

Medical Alumni Association

Supporting our medical students & junior staff

January 2025

New Year Greetings from the Christ's College Medical Alumni Association! I wanted to get some dates in your diary for this Lent Term and share our Annual Conference date for the autumn.

Upcoming Event- 'Against the odds': Reflections on my medical career with Larry Amure

Date: 2nd February 2025

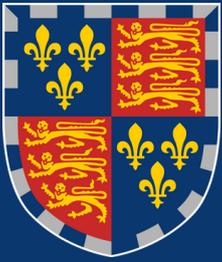
Time: 5.00pm

Place: Yusuf Hamied Seminar Rooms 1 & 2 and Online

Following his retirement as a GP in Cambridgeshire, Dr Larry B. O. Amure (m. 1976) has written the memoir *Beyond the horizon might be better* (Goldcrest Publications, 2023). This very honest account of his life describes his pathway into medical training having earned a BSc from Bristol and a PhD in Physiology in Cambridge, following which he was accepted into medical training at Christ's. After qualifying as a medic, Larry explored training in different specialties, such as gaining his MRCOphth, before deciding to become a partner in a local rural practice.

Throughout his journey, Larry has had to confront various challenges, but one pervading issue has been covert and at times overt racism towards him as a black doctor. Some of the examples he recalls will appal us, but we all know that racism remains a problem within the NHS as well as in our communities and institutions. At times the reader wonders why he did not use his combat skills learnt whilst getting his boxing Blue at Cambridge!

This meeting has been organised jointly by the College Medical Society and Medical Alumni Association. It will be Chaired by Dr Tony Jewell (CCMAA President) and Larry's talk will be responded to by recently qualified Dr Rayo Akande (m. 2018) who himself is now a Christ's alumnus and medical doctor, also of Nigerian heritage. This is a hybrid meeting open to all Christ's students and alumni – it will be held in Yusuf Hamied Seminar Rooms 1 and 2 from 5pm to 7pm.



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Upcoming Event- Medicine around the world webinars: South East Asia, Australia, New Zealand

Date: 16th February 2025

Time: 9.30am - 11am (GMT)

Place: Yusuf Hamied Seminar Room 2 and Online

On Sunday 16 February, Christ's Medical Alumni currently practicing in SE Asia, Australia, and New Zealand will discuss their experiences and offer advice to current Christ's medical students and recent graduates who may be considering working overseas.

This will be a hybrid webinar, and we warmly welcome students and alumni to attend in person in Yusuf Hamied Court Seminar Room 2, where the webinar will be displayed. We would be delighted to have UK-based alumni attend either in person or online to offer their own perspectives on how practising in the UK compares to SE Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. The programme speakers will be confirmed and circulated before the end of January.

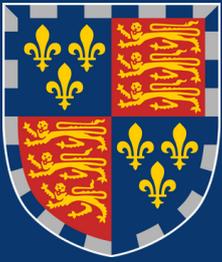
2025 CCMAA Conference

Date: Saturday 27 September

Time: 2pm-5pm

Place: Yusuf Hamied Lecture Theatre

The Steering Group have agreed to have a theme this year on Medical, Clinical and Public Health Research. We are delighted that Professor David Thomas, who has returned to Cambridge as a Professor of Renal Medicine, has agreed to be our keynote speaker. David is a clinical academic focused on understanding the biology of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in immunity. He is a graduate of the Cambridge MB/PhD programme and trained in renal medicine at Cambridge, where he was a clinical lecturer and subsequently a Wellcome-Beit Career Development Fellow. He moved to Imperial College, London as a Reader in Immunology and Inflammation in 2019, before returning to Cambridge in 2023. David will be well-known to recent medical alumni who will have benefited from his teaching and supervision.



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We are currently seeking other speakers who have experience of pursuing research at all stages of their careers. We have many eminent medical and public health researchers linked to the College as alumni and Fellows, and are confident that we can provide a fascinating afternoon conference. This conference is developed jointly with the medical students and - although out of term time - will enable pre-clinical and clinical students to attend if they can. If you have ideas on speakers/topics to have as part of the programme, please get in touch with Dr Tony Jewell at tonyjewell8@gmail.com.

Medics Dinner

We are delighted to invite all medical alumni to attend a reunion dinner in College on Saturday 27 September. The dinner will be held after the CCMAA Conference, but we also welcome bookings for the evening only. More details to follow, in the meantime please save the date.

Your ideas for future activities

Finally, a message to contact the College and myself or fellow officers of the CCMAA about ideas you have for activities, talks and conference topics. We are exploring a visit to Wadham College in Oxford which is a sister College to Christ's, and I am aware that a group of medical alumni are arranging a visit for their year group this summer to catch up with each other after some 50 years! These sorts of reunions are easy to arrange especially out of term time, so while there are other opportunities arranged by the College, such events can complement the Development Office programmes.

CCMAA Officers

Dr Tony Jewell (President)

Dr Isabel Huang-Doran (Secretary)

Dr Jonathan Gillard (Treasurer)

Dr Andrew Stewart (Director of Studies)