



Boosting your Brain: Cognitive Enhancement and Neuroethics

Professor Barbara Sahakian

Department of Psychiatry
School of Clinical Medicine
University of Cambridge

WOLFSON LECTURE THEATRE CHURCHILL COLLEGE

7.30 p.m., Monday 6th February, 2012

Cognitive enhancing drugs are needed to treat the cognitive impairments associated with debilitating neuropsychiatric disorders, such as Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Such treatments will improve the quality of life and wellbeing for patients and their families and reduce the financial burden on society.

Cognitive enhancement is of great interest to the general public and has implications for society, particularly in regard to the increasing use of cognitive enhancing drugs in school age children, and in young adults and academic staff at university. Therefore, it is important to consider the potential harms of these drugs, for example substance abuse, unknown effects on the developing brain or coercion at school or work. Nevertheless, with the rapidly developing field of pharmacogenomics we may be able to gain maximum benefits with minimum harms to the individual and society as a whole. Certainly, the benefits of safe and effective cognitive enhancing drugs to society, including the ageing population and people with neuropsychiatric disorders and brain injury, are great.

About the speaker:

Professor Sahakian FMedSci directs a laboratory of psychopharmacology at the University of Cambridge Department of Psychiatry and the Medical Research Council/Wellcome Trust Behavioural and Clinical Neuroscience Institute. She has an international reputation in the fields of cognitive psychopharmacology, neuroethics, neuropsychology, neuropsychiatry and neuroimaging. She is a Founder Member and on the Executive Board of the Neuroethics Society and co-editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Neuroethics* (2011). She has a keen interest in engagement of the public in science and frequently participates in newspaper, radio and TV interviews. She is a Fellow of Clare Hall.

Additional note

The CSAR Lectures are open to all; CSAR members are admitted free. Non-members are asked to make a nominal donation of £3.00.

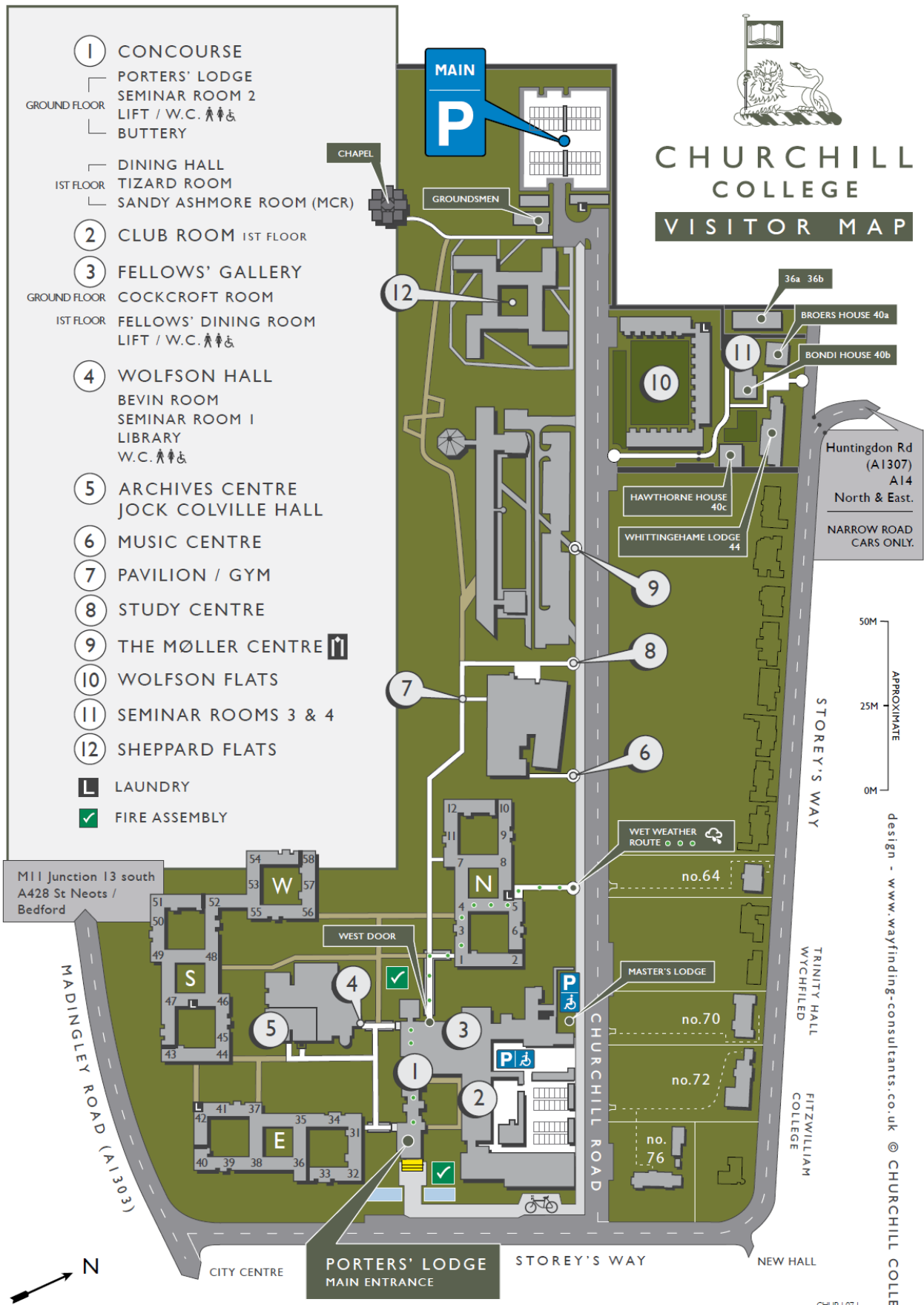
Coffee and biscuits will be available in the Wolfson Foyer from around 7pm until the start of the lecture. Location information: <http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/about/visitors/directions.php>

The talk will be held in the lecture theatre in Wolfson Hall (4):





CHURCHILL COLLEGE VISITOR MAP



CHURCHILL COLLEGE, STOREY'S WAY, CAMBRIDGE • CB3 0DS • 01223 336 000