

Fen Ditton 800

Villagers Remember Pillagers

Fen Ditton celebrated 800 years of history with a festival that recalled the Viking raids and celebrated the medieval cultural values that some people still exhibit round here today.



Ditton kids repel immigrants in Brexit reenactment



Lighting up at the natural methane pool in Kingston

Colombia and Jamaica

Henry sampled the exotic delights of Colombia, taking in the Lost City of Palomino, the Big Rock of Guatepe, and the Carnival of Barranquilla. He returned via the Caribbean, sampling the creative cuisine and the local brand of Tastee Cheese.



Ball Boys and Girls on Centre Court

A Bit of a Racquet

A spiffing time was had by a group of us at Wimbledon. If only Raonic wasn't quite so robotic... perhaps he could be reprogrammed to lose a few points, and give us all hope for our own game.



Bond tribute party for Andrew

Sixty is the New Black

More parties, of course, to celebrate big milestones. Andrew's gig was a movie night with fifty friends to see a Bond classic - yes *Agent 00-60*. Strangely unappreciated by the critics, but available for you to make up your own minds at our digital platform:

<https://www.dittoncorner.co.uk/famibelia/parties/andrew-s-60th/>

Helen's party was a more erudite affair, at Two Temple Place in London, with a tour of the exhibition on the art of the Bloomsbury Set by art historian Alice Purkiss, pictured below, pointing out Duncan Grant's masterpiece, while Helen sniggers because it's rude.



High art (with willies) for Helen



Youthful bartenders Martin, Andrew and Andy 1973



Re-enactment 1: Andrew's 60th



Re-enactment 2: Andy's 60th



Alice, Martyn and Helen 'Do the Osprey'

Nature Notes in the Lakes

Martyn lives in Cumbria - perfect for visits to the Lake District. A highlight was watching the Osprey family at Derwent Water.

Going... Going... Online

As old media gives way to the new, we too will henceforth keep you informed via our multi-media platform:

<https://www.dittoncorner.co.uk/>

So, sadly, this is the last print edition of our annual Gazette. Thank you for your support and enthusiasm over the past 26 years. We'll see you online!



The Coburn & Mulligan Gazette



Christmas 2017

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Alice is in the pink, but freezing in her PhD graduation gown at Glasgow University in November, with only her family for warmth

Finished with the Doctoring

Alice was given a clean bill of health at the start of the year and bounced back to complete her PhD thesis

2017 has seen the end of things and the start of new beginnings. Alice completed her chemotherapy and was released back into the wild, where she promptly resumed her virology thesis, running, and other energetic activities. Alice and Henry have now gone off to seek their fortunes in London: Henry with a publisher in Canary Wharf, Alice working for the pharma industry in Victoria. So Helen decided she'd start up a movie production company. And why not?



End of chemo.

Henry spent the first part of the year travelling through the wilds of Colombia and visiting Jamaica, before hanging up his backpack, giving in to economic realities, and working for The Man. The end of the year finds our Ditton Corner strangely empty. So Helen and Andrew have found time and space for themselves and more mini-expeditions, with visits to Berlin, Lake District, Eastbourne, Manchester, Durham, in between indulging in big sporting events.



End of doctoral studies.

And of course it has been a big milestone year for Helen and Andrew, partying as sexagenarians, marking their 30th anniversary, and celebrating the 50th of the Martin Centre research unit at the university where they started out. But nothing as important as having another Doctor Coburn in the family, and seeing our young adults making their ways in the world. And what a world to make their ways in. Go sort it out, Alice, Henry and youngsters everywhere!



End of quite a marathon.



Smiley people at Checkpoint Charlie

Airlift to Berlin

Andrew had never been to Berlin, so we dropped in on Alice's long-suffering friend Lauren, doing her a post-doc at the Naturkundemuseum Berlin, for a few days of Checking on Charlie, appraising the amazing Bundestag building, visiting some of Helen's completed projects, doing the tutting about The Wall thing, and reliving all the John Le Carré spycraft.



Mad despot, and his guy for bonfire night.



Alice's multiple personas in recent months

Hair Today

The Disrhythms at Oliver Ruffie's wedding
Helen on vocals, Andrew on inflatable guitar

Solid Gone Tomorrow

Carnage Among the Bumps at Ditton Corner

It was a scorcher of a day for our 19th party for the final day of the May Bumps and Carnage (which is in June, obviously). Rowing races provided heroes and villains aplenty, and the crowds were suitably partisan. Our family allegiances are divided, with each of us having been to different Cambridge colleges, so bumps between them are fiercely disputed. We hope you'll join us for an extra-special, and final, Bumps & Carnage party in 2018.

2018 will be the 20th and last year of
Bumps & Carnage Party
Saturday 16 June 2018
We hope that you will be able to join us
for an extra-special finale.



Our Bumps for Hearts fund to honour lost family and friends now stands at over £19,000 in donations to the British Heart Foundation. Let's make the final year of fundraising a really good one! Thanks in advance for your generous contributions!



Party revelers lose their hats at Bumps and Carnage 2017

What's the new flag flying at Ditton Corner?
Answer below*

Weeping for our Willow

Our magnificent Willow tree had radical surgery after it lost a branch and became unbalanced. It is already regrowing. (Like Alice's hair...)



Premier Cru Jus de Pomme de le Coin de Ditton

If you are lucky, you have escaped getting a bottle from us of apple juice crushed and bottled professionally from our own trees. Apply soon: only 200 million bottles left...

Farewells



Sue's been framed. With us at her party last year.

Auntie Sue 1947 - 2017

Auntie Sue lost her fight with Motor Neurone disease. Andrew lost the closest thing to a big sister. We will remember her laugh, holidays we had together, and her fondness for cake.

East Anglia (?) and the wibbly-wobbly Cam.
It's the new Cambridgeshire county flag, designed by Peter Ulrich and Andrew party with "friends" at the RMS client conference in New Orleans

CAMBRIDGE ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH LIMITED

Vintage CAR

Cambridge Architectural Research reached the grand old age of 30 this year. Cue a rolling programme of celebrations that kicked off in April and lasted to the end of the year. Attendees were packed to the gunnels for symposia on topics such as sustainable design; future transport; and risk in the built environment.



Please Mrs Mulligan, What's a kilowatt?

Worcestershire Source

Helen and CAR colleagues have been analyzing monitored data from a demonstration low-energy building at a school near Worcester. Hard data from an array of sensors, and soft data from the occupants: Helen ran an online survey of staff, and a hands-on workshop at the school to find out what the kids thought.

Quantifying Cyber Risk

Cyber insurance continues to be a major growth area, keeping Andrew busy with RMS releasing its second generation cyber risk model, and supporting cyber risk research at the Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies. Both teams are growing and discovering interesting insights, helped by all the North Korean and Russian hacker teams. Here's to you Lazarus and Fancy Bear!



They don't call it 'Exceedence' for nothing: Peter Ulrich and Andrew party with "friends" at the RMS client conference in New Orleans

Helen Goes Into Production

Helen has set up Inigo Productions with a producer/actor friend. First up is a short film from her own script *ExAudio*, a psychological ghost story. She has assembled the main cast and crew (professionals!) to shoot on location by the end of the year.



"Dead good" Coburn Mulligan Gazette

Web series *Straight White Man*, was a semi-finalist at the Los Angeles CineFest. Helen's episode: 'Meeting Douglas' is now online:

www.helenmulligan.com/writing/web-series/



Costume drama: Helen's Wimpole Hall play

The Play's the Other Thing

Helen's short play *Water from the Lake* was performed at Wimpole Hall as part of their annual history festival in July, with casting and direction from Cambridge group WriteOn. Friends and family ensured it was a sell-out.



Things are looking up for risk researchers

More Risk Than Ever

The Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies is about to publish its new risk index for 2018. Global risk is up by 8%. Trump that.



Mr. Poplar - Henry's pad in London's East End

Publishing and Being Damned

Everyone wants to be the next JK or EL. Henry's job at Austin Macauley Publishers is to manage the authors who know they're going to be big, if only Henry would issue one more press release. Got a novel in you? Call Henry's office in Canada Square.



London landmarks from Alice's office window

Selling Drugs

Alice has a new job working for the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, doing anything that can remotely be described as "education", from primary schools to professionals who should know better. And she administers the exam for the APBI Diploma in the promotion of prescription medicines for representatives. Highlights so far have included an interactive guide to antibiotic resistance, a careers fair for undergraduates and overseeing four exams without a crisis of any kind!



Don't Call Us... (Ever)

Alice and Henry spent months on the job-hunting circuit, enjoying the game where you go for an interview - and never hearing back. Way-to-go future employer! So a special shout-out to: High Flyers; Top Gear Magazine; MaCann Medical; Sevenist; TVF media (twice); The Wiley Agency; Numberfit; Nature Life; Any Puzzle media; Paramount; TXF; Compass News; Northway Agency; Pendragon; and last but not least, the Weatherall Institute. Your loss.