir Matthew Digby Wyatt. Elaboration was added to the original paneling, notably the High Table wall construction. At a later date an imaginary likeness of Lady Clare of 1771 was incorporated into this paneling. The existing ornate ceiling also dates from 1870. The armorial glass of the windows is of 1910. In 1856, the name, which since Elizabeth de Burgh's foundation had been Clare Hall, was changed to Clare College – apparently because it was thought that Hall implied an inferior status.

Memorial Court, 1922 to 1933, and Later Buildings

Student numbers in Cambridge rose steeply throughout the nineteenth century. In the University they advanced from about 450 in 1800 to almost 3,000 in 1900, and in Clare form about 20 to 180. The building of a new court to meet these new requirements had been proposed before 1914. Plans for a new building were made and work began across Queen's Road in 1922. The building was conceived as a Memorial Court commemorating those who had lost their lives in the war. The architect was Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the design a neo-Georgian blend of the domestic and formal. The range nearest to and parallel with Queen's Road, incorporating the arch, was built first. An appropriate inscription was set across the arch: *Sui memores alios fecere merendo – By their deeds they made others mindful of them –* and the building was opened on Armistice Day 1924. Extension of the building west-ward continued in two stages into the thirties, and the open-ended court was

completed in 1933. It was the same architect who was responsible for the design of the new University Library (opened in 1934), which overshadows the court and blocks off the view to the west. In 1938 the College playing fields were moved to Bentley Road.

Meanwhile, in the same period, alterations and extensions proceeded elsewhere, largely dictated by the need for increased student accommodation. In 1929 the attics over the Master's Lodge were converted into rooms, thus completing H staircase. In 1935 the Forbes Library was created on the ground floor of Old Court, round the nucleus of books given by the Fellow, Mansfield Forbes, and the 1627 bookcases have been installed there. In 1938 the old Buttery across the passage from the Hall was converted into the Small Hall, for increased dining accommodation. Further expansion took place outside the area of the two courts. Since 1466 the College had owned land below the castle mound in Castle Street and Chesterton Lane, acquired by William Wilflete, the Master of that day. The large house on this site, Castlebrae, built in 1889, was acquired by the College in 1926. Beside it two more houses, Etheldreda and Braeside, were built in 1928, both designed by Harold Tomlinson.

After the Second World War Clare student numbers rose above their pre-war figure to the present level of about 360 undergraduates and 100 graduate students. One theme of the last twenty-five years has therefore been yet further construction or acquisition of accommodation. Under Sir Henry Thirkill (Master 1939 to 1958), an addition to the south side of Memorial Court was built in 1953 to 1955, designed by Scott in the same general mode as Memorial Court itself. Thirkill Court was financed by old members of the College; it inscription Vivent per omnium saeculorum memoriam - They will live through the memory of all ages - refers analogously to members of Clare killed in the Second War. Shortly afterward, an entirely different design, by David Roberts, was approved for two hostels. Wilflete and Castle End, on the Chesterton Lane site, consisting of 40 rooms, two hostelkeepers' flats and breakfast rooms; and it was built in 1957 to 1958. More recently in 1965 further accommodation was created in Memorial Court by the construction of 18 attic rooms in the roof space, with fenestration in the outward-facing roof, to a design by Lyster and Grillet. An ambitious renovation of the base of the north range of Old Court and of its outbuildings has just been completed. The Chapel undercroft has been converted into a Junior Combination Room; an underground bar and a buttery to provide self-service meals have been built; and the kitchens have been reconstructed and re-equipped. The attics of H staircase have also been reconstructed and modernized. A great deal of smaller scale renovation, improvements and modernization of rooms, amenities, furniture etc. has been in steady progress in both Courts. Recently, the interior of Old Court was excavated, for the construction of a services duct around the perimeter of the Court to house the new gas. electrical and water mains, after which the paths were re-cobbled and the lawns relaid. A further 23 attic rooms have been constructed in Memorial and Thirkill Courts. Mention should be made of the Fellows' Garden, one of the most admired gardens in Cambridge, which is open to all members of the College. It was redesigned in 1947 by Professor Wilmer.



Entrance to Memorial Court

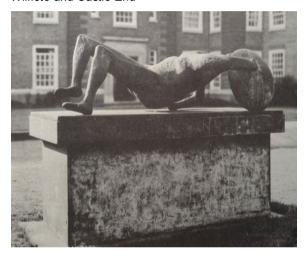


Typical attic rooms

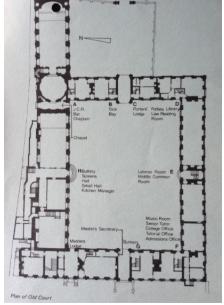




Wilflete and Castle End



Henry Moore sculpture 'Falling Warrior', Thirkill Court



Plan of Old Court

Junior Combination Room (in Chapel crypt)

III College Amenities and Activities

The Forbes Library

The Forbes Library in the Old Court (D Staircase) supplements the University and Faculty Libraries by providing for borrowing a basic collection of about 8,000 books recommended for undergraduate courses. It also has reference books, and a collection of past examination papers, for consultation in the library. The library is open at all times and working desks are provided. Books recommended to students are generally purchased if approved by a director of studies or supervisor. During Full Term the assistant librarian, Mrs Dingle, is available to deal with any enquiries between 10.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m., Mondays to Fridays. Clare also has a separate Law Reading Room on D Staircase, where law students may consult major text-books and law reports.

The Chapel

Clare, like all the older Cambridge Colleges, is in origin a Christian foundation and the Chapel has always played an important part in tis corporate life. The Chapel is used not only for services but also for concerts and, occasionally, for plays. Details of the services will be sent to you on a card at the beginning of each term. Participation in the services and other activities of the Chapel is an entirely voluntary matter. The principal service each week is the College Communion on Sunday morning, which is open to communicant members of all churches; after the service those who have been present have breakfast together. Every Sunday evening there is a service with a sermon and music, followed by supper in the Dean's room – which gives an opportunity for discussion with the preacher. In addition to formal services there are many opportunities for meetings of a less formal kind for people who want to talk about questions of religious and ethical importance.

The Chapel and its work are the responsibility of the Dean (Dr Peacocke). He is assisted by the Chaplain (Mr Roberts), who is free of other academic and administrative commitments in order to be at the disposal of the members of the College. Both the Dean and the Chaplain are available to anyone who wishes to consult them on matters of personal concern. The music of the Chapel is the responsibility of the Director of Music (Dr Peter Dennison), assisted by the Organ Scholar. The Chapel plays an important part in the flourishing musical life of the College. The Choir, which sings two choral services a week, is made up of women sopranos and men altos, tenors and basses. Its nucleus is a group of Choral Exhibitioners, but there are a number of places for volunteers. Anyone interested in holding a volunteer place should contact Dr Dennison. A particular feature of the Chapel music is the inclusion of works with Orchestral instruments at special services. In 1971 a two-manual tracker organ by von Beckerath of Hamburg was installed in the Chapel and, as the first instrument by this builder in Britain, it has aroused considerable interest throughout the country.

Music

The Director of Music is Dr Peter Dennison (U7, Thirkill Court) who teaches music for the College and supervises it musical activities... in addition to the Chapel Choir, there are three main spheres of musical activity in Clare... Second, there are informal concerts in the Master's Lodge on alternate Sunday evenings during the term. Each of these is organized by a student nominated by the Music Society Committee, and students are warmly invited both to perform and to listen... [Well I remember those Sunday evening concerts! A small group of us – students and fellows – would gather at the Master's Lodge and 'enjoy a glass of wine' and other refreshments, and chat – whereupon suddenly at the time appointed for the music to begin, the Master, Sir Eric Ashby (later Lord Ashby) would call everyone's attention by simply turning off the lights!]

Sport

Soccer, rugby, cricket, hockey and tennis are played at Clare's ground at Bentley Road, about a mile and a half from the College. The pitches are in superb condition, and the cricket square must rank with the best in the country. There are additional tennis courts near Memorial Court (behind the University Library). The Boat Club has its own boathouse and excellent boatman, and provides facilities for all who wish to row. At present rowing is Clare's most popular sport, and the Club is one of the strongest and most successful in Cambridge. In the 1973 Lent Races the first VIII went Head of the River...

The Clare College Students' Association

The C.C.S.A. is the College students' union, and exists to administer and provide amenities for its members and to represent their views. It derives the bulk of its income from the annual C.C.S.A. subscription paid by all students... The present rates are: for undergraduates an entrance fee of £2.50 and a terminal subscription of £8.00 per term... Much of this income is committed to paying the wages of the College groundsman and boatman, and to maintaining the ground and boathouse. The balance is distributed to accredited College societies responsible for sports, music, acting etc. An open meeting is held every year in the Michaelmas Term to approve or amend the allocation of funds proposed by the C.C.S.A... Other amenities provided by the C.C.S.A. include colour television in a separate TV room, newspapers and magazines in the J.C.R., and a weekly Newsletter distributed free... [I well remember the 'colour television' room – during the Long Vac Term (summer 1975) we watched the BBC series on War and Peace, with Anthony Hopkins as Pierre. It was memorable, but not as good as the 8-hour overnight marathon, the Russian film of War and Peace (1968, directed by Bondarchuk), which I saw twice at the cinema in the market place in Cambridge – once in the autumn of 1975, and again in 1978 (I think). Watching the BBC series however inspired me to read the book from cover to cover at Manadon in September 1975, at the end of the Long Vac.]

IV Awards, Grants and Prizes

Scholarships and Exhibitions

Up to 34 Entrance Scholarships (of £60) or Exhibitions (£40) are awarded each year on the strength of performance in the Colleges' Joint Examination... [So, I won an Exhibition to Clare worth £40 per year, on the strength of the 'Oxbridge' exams I took in November 1972, including a paper on Physics for Engineering. It doesn't seem like very much money today, but back then it was worth quite a bit.]

Travel Grants

Members of the College are eligible to apply for assistance towards the cost of vacation travel in the United Kingdom or abroad in pursuit of some serious interest or study. Serious interest would include, for example, a scientific expedition, residence abroad to study a foreign language, an archaeological 'dig', work in a hospital or laboratory, participation in a conference, a special course, or an architectural tour... [In my second year I applied for a travel grant to assist with expenses for my Engineering work experience in Pakistan – the College generously awarded me the maximum grant of £100.]

V General Information

Residence

In order to obtain a BA Honours Degree t Cambridge, it is necessary not only to pass examinations but also to reside to nine terms... There are three **Terms**: Michaelmas, Lent and Easter; the first two are of 80 days each, the third lasts 70 days. Within each Term there is a period called **Full Term**: 60 days in the first two terms, 53 in the Easter Term. For 1974/75 the dates are:

	Term	Full Term	Full Term	Term
Michaelmas Term 1974	1 October	8 October	6 December	19 December
Lent Term 1975	5 January	14 January	14 March	25 March
Easter Term 1975	10 April	15 April	6 June	18 June

All formal lectures and supervisions are given during Full Term and in order to 'keep' the term for purposes of a degree an undergraduate must reside in Cambridge in approved lodgings for a period equivalent to the length of Full Term, i.e. 59 nights in the Michaelmas and Lent Terms, 52 in the Easter Term. If any nights are spent away from Cambridge during Full Term they must be offset by residence within the period of Term, either before or after Full Term.

Full Term occupies only about half of each year, and teaching and examinations are based on the assumption that you will do a considerable amount of study outside Full Term. You are encouraged by the College to reside in Cambridge in the periods of Term before and/or after Full Term in order to work under the general direction of your Director of Studies.

There is also a period in the middle of the Long Vacation (early July to mid-August) when a number of undergraduates come up to work. For some engineers, medical students and scientists this Long Vacation period of residence is more or less obligatory. [For me, as a first year Engineering student it was obligatory, and we had coursework in computing and surveying: "fancy legends with cherubs holding scrolls are not for Engineers"...] Students who want to change to a new subject are often required by the College to come up for the Long Vacation period of residence beforehand; the same applies to those whose work is found to be unsatisfactory. Other students may come up for directed reading for all or part of the Long Vacation if they wish to do so.

Freshmen are asked to come up to Clare on Friday 4 October1974. For all subsequent terms undergraduates are expected to come into residence not later than the day before Full Term begins. If, on account of illness or other emergency, you are unable to come up on time you should immediately notify your Tutor. On the day you come into residence each term you must sign your name in the Redeat book; there is one in each porters' lodge and one in the entrance hall at Castle End.

Accommodation

All unmarried undergraduates have a room in College, generally in Memorial or Thirkill Court, in their first year. The first-year women students have rooms in five adjoining staircases in Memorial Court. In the second year a few undergraduates choose to share sets in Memorial Court, but most second-years, both men and women, live in the 'Colony' at the Chesterton Lane site, a few minutes from the College. This has four College hostels (Wilflete, Castle End [where I had my second-year room], Hillside and Castlebrae) and several smaller lodging-houses (including St Giles, St Andrews, Braeside and some houses in Castle Street). The allocation of rooms is decided by a ballot.

Third-year undergraduates may either stay in the Colony – many elect to do so – or come back into College, some in Old Court [where I had my third-year room], others in Memorial or

Thirkill Court; again a ballot is held to resolve any conflicting preferences... The Fellow in charge of accommodation is Dr Alison Sinclair, who is always ready to help any student who for any good reason wishes to change rooms or lodgings...

Incoming mail is left n pigeon-holes for those in rooms outside College, and delivered to the foot of the staircase for those living in College. Outgoing mail will be delivered to other Colleges if left at the Old Court porter's lodge before 1.00 pm on weekdays in Full Term. Telephone calls can be made (but not received) from telephones on D staircase, Old Court and N staircase, Memorial Court, and there are telephones in Castle End, Wilflete and Hillside *Isome 35 years before smartphones were invented!*

The staircase staff (bedmakers and gyps) are responsible for cleaning the rooms in College, and in the larger hostels, and will come in to do this every day. You should assist them by enabling them to get into the bedrooms regularly. They may help in other ways if asked to do so. A small tip at the end of each term is customary. They will make your bed once a week when they change the sheets, but you are expected to make your own bed on the other days. You are also expected to do your own washing up, but may make arrangements with the staircase staff for them to do the washing up on special occasions. Any queries with respect to the work of the bedders should be taken, in the first instance, to the Housekeeper, Mrs Calver, N 3a, Memorial Court. Rooms in lodging-houses are looked after by the landladies... You will be supplied with blankets and pillows, but are expected to provide your own sheets and pillow cases, and anything you may want in the way of crockery, cutlery, kettles, toasters etc...

Meals

From Monday to Saturday breakfast may be taken in the self-service Buttery (below the Hall and entered from H staircase) from 8.15 to 8.45 am, and lunch from 12.45 to 1.30 pm. The price for breakfast is 15p and for lunch it depends on the food selected – it is about 20p for a two-course hot meal. A variety of hot and cold snacks is also available.

In the evenings (including Sundays) you may have dinner as a self-service meal in the Buttery at any time between 6.15 and 7.20 pm; or alternatively on Mondays to Fridays you can have a more formal dinner in Hall at 7.30 pm. Gowns are worn for dinner in Hall. The charge for dinner (whether in Hall of the Buttery) is at present 35p but may be increased.

You are welcome to bring guests into the Buttery or Hall for meals. If you want to invite several guests (e.g. a visiting team) it is necessary to give advance warning to the Kitchen Manager. You may also do light cooking for yourself in your gyp-room, but please keep cooking smells to a minimum and do not expect your bedmaker to do the washing-up. Milk is delivered to staircases.

All meals, drinks etc. are paid for by ticket. Tickets will be available from either porters' lodge in two forms; books of 35 p tickets, to be used for dinners, and books of tickets of mixed values, to be used for breakfast, lunch and bar purchases. You will be asked to sign for the tickets when you get them from the porters' lodge and the value will be charged to your College bill at the end of the term. Unused tickets will be credited to your account if returned to the College Office before the last day of the Easter Term. Tickets may only be used by members of the College.

Parties

Parties are defined as lively gatherings of more than 10 people. If the number does not exceed 25 it is a 'small party' and may be held in your own room in College, but you must get the agreement of your Tutor before sending out invitations and there must not be more than one party per staircase on any night... Music may be played only if the party is held on

a Friday or Saturday; it should not be unduly loud – other people may be trying to work or read on the staircase; and must end at 11.45 pm. Parties (i.e. lively gatherings) should end at midnight; but guests may remain provided that the gathering does not cause any disturbance to others in the Court.

If you want to have more than 25 people it will be a 'large party' and may *not* be held in your own room. The Buttery is available for such parties (with an upper limit of 120 people). Music may be played on Fridays and Saturdays until 11.45 pm but the noise must be carefully controlled and only very limited amplification is tolerable in Old Court. The party must end at midnight. The Latimer Room is also available for some parties, but of the 'sherry' rather than the 'dancing' type. In the Easter Term it is possible to use the lawns in front of Memorial Court and the Scholars' Garden. If you want to use the Buttery, the Latimer Room or either of the lawns you must see the Senior Tutor well beforehand.

Music Hours

Radios and record players may be played until 11.45 pm but you asked to help keep the Courts quiet and to remember that other people are working; as a general rule any sound loud enough to be heard in someone else's room is too loud...

VI Medical Arrangements

VII Fees, Accounts and LEA Awards

Fees and Maintenance Charges

University fees for teaching and examinations are collected through the College; and there are separate College fees for administration, repairs and maintenance of the buildings and gardens, tuition etc., as well as the maintenance charges for rooms and meals. It is not possible to give a precise indication of total costs since these vary widely according to individual circumstances (e.g. the cost for supervision depends on the actual number of hours supervision you have each term). The following figures indicate the main fees and maintenance charges a typical undergraduate will incur each term in 1974/75.

Non-recurrent Initial Charges

Admission Fee	£10.00
Clare Association – Life Membership	£5.25
CCSA Entry Fee	£2.50

Terminal Charges

University Composition Fees		£20.00
CCSA Subscription		£8.00
College Establishment Fees		£72.00
Tutorial Fees		£28.00
Supervision Fees		£35.00
Meals –	Fixed Charge	£11.50
	Lunches (60 per term in College)	£12.00

Dinners (60 per term in College) £21.00

Rent of rooms or lodgings (incl heating) £59.00 ...

History of Clare College, from Website (2015) Early History

Clare College is the second oldest of Cambridge's thirty-one colleges (its foundation having been anticipated, among surviving institutions, only by Peterhouse). It was founded in 1326, and generously endowed a few years later by Lady Elizabeth de Clare (Lady de Burgh), a granddaughter of King Edward I (1272-1307). In 1336 King Edward III (1327-77) granted licence 'to his cousin Elizabeth de Burgo' to establish a collegium (the word originally meant 'a corporation of scholars', not, as in modern English 'college', the buildings in which the scholars were housed); although it was in the first instance referred to unspecifically as 'the House of the University of Cambridge', it became known as Clare Hall as early as 1339 (the present simplified title, 'Clare', dates from 1856). The original endowment consisted of estates at Great Gransden and Duxford, and provided for the maintenance of a maximum of fifteen 'Scholars' (subsequently to be called 'Fellows'), of whom no more than six were bound strictly by priestly orders.

Provision was also made for ten 'poor scholars' (pauperes or 'students'), who were to be maintained by the college up to the age of twenty. In 1359, a year before her death, Lady Elizabeth de Clare promulgated a set of statutes by which the new college was to be governed. The remarkably enlightened attitude to learning and university education in these statutes has guided the college for nearly seven centuries: 'the knowledge of letters ... when it hath been found, it sendeth forth its students, who have tasted of its sweetness, fit and proper members in God's Church and the State, to rise to diverse heights, according to the claim of their deserts.'

The history of Clare in its earliest days in the later fourteenth century is not well recorded (a fire in 1521 destroyed most of the college's early muniments), and we have little more than a list of names of those who were the college's Masters, of whom the first was one Walter de Thaxted. During the fifteenth century, however, we know that the college fought successfully to remain independent of the jurisdiction of the diocesan bishop of Ely (the independence being eventually settled in 1430 by the so-called 'Barnwell Process'). In 1439, a generous bequest by William Bingham provided for the maintenance of a chaplain and twenty-four scholars housed in what was called 'God's House' (the location of which lies beneath the present Old Schools); so, within a century or so of its foundation, Clare Hall had begun to grow modestly in size.

16th Century

In the early sixteenth century, particularly in the reign of Henry VIII (1509-47), the nation was in turmoil as a result of the royally-driven movement to religious reform and rejection of papal control of the Church. Debate in Cambridge was as fierce as anywhere, and from the debate emerged one of the principal leaders of the English Reformation, and one of Clare's greatest alumni, namely Hugh Latimer (1485-1555), who was elected as a Fellow of Clare in 1510, while still an undergraduate. Latimer was renowned for his blameless life, practical tact and trenchant oratory, and he soon rose to national prominence as a result of his preaching in favour of reform. He became royal chaplain to Henry VIII in 1534 (and to Anne Boleyn) and bishop of Worcester in 1535; he was one of the king's advisers who supported the dissolution of the monasteries. At the time of the violent counter-reformation under Queen Mary (1553-8), Hugh Latimer refused to recant his protestant beliefs, and, together with Nicholas Ridley (sometime bishop of London), he was burned at the stake in Oxford on 16 October 1555. Although he is known to history as one of the 'Oxford Martyrs', he was in fact a Cambridge product and a Fellow of Clare. In any case, his influence on sixteenth-century religious politics was profound.

In spite of the turmoil caused by the Reformation, Clare Hall continued to grow in size and wealth during the sixteenth century. A number of endowments of land at Potton, Everton and Gamlingay allowed for an increase in the number of scholarships, and it soon became evident that the college buildings were inadequate to house the increasing numbers of its fellows and scholars. The present college buildings which surround the 'Old Court' were built over a period of seventy-seven years, from the mid-seventeenth-century to the early eighteenth (1638-1715). There is no record of the architect who designed these beautiful buildings, the prospect of which, looking across King's College lawns, is one of the most famous in England. (Clare tradition has it that the architect was the great Inigo Jones; but this tradition cannot be verified.) The building programme was prompted by the acquisition of land belonging to King's across the river to the west of the college (Butt's Close); accordingly the first new buildings to be constructed were the East and South Ranges (1638) and then the bridge (1639-40). The North and West Ranges, including the hall, were built in 1686-8, and the programme was completed with the construction of the Master's Lodge in 1715. (The present chapel dates from a somewhat later time; its foundation stone was laid in 1763.)

Shortly after the completion of the North Range, accommodation for the Fellows' Library was planned (1689-90); it was fitted out in something resembling its present form before 1738. The library possesses some thirty-five incunabula (books printed before 1500) and about 400 books printed in England before 1640; and although books continued to be acquired during the course of the eighteenth century, the Fellows' Library is essentially a fossil of the seventeenth century. The thirty or so medieval manuscripts which the Library possesses are the result of acquisition in post-medieval times (seven manuscripts which belonged to Clare Hall in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries are preserved elsewhere, in Oxford and London); most of them were acquired as a result of a bequest by John Heaver (d. 1670).

The majesty of the seventeenth-century buildings was matched, to a remarkable degree, by the distinction of the college's fellowship at that time, which included John Tillotson, who came up to Clare in 1647 and became a Fellow in 1650; many years later he became archbishop of Canterbury (1691-4). Nicholas Ferrar (1593-1637), a precocious scholar who came into residence at the age of thirteen, was influential in religious circles and a close friend of the poet George Herbert; on the outbreak of the plague in 1625, Ferrar established the Protestant retreat at Little Gidding (Hunts.) which is commemorated in T.S. Eliot's Four Quartets. Abraham Whelock (1593-1653) was Professor of Arabic and University Librarian; he also produced one of the earliest scholarly editions of an Anglo-Saxon text. Lastly, George Ruggle (1575-1621) was a scholar distinguished in Spanish, French and Italian whose play, Ignoramus (1615), an attack on the pedantry of lawyers, was so much admired by King James I that he returned to Cambridge to see it a second time. On his death in 1621, Ruggle bequeathed to Clare the collection of books which forms the core of the present Fellows' Library. Clare in the eighteenth century is similarly marked by the careers of a number of remarkable men. Samuel Blythe was elected to a Fellowship in 1657; he subsequently became Vice-Chancellor of the University, and Master of Clare from 1678 to 1713. He was perhaps the college's most generous benefactor after Lady Clare herself; his memory is perpetuated annually in a college feast which still bears his name. William Whiston (1667-1752) was Isaac Newton's successor as Lucasian Professor of Mathematics in the University; and John Moore, sometime bishop of Ely (1707-14), is best known for the large collection of medieval manuscripts which he bequeathed to the University Library. It was also during the eighteenth century that the college numbered among its fellowship its only Poet Laureate: William Whitehead, who held that position - not, it must be said, with great distinction, judging from the subsequent reputation of his poetry - from 1757 to 1785.

The Modern Age

During the nineteenth century the academic distinction which the college had attained during the two previous centuries declined noticeably. During the second half of the century the Master was Edward Atkinson (1856-1915), whose tenure of the mastership was one of the longest on record. Various administrative changes were made under his aegis. The name of the college was changed from 'Clare Hall' to 'Clare'. The various scholarship funds which the college had received by way of endowment were amalgamated into a single fund in 1861. In 1866 the college choir was established. The college cricket ground (which lay across the river on the site of the present University Library) was improved, so that the college was able to achieve some distinction in that field. By 1870 the college consisted of sixteen fellows and seventy undergraduates.

It was during the twentieth century, particularly in the decades after the Great War, that numbers of students grew substantially, to the point where further accommodation became a necessity. Memorial Court was built during the 1920s to a design of Giles Gilbert Scott and dedicated in 1926. Much later in the century [1986] the Forbes-Mellon library, intended principally for undergraduate use, was constructed in the large and open court of Memorial Court. Through the earlier part of the century, the fellowship regained the academic distinction it had enjoyed in earlier centuries, with such distinguished scholars as the following forming part of the fellowship: T. McK. Hughes (geology), J. Rendel Harris (palaeography), H.M. Chadwick (Anglo-Saxon), A.D. Nock (classics), H.M. Taylor (architectural history), N.G.L. Hammond (classics), Sir Harry Godwin (botany), Lord Baker (engineering), Sir Henry Thirkill (physics), Lord Ashby (natural sciences) and Sir Geoffrey Elton (history). The list could be much extended if it were to include living fellows. In 1966 an endowment from Clare led to the foundation of Clare Hall, designed to be a community of scholars, consisting of both Official and Research Fellows as well as a substantial number of Visiting Fellows; and the first President of Clare Hall (Sir Ben Pippard) as well as several of its founding Fellows were Fellows of Clare at the time of the foundation. A few years later, in 1972, Clare was one of three Cambridge colleges to admit undergraduate women, a change which had a dramatic effect on the nature of the society, particularly in the immediately enhanced academic standing of the college in examination results.

Professor Michael Lapidge (Fellow of Clare, 1991 -)

Photographs of Legbourne, October 1974









The summer house and front garden, the pond with autumnal colours, the front and side of the house, the side garden and shrubbery, beech trees and a view from the balcony...







