

In memory of Andrew Cooper

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In 2020, Andrew and I teamed up as ‘peer buddies’ while training for the UK fellowship in higher education. Ours was one of the first groups to ‘go online’ and it was totally surreal. But Andrew beamed onto my screen and into my kitchen as this warm ray of joy and humanity. He loved teaching. He loved learning. He stepped straight past hierarchy. And landed with innovation, compassion and passion in/for his teaching. As we voyaged through the course, that massive container ship got stuck in the Suez canal, making world headlines. I felt this perfectly represented things: me in the training and the world in Covid. Andrew and I laughed at the hilarious memes we shared. But when the ship was dislodged, he wrote to wish me a similar moving forward. And that represents perfectly who Andrew was to me – a kind, funny, smart and delightfully real colleague who understood, and yet looked forward, and in this gentle way, encouraged and motivated me to look forward too. I am so sad about his passing and send my heartfelt condolences to everyone he loved and who loved him.	Bronwyn Harris
I briefly encountered Dr Cooper when I sat in at his Philosophy of Nature lectures. It was a module I did not have the credits to take but interested me to an extent that I would take time out of my already busy day to listen to Andrew explaining and elaborating on concepts, having discussions on them and inspiring his fellow philosophers into interrogating themselves about their relationship with nature and the environment that we all live in. Even though we never spoke directly, I am shocked and saddened by this news that the world has lost a great mind and his family has lost a son, a brother, an uncle. This was unexpected and I offer condolences to everyone who knew Dr Cooper.	Marc
Andrew was simply one of the finest young people it was my pleasure and privilege to meet in 22 years at the University of Sydney. Rarely does one meet someone - of any age - so self-possessed, so full of compassionate good humour. Those qualities, indeed, were the essence of his preternaturally stellar career as a practising philosopher and unforgettable teacher: Andrew personified the deep truth that the very best scholars are always the kindest, most clear-sighted human beings. I shall think fondly and forever of those post-lunch signature espresso blends that Andrew prepared for us at St Paul's College, informal gatherings like mini-wine tastings, made memorable by his uniquely impish sense of humour.	Nick Eckstein (Department of History, University of Sydney; retired)
Andrew was a welcoming face and fellow traveller at the University of Sydney in 2015 when I first arrived to study law. He was a great enthusiast of coffee and took great joy in roasting beans for the enjoyment of members of the Senior Common Room at St Paul's College, where we both resided. A beautiful gentle soul with a sharp intellect and a generous love for all. His kindness will echo for generations. RIP.	Matthew S
I remember Andrew as the warmest and most positive of people. He made any space he entered a better one. He will be sorely missed.	Tom McClelland
I met Andrew only a handful of times, at departmental events or in the department corridor, during my final year. The first of these times, Andrew struck up a conversation to warmly ask me about my interests in Philosophy. When I replied	Gabriel de Sousa

with a few of the things I was interested in, he began speaking with me seriously about them. I was confused that a Real Philosopher, who had never taught me and never would, would be interested in what I thought. I tried to give the kind of noncommittal answers that would minimally expose the many things I didn't know. But Andrew followed up, offering generous developments of the thoughts I had half-offered together with sympathetic pushback against a few of them as the conversation continued. I am sure that this conversation was not at all memorable to Andrew, and nor could have been my later few conversations with him in similar vein; but they were memorable to me. I felt from him a gentle insistence that those things I said I was interested in mattered, that my thoughts about them mattered, and that philosophical thinking could be done smilingly and without reserve. He was, I thought, vividly kind. To everyone who knew and loved Andrew, I am very sorry for your loss.	
I am so sad and shocked to hear of Andrew's death. I only met him once when we sat together in a restaurant after a seminar at Warwick. We discovered we had much in common and afterwards exchanged ideas in emails. He struck me as such a kind person and engaging thinker. May he rest in peace.	Richard H Bell
I studied with Andrew at the University of Sydney many years ago. I was fortunate enough to get to know him by working closely with him on a project of reading Hegel's Phenomenology. His intelligence and philosophical skills were obvious then, and it was a joy to see him move from one impressive achievement to another after that time. More importantly though, he was a truly wonderful person who always made those around him feel understood and valued. I offer my condolences to his family and friends. He is gone far too soon, but he made a remarkable impact in the time he had.	Thomas Raysmith
So very sad to hear of Andrew's passing. Praying for those he's left behind that they would all be comforted in the wake of this tragedy.	Jude
I am deeply saddened by Andrew's passing. Our exchanges on Amalia Holst and early German women philosophers, though brief, left a lasting impression on me. Andrew was unfailingly generous, thoughtful, and encouraging, and his insights were of real value to my work. I will remember his kindness and intellectual openness with gratitude. My sincere condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and students.	Federico Rampinini
I am so sorry to hear about the news. I also entered Warwick Philosophy Department in 2018. When I first met Andrew in the restroom, I considered him to be a doctor student. Later, I shared this feeling with him. Much to my surprise, he was so happy and said that there were always students who recognized him as a student, and he was happy to hear that. He was such a positive person with humour and kindness. I went to another university to do my PhD in 2020. It was a hard time, and from 2021 to 2022, I worked as a visit student back to Warwick. I asked my PhD supervisor Dr. Mark Sinclair who I could apply as my visit supervisor at Warwick Philosophy Department, and he told me that I could ask Dr.Cooper, who was his good friend and a very nice person.	Hongjie Zhu (Holiday)

That year was a wonderful time even in the covid period. I could still remember our talk in his office, and he recommended a movie to me. He was so kind that people can feel a sense of love and generosity around him. I still remembered the time that we attended a department activity in a nice summer day, and he introduced me as his student to others. I can't imagine how his family and friends can undergo such a time. But I believe we will always remember and respect him. RIP, dear Andrew. And thank you very very very much.	
I met Andrew only once, and only for a few hours. He was staying at Margie's (a friend's place on kunanyi, Hobart's picture-perfect backdrop mountain) and had asked if I could drop by and discuss the politics of Tasmania's wilderness. He was especially interested in the events surrounding the secret privatisation of Lake Malbena in the wilderness zone of one of Australia's most renowned World Heritage national parks (look it up – I'm sure Andrew would like that). I arrived at Andrew's flat late in the afternoon on 8 November, and our scheduled one-hour interview stretched to four hours. Very few people can earn trust and admiration in such a short time. But Andrew was uncommonly humble, knowledgeable, philosophical and witty. He also had an obvious zeal for wild places and for living life to the fullest. I immediately warmed to him and considered him a friend. The only reason our interview didn't extend further into the evening was that he was set for a long drive to the put-in point on Tasmania's remote and famous Franklin River (look it up). On my way home I spoke to a campaign friend, Kate. She has a huge interest in philosophy and had rafted the Franklin only a week or two earlier so I knew she would love to meet Andrew on his return. But she was worried – the Franklin was likely to flood in few days' time. So I texted Andrew, and a few days later he texted back: <i>Hi Greg, thanks for the text. Unfortunately I only read it after I was out of reception, so couldn't reply. I'd been in conversation with some experienced rafters - and kept the Irenabyss exit route as an option if water felt too high. I ended up taking the exit when I got there, which goes over Frenchman's Cap - and glad I did, not just due to the stunning walk (with snow!) but also the huge downpour yesterday/today. You're right - Ravine would have been dangerous. Better done at a dryer moment I think! Now back in civilisation.</i> Kate and I felt huge relief. And then Margie rang with the news from Federation Peak, and I cried as if I'd known Andrew for a lifetime. Right now I am reading as much of Andrew's work as I can. I'm sure it is the best	Greg French

way for me to honour such a magnificent life cut so terribly short. I suspect that another way to honour Andrew is by trying to understand why he loved the wilderness, why it was worth the risk. The big questions he asked me were all about trying to define what wilderness actually is. The answer is that there are many definitions. Many of those are contradictory, and many of us hold most of them to be true all at once. Wilderness and philosophy are a natural fit. Thanks Andrew for your humanity.	
I was so sorry to hear about Andrew's death. I didn't know him well, but he struck me as a unique philosophical individual. All my best to his family and colleagues in Warwick.	Peter
During our short stay in San Diego in 2018, Andrew and I would get together and have drinks and chat Kant. From the moment I met him, I knew he was good people. He was so incredibly down to earth. He had a sharp intellect, yet he was also warm and intellectually generous. I recall that he smiled slightly when he talked. Spending time with him was one of the highlights of my stay.	Michael Blezy
Andrew always transmitted an energy and a joy about philosophy that is not easy to find. The regrettably few times I met him in person, he was always encouraging and enthusiastic. He was part of the soul of our UK Kant Society, and we are going to miss him dearly.	Álvaro Rodríguez González
My deepest condolences. I co-taught a module on Sartre with Andrew and he taught me how to make modules so much more engaging. I will be forever grateful.	Daniel Vanello
I was taught and supervised by Andrew during my time as an undergraduate at Warwick, and I am devastated by the news of his death. Andrew demonstrated an infectious enthusiasm in the lecture theatre and the seminar room; he paired his great philosophical acumen with a passion and humility that displayed his profound respect for, and commitment to furthering, students' philosophical abilities. Ever generous with his time and attention, the breadth of Andrew's intelligence and the depth of his humanity were evident whenever I occupied (probably far too much of!) his time in his office, talking all things Kant. I last had the opportunity to see Andrew in September, at the annual conference of the UK Kant Society. His characteristic warmth, sincere interest in my research, and overwhelming supportiveness were a joy to experience once again, and served as a reminder of my great intellectual debt to him. Andrew's death represents an unimaginable loss to the Department at Warwick, to Kant scholarship, to the philosophical community more generally, and indeed to the world. I extend my condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues at this impossibly difficult time.	Noa Buckle

I had met Andrew at several conferences over the last years and was very impressed by his passion for philosophy, his honesty—also in matters of philosophy, his kindness, and breadth of knowledge. It is shocking and hard to believe that such a wonderful person as Andrew was has died, way too early.	Mathis Koschel
Dear Andrew, I have struggled to find the words, and to face what happened. You are leaving a huge hole in the lives of everyone who knew and loved you, and in the philosophy world. I should have told you explicitly - did I ever? - how much I admired you for remaining yourself in an academic environment that tends to change people, make them competitive, sometimes even lose the joy to do what they do. I admired you because you never lost that joy, your passion for your research (who will do that now?), the excitement of doing philosophy, and because you remained such a kind and generous person. I'm grateful for the time we got to spend together - at Warwick, in London, in Oslo, in Berlin. I'm grateful for your advice and support in moments in which I was facing difficult decisions. I'm grateful for the smile you always greeted me with, and for teaching me how to be a better philosopher, colleague, and human being. I hope that, wherever you are, you will be able to keep doing what you love. I miss you. My thoughts and prayers go to your family and everyone who loved you.	Daniele
He was my Sartre professor- now whenever I think of Sartre, I think of him too. He taught me so much about Being With others in the world and I sincerely thank him for that.	Narmeen Shahzad
I was taught by Andrew in his first year at Warwick. I took his 'Philosophy of Nature' module and I remember him as a kind man. I'd like to express my deepest condolences to his family.	A Khokhar
All of us at Warwick Institute of Engagement were very sad to hear of the untimely death of our colleague Andrew Cooper. Andrew was a skilled, passionate and highly dedicated public engager, a fact which we recognised in a commendation in this years Warwick Awards for Public and Community Engagement. As Associate Professor of Philosophy at Warwick, Andrew developed a dynamic public engagement portfolio that brought philosophy to a wide range of audiences. His work as an AHRC BBC New Generation Thinker included a BBC Radio 3 essay on overlooked feminist philosopher Amalia Holst, and regular, lively appearances on Free Thinking; he was generous with his time in supporting early career researchers at Warwick applying for this scheme in 2025. Andrew was also comfortable sharing his research in community venues, including two community events for the 2024 Being Human Festival in partnership with the Islington Food Partnership. These events—Wellbeing Café Festival and Ready, Steady, Eat!—used philosophical insights to support local food justice initiatives and foster community dialogue. His podcast Daybreak further extended the reach of Warwick's philosophy research.	The WIE Team

Andrew will be greatly missed by staff and students at the University of Warwick. We send our most sincere condolences to his friends and family.	
As an undergraduate at Warwick I took Modern Philosophy I, the Kant component of which was taught by Andrew. His energy and interest in the subject matter were infectious and I doubt I would have become interested in Kant, had someone else taught the module. In that regard Andrew had a crucial part to play in where I ended up now - working on a PhD on Kant. The last time I saw him was at the annual UKKS conference in Sheffield. We took the same train to Sheffield and walked to the university together from the station. It was warm conversation and Andrew was helpful as always giving me guidance on how to set myself up for success during the PhD and navigate the post-PhD job-market. We talked about his leave for the term and how he was looking forward to going back to Australia. His passing is terribly sad, and I wish that there had been an opportunity to thank him.	Juuso Rantanen
I'm so very sorry to hear this news. Andrew was a lovely, enthusiastic colleague with a brilliant mind. We were in the middle of an unfinished conversation about his commitment to public engagement. My huge condolences to Andrew's friends and family and the communities that benefited from his drive and energy.	Helen Wheatley
Andrew was appointed in 2018. When I called to offer him the Warwick job -- I was Head of Department then and the call was via Skype -- he was at a mountain lodge somewhere in Australia, just back from a hiking trip. He looked slightly dishevelled, but very happy. We talked about our mutual love for the outdoors. It was a joy talking to him then, and it has been ever since. I can't believe he's gone.	Fabienne Peter
Sadly, I only had the pleasure of meeting Andrew once or twice at Kant conferences. However, he made a vivid impression and I remember him as especially kind, charming, and intellectually sharp. I am deeply saddened to hear of his sudden loss, and can only imagine what those closer to him must feel. My heart goes out to all his loved ones, colleagues, students and community. My deepest condolences, and I wish you all strength in your grief over this wonderful human being.	Bas Tönissen
I first met Andrew at the University of Sydney, when we were both PhD students in the Philosophy Department, although I first encountered him in peculiar circumstances. I'd just begun my teaching career as a casual tutor, and never great with finances I was pleased with how flushed with cash I was. I figures the academic life really does pay! But another explanation was at hand! The finance team had contacted me to say that, for the first half of the term, I was not only being paid my wages, but that of another tutor! In a familiar refrain that I've been hearing all my life, 'Anthony' had been confused with 'Andrew' and 'Hooper' with 'Cooper'. And so I wasn't paid again for the rest of the term, that money being redirected towards the deserving party. But I was rewarded even more richly with the acquaintance of my near-namesake, whom I tracked down shortly afterwards.	Anthony Hooper

Andrew and I remained friendly acquaintances throughout our time as post-grads, only properly becoming friends later. In 2016 my wife, cat, and I moved to the other side of the world to take up a post-doc in Classics at Durham University. Breaking the stereotype of Australians, we were never great travellers, never had any ambitions of moving anywhere in the world, and were thoroughly home-bodies, stubbornly of the mind that Sydney was the only place we could ever make our home. Not thrilled with the shock of this move, I remember wandering on a cold day across Framwellgate Bridge in Durham city centre (well, I thought it was cold at the time; it was actually a very lovely Durham day!). And whom should I stumble across but Andrew, who I had no idea had recently taken up a post-doc in the Philosophy Department. Words cannot describe how pleased my wife and I were to see a familiar, and familiarly Australian face! Over the next year or so, Andrew was a fixture at our house, hosting him for dinner whenever we had a change. But it was Andrew's company, more so than the food and central eating, which leant us warmth and light in those increasingly cold and dark days of our first Winter abroad. I can say with absolutely no hyperbole, Andrew was genuinely the kindest and most generous person I have ever met, and extended that kindness to us when we needed it most. We will always treasure having known him, and always hold his memory close to our hearts.	
It's a terrible pattern that the ones who die young always seem to be the best, but this is no exception. Andrew was a brilliant mind and a beautiful human being. His commitment and energy were inspirational and I'm sure will reverberate through the many whose lives he touched long into the future.	Mark Kelly
I only met Andrew in person once (and a few more times online), but that meeting left a profound impression. He was open, welcoming and interested, and deeply committed to what he was doing. His fierce intelligence was so clear, but even more so his empathy and warmth. His humanity is what will remain with me.	Anne Gerritsen
Andrew was such a nice person, he was open-minded and generous in every way. I got to know him only briefly here in Sydney before he left for England but had kept in touch via email and conferences. When we caught up in Bonn last year he was so happy to talk about Amalia Holst, and when he learned that I was going to be teaching his translation of her work that semester, he immediately offered to zoom into my class, and he shared his proof sheets for his new book on Holst so my students could have it. Andrew's super power as a researcher was his intellectual curiosity. That same generosity of spirit that he had for people was brought also to the texts and themes and individuals he studied. He was a patient and sympathetic reader, and though his interests were wide-ranging and aimed often enough at a broad synthesis, this was never at the cost of nuance or attention to the particulars of an argument. Andrew was a rising star in the history of philosophy and his death is a terrible loss to the profession. Much more importantly, however, his death is a loss for all of us: the people who knew him and the many now who will miss the chance.	Jennifer Mensch

I want to extend my deepest sympathies to his family, and to his students, friends, and colleagues,	
I met Andrew in 2019. It was at the University of Chicago, which both of us happened to be visiting. I can still vividly remember our long conversation over lunch. He was such a warm and kind person as well as a brilliant philosopher. We had a shared interest in the history of philosophy and a shared passion about education. I followed his work closely, always with a great deal of admiration. We exchanged emails now and then. He was the first person to review my book on Kant's theory of race. He generously shared a copy of his latest book on Amalia Holst with me, which was so engaging and beautifully written that I read it in one sitting. Andrew's passing is so heartbreaking. He was still so young and had so much to give and enjoy. I will try my best, in whatever way I can, to honor the spirited person, excellent scholar, and committed educator he was.	Huaping Lu-Adler, Georgetown University, USA
God rests his soul, he was a great teacher and communicator of philosophy, embodying many virtues that I hope we could see more in the discipline: patience, geniality and his care for students. Andrew, for me, would undoubtedly be a paragon in philosophical teaching, especially in his tutelage and guidance to students. I feel lucky to be guided and lectured by him through Kant's Critique of Pure Reason.	
I only had the pleasure of having one guest lecture delivered by Andrew in my first year, on Amalia Holst. He was such an energetic, enthusiastic, and warm-spirited person, and his passion really came across - even just in that singular lecture on feminist philosophy that he delivered. Despite not even teaching the module, he made it known to everyone that if we chose to write our essay on Amalia Holst, we could come to him any time. He was so unwaveringly kind, and inspiring, and his work will continue to inspire. May he rest in peace.	Amy Grace Upton
I am shocked and deeply saddened by Andrew's passing. He was a wonderful colleague, a brilliant scholar, and a kind soul. I am very grateful to have known him, and I will miss him.	Sameer Bajaj
Andrew always had so much energy and enthusiasm. I've found it hard to take in his death because he just seemed so full of life. He was a very talented philosopher, and was always a wonderful person to talk through philosophical puzzles with. But perhaps what strikes me most about Andrew is just his incredible warmth and kindness. He was simply one of the loveliest people you could ever hope to meet. He cared about people. He had time for everyone, students and colleagues alike. He had a way of putting people at ease. It feels like the department has been gutted. He will be very deeply missed.	Nadine Elzein
Andrew was my office neighbour--he had the office next door to mine. In my memories of Andrew, most of which involved chatting in the doorway of his office when both of us found ourselves in the office outside of normal working hours--perhaps late, perhaps on an open day--two things stand out. The first is Andrew's smile. He always seemed to be smiling, and so welcoming. The other is Andrew's concern for our students--he was such a conscientious teacher, personal tutor, supervisor, and mentor. I will miss him greatly. We all will.	Patrick Tomlin

I'm deeply shocked and saddened by Andrew's passing. He was a very supportive and inspiring mentor to me when I TA-ed for his HMP module on Kant. After I returned from Poland to start my Teaching Fellow job, Andrew also kindly shared his office with me. Several months ago, when Andrew discovered that I was struggling with the visa/immigration process, he not only gave me a lot of personal advice but also generously shared with me his own application documents.

Andrew once told me that he will someday teach me how to write two books, i.e., Kant and the Transformation of Natural History and Amalia Holst, in one year. It hurts so much to realise that we will never have the chance to do that.

Hearing of his passing, it feels especially poignant to remember that Andrew also wrote The Tragedy of Philosophy. In Chapter 6, summarising Heidegger's view, Andrew wrote: "To find a home in our essence, death must be embraced as our own most possibility." (p. 179) But I find that I must disagree; I cannot embrace it; No one should embrace it. Death is the most inhuman thing that can ever happen to a human being, in particular at such a young age as Andrew.

I cannot believe Andrew is no longer with us.

All my love and heartfelt condolences to his family.

Chenwei Nie