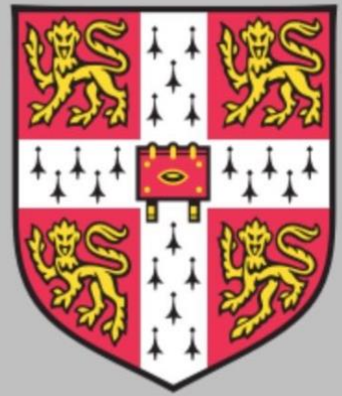


Norfolk Cambridge Society

Summer 2023 Newsletter



From the Chair

It's a privilege to again be chairing the Norfolk Cambridge Society which is known for its friendliness and good company. I am fortunate to have the support of a strong committee of dedicated colleagues and particularly pleased that Bryan Guttridge has agreed to step up as Vice Chair.

We have become renowned, under Geoffrey Smart's leadership, for our exceptional lecture series which many hundreds of people attend every year. The lectures are hallmarked by intellectual rigour and the convivial atmosphere provided by you, the membership. I know how many of you value not only the opportunity to ask questions of leading speakers and VIPs but also to socialise and discuss the topics raised over a glass of wine. Throwing the lectures open to interested parties in our wider community rather than just Cambridge alumni, has proven a great success and provides a dedicated wider membership who enrich what we do. Please continue your support. We are a voluntary society. We don't advertise. So please spread the word. The only criteria for attendees is to be interested in what is going on in the world and to enjoy spending time with stimulating others. So far, we have done very well on this basis!

Of course, we are not just about lectures. We have a very well-organised Book Group that can be attended from the comfort of your own home. The Book Group is a gem. Ably hosted by Kathy Moyse, we get the best recommendations for the latest hotly talked about works as well as some classics and some books that perhaps we would never otherwise read. As an attendee, I have never yet had a recommendation that wasn't thought-provoking. It's great for those who work and need the discipline of a regular deadline to read something beyond work materials. Don't worry if you are busy with work or anything else though. You don't have to read every book or attend every meeting.

Being the Cambridge Society, you'd expect books and lectures to be an important part of our offering. Don't forget the social side wonderfully organised by Mu Gurbutt. All our events are published in advance in this newsletter and on the Society's website. Wherever possible we reach out to involve the Norfolk Oxford Society too; our friendly rivals whose members are always welcome at our events and with whom we seek to organise joint events when the two universities are competing such as at the boat race. So, don't ossify working or sitting at home! Join the fun and socialise with like-minded people.

Whilst we are not a charity, we do seek to ensure that our profits - over and above working capital - go to worthwhile causes. In particular, we organise a competitive award for those students from our county who apply to study at Cambridge and give to registered charities, usually focussed on educational needs in Norfolk.

Last but not least, my thanks to my predecessor Geoffrey Smart. A familiar figure to those of you who regularly attend our events, I am pleased - and relieved - to tell you that Geoffrey is going to carry on sourcing and hosting our lecture series. Geoffrey has also agreed to remain on the Committee and leaves me with extremely loyal and able colleagues in Rob Edwards as Treasurer, Mu, Bryan, Annie, George, Andrew, Kathy and Peter. We are your committee - you can vote us in or out - and as our offering continues to expand we actively seek new people to sit alongside us.

Simon Brickles

smbuckles@hotmail.com

From the Editor

I hope you will receive this newsletter while it is still technically Summer! I would like to add my thanks to Simon for taking over the reins as Chair and to Bryan for taking on the role of Vice Chair.

It has been wonderful to finally travel again, albeit not very adventurously, and I have just returned from a stimulating if exhausting week at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Whilst we can't compete with the range of activities offered there please do consider joining us in the coming months. The Book Group and Epicureans in particular lend themselves to ongoing yet ad hoc participation so are ideal as many of us find ourselves back to pre-pandemic levels of busyness.

May I remind you that the **AGM takes place on Thursday 14th September at 5pm** and all are welcome at the Norfolk Club, 17, Upper King Street, Norwich NR3 1RB. We hope to make this a social as well as a 'business' occasion.

I am hoping to run an occasional item about members with unusual or particularly interesting jobs or experiences. It would also be nice to hear some reminiscences of your times at Cambridge (if they are repeatable!) or to plug your book if you have written one. Or several! Please feel free to get in touch with me at the email address below with any contributions.

Kathy Moyse
ajskcm@btinternet.com

NCS Awards 2022/23

We are delighted to announce that this year's winners have been invited with two guests each to attend the upcoming Lecture (see item below) and to receive their certificates. They have already been awarded £500 each following interviews in June. The winners are George Bowyer, Charlie Windle and May MacLennan. We also awarded two runners up with £100 each in recognition of another strong field.

If you know anyone at school or college in Norfolk who is thinking of applying to Cambridge this autumn for 2024 please tell them about the award and encourage them to apply. They need only have applied to be considered. We are planning this year on interviewing before Christmas so time is of the essence!

Annie Grant

NCS Public Lectures

For our eighteenth lecture on **Thursday 28th September**, our distinguished speaker will be Roger Mosey, Master of Selwyn College Cambridge and former Editorial Director at the BBC. His topic will be '**Delivering Truth in a Tribal World**'. Throughout its history the BBC has been one of the most trusted news organisations in the world. In recent years, however, modern technology, sometimes fuelled by artificial intelligence, has greatly facilitated the creation and dissemination of disinformation, fuelling discord. Even the BBC has sometimes struggled to represent the whole of the United Kingdom in a time of fragmentation and uncertainty. Roger Mosey will examine these and many other influences challenging professional journalism today and discuss how the BBC and other reputable news organisations across the world seek to ensure their survival in a rapidly-changing world.

Arguably, no-one is better qualified to speak on this most important subject. Roger spent most of his career at the BBC, holding positions at various times as Head of BBC Television News, Editor of the Today programme, Controller of BBC Radio 5 Live, Director of Sport and the BBC Director of the London 2012 Olympics.

Please note that this is now sold out.

The first lecture of 2024 will be delivered on **Thursday 29th February** by Tom Little KC who will speak on the criminal justice system.

Geoffrey
geoffreyjnsmart@gmail.com

Epicureans



Our next lunch meeting is on **Wednesday 27th September at 12.30pm** at The WinePress Restaurant in the Maids Head Hotel, Norwich. We already number 12 and the original booking is for 14. If you would like to join us you can certainly be accommodated and the booking is flexible until 20th September. A non-returnable deposit of £5 per head is payable.

A further lunch is also planned before Christmas on **Wednesday 22nd November at 12.15pm** at Jorge's Restaurant and Tasca 2-3, Orford Yard, Red Lion St, Norwich NR1 3TB. If you don't know it, this is a delightful Portuguese run venue specialising in Tapas and serving wonderful Portuguese wines. The eponymous owner oversees proceedings in an intimate space so we will be limited to 14 places. A £15 returnable deposit will be required for this.

If you would like to join us on either or both occasions please contact Kathy for details. Please note that the WinePress requires us to pre-order by Wednesday 20th September.

Kathy Moyse ajskcm@btinternet.com and Mu Gurbutt mugurbutt@hotmail.com

Incrementum Lunchtime Investment Group



We have had some extremely interesting discussions during the last year, some spectacular gains and also some spectacular losses. Fortunately, no money has to be put up so this was all theoretical! Anyone who chose the winners for their private portfolio will however be considerably better off than this time last year.

We run jointly with The Norfolk Club and are always pleased to accept new members.

Geoffrey
geoffreyjnsmart@gmail.com

Viewpoints is currently suspended.



Our discussion group on matters philosophical, political and whimsical remains is still seeking someone to lead it. It used to be a source of great food for thought. I no longer have the time to organise these meetings but would be delighted if someone stepped forward to revive them. I would certainly like to come along to future meetings and enjoy participating again. So, if anyone is interested in running such a group, please do let me know.

Geoffrey geoffreyjnsmart@gmail.com

Contacts

For information about the Society, events and meetings please take a look at our **new website**, ably maintained by Bryan Guttridge, who is also our new Vice Chair. He can be contacted at bgguttridge@gmail.com

<https://norfolkcambridgesociety.org.uk/>

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