

# THE LEWIS SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

# NEWSLETTER

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

2025

Welcome to the annual newsletter for the Lewis Society of Medicine, for 2025.

The Lewis Society of Medicine (LSM) was founded in 2007, following the death of its namesake, Dr Peter Lewis. Dr Lewis was a pioneering neurobiologist who made substantial contributions to medical study during his time at Corpus, where he was Director of Medical Studies from 1960-1984.



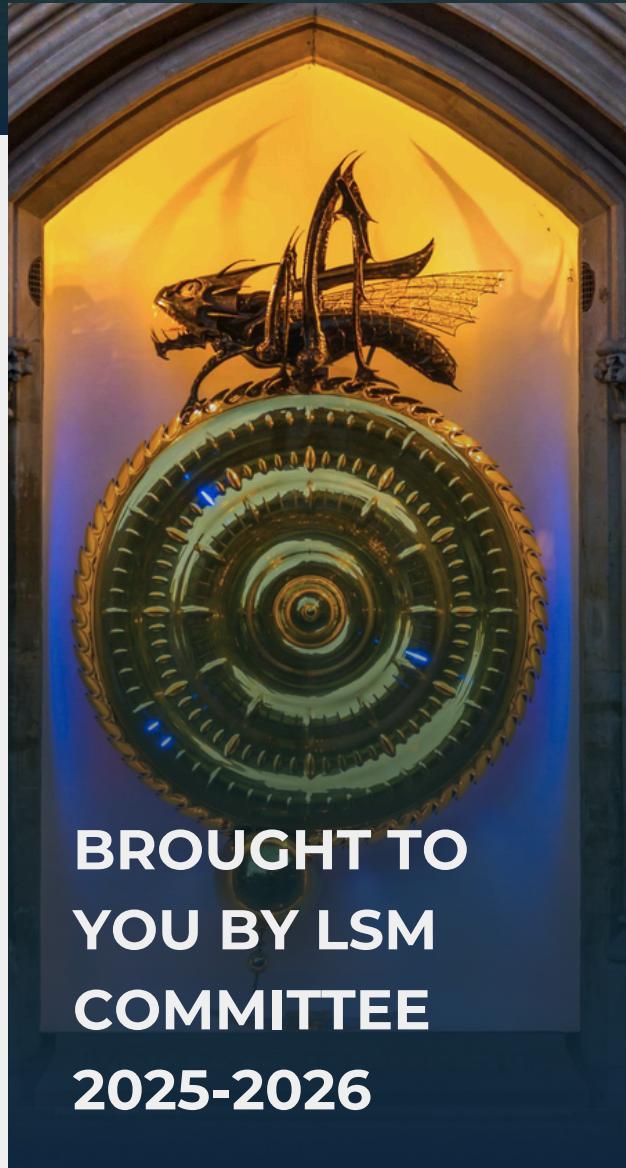
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## INTRODUCTION TO THE LSM

As a society, we aim to support current medical students at Corpus through a diverse range of activities that support their studies, careers and wellbeing. We also act to establish and maintain close connections with Corpus alumni, through social events and speaking opportunities. Finally, we promote medical science to the rest of the college, by making our events open to all Corpus students.

The organisation of the society is handled by the LSM Committee, a body of dedicated medical students at Corpus with a shared aim of fostering development amongst medics. These events would not be possible to run however without the guidance of our patrons and trustees, and the support of college staff.

We thank you for your continued support and engagement with the LSM!



BROUGHT TO  
YOU BY LSM  
COMMITTEE  
2025-2026

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Lewis Society of Medicine logo



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# COMMITTEE, PATRONS, AND TRUSTEES OF THE LSM

## COMMITTEE 2025-2026

Co-Chairs	Erin MacCabe Emily Parkinson
Vice Chair	Luke Quinn
Welfare	David Sleeman
Computing Officer	Dini Witharana
Social Officer	Jinan Chehab
Networking Officer	Georgina Howarth
Social Media Officer	Ambalika Rao

## COMMITTEE 2024-2025

Chair	Ken Li
Vice Chair	Aisha Warner
Academic Officers	Luke Quinn Sinan Aramaz Dini Witharana
Social Officers	Emily Parkinson Erin MacCabe David Sleeman Jinan Chehab
Senior Committee Members	Oliver Li Macey Stables

## PATRONS

Dr Philip Bearcroft  
Professor Alastair Watson

## TRUSTEES

Professor Christopher Howe  
Mr Alexis Joannides



Corpus pre-clinical medical students,  
2025, including committee members



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# MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Dear alumni and members of LSM,

We are writing to you on behalf of the LSM Committee to update you on the activities of the society over the past calendar year.

The following newsletter details the range of events that we have organised to foster the academic and social development of medical students here at Corpus.

A recent highlight was the annual LSM trip, which last year took us to Vienna, providing us with the opportunity to visit the world-famous Josephinum museum and other attractions of medical, historical and cultural interest.

Other regular gatherings include the termly Stukeley Talks, which give students an opportunity to share their experiences of projects, dissertations and electives, as well as the annual Coombs Seminar, where we hear from a current Fellow or alumnus.

In addition, we always look forward to the annual Archibald Clark-Kennedy lecture and associated dinner, which last year saw us welcome back Prof Alistair Chesser, former Chief Medical Officer at Bart's, for a fascinating talk about his life and career. We very much hope that you will join us this year on Saturday 7th February 2026, as we hear from another distinguished alumnus Dr Nat Segaren. Book tickets using this [link](#) (deadline: Friday 23rd January, 12 noon).

Likewise, we always enjoy reconnecting with alumni at the LSM garden party in the summer, which is provisionally scheduled for Sunday 21st June 2026, although please look out for an invitation!

None of the above would be able to take place without the generous support of our donors. If you are able to offer a contribution, however small, to help ensure the future of our Society, we would be more than grateful. More details can be found on the [Corpus website](#) and we would be happy to acknowledge any donors in future newsletters.

Another avenue through which you may be able to assist our current students is the LSM networking scheme. This provides preclinical students with the contacts of Fellows and alumni who are willing to support them on clinical placements, allowing them to contextualise their knowledge prior to starting fourth year. Thank you to those who are already involved with the scheme. We would welcome emails from anyone else, or anyone you know, who is able to participate.

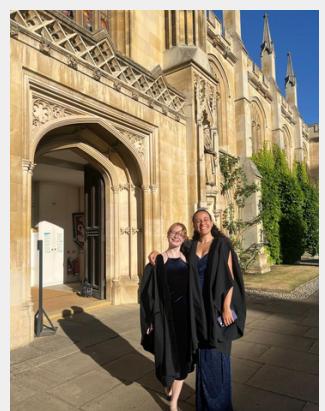
As ever, we are immensely appreciative of all those who continue to support medical student life at Corpus, from alumni and student members to Directors of Studies, other Fellows, supervisors and College staff, particularly our friends in the Development Office and Events and Catering.

We look forward to welcoming you back to Corpus soon!

Emily and Erin  
LSM Co-Chairs 2025

Contact us at  
[ep679@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ep679@cam.ac.uk) and  
[em904@cam.ac.uk](mailto:em904@cam.ac.uk)

Your 2025 LSM  
Co-chairs, Emily  
Parkinson and  
Erin MacCabe



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THE LEWIS SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

# KEY DATES!

2026

As members of the LSM, you are cordially invited to our upcoming events in 2026! Be sure to add these dates to your calendar to ensure you don't miss out.

These events are great opportunities for current Corpus medical students to interact with Corpus alumni, fostering connection and career development.

*Leckhampton Gardens, the location of our Garden Party*



*The McCrum Lecture Theatre, the location of our Archibald Clark-Kennedy lecture*



## LSM ALUMNI CALENDAR 2026

### ARCHIBALD CLARK-KENNEDY LECTURE AND LSM DINNER 2026

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

More detail on Pages 6 and 7!

Book tickets using [this link](#)

RSVP by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 12pm

### EASTER GARDEN PARTY 2026

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026**

Keep an eye on your emails for more information in the new year!

*Old Hall, the location of our annual LSM dinner*



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# LSM DINNER 2026 – SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

## THE PROGRAMME

### 4:30 PM

Opening of the Parker Library

### 5:30 PM

Archibald Clark-Kennedy lecture by Dr Nat Segaren

### 6:30 PM

Pre-drinks in the OCR

### 7:30 PM

Formal dinner in the Old Hall begins

### 10:00 PM

Post-dinner drinks will be available for your purchase in the Pelican Bar until midnight

## THE TICKETS

This year there is the option to directly support the cost of students attending the dinner either through an open donation or the purchase of a 'supporting student' ticket. Tickets can be purchased using this [link](#), and the deadline is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 12pm.

## THE MENU

### STARTER

King prawn, hand-picked crab, caviar and celeriac remoulade

Or: Winter mushroom and truffle velouté with hazelnuts (vegan)

### MAIN COURSE

Slow-cooked Gressingham duck leg with orange and hazelnut risotto

Or: Celeriac steak with hazelnut pesto, roasted chicory, winter greens and baby onions (vegan)

### DESSERT

Plum frangipane tart with hibiscus ice cream

Or: Dark chocolate and clementine mousse (vegan)

## TICKET PRICES

Foundation doctor: £50

Other alumni: £75

Alumni (supporting student): £150

Other donations welcome using the booking form or through this [link](#).



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# ARCHIBALD CLARK-KENNEDY LECTURER, 2026 – DR NAT SEGAREN

This year, we have the pleasure of hearing from Dr Nathaniel Segaren as our Archibald Clark-Kennedy lecturer. Dr Segaren matriculated at Corpus Christi College in 1996, marking this year as the 30 year reunion for his cohort!

Following the completion of his medical degree at Corpus, Dr Segaren undertook Paediatric training at Guys and St.Thomas' Hospitals. In 2006 he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to attend the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health where he graduated with a Masters of Public Health and an MBA. After having worked at the World Bank HQ in Washington D.C, he joined The Caris Foundation International ([www.carisfoundation.org](http://www.carisfoundation.org)), where he is the Medical Director.

Together with his wife Tessa, they grew the team from 2 to 750 full time staff. They were awarded over 150 Million USD of donor funds for country wide projects supporting Maternal/Child Health, HIV and Tuberculosis, Immunization, Malnutrition and Community Health. He directed the Caris response to earthquakes, hurricanes and severe insecurity. Project Santé, the largest international investment in Haiti, was headed by Dr. Segaren, and provided healthcare to over 4 million people. Dr. Segaren has initiated Caris activities in Cambodia, where in partnership with the Government the team is screening the vision of every secondary school student in the country.

*The Caris  
Foundation*



The Caris Foundation, founded in 2002, was established with the aim of aiding and empowering impoverished people. The charity prioritises establishing a local presence within communities in order to understand people's basic needs and to enable the implementation of solutions that are both sustainable and culturally relevant, exemplified by Dr Segaren's work in Haiti and Cambodia.

Dr Segaren's lecture will reflect on his wonderful time at Corpus, and how it shaped his training and other career options within Medicine. We look forward to hearing how his experience here has led to such impressive accomplishments, and we hope you can join us for the event!

The Archibald Clark-Kennedy lecture will be free to attend, taking place at 5:30pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February, prior to the annual dinner. Tickets to the dinner itself can be purchased at this [link](#). If you're unable to attend the dinner, we still hope you'll come along for the lecture. It's a great opportunity to hear about Dr. Segaren's remarkable career!

*Dr. Nathaniel  
Segaren, MB  
BChir, MRCPCH,  
MA, MPH, MBA*



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# LSM SHADOWING SCHEME

The LSM Shadowing Scheme connects Corpus medical students with alumni working in a variety of medical specialties and hospitals across the country. Typically aimed at pre-clinical students, the scheme is a great opportunity to see clinical applications of their current biomedical studies, while gaining valuable experience for their future careers.

This year's LSM Shadowing Scheme looked to build off the strong foundation set in recent years, seeing improved participation, with over half of Part I students taking part. Students were able to spend time working alongside medical professionals and were able to see the future opportunities available to them beyond their preclinical studies. These placements took place over the Easter and Summer vacations in Addenbrooke's Hospital, and enabled students to spend time in clinical, surgical and research environments.

Four doctors (either alumni or with connections to Corpus) generously hosted students this year:

- Mr Alexis Joannides, an Honorary Consultant Neurosurgeon at the Department of Clinical Neurosciences based at Addenbrooke's Hospital, whose academic research focuses on neuro-oncology and CSF disorders.
- Mr Nicholas Segaren, a Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon specialising in head and neck trauma reconstructive microsurgery.
- Dr David Jayne, an Honorary Consultant and Director of the Vasculitis and Lupus service at Addenbrooke's, who also researches therapies for vasculitis, lupus and rare renal disease.
- Mr Nigel Hall, a Consultant General and Colorectal Surgeon at Addenbrooke's since 1999.



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*Addenbrooke's Hospital and two of our Shadowing Scheme Hosts in action (Mr Alexis Joannides above and Mr Nicholas Segaren right)*

This was an invaluable experience for all students who took part, and I would like to extend our thanks to everyone who agreed to give up their time to make this opportunity possible.

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in hosting a student for any period, please get in touch with Georgina (one of our LSM Committee members) at [gmh56@cam.ac.uk](mailto:gmh56@cam.ac.uk)! We can't emphasise enough how valuable this experience is for our students and we would love to connect with more alumni.

THE LEWIS SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

# HIGHLIGHTS

2025

We invite you to explore the event highlights for the Lewis Society of Medicine, which have taken place in 2025. We have a busy schedule, including talks, trips, dinners and welfare events. At the heart of these events is student experience; we aim to support our students in all aspects of university life, while connecting students across academic years.

Information about 2024 events can be found in our [previous newsletter](#).

A PREVIEW OF WHAT IS TO COME...



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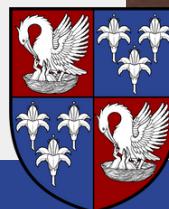
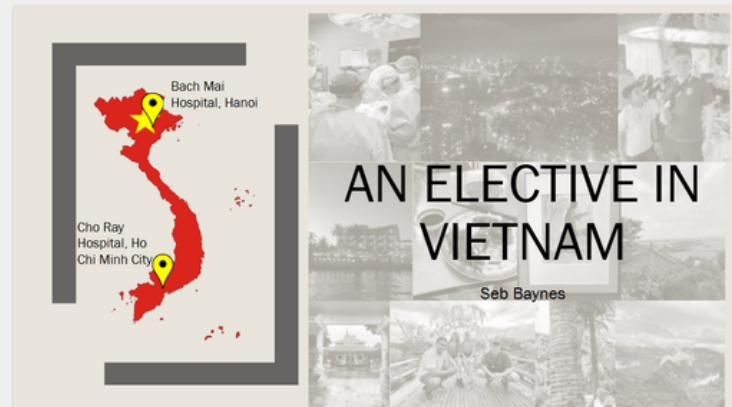
# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – STUKELEY TALKS, JAN 31<sup>ST</sup>

Our first event of the calendar year featured student-led presentations which provided a fascinating insight into research and placement experiences. On this occasion, we were privileged to hear from three students, including two final-year medical students, who shared their summer electives and projects across different medical disciplines and international locations.

## Seb Baynes - ENT Elective in Vietnam

Seb, a sixth-year medical student, embarked on a seven-week ENT-themed elective in Vietnam. The first four weeks were spent at Cho Ray Hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, a major teaching hospital and referral center for Southern Vietnam. His rotation included ENT and Tropical Diseases, where he observed crowded wards filled with advanced cases such as head and neck tumors, abscesses, and tracheal stenosis-underscoring the stark differences in healthcare burden between Vietnam and the UK. He also had the opportunity to attend a department trip to Vung Tau at the end of his rotation. His final three weeks were spent at Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi, another large teaching hospital serving Northern Vietnam. Here, he rotated through spinal surgery, endocrinology, and rheumatology, gaining exposure to more advanced surgical facilities funded by the Japanese government. Notably, he observed the higher prevalence of road traffic accidents compared to the UK, contributing to significant healthcare challenges. Key learning points included tracheal stenosis treatment via balloon dilation and the impact of total laryngectomies on patient speech, with rehabilitation techniques such as oesophageal speech offering hope for vocal function restoration.

*To the right, Seb Bayne delivering his presentation and a photo from his elective.*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – STUKELEY TALKS, JAN 31<sup>ST</sup>

## Geethana Yogarajah - Sports and Exercise Medicine in Australia and France

Geethana's elective spanned Australia and France, where she gained hands-on experience in sports and exercise medicine. In Melbourne and Cairns, she shadowed SEM doctors, physiotherapists, podiatrists, and dieticians, working closely with major sports teams including Hawthorn Football Club, the Melbourne Mustangs Ice Hockey team, and Melbourne Storm Rugby. Her experience in France took place at Le Centre Européen de Rééducation du Sportif in Saint-Raphaël, a leading rehabilitation center for orthopaedic and traumatic injuries. Here, she worked primarily with an SEM doctor, observing significant differences in approach compared to Melbourne. The insights gained from both placements highlighted the varied methodologies of sports medicine across countries and provided an invaluable comparative perspective.



Geethana Yogarajah delivering her presentation and a photo from her elective



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## Luke Quinn - Neurosurgery at Addenbrooke's Hospital

Luke, a second-year medical student, undertook a placement at Addenbrooke's Hospital under the guidance of consultant neurosurgeon Mr. Joannides. His experience involved shadowing theatre procedures, ward rounds, multidisciplinary team meetings, and clinics. His project focused on REVERT, an initiative linked to hydrocephalus outcomes. He had the unique opportunity to scrub into surgeries and assist with suturing, burr holes and incisions, giving him an early hands-on insight into neurosurgery. This placement allowed Luke to witness complex neurosurgical procedures, reinforcing his interest in the specialty and equipping him with practical clinical skills.



Luke Quinn delivering his presentation

Overall, the Stukeley Talks proved to be an engaging and insightful evening. The diversity of experiences presented—from neurosurgical placements in Cambridge to ENT rotations in Vietnam and sports medicine placements in Australia and France—offered a broad perspective on global healthcare challenges and medical specialities. The talks highlighted the invaluable learning opportunities afforded by electives and research placements, inspiring fellow students in their own academic journeys.

# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – ARCHIBALD CLARK-KENNEDY LECTURE AND LSM DINNER, FEB 8<sup>TH</sup>

The annual Archibald Clark-Kennedy Lecture and Dinner brought together medical students, alumni, and fellows for an evening of insightful discussion, networking, and fine dining. Held in the McCrum Lecture Theatre, the event featured a lecture by Professor Alistair Chesser.

Professor Chesser (m. 1984) began his medical training in Cambridge, where he was one of the first students supervised by Professor Christopher Howe. After continuing his studies in London and Aberdeen, he was appointed Consultant Nephrologist at Barts Health NHS Trust in 2003. During this time, his research on chronic kidney disease, particularly in association with diabetes and hypertension, has earned him nearly 400 citations.

In 2016, Professor Chesser was appointed Chief Medical Officer at Barts Health NHS Trust. During his tenure, he led significant improvements in the trust's Care Quality Commission ratings, particularly in the areas of safety, effectiveness and patient care. He also led clinical teams through the COVID-19 pandemic, rapidly expanding capacity and saving thousands through innovative clinical care. Professor Chesser has stepped down from his role of Chief Medical Officer as of March 2025, and remains at the trust in a clinical role.



*Our speaker Professor Alistair Chesser, as Chief Medical Officer at Barts Health NHS Trust*

His talk provided a fascinating glimpse into his personal and professional journey, from his early years at Corpus Christi College to his distinguished career in nephrology. Professor Chesser reflected fondly on his time at Corpus, highlighting his rowing experiences as an undergraduate and the process of determining which medical specialty suited him best. His career trajectory eventually led him to pursue a PhD in biochemistry before settling on nephrology. A formative period in Africa not only shaped his medical perspective but also led to him meeting his wife. His academic interests, particularly in chronic kidney disease (CKD) and its relationship with hypertension and type 2 diabetes, have been central to his work. His lecture provided valuable insight into the evolving landscape of medical research and patient care.



*Professor Chesser, delivering the Archibald Clark-Kennedy lecture, for 2025*

Following the lecture, guests gathered in the Old Combination Room for a drinks reception. With prosecco in hand, attendees enjoyed the opportunity to network and discuss the evening's themes in a relaxed setting.



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – ARCHIBALD CLARK-KENNEDY LECTURE AND LSM DINNER, FEB 8<sup>TH</sup>

At 7:30 pm, dinner commenced, offering guests a carefully curated menu featuring refined dishes. The meal began with a choice between Guinea Fowl Terrine with prosciutto, pistachio, winter mushrooms, apple, and British port or a pre-ordered vegetarian option of Caramelized Jerusalem Artichoke Soup with almonds. The main course presented a choice between Roasted Chicken Supreme with smoked bacon and thyme mousse, crispy confit potatoes, and winter greens, or Butternut Squash and Crottin Cheese Risotto with chestnuts for vegetarian diners.

To conclude, guests were treated to Hazelnut and Chocolate Sable accompanied by pear sorbet. The meal was complemented by a selection of wines, including Les Vaublins Cremant de Loire at the reception, Vidal Estate Reserve Chardonnay with the starter, Rubrum Cabernet Sauvignon with the main course, and Graham Fine Tawny Port to round off the evening.

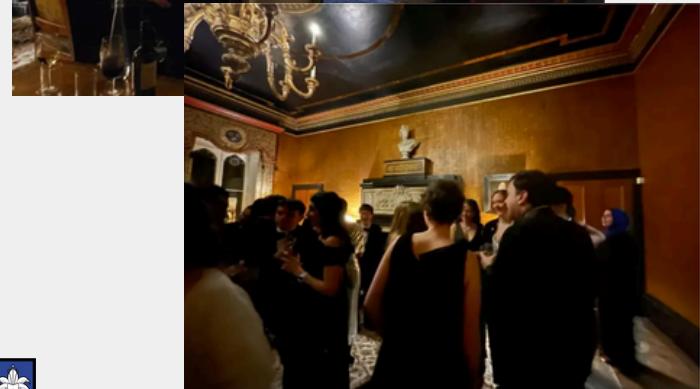
After dinner, the conversation continued well into the night. With further networking and discussions over wine in the Old Combination Room, guests stayed engaged until the early hours, with some departing as late as 2 am.

The Archibald Clark-Kennedy Lecture and Dinner once again proved to be a memorable occasion, celebrating both the academic and social aspects of medical life. The evening was an excellent opportunity for attendees to reflect on medical careers, exchange ideas, and foster connections, all while enjoying a superbly hosted event.

We want to thank our generous donors, without whom this event would not be possible, and the catering staff who delivered such a wonderful evening. We also want to extend our gratitude to all the attendees of the event, and we hope to see you again next year!



*The attendees of the LSM dinner 2025 in the Old Hall*



*Post-drinks following the dinner, in the Old Combination Room*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – COOMBS SEMINAR, FEB 28<sup>TH</sup>

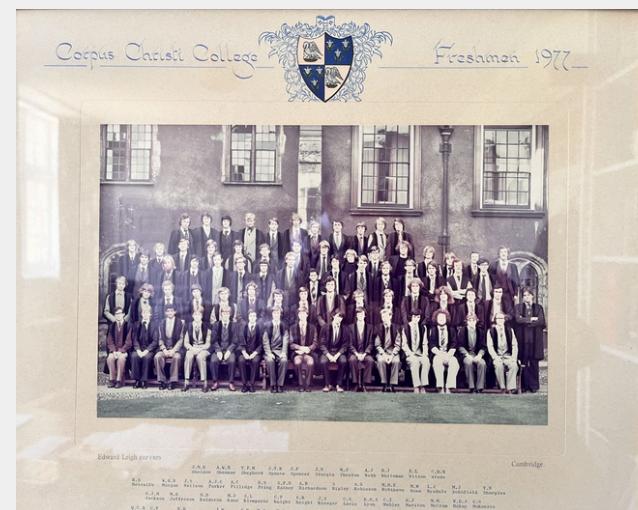
The Coombs Seminar, held on Friday 28th February, provided an insightful discussion on evidence-based practice in otolaryngology, led by Professor Martin Burton, the current Master of Sidney Sussex College and a retired ENT surgeon. Professor Burton, a distinguished Corpus alumnus (m.1977), explored the evolution of clinical practice, particularly focusing on the shift away from performing routine tonsillectomies based on emerging evidence.

With decades of experience in both academia and clinical medicine, Professor Burton's career has been dedicated to evaluating medical interventions through systematic research. Before becoming Master of Sidney Sussex in September 2023, he was the Director of Cochrane UK, where he played a pivotal role in supporting evidence-based healthcare across the UK and Ireland. His expertise extends across a broad spectrum, having held positions as Professor of Otolaryngology at Oxford, Honorary Consultant Otolaryngologist at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and Vice Master of Balliol College. His tenure as Co-ordinating Editor of Cochrane ENT further underscores his commitment to ensuring that medical practices are guided by reliable evidence rather than outdated convention.



*Our speaker Professor Martin Burton, the current Master of Sidney Sussex College*

Professor Burton's illustrious career has taken him across the world—from research training at the University of Michigan as a Fulbright Scholar to surgical fellowships in Melbourne and Baltimore. His work in otology, neurotology, and skull base surgery has positioned him as a leading figure in the field, yet his dedication to improving clinical standards through evidence-based research remains his defining legacy.



*The matriculation cohort of Corpus Christi College in 1977, including Professor Martin Burton*



*The novice rowing crew of Corpus 1977, with Professor Burton rowing in bow seat*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – COOMBS SEMINAR, FEB 28<sup>TH</sup>

The seminar was highly engaging, as Professor Burton detailed how evidence-based medicine has reshaped the field of ENT surgery. Historically, tonsillectomies were a common procedure performed to manage recurrent throat infections in children. However, rigorous studies analysing the long-term benefits of the surgery have demonstrated that, in many cases, the risks outweigh the benefits, leading to a significant reduction in its routine use. Professor Burton explained how systematic reviews and randomised controlled trials have contributed to this paradigm shift, illustrating the importance of questioning long-standing medical practices through critical analysis and data evaluation.

His discussion extended beyond tonsillectomies, emphasizing the broader role of evidence-based practice in ensuring optimal patient outcomes. He spoke passionately about the necessity of integrating high-quality research into everyday clinical decision making, encouraging future medical professionals to actively engage with scientific literature and challenge assumptions within their fields.



*To the left, Professor Burton delivering the 2025 Coombs Seminar*

The seminar was attended by students, faculty, and alumni, who were eager to engage with Professor Burton's insights. Many left with a renewed appreciation for the importance of rigorous research in shaping medical guidelines and ensuring that interventions remain relevant and beneficial to patients. The evening fostered discussion about the evolving landscape of medical practice and the responsibility clinicians have in continuously refining their approaches based on emerging data.

Professor Burton's seminar concluded with an engaging Q&A session, where attendees posed questions about the implications of evidence-based medicine for various surgical practices. Professor Burton's thoughtful responses reinforced the importance of intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning in medicine, inspiring attendees to critically evaluate their own areas of study.

Overall, the Coombs Seminar was an enlightening experience, highlighting the significance of research-driven medical practice. Professor Burton's expertise and passion for evidence-based medicine made for an engaging discussion that will undoubtedly influence how students and professionals approach their clinical decisions in the future.



*Professor Burton addressing the attendees of the 2025 Coombs Seminar*

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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – ANNUAL LSM TRIP, MAR 19<sup>TH</sup>-21<sup>ST</sup>

The Lewis Society of Medicine offers Corpus medical students an opportunity to explore medicine beyond the realms of Cambridge, with an annual trip in the Easter vacation to a different city of medical significance. This year, the generous support of college allowed 15 preclinical medics to uphold the tradition. With Lent-term exams out of the way, we set off for Vienna, which has a unique medical history reflected in world-renowned museums.

Our first stop on Saturday was the Josephinum, home to an extraordinary collection of over 1,000 anatomical wax models. Brought over from Florence in 1784, these have served as invaluable teaching tools for Viennese students ever since. Having studied anatomy ourselves, we were captivated by their astonishing craftsmanship and intricate detail.



Corpus medical students outside the Josephinum Museum



*The Josephinum and its contents, explored by Corpus medical students*

After sampling the local cuisine, we then headed to one of Vienna's most iconic landmarks, the Stephansdom, enjoying a guided tour of its crypt. The ossuary here has origins dating back to the mass graves of the 1735 bubonic plague, and we were fascinated to learn more of its history.

*The Stephansdom Cathedral*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – ANNUAL LSM TRIP, MAR 19<sup>TH</sup>-21<sup>ST</sup>

Visiting Vienna as a society also strengthened bonds between year groups. Following a shared dinner on Saturday evening, we spent Sunday exploring other aspects of the city together, such as the river Danube (the perfect spot for a morning swim!), the Schönbrunn Palace and imperial zoo, and the world-famous Belvedere. The city of Vienna is so rich in history and culture, we took every opportunity to explore museums, galleries, churches and the palaces.



*Medical students of Corpus Christi, at the Schönbrunn Palace*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – EASTER GARDEN PARTY, JUN 21<sup>ST</sup>

Following the end of a busy exam period for all medical students, the LSM hosted its final event of the academic year – the annual garden party. The aim of the event is to celebrate all of our students' hard work throughout the year in a sunny and relaxed atmosphere, inviting supervisors, fellows and alumni to join!

The garden party takes place in Leckhampton Gardens, which has housed Corpus postgraduate students since 1961. It has long been an important place of community for clinical year medics, so it is always a delight for all medical students (current and former) to visit again and relax in the beautiful grounds. Leckhampton House itself originates from the late 1880s, complete with gardens that are still recognisable today. It is a particular joy in the summer, when the garden is in full bloom and the sun is shining, making it a wonderful setting for our annual garden party.



*Leckhampton House, shortly after completion, including the Gardens at the back of the house*

The 2025 garden party was a huge success all around. With delightful weather, we enjoyed catering by Aromi's with Pimm's and lemonade complete with fresh fruit, a perfect combination for a hot summer's day. It was an opportunity for all Students, fellows and alumni to share their experiences and celebrate their hard work and achievements.

This would not be possible without the generosity of our donors, so we are very grateful for this opportunity. We look forward to seeing everyone again next summer, where another memorable event filled with good company is surely to be delivered.



*The Easter garden party, 2025*



*The gorgeous gardens of Leckhampton*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – FRESHERS' EVENTS, OCT 12<sup>TH</sup> AND 24<sup>TH</sup>

We began the year with our well-attended Welcome Drinks on October 12th, taking place during the first week of Michaelmas term. This event is a great opportunity for the first year medics to meet students from other years and to chat with fellows in an informal setting. Our Welcome Drinks took place in the Parker Room, a perfect setting to officially welcome the freshers to the Corpus community prior to their Matriculation Dinner.

Following the Welcome Drinks, first and fourth years then went on to Matriculation Dinner, where we enjoyed the rare privilege of sitting on the High Table alongside the fellows. Overall, this was an enjoyable evening and a great way to build a sense of integration across the year groups.



*The Parker Room (above), and the first year medics following Welcome Drinks and Matriculation (left)*

Our next event of Michaelmas term is the Meet The DoS Quiz, which aims to encourage the inclusion of the new freshers into our Corpus Medics community. The format of the quiz allows for a relaxed introduction to other supervisors and fellows they may not have met yet, as well as a chance for medical students from all years to engage in supposedly friendly competition!

The competition however was fierce at this year's annual Meet The DoS Quiz. With his usual rival Prof. Ewan St. John Smith unable to attend, Prof. Chris Howe looked set to lead his team to victory thanks to his excellent knowledge of Corpus and Cambridge, whilst his teammates dominated in the music round. However, the tables turned during the final two connections rounds, which rewarded speed and risk-taking. Despite spirited accusations of foul play from our Vice-President, Luke (on Dr Philip Bearcroft's team), it was Mr Alexis Joannides and his teammates who ultimately triumphed, with Prof. Howe forced to settle for third. Fortunately, there were enough doughnuts for everyone, as well as the traditional free pizza.



*The attendees of the Meet The DoS Quiz, with Prof. Howe (bottom left)*



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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – STUKELEY TALKS, NOV 8<sup>TH</sup>

Our last event of the calendar year was another night of Stukeley Talks, which are student-led presentations that discuss research and project experiences, in order to celebrate our hard work but also as a point of contact for medical students in lower years. This time we heard from a final year student about their fifth year elective, as well as two current fourth year students, who discussed their (very different) projects from their intercalation year.

## Diya Salahudin - Elective in Australia

First, we heard from Diya (final-year medic) about her recent elective in Australia. She spoke about her time in Plastic Surgery at Dandenong Hospital, a major trauma centre in Melbourne, and in ICU at the prestigious Royal Adelaide Hospital, South Australia's largest. Her talk also offered valuable insights into the advantages and potential drawbacks of pursuing a career down under. The fourth years in particular appreciated her advice on planning an elective abroad and securing financial support from College, which is available thanks to our generous donors. Many of us left feeling inspired to make the most of this exciting opportunity by organising our electives overseas.



Diya (centre) and the Monash Children's Team at Dandenong Hospital



*The Royal Adelaide Hospital, where half of Diya's elective was based*

## Emily Parkinson - Part II Pathology Project

We then heard from Emily, one of our LSM co-chairs, about her recent Part II in Pathology, where she was based in the labs at Addenbrooke's Hospital. She talked us through the multiple stages of her project, which characterised genetic mutations occurring in thyroid lymphoma with a focus on the *TET3* gene, exploring connections between thyroid lymphoma and Hashimoto's thyroiditis.



## ***TET3 Mutation Screen of Thyroid Lymphoma***

Emily Parkinson  
Du Laboratory, Division of CMP (Addenbrookes)

*The title of Emily's Part II Thesis and presentation*

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# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS – STUKELEY TALKS, NOV 8<sup>TH</sup>

Emily's project discovered an observed *TET3* mutation rate of 10% in thyroid lymphoma cases, which interestingly occurred on a background of Hashimoto's thyroiditis. She discussed the significance of this co-occurrence, relating to the development of thyroid lymphoma, as well as the clinical relevance of the mutations she observed, one of which was considered highly pathogenic. Overall, it was fascinating to hear about her experiences of research in the laboratory setting, which will no doubt appeal to younger students considering their options for intercalation.

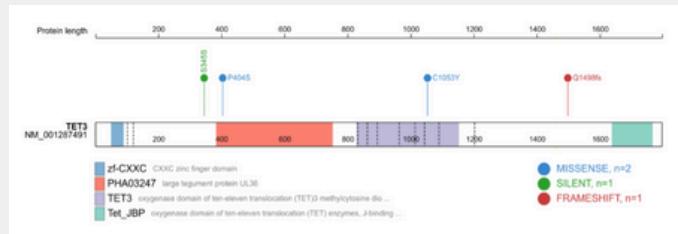


Diagram demonstrating the position of the observed *TET3* mutations, discussed in Emily's presentation

## Erin MacCabe - Part II History and Philosophy of Science Dissertation

Finally, our other co-chair, Erin, spoke about her very different Part II, which allowed her to take a break from basic science to explore medicine through the lens of the humanities. Her dissertation in the History and Philosophy of Science focussed on the third quarter of the twentieth century. It examined the establishment of the Apgar score as a standardised method for assessing newborn babies in both research and clinical practice, exploring its impact on both sides of the Atlantic. Although the score has recognised limitations, including inter-observer variability and poor applicability to non-white infants, its simplicity has helped it to become ubiquitous across diverse obstetric settings.



The Harley Mason Room, the setting of our Stukeley Talks

## Current Researches in Anesthesia and Analgesia—July-August, 1953

### A Proposal for a New Method of Evaluation of the Newborn Infant.\*

Virginia Apgar, M.D., New York, N. Y.

Department of Anesthesiology, Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Anesthesia Service, The Presbyterian Hospital

**D**ISCUSCITATION OF INFANTS at birth has been the subject of many articles. Seldom have there been such imaginative ideas, such enthusiasms, and dislikes, and such unscientific observations and study about one clinical picture. There are outstanding exceptions to these statements, but the poor quality and lack of precise data of the majority of papers concerned with infant resuscitation are interesting.

Apgar's first paper, published in 1953, long before she envisaged the score becoming universal

Virginia Apgar, the letters of whose surname were used from 1961 as a so-called 'backronym' for the components of the score

A = activity

P = pulse

G = grimace

A = appearance

R = respiration



As ever, attendance at the talks was rewarded with free pizza and drinks and we look forward to the next instalment in Lent term!

# THANK YOU!

Thank you for taking the time to read our 2025 newsletter! We hope you've enjoyed hearing about our events and achievements, and we hope to welcome you back to Corpus sometime soon.

None of our events would be able to take place without the generous support of our donors. If you are able to offer a contribution, however small, to help ensure the future of our Society, we would be more than grateful. More details can be found on the [Corpus website](#) and we would be happy to acknowledge any donors in future newsletters.



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