CHARTER

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

Whereas a Petition has been presented unto Us by Our most dearly beloved Husband and most faithful Counsellor Philip Duke of Edinburgh, the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of Our University of Oxford and Our trusty and well-beloved Alan Louis Charles Bullock, Esquire, praying that We would be graciously pleased to grant a Charter of Incorporation for the purpose of constituting the Master and Fellows of the collegiate society known as St. Catherine’s College, Oxford, a Body Corporate to be called ‘St. Catherine’s College in the University of Oxford’ with the object among others of acquiring and taking over the properties and liabilities now vested in Our University of Oxford (hereinafter referred to as ‘the University’) in trust for or on behalf of the said collegiate society, and otherwise of furthering its purposes, under such regulations and with such powers as to Us might appear meet and expedient:

And whereas We have taken the said Petition into Our Royal Consideration and are minded to accede thereto:

Now therefore know ye that We, by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of all other powers enabling Us so to do of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and declared and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant and declare as follows:

1. The Master and Fellows of St. Catherine’s College, Oxford, and all such persons as may hereafter become members of the Body Corporate hereby constituted, shall for ever hereafter be one Body Politic and Corporate by the name and style of ‘St. Catherine’s College in the University of Oxford’ (hereinafter
referred to as ‘the College’), and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with power to break, alter and make anew the said Seal from time to time at their will and pleasure, and in that name to sue and be sued in all Courts and with power to take, purchase, hold, grant, mortgage, charge, sell, exchange, demise or otherwise dispose of real and personal property.

2. The College shall have the following objects:

(a) To advance learning, education and research in the arts and the sciences:

(b) To provide for men who shall be members of the University a College wherein they may work for degrees in the University or may carry out postgraduate or other special studies, provided that no member of the College or any candidate for membership thereof shall be subject to any test of a religious, political or social character:

(c) To acquire and take over the properties and liabilities now vested in the University in trust for or on behalf of the collegiate society known as St. Catherine’s College, Oxford:

(d) To apply the moneys of the College including any moneys taken over as aforesaid to the above purposes with power to invest as prescribed in the Statutes annexed to this Our Charter:

(e) To administer any trust or scheme affecting the above-mentioned properties or any other properties for the time being held for purposes connected with the College:

(f) To do all other such things as are incidental to or conducive to the advancement of learning, education and research in the University or elsewhere.

3. The College shall have power to present candidates for matriculation by the University.

4. The first Visitor of the College shall be Our most dearly beloved Husband and most faithful Counsellor Philip Duke of Edinburgh. Subsequent to him the Visitor of the College shall be appointed in manner prescribed in the Statutes annexed to this Our Charter.
5. The first Master of the College shall be Our trusty and well-beloved Alan Louis Charles Bullock, Esquire, who shall observe and uphold this Our Charter and the Statutes of the College and promote the best interests of the College as a place of learning, education and research. He shall enter into the duties of and begin to enjoy the rights attached to his office from the date of this Our Charter.

6. The government of the College shall be vested entirely in the Governing Body as defined in the Statutes of the College which shall, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1923, have full power to make, and when made, to alter the Statutes of the College provided that no alteration of the Statutes shall have any force or effect if it be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or to the provisions of such Statutes of the University as may from time to time be made to govern the relation of the Colleges to the University.

7. The first Statutes shall be those annexed to this Our Charter and the same shall be and shall remain in force unless and until they shall be altered in manner hereinbefore prescribed.

8. The Governing Body of the College may from time to time repeal, amend or add to the provisions of this Our Charter by a Special Statute in that behalf and such repeal, amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so repealed, amended or added to. This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended or added to in manner aforesaid. A Special Statute is one passed at a Meeting of the Governing Body summoned for the purpose at not less than fourteen days' notice. One-half of the Governing Body must be present at the Meeting and two-thirds of those present must vote in favour of the Special Statute. Every proposal for the amendment of this Our Charter shall be communicated to the Hebdomadal Council of the University before it is submitted for allowance as aforesaid.

And lastly we do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs or Successors grant and declare that these Our Letters shall be in all things valid and effectual in
law according to the true intent and meaning thereof and shall be taken, construed and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the College as well in Our Courts of Record as elsewhere by all Judges, Justices, Officers, Ministers and other subjects whatsoever of Us, Our Heirs or Successors, any non-recital, mis-recital, or other omission, defect or thing to the contrary notwithstanding.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the first day of October in the twelfth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL