

The Brazen Nose

Volume 44

2009-2010

The Brazen Nose

2009-2010





The object of the Society shall be the advancement of the welfare and interests of Brasenose College by:

- (i) encouraging closer relations between past and present members of the College and fostering interests which they have in common;
- (ii) keeping members of the Society informed of events in the College;
- (iii) any other methods which from time to time appear likely to achieve the Society's object.

(Revised 1999)

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BRASENOSE COLLEGE 2009–2010**VISITOR**

The Bishop of Lincoln

PRINCIPAL

Cashmore, Roger John, CMG MA DPhil (MA Cantab) FRS
Professor of Experimental Physics

FELLOWS

Bogdanor, Vernon Bernard, CBE, MA FBA
Professor of Government, Tutor in Politics

Courakis, Anthony Stylianos, MA (BA Manc)
Tutor in Economics

Haydon, Richard Geoffrey, MA (MA PhD Cantab)
Professor of Mathematics, Tutor in Mathematics

Cooper, Richard Anthony, MA DPhil
Professor of French, Tutor in Modern Languages, Vice Principal

Boyd, Charles Adam Richard, BSc MA DPhil (BM Lond)
P V Curran Tutor in Physiology

Daniel, Ronald William, MA (BSc Brun PhD Cantab) CEng, MIEE
Professor of Engineering Science, Tutor in Engineering Science

Burd, Harvey John, MA DPhil, CEng, MICE
Tutor in Engineering Science

Ingram, Martin John, MA DPhil
Tutor in Modern History

Houlsby, Guy Tinmouth, MA DSc (PhD Camb) FEng FICE
Professor of Civil Engineering

Robertson, Jeremy MA DPhil
Tutor in Organic Chemistry

Edwards, Anne, MA MRCP
Adviser to Women Students

Swadling, William John, MA (BA CNA; LLM Lond)
Tutor in Law

Morgan, Llewelyn William Goronwy, MA (PhD Cantab)

Tutor in Classics

Eltis, Sos Ann, MA, MPhil, DPhil

Tutor in English

Klenerman, Paul, BM, BCh, DPhil, MRCP

Professor of Immunology, Fellow in Clinical Medicine

Bispham, Edward Henry, MA DPhil

Tutor in Ancient History

Green, Abigail Frances Floretta, MA (PhD Cantab)

Tutor in Modern History

McKenna, Christopher Davis, MA (BA Amherst, MA

PhD Johns Hopkins)

Tutor in Management Studies

James, William Siward, MA DPhil (BSc Birm.)

Professor of Virology, Tutor in Physiological Sciences

Davies, Anne Caroline Lloyd, MA DPhil

Reader in Public Law, Tutor in Law

Groiser, David Simon, MA DPhil (BA Sussex)

Tutor in Modern Languages

Jones, Jonathan Alwyn, MA DPhil

Professor of Physics, Tutor in Physics

Bowman, Alan Keir, MA (MA PhD Toronto) FBA

Camden Professor of Ancient History

Krebs, Thomas, MA, BCL, DPhil (LLB Kent)

Tutor in Law

Herz, Laura, MA (Dipl. Bonn; PhD Cantab)

Tutor in Physics

Vogenauer, Stefan, MA MJur

Professor of Comparative Law Tutor in Law

Wiggs, Giles Frederick Salisbury, MA (BSc, PhD London)

Tutor in Geography, Dean

Thun, Eric, (BA, PhD Harvard)

Peter Moores Tutor in Chinese Business Studies

Palfrey, Simon David, MA DPhil (BA ANU)

Tutor in English, Fellow Librarian

Stockley, Andrew, MA (BA, LLB, PhD Cantab)

Senior Tutor and Tutor for Admissions

Lea, Susan Mary, MA DPhil

Reader in Structural Biology, Tutor in Biochemistry, Tutor for Graduates

Wills, Abigail Grace, (BA PhD Cantab)

Career Development Fellow in History

Gaffney, Eamonn Andrew, (BA PhD Cantab)

Tutor in Mathematical Biology

Johansen, Thomas Kjeller, (BA PhD Cantab)

Tutor in Ancient Philosophy

Esteves, Rui Pedro Ferreira da Costa, (BA MA do Porto;

PhD Berkeley)

Tutor in Economics

Wilson, Mark, (MA DPhil)

Tutor in Theoretical Chemistry

Timpson, Christopher Gordon, BA BPhil DPhil

Tutor in Philosophy

Lewis, Owen Thomas, MA (PhD Leeds)

Tutor in Zoology

SUPERNUMERARY FELLOWS

Chevaska Maria, MA status

Tutor in Fine Art

Popplewell, David Arthur, MA status, (PhD Sussex)

Tutor in Psychology

Crook, Joseph Mordaunt, CBE, MA DPhil, FBA FSA

College Historian

Parrott, Melanie Jane, LLB

Domestic Bursar

Dennis, Paul David, BA, BCh, BM, BSc

Tutor in Clinical Medicine

Richardson, Graeme, BA MPhil MTh

Chaplain

Goulder, Philip Jeremy Renshaw, MA DPhil (BA, BChir, MB Cantab)

MRCP, FMGEMS, MRCPC, FRCPCH,

Professor of Paediatrics, Fellow in Clinical Medicine

Leal, Dave, (BA PhD Leeds)

Tutor in Philosophy

Lewis, Jennifer Jane, (BA UCLA)

Director of Development and Alumni Relations

Sparks, JoAnne Lynn, BA MS Cleveland

Assistant Director of Research and Learning at the Bodleian Library

Archer, Rowena Elizabeth, MA (BA Bristol) FRHist.S

Tutor in History

NICHOLAS KURTI FELLOWS

Zisserman, Andrew, (MA PhD Cantab) FRS

Professor of Engineering Science, Senior Kurti Fellow

Somogyi, Péter, (MSc PhD DSc Hungary) FRS

Senior Kurti Fellow

Higgs, Douglas Roland, (MB BS DSc London) FRCP FRCPATH FRS

Senior Kurti Fellow

Foster, Russel Grant, (BSc PhD Bristol) FRS

Senior Kurti Fellow

Dawe, Helen Rebecca, (BSc Manc PhD London)

Junior Kurti Fellow

van der Merwe, Philip Anton, (MB ChB BSc PhD Cape Town)

Senior Kurti Fellow

Farrington, Sinead, (MPhys Edinburgh, PhD Glasgow)

Junior Kurti Fellow

Warner, Jamie, (BSc PhD Queensland)

Junior Kurti Fellow

Zarnescu, Arghir, (BSc Romania MSc PhD Chicago)

Junior Kurti Fellow

2009

Kennard, Christopher, (MB BS MRCP PhD FRCP FMedSci Lond)
FRCS

Senior Kurti Fellow

Garman, Elspeth Frances, BSc Durham DPhil

Senior Kurti Fellow

Nicolosi, Valeria, MSc Catania DPhil Dublin

Junior Kurti Fellow

WILLIAM GOLDING FELLOWS

Fries, Steven Michael, MPhil DPhil (BSc Pennsylvania)

Senior Golding Fellow

Hinarejos Parga, Alicia MJur MPhil (BA Valencia)

Junior Golding Fellow

Clark, Philip, MA DPhil (BA South Australia)

Junior Golding Fellow

Robinson, Francis Christopher Rowland, CBE, (MA Cantab)

Senior Golding Fellow

Pettigrew, Andrew Marshall, (BA Liverpool, PhD Man) FBA

Senior Golding Fellow

Stern, Eliyahu, (BA Yeshiva, MA, PhD Berkeley)

Junior Golding Fellow

Grove, Matthew James, (BA Reading MSc PhD London)

Junior Golding Fellow

EMERITUS FELLOWS

Bartrop, John Alfred, MA DPhil DSc

Judge, Harry George, MA (PhD London)

Altmann, Simon Leonardo, MA (PhD London)

Stockton, David Leonard, MA

Hockaday, Thomas Derek, MA DPhil, FRCP

Birch, Bryan John, MA (PhD Cantab) FRS

Rudden, Bernard Anthony, DCL (LLD Cantab, PhD Wales) FBA

Cook, Peter Richard, MA DPhil

Davies, John Windsor, MA BCL (LLB Birm)
 Gasser, Robert Paul Holland, MA DPhil
 Millar, Fergus Graham Bautholme, MA DPhil DLitt, FBA
 Peach, John Vincent, MA DPhil
 Proudfoot, Nicholas Jarvis, MA (PhD Camb) FRS
 Rowett, John Spencer, MA DPhil
 Richards, William Graham, CBE, MA DSc DPhil
 Richards, Bernard Arthur, BLitt MA DPhil
 Sinclair, Peter James Niven, MA DPhil

HONORARY FELLOWS

Freeman, the Rt Hon John, PC MBE MA
 Brademas, Stephen John, DPhil
 Eveleigh, the Rt Hon Sir Edward Walter, PC ERD MA
 Clower, Robert, MA DLitt
 Kornberg, Sir Hans, MA DSc (ScD Camb PhD Sheff) FRS FIBiol
 Totterman, Richard, DPhil
 Judd, Brian Raymond, MA DPhil
 Hahn, Erwin Louis, (PhD Illinois) FRS
 Hodgkin, Sir Howard, CBE DLitt (Hon);
 Acheson, Sir Donald KBE DM
 Blundell, Sir Thomas Leon, BA DPhil FRS
 O'Neill, Robert John, MA DPhil (BE Melbourne) FASSA
 Wates, Sir Christopher Stephen, BA FCA
 Smith, Anthony David, CBE, MA
 Vallance, Iain David Thomas, Lord Vallance of Tummel, Kt, MA
 (MSc London)
 Saville, Mark Oliver, the Rt Hon Lord Saville of Newdigate,
 PC BA BCL
 Janvrin, the Rt Hon Sir Robin Berry, PC KCVO CB MA

Windlesham, David James George Hennessy,
the Rt Hon Lord Windlesham, PC CVO MA DLitt FBA

Mellor Julie Therese BA

Baker, Sir Thomas Scott Gillespie, The Rt Hon Lord Justice Kt PC BA

Palin, Michael Edward, CBE BA

Akers-Jones, Sir David, KBE CMG GBM MA

Gill, Sir Robin Denys, KCVO MA

Allen, Katherine, BA

Cameron, the Rt Hon David, BA

LECTURERS NOT ON THE FOUNDATION

Harker, Anthony Henry, DPhil (MA Cantab)

Solid State Physics

Wollenberg, Susan Lesley Freda, MA DPhil

Music

Nicholson, Michael Andrew, MA DPhil

Russian

Taylor, Jeremy Simon Hudson, MA (BSc Bristol, PhD London)

Human Anatomy

Rogers, Alisdair Peter, MA DPhil

Geography

Pazos Alonso, Claudia, BA DPhil (MA London)

Portuguese

Abrams, Lesley Jane, BA MA (PhD Toronto)

Modern History

Bourne-Taylor, Carole Angelique Juliette Marguerite, MA

(PhD Grenoble)

French

Moran, Dominic Paul, MA (PhD Cantab)

Spanish

Palano, Silvia, MA (DPhil Florence)

Economics

Middleton, Anthony, MA
Physics (Mathematics)

Preston, Gail, (PhD Cornell)
Biological Sciences

Bobou, Olympia, DPhil (BA Aristotle)
Classical Art and Archaeology

Binckes, Faith, MA DPhil
English

Cesario, Maria, MA (PhD Manchester)
English

Urner, David, MA (PhD Zurich)
Particle Physics

Bell, Stephen Graham, MA DPhil
Inorganic Chemistry

Köpcke, Tinturé Maria Isabel, MA DPhil
Law

Gazzard, Hugh Jonathan, MA DPhil
English

Gowers, Bernard, MA DPhil
History

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Writing for the *Brazen Nose* each year gives me the opportunity to look back over the activities, difficulties and successes of the previous year in Brasenose. Of course, this last year, 2009–2010, saw the end of our Quincentenary activities and celebrations. As I reported last year, these went off spectacularly well and we were so pleased to see so many alumni back in College for various events throughout the year.

In November 2009, David Cameron, an Honorary Fellow of the College, came to talk to 400 students, staff and Fellows in the Sheldonian Theatre; later he had coffee in the College Hall with many of the undergraduates and graduates. His visit went off very well and he thoroughly enjoyed his time, indeed he spent a couple of hours with us which was almost twice the original programmed time. On his arrival, he was accompanied by his young son who particularly wanted to see where Daddy went to school.

Of course, the highlight of the Michaelmas term was the visit of Her Majesty The Queen to celebrate the Quincentenary. The Queen was visiting Oxford to officially open the Ashmolean which she raced through rather quickly – I like to think that was in order to gain an extra half an hour or so in Brasenose. She enjoyed meeting students and fellows before lunch in Hall and I was able to introduce her to Derek Hockaday one of our Emeritus Fellows who was present when she visited Brasenose as Princess Elizabeth. After a fine lunch in Hall, The Queen attended a short production in the Chapel which had been based on the pageant which many of you had seen in your September activities at Brasenose. However, instead of 500 Years of Brasenose in fifty minutes it was now 500 Years of Brasenose in ten minutes. It went off very well and The Queen thoroughly enjoyed the performances, particularly one by a young undergraduate who performed press-ups on the floor of the Chapel and later reflected on the fact that a certain John Gorton was a student in Brasenose, never got into any sporting teams, but of course twenty odd years later became Prime Minister of Australia.

Of course, that brings me to the events of May and the last General Election, after which I was able to announce, during a Guest Night dinner in Hall, that David Cameron was the next Prime Minister. Brasenose's second British Prime Minister and of course third Prime Minister if we count John Gorton.

Earlier in Hilary Term we had also entertained the Chancellor of the University, Lord Paten, to a graduate dinner which was thoroughly enjoyed by the graduates present and of course he was very good in the question and answer session that always follows the speeches at these dinners. This year provided a very fine end to our Quincentenary activities.

Since I came to Brasenose in 2003, there have been many, many changes in the College, both the state of undergraduates, graduates and fellows, as well as the new buildings, financial arrangements, etc., that we have in College. However, none of these changes will be quite as conspicuous as Project Q. This will be a long-lasting consequence of the Quincentenary celebrations. Many of you will know that we are doing a major rebuilding project on the College site; rebuilding particularly the area of the kitchens and the position between Old Quad, New Quad and Lincoln College. The objective is to provide modern facilities in this area for the staff, with better kitchens to prepare food for us, a new function room, /dining room in site of the current servery which is the oldest building in College; a new dining room for the fellows which will incorporate the current Shackleton Room into a room twice its size; more guest rooms for fellows' guests and alumni; and of course, very importantly, this whole project will release space in other parts of the College for other uses. There is, however, a downside to all of this. As you know, Brasenose is a very small site in the centre of Oxford, so any major activity which we undertake causes quite a lot of disruption throughout the College. In this case, on July 5th, Old Quad became the site of the temporary kitchens as well as an improvised canvas Hall for the use of the summer conference trade and New Quad has been taken over as a building site by the contractors, and this disruption is going to be with us until early 2012. However, I can already report that progress is good and to schedule. The Hall, which has been finely restored completely with a new floor and under-floor heating system was back in operation for the arrival of the 2010-2011 freshers. The canvas Hall in Old Quad has now disappeared. Nonetheless a lot of tolerance is going to be needed over the coming 18 months but I am sure Brasenose students, Fellows and alumni will be able to take all this easily in their stride. Of course, we also can think of this as our contribution to easing the recession in the building trade. It is vital for institutions like ours to make our contribution to helping this sort of progress.

I now turn to the undergraduates and graduates. It is pleasing to note that Brasenose continues to attract a very large number of applications from the school children, in fact it remains the second largest in the University. Equally, the numbers of graduates increase and the graduate community thrives with its programme of Blubs (joint seminars between the HCR and the SCR on students' and fellows' research areas) and a sequence of graduate dinners with distinguished guest speakers. Last year saw an improvement in the Norrington Table – a small one but one which I hope and the fellows hope will continue to occur and there was an outstanding performance in the BCL and MJur graduate work. I continue to believe that we will get good academic results, and we are getting them, in an environment which supports students of all sorts, both socially, culturally, and in sporting activities.

In sport we had our usual crop of Blues. On the College front the rowing was not terribly successful either for men or women, whereas there was spectacular progress by the rugby 1st XV and the cricket 1st XI did very well during the summer, winning all of its games.

Turning now to the fellows, we have had quite a change this year in the fellowship. Four of our Junior Golding fellows have left us, Phil Clarke to a lecturership at SOAS, Elia Stern to a Faculty position at Yale, Matt Groves to a lecturership in Liverpool and Alicia Hinarejos to a post in Cambridge. These are quite spectacular achievements and really demonstrate how successful our appointments to junior Golding and Kurti Fellowships have been. We welcome two new junior Golding and Kurti Fellows – Dr Juha Huiskonen working in microbiology at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics and Dr Tesse Stek, who was originally from Holland, working in the Non-Urban Roman Empire. We also appointed Adam Humphreys to a short term Fellowship in Politics to replace Professor Cindy Skach who left at the end of last year. We have also added a new Bursar, Philip Parker, to our staff and fellowship. Before coming to Brasenose he was Director of Services at the YWCA and comes with much experience of the charity sector. Of course, the person that many of you will know and remember is Vernon Bogdanor. Vernon retired at the end of the 2009-2010 year and has gone to be a Senior Research Fellow at Kings College in London where he now lives. Vernon was appointed to Brasenose in 1966 and has had a most distinguished career through his time of being fellow, with many

appearances, as you will have noted, on the television and radio on all matters constitutional. The College will notice his loss in many ways.

The Development Office continues to function and we have been very fortunate in some substantial gifts this year, particularly to support fellowships and overseas graduate students. Unfortunately, the Director of Development, Jennifer Lewis, left us at the end of the 2009-2010 academic year. The College is pausing to make sure it knows how best to proceed and we have an interim Development Director, Liz Miller, to help over the coming period.

The 2009-2010 year was also a sad year for our staff and the College. I have often remarked that the College is a big family made up of students, fellows and staff, and all families are rocked by deaths in the family. This year has been particularly bad. We lost Doreen, who was one of our longstanding scouts and who looked after me when I first arrived in the Lodgings; then Carmen Perez who helped run the Hall staff and who had been with us for about five years, in which time she had made a great impact amongst students, fellows and alumni alike. This was followed in the early summer by the death of Mike Taylor our Head Porter who had a heart attack while on duty in the Lodge. Mike had been with us for many years and was a great Oxford character. Knowledgeable on horse racing, cricket, flowers, students and fellows. He will be a great loss to recover from, but I am sure the new Head Porter and staff will be able to cope. And then finally in the late summer, Helen Brough who had been the College Nurse for over ten years and served many students, unfortunately died. I cannot remember a time during my stay in Brasenose where we have been hit by the loss of so many important people, people well loved by the whole community.

As I put this together in September, on the horizon looms the Brown Report on Funding of Higher Education. Two Brasenose Alumni, Peter Sands and Diana Coyle are on his committee so we can hope for a sound report. The future of higher education, the universities, Oxford and Brasenose College will be affected by whatever is said. There is a need for a real increase in financial support in order to keep your College, your University, on the same footing as the great Universities of North America, and of course this increase will be coming at a difficult economic time. Many of you have heard me say how important this report will be and it will affect us for years to come. You have also heard me say that whatever happens in that report, we will need everyone's

help to preserve the type of education that you all enjoyed, and I believe have benefited from. That support will also be vital in us being able to keep the Mission to Oxford as broad as it possibly can be and certainly make a big attempt to increase the number of students from lower socio-economic backgrounds. As I have said, this is going to be a real challenge for the College over the next few years.

After the last seven years, which have been a mix of hard work and great pleasure, which I believe makes any important activity worthwhile, the College has granted me Research Leave for a year – just like my predecessors Barry Nicholas and David Windlesham. This comes at a fortunate time as it will allow me to do justice to my role as non-Executive Chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, particularly promoting nuclear fusion as a possibility for power sources for future generations as well as allowing me to complete a report on proliferation issues associated with nuclear renaissance worldwide. During my time on Research Leave, Professor Alan Bowman, the current Camden Professor of Ancient History, will take up the role as Acting Principal and I am sure that he will be as pleased as we are to see alumni back in College and attending our events.

Annie and I send our best wishes to you all for a good 2010-2011.

CLASS LISTS

FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL 2010

ANCIENT & MODERN HISTORY

1	Ridgway	Laurence Sidney Nigel
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BIOCHEMISTRY (MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR)

2:1	Drake	John Michael
2:1	Jageneau	Marie-Pierre
2:1	New	Maria

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

1	Mallalieu	Ilaira
2:1	Attwood	Emma Victoria
2:1	Paris	James George Gillan
2:2	Harrison	Cyrus

CHEMISTRY

1	Guillermo	Abigail Ruth
2:1	Marshall	Joseph Peter
2:1	McRae	Jessica Dianne
2:1	Thinnes	Cyrille Christophe

ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT

1	Medawar	Daniel
**1	Simpson-Bell	Chima Kareem
2:1	Barrett	Jack
2:1	Farrington	Philippa Jane
2:1	Kang	Amreet Narinder Singh
2:1	Ke	Joanne

ENGINEERING

1	Meryon	David Edward
2:2	Ho	Lok Man Simon
3	Du	Siyuan Nathaniel
3	Fortune	William
3	Qian	Chenhui

** Top First in Honour School of Economics and Management

ENGLISH & MODERN LANGUAGES

1	Gruffydd-Jones	Camilla Clare
2:1	Rowsell	Martha Clare

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

1	Dodd	Madeleine
1	Hedges	Alexandra
1	Jeffries	Glen Derek
2:1	Barnwell	Constance Amelia
2:1	Chalk	Edward Michael Forbes
2:1	D'Arby	Seraphina

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

2:1	Hogarth	Juliet Isobel Helen
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GEOGRAPHY

1	James	Rachel Anne
2:1	Gwyther	Boyd
2:1	Smith	Matthew David
2:1	Stoneham	Eleanor Kate

HISTORY

1	Ejuoneatse	Oritsema Lucia
1	Page	Caitlin
1	Rees	Thomas
2:1	Barclay	Theodore
2:1	Briggs	Richard
2:1	Fofanova	Maria
2:1	Hadwick	Alexander
2:1	Khadem	Victor
2:1	Saller	Alexa
2:1	Stephens	Victoria Louise
2:1	Waszak	Matthew Dominic

HISTORY & MODERN LANGUAGES

2:1	Buchdahl	Eleanor Cecilia
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JURISPRUDENCE

2:1	Brooke	Jessica
2:1	Christie	Olivia Catherine

2:1	Friedmann	Olga
2:1	Harman	Matthew David
2:1	Hill	Catherine
2:1	Wilson	Larissa

LAW WITH LAW STUDIES IN EUROPE

2:1	Jensen	Theresa
2:1	MacGregor	Mardi Myles McCalman

LITERAE HUMANIORES

1	Hughes	Robert Patrick
1	Morgan	Eloise Jane
1	Sillett	Andrew James
1	Westwell	Thomas
2:1	Bradwell	Harry Charles Alexander
2:1	Edwards	Jonathan James Nicholas

MATHEMATICS (BA)

2:2	Field-Johnson	Oliver
2:2	Hawkins	Jonathan Miles

MATHEMATICS (M.MATH)

1	De Vere	Maxwell
1	Wilson	Lorna Rachel
3	Zhao	Di

MEDICAL SCIENCES

1	Watson	Edmund Charles Robert
2:1	Allen	Alexander Nicholas
2:1	Dickmann	Julian Robert Mario
2:1	Dyar	Rebecca
2:1	Ross	Jack
2:1	Singhal	Arvind
2:1	Taylor	Lucy

MODERN LANGUAGES

1	Cooper	Sarah-Louise
2:1	Goff	Peter
2:1	Tomaszczyk	Oliver Thomas

MUSIC

2:1 Clemson Charlotte Louise

PHILOSOPHY POLITICS & ECONOMICS

1 Heng Janice Shu Ming
 2:1 Blessley Alexander
 2:1 Craig Rebecca
 2:1 Evans Christopher James
 2:1 Hood Georgina
 2:1 Nordby Christian
 2:1 Pivnichny Douglas James
 2:1 Shepherd Elizabeth Rose
 2:1 Sims Sam
 2:1 Turnbull Duncan James
 2:1 Ward Andrew Patrick

PHILOSOPHY AND MODERN LANGUAGES

2:1 De Haes Andre Charles
 2:1 Neve Matthew Fulford

PHYSICS (BA)

2:1 Grimes Jack Edwin Thomas
 2:1 Moore Charles Humphrey Bateman

PHYSICS (MPHYS)

1 Foreman Jennifer Lynn
 2:1 Ball Steven Neil
 2:1 Tun Jason Robert
 2:1 Wilding Helena Clare

PSYCHOLOGY PHILOSOPHY & PHYSIOLOGY

2:1 Bond Jacqueline
 2:1 Purser Emily Kathleen

HIGHER DEGREES**Doctorates**

Caillan Davenport	Ancient History	2006
Erik Devetak	Particle Physics	2005
Branwen Hide	Clinical Medicine	2002
Aarti Jagannath	Human Anatomy and Genetics	2005
Amy Leung	Clinical Medicine	2005
Maria-Elena Nilsback	Engineering Science	2004
Srinika Ranasinghe	Clinical Medicine	2004
Emily Troscianko	Medieval and Modern Languages	2005
Jan Tukker	Pharmacology	2005
Grace Vesom	Engineering Science	2005
Ross Williams	Atomic and Laser Physics	2002

MATRICULATIONS 2009

Karim David Agha *St Pauls School*; **Georgina Melody Aisbitt** *Brighton College*; **Georgina Altman** *Notting Hill & Ealing High School*; **Emily Arch** *Notting Hill & Ealing High School*; **Kiran Roy Audit** *Imperial College of Scitech & Med*; **Kenneth Philip Awoonor-Renner** *Kings College London*; **Yusuf Aytar** *University of Central Florida*; **Olajumoke Bamigboye** *Brunel University*; **Amy Frances Barker** *Greenhead College*; **Darshan Baskaran** *RU Moscow MV Lomonosov State University Russia*; **Sebastian Bauer** *Bucerius Law School*; **Samuel Bellas** *Virginia University*; **Saranna Louise Blair** *Dorchester Thomas Hardy School*; **Stephanie Brand** *St Hilda's College University of Oxford*; **Julia Brase** *Anglia Ruskin University*; **John Henry Bremridge** *Winchester College*; **David Samuel Cornelius Brennan** *Charterhouse*; **William Brennan** *Bishop Wordsworths School*; **Frederick Briance** *Eton College*; **Eilidh Rebecca Brown** *Tapton School*; **Matthew Brown** *University of New South Wales*; **Andrew Bruno** *University of Durham*; **John Patrick Edward Butterworth** *Clifton College*; **Nicola Byrom** *University of Nottingham*; **John Carlson** *Georgetown University*; **Andrea Chan** *University of California Berkeley*; **Benjamin Edward Charlston** *St Georges School*; **Kevin Chung-On Cheng** *Winchester College*; **Wing Tsan Wilson Cheng** *UCL UK*; **Catherine Mary Coffey** *Grosvenor Grammar School*; **Gabriel Lewis Henry Cohen** *Stonyhurst College*; **Peter Corcoran** *Defence Academy Shrivenham*; **Christopher Cowan** *Bristol University*; **Amelia Dorothy Cox** *Kendrick School*; **Jennifer Coyne** *Tunbridge Wells Girls Gram School*; **Jennifer Craig** *University of Bristol*; **Edward Craven** *Trinity Hall Cambridge*; **Anna Cuccio** *University of Virginia*; **Karl Curtis** *The Ohio State University*; **Mark Curtis** *Exeter College University of Oxford*; **Harry Peter Davis** *Lady Manners School*; **Nathan Frederick Denton** *Wirral Grammar School*; **Thomas Denwood** *University of Birmingham*; **Nicola Jessica Dobbs** *Badminton School*; **Rhianna Jayne Dowdeswell** *Dr Challoners High School*; **Paul Downey** *University of Leicester*; **Annika Dubrall** *New York University*; **Iain James Duncan** *Nower Hill High School*; **Mallory Dwinal** *Northwestern University*; **Jordyan Edmiston** *Georgetown University*; **Alan Forrester** *University of Glasgow*; **Eric France** *NZ University of Otago*; **Alexander Richard Franklin** *University College School*; **James William Freeland** *King Edward VI School*; **Anna French** *University of Bristol*;

Sofia Gaborin *Universita Degu Studi di Siena*; **Florence Lyman Gamberton** *Harrogate Ladies College*; **Alysia Garmulewicz** *Carleton University*; **James William Garnier** *Eton College*; **Daniel Joseph Richard William Garrett** *University College School*; **Charles Francis Gilbert** *St Pauls School*; **Francesca Heloise Golding** *North London Collegiate School*; **Edmund Joachim Goodwin** *Chipping Norton School*; **Francesca Josephine Goodwin** *Rugby School*; **Hamish Gordon** *St John's College Cambridge*; **Benjamin Scott Goulding** *Whitgift School*; **Alice Graham** *St Marys School*; **Alyssa Grossbard** *Ridgefield High School*; **Emma Alice Gunnell** *Gordano School*; **Simon Hackett** *St Peter's College University of Oxford*; **John Halstead** *University of York*; **David Jonathan Hansford** *Caerleon Comprehensive School*; **Elliott Peter Hawkins** *Canford School*; **Mark John Hill** *UK London School of Economics and Political Science*; **William Rawstron Hillson** *University of Birmingham*; **Jacob Hinze** *Bucerius Law School*; **Yue Ho Justin Ho** *The Chinese University of Hong Kong*; **Claire Barbara Hogben** *Upton Hall School FCJ*; **Katie Louise Antonia Hore** *University of Birmingham*; **Vladislav Hovanec** *University of Birmingham*; **Roberta Grace Iley** *Oxford High School*; **Edward Jiun Saville Imrie** *Westminster School*; **Jonathan Isaac** *Hampton School*; **Mark Jackson** *University of Durham*; **Benedikt Jasper** *Bucerius Law School*; **Alexander Ferdose Jozavi** *Salesian College*; **Linda Katona** *Sepientia Hungarian University of Transylvania*; **Maiju Kettunen** *University of Helsinki*; **Thomas Kidney** *King Edward VI College*; **Nikolas Kirby** *University of Sydney*; **Zdenka Kissova** *London School of Economics*; **Amy Koenig** *Yale University*; **Robin Kottenhoff** *University of Bonn*; **Carlene Simone Kuschke** *Guildford High School*; **Danai Kyriakopoulou** *Athens GCE Tutorial College*; **Katherine Anne Lee** *Skipton Girls High School*; **Swii Yii Lim** *St Catherine's College Cambridge*; **Xunming Lim** *London School of Economics*; **Tyler London** *Tufts University*; **Christopher Lustri** *Queensland University of Technology*; **Katherine Jane Mackay** *Kimbolton School*; **Charles Robert Worth Marr** *Kings College*; **Fredrick Martin** *Saffron Walden County High School*; **Stephanie Mathisen** *University of Glasgow*; **Timothy George Matthewson** *Royal Grammar School*; **Rachel McLeman** *St Andrews University*; **Laura Helen Dodson McNeill** *Woodford County High School*; **Michael James McWilliam** *Shrewsbury Sixth Form College*; **Benjamin Aram Meghreblian** *Roehampton University*; **Stuart Meiklejohn** *University of Glasgow*;

Vanessa Katie Elizabeth Mitchell *Cranleigh School*; **Julia Moore** *Peter Symonds College*; **Kirsten Morris** *St Peter's College University of Oxford*; **Duncan Guy William Morrison** *Charterhouse*; **Ben Morton-Harmer** *University of Bristol*; **Melody Munro** *Colchester Sixth Form College*; **Rolan Nehme** *Ecole Polytechnique*; **Edward Newman** *University of Wisconsin*; **Annie Ng** *John Hopkins University*; **Jing Ouyang** *Blue Coat School*; **Julia Pakpoor** *Woodhouse Sixth Form College*; **Khadijeh Pakzad** *University College London*; **Eleanor Parker** *Lincoln College University of Oxford*; **Julia Alexandra Patrick** *Clare College Cambridge*; **Danielle Faye Pearson** *Park House School*; **Andrew William Phillips** *Abingdon School*; **Katherine Avril Pillman** *University of Cambridge*; **Emmeline Georgina Plews** *St Catherines School*; **Elizabeth Anne Le Feure Pocock** *Jersey College for Girls*; **Anna Rachel Popplestone** *University of Glasgow*; **Clara Witia Jeanne Pouletty** *Cite Scolaire International De Ly*; **Elizabeth Buffy Rabbitts** *Kings of Wessex Upper School*; **Scott James Ralston** *Dundee High School*; **Hrushikesh Ramachandrappa** *Christ Church University of Oxford*; **Giles Elliott William Richardson** *University of Southampton*; **Nicholas James Roberts** *Monmouth School*; **James Robert Thomas Rogers** *Trinity Hall University of Cambridge*; **Thomas Rogers** *Truro College*; **Sarah Elizabeth Rollauer** *LMH University of Oxford*; **Virginia Roncaglione** *School of Oriental and African Studies*; **Emma Kate Ross** *Robert Gordons College*; **Nicholas Oliver Roxburgh** *Kings School*; **Crispin Timothy James Royle-Davies** *Eton College*; **Emily Sadgrove** *City of London School for Girls*; **Simran Sanghera** *Dr Challoners High School*; **Ronan Sato** *Canadian Academy High School*; **Alexander Lawrence Sayers** *Royal Grammar School*; **Emily Scaysbrook** *Oxford High School*; **Nicola Jayne Scull** *Cotswold School*; **Joshua Seigal** *University College of London*; **Sameer Uday Sheorey** *Kings College School Wimbledon*; **Ery Shin** *Princeton University*; **Chung Tin Shum** *University of Oxford*; **Hannah Sikstrom** *University of Toronto*; **Trisha Sircar** *Wycombe High School*; **Mariya Sklyar** *Baruch College City University of New York*; **Helen Slaney** *Monash University*; **Russell James Whale Smith** *Queen Marys College*; **Naren Srinivasan** *University of Cape Town*; **Benedict John Christian Stafford** *Trinity School*; **Lauren Maria Stephens** *South Wilts Grammar School*; **Christopher Paul Styles** *Bradford Grammar School*; **Rohan Khay Sundramoorthi** *City of London School*; **Richard Kingsley Sykes** *Edinburgh Academy*; **Rebecca Kate Tatlow** *Edgbaston High School*; **Mary**

Louise Tetlow *Burnham Grammar School*; **Jessica Thien** *Parmiters School*; **Eleri Thomas** *Hills Road Sixth Form College*; **Tessia Tober** *Johann Wolfgang Goethe University*; **Bosko Tripkovic** *University of Novi Sad*; **Milena Tripkovic** *Novi Sad University Yugoslavia*; **Leen Gustaf Chantal Van Broeck** *Merton College Oxford University*; **Christoph Voelk** *University of Vienna*; **Dan Wainwright** *Latymer School*; **Sebastien Walker** *The Queen's College University of Oxford*; **Jocelyn Waller** *Cranleigh School*; **Savannah Claire Whaley** *Sandown High School*; **Henry Edward Bevis White** *Hinchingsbrooke School*; **Claire Wickes** *Chethams School of Music*; **Chloe Helena Beresford Wicks** *Greenfields School*; **Rachel Emma Wilkinson** *Hills Road Sixth Form College*; **Callum Wood** *Wycliffe College*; **Beverley Yu** *Gonville & Caius College University of Cambridge*; **Benjamin James Zelenka Martin** *St Pauls School*; **Li Jun Zhao** *University of Nottingham Ningbo Campus*; **Marc Zuber** *Universitat Bonn*.

COLLEGE PRIZES

First In Finals: **Laurence Ridgway** (Ancient & Modern History); **Ilaira Mallalieu** (Biological Sciences); **Abigail Guillermo** (Chemistry); **Daniel Medawar** (Economics and Management); **Chima Simpson-Bell** (Economics and Management); **David Meryon** (Engineering Science); **Madeleine Dodd** (English); **Alexandra Hedges** (English); **Glen Jeffries** (English); **Camilla Gryffydd-Jones** (English and Modern Languages (French)); **Rachel James** (Geography); **Oritsema Ejuoneatse** (History); **Caitlin Page** (History); **Thomas Rees** (History); **Robert Hughes** (Literae Humaniores Course 1); **Eloise Morgan** (Literae Humaniores Course 1); **Thomas Westwell** (Literae Humaniores Course 1); **Andrew Sillett** (Literae Humaniores Course 2); **Maxwell De Vere** (Mathematics); **Lorna Wilson** (Mathematics); **Edmund Watson** (Medical Sciences); **Sara-Louise Cooper** (Modern Languages (French and Beginners Russian)); **Jennifer Foreman** (Physics); **Janice Heng** (PPE); **Louisa Jones** (Music).

First in Part I of Finals: **Amnon Ferber** (Computer Science with **Distinction** in Practicals); **Robyn Mackay** (Mathematics).

First in Mods: **Robertta Iley** (Biological Sciences); **Rachel Wilkinson** (Classical Archaeology and Ancient History); **Robert Williams** (Classics)

and English); **Benjamin Charlton** (Mathematics); **Claire Wickes** (Music).

Distinction in Mods/Prelims: **Jessica Thien** (Chemistry); **Crispin Royle-Davies** (Economics and Management); **Callum Wood** (Economics and Management); **Daniel Garrett** (Engineering); **Saranna Blair** (English); **Duncan Morrison** (English); **Danielle Pearson** (English); **Chloe Wicks** (English); **Elizabeth Rabbitts** (Geography); **Gabriel Cohen** (History); **James Garnier** (Modern Languages, French and German); double distinction: **Thomas Wales** (Modern Languages, (French) Mrs Claude Beddington Prize and Claude Massart Prize); **Alice Graham** (French); **Emily Scaysbrook** (linguistics); **Nathan Denton** (Physiological Sciences); **Alex Sayers** (Physics and Philosophy); **Christopher Styles** (PPE); **Dan Wainwright** (PPE); **Ben Zelenka Martin** (PPE); **Emily Arch** (1st BM Part I); **Caitlin Page** (History); **Thomas Rees** (History); **Robert Hughes** (Literae Humaniores Course 1); Eloise Morgan (Literae Humaniores Course 1); **Thomas Westwell** (Literae Humaniores Course 1); **Andrew Sillett** (Literae Humaniores Course 2); **Maxwell De Vere** (Mathematics); **Lorna Wilson** (Mathematics); **Edmund Watson** (Medical Sciences); **Sara-Louise Cooper** (Modern Languages, French and Beginners Russian); **Jennifer Foreman** (Physics); **Janice Heng** (PPE).

Distinction in the M.St/MPhil/MSc: **Alice Gledhill** (MSt Classical Archaeology); **Swii Yii Lim** (MSt Classical Archaeology); **Andrew Bruno** (MSt Greek &/or Latin Languages and Literature); **Amy Koenig** (MSt Greek &/or Latin Languages and Literature); **Leen Van Broeck** (MPhil Greek &/or Roman History); **Michael Bonner** MPhil Late Antique & Byzantine Studies; **Rolan Nehme** (MSc Mathematical and Computational Finance); **John Carlson** (MPhil World Archaeology First Year)

Distinction in the Diploma in Legal Studies: Marc Zuber

First in Part I of Finals: **Amnon Ferber** (Computer Science with Distinction in Practicals); **Robyn Mackay** (Mathematics)

First in Moderations:

Roberta Iley Biological Sciences

Rachel Wilkinson Classical Archaeology and Ancient History

Robert Williams Classics and English

Benjamin Charlton Mathematics

Claire Wickes Music

Distinction in Mods/Prelims:

Jessica Thien Chemistry

Crispin Royle-Davies Economics and Management

Callum Wood Economics and Management

Daniel Garrett Engineering

Saranna Blair English

Duncan Morrison English

Danielle Pearson English

Chloe Wicks English

Elizabeth Rabbitts Geography

Gabriel Cohen History

James Garnier Modern Languages (French and German); **Double Distinction**

Thomas Wales Modern Languages (French); **Double Distinction: Mrs Claude Beddington Prize and Claude Massart Prize**; Alice Graham **Distinction in French**

Emily Scaysbrook **Distinction in Linguistics**

Nathan Denton Physiological Sciences

Alex Sayers Physics and Philosophy

Christopher Styles PPE

Dan Wainwright PPE

Ben Zelenka Martin PPE

Emily Arch 1st BM Part I

Reynolds Progress Prize

Emeline Plews

Philippa Harris

Proxime accessit:

Rebecca Tatlow

Progress Prizes:

Louisa Jones (Music)

COLLEGE PRIZES

Distinctions in the BCL:

- Eddie Craven
- Yue Ho (Justin);Ho
- Xunming Lim
- Michael Ryan

Distinction in the MJur:

- Maiju Kettunen

University Prizes

Undergraduates

- Sarah Latty (MChem): Turbutt Prize in Practical Organic Chemistry

Graduates

- Xunming Lim (BCL): Allen and Ovary Prize in Corporate Finance Law
- Xunming Lim (BCL): also awarded the KPMG Prize in Corporate and Business Taxation
- Edward Craven (BCL): Ralph Chiles CBE Award in Human Rights

Reports



JCR

Paul Gladwell

I'm sure that every year at Brasenose is wonderful in its own way, but this academic year has been packed with personal highlights and special moments. The visits of the Queen and the Prime Minister at the end of the Quincentenary year were amazing. Equally enjoyable was the final "Lessons in Government" Seminar with Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman on the US Supreme Court. As well as being available for several seminars over the week, Justice O'Connor made her visit truly memorable by volunteering to be in the now traditional Brasenose pantomime. Her cameo, written up and rehearsed over a period of just 24 hours, was a highlight for all, and a great credit to one of our thespians, Richard O'Brien.

Drama has certainly been one of Brasenose's strongest areas this year, with the College frequently providing writers, directors, actors and even a venue for a vast range of plays. This strength was showcased again in the Brasenose Arts Festival which this year set about an even more ambitious programme of events and succeeded masterfully, thanks to the care and attention of Louisa Jones and her dedicated team.

However, other areas of college have also been flourishing. The rugby team completed their march from the bottom to top division, achieving their fourth consecutive promotion, and the College continued to excel in other sports as I'm sure will be detailed later. One that does deserve mention for its valued contribution to the trophy cabinet is Ultimate Frisbee where Brasenose's success this season is made even sweeter by coming at the expense of Lincoln, from whom Brasenose claimed two trophies this year.

With the new calendar year came a new JCR committee, as always full of ideas and keen to carry on the great work of the previous committee. Familiar features of life in BNC such as the Summer Garden Party, the ever-popular punt scheme and the JCR-HCR football match all took place thanks to the hard work of committee members. In addition, this year we've had various new events: an Auction of Promises that raised £800 for Cancer Research UK and a careers evening with alumni. My highlight from the auction of promises came several weeks later when the right to be serenaded by Jing Ouyang was redeemed mid-formal hall. Surely it is only within such a wonderful community as Brasenose that

an entire hall will smile and laugh while an unsuspected lady is told in the words of JLS that “My heart Won’t Beat Again”. Thankfully, no-one on High Table suffered a simultaneous cardiac arrest.

The newly refurbished JCR has been widely appreciated by the College, and plans to continue improving it are moving forward, such as a new pool table and more student art work. In the mean time, the room played host to various sports fixtures as well as a wonderful evening on election night. With over 150 people in attendance from all major parties there was no end of intrigue, and with David Cameron making great grounds, and Vernon Bogdanor on the BBC it was a great night to be from BNC.

Easter brought with it clues as to the next stages of Project Q, a period of life at Brasenose that will surely improve the College for all in the future. Still, looking back over this year it is clear that the College as a whole is well-prepared to persevere through this period, and the JCR is privileged and thankful to have such support from the HCR and college officers such as our interim bursar Brian Carroll and Mel Parrott, along with their teams.

Along with them, my thanks goes to the hard working JCR committee (both past and present) as well as to those members of the college community who happily pitch in and get involved when the need comes. Special thanks goes to our IT Rep, Liam Cattell who built a brand new JCR website as well as leading work on updating the room guide, but in truth there have been too many individuals who have taken on jobs and pursued them quietly and efficiently. I think that all these efforts have made this a truly wonderful year, thank you.

HCR

Chris Tudor, President

HCR Committee 2010-2011

President	Chris Tudor
Treasurer	Mel McDowell
Secretary	Guido Klingbeil
Social Secretaries	Elena Netsi, Mark Curtis, Sarah Rollauer
Steward	Benoît Guérin
Domestic Rep	Mark Sheehan
Welfare Rep	Ery Shin
Arts Rep	Hannah Sikstrom

At least one former president (Mr Andrew Lomas, *Brazen Nose* 42) has previously noted how difficult it is to describe all the many activities that the members of the Hulme Common Room involve themselves during the year. Three years later, the task has not become any easier. With graduate numbers now approaching two-hundred, and with the Hulme Common Room hosting a community as vibrant as ever, I can only follow Virgil in declaring *non, mihi si linguae centum sint oraque centum, ferrea uox, omnis scelerum comprehendere formae!* (*Aen.* vi.625-6). Before I deliver my report on the academic year just passed, therefore, I must ask the reader to indulge any omissions and inaccuracies.

The year began with the *bacchanalia* of Freshers' Week, organised and conducted by President Cooper-Knock and the HCR Committee. As always, the week consisted of seven days of orgiastic frenzy, including a quiz night, several pub crawls, and a delightful Graduate Freshers Dinner. From the Committee, special commendation must be given first to Mr Stuart Sims, the mercurial Social Secretary whose humour and effervescence (combined with his seemingly endless supply of lager) gave the Hulme Common Room an unmistakably welcoming atmosphere, but also to HCR Steward Benoît Guérin, who was on hand throughout the week to clear up the (often unidentifiable) mess that Mr Sims left behind. Credit is also due to the anonymous graduate who first discovered Maxwell's, a club which is without a doubt the most dismal in the whole of Oxfordshire, but one which would capture the hearts of many a Brasenose graduate in the coming 12 months. Freshers' Week ended with an excellent fancy-dress bop, in which all (surviving)

members of the Hulme Common Room were invited to dress up as something beginning with a B, N, or C. While I remember several bears (Mr Stuart Meiklejohn) and burglars (Ms Alice Gledhill), as well as one Brezhnev (!), the night undoubtedly belonged to future Social Secretary Mark Curtis, who had spent several days (and several thousand pounds) transforming himself into a wonderfully-illuminated bionic man.

With Freshers' Week over, the graduates community began to settle down to academic work. For those who were reaching the ends of their graduate life, this spelt endless nights at the library (Atif Ansar, etc.) or in the laboratory (Samir Bhatt, etc.) in order to finish various reports and write-ups., and congratulations are due to all those who have completed the truly monumental task of writing up and submitting their doctoral theses.

As always, however, the Hulme Common Room was there to lend a helping hand. HCR Welfare Rep Jen Pestana organised a weekly jogging session (attended by the more health-conscious of the graduates) as well as a terrific Welfare Tea (attended by the rest of us), at which mountains of cakes and biscuits were washed down with lashings of ginger beer. As well as this, graduates could also look forward to Steward's Tea, a fortnightly event where Mr Benoît Guérin treated his fellow graduates to some authentic French cuisine: cheese, artisanal jam, cakes and biscuits, all accompanied by a cool glass of beetroot juice.

With all these calories, it was important to keep fit, and here too was the graduate community well looked after. Aside from the regular jogging sessions, Mark Curtis also ran a weekly circuits session, where graduates of a more masochistic temperament could satiate their desire for extreme pain. As well as this, Trinity term saw the introduction of biweekly yoga sessions, courtesy of the extraordinary Ery Shin.

For social events of a slightly less salubrious quality, the graduate community is indebted to its excellent Social Secretaries (Stuart Sims, Elena Netsi, Mark Curtis, Sarah Rollauer). When Ms Elena Netsi was elected Social Secretary in early Michaelmas, few were aware just how much time and energy she would devote to the role, yet no sooner had she taken up office than she was organising revelry of the highest degree. A murder mystery party in Lecture Room VII was a typically bibulous affair (which might explain how Ms Hannah Sikstrom was able to outwit the entire company and get away with her most ignominious crime), while a superb wine-tasting, led by the evergreen Richard Cooper, was

as entertaining as it was educational, allowing even the mathematicians to appreciate the subtler side of a 2001 Châteauneuf-du-Pape.

There was more of the same in Trinity, when Ms Netsi teamed up with the newly-elected Mark Curtis and Sarah Rollauer. As before, bops and exchange dinners came thick and fast, but their proudest moment was no doubt a weekend exchange with Brasenose's sister college in Cambridge, Gonville and Caius. Although the present author was too busy in the library to attend the trip himself, I am reliably informed that it was a rip-roaring success, aided in no small part by remarkably hot weather for the duration. Apart from the Social Secretaries, thanks are also due to the Melanie McDowell, whose acquaintance with an alarming number of Tabs was essential to the logistics of the operation, and to Benoît Guérin for his help preparing a sumptuous champagne breakfast on the Saturday morning.

Alongside these murder mystery parties and weekend jaunts to Cambridge were some of the more traditional features on the graduate term-card. As always, three excellent Graduate Dinners featured three superb after-dinner speakers. In Michaelmas, Russell Foster, Professor of Circadian Neuroscience at the Department of Ophthalmology, spoke about sleep (a topic of great interest to the graduate student!). In Hilary, the Hulme Common Room was delighted to welcome The Right Honourable Lord Patten of Barnes, who espoused his views on the future of the Oxford education system, as well as a certain Lord Mandelson ("I don't think there's anyone quite like Peter Mandelson"). Finally, in Trinity, graduates were treated to a visit by ex-Brasenose lawyer Lord Saville, who delivered a fascinating talk on the use of technology in the Bloody Sunday inquiry, as well as answering questions on the new Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (of which he is a member).

Another tradition which continues unabated is that of Blurbs. There were no fewer than 11 talks this year on topics ranging from the educative role of theatre (Hannah Grainger-Clemson) to the use of super-cool atoms in physics (Ross Williams), from the concept of national character in Lucan (Andrew Bruno) to mathematical models for the movement of sperm cells (Mark Curtis, unsurprisingly), and so on. Thanks are due not only to all those graduates who agreed to do talks this year, but also do those members of the SCR who delivered complementary talks, without whom Blurbs could not take place. The HCR is also deeply indebted to Richard Cooper, for the tremendous amount of effort he put in to

arranging speakers from the SCR (especially at the eleventh hour) as well as to Sarah-Jane Cooper-Knock for her role in sorting out graduate speakers for the bulk of the talks. Finally, the HCR welcomed the support of the Principal and his wife, whose perfect record of attendance was marred only by a rather pesky Icelandic volcano.

Finally, I am glad to report that the HCR Garden Party went off without a hitch again this year. With a drinks menu masterminded by Bar Manager Julie Sturgess, and with mountains of scones and sandwiches made up by the kitchens, graduates were well-stocked for what turned out to be a rather pleasant afternoon on New Quad. Best-dressed among the men was no doubt the excellent Mr Fleming Puckett, with James Rogers and Michael Bonner unfortunate to miss out on top spot. The female company, as one would expect of a Brasenose Garden Party, were the epitome of style and class. For all of these events, thanks are due to Lorraine Watkins, Head Chef, and her kitchen staff, for producing some truly fabulous dinners, and to Alan Bennett and those in the Buttery for their excellent service throughout the year.

We end with some briefer notices on sport, music, and drama. Firstly, readers will be glad to know that HCR Football is in fine health, captained (more often in spirit than in body, it has to be said) by Stuart Sims. The team won every game in Michaelmas, only to get complacent and lose every single game in Hilary. Still, the football played was at times attractive, and many individuals excelled. John Halstead was nothing short of inspirational in the midfield; Robin Kottenhoff offered blistering pace, not to mention smouldering good looks, on the right wing; James Rogers was powerful at the back; Stuart Sims was a pacey, and generally useful, right-back; while Peter Bransden returned from international retirement to add some badly-needed flair to the left wing. The team scored far too many goals to keep track of any top scorer, but special mention must be made of Ben Morton, who slammed in three in one game against a particularly feeble College side. Credit is due also to Peter Corcoran, who deputised in goal for one or two games, and to friends of Stuart Sims, who turned up week-in, week-out to bolster the natural talent of the HCR.

College rugby and rowing (among other sports) will no doubt be covered elsewhere in the present volume, but thanks must be given to all graduates who gave up their time to contribute to such an important aspect of college life.

Last year was also a very good one for graduate music. The choir had its usual complement of graduate participants – including the fine baritone voices of Dr Christoph Voelk and Mr Michael Ryan, among many others. The HCR also enjoyed numerous concerts, both those of more traditional variety, as well as a number of open-mic nights. At the former, Tessia Tober and Leon Pappas genuinely wowed audiences with renditions of Schubert and Chopin (among other pieces), while at the latter, the HCR was treated to drama (Helen Slaney), poetry from McGonagall (‘widely regarded as the worst or some of the worst in British history’, read by Michael Bonner), belly-dancing (Zdenka Kissova), and, of course, a bit of music (Mark Curtis and Anna Popplestone, Andrew Bruno, among many others). All this would not be possible without one man. Graduate Music Director Nick Prozzillo is singularly the most unsung hero of the Brasenose graduate community, being involved with almost every aspect of college music. For this year, and for his many years of diligent service, the HCR owes Mr Prozzillo a tremendous debt of gratitude, and is most appreciative for all his work for the Hulme Common Room.

Finally, this report would not be complete without some mention of Sarah-Jane Cooper-Knock’s wonderful production of *Oh! What a Lovely War* in Arts Week. This, too, will no doubt be mentioned in more detail in the Arts Week report, but congratulations are due to the many graduates who took part in that production – both on stage, and behind the scenes. Thanks are of course also due to the HCR Arts Reps: Michael Bonner and Hannah Sikstrom.

A few final words of thanks before I finish. Firstly, to Prof Susan Lea, who stepped down as Tutor for Graduates this summer. Over the past four years, Susan has been a diligent servant to the graduate community at Brasenose, and I am sure I am not alone in thanking her for all the hard work she has done for the HCR. Susan is succeeded by Dr Thomas Krebs, who, to judge from the flurry of e-mails sent on his accession, shall be no less assiduous than his predecessor.

I should also like to thank the Senior Tutor, Andrew Stockley, and the Principal, Roger Cashmore, for the hours they have put in listening to various ideas and requests from the HCR, as well as the College Secretary, Wendy Williams, who has, as ever, been a tremendous help to the graduate community throughout the year.

Finally, I must thank the HCR Committee and members of previous committees, without whose help the common room would cease to

function. In particular, Mark Sheehan must be thanked for his excellent work on the college website (which did in fact cease to function).

I do hope this report has conveyed to some extent a year in the life of the Hulme Common Room. At the very least, I hope to have shown just how many members are involved in all aspects of college life, whether that be sport, music, or drama, or something else entirely. That all said, I am positive that the 80 or so graduates who begin their courses in October will enjoy their experience immensely.

Staff Report

Mel Parrott, Domestic Bursar

The Principal, in his notes at the beginning of this volume, has mentioned the staff deaths that had such an effect on college in the past year. Other members of staff have been hit hard by their losses: and it's a testament to the strength of our various departments that people have felt so supported in difficult times, and have carried on so successfully with their work.

The lodge was hit especially hard when Mike Taylor died in June 2010. Mike was a highly regarded and long-serving Head Porter, who had put his personal stamp on the Lodge. Head Porter since 1995, Mike's commitment and knowledge will be sorely missed. He very much viewed the role as a way of life rather than just a job. The loss of Mike was compounded by the retirement of Geoff Wyatt after 14 years – no less a figurehead that Mike, Geoff was known to generations of students – a carefully cultivated grumpy exterior disguising dry wit and deep kindness. He was a very reliable, respected and loyal servant to the College, and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Two casual porters, Billy Beechers and Carol Rix, were appointed during 2010 on a permanent basis, and two new casual porters were recruited, Kyle Rix and Mark Eastley. Our new Head Porter, Andy Talbot, started in September, following his retirement after thirty years' service from Thames Valley Police. As a young Constable on the beat in Oxford in the mid 1980s, Andy occasionally visited the Lodge for a cup of tea – never imagining that he would one day be the Head Porter!

Beyond the lodge, a visitor will have noticed the changes to college caused by building work for Project Q. We have a temporary kitchen, and for a time, a temporary hall, with many areas of college out of commission. But what sometimes looked like a mess caused very little disruption to the college's schedule, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Kitchen and Buttery teams. A great deal of co-operation and forbearance was called for, in difficult circumstances. The entire domestic team should be congratulated, and has the thanks of a grateful college.

In the Buttery, there were several changes, some enforced. The death of Carmen Perez, at a shockingly early age from cancer, was a terrible blow to all who knew her. But she would have wanted cheerful and efficient service to continue – and it did. Alice McCormack was

promoted to Assistant Steward. We were sad to say goodbye to Matthew Edney after several years of service here: Hector Delcuratolo became our second Assistant Steward. Also joining the team were Tom McEaney, Stephanie Roberts and Iveta Rosslerova. Alan Bennett's thirty years in college was marked by a dinner for him and his family, and a present giving him yet more time on the golf course. I'm sure many old members have good memories of Alan's time here as Butler and Steward: we hope he'll continue to enjoy working in Brasenose.

In the kitchens, it was a quieter year regarding staff changes – which was fortunate, given the physical changes to the kitchen environment, as we moved to a large green cube on Old Quad Lawn. Hugh Austin and Daniel Davies left us: in their place we welcome Liam Madden and Joey O'Neill to the team. Moon McCleod left the New Buttery, to be replaced by Britt Hodge.

Congratulations must go to Peter Greaney, Adam Owen and Richard Simmons who have all attained Level Three in their respective NVQ Training – showing that it's not just the undergraduates who succeed in education at Brasenose.

The fact that only 2 lunches were affected during the transition period shows how well everyone did, and Steve Peedell, our Executive Chef, would like to offer personal thanks to Lorraine Watkins and her brigade for helping to make this yet another very successful year for Brasenose kitchens.

Among the housekeeping staff it was again a very sad year following the death of Doreen Wright, who had been with us for 14 years. Many of our scouts were with her in hospital in the last days of her illness, and the Chapel was packed for her funeral. She was a friend and mentor to many of our scouts, and will be very sadly missed. We also said goodbye to Rita Martin, who'd been here since 1979, and Ellen Smith, a servant of Brasenose for ten years. We wish them both well in their retirement. Happily, the Brasenose family was augmented by two happy events: Patrycja Sliwinska and Laura Bruzalte both became mothers.

There was also a patter of tiny feet in the Development Office, as David Humble-White announced the birth of his daughter Rosa Elizabeth, a sister to Oliver, in August.

In the workshop, this year has also been very busy. There has been the additional accommodation at Hollybush Row to occupy maintenance – but after some teething troubles, the new Graduate Block is in good

order. The workshop bears the brunt of the modernisation programme throughout our accommodation, especially in updating baths to showers, but generally trying to create a better environment for all. The student kitchen programme was completed this summer.

Sadly, we said farewell in the workshop to John Saunders who retired owing to ill health: we wish him luck in his retirement. Andrew Wiffen started the year by coming out of retirement and playing football again for the first time in two years. He went on to represent the College in their weekend matches. Now he has been bitten by the fitness bug he is in serious training to run next year's marathon. Andy hopes to raise money for the Sobell House Hospice – a cause very dear to his heart. We're all behind him. Those keen cyclists, Cliff Jones & William Burnell continue to do their bit for the environment, cycling in from Whitney & Killington daily in all weathers. And Terry Jeakings, William Burnell & Joe Johnston have all requalified as college first aiders. There is more to the men of the workshop than you might think!

In the The Finance Bursary, we enjoyed continuity in staffing during the year, which, after much disruption in the prior year, was a great relief. Ben Heath, who had been covering the purchase ledger during Kerry Forbe's maternity leave, left to take up a post around the corner at Jesus College. Kerry returned to the fold, and the department has now settled back into a stable team. Gillian Beattie, the Human Resources Manager, moved away to enjoy the verdant hills of Wales, and the College welcomed Nina Thompson who has, like Gillian, offered welcomed professional support to Lincoln and Brasenose in tandem.

One especially sad farewell said this year was to Diana Perry, who left to return to her roots in South Africa, following the death of her beloved husband Fred in December 09. Diana did not intend to become our Conference and Events Manager, but took on the work with zest and care, and was greatly appreciated by so many conference groups and visitors to the college. We wish her well.

In the College Office, the cavalry came over the hill, and after years of doing so well in her job but more or less alone, our College Secretary Wendy Williams had some reinforcements. Emma Harrison joined as the Senior Tutor's Secretary, and Matthew Reading as Admissions Officer; both have already made a great contribution easing the college's growing administrative burden. We also welcomed Dr Joe Organ as our Schools and Publications Officer – many of you will have seen his excellent work

on the college website; and he has made a good contribution to our work in broadening access.

So thanks to all who have worked so hard in Brasenose – now, on to the next year!

PRESENTATIONS TO THE LIBRARY

1st November 2009 – 31st October 2010

Presentations by Members of College – own composition

Ron Akehurst

(Translator)

The Costume D'Agen: A Thirteenth Century Compilation in Old Occitan transcribed from The Livre Juratoire, 2010.

Vernon Bogdanor

(Editor and author of chapters 2 & 10)

From New Jerusalem to New Labour: British Prime Ministers from Attlee to Blair, 2010.

Carole Bourne-Taylor

(Editor and chapter author)

Phenomenology, Modernism and Beyond, 2010.

Saville Bradbury (presented by his son David Bradbury)

DPhil Thesis: A Morphological and Historical Study of Connective Tissue in Leeches, June 1958.

A collection of articles.

Jack Carlson

A Humorous Guide to Heraldry, 2005.

John Gray

Lawyers' Tales, 2010.

Abigail Green

Moses Montefiore: Jewish Liberator, Imperial Hero, 2010

Philip W Grubb

Patents for Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, and Biotechnology: Fundamentals of Global Law, Practice and Strategy, 2010.

John Hughes

Henry Power of Halifax: A Seventeenth Century Physician and Scientist, 2010.

Brian Jenner

I am Just Phoning to Chase My Invoice: the things you really need to know when you set up in business, 2009.

Keith Kirby

Wytham Woods: Oxford's Ecological Laboratory, 2010.

Dudley Moore

Dawn of Discovery: The Early British Travellers to Crete: Richard Pocock, Robert Pashley and Thomas Spratt, and their Contribution to the Island's Bronze Age Archaeological Heritage, 2010.

Llewelyn Morgan

(author of chapter 6)

Classical Constructions: Papers in Memory of Don Fowler Classicist and Epicurean, 2007.

Winston Nagan

Misappropriation of Shuar Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Trade Secrets: A Case Study of Biopiracy in the Amazon. Journal of Law and Policy v.15 June no. 1 June 2010 (Offprint)

National Security Policy and Ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Houston Journal of International Security v.32 no. 1 Fall 2009 (Offprint)

Richard Perkoff

(editor)

Security for Costs and Other Court Ordered Security, 2010.

Vijaya Rajarathnam

Talks on the Rhythms and Structures of The Universe, Mankind and The Ice Ages.

Bernard Richards

The March of The Scarlet Lancers: The Story of John Ruskin's Association with Winnington School, Cheshire (Being Chapter 1 of Praeterita Continued Compiled from John Ruskin's materials by Bernard Richards), 2010.

Peter Roach

English and Phonetics and Phonology: A Practical Course, 4th ed., 2009.

Trevor Tarring

Corner: A Century of Metal Market Manipulation, 1997.

Metal Bulletin's Guide to the London Metal Exchange formerly Wolff's Guide, 2009.

Presentations by Members of College – works not of their own composition

Steven Ball

Fundamentals of Statistical and Thermal Physics by Frederick Reif, c. 1965.

Quantum Physics by Leonard I Schiff, 1968.

David Bradbury

Ecclesiastical History v. I bks I-III by Bede, translated by J.E. King, 1930.

DPhil Thesis: The Effect of Radioactive Isotopes on Bone and Marrow by Sheila Bradbury, 1961

Paul Dennis

Renal Pathophysiology: The Essentials, 3rd ed. by Helmut G. Rennke & Bradley M Denker, 2010.

Philippa Farrington

World Trade and Payments: An Introduction, 10th ed. by Richard E Caves, Jeffrey A Frankel & Ronald W Jones, 2007.

Introductory Statistics for Business and Economics, 4th ed. by Thomas H Wonnacott & Ronald J Wonnacott, 1990.

Labor Economics By Pierre Cahuc & André Zylberberg, 2004.

Modern Labor Economics: Theory and Public Policy, 10th ed by Ronald G Ehrenberg & Robert S Smith, 2009.

International Economics: Theory and Policy, 8th ed. by Paul Krugman & Maurice Obstfeld, 2009.

Macroeconomics by N Gregory Mankiw & Mark P Taylor, 2008.

Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach, 6th ed. by Hal R Varian, 2003.

Macroeconomics: Imperfections, Institutions & Policies by Wendy Carlin & David Soskice, 2006.

Microeconomics, 3rd ed. by Hugh Gravelle & Ray Rees, 2004.

Advanced Macroeconomics, 3rd ed. by David Romer, 2006.

Industrial Relations: Theory & Practice, 2nd ed., edited by Paul Edwards, 2003.

Fair Trade: Market-Driven Ethical Consumption by Alex Nicholls & Charlotte Opal, 2005.

Anthony Mills

College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge by Raymond Lister, 1966.

Bernard Richards

Writing Lives: Biography and Textuality, Identity and Representation in Early

Modern England edited by Kevin Sharpe & Steven N Zwicker, 2008.

Giorgione E I Giorgionesschi: Catalogo Della Mostra A Cura Di Pietro Zampetti, 1955.

Bill Swadling

Property and the Law of Finders by Robin Hickey, 2010.

Presentations by others

Peter Holland

The Collected Poems of Charles Morgan, 2008.

Simon Hornblower

Greek Ethnic Terminology by Peter M Fraser, 2009.

Michael Southwick

England's First Football Captain: A Biography of Cuthbert Ottaway, 1850-1878.

THE CHAPEL

The Chapel stands in the middle of Brasenose like an uncomfortable truth. Fellows and students bustle past it day after day; some do not enter it for the whole of their Brasenose Career. Some only see it through drinks receptions in the Ante Chapel. Some avoid the chapel because they believe (without any evidence) that it is a place of proselytizing Christianity, a trap for the unsuspecting, maintained by an obsolete cult. A much smaller group avoid it precisely because they don't feel it's proselytizing enough. And some avoid it because it simply does feature on the inner SatNav of their life: what is its point? What could possibly be its use?

Well, on the one hand its use is to be the place where the intentions of the Founders continue to be honoured. The college was founded in the Christian faith as a place of prayer and praise, and the chapel continues to respect that – albeit in a situation William Smyth and Richard Sutton could never have envisaged. The recycling bins next to the chapel continue to provide us with a noisy reminder of the secular majority. Well-meaning people, admiring the chapel's aesthetic, try to hire it as a venue for parties. Concerts occasionally push out services. But we hold our ground – and we try to do that by perseverance, cheerfulness and humility. To this end, without too much cultic pomp and ceremony, Morning and Evening Prayer continues to be said in chapel. Compline continues to be sung on Wednesday evening. Christians of all stripes – including, thank God, the Christian Union – gather to celebrate the Eucharist on Tuesday nights. And on Sundays, a really rather surprising number of people make a cheerful noise to the Lord in College Prayers. My thanks must go to Peter Reader-Harris, Bible Clerk, for his cheerfulness in helping me, his willingness to engage in theological debate at all times of the day and night, and his tolerance in dealing with the Chaplain's eccentricities. The choir has been ably run by Nicholas Prozzillo, our Graduate Director of Music and Tom Lowe our Organ Scholar – it is truly an inspiring thing to hear the massed ranks in full voice. I should also thank the many student preachers at the Eucharist over the year, some of whose sermons were better than those of the “professionals” on Sundays. Finally, thanks to Dr Dave Leal, who performs almost an assistant chaplain's role, administering the chalice on Tuesdays and attending most Sundays.

A sad adjunct to this work of praise and prayer this year were the funerals of staff members who died in post – detailed elsewhere in this volume – and memorials to those who died. Again, thanks to all who helped with those services. They provided evidence of a further use the chapel might have – as a place where the corporate body of the college can come together and express itself. I believe the chapel was useful on those occasions where we expressed our grief, thankfulness and sadness after the death of our friends. But we also saw, on the occasion of the Junior Dean’s marriage in June, that it was a good place for expressing our collective joy.

So there are two uses of the chapel – it fulfils the statutory intentions of the Founders, and it is a place where the body of the college can express a collective emotion. But, whilst these uses are undoubtedly valid, the chapel remains, proudly, and inviolably, by the standards of the world in which it finds itself, useless. The chapel is a place of no use, in comparison with the labs and lecture-halls and libraries; it is proudly there because it is beautiful, it does you good, and what it says to you is true, though that truth requires quite a different sort of proof. How good that Brasenose still tolerates this space in the midst of its more utilitarian business! Long may that toleration continue.

Visiting Preachers:

The Rev’d Dr Gillian Straine (Assistant Curate, Kidlington)

The Rev’d Charles Pickstone (Vicar of St. Laurence, Catford – BNC 1973)

Andrew Brown (Guardian Journalist and Author, Winner of the Orwell Prize 2009)

The Rev’d Greville Thomas (Vicar of the College Living of Northolt)

The Rev’d Richard Watson (Rector of East Barnet)

The Rev’d Dr Craig D’Alton (Associate Priest, University Church)

Rabbi Dr Eliyahu Stern (Junior Golding Fellow, BNC)

The Rt. Rev’d Graham James (Bishop of Norwich – The Runcie Sermon)

The Rev’d Sam Norton (Vicar of Mersea, Essex, author of the “Elizaphanian” Blog)

Dr Ivor Jones (Former Organ Scholar and Principal of Wesley House, Cambridge)

The Rev’d Patrick Taylor (Team Vicar of St. Alphege, Solihull)

The Rev'd Dr Angus Ritchie (Fellows' Chaplain, Magdalen College Oxford)

Marriages 09-10

Simon Probert and Fiona Wilson – April 10th 2010

Ross Williams and Alison Gunter – April 10th 2010

Klem Ryan and Amanda Weyler – June 26th 2010

Mark Hall and Laura Hamer – July 3rd 2010

MUSIC

*Andrew Sillett (2006),
Secretary of the Brasenose Music Society*

A combination of the enthusiasm of the Music Society committee, the frightening efficiency of Nicholas Prozzillo and one or two lists produced by its secretary contributed to making the end of Brasenose's Quincentenary year and its sequel undoubtedly one of the most musically active and productive of recent years. Among the year's triumphs might be numbered: three successful Platnauer concerts; a performance for the Queen; an addition to the Brasenose roster of organists; school visits, including a successful day dedicated to the organ and science; the inauguration of new concert series; and the many and varied contributions made to the College's musical life by the roster of old and new performers drawn from all three common rooms.

The Platnauer concert series, honouring the memory of former Principal Maurice Platnauer, remains the high point on the college's musical calendar. This year saw performances from: the Thorne Trio, an established and accomplished wind group; the Marian Ensemble, an Oxford based group of early music singers; and the award winning young violinist Jiafeng Chen, accompanied by Anna Peletsis. This year also saw the beginning of another concert series in memory of a former principal. In light of Charles Butler Heberden's well-known love of music, it was decided that it would be appropriate to dedicate the concerts to his memory, the first of which was given in April by Magdalen Cellist Christopher Terepin.

As well as honouring former principals, the year also saw the continuation of the Principal's Concert series, the three concerts

performed under his aegis of contained music performed by Brasenose undergraduates, post-graduates and Fellows. Although these concerts were enthusiastically attended by graduates and undergraduates, the series sadly remains poorly attended among the Fellows; one hopes that this should prove to be an easily remediable problem of logistics rather than a more deep-seated objection to the principle. Through the generosity of Professor Nicholas Proudfoot, President of the Music Society, we welcomed 'Cellist Victor Yoran, accompanied by Louisa Harmer, to Brasenose for what was a remarkable evening of music-making. Taught by Rostropovitch and lauded by Yehudi Menuhin, Victor Yoran is a Russian cellist who came to the west in 1969. We are also grateful to Ben Morton-Harmer (BNC 2009) for making the initial arrangements.

A review of the year's concerts would be staggeringly incomplete without reference to the numerous one-off concerts organised by performers on their own initiative through the Music Society; we are all grateful for the high quality contributions made throughout the year by Charlotte Clemson, Benjamin Charlston, Jocelyn Waller, Mike Heighway, John Mann and Tim Coombes. It would also be an act of gross negligence not to offer thanks to Wendy Williams and Emma Harrison for their help in advertising these concerts.

2009/10 similarly proved to be another fine year for the Brasenose College Choir. The places of those choristers to whom we said a sad farewell last Trinity were more than filled by a new set of eager, enthusiastic and, vitally, tuneful singers both from the College and the wider university community. The year's choral awards were given to Joseph Parker, Andrew Sillett, Michael Bonner, Hannah Grainger Clemson, Juliet Hogarth, Oritsema Ejuoneatse, Helena Wilding, Michael Ryan, Edmund Watson, Matthew Harman and Paul Gladwell. An innovation in the award-holder's schedule came in the St. David's Day Concert performed by nine of the singers organised by vocal coach Nicola Harrison. The choir's year was completed with a well attended and thoroughly enjoyed tour to Rome led by the Graduate Director of Music Nicholas Prozzillo and Pembroke's Senior Organ Scholar Laurence Lyndon-Jones. Additional thanks are directed to the Principal, the Chaplain, Tom Lowe, Tim Ramsey, Peter Reader-Harris, Jonathan Edwards and Philippa Harris for helping the choir to function as tunefully and socially as possible.

ORGAN

Wondrous Machine: recent organ events

Nicholas Stefano Prozzillo (2001), Graduate Director of Music

YES, THE ORGAN IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN BRITAIN. THE INSTALLING OF ORGANS DESIGNED FOR THEIR MUSIC IS PROCEEDING APACE, OUR IMMENSELY GIFTED STUDENTS ARE WORKING WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM; OUR COMPOSERS ARE WRITING FOR IT. BUT AS REGARDS ITS WIDER ACCEPTANCE IT IS LIVING IN RENTED ACCOMMODATION, AND ON A SHILLING-IN-THE-SLOT BASIS. MORE AND BETTER EDUCATION, AND AN UNCEASING VIGILANCE AS TO STANDARDS WILL EARN IT ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE, A PLACE OF HONOUR.

(Dame Gillian Weir)

At a time when postmodern theories lambast the ‘old’ musicology for its failures and methodological shortcomings, the organ, aided by J S Bach’s legacy and the Church, provides a strong buttress girding the Western musical canon, a structure which, it seems, is under constant siege. The organ loft is hardly the place for the most radical or progressive of interpreters – or those who like to ‘dish’ the Church. Whatever the exact merits of these musicological, cultural, and religious opinions, they may nevertheless encourage us to think a little more critically about the organ, and thereby inject it with more energy so that it continues to play an important role, one which is not limited to playing a transcription of Mendelssohn’s March from a Midsummer Night’s Dream.

The presence of the Wingfield Organ, a reconstruction of a Tudor organ, in Brasenose prompted me to organise events which address the organ as an object of (serious) musicological research;

- abandon the (lonely) organ loft and promote the instrument to a wider audience; and
- use the organ as a tool to study other disciplines.

In short, to continue the strong educational work which has been carried out over the last few years. The hope is that more will become practitioners, whether practical or theoretical (or both) or simply have a greater understanding of ‘The King of Instruments’ (Mozart). If the organist is able to achieve more than merely provide ‘rich and rolling sounds to which the faithful, their devotions done, may step briskly again into the world, if disinclined for a chat in the nave,’ (Harvey Grace) – then this will be a bonus! In Hilary 2010 we had the pleasure of hosting

a Wingfield Weekend, consisting of research papers and a concert, and an outreach event called ‘Wondrous Machine’.

Wingfield weekend

Thanks to the enthusiasm of Prof John Harper, Dominic Gwynn and Dr Allan Chapman, we were able to organise a fascinating day which aimed to place the Wingfield Organ in its proper historical context and examine its technical details. (There was no deliberate intention to conform to the ideals of ‘New Musicology’ with its supposed thick layers of cultural context but that is another story...).

Dr Chapman delivered his usual high quality and virtuosic talk, entitled ‘The Organ as Intellectual and Spiritual Technology’, which stressed how the organ was closely related to other technological developments: locks, lifting machines, clocks, window technology (all to be found in churches).

A highly informative talk on liturgical practices in pre-Reformation England by Prof Harper gave a valuable insight into how organs were used liturgically. It was fascinating to hear his arguments that all liturgies are an experiment and that a deeper understanding of ‘liturgy’ can enhance current worship. His current project, involving the construction of a third Tudor organ by Dominic Gwynn and Martin Goetze, in the Welsh museum of St Fagans is particularly interesting. A Magnificat sung by Andrew Hayman (Magdalen) in *alternatim* with the Wingfield, ably played by Thomas Allery (Worcester College), delighted many and provided a fitting conclusion to Prof Harper’s talk.

The day concluded with Dominic Gwynn discussion of technical aspects of the organ that offered us an insight into the practices of early organ builders.

Under the masterful hands of Dr Magnus Williamson, The Wingfield Organ was heard the following day in a Brasenose Platnauer concert. The splendid concert, sung by the Marian Consort and directed by Rory McCleery, featured a number of organ items played as soli and in *alternatim* with the choir.

Outreach work

The Wingfield Organ inspired me to invite a number of local schools to participate in an outreach event. As part of a collaboration between Brasenose College, the Royal College of Organists and the Betts

Foundation (Music Faculty), the event aimed to introduce school children to the pipe organ in a fresh and imaginative way. As a cross-curricula project, it encouraged pupils to explore the relationship between music, science and technology.

Dr Joe Organ, Schools and Publications Officer at Brasenose writes:

“We hope to make contact not just with sixth form pupils close to making their UCAS decisions, but also to pre-16 pupils to get them interested in subjects and courses, to get them to think about higher education and to make the correct course selection decisions at GCSE age. At an even younger age we would like to reach out to children in an inspirational sense and get them excited and interested in science, and the arts. One excellent way of doing this has been the Wondrous Machine event, where primary school children were introduced not just to the music of the pipe organ, but the mechanics and science behind it.”

With the assistance of Simon Williams, Jeremy Sampson, Professors Jonathan Jones (physics) and Robert Adams (engineering), and Dr Allan Chapman (history), around 60 school children between the ages of eight and twelve came to Brasenose College to experience a day of music, science and technology. Simon Williams, ably assisted by Richard Moore (St John's), introduced the basics of an organ's sound production. The children then had an opportunity to play and pump the Wingfield Organ. The occasional bump in the organ's air supply, caused by the children experimenting with the bellows, served to remind everyone how the organ (in general) is a wind instrument.

A session with Jeremy Sampson and the WOOFYT (Wooden One-octave Organ for Young Technologists), gave the pupils some 'hands-on' team-work, instructing them further into how an organ works. The nineteen participants required to work the device also stressed the importance of teamwork. Lively and energetic talks by Professor Jonathan Jones on the physics of sound, Professor Robert Adams on the musical saw, and Dr Allan Chapman on the organ and technology, completed the picture perfectly. Classes in Pembroke College and St John's College with Simon Williams and myself allowed the children to play a modern instrument.

I am most grateful to everyone who made the day a success, ensuring that the organ is 'alive and well' and able to inspire future generations.

Regardless of whether our devotion to the organ is thought to be a minority interest (with accusations of elitism), all the small things do matter in life and there was plenty of enthusiasm to encourage further events. May the (social) organ loft continue to be the place where young and promising musicians find their feet!

ARTS WEEK 2010

Louisa Jones (2008), Arts Festival Director

The oars in the bar were draped with streamers; jugs of iced Pimms stood ready on the counter whilst over the tables we'd fanned out innumerable programmes and sign-up sheets. After a term of planning, this was it: the launch party for the Brasenose Arts Festival 2010. Flitting nervously between clusters of bop-goers, I tried to gauge the level of enthusiasm from the range of costumes on display. Around me various curious characters were chatting, drink in hand: Warhol's Campbell's soup can teetering somewhat precariously in his cardboard cylinder, Woody from *Toy Story* protesting at his repeated misidentification as one of the cowboys from *Brokeback Mountain* and three toga-clad girls slathered in white body paint claiming to be The Three Graces. This seemed to me a promising mix of high and popular art forms: from the outset I'd designed the events for this year's Festival to provide people with the opportunity to participate as well as to observe, to refresh their minds from the narrow focus of revision and in so doing to perhaps lead them to discover a new interest in the arts.

The Festival itself began a fortnight later in mid-May, and after an exhausting day during which myself, my Producer Gavin Fourie and a hard-core group of committee members battled against intermittent rain to erect our marquee on New Quad, we were treated to a week of sun, much to the delight of the performers of our two open-air plays. Sarah-Jane Cooper-Knock directed Joan Littlewood's *Oh! What a Lovely War*, the pacifist satire that documents the catalogue of military blunders which took place during the First World War, and their horrific human consequences. The staging of the production was necessarily scaled down, the wartime songs sung *a cappella*, but the cast nevertheless succeeded in striking a touching balance between tongue-in-cheek humour and pathos. Providing a contrast to this was Tom Stoppard's *Dirty Linen*,

a comical farce that takes place behind the scenes of a parliamentary sex scandal. Under the watchful eyes of the co-directors, Senior Tutor Andrew Stockley, Tom Lubbock and Alex Eagle, we were treated to a requisitely sleazy performance from the committee of politicians, which made pointed reference to the recent expenses scandal.

For our third production, Rob Williams directed two of Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads* monologues: 'A Chip in the Sugar' and 'A Bed Among the Lentils'. Their setting in the Platnauer Room and the Chapel respectively created an intimate atmosphere in which the audiences felt drawn into the confidence of the two actors as they mused over the eccentricities of their day-to-day lives. Finally, the Festival played host to an exciting 24-hour play: one created, rehearsed and performed all within a single day. The end product, written by Richard O'Brien and directed by Lucy Fyffe, was a remarkably coherent piece of theatre about an aging museum curator forced to admit his love for a much younger colleague when she becomes smitten with a visiting celebrity archaeologist.

Whilst the Festival's plays – overseen by drama coordinator James Searle – drew the biggest crowds from outside College, the committee worked hard to put together an eclectic array of other events throughout the week. Central to the Festival experience was the Art Exhibition, organised by Savannah Whaley. Fine art, sculpture, photography and multimedia pieces by students from Brasenose and the Ruskin School were displayed all week in the Old Cloisters with the kind permission of the librarians (the room is currently being used as a study space). Those inspired by the exhibition also had the opportunity to attend a photography workshop run by Xander Chong.

The week's music events – organised by Otto Morris – included our well-attended opening night, which featured the tunes of home-grown singer-songwriter Martha Rowsell and harmonica-toting Exeter man Tom Hyatt. Otto also collaborated with Richard O'Brien on a cross-disciplinary concert in which a small ensemble of instrumentalists composed and played music to accompany a selection of poems. Another highlight of the week was the Oxford-based group, Braindead Collective's semi-improvised, amplified performance in the Chapel of Arvo Pärt's stunning *Fratres*, an unusual use of this wonderful acoustic space that I hope might be further exploited in the future. Our customary Classical Concert also took place during the week, showcasing some of the best in Brasenose musical talent.

Poetry and literature was well represented at this year's Festival, with a poetry workshop and a reading by English Faculty poet, Bernard O'Donoghue (arranged by Emmeline Plews) and the two day-long 'Shakespeare-a-thon' – a dramatic read-through of the complete works of the bard – masterminded by Amy Koenig and Chris Kemp. For the first time in recent years, guests were given the opportunity to explore the world of art beyond Brasenose's walls on special curator-led tours of Modern Art Oxford and the sparkling new Ashmolean Museum, organised by Sarah Lyall. The screenwriting endeavours of Brasenose alumni were highlighted by the showing of three films: *The Missionary* by Michael Palin, *Goldfinger* by Paul Dehn and *Bunny Lake is Missing* by John Mortimer, all presented by the Chaplain, Rev'd Graeme Richardson. Following on from last year's new initiative, three alumni also came to talk to students about the possibilities and practicalities of pursuing a career in the arts, a worthwhile event that I hope will become a staple of the Festival's offering.

The Arts Festival went out with a bang, as the final two nights were dominated by singing, dancing and, at times, raucous laughter. The penultimate evening began with a delicious celebration meal in Hall, followed by a speedy rearrangement of furniture for the ever-popular Cabaret, coordinated by Assistant Producer, Georgie Altman. For two hours, musicians and poets performed to a packed-out Hall, interspersed by banter and anecdotes from Master of Ceremonies, Jing Ouyang. For closing night, guests took a step back in time to 1950s USA for our epic Swing Night, organised by Sophie Core. Summer evening cocktails from the Festival bar, popcorn and candy and a lindy hop demonstration provided the perfect accompaniment to a classic set played by Magdalen Swing Band as we jived and twisted the night away in swirling skirts and tuxedos.

This whistle-stop tour cannot possibly convey just how much planning and preparation went into making sure that the week itself ran like a well oiled machine. In addition to the committee members mentioned above, in particular my producer Gavin Fourie and assistant producer, Georgie Altman, I must pay tribute to the rest of my amazing team: Chris Kemp and Iga Nowicz (publicity and marketing), Niki Dobbs (lighting and sound), Matt Colledge (health and safety), Pip Reeve (bar manager) and Liam Cattell (webmaster) as well as all the members of staff who contributed to making this year's Festival a success. We came just about as

close as possible to achieving my somewhat ambitious utopian vision for the project; even better, we all learnt so much from the experience and had a great amount of fun along the way. I think all that remains is for me to wish good luck to the next Arts Festival committee. I am confident that you will overcome the challenges of Quincentenary building project (affectionately known in College as Project Q) in order to continue this annual tradition: it is very special.

THE KING'S HALL TRUST FOR THE ARTS

Paul Burgess (1993)

Over the last year, The King's Hall Trust for the Arts found itself able not only to continue its support for education in the arts in Oxford but to start a broadening of its activities. While the Trust's focus is centred on the activities of Brasenose members in particular and both 'town' and 'gown' in general, the Trust funded students taking a play to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and also started researching ways to support young practitioners venturing outside the safe environment of university arts into the professional world. Experience over the last few years has shown that, within the university, funding for drama, the Trust's main source for applications, has become more readily available, while many young people find themselves unsupported and isolated on leaving. Another innovation, which has evolved as a significant aspect of the Trust's work over the last couple of years, is providing advice. This particularly uses the expertise of those trustees who work in theatre and other art forms.

The relatively healthy state of funding in the Oxford drama scene contrasts with the situation when the King's Hall Trust for the Arts was founded. It was set up within the Brasenose community in 1996 by many of the same people who had set up the first summer arts festival in the college two years previously, and was a direct response to their struggles to fund projects. The Trust is funded entirely by BNC alumni. Its capital is occasionally augmented by returns from underwritten shows, which on average seem to return slightly more profit than loss. Overall, enough is generated to give grants as well as underwriting: the rule of thumb is that those events which generate an income are underwritten, while those which do not are eligible for grants.

Grants can go to a wide variety of recipients, from a visual artist working alone to a local choir. Last year, grants included two music projects: the Trust supported a performance of James Macmillan's opera *Parthenogenesis* at Christ Church and sponsored tickets for schools to a choral concert by an early music consort, the Marian Singers. Underwriting went to plays ranging from Greek tragedy to contemporary writing. Two with particular Brasenose involvement were *Far Away* by Caryl Churchill and *Turn Again Lane*, a piece of student new writing. Advice-giving also continues: one trustee, Alex Clifton, a former president of OUDs who now teaches at RADA alongside freelance directing, has been giving free workshops to students, with more planned for the term ahead.

What links all these projects, and has done since the foundation of the Trust, is a desire to support the new, the bold and the original when it is still formative; to seek out small-scale projects that may struggle to find funding from conventional sources but for whom a small amount can make a huge difference. In a similar vein, the Trust's commitment to education can include such activities as working with schools but it can equally refer to an individual learning new skills or expanding his or her creativity.

This aim is upheld by a body of Trustees comprising arts practitioners and business leaders. It also reflects the organisation's strong links to the college. Current trustees are Paul Burgess (BNC, chair), Alex Clifton (Wadham) Nick Herbert (BNC), Liz Owen (BNC, secretary), Will Reynolds (Oriell) and Rikesh Shah (BNC, treasurer). The Trust always welcomes all forms of help and support, including new trustees, so please do not hesitate to get in touch on info@khta.org.uk. Further information is also available on the Trust's website: www.khta.org.uk.

ADDINGTON SOCIETY

Alex Eagle (2008)

Looking back over the past year it is remarkable how much has changed and yet how much has remained resolutely steadfast with the Addington Society. Writing in the *Brazen Notes* last year Rik Hoyle recounted the tale of the Society's namesake – the not-so-eloquent Henry Addington, Brasenose's then only British Prime Minister. Of course, such a statement is no longer true, and we can now profess of a second in the shape of

David Cameron. This left a quandary over whether, perhaps, we should be renamed the Cameron Society, or else some assimilation of the two. If such suggestions were ever seriously considered, then they were quickly put to bed by the Society's patron Dr Stockley.

This year the Society has benefited from a substantial increase in attendance at, and participation in, its debates, bringing average attendance to between 35–50 people – a sign of the Society's growing prominence in College. One debate and one dinner-debate have been held per term, with topics ranging from Christianity's grip on Oxford to nothing less than the British Constitution itself. Of particular success was the mock-election debate, where students took on the persona of Westminster's heavyweights and proceeded with a caricatured depiction of the TV election debates as they answered questions from the floor. The debate reached a record attendance, and was reported in the local press.

One thing that has remained unfaltering since last year is the consistent quality of the speeches given during debates. My sincerest thanks must be given to all those who spoke on the panel, including: James Freeland, Chris Adams, Tom Kidney, Peter Reader-Harris, Sophia Hurst, Matthew Colledge, Jamie Cooke, Arvind Singhal, Jack Ross, Ally Smith, Jack Rendle, Matt Harman, Scott Ralston, Matt Waszak, Andrew Lomas, and Gavin Fourie.

Finally, I must express my heartfelt gratitude to those who have made the Addington Society's success possible. Rik Hoyle and Sanjay Buhdheo who, as Presidents, saw the society through its initial teething problems and to its first anniversary; Emma Harrison, who led me unscathed through numerous kitchen meetings and Dr Andrew Stockley, who as Patron, financier and contributor, has been unwavering in his support of the Society.

All that remains is to wish our incoming President James Freeland the very best of success in the coming year; may the Addington Society grow and prosper under his capable command.

LESSONS IN GOVERNMENT SEMINARS 2009/10

Dr Andrew Stockley

The *Lessons in Government* seminar series, convened by members of all three common rooms (Andrew Stockley, Tom Lubbock, and Alex Eagle), attracted a large number of high-profile speakers during 2009/10.

The seminars are open to all members of the University and around two thousand students attended at least one of the 22 seminars held. Each of the seminars took the format of a forty to forty-five minute talk followed by the same amount of time for questions and answers.

Speakers included: **John Howard** (former Prime Minister of Australia) • **Rhodri Morgan** (First Minister for Wales) • **Michael Howard** (former Leader of the Opposition and Home Secretary) • **Charles Clarke** (former Education and Home Secretary) • **Ken Livingstone** (former Mayor of London) • **Lord Phillips** (President of the Supreme Court) • **Lord Saville** (Chairman of the Bloody Sunday Inquiry) • **Lord Hutton** (former Law Lord and Chairman of the Hutton Inquiry) • **Lord Justice Sullivan** (Court of Appeal) • **Edward Chaplin** (Ambassador to Italy) • **Richard Thomas** (Information Commissioner) • **Ann Abraham** (Parliamentary and Health Commissioner) • **Geoff Mulgan** (former Director of the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit) • **Peter Kellner** (Yougov polling) • **Nick Robinson** (BBC Political Editor).

Vernon Bogdanor gave a very popular and well-attended seminar on the 2010 election two weeks after polling day. Professor Bogdanor had organized guest speaker seminars at Brasenose over many years and it was appropriate that, having encouraged the 'Lessons in Government' seminar series to continue where he left off, this should be his last seminar in Oxford before retiring as Tutor in Politics and Professor of Government.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor gave a particularly memorable seminar on Tuesday 1 December 2009. She was the first woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court and was a highly influential member of the Court for twenty-five years before retiring in 2006. Speaking to a capacity audience in the Sheldonian Theatre, she talked about differences between the British and American judicial systems before answering a wide variety of questions, ranging from the decision in *Bush v Gore* to the discrimination she faced when starting work as a lawyer. Justice O'Connor received a standing ovation as she left the Sheldonian Theatre. She then met and talked with a large number of students over drinks in the Divinity School before dining in Brasenose.

Justice O'Connor stayed in College for several days, giving a special talk for the law students and getting to mix with many of the undergraduates, graduates and fellows. She was here during the end of term Christmas pantomime, *Cinderella*, and was persuaded to take part as Prince Charming's mother. This must be the first occasion on which an Oxford college can boast of having had a US Supreme Court Justice appear in its Christmas pantomime! Her assured delivery of lines such as 'not in my court' and 'I'll take that under advisement' brought the house down.

The seminar series provides students with a unique opportunity to meet and talk with prominent politicians, judges and public officials. It seems to be appreciated by current students, one on-line forum on Oxford colleges ('the student room') claiming that one of the advantages of Brasenose (in addition to location, friendliness, atmosphere) was the *Lessons in Government* seminar series which 'attracts better speakers than the Union at the moment'.

Speakers confirmed for 2010/11 include: Paddy Ashdown, Alistair Darling, Lord Adonis, Margaret Beckett, Geoff Hoon, Bob Ainsworth, David Laws, Lembit Opik, Frank Field, Anji Hunter, Jonathan Powell, Peter Watt, John Lyon, Sir Christopher Kelly, Kate Allen, Richard Schiff, Baroness Hale, Lord Judge, Sir Jock Stirrup, Sir Richard Dannett, and King Abdullah of Jordan.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT

Dr Andrew Stockley

Her Majesty The Queen visited the College on Wednesday 2 December 2009. Large numbers of students, fellows and staff assembled on the Old Quad lawn to welcome her to Brasenose. The Principal and his wife (Professor Roger Cashmore and Mrs Anne Lindsay-Cashmore) and the Vice-Principal (Professor Richard Cooper) met The Queen at the Gatehouse and escorted her through the Old Quad.

The Queen was introduced to JCR and HCR committee members in the Senior Common Room, spending half an hour talking with them about life in College. The Principal then hosted Her Majesty at a luncheon held in Hall and attended by over one hundred students, fellows, lecturers and staff. Among those present was alumnus and Honorary Fellow, Lord Janvrin, who served as the Queen's Private Secretary from 1999 to 2007.

After leaving Hall, the Queen stopped to thank the College chefs and stewards.

Her Majesty then walked to the Chapel where she attended a musical and drama presentation by students of the College. Entitled *Within Thy Walls*, this included scenes from the College's history accompanied by several items from the Choir. The Queen told one of the students who participated that she enjoyed his portrayal of John Gorton, who later became Australian Prime Minister.

The Queen signed the Quincentenary Register in the Ante-Chapel before being presented to the Senior Tutor (Dr Andrew Stockley), who had organized the drama and musical presentation, and to the College Historian (Professor Joe Mordaunt Crook), whose book *Brasenose: The Biography of an Oxford College* she was later given a copy of.

Her Majesty concluded her visit by returning to Old Quad and unveiling a plaque commemorating her visit to the College in its quincentenary year. This was Her Majesty's second visit to Brasenose. As Princess Elizabeth, she lunched in Brasenose when she visited the University in 1948. Other monarchs who have visited the College are Queen Elizabeth I (in 1562 and 1592), King James I (in 1605) and King George III (in 1786).

DAVID CAMERON VISITS BRASENOSE

Dr Andrew Stockley

David Cameron visited the College in November 2009, six months before becoming Prime Minister. He had read PPE (Philosophy, Politics and Economics) from 1985 to 1988, graduating with First Class honours.

He visited on Saturday 14 November to help celebrate the Quincentenary Year. He arrived with his wife and children, walking around the Old and New Quads and showing them where he had lived as a student. He then had morning tea with the Principal and his wife (Professor Roger Cashmore and Mrs Anne Lindsay-Cashmore), the Senior Tutor (Dr Andrew Stockley), and two of his former tutors (Professor Vernon Bogdanor, Tutor in Politics, and Mr Anthony Courakis, Tutor in Economics).

David Cameron then walked across to the Sheldonian Theatre, where more than 450 members of Brasenose College had gathered. This

included most of the College's undergraduates and graduates, together with many of the fellows, lecturers and staff. Following a brief speech, he spent half an hour answering a wide variety of questions put to him by Brasenose students. Many of the questions touched on his role as Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Conservative Party, his life in politics, and his vision for the future of the country.

David Cameron returned to the College afterwards and talked informally with many of the students in Hall. Gina Hood, a PPE finalist, commented that 'he seemed interested in how we were all finding life at Brasenose nowadays. It was an enjoyable and inspiring experience to meet an alumnus who is at the forefront of British politics.'

Before leaving the College, David Cameron was presented with a copy of the College History by Professor Joe Mordaunt Crook.

David Cameron subsequently became Prime Minister on 11 May 2010. He is the second Brasenose alumnus to hold the office, the first being Henry Addington (later Viscount Sidmouth), who came to the College in 1774 and was Prime Minister from 1801 to 1804.

In addition to David Cameron, there are four other MPs who studied at Brasenose. They are all also members of the Conservative Party: Stephen Dorrell (read Law from 1970-3, former Health Secretary and National Heritage Secretary, re-elected for Charnwood); Julian Brazier (read Mathematics and Philosophy from 1972-5, re-elected for Canterbury); Claire Perry (read Geography from 1982-5, elected for Devizes, the former seat of Henry Addington); and Mark Harper (read PPE from 1988-91, re-elected for Forest of Dean, appointed as Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Cabinet Office, responsible for political and constitutional reform).

2010 BRASENOSE TANNER LECTURES

Dr Chris Timpson

This year the Tanner Lectures took place on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th February in the Nelson Mandela Lecture Theatre at the Said Business School.

The lecturer was Ahmed Rashid, the well known journalist and writer; and a leading expert on Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia. His 'Taliban' (2000) was translated into 26 languages, and in September

2002 he became the first journalist to address the UN General Assembly in New York. His latest book is 'Descent into Chaos; The United States and the failure of Nation Building in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia' (2008).

He addressed us under the general title: "Afghanistan and Pakistan: Past Mistakes, Future Directions?" His lecture on the 12th focused on Afghanistan; the lecture on the 13th on Pakistan. Each lecture was followed by a lively question-and-answer session. The attendance at the lectures was good, with each being attended by, on average, between 150-200 people. Many of the audience, including both members of the public and members of the University, were very well informed on the pertinent issues and this gave rise to substantive and interesting discussion sessions.

Following the Saturday lecture and a buffet lunch, there followed a discussion session with a distinguished panel of experts. This was again well attended, with around 100 people in the audience. The panel was chaired by Prof. Francis Robinson, Professor of the History of South Asia, Royal Holloway, University of London and a Senior Golding Fellow of Brasenose; and it comprised George Noel Clarke (political officer in Afghanistan); Lyse Doucet of the BBC; Dr Faisal Devji, Reader in Modern South Asian History at Oxford; Col. Stuart Tootal; and Prof. Malcom Yapp, Emeritus Professor of the Modern History of Western Asia at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London. As well as the panel members presenting their views on a number of the issues raised by Ahmed Rashid's lectures, there was opportunity for questions from the audience; and finally Mr Rashid was given the opportunity to respond to the points raised by the panel, in closing.

Overall the event was very successful, attracting a large, varied and well-informed audience. The coffee breaks, drinks reception on the Friday evening and buffet lunch on the Saturday afforded many further opportunities for discussion between those attending in the audience, panel members and the lecturer himself. The Tanner Dinner on the Friday night provided an opportunity both to celebrate the lecturer and lectures, but also to bring together Fellows of Brasenose, the lecturer and panel members and a wide range of local dignitaries and further experts in cognate matters bearing on the subject of the lectures. This gave rise again to many valuable and informative conversations.

The lectures, question periods and seminar were all recorded and a transcript of the lectures has been made. We anticipate that this transcript will form the basis of Mr Rashid's written version of the lectures to be submitted to the Foundation.

We would like to thank the Tanner Foundation for its generosity in supporting this event and regularly making possible what is a highlight of the intellectual calendar at Brasenose.

THE RUNCIE SERMON 2010

The Rt Revd Graham James, Lord Bishop of Norwich

“AND THEY KEPT SILENT AND IN THOSE DAYS TOLD NO-ONE ANY OF THE THINGS THEY HAD SEEN.” (Luke 9.36)

Runcie anecdotes are legion. If his personal staff at Lambeth a couple of decades ago then “told no-one any of the things they had seen” in obedience to the gospel writer, the Runcie sermon now gives adequate excuse for telling a few from the pulpit. Of course, Robert Runcie will have already told most of them himself. His self deprecating humour was one of his most endearing features. But his stories were always put to some good purpose. Which would he have used on this occasion?

He might have begun by recalling a visit to the Far East. Everything was meticulously organised. A huge service in a grand auditorium had a beautifully produced order of service in Japanese on one side of the page, English the other. There was a memorable English misprint. It said: “*the Archbishop of Canterbury will now give the congregation a massage*”.

That's what you'd probably prefer tonight. It is certainly what any Archbishop of Canterbury needs sometimes. The physical, mental and spiritual exhaustion of that impossible job was immense three decades ago. If anything, it's now even worse. If being the Prince of Wales was famously once said to be a dilemma rather than a job, the Archbishop of Canterbury finds himself increasingly caught on the horns of many dilemmas. Perhaps a generation on we see more clearly just how skilled Robert Runcie was in negotiating such a precarious position.

Nonetheless there are plenty of moments of affirmation for an Archbishop. Around the Anglican Communion Robert Runcie was held in very high affection, well reflected at the 1988 Lambeth Conference,

much to the surprise of the British media. I recall in Zimbabwe the mayor of Bulawayo, dressed more fittingly for the Mansion House than Africa, looked at Archbishop Robert and said the words: "you are our father, who art in England". No problem with paternalism there. Sometimes, though, even an Archbishop of Canterbury can be brought down to earth. On a visit to Milton Keynes the Archbishop was blessing and dedicating the new Church of Christ, the Cornerstone, along with Cardinal Hume, the Bishop of Oxford and various other ecumenical luminaries. More people had come to the centre of Milton Keynes that day for the shopping than for this service. As we emerged from the church for a sort of ecclesiastical walk about, the Bishop of Oxford's then chaplain and I were trailing along when we heard one woman in the crowd nudge her friend as the Archbishop passed and say, "look, it's that man who works with Terry Waite". Mind you, when the present Archbishop of Canterbury was in Norwich just over a year ago. I took him to our new University Hospital. As I went in with Rowan Williams I heard a woman sitting in the entrance say to her companion "look who it is – there must be somebody really ill in there".

In a foreword to a book of telling photographs by Jane Bown, Lord Runcie, as he was by then, wrote this:

"There is no laughter at the heart of our Christian religion because the contradictions and incongruities of life were dealt with by a cross; but humour on the outskirts of our faith is the best safeguard against fantastic nonsense. We need this humour directed against the absurdities of human pretension."

There was a lot of laughter at Lambeth Palace in the age of Runcie. It wasn't the result of matchbox jokes being recycled. It was the humour which came from observing the world with irony, affection and keen observation. He was fond of saying that people without a sense of humour should not be put in charge of anything. Without humour, human beings lack a sense of proportion.

The trouble with Jesus, someone once told me, is that he had no sense of humour. It's not true. It's simply that we listen to the gospels read in church, all solemn faced and miss the jokes. I reminded a congregation the other day that they missed one and then told it to them again. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God."

You are not laughing either. You must have heard the joke before. What sort of joke is it? It's nonsense humour. It's like the Owl and the Pussycat going to sea in a beautiful pea green boat. The disproportion is laughable. A camel and the eye of a needle? Of course it's impossible for a camel to go through the eye of a needle. Jesus is being absurd. It's his intention to amuse but to shock as well. He's just been asked by a rich man what he must do to gain eternal life.

Jesus reversed the common teaching of his time. It's the poor who were blessed. It's the rich who carry the burdens of wealth around with them. Wealth isn't a blessing at all. Then he told his joke. Humour can offend. You can guarantee that this joke did.

That's why Christians have been so good at side stepping the humour and injecting some seriousness into the teaching of Christ. In the middle ages they even invented a gate in Jerusalem called the *Needle's Eye*. They assumed Jesus couldn't have been referring to a real needle at all. He must have had something else in mind. This Needle's Eye gate in Jerusalem was just large enough for a camel to get through. So it might be a bit difficult for a rich man to squeeze into heaven but he could make it if he pushed hard enough. Well that made sense, didn't it? But it spoils the joke.

At the heart of Christ's teaching is the message that no human qualifications, let alone riches, make any difference to our entrance to the Kingdom of God. It's God grace and goodness and not our own which matters. One of the joys of working for Robert Runcie was his total lack of spiritual presumption. He knew that a faithful old lady worshipping year in, year out in her village church and with no theological sophistication or social significance was likely to enter the Kingdom of God before many bishops and archbishops. Those who criticised Robert Runcie occasionally for a lack of spiritual gravitas – I always thought this was the most wounding of criticisms – missed the spiritual humility which characterised him. It was deeply attractive. It was all of a piece with his humour. He knew God's glory was beyond our imagining. He recognised that on the Mount of Transfiguration he would have been struck into silence as well. The disciples being struck dumb would have appealed to him in tonight's second reading. His spiritual antennae and his sense of humour came together so that he never claimed too much for himself.

Those who can laugh at themselves are often humble in character and generous in spirit. Mean people don't usually have much of a sense of

humour. It involves them too much in giving themselves away. Fearfulness and fun don't go together.

That capacity to smile at ourselves when we are ridiculous is a spiritual quality. Jesus often smiled at human foibles. Even the names and nicknames he gave to his disciples reveal his humour. Simon he renamed *Cephas*, meaning a rock whereas he was initially no rock at all, quickly betraying his Lord when things got rough. James and John, always squabbling, and wanting the best seats at the heavenly banquet he called '*Boarneges*' meaning '*Sons of thunder*'. He is trying, humorously, to help them see themselves as others see them.

This same Jesus who shocked people by his humour also said "love God, and love your neighbour as yourself". He said: "Father, forgive." He commended generosity of spirit, a giving of oneself away, a puncturing of pride. A church without humour risks misunderstanding the message and spirit of the teaching of Jesus. It's a big danger at the moment. A world without laughter will never be a world built on love.

ALE VERSES 2010

Every year, as Shrove Tuesday approaches, excitement amongst the undergraduates grows. But as it grows, an equal and opposite effect is felt by the Dean and the Chaplain. They wilt; they stoop; they shrink back into their gowns. Like a guilty thing, the Dean creeps at earliest morning to his pigeon-hole; and returns with another sheaf of libellous and obscene doggerel – often of psychological or anthropological interest, but utterly unusable for performance in Hall. His only solace is to dilute his burden of pollution in the clear stream of the Chaplain's pious mind. But even that will eventually be overwhelmed by bilge.

Every year it seems, the parameters must be reinforced. Dean and Chaplain patiently explain. This custom is about cheery fun; not taunting and revenge. The occasion is one of mild satire, rather than outrageous riot. It may be implied that the Principal is what sports commentators like to call "a big unit"; and that the Fellows enjoy a drink. It may not be implied that Brasenose is the sort of place that would have made Hogarth blanch and turn away in disgust.

Eventually, however, Dr Wiggs and the Chaplain found 13 verses worthy of performance; and with much cheering and heckling, the Chaplain led the singing. Mr Tom Lowe upon a doughty clavino

played along. We began with *What shall we do to annoy the porter*, to the obvious sea-shanty tune. *O Little Hall of Brazen-Nose* followed, again with an obvious tune, but some nice touches in the verses: “For crisis born of essay / and problem-sheets abound / While tutors sleep, their students keep / their minds all wandering round.” ‘Phoenix Clubman’ to the tune of *Hey, big spender!* brought out everyone’s inner Shirley Bassey. Next, Christina Aguilera’s charming 2002 hit *Beautiful* was given new words under the title ‘Principal’. Gently and affectionately, it mocked High Table habits: “At High Table, you’re delirious, / The voices boom, as you consume, / Your appetite is imperious, / With all the beer, you’re now a sphere”... Pulp’s *Common People* also proved to be a useful template for college satire, beginning: “He came from Bucks he had a thirst for knowledge / He studied Maths with me at Brasenose College.”

Everybody Works borrowed its tune from REM; *The Merchandise* borrowed from Don McLean’s *American Pie*; *Like at Merton* took inspiration from Madonna; and *Rocking Around the Christmas Tree* became “*Scouting around on Staircase III*: “You will get a nauseated feeling, when you see / A cleaning job beyond your power / Floods of vomit in the shower.” Following *Rusticated*, to a tune of Avril Lavigne’s, we then returned to more traditional tunes with a version of *Lily the Pink*, “telling the tale” of “Fellows who drink the Brasenose Ale”. This was notable, in the best traditions of Ale Verse inventiveness, for rhyming “Cooper” with “stupor”, “Swadling” with “mollycoddling” and “Stockley” with, er, “broccoli”.

After a farcical attempt to scale the edifice of Queen’s *Bohemian Rhapsody* we had a well-deserved break before cranking up the clapometer to find a winner. When the moment came, *The Merchandise* proved to be the most popular, with its digs at the ties and scarves of the Quincentennial collection. As has been traditional, the winner was asked to stand. To our surprise, a modest and unassuming Australian graduate student came forward and claimed the champagne. Only later did he claim that he was disoriented by the crowd, and had not known what he was doing. So who was the author? Ale Verses 2010 finished on a fitting note of confusion and mystery. If you could remember anything the morning after, chances are you were never there at all.

Sports



BOAT CLUB

Jack Carlson (2009)

The season ended on a high note for the men's Boat Club. On 12 June, the "Childe of Hale", as the Brasenose 1st VIII is traditionally known, took on Jesus College 1st VIII in a side-by-side race on the Isis for the 1815 Challenge Plate. The plate commemorates the oldest rowing rivalry in the world and the beginning of modern competitive rowing. Just like our forerunners of 195 years ago, the Brasenose men defeated Jesus College in an exciting race under sunny skies this year.

After a less auspicious Summer Eights Regatta in which we fell from the bottom of Division 2 to the top of Division 3, the outcome of the Jesus race was particularly satisfying. I dare say we were seen as underdogs given Jesus' three bumps in the middle of Division 2 during Summer VIIIs.

Our drop during Eights, though not as dizzying as last year's spoon-worthy performance, was disappointing and - it should be said in no uncertain terms - unacceptable. With several of the more experienced rowers unable to train seriously for the regatta, the Childe was formed primarily from highly dedicated novices, with a couple of hardworking veterans leading the way. We began a more rigorous training schedule just before 0th week of Trinity Term, and I hope we all now have a better appreciation of the commitment level required to do well in Eights. It is in October, however, and not April, that this kind of training and commitment must begin if we are serious about winning blades next year.

That said, I do think we have laid the groundwork for the club's resurgence in the coming years. Thanks to the generosity of College and of the newly founded alumni association, the 1815 Club, we were able to purchase a new Filippi VIII and a new set of Croker blades. The boat in particular is a vast improvement on our old ERB, and Filippi is among the best boatmakers in the world. Beyond equipment, however, there is a newfound level of drive, commitment and fellowship in the boat club which I hope will carry on. With this year's 1st VIII stern pair Tom Gunter and Tom Rogers set to trial for OUBC and OULRC respectively next year, it seems that the enthusiasm and quality of the club is indeed on the rise. It will be up to the club's new leadership to ensure that as many freshers as possible catch onto rowing.

Thank you to the Principal and the Senior Tutor for all of their support. Thanks also to Jack Rendle and Caitlin Page for all of their hard work in the presidency and to Peter Randolph and Boris Le Feber as coaches. Well done to Matt Neve for making the lightweight blue boat, rowing at six. And well done also to Ed Newman who, with me, made it into Isis, the Xchanging Boat Race reserve crew.

CRICKET

Rob Dancey (2008)

The 2010 season was one full of surprises. The astonishment that BNCCC went through a whole season without a single rain delay was surpassed only by the shock at the level of success on the field. The extended hours of play afforded to us by the favourable overhead conditions allowed the team to exercise their full potential and win all nine league matches on the way to becoming Division Three Champions. As winter net sessions had suggested would be the case, the wealth of skill on show from the second years was supplemented by a number of more than useful young freshers looking to make a name for themselves in the cricketers' graveyard that is the Oxford Inter-Collegiate Cricket League Division Three. Such burgeoning talent from the incoming batch was on show from the off as the baby-faced **John Bremridge** hit a sparkling 67* at the top of the innings in the opening league match against Nuffield. He was also more than culpable for the presence of a fair Worcester dame at square leg for much of the Nuffield innings. Such yamming was soon to become a distinctive trait of those lucky enough to represent BNCCC this season.

Our opening partnership of choice was completed by the ice-cool **Tim Matthewson** who also hit a rich vein of form early on. The Saturday of first week saw us travel to the home of the old rivals, Cambridge, with our sights set on smashing the Tabs in the form of Jesus College. Despite a flowing 70 from Matthewson and a scratchy 56 from captain **Rob Dancey** the match was lost as the Jesus openers sent the ball to all corners. This was the first of a number of important innings from Dancey yet sadly his athleticism and batting prowess were not matched by his composure under the high ball. It was there in the enemy's backyard that he also clocked the first of the seven drops he

managed to notch up throughout the season. After a hearty drink with our opposition, during which it became clear that BNCCC'S women's team would have to be on their guard whilst **Moid Islam** was about, we headed back to Oxon to kick off our coppers campaign. Despite some tight bowling late on, promising starts from Islam and **Jamie Randall**, and a valiant late effort from **Freddie Briance**, the cup run was cruelly cut short as we fell short of St. Anne's' average target and crashed to an agonising one run defeat.

Coppers exit forgotten, the battle for promotion continued at St. Peter's where the team set a more than reachable total. Thankfully our fearsome bowling line up, which was to characterise our season, put the game beyond doubt within 15 overs. The pace attack was spearheaded by **Alex 'Legal Eagle' Eagle** and **Ben 'Silent but Deadly' Goulding**, however, on this occasion they were upstaged by the guile and consistency of our medium pacers. Randall picked up a couple of scalps before Matthewson laid his claim on the Freddie Flintoff role by ripping through the Peter's middle order with a stunning hatrick. This performance was backed up by a number of cameos including that of **David 'Davlar' Hughes**. With his ever-present WAG swooning on the boundary Hughes followed up his 18 runs with a continued ability to bowl tight spells whilst taking wickets with truly disgusting deliveries. Thanks must also go to **Emily Wilson**, **Melissa Bennington** and **Tina Moorhouse** who not only stepped up to the plate when numbers were short but also entertained with a combination of lost jewellery and characteristic malcoordination.

Our first home match of the season pitted our wits against the pre-season favourites from Lady Margaret Hall. After coming perilously close to forfeiting the match BNCCC started batting with only five players, clinging onto their wickets in the hope that a sixth player may show up. Randall hit three towering sixes before a tenuous umpiring call from Bremridge brought his dazzling knock to an end. Dancey had the chance to record another half century yet instead of finding the boundary with a crunching drive which would have taken him to fifty, he picked out **Elliott Hawkins** at the non-striker's end. Hawkins' had previously been enjoying an impressive innings of 36 before this incident of friendly fire, which saw the seam leave a heavy impression in his doughy physique, somewhat soured his experience. Nonetheless a total of 166 off 20 overs was always going to prove a mountain to

climb for the LMH batsmen. Spurred on by the hilarity of Dancey's 49★ Mr **Tricky Wilson** made it feel like Groundhog Day. It was the same match the previous season when young Wilson burst onto the scene with a stunning fiver and once again, after a stuttering start to the season, the man from Stratford entered the fray and soon crushed all hopes of victory for the opposition. Wilson's trickery with the ball was far from the only string to his bow. The dense cloud of fag smoke emanating from our gully man's general direction was a dimension that our challengers were rarely prepared for. Those with faith in Postman Pat's ability would suggest that his one remaining hand was more than sufficient to pouch any mistimed drives which fizzed his way yet all too often it also was otherwise engaged. Wilson brought previously unseen forms of media to the aforementioned yamming as The King of Yamelot himself insisted on spending a considerable bulk of the season locked in romantic phone conversation with his fair maiden from Christchurch. Never before has the umpire been asked to hold hat, jumper, fags, phone and a black and white cat called Jess. For all his shortcomings Tricky must be congratulated for instilling the now familiar battle-cry of 'May I???' which can now be heard far down the Abingdon Road on those rare occasions that BNCCC capture a wicket.

The next chapter saw a change of captaincy for the game against St. Johns. Vice-Captain **Marco Francescon** deputised in Dancey's absence and guided the boys to a thrilling one wicket victory. Despite an awesome bowling display to restrict the visitors to 113, the BNCCC batting faltered for the only time all season before finally been seen home with a legside hoik from Mr Number 11 himself, Alex Eagle. Sadly, this was the last appearance of the year for our fixture's secretary Oli Wilson. Whilst his somewhat disappointing batting average belied his true flair, his work behind the stumps was much needed. Special thanks go to Oli for the work he put into putting together our schedule for the season. From this point onwards Francescon, keen to make up for his dip in form with the willow, took over the gloves with stunning success. He was never far from the batsman's ear as his aggressive chirp, straight out of the darkest corners of Hull, was more than our opponents could stomach. Unfortunately, the old dog took a more philosophical approach to celebration than in seasons past so the exuberant whoopings which accompanied his maiden fifty of the 2009 season, against none other than the MCC, were kept firmly in the locker.

Next up was a rare friendly game against the familiar faces of the Buxton Struggler's. In a vain attempt to assert his supposed colonial past upon the team, Francescon brought a distinctly international flavour to the team. The athleticism and sporting prowess for which BNC has become renowned was for once overshadowed by the inclusion on the team sheet of the South African hockey captain and a Kenyan opening batsman. It was no surprise that they were far from out of place amongst the titans of BNC who turned up week in, week out. This was underlined by the stunning slip catch taken by our committee member of old, **Theo Barclay**. He stooped to his right to pouch a catch which had only Francescon's coppers' beauty to compete with for catch of the season.

A concession from Trinity and a farce of a match against Corpus Christi were followed by heavy showers on the day of our match against Exeter. It seemed that the Holy Grail of a perfect league season was slipping from our grasp before the sun poked through and we got underway in an entertaining Twenty20. An excellent spell from Eagle removed their opener and left their bulky number 3 spellbound, although this was possibly due to the personal abuse he was receiving from our man at square leg, Moid Islam, who, as ever, was 'turning it on a different pitch'. The runs were chased down without too much drama and at the death Tricky hit the winning runs and came closer than any before him to a positive response to Randall's famous, once-a-match call of 'Six or Gay!'.

Seven out of seven wins had effectively secured promotion and forfeiture by Magdalen left us with only our preseason goal of nine out of nine wins to play for in the final match of the season at Oriel. Against by far the best attack we had faced all season Dancey's half century was supported by a vital 39* not out from our very own Baggy Green, **Nik Kirby**. Despite setting only a par score, BNCCC bowled so beautifully that it could only be described as a melody in my head. Eagle's metronomic accuracy was reminiscent of an iPod stuck on replay and was rewarded early on as he removed the dangerous opener, Ayaz. Luckily Davlar pulled no punches as he called for a Replay of the dismissal. An excellent performance all round cut the Oriel reply short and ensured that Brasenose would be showing what they're made of in the heady heights of Division Two in the 2011 season. Thanks also goes to **Nik Sheorey, Ben Carroll, Charlie Marr, Josh Critchlow**

and former captain **Arvind Singhal** who performed well when called upon and will hopefully once again don the Black and Gold trim as Matthewson takes over the captaincy for next season. A line must be also taken to note the birth, thanks to Tricky Wilson, of BNCCC's latest touring reincarnation, The BNC Millers. Both they and the full team look forward to great success next season.

BRASENOSE STROLLERS

The Insider's View

The Spring 2010 *Brazen Notes* contained an excellent history of the Brasenose Strollers, the cricket club which tours North Devon each year for one week in August. The author of this piece thought it might be helpful to give an insider's view of the tour. All tourists are given a nickname on tour to provide much needed anonymity but the full list of current players is listed below.

The first day, Monday 10 August 2009

The Brasenose Strollers assembled for the first match of the tour against the Devon Dumplings in Exeter. The talents on display ranged from former first class cricketers (whose idea of entertainment during tea was to swap notes on their highest first class scores) to those with minimal cricketing ability but considerable knowledge of the hostelrys and nightspots of Devon.

After persuading the Dumplings captain to concede the toss, Towner (schoolmaster), whose tactical skills are outweighed by the lack of firepower at his disposal elected to bat. The innings proceeded in the customarily eccentric Strollers way. Plums (media executive) hit a blistering 12 off 73 balls, all behind square. Jonesy (teacher of Latin in Malawi) added a thumping 24 with only one scoring shot in his repertoire (the hoik to leg). Ports (school master) batted like the pro he once was for a flawless 50 while others around him committed hara kiri. JC and Twicers (schoolmasters and ex pros) enjoyed a partnership worthy of mention only because of their studied "pose off". Bear (accountant weighing in at a svelte 20 stone) smote a murderous 7 before being given out lbw by Twitcher (barrister) doing some umpiring, thereby leading Bear to announce loudly as he walked off the pitch: "You'll look pretty

stupid when you try to put your wig on next week after I've knocked your head off, Twitcher". Others chipped in, various comical run outs ensued and somehow the Strollers nudged their way to a declaration at 250-9.

During tea Pieman (schoolmaster) demolished most of the food by himself. As Towner observed: "Pieman knows everything there is to know about eating pies... except when to stop". Local ale supplemented the cream tea while Tulip (computer teacher) and Boo Boo (yet another school master) entertained themselves (but nobody else) with a series of sprint races in front of the pavilion.

And so to the afternoon session. Those familiar with the Strollers know that they can occasionally bat but the words 'bowling attack' are a Strollers oxymoron and the fielding is best left uncommented on. The Dumplings had little difficulty smiting medium pace rubbish to all corners until Turnpike (partner in city firm of solicitors) and Maggie (occupation unclear; serial e-mailer) produced a series of unplayable double bouncers and long hops which were charitably hit down the throats of fielders or simply ushered on to the stumps. At least five catches were dropped including the usual two howlers from wicketkeeper Teflon (probate lawyer; the clue to his wicket keeping ability lies in his nickname) but no matter. Wickets kept on tumbling with regularity. Laughalot (retired naval officer) bowled a surprise straight one to achieve an lbw success thereby bringing team umpire Beast (retired computer tycoon) into the game.

In time honoured fashion the game came down to the last over. One wicket left to take; the redoubtable Stanier (Dumpling of 60 years vintage) at the crease. Platty (investment banker) pumped himself up for a final effort, bowling as fast as he could with the wind behind him and still only achieving 40mph on the speed gun. The first five deliveries were blocked but with inspiration and the caustic cries of the Strollers in his ears ("good slower balls, Platty") he somehow found a yorker to clean bowl Stanier. Victory for the Strollers off the last ball. Even better, the tight-fitting acrylic football shirt which is handed out every game to the player who has made the least contribution was presented to Dom (school master) who has worn it uninterrupted for three seasons.

Imbued by success the Strollers disappeared in various directions before converging on the Sagor restaurant in Bideford. Rosé wine was consumed by the bucketload, poppadom hats were worn and Beast

found himself locked in by the friendly staff come closing time. Hazy memories recall trips to nightclubs and kebab vans before the Strollers, flushed with sporting success on the field that day, finally made it to bed. Or, at least, most of them did; Maggie found the wicker chair on the B and B veranda more comfortable.

The rest of the tour

The tour continued in the same vein with four more fixtures at Westward Ho! and Instow on the North Devon coast (the most picturesque ground the author of this piece has played on). Tour traditions of saki, Bacardi and Coke ('BNC') and Pimms were honoured reverently. Families arrived to find unrecognisable husbands/boyfriends/fathers. By Friday the bright-eyed cricketers of Day 1 had been transformed into semi-conscious, jaded, bedraggled apologies of human beings. Miraculously four matches were won, with one drawn, and everyone on tour had batted and bowled with various degrees of success. And, at the end of the tour the team manager Tettters (retired, something to do with Staffordshire Police Authority) presented a bill to each Stroller of £190 to cover accommodation, cricket, match teas and some meals. Astonishing value.

If any of this sounds as though it appeals to you, if you have an iron constitution and if you know what a cricket bat is, please e-mail Chris Townsend at cjt@felsted.org. We would be particularly keen to hear from recent alumni.

The club has been running for nearly 100 years, and our most famous players have played test cricket, including Colin Cowdrey (England) and Pom-pom Fellowes-Smith (South Africa), so there is a strong legacy to the tour and the team.

Some or all of the following have been involved in recent Strollers tours:

- R. G. Tettenborn (c 1960) – manager
- R. Q. East (c 1970) – umpire
- P. Aylott (c 1986)
- R. Peel (c 1986)
- T. Hammond (c 1985)
- P. Smith (c 1986)
- M. Knight (c 1986)
- M. Linley-Jones (c 1987)

R. Turnill (1991)
B. Bailey (1991)
A. Hadfield (1991)
C. Townsend (1991)
D. Wethey (1991)
T. Attenborough (1991)
J. Summers (1992)
D. Jones (2003)
T. Brown (2005)

RUGBY

Richard Wilson (2008)

On the back of a double promotion season in 2008-9, under the masterful leadership of Colum Elliott Kelly, Brasenose came back in October with the sentiment that the job was only half completed. The college were now competing in the Third Division of intra-mural rugby, yet the target set before the start of the season was for a second successive double promotion, and thus to secure a spot in Division One. Captain James “Jwain” Wain led the team out against traditional rivals Lincoln, and emerged 15-10 winners in a gritty contest. The match was an exact replica of the Lincoln match the previous year, which was also won 15-10 by BNC. Charles Marr made his debut in what was to be his only league match of the year, dedicating his time forthwith to Oxford U21s rugby instead. A tricky match with Queen’s followed; with twelve players present Danny the Groundsman was called in, and proved himself to be an extremely adept full back in the process. With Queen’s beginning to pull away before the end of the first half, the match, and indeed the season, reached its turning point with the arrival of Pete “Trigger” Forster on his bicycle. He came on straight away and scored with his first touch of the ball, running three quarters of the length of the pitch. Brasenose pulled clear in the second half, aided too by the excellent feet and speed of James McKinnell, and the final score in a very high scoring and entertaining game was 42-27.

The college were lucky to have recruited a wealth of post-graduate talent for the season. Peter “Army Nutjob” Corcoran, fresh from captaining his regiment’s rugby team, impressed as a useful and consistent

forward; the emergence of Ben Morton, Eric France, and Mark Jackson too increased the strength and depth of the team substantially. Sad news was to rock the team though, with the injury of their captain James Wain. The lock had seriously injured his knee while putting his body on the line for the Brasenose 3rds football team, and his absence for the remainder of the season was sorely felt. The team geared up for their hardest game yet, away against Worcester, knowing that the result would in probability decide who would come top of the league. Worcester started strong, and boosted by a number of Rugby League blues in their side, were going to be hard to match. A try from James McKinnell in the first half was complemented by an excellent score by Mark Jackson at the start of the second, the wing chasing up on a kick through and using his pace to beat his markers. Brasenose attacked strongly in the final minutes, and the strong support that had been mustered watched the team give their all, though ultimately in vain. James "Wild Bill" Garnier was bundled out into touch during the last play of game just yards from the line; Worcester had won 17-14. The high standard of the game and its excellence as a showpiece of college rugby demonstrated how both the teams belonged in higher divisions. The disappointment of the loss, BNC's first in the leagues for over a year, did not affect the remaining two games of the season. Second place – and promotion – was clinched with clinical victories over Wadham, 32-7, and New, 17-5.

St. Peters, fresh from being relegated from Division One, will be remembered fondly by all who played. Starting the game with thirteen players, the odds were stacked hugely against the away team, but the speed and guile of the Brasenose backs ensured that by the time the fifteenth man arrived and got on the pitch, a lead had already been opened up. Our expansive and attacking style of running rugby was epitomised by Garnier, who beat numerous opponents with a mixture of drifting side-steps, hand offs, and pure speed. He was backed up by the fearsome Jonny Thomas and McKinnell in the centres, and Marco Francescon, who impressed thoroughly in his first game. However, another side of this newly-galvanised team was to show – our love of defence. There have been very few instances in memory that showed the pride of the team better than when forced to defend the line for ten minutes at the end of the first half. A quite frankly outstanding period of defence was halted when the whistle blew for half time, the ball held up over the line. The game was won convincingly, 42-17. A tough game

against University followed, the strongest competition in the division. A good overall performance was marred by sloppy errors that handed Univ three out of their four tries, whilst amazingly Brasenose managed to acquire four yellow cards over the course of the game. Agonisingly, BNC went down 22-18 in a game that was theirs for the taking. As in the previous league, though, the team bounced back: a cancelled game against Pembroke followed a concession from St. Anne's/ St. John's, and promotion rested on winning the rematch against Worcester. This time, Brasenose were much the better side; Worcester did not have the team that managed to win the term before. They were put to the sword, running out 42-20 winners, and BNC wasted no time in the process. Garnier, given the ball with space to run in, scored a first-half hat trick of outstanding quality – in fact, that third try was scored before fifteen minutes had gone.

So, the vision of a return to Division One that had seemed so distant and improbable two years ago has become fact. The Quadruple promotion in successive leagues is an unprecedented feat in college rugby; the team has risen from the nadir to the apogee of inter-collegiate sport. The high targets of Messrs Elliott Kelly and Wain had been attained with some distinction. Cuppers, which customarily follows the leagues' conclusion, was bitterly disappointing after the success and promise of the season. After a concession from the Graduate Barbarians, against whom Brasenose recorded its highest ever win in 2008, 105-0, Pembroke were the next opponents. With Marr and Hee-Won Cho back in the team, Brasenose built up a lead in the first half. Though, with Garnier forced off injured at half time, the game became more even, and with quarter of an hour left the lead had been reduced to 13. Cue Tim Catling (widely known for his first half hat trick in the Varsity match 2008), Pembroke's ace card, to jog nonchalantly over to the pitch. A try was clawed back first and then, despite heroic Brasenose defending in the final seconds, another was scored with the last play of the game. The conversion, taken by Catling, sailed over, and Pembroke had recorded an unlikely victory, 33-32, snatching victory from the jaws of defeat. The palpable and understandable heartbreak of the Brasenose players disguised what had again been an outstanding performance, and when one looks at the game in hindsight, it is hard not to appreciate what was a truly classic game of rugby.

In the final game of the season, BNC were knocked out of the Cuppers Plate in a dire game against Exeter. Due to injuries and other reasons, the team was not as strong as it could have been and lost 25-10. A more fitting finale to this memorable season was the Cuppers 7s Competition. Dr. Phil Duggleby returned for his eighth season of college rugby, and with Forster and McKinnell helped guide the team to victory. The final, against Oriel, was the only tight game, and was won 12-10, with the Oriel kicker missing a drop goal in the last play. At last, BNC had won some silverware to top off a remarkable year of rugby.

Special mention must go to a number of players, without whose presence the team would not have achieved what it has. Firstly, to James Thomas, whose commitment is almost as outstanding as his tackling technique: James Coates, whose abilities in a variety of positions have led to him becoming somewhat of a utility player, a commodity so desperately needed at college level: James Allen, an ever-present full back with great organisational skills and a diamond side step: and Matt Waszak, an effective front row with occasional glimpses of kicking talent too. Last of all, however, there is need to mention John Drake for his contribution to Brasenose rugby over four years. A truly outstanding flanker, and one of the most ferociously hard-hitting tacklers I have ever seen, he is the first name on the captain's team sheet. Moreover, the club wishes the very best of luck to Hee-Won Cho, and supports his decision (made in collaboration with the Dean) to take a sabbatical year, during which he plans to improve on his rugby and spread the name of Brasenose Rugby in Italy and Korea.

Brasenose Rugby has climbed itself out of the doldrums with flair and panache. Division One poses tougher challenges, and the target will be to keep this status for at least another year. Meanwhile, however, one must never lose track of why the Rugby Club exists; to give BNC students the chance to play rugby, and most importantly, to enjoy it. With this in mind, and coupled with the overwhelmingly positive and healthy atmosphere in the club, may we all look forward to another vintage year of rugby.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

SEASON 09 – 10

Matthew Bittlestone (2008)

Following a highly successful promotion campaign the previous year, the football team returned after the summer break refreshed and ready to face the challenges that the top tier of college football would provide. There was a buzz of anticipation around the Club, and skipper Jack Barrett was confident of another fruitful season. It began, however, with a dose of bad luck: Amreet Kang, our diminutive but belligerent vice-captain, tore his knee ligaments during trials, and paceman Lenny Sackey was working at Vincent's Club, resulting in both missing the whole season.

The first match aptly demonstrated the size of the task we were facing to survive in the Premier League, and despite a tough display we lost 4-1 to Christ Church. This was to be a characteristic of our season: despite playing some attractive attacking football, other teams found it all too easy to break us down. It was not until our fifth game that we managed our first league win, a 2-0 victory over a poor New College team that saw Jack Davies hit a 25 yard screamer and Jack Barrett a neat volley from inside the box. We managed only two more league wins in the entire season, and it doesn't take a genius to work out that winning three out of sixteen matches is relegation form. The only question that remained was whether Brasenose could avoid the ignominy of double relegation, a punishment which the authorities in their idiocy had deemed suitable for the last-placed team in the division. The very last day of Hilary term saw Brasenose hold off a somewhat hung-over Teddy Hall side in a 0-0 draw, thus ensuring it would only be the one league that Brasenose descended.

Cuppers, the oldest football competition in the world, provided a welcome distraction from the depressing league season. After two hard-fought wins against Oriel and Wadham, a home quarter-final against St Hugh's loomed large at the start of Hilary term. Impressive numbers of fans from both Colleges braved the cold and made their way down the grounds to show their support. It could hardly have started worse. Despite having had a clear goal disallowed by an incompetent official, Brasenose put on a defensive display that Titus Bramble would have been proud of, and were trailing 4-1 at half-time in front of their distraught

home fans. Step up Captain Jack Barrett to fire the boys with passion, determination and resolve; his team talk, consisting mainly of “Lads, this is a f***ing disgrace”, was a match for Al Pacino’s, and sent us out into the second half a team reborn. After two scrappy goals to bring it back to 4-3, Hugh’s won a corner in the final minute. David Hughes, that Goliath of the defence, jumped highest to head clear, and then almost in slow-motion began a great trek upfield. Nothing could get in his way, he ran on and on until finally the ball was played in over the top as he bore down on goal. A natural finisher, his instant control took the ball onto his weaker left side with the Hugh’s defence hot on his mighty heels. Time seemed to stand still; from around the ground came a collective intake of breath, before David swung his left peg at the ball with as much force as he could muster. The inevitable slice beat the keeper’s outstretched fingertips and the ball rocketed into the top left corner, as Brasenose fans and players alike went wild in celebration. From the restart, there was just time for Balrik Kailey to botch a chance to win it before the referee blew for full-time, and then, inexplicably, decided to skip extra-time and go straight to penalties. The Brasenose players were understandably furious with the official and tried to clear their heads before the shoot-out. Oli Field-Johnson, known just as F-J, stepped up first but dollied it just wide before Matthew Bittlestone confidently swept the ball into the left corner to level it at 1-1. Jack Davies then missed, and it was left to Balrik Kailey to score to keep Brasenose hopes of an amazing comeback alive. He stepped up and struck the ball exactly where he had scored his earlier penalty in the match, but the keeper second-guessed him and pulled off a comfortable save. Heartbreak ensued, and with the light that was Cuppers so cruelly extinguished, the season effectively came to a premature end in mid-January.

While no-one could describe the season as successful, it was at least enjoyable, and the spirit in the changing rooms remained strong throughout. On this note, thanks must go to F-J not only for his whimsical banter but also for undertaking his duties as social secretary with great enthusiasm, even enticing Jack “I don’t need crew-dates to get...” Barrett to make occasional appearances. Another leaver, Boyd Gwyther, will be sorely missed, after three years of truly outstanding commitment and contribution to the Club. And despite not having the most active of final seasons, Christian Nordby deserves mention for proving to be a strong, athletic and intelligent centre-back.

Looking to the future, amongst the fresher cohort this year have been the encouraging Dan Wainwright at right-back, John Halstead who, it seems, can play any position in the team, and the enigmatic front-man Charlie Gilbert whose commitment to the team must be demonstrated before he can fulfil his potential. The team will be bolstered by returning linguists; former captain Colum Elliott-Kelly will add experience to the Brasenose attack, while Scouser Rik Hoyle will not only keep goal with agility and flair but also make BNCFC the hottest property on the crew-date market with his intriguing lawyer chat. Encouraging signs too are the form of the team's senior players – Rob Dancey has made right-wing his own, while Balrik Kailey and myself both were both in the mix for player of the season. The award somehow went to the former, presumably for his superior goal tally, since it certainly cannot have been for his defensive midfield duties that allowed us to ship a depressing 46 goals in 16 games. All of the above will have a part to play next season as we look forward to donning the black and gold of Brasenose once more. College football inevitably fluctuates as gifted players come and go, but barring a calamitous intake next year, I look forward to righting the wrongs of last season and propelling BNCFC forward once again to that spot in the top division that I know they are capable of cementing.

HOCKEY

Christopher Jeffs (2008)

A mixture of hard work and serendipity would produce an interesting year for BNCHC, with a mixture of veterans and fresh blood producing a team that gelled excellently on the field.

Michaelmas term would see the black and gold miss out on promotion to Division Two on goal difference only – an unfortunate conclusion to a enjoyable campaign in which the host of new arrivals drove a series of victories with only a single defeat. New arrival Elliott Hawkins led the forward line with a number of vital goals and telling contributions – for example, shattering an opposition players ankle with a thunderous short corner strike! In the midfield the reliable work-horse Dan Garrett created a vast number of chances with his characteristic drives down the pitch and pinpoint passes which formed the engine room of the team in combination with the ever dependable Phil Siddorn supplying equally

surging runs and reliable cover for the back line – new recruits and trusty regulars combining to perfection!

At the back another new-comer Ben Stafford supplied an impenetrable barrier combining brick wall block tackling with a rich vein of slick skills to calmly relieve the danger in any of the opposition advances. In support was the ever dependable ‘raging bull’ of veteran John Drake, a right back able to charge into any tackle full force and emerge the victor – or if not, leaving a trail a bodies and shattered sticks behind him.

A very special thanks must go out to the host of goalkeepers that kindly donned the pads over the year when the team was in great need of a shot-stopper! Peter O’Driscoll and Oli Wilson – both of whom had never played a competitive hockey match before let alone gone in goal – provided superb contributions to our success showing no fear and making a series of fine saves to ensure valuable points were secured. Additional thanks must go to the noble John Butterworth who stepped out of his defensive duties with aplalm to provide a sturdy resistance to a challenging opposition.

With this talented squad the dissapointment of Michaelmas could be left far behind in Hilary when a mixture of skill, re-scheduled matches and opposition cancellations would grant us the luck and points we needed to secure promotion to the second tier of the league system. A default win is a win nonetheless! May the roaring success of BNCHC long continue!

POOL

Edward Imrie (2009)

The 2009/2010 season for BNC Pool was definitely a successful one. In the previous season there was no team to represent Brasenose. I came to Brasenose having not played pool much at all, as was the case with most of my teammates. I played a couple of games during freshers’ week, when there was nothing much on. I could see that several people had a lot of quality and I thought it might be nice for us to gather together and create a team to enter Cuppers, just for some banter. What I hadn’t realised was that there was also a league which began on the second week of Michaelmas Term, so I entered us into it not knowing what the standard of pool would be like from the rest of Oxford.

Our team consisted only of freshers: Ben “Chalky” Charlston, Russell “Saftey” Smith, Callum “Cannon” Wood, Dave “Heavy Hands” Hansford, Rohan “Seven Ball” Sundramoorthi and me, Eddy “Eight Ball” Imrie.

We were entered into Division 3B, where we ended up finishing first with six wins out of seven and with stats consisting of the third best frame difference in the whole of Oxford! Getting promoted in our first season was something none of us really imagined would happen if asked about this before our first ever game for BNC.

We were buzzing!

In amongst all this, two members of the team (Chalky and Saftey) went to pool try-outs for Oxford University and amazingly got into the second and third teams respectively!

Towards the end of Hilary Term and beginning of Trinity Term, Pool Cuppers began. By then, pool had become popular within our year and we managed to gather more than enough people to form a second team. All of us entered the individual Cuppers tournaments as well as the big one, “The Six-man Team” tournament. BNC II had a good fight in them, captained by Jing “Super Sub” Ouyang. A little more preparation, and they might have qualified for the last 16. As for the BNC I team, we managed to get to the quarter-finals where we lost to the eventual winners of the tournament (St Anne’s) by only 7-5. I, shamefully have to take the blame for our defeat, after losing focus in the frame which would have made the scores 6-6 and would have taken the match into sudden-death.

Our only real success in the individual tournaments came from our very own “Chalky” Charlston, who won (yes, won!) the singles tournament beating the first seed on the way to the title.

All in all, this first year of Brasenose getting back into pool ended on a positive. Getting promoted into the second division, getting into the last eight of Cuppers and Ben Charlston winning the Singles in pool. Also, College has agreed to fund for us to buy our very own pool table for the JCR next year.

The future of pool looks bright for Brasenose as there’s even been talk of a girls’ team being formed for next year, let’s just hope table tennis doesn’t attract the attentions of pool team eh?

TENNIS

Balrik Kailey (2008)

Drama and tension marked this year's tennis season. The side was very strong consisting of Tim Matthewson (Uni No.1); the dangerous duo of Marco Francescon (M-Kat) and Freddie "no BMT" Briance (both Uni 2/3 team players); former Uni great, the elusive Harry Cohen; the solid yet erratic third pair of James "Nouveau Horizons" Wain and Balrik "gap yah" Kailey; all ably assisted by the big serving big hitting 5ft 6 giant Matthew "Magnus Canis" Bittlestone.

Being in division three meant that league dominance was sacrificed for the most prestigious competition in Oxford tennis... Cuppers. The format is three pairs in each team with each pair playing a set against each of the other team's pairs.

With the Oxford tennis circuit awash with rumors of the dearth of talent at Brasenose, we were immediately seeded third and given a bye to the second round, despite our lowly league standing. In the second round we faced St Anne's who provided little opposition, Brasenose winning 9-0.

The third round was to prove a clash of the titans and a defining moment of the season. Pembroke boasted a former university number one (Marc Baghdadi – recently usurped by our very own Tim Matthewson), two university second team players, a solid third pair and, very controversially, another university first team player, brought in as a ringer from Lincoln. After two rounds of matches the scores were tied at 3-3, thanks to a mammoth performance at second seed by Marco and Freddie, beating their first pair 7-6 in a nail biting finish, with M-Kat serving down an ace against Baghdadi to clinch it.

Going into the final round, we were confident of victory as our first and second pairs played their second and third pairs, respectively. Second and third pair matches finished quickly, leaving the scores at 3-3, with the first pair expected to win comfortably. However, as darkness fell, and the courts became almost unplayable, Brasenose's first pair was on the brink of defeat at 5-1 down. But, as is the BNC way, Harry and Tim refused to cede and, in front of the two teams, fought back spectacularly to win six straight games, and put us through to the quarters against St Peter's. The team put in a professional performance in the quarters and we booked our place in the semis, winning 8-1.

The semi final and final were to be played back to back on Sunday of 7th. The buzzing atmosphere was boosted by the hoards of BNC spectators, with special thanks to the JCR for providing refreshments. The semi final was against a very strong Keble side seeded number two. Unfortunately we lost Harry Cohen to Chemistry finals but, at the last minute, we were saved by the seasoned campaigner, Andre De Haes, in his final match for BNC tennis. With a tied match, it was surprisingly down to the inconsistent third pair of Kailey and Jwain, who demonstrated BMT (Big Match Temperament) by closing the match out to win the tie 5-4.

Tired but exhilarated, we moved onto the final, spurred on by the ever vocal BNC support. After two rounds the scores were level at 3-3, fatigue finally getting the better of BNC resulting in some closely fought losses. The scores were then tied at 4-4, with it all boiling down to one set of tennis. Unfortunately, the set did not go our way, but this has left us with the steely determination to go one better under the captaincy of Freddie Briance.

It has been a fantastic and memorable season for BNC tennis and an absolute privilege to have been captain; my thanks to all the players and supporters for making it so.

BADMINTON

Robera Iley (2009)

Badminton at Brasenose this year defies any previously held conceptions of badminton as a winter sport. With a slow start in the first two terms whereby timetabling proved an ever-present issue for gathering a team for matches, Trinity term witnessed a turn-around for the men's and women's badminton teams.

Practice sessions provided an opportunity for an essence of team-spirit to emerge and we focussed our attention on the inter-collegiate Cuppers Tournament. Using a league game against St. Anne's as a warm-up, we entered two Brasenose teams for the first time ever into Cuppers (according to available institutional memory) on the back of a convincing 4-0 victory. Unfortunately the men's team suffered an early defeat against a strong side put forward by St. Hugh's. This frustratingly knocked them out of the tournament as, despite drawing on the number

of games won, they lost on the number of points. We will therefore have to look to next year for the further success of the men's team.

The ladies team however fared somewhat better. In spite of ever-changing faces on the team as exams approached, the quarter-finals were reached with a crushing victory against Queen's in the bag. The next round proved somewhat more difficult against Oriel and we made it through by the skin of our teeth on a single point difference. However, we proved ourselves deserving of a place in the finals following a decisive 4-0 victory against Wadham in the semis. Sadly, this is where this year's victorious tale ends. A hotly-contested final against Christchurch-St. Peter's ended in a 1-3 defeat and the ladies team went home as the runners-up.

Nonetheless this was an impressive performance, especially in view of the fact we do not yet have the same ingrained badminton spirit as in some of the other colleges. I owe thanks to everyone who played and in particular to Louise Shen who helped me to get to grips with the captaincy. Our collective determination was very encouraging for the future of badminton at Brasenose and with the promise of more regular practices there is no doubt that we can expect even better results next year.

Following the team-orientated focus this year, it is also my aim to open-up badminton at Brasenose to include more beginners who wish to play some social badminton. With any luck, an influx of new fresher blood next year will improve our chance of success on a social, as well as on a team level.

Travel



AN ENGLISHMAN BEHIND THE (FORMER) IRON CURTAIN, AUGUST 2010

Gavin Fourie (2008)

Taking the Eurostar from London, via Brussels, we arrived in Cologne in the early evening. Here we would experience one of the continuing themes of the trip: beer and other drinks, served in shockingly small quantities. No, I'm not talking about one's usual gripe abroad with half litres instead of pints. This was taking it to a new level. We were presented with 200ml glasses of locally brewed Kölsch; though we are told the connoisseurs drink it in even smaller quantities.

After a long night's bus journey, with very little sleep, we arrived in a very wet Prague. We managed to find a youth hostel a short walk out of town, though got very wet feet in the process! After drying off and having some breakfast we headed back into town. We decided to take a bus to avoid the worst of the weather, thus coming across a problem that I think most British travellers have when using public transport in Europe. This is the problem of buying tickets, not on the bus or at the bus stop but at tobacconists or other small shops. This is not a small matter in an unfamiliar city especially when one cannot speak the language! Due to the rain, after a brief period of looking around we decided to take shelter and have some lunch in a small cellar, with sheep skin covers on the benches. Elli, struggling to be vegetarian in Eastern Europe, had fried cheese that seemed to be the only meat free option that one can routinely find in Prague! On the other hand Simon and I enjoyed the excellent local grilled sausages.

The next day we moved from our hostel to the flat of a man called Rudolf with whom we were couch surfing. There we met two Austrian sisters who were also staying with him. I could hardly believe how much they smoked, constantly going from one cigarette to another. We then set out to explore Prague castle where we saw the window of the defenestration of Prague! This, I'm reliably informed, actually happened, although those thrown out of the window survived! That evening we met up with Rudolf and the Austrian sisters in a smoke-filled bar opposite his apartment, this bar was completely unmarked and we would not have found it had we not known it was there. One of the fantastic things about Prague was the cost of the beer, which was about 80 pence for half a litre!

We bought tickets for the sleeper-train from Prague to Krakow and were pleased that they only cost £12. However, it turned out that we should have been suspicious of this seemingly amazing price. Assuming we had an interrail pass, the ticket office sold us only reservations. Despite paying the guard for the ticket on the train, we never saw a ticket - so how legitimate these tickets were, we will never know. We found ourselves in a compartment with a fascinating old Czech man. He had started life as a farm labourer, from which he progressed to become a teacher and then an MP. After the fall of communism he was involved in establishing the previously non-existent government audit office of which he became vice-president. This was a great start to our night-train experience.

We arrived early in the morning in Krakow before most shops were open. Having drawn some Polish zloty, we tried to buy some bread in the shape of a large pretzel that old ladies seemed to be selling everywhere. However when I tried to pay with a one hundred zloty note, equivalent to around twenty pounds, she refused the money but, surprisingly, instead of turning us away she gave the bread to us for free. What she didn't realise was that our ulterior motive in buying the bread was to get change for the loos. All the same, it was a very kind gesture and a good introduction to Krakow. It is a city with a small central area surrounded by a small circular park, and a 16th century castle on the outskirts. We were lucky enough to be in Krakow when there was an arts festival, taking place on the main square, so we spent one of our afternoons there enjoying the music. We couldn't help noticing the abundance of Coca-Cola signs, it was almost as if they had exclusive rights to areas around the train station. This led us to wonder about globalisation, the prevalence of Western brands in a former communist country and how hugely life must have changed in the relatively short period since I was born in 1990.

One cannot visit Krakow without going to the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. It is a surreal place because, on the surface, Auschwitz-I doesn't look bad at all; with green grass surrounding the sturdily built buildings. It is when trying to imagine over a hundred people cramped up in one room, seeing the piles of hair and the pictures of some of the prisoners that one really is able to grasp the true nature of the camp.

I feel that my writing cannot do justice to such a place. So I shall not comment further than to say that the scale of the camps particularly the

purpose-built Birkenau, where barbed wire stretches in all directions as far as the eye can see, with the fields punctuated by burned-out chimneys, is truly disturbing.

Travelling from Krakow to Budapest we had to take a regional train to Katowice before catching the night train. We had left dinner a bit late and had to run back to the hostel to collect our bags, which we managed with military-style efficiency, before legging it back to the train station. On the regional train I got up to go to the loo and upon opening the internal carriage door jumped back in shock. The whole side of the train was gaping open with the countryside going past at 60 mph, it turns out that the doors had just forgotten to close at the previous station!

Whilst on the subject of loos, I should probably mention the difference in the lavatories on trains in Eastern Europe from the ones with which we in Britain have become accustomed. The lavatories just consisted of pipes, which lead directly down onto the tracks, giving new emphasis to the signs saying not to use the loo at a station!

In Budapest we hiked up what seemed like a mountain to reach the Citadel, a large 19th century fortress, one side of which was dominated by large concrete framed Soviet-era windows, quite an extraordinary juxtaposition. The town of Buda was beautiful, particularly the old city walls and the roofs of the churches that were covered in multicoloured enamel tiles.

The next day we ventured into Pest, which was like many cities with multinational designer shops that didn't much interest us, so we spent much of the day lazing about on their equivalent of Parliament square. The Parliament building is a very impressive structure built in the Gothic-revival style reminiscent of the Palace of Westminster.

Zagreb was a pleasant very green city which, mostly having avoided large-scale development, has many squat traditional style buildings remaining; the downside of this is that it made it incredibly hard to find a hostel! Two notable features of Zagreb were the incredible enamelled roof of the church on parliament square and a chapel in middle of the road, with the pews on one curb and the altar on the other.

From Zagreb we took another night train to Split, where we visited the palace in which Emperor Diocletian retired. Whilst reading a plaque about an ancient chapel within the palace walls, a nun stuck her head out of the window and made an unlocking motion whilst pointing at the door. A minute later a key scraped in a lock and she showed us into

this simple but very beautiful chapel, which as far as we could gather is where people prayed in private to hide their religion from the oppressive Roman emperors. She spoke to us in Croatian so we didn't understand, except when she asked us whether we were Catholic or Protestant. I replied the latter being, I suppose, culturally Anglican and not wishing to bring atheism into the discussion. To which she said 'it's the same book anyway', it turns out that we had run into quite a liberal nun!

We took a ferry to the island of Hvar just off Croatia where we stayed in the small town of Stari Grad, which is beautifully old and, like the rest of Croatia, largely unspoiled. From the pebble beaches to the exceptionally salty water of the Adriatic Sea, this was quite a pleasant break from the heat and bustle of the cities in which we had spent the previous two weeks. It was in Stari Grad where we had our best meal of the trip; since it was my birthday we ordered half a kilogram of grilled seafood each, and received a beautiful array of squid, mussels, local white fish, baby octopus and langoustines.

From Stari Grad we took a night ferry to Rijeka; which whilst being an exciting experience was somewhat dulled when we realised that when we had requested simple accommodation, this meant a cabin below the water line. The creaking and dripping at night couldn't help but remind us of Titanic! It is probably best that I refrain from commenting on Rijeka; suffice to say that it is beyond me why the Italian intellectual, Gabriele d'Annunzio, decided to declare it an independent state.

We spent one night in Ljubljana and visited Ljubljana Castle, which was slightly surreal since it had undergone a 70s Soviet-style refit with lots of concrete and metal, and whilst it did look castle-like it certainly was not preserved in its original form.

From Ljubljana we took a bus to Lake Bled, which is an idyllic area with a picturesque castle sitting on a cliff-face over-looking the lake and a church built on an island in the middle of the lake. The church island is close enough to swim to, although the 500 yard swim was much further than I had imagined! We borrowed some bikes from the youth hostel and rode up a very long hill to the Vintgar Gorge, a beautiful gorge with a mile long wooden walkway down its length. Later we walked up to the castle, which like the one in Ljubljana had also been restored, however this time much more sympathetically to the original architecture and feel.

We decided to give rafting and canyoning a try with the dual benefits of fun and seeing more of the countryside. The rafting was a fairly tame affair with only small rapids but cold water when we climbed off for a swim, however canyoning turned out to be much more of an extreme sport than I had anticipated. We hiked up a hill-side wearing a wetsuit, a harness and a helmet before descending into the canyon; where we discovered why the wet suits were necessary with the freezing water! We then proceeded to abseil or jump down waterfalls in the canyon, with the largest jump being a pretty terrifying ten metres.

The last leg of our journey took us back to Ljubljana from where we had to get to Trieste. Oddly, however, there were no direct buses or trains so we caught a train to Sezana on the border of Slovenia hoping to find a bus to Trieste. This must have been a common problem as when we were walking into the bus station, a bus that was just pulling out stopped to let us on; clearly seeing we were lost tourists trying to get to Trieste!

Trieste like many Italian cities had a large collection of beautiful buildings and an impressive main square, we walked up to the oddly decorated cathedral of San Giusto and on the way down came across a quite decrepit roman amphitheatre. That night, sitting on the pier looking back at the beautifully lit city was a very memorable end to a fantastic holiday with memories that I will always cherish, for this I am eternally grateful to the Holroyd-Collieu-Stelling-Hall Memorial fund, which provided some of the funding for the trip.

NEW YORK PHOTO FESTIVAL (APRIL 2010)

Matthew Morris (2008)

The New York Photo Festival launched three years ago. Championed by Powerhouse Publishing, it is recognized as one of the most provocative annual photography events. Over the course of four days the festival re-invented DUMBO, the growing arts community situated underneath the Manhattan/Brooklyn overpass.

The festival is the brain-child of Frank Evans and Daniel Power, both of whom share a history in arts publishing and photojournalism. The goal of the project is to identify and document the future of photography in all its forms.

This year, musician Lou Reed curated the festival's primary exhibition, 'Hidden Books, Hidden stories'. Uncharacteristically for the medium, the show is punctuated by an original music score, as well as an extensive collection of the chosen artists' personal literature.

The festival thrives on photographic innovation; there is no prescriptive aesthetic for the chosen works. It is this curatorial liberalism which has resulted in the eclectic collection which the festival is renowned for.

At the Smack Mellon Gallery, Erik Kessels's show, 'Use Me, Abuse Me', confronted the current global critique of contemporary photography. He asked, Where will image-making take us? Will all existing photography be endlessly recycled? Will we soon see more photographers taking fewer photographs? How far can we stretch the medium of photography?

The festival provided me with an insight into the realities of the commercial art world. It became apparent that the logistics involved in maintaining this event bear no relationship to the relatively insular nature of a personal studio practice. However, reassuringly, the festival appears to strive to bridge these two polarities, the oscillating worlds of 'amateur' and 'professional'.

A scheme integral to this marriage is the New York Photo Awards, which run alongside the lead up to the festival. With 12 awards available in total, all winners are invited back the following year to show in the 'New Visionaries' satellite show. The awards are a fantastic platform for anyone involved in contemporary photography, who may not yet have the luxury of a gallery deal, or suitable venues to showcase their work.

The 'Fade to Black' party was a new addition to the festival this year. It utilised 'fade to black' Polaroid film which is distinctive for its unavoidable deterioration. Guests are invited to capture an image, and then enjoy a showcase of their efforts as the prints monochrome throughout the evening. Fade to black is one of several informal events created to challenge the predictable austerity of the gallery space.

Whilst in New York, I also worked on a photo-series which I have been developing since joining The Ruskin in 2008. Working with a Nikon D90, the majority of my photographs are nighttime shots. I document the social spaces which somehow adopt a certain lifelessness when not 'performing' as they do in their daytime capacity. There is no particular theoretical significance to the locations that I have selected,

they are merely captured through aesthetic judgment – the only common link between each image is their visual similarity and somewhat bleak anonymity.

ELECTIVE REPORT – FROM KERALA TO KATHMANDU

Beth Curtis

The elective is the part of the medical school course that every student eagerly anticipates. At Oxford the electives take place immediately after our final exams in the sixth year of the course so I had plenty of time to plan it! After visiting Mongolia and China at the age of 16 I felt inspired to see some more of Asia so I chose to spend my elective in India and Nepal. I was fortunate that a friend was keen to do the same so a few days after finishing our exams in the freezing February snow we found ourselves on a plane to India – a climate and country so different from our own!

Cochin, Kerala, India

Arriving in the 35 degree tropical heat of Cochin, Kerala was like stepping into another world. The taxi journey from the airport was terrifying in itself – weaving in and out of traffic, horns blaring, with no regard to which side of the road was ours. The mirrors had been removed from the car – why use a mirror when you have a horn? Dodging rickshaws, motorbikes, cows, goats and the occasional elephant we arrived in one piece at our hospital.

Our first four weeks were spent at the Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS), Cochin. AIMS is a 1,200-bed hospital, which is largely charity funded, and situated in the suburbs of Cochin, in Kerala, southern India. One third of the hospital beds are free to the poorest people, a third are subsidised and the remainder private. The hospital was set up and funded by “Amma”, a Keralan lady who is now revered as a living saint. She has a worldwide following of thousands and is renowned for her loving nature and her hugs – hence she is known as the “hugging mother”. We didn’t know any of this until we got there and were slightly unnerved by the pictures of her in every room of the hospital! Strange as this might seem, there is no doubt that she has

done great things for medicine in India including setting up the medical school on the AIMS site.

We spent our first two weeks in the General Medicine and the remaining time in Paediatrics. Our aim was to improve our understanding of tropical medicine and to gain an insight into the challenges of delivering healthcare in a developing world setting.

Whilst attached to General Medicine, we attended daily ward rounds with the post-admission teams and helped the junior doctors with their jobs on the wards. The ward rounds were a fantastic learning experience. The consultants taught in English and usually spent around 30 minutes discussing each case with us and the Indian students. We saw a wide variety of different cases including many unfamiliar conditions rarely seen in the UK. As you might expect in an Indian hospital, we saw many patients with TB and other infectious diseases such as Dengue fever and Brucellosis. When some the consultants heard that we were from the UK they took great delight in quizzing us during the ward round. We got really stuck on some of the infectious disease questions! One doctor asked “What do doctors do in England? Surely there is no work to be done if there are no infectious diseases to treat?”

Our Paediatrics attachment was a similarly rich learning experience – particularly notable cases included Sydenham’s chorea in a nine year old boy (a rare neurological complication of rheumatic fever), TB, meningitis and whooping cough. Patients in India generally come to hospital far later in their illness than they do in the UK. There is no free public healthcare system so patients have to pay for their treatment. This was reflected in the approach of the doctors and medical students to the patients. There is a huge focus on examining the patients and looking for any sign of possible pathology. At AIMS the patients have to pay for all the tests they can afford. This makes the doctors far more aware of treatment costs than here in the NHS.

The lack of GP input and community medical and social services means that follow up care in the community and management of chronic medical conditions is extremely difficult. Patients rely heavily on their families both in and out of hospital. When in hospital, each patient has to have a member of their family with them, a “bystander”, to feed, wash and dress them. If they don’t have a bystander they can’t stay in hospital. We saw one young man with acute liver failure being discharged as he

had no one to stay with him. Once they are back in the community the patients are the responsibility of their family alone.

We were also able to experience life as a medical student in India. We attended lectures and seminars with the other final year medical students and examined patients with them on the wards. I was extremely impressed by the detail that the Indian students have to learn – mostly by rote – and how hard they work! The female students live on the hospital site and are not allowed to leave except for a few hours on one Sunday a month. No extracurricular activities are available (sport or music would be a distraction), laptops and mobile phones are banned. Socialising with boys is completely out of the question!

Overall we felt that the care given to patients at AIMS was very good despite the limited resources. Kerala is one of India's more prosperous regions. We therefore had a more cushioned introduction to healthcare in India compared to the experience we would have had in a Government hospital in a more rural and less prosperous region.

In our free time we took the opportunity, of course, to see more of Kerala – it's a really beautiful part of India with coconut palms as far as the eye can see, houseboats on the backwaters and tea plantations up in the hills. I learned to cook Keralan fish curries, went to a Hindu elephant festival and managed to spot a tiger in one of the national parks!

Kathmandu, Nepal

The second four weeks of our elective was spent in the Kanti Children's Hospital in Kathmandu, Nepal. Kanti Children's Hospital is the only government hospital in Nepal specifically for children. It has 200 of the only 1000 hospital beds available for children in the country. Families therefore travel from all over Nepal to the hospital, sometimes spending many days either walking or on a bus to get there.

The hospital has some government funding, but this is not sufficient to fully cover the costs of investigations and treatment. Patients on most of the wards are asked to pay a small contribution for their bed and buy their own medications. The poorer patients are provided with subsidised treatment thanks to charitable donations, many of which come from foreign doctors and from elective students. This fundraising has also enabled a 14-bed Oncology ward to be opened where all investigations are provided free to the families affected. A new wing has been added to

the hospital recently with 100 more beds. Unfortunately this has not yet been opened due to problems employing adequate staff.

Our time at Kanti Children's hospital was divided among several departments including Cardiology, Anaesthetics, Oncology and Medicine. We assisted the doctors on the wards and in theatre, and saw patients in the outpatients department with the help of nurses to translate! The facilities at Kanti hospital were much worse than at AIMS in Kerala. Water ran brown from the taps and corridors were full of patients and families who had travelled from remote areas and had nowhere else to stay. However, some parts of the hospital, such as the operating theatres, were quite modern and well equipped due to investment from the Japanese government in the 1990s.

Again we saw a wide range of medical conditions, many of which we'd only ever read about in textbooks. In cardiology we saw many cases of rheumatic heart disease (which is very rare in the UK), and untreated congenital heart defects. In anaesthetics we assisted the anaesthetists but were rather shocked at how little pain relief many children were given for procedures such as draining abscesses and putting in chest drains. Our week in the oncology ward was probably the most upsetting as the treatment for leukaemias for example is severely financially limited and treatment is by no means as aggressive as it is in the UK. Chemotherapy drugs are extremely expensive and so only the more traditional treatments are available.

The outpatients clinics were hectic often with four families crammed into a tiny consulting room. Each would be waiting their turn to put their child down on the stool in front of the doctor. There are no GPs in Nepal so many of the cases were of diarrhoea or colds. However, during each clinic several children were admitted to the wards with serious infections. Paediatric services in Nepal are very sparse so some children arriving at the hospital are in a very late stage of their illness. This is often due to the distances they have to travel for treatment and in some cases they are, unfortunately, incurable.

Our placement at Kanti Children's hospital was a great learning experience. We saw a wide spectrum of cases and were able to have fun with the children too! I'd really like to go back to Kanti Children's hospital in the future when I have more experience and can be of greater use.

I have to admit that our time in Nepal was not ‘all work and no play’! Nepal itself is a spectacular country with beautiful scenery and incredible wildlife. In our free time we went on a short trek in the Annapurna region of the Himalayas, spent a weekend white water rafting, went on safari where we saw wild rhinos, crocodiles and bears, and visited the beautiful medieval cities of Patan and Bhaktapur. Another incentive for going back to Nepal would be to see more of the Himalayas and catch a glimpse of Everest!

As you can tell I found my elective in Kerala and Kathmandu a most rewarding and fulfilling experience. I would like to thank Brasenose College for its generous contribution towards my elective fundraising.

INTERNING AT THE UNITED NATIONS - A BRIEF REPORT

Hrushikesh Ramachandrapa
MPhil Economics candidate

I spent the long vacation of 2010 as an intern at the United Nations Headquarters, with the generous support of the Brasenose College Annual Fund. My grant gave me the means to live in one of the most expensive cities in the world, New York. This is a brief report on my two-month experience.

I went to New York with a couple of straightforward goals in mind: first, I wanted to explore the possibility of a career in development; second, I wanted to acquire experience and contacts; and third, I wanted to see international politics in action. Unfortunately, while New York was an exciting prospect, it was also an expensive one. Having all but ruled out the possibility of going on these grounds, I heard about the Annual Fund, and I went to my college supervisor, Dr Anthony Courakis, for advice on applying. Without his support and the College’s approval, I certainly would not have been able to accept my offer from the UN.

To most people, the United Nations provokes mixed reactions: admiration for emergency responses in difficult regions, peppered with apathy and cynicism towards the organisation as a whole and its efforts to bring about lasting structural changes. Many are disillusioned by its history. Given the scope of the challenges that the UN has been tasked

with, I take a more positive standpoint. However the frustrations felt by outside commentators are probably much greater for those working within the system.

For the duration of my internship I was assigned to the 'Development Coordination Policy Branch' of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs. The titles become bewildering in an organisation as sprawling as the UN. Development is best defined here by the UN's Millennium Development Goals (known as the MDGs, which include poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability, and many others). The coordination at issue is between all relevant agencies (government, NGOs, multilateral organisations) on policies that affect development. Theoretically this should include all manner of economic policy, but regrettably the focus tends to be on aid and development projects only.

While I was there my branch was responsible for organising and supervising two major conferences – one on development cooperation and one on the internal functioning of the UN organisation. As well as carrying out the usual secretarial work associated with running an international conference, our team was involved in drawing up the issues for discussion, the evidence to be discussed and the summaries of all meetings. Ultimately these conferences should inform the MDG agenda which is the foundation for international cooperation on development.

I spent most of my time following the conferences and drafting summaries of the proceedings. We had enormous freedom in this process, but the unstated goal was to construct a narrative supportive of the Secretariat agenda as interpreted by our supervisors. The unspoken rationale often seems to be that there is a particular direction which delegates should be moving towards, and dissent must be downplayed to give the impression of progress. This is less sinister than it sounds – the guiding principles are typically rooted in a vision of how to achieve the MDGs.¹ Watching the interaction between the UN machinery and the pressures from delegates was very revealing. But the internal politics within the UN organisation was the area I found most interesting. I drafted a report on a particular aspect of bargaining between agencies and in the process saw the frailties of institutional design in a variety of contexts.

The team was friendly and welcoming, if somewhat jaded. The enormity of the bureaucracy and its nest of declarations and procedures means that change must be pushed through with considerable force, and

of course it is one thing getting something agreed on paper, but quite another to have it followed through.² These observations really made me question the wisdom of diving straight into a career at the UN.

As you might expect, the internship is a great way to get tips on building a career and contacts to do so. At one point I was actually responsible for combing through the CVs of development consultants. There is probably no better way to understand the “do’s and don’t’s” of recruitment than to be on the other side of it. The internship is commonly treated as a route into a career at the UN, but you can also meet delegates from NGOs as well as national representatives. In this environment networking is both essential and easy, and the internship proved to be an excellent way in. The best aspect of a UN internship is without doubt the people you meet. During my two months, I met hundreds of people from around the world. I made a great many friends during my time at the UN, among both the staff and the other interns. Several are actually planning to come to Oxford.

I came to the conclusion that if I do work within the UN system, it should be after acquiring skills elsewhere. I certainly wouldn’t mind returning to the Big Apple. The city more than lives up to the hype, and New Yorkers are tremendously friendly (so long as you stay on their good side). But potential applicants should know that full-time postings can be anywhere from Geneva to Nairobi. Many of the agencies have headquarters in Europe, but to be taken seriously in development you generally need to spend time out ‘in the field’. For anyone interested in applying for the internship, I found that Oxford’s reputation goes a long way, and consequently you are more likely to get into the department of your choice.³

In closing I’d like to express my appreciation for the support that Brasenose College has given me, in the form of financial support from the Annual Fund and advice from my college supervisor, Dr Anthony Courakis. Simply put, that support allowed me to have the most memorable summer of my life. The experience has given me a rich insight into the career path that I will ultimately follow, and resources with which to make that transition. As students face even more financial pressure in the coming years, financial assistance from sources like the Annual Fund will become even more valuable as a way of providing opportunities. In my opinion such support goes far towards deepening the relationship between students and their College.

- ¹ For example, a lot of time in forums is taken up by certain member states that are considered outside the mainstream, who typically deliver long speeches on the fundamental flaws of capitalism, the Washington Consensus and so on. These arguments are downplayed, if not eliminated altogether, when summaries of proceedings are drafted and edited. The same applies to any speaker who strays too far from the mainstream.
- ² To take one example, our team did not have a systematic approach to hiring external consultants. I put together a basic reference file, but best practice would be for the department to maintain a shared database. The lack of this basic organisational infrastructure is puzzling.
- ³ Those interested in a career with the UN should check the eligibility criteria. The entrance exams for the Secretariat are barred for candidates from overrepresented nationalities.

DUBLIN REVIEW

Tim Robbins

5th Year Medical Student

Principal Student, Royal Society of Medicine

I am writing to thank BNC Alumni and supporters of the annual fund for the grant I received to travel to Dublin to attend the European Geriatric Medicine Society Conference.

The experience was a fantastic one with a very high level of lectures and seminars on offer. Additionally the opportunity to present my poster and research project (The National Student Survey into Perceptions and Attitudes towards Geriatric medicine) was a very valuable one. The project got excellent reviews by senior Geriatricians from around the world and real encouragement for Continuing the research.

The project has been important in encouraging the British Geriatrics Society to include and make provision for students in their society and events, a development I will hopefully be helping them develop in the coming months. This is a really important step to recruit high quality students into a speciality that will become critical in our now rapidly ageing global society.

Our plans to publish the survey in the journal *Age and Ageing* were confirmed by the feedback we received at the conference and this will hopefully be submitted in the next month or so. The survey will continue as a multi-nation international survey to see whether our results hold true around the world. A new development is that we hope to move the project onto examining attitudes among UK student nurses towards geriatric nurses. This is a step I am very much looking forward

to; indeed the multidisciplinary nature of the speciality is one of its great attractions to me.

As a result of the project and conference I have confirmed geriatric medicine as my future speciality of choice and in particular am keen to pursue an academic post for my initial training. Additionally I was delighted to be offered the role of co-ordinator for the International Student Network on Ageing and Health (ISNAH). This will be a really exciting opportunity to take my passion for geriatric medicine around the world, as well as acting as a student representative to the WHO GINA (Geneva International Network on Ageing) group. Finally the role may well allow me to take up an internship at the Department of Ageing and Lifecourse and the WHO during my medical elective.

All in all this was a thoroughly successful venture, but one that would not have happened without the help of the Annual Fund. For that I am tremendously grateful!

REPORT ON VACATION WORK

Paul Marsden (2007)

Over the 2010 summer break I spent eight weeks on a vacation work placement at Atmospheric and Planetary Physics, Oxford. I was generously supported by a grant from the Annual Fund, with the help of the Senior Tutor, which paid for my accommodation and food costs whilst in Oxford. This enabled me to use the money I earned from the research project to help support myself in the final year of my MPhys degree.

My project brief was to help in the development and testing of a chamber which would simulate the conditions found on Jupiter, allowing us to measure the optical properties of thin films of gases likely to be found on the Jovian planets. Using this chamber we could then compare the laboratory results with those found by satellites such as Galileo, the Hubble Space Telescope and ground based observations to deduce which materials each cloud layer is made from, and also what conditions (temperature, pressure, wind speeds etc.) are present.

The experiment was set up to study thin films of gases because we can find the size and shape of cloud particles from the change in the

speed of light when the material is in the form of a thin film. This is just like when a soap bubble in air (or, more topically, an oil spill upon water) produces multi-coloured reflections when lit. The change in the speed of light causes the different colours to separate, and it also allows us to work backwards to find the refractive index of the material, which is a measure of how much the speed of light is altered.

We wish to know the refractive index as this can then be used to convert light received from Jupiter into a map of the cloud layers. From repeated laboratory measurements we may build up a table of how the sample material affects light when at different temperatures and pressures. Hence when we observe a cloud on Jupiter emitting light at a particular wavelength, we may then refer back to the table and find the temperatures and pressures under which the material is known to behave in the observed way, and so deduce the conditions present.

My first task was to estimate the behaviour of the films theoretically using a computer program originally designed for use in industry, used for example in the making of anti-reflection coatings for spectacles. I also developed several computer programs to speed up data analysis once we gained new data, which ended up being the main task of my placement. Experiments were conducted to grow carbon dioxide films under a variety of conditions, allowing us to choose parameters, such as gas flow rate and measurement timings, so as to regularly produce thin films of a high optical quality. We used carbon dioxide as, despite it not being present on Jupiter in large quantities, its optical constants are well known, so it is useful for testing purposes.

By the end of the placement carbon dioxide films could be reliably created, but further work must be done to ensure they are free of large crystals. This is because ice crystals have a different refractive index to that of a gas, therefore giving incorrect results for some of the samples we tested. Now that the preliminary tests have been completed, work will soon commence on finding the optical constants of lesser studied gases such as ammonium, eventually producing a definitive table of results for the materials found in the Jovian atmospheres.

THE 49-ERS CELEBRATE

Mike Rountree (1949)

In 2009 the College introduced a modification to the Gaudy system with two new reunion events, the Golden and Diamond Jubilee lunches, bringing together alumni who matriculated 50 or 60 years ago.

At the Diamond Jubilee Lunch 1949 matriculands from across the globe gathered in Hall. The overseas visitors included David Akers-Jones from Hong Kong and Don Marquardt from the USA. Following champagne in the Deer Park, we gathered around High Table with the Principal, his wife and development director Jennifer Lewis. The very relaxed atmosphere was enhanced by a superb three-course lunch accompanied by a 2005 Saint-Veran and a 2006 Bourgogne Pinot Noir. Largely through the year rep system, the 1949 matriculation year has become known as the 49-ers who for some years have kept in touch on an irregular basis. Last year we met up for another celebratory dinner in a private room at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in London. We are now looking for a format for the next get-together, as the group is enthusiastic about getting better acquainted after a good 50 years of not knowing each other.

SHANGHAI

Katrina Hamlin (2004)

Three months ago I moved from the Cowley Road to Shanghai to take a job at the *Shanghai Business Review*. I'd been to Shanghai before. I didn't like it. I wasn't too sure why I was here.

I was afraid of the big city. Shanghai has a population of 20 million people. I do like cities – I had planned to move to a city, a place called Chengdu in the west of China. But Chengdu has about 11 million people; that seemed like enough to me and, in Shanghai, Chengdu is called a second tier city or even a small town. I wasn't sure I'd be able to deal with that extra 9 million.

I was also worried that I'd arrive, and wonder why I wasn't in London. Shanghai has Next, Marks and Spencers and Tesco. I did want to live in China, but I wasn't convinced that Shanghai was China.

I came anyway, and it wasn't very much like England after all.

Outside my front door, there are buns steaming in bamboo towers, and vats of sweet soy milk. On the street, huge brassy barbecues, with swirling frames and foot long skewers where Uyghurs from the North West sell roasted lamb with flat breads and raisins.

If I go to the park retired opera fans sing high pitched songs and pluck erhu in the shade; the bravest drag me off the path to join them demanding songs, or failing that, a speech. Grinning old men fly huge red kites, and won't let their grandchildren take the strings. When the sun goes down, crowds gather for mass callisthenics and martial arts, or dance disco and ballroom around patched-up stereos on broken trolleys.

There are China sounds too. The Chinese in Shanghai are often not from Shanghai, and the dialects are mixed up, with Sichuan "sss...", Beijing pirate "aaaarghs" and choppy Cantonese.

I felt satisfied that I was in China, but I still didn't care for the stuff I'd had at home in England (like Tesco), if I found it here. Then I met other expats – most of my friends are not from China. I had to overcome my first prejudices, and I've realised that the international community is one of the best things about the city.

I used to be frustrated or outraged by the city's foreign enclaves. It looked like a waste of time, living here and rejecting China, but that was unfair. Expats can be introverted, and homesick, but they don't reject other influences. There is a mixed-up culture that reminds me of all the things I liked when I lived on the Cowley Road. I meet Chinese, Russian, Polish, French, American, Philippino and British Shanghai'ers every day; Japanese, Spanish, German, Finnish, Swedish and Swiss are somewhere nearby.

I know that I could find a cultural mix in London, and other cities all over the world, but this is a bit different. Even though Shanghai was one of China's most open, international ports centuries before I first came, the foreign community hasn't had this much freedom for a long time. I wanted to live in China, so I came. I can make a decision like that now, but it hasn't always been possible for an outsider to find a beginning here. Changing attitudes in the West, crazy development in the East, the Olympics and the Shanghai Expo helped lure us in, and the financial crisis constricted opportunities in our own countries. All of this helps settlers to make a serious commitment to China.

That means that my generation, the younger part of the foreign community, are more likely to come here to set up a life (not a gap year). I never really saw myself as an immigrant when I told people I was going away, but when I speak with the younger generation of expats, it seems like so many newcomers think they're making a permanent decision. I'd like to see what will happen to us next, as the new community put down roots and find an identity.

I'm very grateful to Brasenose for helping me to end up here. When I hit some serious problems with my first plan – Chengdu, the small town of 11 million – I thought it was a disaster I couldn't fix. Tina Hill in the Development Office, and Llewelyn Morgan, my former tutor at Brasenose, helped me to reach the alumni in China. Without their support and advice, the plane would probably have left without me and my one way ticket would be in the bin. Despite my first fears, I'm really glad to be here, now, and I can't imagine where I would be if this hadn't happened.

BRIEF ENCOUNTER

David Clark (1970)

Early this last summer my wife and I travelled from our home in Luxembourg to Berlin for her office network get-together. Being the type of company they are, they were holding a party for staff, contacts and customers at the exclusive China Club located at the Hotel Adlon.

This landmark Berlin hotel was originally built in 1907 thanks to the intervention of Kaiser Willhelm which enabled Lorenz Adlon to buy the site and demolish the previous hotel. It was located between the Brandenburg gate and the British Embassy on the Unter den Linden and was a favourite watering hole for foreign dignitaries and celebrities visiting Berlin before the war. Having escaped serious damage during the war it was largely burnt down in 1945 by careless Russian soldiers in the wine cellar though not finally demolished until 1984.

The new Hotel Adlon rose from the ashes, so to speak, built on the same site and loosely to the same design and was opened in 1997. Those of us with a knowledge of BNC history might begin to sense a common theme or two.

To reach the China Club one needs to go through the Hotel to the rear. Passing through the halls my wife (always more observant

than I) spotted a sign with an arrow pointing upstairs to “The Phoenix Common Room”. A sense of indignation that this admittedly smart hotel had stolen a piece of BNC’s identity rose within me. But heavens, they even had our crest, and lo I read the motto “*Uno avulso non deficit alter*”. What could be going on so far from home?

We followed the sign, which led to another and another and eventually to large double doors on the first floor at the front of the hotel. The doors were guarded by two doughty German waiters. No I couldn’t go in—there was an important dinner in progress. “But I am a member” I protested, neatly sidestepping them in my best ball-crashing style. And there they were; at a table set for 13, 12 uniformed members of the Phoenix Common Room in their Benedictine brown tails, white bow ties and champagne yellow waistcoats, and they were clearly enjoying themselves. (My wife discreetly stayed outside). I knew many of the company from recent dinners as far afield as High Wycombe and Oxford – but Berlin? It turned out that the company had travelled on Mr Ryan’s airline dressed in their uniform and had persuaded the air stewards to let them sing on the planes public address system.

I departed promising to return later in the evening when I found proceedings in full flow with speeches and dances round the table accompanied by the sound of Phoenixes squawking (not until Harry Potter was it learned what sound a Phoenix actually makes) and much toasting of “Our Old Friend”. We moved to the lounge on the ground floor where some champagne was purchased and consumed in jovial but civilised style. I last saw them ambling happily into the Unter den Linden heading for a nightclub where I gather they intended to spend the rest of the night before proceeding to the airport and Mr Ryan’s plane home. No reports of smashed windows or traffic lights were heard, but after all this was the Phoenix, not the Bullingdon.

NORTH AMERICAN REUNION

Margaret Burgess (1996)

As a Brasenose alumna now living back in my native US, it is always a treat to take part in the North American Reunion festivities that are held every other year in New York and based at the Waldorf Astoria. This

past spring (16 to 18 April 2010) the weekend was especially enjoyable because of the additional special events for Brasenose alumni. I was delighted to be able to make the trip down from Maine where I now reside.

The weekend began with Friday's cocktail reception in the Grand Ballroom at the Waldorf Astoria – an evening of catching up with classmates, friends, tutors, and supervisors in the elegant setting of this New York landmark. My D.Phil. supervisor Jane Garnett (Wadham College) flew all the way from Oxford which was a welcome surprise; other friends had flown in from Europe or, like myself, had made the trip in from another part of the States. We all reveled in our common bond of Oxford.

Each college was allocated a table in the ballroom and the Brasenose table was particularly lively with the presence of our Principal Roger Cashmore and his wife Ann Lindsay Cashmore, Development Director Jennifer Lewis, and a great coterie of Brasenose fellows and alumni. The speaker that evening was the University Chancellor The Rt. Hon the Lord Patten of Barnes, CH who shared memories of his time as a student at Baillol.

On the Saturday evening Brasenose organised a cocktail and dinner at Bar Boulud, a French bistro and bar situated across from Lincoln Center. The entire lower ground floor wine cellar reception area was reserved for our party and we enjoyed *hors d'oeuvres*, wine, and a three course dinner of French classics, including Poulet Rôti and *Île Flottante*, by chef Daniel Boulud. Principal Cashmore toasted the evening and shared with us stories of the Brasenose 500 year reunion.

On Sunday, the festivities continued with a special private tour of the Frick Collection given by Associate Director and Peter Jay Sharp Chief Curator Colin Bailey (BNC 1975). As an art historian and curator myself, I was particularly excited about this morning adventure. We were invited into the Frick before it opened its doors to the public so that we had the place absolutely to ourselves!

The Frick Collection, founded by industrialist Henry Clay Frick (1849–1919) and housed in his lovely former home, is a gem of a museum on Manhattan's East side. Dr. Bailey toured us through the permanent collection which is beautifully installed in the carefully appointed rooms. He pointed out and discussed masterpieces such as Vermeer's captivating *Mistress and Maid* and Ingres's bewitching portrait

of *Comtesse d'Haussonville*. A special exhibition of masterpieces from the Dulwich Picture Gallery (located in South East London) was on loan to the Frick so we had the opportunity to peruse those works at our leisure before the museum opened its doors to the rest of the viewing public.

These unique opportunities for convivial camaraderie and continued learning beyond the tutors' rooms, lecture halls and libraries of Oxford are what make these reunions engaging and well worth the trip. I am looking forward to the next one!

BACR 50TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING REPORT

Cyrille Thinnes (2006)

Reading for an MChem degree and being a member of Brasenose College, I had the opportunity to explore research at the chemistry/biology interface for my final year project in the area of cancer research, namely in the development of novel diagnostic methods for breast cancer. In February I was awarded a four-year studentship in medicinal chemistry for cancer by Cancer Research UK, which I will take up in October 2010, still being a member of Brasenose.

As a consequence of my past and future research in oncology, it was highly beneficial to attend the 50th anniversary meeting of the British Association for Cancer Research at the Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh from 13 to 15 June 2010.

In their key paper "The Hallmarks of Cancer" (*Cell*, 100, 57-70), Hanahan and Weinberg described six essential alterations in cell physiology after reviewing a quarter century of rapid advances in cancer research. Ten years later, at the BACR 50th anniversary meeting, international leaders in cancer research were invited to revisit the Hallmarks of Cancer and how this has impacted on current research, leading to novel therapies and future approaches to improve the survival of cancer patients. Noteworthy is the lineup of so many high-profile researchers together at one single conference, such as Prof. Douglas Hanahan, Prof. Sir David Lane, Prof. Sir Richard Peto, Prof. Adrian Harris, just to name a few.

The lectures, which ran throughout the day, were surrounded by talks and poster presentations held by clinical and non-clinical investigators from both academia and industry. Talking to cancer researchers from

various institutions, it is comforting to know that, although from different institutions and groups, the cancer research machinery acts as a big family moving together to develop novel cures and diagnostics, and to educate the next generation of cancer research professionals.

This motivating and educating experience was made possible by the Annual Fund of Brasenose College, University of Oxford, which provided full funding. Thank you, BNC, for your support!

Articles



FIVE YEARS AS SENIOR TUTOR

Dr Andrew Stockley

There has been a trend in Oxford towards ‘professionalising’ the positions of Head of House, Bursar and Senior Tutor. What were once part-time posts, which could be filled by tutors for a few years between or while continuing their core academic activities, are now increasingly seen as full-time offices. When I became Senior Tutor in 2006, there were only a handful of other full-time senior tutors around the collegiate university. Now that I am about to leave in early 2011, a large majority of the mixed colleges (colleges with undergraduate and graduate students) have full-time senior tutors.

When I meet alumni at different events I am sometimes asked to explain what a senior tutor does today. A useful definition is given in the College’s *Student Handbook*: ‘The Senior Tutor has general oversight of all the academic activities of the College. He is also the Tutor for Admissions and oversees graduate and undergraduate admissions, outreach and liaison with schools.’

A lot has been achieved during the last few years.

Strengthening teaching and student academic performance.

Teaching provision has been strengthened in a range of subject areas through the appointment of more tutorial fellows and stipendiary lecturers. The former has been necessary to bring some subjects back to full strength. The latter has resulted from tutorial fellows having increased research and other University expectations.

PPE has been bolstered by the appointment of new fellows in Philosophy and Economics. The College now needs to make new permanent appointments in Politics, something which will hopefully be achieved when the University funding environment improves. The sciences have been augmented by new tutorial fellows in Biology and Chemistry.

At the same time work has been undertaken to improve teaching by increasing student feedback. All finalists have been surveyed the last two years and this is being extended to all undergraduates this year. Overall

there is a very high level of satisfaction with the teaching provided in the College.

One concern has been to improve the College's undergraduate results. The colleges with the highest endowments generally achieve the best Finals results. Brasenose is an exception, currently about 10th in terms of endowments but ranked 20th in terms of results. That said, a small number of results can affect the rankings of Oxford colleges. Brasenose is less punitive towards students who are working but struggling than some other colleges. The Norrington table puts a high premium on firsts, rewarding colleges with larger than average numbers of students taking science subjects which award a higher proportion of firsts. (The large variation in firsts awarded by different subjects is compensated for in the Tompkins Table at Cambridge.)

During the last few months I have chaired an Academic Review Working Group which will soon report on a range of matters including admissions, academic induction for students, the College's academic goals and culture, its incentives and facilities, teaching expectations and best practice. Tutors have agreed more consistent and timely interventions for underperforming students and proposals have been made to review the performance of each subject more rigorously.

We have many students who achieve outstanding results and the College has been working to increase research and study grants, vacation residence, and scholarship awards.

Significantly increasing undergraduate applications.

During the last four years we have refocused the College's recruitment strategies, including making greater use of current students and redesigning the College's Open Day and schools visits programmes. Brasenose was the thirteenth most popular college (in terms of undergraduate applications) when I became Senior Tutor. There has been a significant increase in the number of school pupils applying and for the last three years the College has been the second most popular in Oxford (receiving nine applications for each available place). We are now receiving a lot more and better candidates. This year's applicants had the fourth highest GCSE scores across the collegiate university. This is also reflected in the number of applicants to Brasenose who are being exported to and made offers by other colleges when we are unable to place them.

Last year the College appointed its first Schools and Publications Officer and we now participate in a much wider range of outreach and gifted and talented student initiatives. Links with state schools have been increased through school visits programmes and events for teachers. The College's prospectuses are being substantially revised and this will also wash over the College's website, which is now being properly updated. Brasenose was ranked fifth of the 31 undergraduate colleges in terms of the number of school outreach activities carried out in 2009/10.

Increasing graduate numbers and support.

The College's student profile has been rebalanced by significantly increasing graduate numbers. Last year, for the first time ever, the College admitted the same number of new graduate students as it did undergraduates. Brasenose has built new graduate accommodation and has increased the number and value of graduate scholarships significantly. Research grants for graduates have also been improved.

Brasenose is now performing significantly above the University average in terms of graduate results. 40% of our graduate students obtained distinctions in 2009/10 versus a University average closer to 25%. This has been the case in most recent years. Brasenose is seen as a very attractive graduate college and there is significant competition for graduate places here.

There are of course many more aspects to the role of Senior Tutor.

College Officer.

Together with the Principal, Bursar, Domestic Bursar and Development Director, I am one of the College's full-time officers. I share responsibility for the College's most significant expenditure and manage the staff of the College and Admissions Offices. A not insignificant amount of my time is spent on College committees, sub-committees and working groups. The College has faced some very difficult issues involving governance, management and personnel during the last few years, none of which have made the position particularly easy.

University responsibilities.

I am expected to represent the College on several important University committees, in particular the Senior Tutors' Committee, the Admissions Committee, and the Graduate Committee. This has meant serving on a variety of University working groups, becoming a member of the University's Joint Resource Allocation Advisory Board (responsible for advising the University on the allocation of approximately £235 million p.a. between departments and colleges), and being Deputy Chairman of the Graduate Committee.

Enhancing community life.

Together with other College officers such as the Principal, Dean and Chaplain, I have a special responsibility to get to know as many of the students as possible and to contribute to the community life of the College as a whole. One of the most enjoyable parts of my role is hosting and supporting a wide range of student activities. This has included being Senior Member for the College Ball, accompanying the Choir on tours to Rome and Milan, helping establish the Addington Society (for College debating), holding functions for new undergraduates, helping with some of the Arts Week activities, and being invited to attend a wide range of student events. I assist students and clubs and societies with funding applications and meet regularly with undergraduate and graduate student leaders to discuss all aspects of the College's community life. I have tried to advance student interests in a range of areas where College provision needed to be improved.

★★★

The role of Senior Tutor has been varied and enjoyable. There is a tremendous enthusiasm and commitment to the College among the student body. This is a friendly and inclusive college. I have enjoyed working with a wide variety of student leaders and thank them for everything they have contributed.

There are many fellows, lecturers, and staff to whom I am indebted and hope to thank properly before I leave. I am deeply grateful to Wendy Williams, Emma Harrison, Matthew Reading, Joe Organ, and Edith Spencer for their considerable contributions to the life of the College and the unstinting support and assistance they have given me.

My five years at Brasenose has passed by incredibly fast. Perhaps not that surprising in a College which has been here considerably longer!

Dr Andrew Stockley has been appointed Dean of Law at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, where he will also be a member of the University's Senior Management Team. He leaves Brasenose in February 2011.

*Carole Bourne-Taylor is currently working on a book on a Brasenose alumnus, Charles Morgan. I know that she would wish to record her grateful thanks to Charles Morgan's son, Roger (1947), who is the literary executor of the Archive, to which she has been granted generous access. **Editor***

ARTY RATHER THAN HEARTY: CHARLES MORGAN AT BNC, 1919-23

“Only the little men with nothing to say can afford not to learn to write”¹

Carole Bourne-Taylor

In the previous issue of *The Brazen Nose*, Graeme Richardson posed a novel question about an old member of BNC. Taking my lead from his essay, here is another conundrum: which old member was awarded the Légion d'honneur? No: Vernon Bogdanor doesn't count; he was at Queen's. It was the Francophile novelist and theatre critic, Charles Morgan. And the year was 1936.²

Charles Morgan went up to BNC in 1919: a kind of “Jude the Obscure suddenly given his chance”. As a naval officer in the Great War, “[he] had been dreaming of Oxford in the Atlantic and the China Seas.”³ Now, after some serious coaching in Classics, that “improbable dream” had come true: “Oxford, at last, with its bitterness and beauty.”⁴

As the generation of the early 1920s began to create its own ethos, so a renaissance of the aestheticism of the 1890s was launched. Maurice Bowra was there, and lived to chronicle those Brideshead years. He noticed that “In the years immediately after the war undergraduates managed to combine seriousness with frivolity without letting either spoil the other.”⁵ In the mid-nineteenth century, BNC had been the first College to set up a Drama Society. After a few false starts, this sparked

off a round of dramatic activity that would enliven Oxford for another hundred years. From the moment he arrived, Morgan showed a zest for the theatre: he took to it like a duck to water. In January 1921, *The Oxford Magazine* reported on the Oxford University Dramatic Society and noted that, “C.L. Morgan, G. Alchin⁶, and others of Brasenose are actively engaged in theatreland.”⁷

At Oxford, Charles never ceased to think of writing for the stage. It had been his ambition since the age of 16 when, in the idealistic manner of most adolescents, he seized upon the theatre as the perfect medium to institute social reform.⁸ His conception of a play as an organically orchestral entity, involving a “gradual spiritual attunement of the players”⁹, had an almost a mystical flavour; and this insistence on the importance of the cast as a whole – not just a collection of individual performances – would become in his hands a vehicle capable of almost overwhelming an audience.

When he arrived at Oxford, Morgan was older than many of his contemporaries. He had, after all, been a naval officer. But he was still young and impressionable. He found inspiration in the writings of one particular Brasenose man: Walter Pater. Pater, in fact, became something of a spiritual father. And Morgan’s early exposure to the writings of this ultimate aesthete must surely be the explanation of his earliest aesthetic enthusiasm. The Pater Society was, already, in 1920, a forum for the literati. At this time, there was also the Ingoldsby Essay Club, and Morgan was its President. Outside College, he discovered the OUDS, which would become the perfect medium for his burgeoning dramatic flair.

After the First World War, Morgan thus became instrumental in a resuscitation of Oxford’s dramatic tradition. With his intellect and good looks, he quickly became “an *Isis* Idol.”¹⁰ During the mid-1920s, the OUDS was very much the focus of Oxford social life. “It was an age of remarkable achievements”,¹¹ Bowra happily recalled, “and there was always something good and new crying for attention.” In February 1920, this OUDS revival was marked by a strikingly novel production of *The Dynasts*. It was performed in the presence of its elderly but still sprightly author, Thomas Hardy. Hardy came “as a mere private spectator”¹², and insisted on not giving a speech. But this was the first time OUDS had selected a play by a living author; and the choice was Charles Morgan’s suggestion. Before that the repertoire had been solidly Shakespeare, yet the bold selection of Hardy was readily approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

Hardy's epic survey of the Napoleonic wars clearly struck a chord with returning soldiers. The President, Maurice Colbourne (Oriel), with Morgan as stage manager, arranged for the play to be produced by A.E. Drinkwater – a professional actor and playwright – at Oxford's New Theatre. The cast included the future film actor Raymond Massey (Balliol), as well as Laura Corrie and Esmé Beringer.¹³

Hardy was overwhelmed and intrigued, since the play had not been intended for the stage; what could those bright young things do with his epic verse-drama? He gave OUDS the green light to treat his text freely. Charles was thrilled. Through the intercession of one particular salonnière, Mrs Crackanthorpe, he even dared to correspond with the great man himself. Instead of the forbidding figure he had imagined, he encountered a rather gentle person: all misgivings were swept away as soon as their correspondence began. On one unusually fine day in February, Charles met Hardy and his wife at the station and drove them around Oxford on their way to meet Hardy's host, Sir Walter Raleigh, Professor of English Literature at Merton.¹⁴ This drive round the sights of Oxford must have seemed almost a dream come true: here he was, still an undergraduate, in the company of the writer of *Jude*, a book he had discovered as a midshipman. He already worshipped Hardy; now he looked up to him as a master.¹⁵

With its cast of 120¹⁶, *The Dynasts* was certainly an impressive relaunch for OUDS¹⁷. At this stage, Maurice Colbourne was still President. He was soon to distinguish himself on the national stage as both actor and director. In his "very unofficial" letter to the cast, he particularly addressed warm congratulations to Morgan "on having carried out so splendid a production with such very great ease, charm and success."¹⁸ On his own admission, Charles's duties as manager for *The Dynasts* "were strenuous enough"; but his juggling with academic work must have been masterly: "for tutors do not abate their demands when an OUDS production is impending".¹⁹ No whining then, just the shrug of a student with a sense of purpose.

Charles was still honing his skills. But election to the Presidency of OUDS, in 1920, was an ideal springboard. It would prefigure his career as a leading drama critic. Networking has always been endemic in Oxford, and OUDS, from its foundation, has launched many a London career: in George Street, students could meet West End stars and producers on a surprisingly informal basis. When *Antony and Cleopatra* was staged

by William Bridges-Adams, in February 1921, Morgan, as President of OUDS, invited *The Times* dramatic critic A.B. Walkley to the last-night dinner. This was a shrewd move: Walkley – also a Francophile and, incidentally, an admirer of Proust – was soon to take Charles under his wing in *The Thunderer's* theatre columns. When Walkley died in 1926, Charles was promptly appointed to succeed him as Principal Dramatic Critic of *The Times*. And there he stayed until 1939.

Charles would remain loyal to the spirit of OUDS, providing enlightened tips to his successors. In 1926, he suggested the press be invited to the dress rehearsal of *Henry IV, Part 2*, produced by Bridges-Adams and voted the best OUDS production to date. Charles's advice certainly paid off. In his *Sunday Times* review a few days later and also in an article in *Playgoing*, "the great critic of the day"²⁰, James Agate – despite initial reservations – generously enthused. Predictably, Agate was guest of honour at the OUDS Supper after the last performance.²¹

With rapturous responses to *Hamlet*, *Peer Gynt* and *Henry IV, Part 2*, OUDS now entered the national press. Not everybody was pleased, of course: OUDS had its detractors, one of whom was Walter Frith. His letter to *The Times* on 15 February 1926 – soon after those flattering notices of *Henry IV* had appeared – protested against "the undue prominence given in the London Press (only in the last few years) to the theatrical performances of undergraduates – mainly, it seems, at Oxford."²² Frith was followed the next day in much the same vein, by a certain Mr William Farren.²³

When occasion demanded, Charles Morgan could now emerge as the champion of student productions. He remained committed to the spirit of OUDS and asserted its legitimacy as a serious part of university life:

"To suppose that undergraduate actors, or indeed any good amateurs, take all praise at its face value is to mistake their attitude of mind... The compliment that they most desire is sincere criticism of a high standard, and it is hard to understand why, when they deserve it, they should not receive it."²⁴

As early as 1921, Charles had extolled the merits of OUDS and hailed it as unique in the way it fostered a sense of community: "there is no club in the world where more lasting friendships are made."²⁵ "It is impossible, he went on, "to work for two years with a society such as the OUDS without accumulating knowledge which is the indispensable

groundwork of any London production. The training is of great value even to a man who has no intention of appearing on the stage after he leaves Oxford. It teaches him the principles of organisation, publicity and business control, which are admitted even by the philistines to be sound, marketable assets."²⁶

In Oxford, Morgan undoubtedly found his metier; and he would devote his life to the theatre, as playwright and critic. His dramatic criticism would provide much more than financial security: it turned out to be his *forte*. He put into it a rare insight and earnestness. And his thoughts were transmitted, week after week, with a serene elegance of expression. Night after night, he could compose an instant review: poised, concise and urbane. His meticulous, if mannered, style was evidence of "a reverence for language itself."²⁷ His "studied prose"²⁸ even redeemed an incorrigible insistence on "sublimation", which James Agate sneeringly – or graciously – regarded as his only flaw.²⁹ Morgan also shared with one fellow critic, Ivor Brown, a certain gift of acuteness, a gift also displayed by his predecessors Walkley and Montague. Upon finding out that it was Charles Morgan who was writing as Menander³⁰, Agate sent him a letter signed "Your faithful admirer, always and *quand meme*."³¹ The tone of affectation in the reservation is perhaps a measure of Agate's respect for his younger colleague.

The cornerstone of Morgan's aesthetic creed was discipline; the need to confine oneself within "*the limits of the selected medium*."³² Perhaps he knew Baudelaire's belief in "the eternal merits of constraint":

"The pressure of a great newspaper – its limitations of space and time, its rule against subjective extravagance, its requirement of lucidity, the sense of responsibility with which it inspires those to whom it lends its authority – [all this] is an invaluable discipline."³³

Charles had learnt from his journalistic mentor, Walkley, the supreme value of the first sentence in a theatre notice.³⁴ Here is an example, from a review of Sean O'Casey's *The Silver Tassie*: "Many years may pass before Mr O'Casey's art ceases to produce confusion in the mind of an audience accustomed by long theatrical usage to consistency of mood."³⁵ Another example is his review of André Obey's *Le Viol de Lucrèce*: "Those who admired the vigour and fantastic originality of M. Obey's *Noé*, and applauded it as an entertainment without hailing it as a great work of art, may now be glad of their reticence, for *Le Viol de Lucrèce* is to *Noé* what a tragic bronze is to a brilliant and agile toy."³⁶

It is not fortuitous that they were singled out as landmarks in the history of English dramatic criticism by Agate himself.

For Morgan, the thrill of writing to the sound of a ticking clock was at the centre of an apprenticeship that he described as “an enablement through discipline”³⁷: the writer must “harness himself.”³⁸ Aesthetic indulgence had to be pruned and purged; slimmed down to the image of an athlete: “training-down... fighting-fit.”³⁹ Here lay the secret of good writing: a veritable literary purge. There had to be a crisp sobriety about it all, an element of dithyrambic grandeur. It was a self-imposed, almost anti-romantic austerity; and it can sometimes rise to the level of Mallarmé’s mysterious clarity. There is a glorious lucidity about his writing; a limpidity of structure which marks him out as a born stylist. But the sailor in him might have employed a more homely description: “all shipshape and Bristol fashion.” One of Morgan’s reviews *The Old Ladie*⁴⁰ of 1935 prompted Agate to admit that: “When Charles is in his best form he has us all whacked.”⁴¹ But then he mischievously added: “*The Times* is happy to have a critic who is, when not insisting that sow’s ears shall be silk purses, indisputably first-rate.”⁴² There is irony in that comment; but Agate’s admiration for Morgan’s mind is undeniable.

For those who know Morgan’s works, there is a teasing contrast between the philosophical intricacies of his thinking, and the architectonic clarity of his presentation. That dualism is compelling. The ecstasies of death, love and poetry, the longings and turmoils of a tortured mind, find their resolution in the serenity of a graceful and solemn art. Morgan’s elegant prose somehow smoothes away all the complexities of his mind.

It was at BNC that the contours of Charles Morgan’s future as a writer and critic were formed. Oxford made him. Morgan believed that the function of the university was “to prepare and protect a ground in which great fruits may grow slowly.”⁴³

“Oxford enables one”, he concluded, in 1923, to acquire “habits of perspective” that equip us for the fierce competition in the world.”⁴⁴ Habits of perspective yes; but still more the habit of critical thinking. Benjamin Jowett had put it so well a generation before: “When you leave this place, you will know when a man is talking nonsense.” That’s a message, maybe, upon which BNC students might still meditate.

- ¹ Charles Morgan, 'On Learning to write', *The English Association Presidential Address 1936-1955*, July 1954, p. 18
- ² After reading out his *Ode to France* (1942) at the Comédie Française in October 1944, Charles Morgan received a standing ovation, led by Général de Gaulle. Even Paul Valéry was moved. A few years later, in 1949, Morgan was made a member of the Institut de France, only the third Briton, after Kipling and Churchill, and one of the few foreigners to receive that honour; he also received honorary degrees from the universities of Caen and Toulouse. The French liked him and the complex splendour of his prose: his *Portrait in a Mirror* (1929) won the Prix Femina-Vie Heureuse in 1930. His cordial admiration for France and its culture was amply rewarded. Apart from being an ardent lover of France, he felt that he was blessed with an intellect that was naturally French (*Selected Letters of Charles Morgan*, edited and with a memoir by Eiluned Lewis, London, Macmillan, 1967, p. 137, To René Lalou).
- ³ Charles Morgan, 'On learning to write', p. 11
- ⁴ To Thomas Hardy, November 11th 1922, Dorchester County Museum, [3293] H. 4352, p. 2 (by kind permission of Dr Jon Murden)
- ⁵ Maurice Bowra, *Memories 1898-1939*, London, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1966, p. 94
- ⁶ Gordon Alchin and Morgan remained close, sharing rooms in the Temple until Charles married the Welsh writer Hilda Vaughan in 1923
- ⁷ *The Oxford Magazine*, Friday, January 28, 1921, vol. XXXIX, number 10, p. 158
- ⁸ Charles Morgan, 'Drama's Royal Jubilee', *New York Times*, 12.5.1935
- ⁹ Charles Morgan, 'The Living Drama', *The Oxford Review*, 2 December 1919, p. 10
- ¹⁰ See *Oxford Type: The Best of the Isis*, edited by Andrew Billen and Mark Skipworth, London, Robson Bks Ltd, 1984. "Presidency of O.U.D.S., the university drama society, or the Union, would ensure the 'Idol' treatment", introduction, p. 12. See also "Isis Idol" n°253, 'C.L. Morgan (BNC), President of the O.U.D.S., in *The Isis*, 10 February 1921, n° 576, p.3.
- ¹¹ Maurice Bowra, *op. cit.*, p. 118
- ¹² Thomas Hardy, To Charles Morgan, 25 January 1920, [2537], H. 4350, Dorset County Museum, Dorchester
- ¹³ One can spot a few BNC names in the programme: R.F. de R. Read, G. Alchin and D.H. Stanger.
- ¹⁴ Hardy was granted an honorary degree during his visit.
- ¹⁵ Charles assiduously cultivated the relationship and, in 1922, as drama critic of *The Times*, visited Hardy at Max Gate (Hardy's Dorset home) as he prepared a review of a dramatization, by the Hardy Players, of Hardy's novel, *Desperate Remedies*.
- ¹⁶ Charles Morgan's performance was singled out in *The Isis*: "We especially appreciated the elocution of C.L. Morgan as Sir John Moore", n°552, February 11, 1920, p. I.
- ¹⁷ As "an historic occasion in the history of the O.U.D.S.", *The Dynasts* was instrumental in "the re-awakening of Oxford life", *Ibid.* It was then that the OUDS became a prosperous and well-established society.
- ¹⁸ Maurice Colbourne's "very unofficial" letter to the Committee members, 7 February 1920.
- ¹⁹ Charles Langbridge Morgan (President Oxford University Dramatic Society), "O.U.D.S and its work - The importance of the amateur act - This week's production", *The Observer*, Sunday, February 6, 1921
- ²⁰ Jack Hawkins, *Anything for a Quiet Life: the autobiography of Jack Hawkins*, with a postscript by Doreen Hawkins, Elm Tree Books, Hamish Hamilton, London, p. 20
- ²¹ Agate was put up for honorary membership of the O.U.D.S. with his own knowledge and consent, but the Committee realized, *in extremis*, that "it was considered inexpedient and unadvisable [sic] to elect a dramatic critic to honorary membership." (Quoted in Humphrey

- Carpenter, *O.U.D.S.: A Centenary History of the Oxford University Dramatic Society, 1885-1985*, OUP, 1985, p. 96). That was a wise caveat, but Agate was nonetheless sulky about the whole business.
- ²² Quoted in Humphrey Carpenter, *O.U.D.S.*, p.97
- ²³ Humphrey Carpenter gives no lead as to the identity of this character.
- ²⁴ Humphrey Carpenter identifies this piece from *The Times* (15 February 1926) as being written by Charles Morgan. See *O.U.D.S.*, p. 98
- ²⁵ Charles Langbridge Morgan (President Oxford University Dramatic Society), "O.U.D.S. and its work - The importance of the amateur actor - this week's production", *The Observer*, Sunday, 6 February, 1921
- ²⁶ *Ibid.*
- ²⁷ Charles Morgan, 'On learning to write', p. 12
- ²⁸ James Agate, *Ego, The Autobiography of James Agate*, London, Hamish Hamilton, 1935, p. 259
- ²⁹ James Agate, *Ibid.*, p. 263
- ³⁰ Menander's Mirror was Charles's column in the *TLS*
- ³¹ James Agate, *Ego 6. Once More the Autobiography of James Agate*, George G. Harrap & Co. Ltd., London, 1944, p. 73
- ³² Charles Morgan, 'On learning to write', p. 15
- ³³ Charles Morgan, *Ibid.*, p. 15
- ³⁴ See Charles Morgan, *Ibid.*, p. 16
- ³⁵ James Agate, *The English Dramatic Critics 1660-1932*, Archer Barker Ltd., London, 1932, p.347
- ³⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 351
- ³⁷ Charles Morgan, 'On Learning to Write', p. 6
- ³⁸ Charles Morgan, *Ibid.*, p. 15
- ³⁹ Charles Morgan, *Ibid.*, p. 16
- ⁴⁰ Rodney Ackland's adaptation (1935) from Hugh Walpole's 1924 novel
- ⁴¹ James Agate, *Ego 2. Being more of the Autobiography of James Agate*, London, Victor Gollancz, 1936, p. 146
- ⁴² James Agate, *Ibid.*, p. 146
- ⁴³ Charles Morgan, 'To Max Beerbohm: On Oxford', *Review of Reviews*, November 15 1923, London, p. 334
- ⁴⁴ Charles Morgan, 'To Max Beerbohm', p. 333

A SERMON FOR ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER

**In commemoration of Elizabeth Morley,
and on the occasion of the Patronal Festival, 18 July 2010**

The Rev'd Graeme Richardson, Chaplain

*NB What follows is the rather bulky text I carried with me up the pulpit steps; but not exactly what I then delivered, partly because it would take a Victorian amount of time to deliver, and partly to give at least the appearance of spontaneity. Partly also, because I had a lingering suspicion that others might not share my fascination with Dean Milman; and it was the biographical part of the sermon that was therefore most abbreviated. But I hope that readers of *The Brazen Nose* will be interested to learn of Brasenose man now solely remembered for one Palm Sunday hymn – Ride on, ride on in majesty”.*

It is a great pleasure to be here this morning for your Patronal Festival; and I especially want to thank Canon Wright for his indulgence in allowing me to invite myself. I shall say something a little later about the reason for my rudely imposing myself like this.

But first let me tackle the two readings we have heard; and suggest a question for you to mull over as I speak. For St. Margaret, we have had the same readings we hear for St. George – Revelations 12:7-11 (“And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon...”) and John 15:18-21 (“You do not belong to the world... therefore the world hates you”). The reason for this is that St. Margaret of Antioch, like St. George, had a run-in with a dragon. The Golden Legend tells us that Satan, in the form of a dragon, swallowed St. Margaret; but she survived and was regurgitated (presumably slimy but otherwise unharmed) because the cross she wore had irritated the dragon’s innards. This is an allegory of the world’s opposition to Christ as described in John 15: the cross we all must carry must in some way irritate the evil of the world. And so I ask this morning – of myself, the Oxford chaplain, and of you, the Westminster congregation worshipping here more or less at the seat of national power: how do you irritate the world? And how do you express your opposition to it?

Brasenose men and women may well say that their defiance of the world consists in resisting the neglects of history and defying the whims

of passing fashion. And it's in such a cause that I invited myself to your pulpit today.

Shortly after the foundation of Brasenose five hundred years ago, we received a large gift from one Mrs Elizabeth Morley. Her husband had been a prosperous draper and vintner in London. By the terms of her gift, the college was to hold a dinner in her honour once a year; and also to "provide a Priest, who is to be a Fellow, to preach in person or by deputy once a year at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and there expressly to name Elizabeth Morley." Now, rather typically, the responsibility to have a feast once a year has been taken most seriously. But the sermon has been less frequently remembered – perhaps because, within 15 years of Betty Morley's gift, preaching as she knew it became a thing of the past, as the Reformation took hold. I'm not sure when the observance lapsed – and I'd be glad to take a look at your registers later – but my sense of sore-headed penitence after the Betty Morley in 2009 was such that I thought to revive the custom. So here I am; a mere Chaplain and Supernumerary Fellow; but able at least to say – God Bless Elizabeth Morley, and the college she endowed.

Also, buried not far from here in the Abbey, under a monument by Grinling Gibbons, is another BNC benefactor, the Duchess of Somerset. The monument proclaims that she "richly endowed for all time" the college of Brasenose. The Duchess for many years paid for "Somerset Scholars", who had their bed and board paid for along with certain allowances. We could do with such generosity again. Considering the munificence of some of our benefactors in the past only leads us to thinking of the miserliness of the present. Austerity and cuts are the political watch-words of the day – and Universities, even ones that look rich like Oxford and Cambridge, will be forced into economies in the future. In its last year of government, Labour reduced funding for Higher Education by £449m for the year 2010-2011. The Coalition government has announced a further £211m, and has yet to say how 25% cuts across government spending will affect the Universities. Now, Brasenose College Oxford will not have to close in the near future. But the extra pressure on Oxford and Cambridge comes from our competition with the well-funded Universities of the United States. And anyway, the language of cuts infiltrates all aspects of academic life nationally. Cuts build up the pressure on Universities to justify their existence in an increasingly utilitarian, materialistic, reductionist world

– and whilst no doubt there is fat to be trimmed here as anywhere else in public spending, it seems to me that the consequences might be particularly devastating for Higher Education. Cuts make something narrower or shallower; and yet the essence of Higher Education should be breadth and depth. And it is one of the great merits of education in the Liberal Arts in the past that a breadth and depth of learning has fostered a breadth and depth of spirit. So I want to make an argument that says generosity of funding in Higher Education leads to generosity of syllabus and achievement in learning and generosity of spirit in life: and that that itself, in the narrow and acid gut of our world, is a useful aid to ensuring our regurgitation into heaven.

And my prime example for supporting that argument today will come from someone who was a Fellow of Brasenose and Rector of St. Margaret's Westminster: your first Rector, Henry Hart Milman.

Milman's dates are 1791-1868. He began his life in the Age of Romanticism and Revolution, and ended it at the centre of the Victorian establishment. As a small boy, he witnessed the funeral of Admiral Nelson. As Dean of St. Paul's, he presided at the Duke of Wellington's funeral in 1852, the last heraldic state funeral held in this country. He became a Fellow of Brasenose in 1814 (four years after his matriculation), and was then ordained into a somewhat dry and colourless Georgian Church. He went to St. Paul's at a time both of profound crisis and amazing energy for the Victorian Church: a church that was anything but colourless. He was a poet who dined with Wordsworth in 1812; and with Tennyson in 1865. He wrote for the *Quarterly Review*, and was denounced by Shelley and accused in Byron's squib *Who killed John Keats?*

“Who fired the arrow?
The poet-priest Milman,
So ready to kill man,
Or Southey or Barrow.”

But in fact the offending review was not by Milman – who, despite the rhyme, was one of the less ferocious reviewers of his time. If anything, he was an admirer of the Romantics, especially Byron, and was greatly influenced by them in his own work. That work, often verse-dramas, seems now lifeless and stodgy. But it is interesting to see that Milman wrote a verse drama about your St. Margaret – the Martyr of Antioch (1822) – years before he came to Westminster. That same verse-drama

was adapted by Gilbert and Sullivan to make an oratorio in 1880 – the first piece they worked on together after *The Pirates of Penzance* – an oratorio which I do hope is performed here every year. No? What a pity.

Through all these literary adventures, Milman held the living of St. Mary's Reading; simultaneously, he was Professor of Poetry at Oxford from 1821 to 1831. It's a mark of the man that when his lectures (all delivered in Latin, of course) more or less exhausted classical poetry, he taught himself Sanskrit, and expanded his hearers' horizons by introducing to them the poetry of India – in 1830, a quite remarkable step. And after the relative failure of his Byronic verse, he turned to prose, writing a "History of the Jews". This volume, shocking in its time, attempted to see Jewish history in its own context, as a story of nomadic peoples from the Middle East: Dean Stanley called it: "the first decisive inroad of German theology [i.e. critical historical theology] into England".

So Milman was already distinguished by the time he received the offer from Sir Robert Peel in 1835 of St Margaret's Westminster. He stayed for nearly 15 years. For all his amazing success, he was not spared the horrors of 19th century life. In his time here, three of his six children died; two daughters aged 15 and eight, ("not released without long suffering" wrote Arthur Milman, their brother, in his biography) and a little boy aged three. They were all buried in the North Aisle of the Nave of the Abbey, and for them Milman wrote this lament:

"My child! My child! Among the great and wise
Thou'st had thy peaceful solemn obsequies.
Seemst thou misplac'd in that fam'd company?
Heaven's kingdom is made up of such as thee."

Here Milman also encountered the seedier side of Victorian life. His parish sprawled across a wide densely-populated area – its Eastern boundary was the river, and its Western boundary lay through the middle of Kensington Gardens – and Milman's first impression of it was as "one reeking and irreclaimable centre of filth and misery." It was a place rife with crime and prostitution. Milman was a leading light in the Westminster Improvement Commission which helped to clear the slums and build the new thoroughfare, Victoria Street, in 1851.

And while his poetry will seem to us now quite remarkably old-fashioned, intellectually Milman was ahead of his time. He remained aloof

from the religious controversies of his age, without, apparently losing the friendship of those embroiled in them. He admired the Anglo-Catholics ministering in the slums, but did not share their dogmatism over ritual and their romanticism about the past; in the same way he retained the friendship of Lord Shaftesbury without ever being in full agreement with the evangelical party. He was not in the least bit threatened by Darwin or by atheist philosophies; and he read biblical criticism skeptically, but with respect. In 1866, he wrote to one correspondent: "I accept all the results of philosophy, of natural science, freely and without the least fear, but I am disposed to submit critical enquiry to severe criticism. Let it have its full liberty, but let me have the liberty of rejecting it, if I think it arbitrary and paradoxical." Having been accused of heresy himself, he was quick to defend anyone else so assailed.

So it was that he was one of the few eminent clergymen to contribute to the Bishop Colenso Defence and Testimonial fund. Bishop Colenso, as you might remember, was a priest-mathematician with an enthusiasm for foreign mission. He found himself consecrated Bishop of Natal in 1853. In England, he had been suspected of heterodoxy concerning Everlasting Punishment, to the point where he had been forced to write an open letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, confirming his belief in Hell. But in Africa, the old doubts returned – partly because he found it heart-breaking to tell newly converted African Christians that their Zulu ancestors were suffering the torments of Eternal Hellfire. What if the Biblical teaching on the subject was not only harsh but wrong? He went back to the texts. With the mind of a mathematician he looked at Genesis, and found its calculations unlikely. His published works began to cause problems back home, particularly among the High Church party; and there were even calls to remove him from office. At one stage in the controversy, a new, orthodox Bishop of Natal was consecrated as a rival to him, and Colenso found himself without funding. Here the Defence and Testimonial fund came to his rescue.

Milman did not agree with Colenso. He had not met the problem of Eternal Hellfire head-on in the same way, and he was of a less literal cast of mind in the first place. Nevertheless, he wanted to defend him, and in a letter set out his reasons. There are five; but I shall simply quote the first three of them, because they illustrate exactly the breadth of learning, that generosity of spirit, that Milman's broad and generously education had engendered. So he defends Colenso:

- i) “Because, although I strongly doubt his principles, and entirely repudiate very many of the conclusions of Bishop Colenso’s Biblical criticism, I cannot, in the interests of true religion, consent to proscribe, or to restrict, the full, free, serious investigation into the origin, authenticity, authority, above all the interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures.
- ii) “Because the condemnation of Bishop Colenso has been generally based on a theory of Biblical inspiration in my judgement not authorised by the Scripture itself; in its rigour only of late dominance or acceptance in the Church; in no way whatever asserted in the Formularies or Articles of the Church of England; fatal as I truly believe it, to the lasting authority and influence of the Bible; inevitably leading to endless difficulties and contradictions; in perilous and unnecessary conflict with the science and with the discoveries of our times; making it impossible to reconcile and harmonise the spirit of the Old Testament with the spirit of the New.
- iii) “Because the general tone towards Bishop Colenso has been hasty, harsh, unreasoning, repellent, rather than gentle, argumentative, conciliatory – tending to drive him, as I fear has been the case, into more and more extreme opinions, making any mutual understanding and approximation almost impossible, provoking him to more confirmed hostility, instead of inducing him to a calm consideration of all the bearings and consequences of his views and of his own peculiar position.”

There – in a stand against authoritarianism, fundamentalism and the ignorant armies of Victorian religious controversy – there is a generous spirit informed by deep learning.

Now, in the light of the martyrdom of saints like Margaret; in the light of that irritating cross in the dragon’s bowels; in the light of the words of Christ – “the world hates you”, what are we to make of a Christian like Milman, of Eton and Brasenose (like our own dear Prime Minister) and then Dean of St. Paul’s, a pillar of the Victorian establishment? There is a lesson, I think, on how to respond to the temptations of the world.

Temptations there will always be to draw a line in the sand, defend it aggressively and without compromise, and do so in such a way as to entrench opposition and prolong conflict. The stand against this,

the irritation to this way of being, is judicious irenicism and a sense of humour and humanity. Within the controversies of our own day, that means a willingness to read the Bible without suspending our critical faculties; it means a respect for the progress of science whilst refusing to bow down before it; it means a belief that not all things religious are essential to religion; and an overwhelming trust in God's goodness. We are not all called to be martyrs like St. Margaret, who die a violent death as a witness to the Gospel. But we are called to martyr in ourselves our own worldly pride and narrowness, our own desire for self-assertion and self-aggrandisement. Such a martyrdom may be a little quiet for some tastes. It may not be as exciting as religious revolution, and devotional ecstasy. But it is often more generous; and its cause is worth supporting, in education and in the church. Amen.

A NOTE ON ROBERT SHACKLETON AND SUEZ, 1956

Professor J. Mordaunt Crook

To generations of BNC men, Robert Shackleton is remembered as a scholar, a tutor, a gastronome and a bibliophile. What is seldom recalled is the seriousness of his political views. As an undergraduate at Oriel in the later 1930s, he was active in the Oxford Union on the Liberal side. In 1945, a year or so before his election as Fellow of Brasenose, he stood unsuccessfully as Liberal Parliamentary candidate for Blackburn, Lancashire. In truth he was quite unsuited to the life of an M.P., and he would surely have admitted as much in later years. Nevertheless, he retained a keen interest in public affairs. When the Suez crisis broke in the summer of 1956, Shackleton took a fiercely anti-government line. As a college, Brasenose was divided. There were demonstrations, and counter-demonstrations, at dinner in Hall. Shackleton regarded Sir Anthony Eden's plan to recapture the Suez Canal by military force, without United Nations authority, as a moral affront and a political disaster. When a majority of the Fellows of Brasenose drew up a letter of protest, Shackleton was so enthusiastic he signed twice. And on 2nd November 1956, he wrote an impassioned letter imploring the support of his old Oxford friend, Edward Heath M.P. At that time Heath held

the office of government Chief Whip. His position in the Tory party was fundamental to its unity. Philip Ziegler's new biography of Heath (Harper Press, 2010, p.99) gives the substance of Shackleton's letter.

'You must agree Government policy is disastrous. I implore you to put first things first. The resignation of the Chief Whip would do more than any other single thing to rescue the country. I beg you to consider it'.

Privately, Heath's sympathies were with Shackleton. Publicly his duty was to keep the government together at a time of national crisis. 'For a Chief Whip to resign', he later recalled, 'would be an act not only of utter disloyalty, but of wilful destruction'.

It was Eden who resigned, not Heath.

JOHN FOSTER REMEMBERED

Peter Sinclair, Emeritus Fellow

What mattered most to John Foster were three things: philosophy, faith and family. To his family, John was an avid supporter of Oxford United and his local team in boyhood, Spurs; a brilliant mimic; a keen gardener and lover of music; a source of gales of laughter, unfailing support and love; and above all, as Rachel stressed in a moving funeral tribute to her father, an absolute master of words.

Words were his currency at work, as well. The seven books and various articles he wrote must embrace a million carefully selected words. It is his words that pupils remember most – quietly combative, and framed in keen debate to analyse, to clarify and to encourage; and the priceless practical gift, says Peter Sands, of training on how to use them best. As Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy at Brasenose for 39 years, he listened to two million of them, read out in over 1,200 tutorials (though discussion could get so animated, Richard Seaford recalls, that the essay got cut short). Some were delivered by Michael Williams, whose memories of John accompany this.

For the first two thirds of these years he shared the College's Philosophy teaching with Michael Woods. It seems likely that John Foster taught more members of Brasenose than anyone in the College's recent history. Some of his first pupils matriculated in 1963; his last, in 2004. As well as those (as John had) reading PPP and Lit Hum, there were the small joint schools with Mathematics, Modern Languages,

Physics and Theology, and above all the great cohort of PPEists. John must have taught no fewer than 720 men and women at Brasenose from 42 generations.

John Foster was born in North London, on 5 May 1941. His family lived in Southgate. His earliest memories will have been of bomb-laden doodlebugs and V2 rockets, flying in from the Continent. They may have reinforced his lifelong aversion to many things un-English – especially garlic.

His first publication was a precocious letter to *The Times*, protesting at the iniquity of closing his school Mercer's, in Barnard's Inn, in the late 1950s. This meant a move to the City of London School (CLS) to do Classics A levels. That letter showed many of John's qualities: dislike of change (he usually wrote long hand and converted late to email in 2002), suspicion of officialdom (especially QAA and the RAE), and the forthrightness and eloquence that marked his teaching and his books.

After CLS, John went up to read Classics at Lincoln College, Oxford. His sixth term, and first of Greats, exposed him to Ancient History, which he found uncongenial. So he switched to PPP, where his chief love, Philosophy, would partner Psychology, another interest. His relationship with his Psychology tutor was warm (after moving to Sussex, he later helped to arrange an offer for John of a Philosophy lectureship there, which John nearly accepted). But John did not get on well with his Philosophy tutor, Harold Cox. To Cox, a gifted lecturer and dyed-in-the-wool realist, John seemed truculent and wilful, worrying about epistemological issues that John Austin and others had (in Cox's view) comprehensively settled. For John, Cox was glib, and too ready to accept trendy arguments without probing. Sometimes a tense, awkward relationship with your tutor proves formative grit in the oyster that later creates a magnificent pearl. In John's case, that happened.

John stayed another year at Lincoln, after taking a First in 1964, and began a doctorate. His supervisor was to be everything Cox wasn't: a courageous opponent of many mainstream views, a prolific author of world renown, an indefatigable champion, and a sharp critic of naive realism. So Ayer was Philonous to Cox's Hylas. Ayer and John disagreed on some things. One was religion. To Ayer the worldly atheist, who had long regarded religion as utterly devoid of meaning, the devoutness of Foster, the young Christian, was a puzzle. Yet maybe Ayer saw John as a reincarnation of the great British philosopher Bishop Berkeley,

whose views, bizarre to many others, they both largely shared. Ayer's unstinting support ensured John's election to a Stone-Platt Junior Research Fellowship at New College, and a year later (after dissuading him from Sussex) to the tutorial Fellowship at Brasenose.

The Brasenose he and six other new tutorial fellows joined in 1966 differed in some ways from today's. There might have been almost half as many resident fellows back then (12) as graduate students! In the Arts, only Law produced Firsts regularly (in the School's first four decades, just two BNC PPE men had attained that class). To the tutors' annoyance, headmasters' letters about entrance candidates might say: "Clearly I must gloss over Philip's academic life, but I really want to stress to you his quite outstanding qualities as wicket keeper and full back, and that is why I told him he had to apply to the Nose". The undergraduates and the old members loved the then Principal, Noel Hall, who was all geniality and gin, and whose less positive qualities as administrator, paradoxically, united the fellowship as never before. Most Arts tutors were undoctored then. Those few with D. Phils were actually pitied on that ground that "it had taken them so long to get a proper job, poor chaps, that they could actually finish their theses". Isaiah Berlin's view was: "Why a doctorate? Are you ashamed of your first degree?" John was no exception: he retired as "Mr", too.

With his PPE and Greats colleagues, by the 1970s all "Mr", John laboured tirelessly to raise the College's academic game. In time, it worked. Applications waxed, and waxed again. And so did good results in the class lists. By the early 1990s, Brasenose was attracting more PPE candidates than any other college, and *The Independent* had ranked Brasenose as the university's top college for PPE, based on schools results over the previous decade. The undergraduates worked hard, and very effectively. They took John Foster's tutorial mantra to heart: "Take nothing for granted. First think it out for yourself. Then answer the question clearly, and in the simplest English you can".

John was always pleased by former pupils' successes. Many have or had university affiliations, most as professors: this great group includes Allen, Baker, Baudot, Benbow, Benjamin, Berrett, Beyer, Blignault, Board, Borobaby, Campbell, Connolly, Copeland, Coyle, Fender, Garnett, Geddes, C. Hall, P. Hall, Harford, Helm, Hill, Jay, Johnson, Kalis, Koehn, Levene, Low, Mayes, Mehlman, Muennich, O'Neill, Ogden, Pappasotiriou, Pitt, Preston, Roberts, Rosensweig, Sayer, Seaford,

Smith, Telgarsky, Vertinsky, Weeds, Welch, Williams and Young. And other stars in teaching, charity and social work, the church, films, art, book-writing, the law, the armed forces, the Treasury, the Foreign Office, the Scottish Office, the IMF, the Bank, *The Times* (Hindustan's and London's), industry, finance, the BBC, ITN and C4, the Palace, Ireland's embassy in China, and not least in Parliament – how delighted he would be to hear, as he had hoped, that 10 Downing Street had now been added to the list!

Former charges recall his tutorials with pleasure. “He was amazingly tolerant”, recalls John Macpherson. All knew that some of his views were unconventional. But he would not parade them, nor try to persuade others to accept them. He challenged any argument you gave him vigorously, whatever line it took. Those for whom solo philosophy tutorials were new or daunting could find this unnerving at times; but the able and the experienced thrived on it. He liked all aspects of his teaching, through to the annual PPE-Greats Schools dinner (although like most fellows, he would leave if it descended to poker).

Among the fellows, John was the conscience of the College. He did all he was asked to do. He never sought college office (but had an eventful spell as Dean). He was ambitious intellectually, always searching for the truth, but never anxious for promotion. A tutorial fellowship was, he felt, a great honour, and something he was content to retain throughout his career. Dafydd Stuttard recalls John saying how he'd responded to his mother's concerns about where a fellowship might lead: “Nowhere – it's the top!” In college, he did not dominate – except at the chess board (where he had excelled since youth). How he came down on an issue was hard to foretell. He would analyse it carefully, uncover some aspects that had probably not even been thought about, and judge the matter on one test: what he thought was ethically right. In meetings he never spoke at length. In some he was a minority of one. He never backed a decision that smacked even faintly of injustice.

At meals, on the bus or in the street, John could be so wrapped in philosophical thought, say Oliver Board and Helen Weeds, that even close kith and kin might pass unrecognised. What John sought to establish was the truth as he saw it. After a dinner attended by Archbishop Robert Runcie, then trying desperately hard then to keep the Church of England together, in the face of incipient splits and acrimonious debate on women priests and other issues, one of them abortion, several

fellows told him how much they sympathised with him on that difficult topic (and others). John overheard this. “No”, he declared, “abortion is *not* a difficult issue. It’s a clear case of right and wrong. Life starts with conception. Abortion is murder.” Runcie frowned, lost in pensive half-agreement.

No causation here; but not long after this, at Easter 1989, John and Helen would become Roman Catholics. The Church of England’s prevarication on abortion was a big factor. What they saw as the immorality of abortion had worried them increasingly as time went on; John’s blue sports jacket soon began to sport pro-life badges.

Helen and John first met at the 1963 Freshers’ Fair. John, starting his final BA year, was manning the Esperanto Club stall. Helen, a newly arrived Classicist, spotted it, and him. Esperanto had attracted John because of his interest in language and words. In every other respect, John remained an Englishman to his fingertips, at least until their conversion to Catholicism. Like Esperanto, the Vatican was a universal institution, not a national one.

Helen and John married in Tunbridge Wells, her home town, in 1967, after she had taken Schools, and John had completed his first and only year of residence in Brasenose. Helen had always been an Anglican. John became one. They went on to have four children, all great individuals, of whom they were both very fond. Rachel, Gerard, Richard and Alice would, in turn, all help their mother, without the slightest question or complaint, when it came to nursing John devotedly at home, both before and during the months of his very painful final illness.

Unlike some of his pupils, whose skills would later bring them fortunes and fame, John was never well off. For the first 21 years of their marriage, the nearest Helen and John came to having a holiday was swapping houses, and always in Britain. “Normal” holidays lay beyond the constraint of the budget. John took some sabbatical leave, but stayed in Oxford to write. He never went abroad in this period; he never wished to. (Later he went on brief academic visits to Poland and the US). Like academic conferences, or Sub-faculty meetings, or administrative tasks he did not have to do, trips abroad, even had they been affordable, were just an interruption from family and work. Home was Quarry High Street, in Headington. Their home, Brasenose College, and their church, were John’s three worlds. He needed no other.

By 1989, things changed a little. Travel was cheaper; financial pressures had begun to ease; Catholic Europe was alien no longer. So John and Helen took their first visit together to Italy, to Lake Garda. It was a huge success. Trips to Italy followed annually: to Florence, Rome, Venice and other places. They would walk in the cities and the hills. Italian cuisine was, in the main, mercifully free of garlic and John's other great dislike, mustard. Even after myelofibrosis was diagnosed in 1997, the yearly Italian forays continued, right up to John's last summer, in 2008.

His illness worsened sharply in 2000, when he was given just 6 to 24 months to live. He fought his illness with extraordinary courage and proved his doctors wrong, living on for another nine years. In 2005, leukaemia had set in; chemo failed, but a bone marrow transplant, it turned out, gave him a two year remission. He took early ill-health retirement finally that year, having managed to continue teaching (latterly on diminished hours) for eight years after his 1997 diagnosis. From 2000, Dave Leal had generously filled in as needed when John's treatments and blood transfusions took him away to hospital, but John had met the great majority of his teaching commitments himself.

Nor just teaching. His 1976 article "Meaning and Truth Theory" hit headlines. Yet his philosophy flowered in the main as books, starting in the early 1980s. *The Case for Idealism* came out in 1982, and in 1985, *A.J. Ayer*, in the series *The Arguments of the Philosophers*. Quinton wrote of *A.J. Ayer*: "the only serious monograph about his philosophy is that of John Foster, a most loyal, but penetratingly critical admirer". Vernon Bogdanor recalls Ayer's verdict: "John Foster has put my views better, and more clearly, than I did!"

1985 also saw the appearance of an OUP volume that John edited with Howard Robinson: *Essays on Berkeley: a Tercentenary Celebration*. With the 1985 books John Foster had now honoured two great philosophers, maybe the only two, one then still living and the other long dead, with whose views he mostly agreed. John was always a great thinker. In the 1980s he became a great writer. But he was not a wide reader. He relied on his own thinking – enlivened by tutorial sparring, and regular discussions with half a dozen close professional friends (some of whom had quite different views).

His *Case for Idealism* (1982), *The Immaterial Self: A Defence of the Cartesian Dualist Conception of the Mind* (Routledge, 1991), and *The*

Nature of Perception (OUP, 2000) gave his own lucid, rigorous and quite original view of the mind as the primary entity. John's 2000 book was not his last. There were to be two more, both published by OUP. 2004 saw the appearance of *The Divine Law Maker: Lectures on Induction, Laws of Nature, and the Existence of God*. And four years later, an even more substantial volume, *A World for Us: the Case for Phenomenalistic Idealism*. Howard Robinson writes about John's philosophy and books in an accompanying article; enough for me to sum up John's books by misquoting Horace: *exegit monumentum aere perennius*.

JOHN FOSTER

*Professor Howard Robinson
Central European University*

Derek Parfit of All Souls first mentioned John's name to me in about 1969 and I began attending his graduate classes, which I did until leaving Oxford in 1974. The regulars were a very small group, including Sam Guttenplan, now a professor at Birkbeck. John's theme in those days was the phenomenalistic construction of the physical world from subjective sense-experience, in the manner of a radical empiricist, like his former supervisor, Freddie Ayer. Some of it was too difficult for me to follow, but the combination of technical versatility with metaphysical insight and ambition I found absolutely irresistible. I quickly became close friends, first with John, then with Helen and their family.

A dominant theme in modern analytical philosophy has been the task of reconciling mental phenomena – consciousness and thought – with the materialistic view of the world that physical science is thought to deliver. The scientific view is taken to be essentially unproblematic, and mind, in so far as it cannot be fitted in with science, is an embarrassment. John believed – rightly, in my view – that the concept of matter is much more problematic than that of mind. Even if the physical sciences are very good *explanatory* schemes, they constitute a very unilluminating *metaphysics*. This made John a convinced Berkeleyan idealist. His first and last books – *The Case for Idealism* and *A World for Us* – both defend this position: the earlier one in a rather reader-unfriendly way, and the later as a model of lucidity. The books in between all concerned themes

relevant to this programme – defences of the immateriality of the mind, of the sense-datum theory of perception and a critical evaluation of Ayer's version of empiricism.

Most radical empiricists are hostile to metaphysics, and most contemporary philosophers who share John's scepticism about the 'physicalist' conception of matter – for example, his old friend Michael Lockwood, Galen Strawson and 2010's John Locke lecturer, David Chalmers – all want to devise a reformed conception of matter that will justify a version of a naturalistic or materialist metaphysic. John, on the other hand, thought that only a theistic idealism of Bishop Berkeley's kind could solve the problems. (His first book was dedicated to Helen and his last to Berkeley.)

John did philosophy by working everything out for himself. This can make it difficult to relate the positions he discusses to those held by contemporary 'famous names' in the subject. This and the fact that he refused to be part of the global conference-hopping world means that, though his work is admired by all who come to grips with it, it is not yet as much part of the currency of debate as it deserves to be. I believe that as the inadequacy of attempts to save the materialist world view by modifying it becomes clear, John Foster's star will come to take the place it merits in the philosophical firmament.

JOHN FOSTER

Michael Williams (1965)

*Krieger-Eisenhower Professor, Department of Philosophy
The Johns Hopkins University*

John was my philosophy tutor during the academic year 1966-7, his first year as a fellow. I think that I was with him for the Michaelmas and Hilary terms, returning to Michael Woods for Trinity term (though I must admit that I am not quite sure about this). What I am sure about is that John had a very great influence on me. I was reading PPP and had arrived intending to focus on psychology. But almost from the beginning, I found myself attracted to philosophy. That attraction was powerfully reinforced by John's teaching. From our first tutorial, I was struck by his formidable intelligence and ferocious appetite for philosophy. Our meetings became the highlight of my week. We would

meet at 4 o'clock and John would order tea. Invariably, our discussions would go on long after the scheduled hour. I found working with him demanding but also immensely encouraging, and it was while working with John that I began to think that a career as an academic philosopher might be possible for me too. Perhaps the fact that we were not so far apart in age had some effect too.

In those days, John was close to Freddy Ayer and he encouraged me to attend Ayer's weekly Informal Instruction, in which the class worked its way through some recent book. Of course, the real object of the class was to see who could get up the nerve to joust with Freddy. Steeled by dealing with John, who was very fast on his feet, I worked my way from nervous boy at the back of the room into (what I thought of as) the charmed circle of those Ayer would call on by name to respond to questions or comments he did not feel like dealing with himself. Ayer became my supervisor when I began the B. Phil. (I am afraid to say that Michael Woods did not altogether approve of this.) I have spent a good deal of my professional life thinking through the consequences of repudiating the letter, while retaining some of the spirit, of the philosophical empiricism I encountered through John and Ayer. So not merely did John have a lot to do with my becoming a professional philosopher, much of my professional life has been devoted to following up lines of thought that I first ventured upon with him all those years ago.

John was a first class philosopher. He had one of the finest philosophical minds I have ever encountered. If he never achieved quite the recognition he deserved (at least in the United States), it was because he was never moved by the winds of fashion. He explored the problems that commanded his interest and followed arguments where they took him. He was a model of intellectual integrity.

John was a friend as well as a teacher. When I first met him, he was involved with a group of post-graduate students (mostly in the sciences, I think) who played a particularly cutthroat version of the board game Diplomacy. John secured me an invitation to play them. I remember the first game as one of the more intimidating experiences of my undergraduate career. There seemed to be more brain power in the room than I had ever found in one place before. John, of course, was perfectly at home.

Since I ended up, more or less by chance, making a career in the US, I did not see as much of John as I would have wished. I did however

make a point of looking him up whenever I was in Oxford. I last saw him about two years ago. He was already quite frail. His intellect, however, was undimmed. I was deeply affected by the courage and cheerfulness that he showed while coping with what he surely knew was a terminal illness. I found myself thinking about him earlier this year, when I went through a medical scare of my own (a false alarm, though it took major surgery to find out). John was a man to admire.

I recall that John was very fond of Western films. When we met at the beginning of Hilary Term, I asked him whether he had managed to watch “The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance”, which had been on BBC over the Christmas period. He said in his characteristically energetic way that he had been entertaining family guests. He could only snatch glances at the film – enough to tell it was excellent – but could not give it the attention it so obviously demanded. But of course, he found the whole thing amusing in itself and amusing to recount.

I only wish I had seen more of him.

REVIEWS

Towards a New Framework for Financial Stability. **Central Banking Publications, 2009. Edited by David Mayes (1965), Robert Pringle and Michael Taylor (1980)**

The popular history has been written. Bankers drove historic institutions to failure and the economy to recession. Banks are suffocating a fragile recovery by refusing to lend. Finance is unpopular, and rightly so.

The truth is that the crisis of 2007 represents a breakdown of a system on which we all rely. Rebuilding that system requires that we understand financial functions, why they are important to us, and what we are prepared to do to protect them. This book of essays, featuring six Brasenose economists¹, tackles some of these important questions.

Finance should be beneficial. Not because it is an end in itself, but because it is there in the background, quietly supporting economic activities – the allocation of resources, the production and exchange of goods – that we value. Financial institutions and markets support economic activity through three functions. *Payment* services are valuable because as households and firms trade they create obligations to pay which banks process, minimising the number of transactions and ensuring efficient settlement. Banks provide *intermediation* by offering a valuable



Source: Bloomberg

‘matchmaking’ service, linking savers and borrowers and creating long-term loans from short-term deposits. And by transforming non-tradable assets (single mortgages, for example) into tradable securities (a group of mortgages) banks facilitate *risk dispersion*. This is how it is supposed to work. But intermediation and risk transfer started to break down in 2007,

and are still impaired. Mayes and Taylor open the volume setting out an account of the crisis, and calling for ‘smarter’ regulation to prevent it happening again. They outline four factors. Macroeconomic imbalances built up because advanced economies (like the US and UK) borrowed record amounts from emerging and surplus countries (like China and Germany). At the same time monetary policy was loosened following the dot-com bust. These two factors reduced the return on safe assets leading to a third factor: innovation. The desire to boost the dwindling returns led to the popularisation of higher yielding products that investors bought, but did not understand. The fourth and final fault lies with the weak regulations and regulators.

Fragilities in intermediation are clear in *The Northern Rock Saga*, an excellent review in which Mayes returns to the merger of Northern Counties and Rock building societies in the 1960s, through the demutualisation of that sector in the 1990s and to the events that led to the first open bank run in the UK since 1866. The bank’s core weakness, they argue, was its reliance on wholesale deposits from other financial institutions rather than retail deposits from saver households. The point is that Northern Rock was matchmaking households with other banks, rather than households with households; and this was a riskier business than anyone expected. Mayes explains why, drawing out the implications for deposit insurance, and bank resolution regimes.

Three years on, it is clear that Northern Rock was a signal of worse was to come, and that the financial idea described in Taylor’s *Originate to Distribute* was a source of risk. The aim was to make loans (‘originate’) and then group them together to sell to investors (‘distribute’) allowing more loans to be made. This grouping process (securitisation) was an example of intermediation and risk dispersion working in tandem: funds were channelled to borrower households and the risk (embodied in the securities) was spread throughout the system. Taylor describes why securitisation can be a good idea, its birth in the 1950s, and its valuable role in overcome the emerging market debt crisis of the 1980s. It looked helpful in the early 2000s too as it offered the possibility of home ownership to groups – the ‘sub-prime’ – previously considered too poor.

Securitisation allowed specialisation: some institutions were better at originating loans, others were better at raising funding from capital markets. Economists are very fond of specialisation² but many of the

subsequent failures stem from it because those that focused on originating did not have a stake in the long run performance of the loans they made. And so they allowed the effort committed to credit assessment to decrease or be competed away and started to make bad loans.

In *Bonuses and the Credit Crunch* Sinclair, Spier and Skinner show that bonuses are based on sound motivations too. The idea makes sense: without the ability to observe its workers directly, a firm needs to align their incentives with its own, to pass on the profit motive and prevent shirking. This works well in theory, but practical problems arise. Bonuses are a one-way bet. Traders enjoy the upside of their gains but rarely the *full* downside of their losses, underpinned by their employer, limited liability or the taxpayer. The authors show that there are two more subtle failings in bonus structures. First, bonuses are based on relative rather than absolute performance. This means market participants are motivated not by doing well, but by doing better than their peers. The resulting ‘herd behaviour’ penalises contrarian investors and means that household savings (including those held as pensions) are invested by asset managers who mimic, looking sideways, rather than analyse, looking forwards. This copycat behaviour can amplify asset price volatility.

The final problem seems the most important. Bonuses, paid on short-term performance, potentially cause short-term behaviour.³ The implication is that business ideas that are profitable only in the very long run may receive too little funding. But these longer run projects – research and development, infrastructural improvements – are those that solve real economic problems, raising the general standard of living.

It is clear that with finance good ideas can go wrong, and can cause harm. How can we avoid this? ‘Macroprudential policy’ is an answer Claudio Borio has been writing on for a decade and which central banks may soon be using.⁴ The idea is that we might need a policy lever (for example a flexible capital charge) to apply across the banking sector as a whole in order to slow down, or speed up, credit growth. Borio outlines the aims, the most important of which is to reduce reinforcing interactions which mean finance (which should help smooth consumption over time) amplifies macroeconomic cycles. This final contribution from a Brasenose economist in the volume takes us to the forefront of macroeconomic policymaking in 2010.

The smart regulation that Mayes and Taylor advocate would be tougher (raise the bar on existing rules) but also it would also seek

to address root causes. Each essay in the volume certainly does that, describing motivations and history in order to understand how sensible ideas sometimes result in bad outcomes. In doing this *Towards a Framework for Financial Stability* provides a detailed account of our current financial system and failures that come from its roots.

But what if we need a new system, with new roots? The final – *What next?* – section of this volume is disappointing, missing the deeper structural questions. Contrast this with the response from the economic profession after the last serious crisis, the one starting in 1929. In the wake of Great Depression a serious and detailed blueprint for an alternative capitalist banking system was set out by Chicago based economists.⁵ Those economists, and Nobel laureates that followed them, asked whether we might need different types of institutions to store deposits and make loans in order to provide truly stable support to the economy. It is not clear who, if anyone, in the mainstream is doing this work today. It needs to be done. After a crisis which has resulted in record output and wealth losses and rising unemployment, these deeper questions may be the most important ones to ask.

Richard Davies (1999), Economist, Financial Stability, Bank of England

¹ Peter Sinclair, emeritus fellow, David Mayes (1965); Michael Taylor (1980); Claudio Borio, (1979) former Junior Research Fellow; Tom Skinner (1987); Guy Spier (1984).

² Look at a £20 note, not the side with the Queen, for evidence of this. There are currently around 1.5 billion ‘Adam Smith’ £20 notes in circulation.

³ See *Patience and Finance*, Haldane (2010)

⁴ Related ideas have already been used in Norway and Spain. See Borio’s article in this volume for details.

⁵ This blueprint – The Chicago Plan – was published in 1933. See Irving Fisher, *100% Money*, (1935) and, later Milton Friedman, *A Programme for Monetary Stability*, (1959). For a Keynesian perspective see James Tobin, *Financial Innovation and Deregulation in Perspective*, (1985).

The Magnetic North (2009), Jonathan Cape, London. Sara Wheeler (1980)

For many people, the Arctic is likely to conjure up images of igloos, polar bears, Eskimos, expeditions to the elusive ‘North Pole’ or perhaps even the home of Santa Claus. But what is the Arctic really like? This is the question which Sara Wheeler sets out to answer with an open mind, in her book *The Magnetic North*, based on her travels round the

Arctic region. The inhabited landscapes of the Arctic contrast with the vast, bare landscapes of Antarctica described in her previous book, *Terra Incognita*. Wheeler finds that in fact the Arctic is reflective of many contemporary issues, since “everybody wants what the Arctic has”. The Arctic is a place where political tensions over land and associated oil and mineral rights boil over, a place at the forefront of research into one of the biggest global problems faced by humanity – climate change and a place which is home to many indigenous peoples, caught up in processes of globalisation.

The Magnetic North charts Wheeler’s two-year long travels around countries with territories poking above 66°N, in an almost-circular, anti-clockwise direction. Wheeler visits a diverse array of countries and cultures, from Asian Russia to American and Canadian Arctic, Greenland, Scandinavia and back to European Russia. Wheeler poses the question “where is the Arctic?” and defines it in geographical terms, but finds that the Arctic she visits is in fact simultaneously a transition zone – semi-inhabited fringes between the Northern countries and vast areas of ice, and a transitional state – as Inuit children eat Western junk food and watch *The Simpsons* regularly whilst older generations are reminded of their culture by their traditions and icy surroundings.

Wheeler draws on a rich mix of history, geography and anthropology to provide a wealth of interesting facts and entertaining stories about the places she visits. Who would have known that all children in the sparse, bare region of Chukotka in Siberia support Chelsea FC since Roman Abramovich is based there on account of the region’s low taxes? Wheeler’s writing is heavily people-focused, rather than describing the landscapes and nature of the Arctic, it is the people of the region who she spent much time visiting that are the main focus of the picture she paints of the Arctic. From the Lapps who she herded reindeer with to the geologists she spent time with on a remote island the size of Switzerland in the Canadian Arctic, these are the people who carry her stories and bring them to life for the reader. Wheeler discovers how the Arctic is “an image of the real world in all its degradation and beauty”, degradation in the sense that the true sense of human nature comes to the fore in the Arctic – from the brutal treatment of indigenous peoples by their nations, the pollution and pillage resulting from human greed and the ignorance towards climate change. However despite the negative forces there, Wheeler also finds the Arctic a place of pared-down beauty

and the resilience and grace of the people there earn her admiration. The engrossing fusion of stories and facts to build up a detailed, rich experience of the Arctic make *The Magnetic North* an enjoyable read, and one which will hopefully smash through some of the Arctic stereotypes evoked at the start of this review. The Arctic is a place not many people will have the opportunity to visit in their lifetime and this book provides an excellent substitution for visiting the area in person, especially given that “it is the Arctic which captures the spirit of the times” and perhaps will exist in a very different state in the future.

Olivia Hesketh (2008)

In Pursuit of the Past. The discovery of the life and work of A. T. W. Penn, pioneering photographer of South India. C. F. Penn (2008), Christopher Penn.

This is a book about Albert Penn, a British photographer who spent his career working in the hill station of Ootacamund from the mid-1860s until 1911. It is written by Albert’s great-grandson, Christopher Penn, a BACSA member, who tells the story as it unfolded in his own life – from making the initial discovery that his ancestor was a photographer, through the research and travels that occupied him for six years, up to the point of writing this engaging biography. The narrative takes on the excitement of a detective story as the life of Albert Penn is revealed over several chapters with rich and fascinating details of the lifetime spent recording the activities of the British in “snooty Ooty”.

Whilst a fair amount of academic attention has been given in recent years to photography in India, this book fleshes out the role of the photographer in Raj society and brings him to life as an individual. The author examines the social status that a photographer would have held within the deeply hierarchical European community as well as estimating how much he would have been earning and how much it cost to run a house with five or six servants (as well as eight children). This brings the individual into sharper focus as the strains upon the photographer become apparent, particularly the difficulties he faced as photography became more accessible to the amateur, gradually edging out the professional. It is interesting to learn that, despite frequent contact with some of the highest officials of the Raj such as Sir Frederick Roberts or Lord Lytton, photographers occupied a fairly lowly position within the

British hierarchy. The story that emerges here is deeply touching, as it becomes evident how hard Penn was working in order to make ends meet; even though he was more talented than many photographers at this time, he still struggled.

Even so, the strength and great charm of this book lies in the attention that Christopher Penn gives to the family history, allowing the reader to discover a man who cared deeply about his family and played an important role in the community, in music-making and in church. Penn sang in the choir of St. Stephen's Church for 45 years and his fine voice was referred to on a number of occasions in newspaper reports. We also learn about Penn's children. He and his wife Elizabeth, known as "Zillie", had ten children, eight of whom survived infancy. The fourth child, Harold, led something of an unconventional life, which started well but later fell apart. Harold joined the army as a young man, travelling to Britain and then Egypt where, as a Lance Corporal, he won the DCM at the Battle of Omdurman in 1898. The following year he married and life must have seemed to be going well when in 1909 he won an immense sum of money in the Calcutta Derby Sweeps. Following this, Harold left the army. By 1919, however, he was without money and his wife was suing for divorce, a great scandal at that time. The sad story of Harold is told in particular detail as he was Christopher Penn's grandfather, but the story also reflects back on Albert and his wife in India, who must have followed the life of their son with pride, then concern and worry. The story of the Penn family is both unique and universal at the same time, and it has a strong narrative drive which will engage most readers.

As he readily acknowledges, Christopher Penn is new to archival research but the enthusiasm and thoughtfulness that he has brought to his work is perhaps a reminder to many of us that it is just as important to engage the heart as well as the brain when we are dealing with the lives of men. The institutions and individuals (including this reviewer) that Penn encounters while engaged on his pursuit are all given parts to play in this story and seeing the network of generous and helpful individuals, many of whom are BACSA members, pull together to uncover this story is very touching. The result is a surprisingly moving and emotional story. It is fitting that of all Albert's descendants it should be Christopher who has written his biography as one suspects that, were they ever to have met, they would have found they had much in common.

The book can be obtained from C. F. Penn, Pendle, Burdenshot Hill, Worplesdon, Surrey GU3 3RL, christopherpenn@btinternet.com¹

Sophie Gordon, Curator, Royal Photograph Collection

¹ British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia, an association which brings together a large number of people most of whose families have lived and worked in India in the past and who share a common concern for and interest in India today.

News and Notes



NEWS AND NOTES

1937

Victor Percy Whittaker is the author of 350 publications and one monograph. His most recent publications are: Whittaker, V P, *Some Currently neglected aspects of cholinergic function*, J.Mol.Neurosci. 40, 7-11, 2010, and Whittaker, V P, *How the cholinesterases got their modern names*, Chem-biol Interactions, in press. From 1973 to 1987 he was Director of the Department of Neurochemistry in the Max-Planck-Institut für biophysikalische Chemie, Göttingen, Germany and is the first Englishman to become a Scientific Member of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft. He is now a member of Wolfson College, Cambridge and celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary in 2007 and his 90th birthday in 2009.

1944

Antony Conrad Johnstone has now retired from teaching and is Lay Reader Emeritus, Acorn Christian Healing Foundation.

1945

Samuel Peter Truman Houldsworth reports that his daughter Rosemary organised a function at Blenheim Palace on his 89th birthday. They celebrated the 70th anniversary of the academic year 1939/1940, which his old school Malvern College spent at the Palace, and raised funds for St Dunstan's and the RNLI.

1950

Trevor John Tarring published his latest book on metals commerce in November 2009. The *Metal Bulletin's Guide to the London Metal Exchange* is published by Metal Bulletin Ltd. He also tell us he's still wearing out four vintage cars in competitive, and every other sort of, motoring.

1951

John Hugh Colin Leach: Colin Leach contributed a chapter to *A E Housman, Classical Scholar* edited by David Butterfield and Christopher Stray, Duckworth 2009.

1953

Israel Jacob Aaron retired in 2007 at the age of 77 after 45 years of legal practice. He is very much enjoying retirement, viz bridge, chess, walking his cairn terrier, Chutney, and clearing up after his wife!

1954

Aditya Narayan Dhairyasheel Haksar, a career diplomat from 1956 to 1991, is also a prolific author and translator of Sanskrit Classics published in India, the UK and elsewhere. Publications: *The Shattered Thigh and Other Plays of Bhasa*; *Tales of the Ten Princes*; *Hitopadesa*; *Simhasana Dvatrimsika*; *Subhashitavali* (all five as Penguin Classics); Jatakamala, Harper Collins; *The Courtesan's Keeper* and *Shuka Saptati* (both Rupa, India); *Madhav & Kama*, Roli, India; *Glimpses of Sanskrit Literature*; *A Treasury of Sanskrit Poetry*, both ICCR India, and *Tales from the Panchatantra*, NBT India.

1955

Richard George Askew - retired Canon Emeritus Salisbury Diocese and Prebendary, Bath and Wells Diocese, published *Reflections*, 1985, and *One Man's Bath*, 2000.

1956

Michael Lewis Somen: Michael Somen has finally left Hamilton, Harrison & Matthews where he practised as an advocate and was a Senior Partner.

1958

John Montgomery Gray published *Lawyers' Tales* in September 2010. Pages 8-10 record the remarkable antics of former BNC undergraduates and pages 5 and 30/31 contain material taken from speeches made at Ellesmere dinners.

David Michael Green published a *History of Gloucestershire Cricket*, Christopher Helm in 1990.

Peter Frazer Skinner has, he tells us, "not been cited in the divorce courts, bankruptcy courts or prison records and has no association with any financial institution" and "remains open to visitors" in New York City.

1959

Paul Woddis is now retired from internal business. He spent 18 years with Reckitt & Colman – Managing Director in Argentina and Chairman in France. He was also Chairman of Sanofi UK.

1960

Trevor Noel Snow retired as Head of Modern Languages and Housemaster at Taunton School to start his own travel company offering specialist tours to France. He has now published *The Best of France* (Peakpublish) a guidebook inspired by the tours. Trevor and his wife Angela live in deepest Somerset, but both their daughters are in France. They frequently visit their bilingual grandchildren which also gives Trevor a chance to research his follow-up book.

1961

Nigel Norman Walmsley has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Association for TelevisionVideo on Demand (ATVOD). The recently designated UK co-regulator for video on demand comes under the aegis of the European Union’s Audio Visual Media Services Directive.

1962

Peter John Roach published English *Phonetics and Phonology, Fourth Edition*, Cambridge University Press in 2009.

1963

John Hardman published *Overtiure to Revolution: the 1787 Assembly of Notables and the Crisis of France’s Old Regime*, OUP in September 2010

1965

Paul Gordon Horwich has received fellowships from the US National Science Foundation, US National Endowment for the Humanities, Guggenheim Foundation and Japan Society for the Philosophy of Science. He has written seven books which can be found by clicking his profile on the homepage of the NYU Philosophy Department website.

1967

Jeremy John McMullen is Visiting Professor of Law, Middlesex University, a Deputy High Court Judge and Bencher, Middle Temple.
Eric Arthur Vallis reports that despite advancing years he is still

‘usefully employed’ as part-time Honorary Consultant Estates Surveyor to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral, and is privileged to live in the Precincts.

Michael James Watts tells us his publications are too numerous to quote but include 56 from 1991 to the present. He runs his own business offering education and marketing consultancy and is inspector for the British Accreditation Council. He also provides adult training in electrical skills on residential courses.

1974

Stefan Franz Peter Fisch, Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at the German University of Administrative Sciences (Deutsche Hochschule fuer Verwaltungswissenschaften) at Speyer, was elected Rector in 2009.

Geoffrey Michael Trench Turner has semi-retired from software development to run a B&B on Strumble Head in West Wales (www.strumblebandb.co.uk).

1975

John William Wates left the company where he had been employed for 24 years in August 2009. He has now set up his own business (Fedalsh Ltd) as a chartered building surveyor and enjoys his independence. In March 2010 he was elected Chairman of the Wates Foundation.

1977

Alexandra Louise Marks was appointed a High Court Deputy in March 2010.

Christopher Simon Mitchell is managing director of ORTV International.

1983

Simon David Danes left teaching in 2008 to found publishers St Mark’s Press which specialise in RE and theology but also publish novels and other “bits and bobs”. His 21 years teaching included appointments as Director of Studies at St Columba’s College, Hove and Deputy Headmaster, Princethorpe College. Publications: with Chris Danes (1979): *Mark: A Gospel for Today*, 1989, 2001, 2009; *Today’s Issues and*

Christian Beliefs, 1992, 2009; *Philosophy of Religion for Today*, 2009. He directed a CD of Peter Wickham reading their *Mark's Gospel* which recently had a glowing review from Sue Arnold in *The Guardian*.

1984

Simon James Ball is Professor of Contemporary History and Head of the School of Humanities at the University of Glasgow. Publications: *The Guardsmen: Harold Macmillan, Three Friends and the World they Made*, HarperCollins, 2004, paperback, Harper Perennial, May 2010; *The Bitter Sea: The Struggle for Mastery in the Mediterranean, 1935-1949*, Harper Press, 2009.

James Bruce Hawkin, formerly Head Master of Norwich School, became Head Master of Harrow School in September 2011.

James Anthony King and his wife Jeanne announced the birth of their son Georges on 23 December 2009.

1987

Diamond Ayorkor Ashiagbor moved from the Faculty of Laws, University College London on 1 September 2010 to become Professor of Labour Law at the School of Law, the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

1989

Nigel James Fossey is head teacher at St George's International School, Luxembourg. His second son Samuel Jacob was born in 21 May 2008, a brother to Arthur Edward.

1990

Polly Louise Arnold was promoted to chair of Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Edinburgh.

Jean Feerick, Assistant Professor of English at Brown University, has published her first book, *Strangers in Blood: Relocating Race in the Renaissance*, University of Toronto Press 2010. She examines the association produced in a range of early modern genres between migration to foreign lands and degeneration. In exploring how new environments will alter the physical constitution of English settlers, the book identifies a major transition to a racial system predicated on bloodline and lineal identity.

1991

Anne-Marie Greene published *Diversity Management in the UK: Organisational and Stakeholder Perspectives*, Routledge, 2009 and *The Dynamics of Managing Diversity: A Critical Approach*, Elsevier, 2010. Her daughter Verity, a sister to Vincent (2007), was born in January 2009.

1992

Jeffrey Scott Glueck has moved to Silicon Valley to take up the CEO role at a start-up called SkyFire. SkyFire makes the most advanced mobile browser in the world, which allows all forms of web video to play smoothly on smartphones using cloud-computing technology. Jeff welcomes visits from Brasenose alumni passing through Silicon Valley – email jeff@skyfire.com. He lives near Brasenose classmates John Tudor and Dave Viotti and they recently enjoyed seeing their kids playing together.

1993

Matthew Finlay: Matthew Finlay and his wife Victoria's first daughter, Emilia Rose, was born on 15 May 2010.

1993

Sara Arabella Jane Townsend née Phillips: Sara Townsend moved to Canton Schwyz, Switzerland in 2010.

1995

Rosemary Sara Choueka was promoted to Partner and Head of EU, Competition & Regulation at Lawrence Graham LLP in May 2010. She is expecting a second child in November 2010, a brother or sister for Natalie, born January 2008.

1996

Hagit Amirav: University Lecturer in Patristics and Early Christian Studies at the VU University in Amsterdam, is now Director of an European Research Council project on patristic exegesis.

Sarah Helen Keller nee Maddock and Ciaran Joseph Keller's (1995) son Alfie Joseph was born on 4 May 2010.

1998

Jenni Tabak-Neiding was awarded a PhD in English Literature from the University of London in 2010

2001

Andrew William Grieve was awarded a Diploma in Immediate Medical Care by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and a Diploma in Mountain Medicine by the University of Leicester. He is currently an Academic Research Fellow in Emergency Medicine at the University of Teeside. Two years ago Andrew married Bee-Suan, a Chinese-Malaysian in Pissouri, Cyprus, at the end of his first overseas posting with the Royal Air Force. He is now continuing his GP training at Friarage Hospital, Northallerton. He was also doctor for the RAF's 2010 150th anniversary cadet expedition to Lesotho in July/August 2010.

2002

Neil Hunter and his wife Victoria (née Manby) have had a daughter, Katharine, born 31 March 2009.

2003

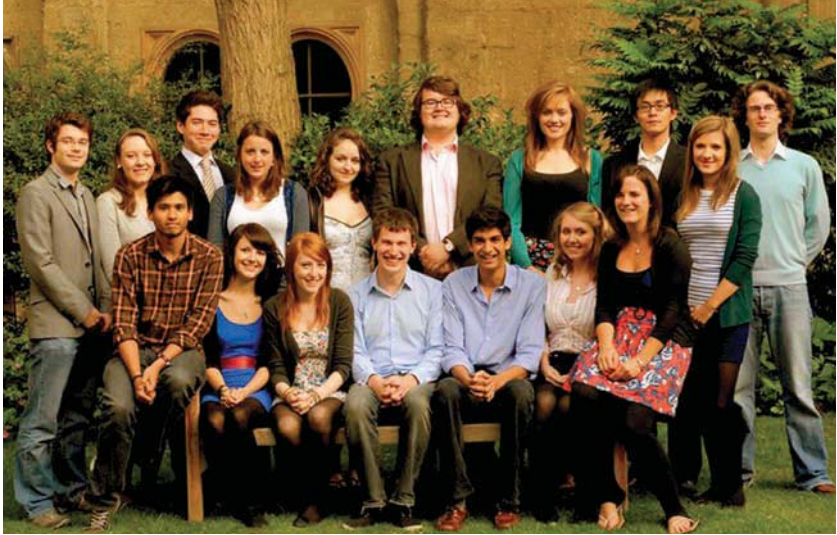
Richard Rosser has left his position as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company in London, to develop and launch his own business, www.MoveMeOn.com. The website helps candidates and companies find the best 'headhunters' / recruitment agencies specialising in their industry.

2005

Thomas Papadopoulos has received a DPhil in Law from Merton College for his thesis *Harmonization of Takeovers in the Internal Market: and analysis in the light of EU Law*. He was a part-time lecturer at the University of Buckingham from 2007 to 2009 and is now a visiting researcher at Harvard Law School.

2007

Mark Wilson reports that his new son Benjamin George - 7lb 11oz at birth - is now much heavier!



The JCR Committee 2010



Our cover uses this early twentieth century GWR jigsaw of Brasnose, which came to light thanks to Peggy Verrall, widow of Douglas (BNC 1959).



Brasenose winning the 1815 challenge plate against Jesus





The Men's First VIII



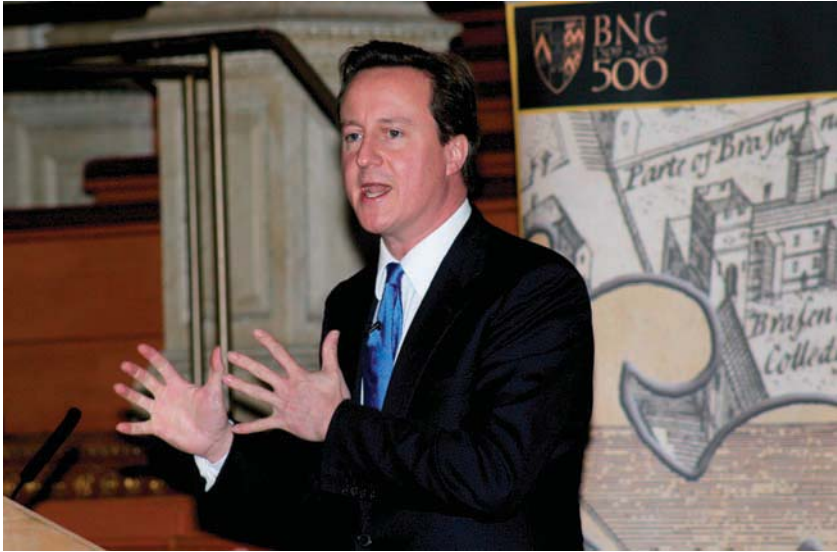
The Strollers, in all their glory!



Brasenose Choir in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore



The 49ers in Hall



David Cameron – the second BNC Prime Minister



The Queen in Brasenose



Charles Morgan, in his matriculation photograph, May 1919.



Gordon Sharwood (1953)



Hugh Disney (1936) with his brothers and father



Anthony Russell-Wood (1959)



Beth Curtis in Kerala



From Matthew Morris's New York sequence

The Brasenose Society





Committee Meeting minutes: 1 December 2009

A meeting of the Committee was held at 6:00pm at the British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, SW1Y 5AH

Present: Joe Mordaunt Crook (President), Paula Carter (Vice-President), Alexandra Marks (Acting Secretary), Nigel Bird (Treasurer), Elizabeth Carter, David Clark, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Tristan Elbrick, Mike Gill, Tina Mavraki, Jeremy McMullen (Past President) and Mike Rountree.

Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Mark Saville (Immediate Past President), Roger Cashmore (Principal), John W Davies (Oxford Secretary), Matt Forbes, Charlie Furness-Smith, Drusilla Gabbott, David Hills, Jennifer Lewis (Director of Development), Graeme Richardson (Editor of *The Brazen Nose*) and Donald Rushton.

The President explained that last minute arrangements for a Royal visit to College the following day, and dinner in Hall that night for Sandra Day O'Connor (US Supreme Court Judge), were the reason for the unfortunate absence of both the Principal and Director of Development. The Secretary suggested that it would have been welcome had the Committee been made aware of these visits (and, indeed, the visit a fortnight earlier by David Cameron) rather less obliquely. If alumni were to feel truly valued as part of the College community it might be better were they to be informed of (even if not invited to) such significant events within College in advance rather than learn about them afterwards.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2009 were approved.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

Report from the Development Office

In the absence of both Jennifer Lewis, Director of Development & Alumni Relations, and the Principal, there was no report from the Development Office.

The Committee would be interested to learn about progress with the launch of the alumni website which appeared not to have occurred in October as previously promised, nor were the *Brazen Notes* seemingly yet available electronically as we had hoped.

The Committee looked forward also to an update on the ability to make donations to the College, and pay for Society events, by credit card.

Update on BNC500

The Committee regarded the BNC500 weekend as an extraordinarily positive experience, and the Sheldonian event had been a fitting and memorable occasion. The exhibition and commemorative booklet were highly praised too.

Minor niggles were that no list of all those attending at some point over the weekend had been produced (in matriculation year order). It was also a pity – though unavoidable, given the nature of the event – that attendance had been split so that some friends/colleagues had attended dinners (or lunch) on different days. Mike Rountree reported that when he had tried to view photographs of BNC500 events on the website, he had received an error message “not licensed”. It was hoped that this would soon be rectified.

Overall, however, the weekend was an enormous success from an alumni perspective. The Development Office and other College staff had performed magnificently, and deserved huge thanks for all their hard work.

The Brazen Nose and Brazen Notes

The copy date for *The Brazen Nose* was 11 December 2009. Paul Dawson-Bowling would submit an obituary for Norman (“Pip”) Ward-Jones for whom there would be a memorial sermon in Chapel during Hilary Term (since confirmed for Sunday 7 March at 6pm). Since the last meeting, the Committee had been informed of Kate Burt’s tragic death. A memorial service for her was being arranged (since fixed for

1:00pm on Saturday 1 May 2010). An obituary for her would also be submitted for publication in *The Brazen Nose*.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that there had been no change in the Society's financial position since the year-end accounts presented at the AGM in September.

Jeremy McMullen suggested that, given the Society's total cash reserves of around £12,500, the Committee might consider making a donation to the 1815 Club, a proposed relaunch of the BNC Boat Club, the oldest in the UK. The current President of the Boat Club, Caitlin Page, is planning a launch of the 1815 Club during Torpids in Hilary Term. Jeremy also suggested a possible restaging of the first ever boat race, between BNC and Jesus College, with a trophy provided by the Society. Former boat club members might well be interested in participating.

Other suggestions were a modest subsidy towards the spring drinks party for younger members (see below) and a contribution to the College's Arts Festival in Trinity Term.

Year Reps

In the absence of Matt Forbes, the Year Reps' co-ordinator, there was a brief discussion about current vacancies. David Clark was again thanked for filling the vacancy for 1970, and the President volunteered to do the same for his year (1955). The Committee was mindful of Charlie Furness-Smith's observation at the last meeting that HCR alumni might merit their own year reps. It was thought that approaching former HCR Presidents might be one way of identifying possible year reps for this constituency.

There was still work to be done in devising a guide for year reps, outlining the expectations of them. One possible role for year reps would be to assist the College in compiling data for a College Register of all alumni (see below).

Mentoring scheme

Mike Gill reported that the list of volunteer mentors – in anonymised form – had been placed on the HCR website. It should soon also appear on the JCR website in similar form. Following a suggestion at the

previous meeting, access to the scheme should also be available to new graduates (say within three to four years of graduation).

Mike expressed his regret at the imminent departure of Ant Bagshaw from the Development Office. He had been enthusiastic and effective with a good eye for detail. It was to be hoped that he would soon be replaced by someone of equally high quality.

College Register

Each member of the Committee had been given, at the previous meeting, a sample of proposed entries for the College Register. It was agreed that the subject read by each alumnus/alumna should be included. Some of the proposed details were perhaps inappropriate (or out-of-date) so it was suggested that members should have the ability to amend their own entry online.

The Annual Dinner and other Society events

Matt Forbes and Charlie Furness-Smith were planning a spring drinks event, aimed at recent matriculees (say ten years or less). The probable date (subject to confirmation with the Principal) was Friday 19 March 2010 at a central London venue yet to be confirmed.

As in previous years, there would be a “family lunch” event in Hall on the Saturday of VIIIs week on Saturday 29 May 2010.

Next year’s annual dinner would take place on Saturday 25 September 2010 to coincide with the University-wide “Reunion weekend”.

Date of future meetings

Dates of future meetings of the Committee would take place in College to coincide with the VIIIs week lunch on Saturday 29 May 2010 and the AGM (on Saturday 25 September 2010).

Any other business

Tristan Elbrick suggested that the College introduce an “email for life”, as exists at Harvard. It was pointed out that there is already such a system for the whole of the University (the format is <firstname>.<lastname>@<college>.oxon.org). The University’s website explains how to sign up, and states that all names, colleges, and years of matriculation are searchable (with an ex-directory option for those who wish to remain

private). It was agreed that this facility needs greater publicity: it is potentially a powerful tool for staying in touch with fellow alumni of the College as well as the University. **This is repeated in next minutes but refers then to alumni website rather than email address,**

The President suggested that he would seek to host a summer drinks party at the British Academy (subject to availability). The idea was greeted with enthusiasm.

Mike Rountree's suggestion of "jubilee" dinners (or lunches) to mark 40th, 50th or 60th anniversaries of matriculation was favoured by the Development Office. The Committee looked forward to further news.

Committee Meeting minutes: 29 May 2010

A meeting of the Committee was held at 11:00am Lecture Room XI, Brasenose College

Present: Joe Mordaunt Crook (President), Alexandra Marks (Secretary), Nigel Bird (Treasurer), Roger Cashmore (Principal), John W Davies (Oxford Secretary), Jennifer Lewis (Director of Development), Elizabeth Carter, David Clark, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Tristan Elbrick, Matt Forbes, Drusilla Gabbott, David Hills and Mike Rountree.

Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Paula Carter (Vice-President), Jeremy McMullen (Past President), Graeme Richardson (Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), Mark Saville (Immediate Past President), Charlie Furness-Smith, Mike Gill, Tina Mavraki and Donald Rushton.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2009 were approved.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

Report from the Development Office

The Director of Development reported that there had been some generous donations to the College during its quincentenary year. In

addition, during the previous month (April), over 300 randomly selected UK-based alumni aged between 28 and 75 had been contacted by current undergraduate and post-graduate students as part of a telephone appeal. Those contacted were informed of current activities in College, invited to make a donation and thanked where they had already done so. David Clark asked that Year Reps be advised of such contacts in their year group, together with any significant and relevant information.

The Principal reported that the initiative had generally been favourably received – though he was aware of a handful of negative responses – and that the students involved had thoroughly enjoyed it.

The Director told the Committee that, due to the departure from the Development Office of Anthony Bagshawe in October, there had been a significant delay in improving the alumni web services and introducing an eNewsletter. However, interviews for Anthony’s replacement would be taking place in mid-June. Other DO staff are Tina Hill (who manages the day-to-day function of the office), Saira Uppal (who works as a fundraising executive) and David Humble-White (who deals with the Annual fund, telethon fundraising and Year Reps).

Now that the quincentenary is over, the College’s events programme will return to a more normal pattern. A Gaudy schedule is being put together as are “jubilee” events for those alumni celebrating significant anniversaries since matriculation. For instance, at the end of term, a 20th anniversary celebration for the year of 1989 attracted 55% attendance while others were scheduled for 1959 (“golden”) and 1949 (“diamond”).

International events – two in New York, for instance – and by subject (a Classics reunion, for example) continued too.

The Committee repeated its hope that the College would soon provide a credit card facility by which alumni could make donations to the College, and pay for Society events, by credit card.

The Brazen Nose and Brazen Notes

The *Brazen Nose* went out in March but the Director reported that it is planned to bring the publication date forward (with the copy date at the end of August) so that it goes out in Michaelmas term (much closer than now to the end of the academic year which it covers). This will make the publication more current for alumni, and will provide Freshers with an early introduction to the Society and College life.

The Brazen Notes would be distributed in hard copy in Hilary term, and electronically in Trinity term. At each Committee meeting, we shall be advised of upcoming copy dates. Drusilla Gabbott suggested that using both hard and “soft” media would be prudent since older alumni may well not use email and the internet.

David Hills said that the website was not user-friendly. Much of the information was out-of-date or missing and it was difficult to find material – for example about the College Arts Festival (about which the Porters had also known little when he had rung to enquire). The Director explained that the Senior Tutor’s Office was responsible for updating news on the website but this clearly needed to improve.

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer reported that there had been no change in the Society’s financial position since the year-end accounts presented at the AGM in September save for a £250 contribution to the newly established 1815 Club, a relaunch of the BNC Boat Club. The Society thus still held reserves of around £12,500.

An impressive 103 alumni had attended the spring drinks party organised by Matt Forbes and Charlie Furness-Smith at Teatro in Shaftesbury Avenue. The event had been a great success both socially and financially.

Annual Dinner and other events

Next year’s annual dinner would take place on Saturday 25 September 2010 to coincide with the University-wide “Reunion weekend”. The Hall would be out of commission by then (due to reconstruction of the kitchens) so the annual dinner would take place in a marquee (with capacity for 150) in Old Quad. The Hall should be back in use by Michaelmas term.

Meanwhile, the President would be hosting a summer drinks party at the British Academy on 14 July. Unfortunately, the initial ticket application had misstated the ticket price, so a correction would be circulated.

Year Reps

Matt Forbes, the Year Reps’ co-ordinator, reported that there had been attempts to reactivate the Year Reps’ network in order to publicise the Spring Drinks party. However there seemed to be some confusion

between the Development Office and himself about ownership of the list of Year Reps. Clearly, it was prudent to consolidate the information and the details, addresses and confidentiality agreement administration to be dealt with by the Development Office, provided the Society could access the list in order to publicise events etc.

The Committee agreed that it was important for the Society's Year Reps' co-ordinator to have direct contact with Year Reps. Perhaps a list of them could be published in *The Brazen Nose*. This would also highlight years with no rep for which we were hoping to recruit an enthusiastic volunteer.

The Director mentioned that at Merton each matriculation year of alumni has both a Year Rep and a deputy. Jointly, or separately, they write to members of their year, reminding them of upcoming events and inviting suggestions for activities. They also collect information for publication in the College newsletter by year group. The BNC Development Office is happy to support Year Reps by ensuring they have correct address information (for communications they send out directly) and is willing to communicate with year groups on Year Reps' behalf.

Drusilla offered to assist Matt if he needed help. Matt said he would circulate the current Year Reps' list to the Committee, arrange for it to be published in *The Brazen Nose* and ensure in future there was at least annual communication with Year Reps to thank them for their support, remind them how they can communicate with their year groups via the Development Office, and encourage their continued involvement as Year Reps in the future. Matt proposed that we revive the annual meeting of Year Reps to coincide with the date of the Society's Annual Dinner.

There was still work to be done in devising a guide for year reps, outlining the expectations of them, including collating up-to-date information for the proposed College Register.

In due course, the College intends to create a secure, password-protected area of the alumni website through which alumni could contact each other directly. The Committee was reminded that there is already such a system for the whole of the University: the format is <firstname>. <lastname>@<college>.oxon.org. The University's website explains how to sign up, and states that all names, colleges, and years of

matriculation are searchable (with an ex-directory option for those who wish to remain private). It was agreed that this facility needs greater publicity: it is potentially a powerful tool for staying in touch with fellow alumni of the College as well as the University.

The Committee agreed that the primary function of Year Reps is to enhance social links between alumni and the College and between alumni. However, this is not inconsistent with providing support to the Development Office in its fundraising efforts in respect of the Annual Fund or other projects agreed between the College and the Society.

Mentoring Scheme

In the absence of Mike Gill, the Society's Mentoring Scheme Co-ordinator, the Director reported that the first careers evening hosted by alumni for students had taken place last term. Half a dozen alumni with careers in marketing had come to talk to around 20 students over drinks and dinner in Hall afterwards. The aim is to hold two or three such evenings per annum – probably for careers such as engineering, manufacturing etc. which are less mainstream than law, management consultancy, accountancy etc. which are already well-served by prospective employers. Mike Gill had been most supportive of the event.

The Committee observed that awareness of the mentoring scheme generally needed to be raised amongst the current student population. The Director agreed, and said that the Development Office was attending to this.

Grant making

The Society has previously resolved to make small grants – preferably by way of underwriting rather than outright donation – of up to £250 per term for College based activities. In the past, the Society had supported the BNC Arts Festival in this way but, this year, no application had been received. Again, it was agreed that awareness of the availability of the Society's support should be raised within College.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee would take place in College on the same date as the Society's AGM (Saturday 25 September 2010) at 5:00pm.

Any other business

The Committee was reminded that the annual re-election of members would take place at the AGM on Saturday 25 September. Any members wishing to stand down should inform the Secretary. Likewise the Secretary would welcome any nominations for prospective new members. It was suggested that – to mitigate the current practice of existing Committee members being re-elected en masse each year – perhaps we should consider amending the Society’s rules to provide for a fixed term (say three or four years) with retirement by rotation, perhaps a third or quarter each year, and a maximum number of terms (say two or three). This would ensure a regular input of fresh blood to the Committee.

It was, however, pointed out that – thanks to the publication of a nomination form in *The Brazen Nose* – several new members had joined the Committee in recent years. It was also pointed out that any change to the rules would require advance notice prior to an AGM.

The Committee was also invited to consider possible candidates for election as Vice-President (and then President) for 2010 onwards.

Committee Meeting minutes: 25 September 2010

A meeting of the Committee was held at 5:00pm in the Platnauer Room.

Present: Joe Mordaunt Crook (President), Alexandra Marks (Secretary), Roger Cashmore (Principal), Nigel Bird (Treasurer), John W Davies (Oxford Secretary), Elizabeth Carter, David Clark, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Matt Forbes, David Hills, Jeremy McMullen (Past President), Graeme Richardson (Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), Mike Rountree and Donald Rushton.

In attendance: Liz Miller (Interim Director of Development), David Humble-White and Paula Carter

Apologies and welcome

Apologies for absence had been received from: Richard Cooper (Vice-Principal), Tristan Elbrick, Charlie Furness-Smith, Drusilla Gabbott, Mike Gill, Tina Mavraki and Mark Saville (immediate past President).

The President welcomed as observers to the meeting Liz Miller, interim Director of Development, David Humble-White from the Development Office, and Paula Carter.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2010 were approved, subject to amendments proposed by David Clark – and accepted by the meeting – to Minute 4 (Report from Development Office) and Minute 8 (Year Reps) to emphasise the mutually supportive roles of the Development Office and Year Reps.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

Report from the Development Office

The Principal introduced Liz Miller who had recently joined the Development Office as part-time interim Director of Development, following Jennifer Lewis's departure from the post. Jennifer had introduced the "jubilee" lunches to mark special anniversaries of matriculation as well as telethon fundraising which had resulted in good contact between alumni and students.

Liz introduced herself as "Oxford born, bred and educated" though she had attended university in London before taking her PhD at Magdalen. Her background was in science and she had pursued her scientific career at Magdalen before accepting the post there of its first Director of Development. After five years, and now a mother, she had moved to a part-time contract role and was working at Brasenose on that basis.

Saira Uppal had also left the Development Office to join St Catz as its head of development. She had been instrumental in obtaining at least one major gift for the College, and had done a very good job overall.

The Principal reported that donations to the College both received and pledged in the past 12 months – and, indeed, since the Development Office had been established about five years ago – were encouraging though it was hoped would continue to grow. The Society had played a crucial role in maintaining alumni relations at a time prior to the College's establishment of a professional Development Office, and in encouraging participation by members in the College's various donation schemes.

Participation in the Annual Fund is currently 8%, which is a promising start though a long way short of University College's participation of 30% (albeit after several decades' head-start!)

The Principal accepted the point made by Paul Dawson-Bowling that one reason for the huge success of the Frewin Hall Appeal by the Society (in the 1990s) was that it was initiated by alumni themselves. As Paul indicated, now that the College has established a Development Office, it would be inappropriate for the Society to undertake such initiatives on its own but should work in tandem with the Development Office to support the College with fundraising and in other ways.

David Hills expressed concern at the suggestion that fundraising be a high priority of the Society. While the Society would obviously support and encourage members to give to specific projects and the Annual Fund, the Society should be careful not to discourage younger members from becoming involved in the Society by over-emphasising fundraising. The Society should play a supporting role only.

The Principal agreed. As Donald Rushton pointed out, the College's Governing Body – by establishing a Development Office just a few years ago – had shown its commitment to a professional fundraising focus. The Society's role, in his view, was to work with the Development Office under the latter's professional focus and guidance.

Report from the Principal

The Principal reported that the previous night the College had hosted a Gaudy for 1954-58. It had been very well attended (150 – a greater number than would have been possible had the Hall, rather than marquee, been used) and a great success.

The College is in the midst of substantial building works, with the Old Quad housing temporary kitchens and a dining marquee and New Quad a builders' yard! The kitchens are being rebuilt, the servery reconstructed, the Shackleton Room extended to provide a dining room of around 50 seats, and various other new staff and student facilities are being constructed. Overall, Project Q (as it is called) will be complete in early 2012.

The past 12 months had been eventful, with visits (in quick succession) by both Her Majesty The Queen and David Cameron, the Prime Minister,

then leader of the opposition. These high profile and much welcome visits had to some extent diverted College resources away from other projects, such as improved communications with alumni. The Principal hoped that “normal service would soon be resumed”.

The Development Office would be looking again at *The Brazen Nose*, *The Brazen Notes*, the mechanics of the Annual Fund and the College website. The latter is being supported by Joe Organ, a member of the Senior Tutor’s team and responsible for schools’ outreach. Liaison is needed with the Development Office to make the alumni part of the College website more user-friendly for members.

Finally, the Principal reported that, with effect from 1 October 2010, he would be taking a year’s research leave from the College, after seven years in post and an exceptionally demanding year during the College’s Quincentenary. During his 12 month absence, Alan Bowman (Camden Professor of Ancient History) would be Acting Principal and would be attending the Society’s future meetings.

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer presented the Society’s accounts for the year ended 31 July 2010. A full report would be made to the AGM shortly. Overall, there was a small surplus for the year (just under £170) with total cash reserves of around £12,500.

The President observed that the outcome was satisfactory. One area we might consider for the future is input into the menu selection for the dinner since we might choose a more economical option than that put forward by the College.

Recommendations for the AGM:

- **Election of Officers and other Committee Members** For the forthcoming year, the Committee proposed to recommend to the AGM Paula Carter for election as President.

Ex officio officers of the Committee were: the Principal (Roger Cashmore), the Editor of *The Brazen Nose* (Graeme Richardson) and the three most recent former Presidents (Alexandra Marks, Mark Saville and Joe Mordaunt Crook).

Other officers were: John W Davies (Oxford Secretary), Nigel Bird (Treasurer) and Secretary (Alexandra Marks).

The following members of the Committee wished to stand for re-election: Elizabeth Carter, David Clark, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Tristan Elbrick, Matt Forbes, Charlie Furness-Smith, Drusilla Gabbott, Michael Rountree and Donald Rushton.

Following his retirement from the Committee as a past President, Jeremy McMullen wished to stand for election.

- **Nomination of future Vice President**

For the forthcoming year, the Committee had in mind an individual for nomination as Vice President but pending approach to that individual, no recommendation would be made to the AGM at this stage.

- **Membership fee**

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, the membership fee fell to be fixed by the Committee (what's this mean?). With the generous agreement of the College to continue to publish and distribute *The Brazen Nose* without charge to all members of the Society, the Committee would again be able to fix the membership fee at nil for the next year.

Year Reps

Matt Forbes, the Year Reps' co-ordinator, reported that he (along with David Humble-White from the Development Office) continued in their joint efforts to re-energise and reactivate the Year Reps' network. All Year Reps had been circulated by email with a reminder of the role, thanks for their support and informing them of a meeting over lunch prior to the AGM and annual dinner. Some dozen or so people had met for lunch which had been both enjoyable and had generated some useful suggestions.

Attempts to stimulate Year Reps to promote attendance of the annual dinner by their year groups had been partially successful. More could be done. The list of Year Reps also needed to be updated. It would be published in *The Brazen Nose* so that readers could identify any gaps and volunteer (or propose others) for any vacancies.

Matt thanked David Humble-White for his enormous support and assistance which had made much of the above activity possible. It was greatly appreciated.

One idea that had been suggested over lunch was that HCR and JCR Presidents should be “captured” as Year Reps. for their year from the outset. This should solve, at a stroke, the difficulty of identifying volunteers for recent years, and would form a natural extension of their elected offices. Any President not wishing to take on the role of Year Rep could, of course, put forward a colleague instead.

A second suggestion was that Year Reps be incentivised to attend the annual dinner (and thanked for their services) by offering them a free (or subsidised) place. It was hoped that this might have the additional benefit of encouraging them to bring along their contemporaries.

There was a brief discussion about how best to pursue this idea. It was agreed that the costing of such a proposal (bearing in mind the importance to the Society’s financial affairs of the annual dinner) on various presumptions (e.g. limited numbers, youngest ten Year Reps only etc.) be prepared by Matt in conjunction with the Treasurer and presented to the Committee for further consideration.

The Annual Dinner and other Society Events

Next year’s annual dinner would take place on the Saturday which coincides with the University-wide “Reunion weekend” (which is yet to be confirmed).

Apart from the dinner, Paula Carter (if elected President by the AGM) proposed to hold a summer drinks event. Date and venue would be confirmed in due course.

As in previous years, there would be a “family lunch” event in Hall on the Saturday of VIIIs week (date again to be confirmed).

Grant making

Although the Society had sizeable reserves from which it was prepared to make grants to deserving activities within the College, no applications had been received.

Mentoring Scheme

In Mike Gill’s extended absence, Jeremy McMullen had taken over responsibility for the mentoring scheme. He reported that more volunteer mentors were being sought. A notice to that effect would be prepared for *The Brazen Nose*. Good news stories, to bring the scheme to life, would be welcome too.

There was now co-ownership of the scheme with the student body via the HCR and JCR but awareness and increased publicity for the scheme would be greatly welcome.

College Register

The President reported that work had begun on the proposed College register, and was continuing.

Date of future meetings

Dates of future meetings of the Committee would be confirmed in due course.

Any other business

David Hills, the Committee's most senior member – as well as a most loyal and valuable contributor – would be stepping down from the Committee after many years' service. He was thanked warmly for his enormous contribution to the Society and enthusiastic commitment to the College.

The minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting were omitted from Brazen Nose Volume 43 and is reproduced here

Annual General Meeting minutes: 26 September 2009

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at 12 noon in the Platnauer Room

Apologies

Too many apologies for absence had been received to list individually. Collectively they were noted and appreciated.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2008 were approved.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the Society's accounts for the year ended 31 July 2009. Due to the extensive programme of events organised by the

College for the quincentenary year, there had been none arranged by the Society itself apart from the Annual Dinner in September 2008. There had therefore been little movement of funds during the past 12 months. Overall, there was a small surplus for the year (just under £300) with total cash reserves of around £12,500.

Election of President, Vice-President, and other Committee members

For the forthcoming year, Joe Mordaunt Crook was proposed for election as President and Paula Carter as Vice-President.

The proposals for election of the President and Vice-President were seconded and carried *nem. con.*

Ex officio officers of the Committee are: the Principal (Roger Cashmore), the Editor of *The Brazen Nose* (Graeme Richardson). The three most recent former Presidents (Jeremy McMullen, Alexandra Marks and Mark Saville) were also ex officio members of the Committee.

There were proposed as members of the Committee: Elizabeth Carter, David Clark, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Tristan Elbrick, Matt Forbes, Charlie Furness-Smith, Drusilla Gabbott, Mike Gill, David Hills, Mike Rountree and Donald Rushton.

The proposal for election of Committee Members was seconded and carried *nem. con.*

Membership fee

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, the membership fee is to be fixed by the Committee from time to time. The President reported that, at its meeting earlier the same day, the Committee had again fixed the membership fee at nil for the time being. This would enable former members of the College to stay in touch, through the Society, at no cost to them for as long as the College can afford it.

The Society is able to manage its finances without any subscription from its members, thanks to the generosity of the College in publishing and distributing *The Brazen Nose* without charge to the Society.

One member suggested that the Society could charge subscriptions, since most members would be happy to pay in return for receiving publications. However, it was pointed out that subscriptions had been

abolished a few years ago to ensure that all former members of College automatically become members of the Society. What is more, the Society does not need funds – and is not a charity – in contrast to the College which would welcome charitable donations, no matter how modest, especially if made on a regular basis to its Annual Fund.

Year Reps

In the absence of the Year Reps' co-ordinator, Matt Forbes, it was reported that there was due to be dialogue between himself and the Development Office. The Committee takes the view that, with the administrative advantages it enjoys (including access to up-to-date contact details for alumni) compared with the Society, the Development Office should play a bigger role in supporting the Year Reps' scheme.

Future Society Events

A spring drinks event, aimed at recent matriculees (say ten years or less), was being planned. The date and venue were yet to be confirmed.

As in previous years, there would be a “family lunch” event in Hall on the Saturday of VIIIs week on Saturday 29 May 2010.

Grant making

The Society would continue its policy of making small grants to worthwhile projects within College. Members were invited to draw to the Committee's attention any other potentially suitable recipients of similar grants. It was suggested that the Society liaise with the JCR and HCR to advertise the existence of funds for such purposes.

Mentoring Scheme

The co-ordinator of the mentoring scheme, Mike Gill, reported that there's a long list of volunteer mentors from amongst the alumni. Now work is needed to encourage students to make use of the facility. It was also proposed to make the list available to recent graduates and post-graduates. Work was in progress with some new faces in the Development Office. Mike invited anyone present wishing to add his or her name to the list of volunteer mentors to contact him.

Date of 2010 Dinner

The Society's annual dinner in 2010 would take place on Saturday 25 September. It would therefore again coincide with the University-wide “Reunion weekend”.

Further details of this, and the other events planned for the forthcoming year, would be publicised on the College website.

Votes of thanks

Hearty votes of thanks were extended to the Principal and Fellows, the Bursar, Domestic Bursar and staff and to Jennifer Lewis and her colleagues in the College's Development Office for all their hard work in making the BNC500 weekend such a success.

The President paid tribute to Barney Smith, recent past president, who was retiring as a member of the Committee and whose contribution to the Society was greatly appreciated. Thanks were also given to Alastair Dick who was stepping down from the Committee after many years of service. His contribution was gratefully acknowledged.

Further votes of thanks were paid to outgoing President, Mark Saville, for his Presidential year and to the Acting Secretary for her continuing work in supporting the Society.

Any other business

There was a lively discussion about financial support of the College from old members. One said that, in the United States, it would be "unthinkable" to attend an event like the BNC500 celebration without making a financial contribution to the institution. In contrast, universities in the UK have not generally developed a culture of giving amongst their alumni. For most BNC alumni, however, their experiences at the College had been life-changing. He proposed to give one pound for every year of the College's existence, and encouraged others to do likewise. If everyone did so, it would make a huge difference to the sustainability of the College over the next 500 years. In his view, alumni presence at events such as the BNC500 weekend was not just to celebrate but to offer thanks (in tangible form!) too.

Other members agreed that our American brethren have shown the way in expressing gratitude for the education they had received and the advantages it bestowed on them in their future lives. The College would benefit enormously from broader participation by alumni in philanthropic gifts.

Another suggested that the Society should seek to nurture a sense of community amongst younger members. This could be coupled with

an emphasis on the importance of making regular contributions to the College, even if only modest in amount. The message was perhaps not yet presented in this way to current students and recent graduates.

The President pointed out that the Principal, together with the Director of Development, spends a considerable amount of time and effort fundraising for the College and contributions have increased markedly as a result.

It was also proposed that the principal task of the Society is to foster a sense of community, commitment and attachment to College and thereby improve the likelihood of philanthropic giving. While the Society has an important role in fundraising, particularly for the annual fund (and other projects which may be agreed between the College and the Society) this should be done in support of and in close co-operation with the Development Office.

Annual General Meeting minutes: 25 September 2010

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at 6:00pm in Lecture Room XI

Apologies

Too many apologies for absence had been received to list individually. Collectively they were noted and appreciated.

Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2009 were approved subject to minor amendments (submitted by David Clark and agreed by the meeting) to Minute 7 (Year Reps) and Minute 13 (AOB) to emphasise the mutually supportive roles of the Development Office (as regards Year Reps.) and the Society (as regards fundraising).

Matters arising

There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the Society's accounts for the year ended 31 July 2010. The Spring Party had run at a loss of about £905 (which had, however, been covered by an agreed subsidy by the Development Office) and the Summer VIII's week lunch had also incurred a small loss

(of around £224). However, the Summer Party (at the British Academy) had made a surplus of some £1,315. Thus, even taking account of administrative expenses of the Society (of some £708) and an agreed grant of £250 to mark the launch of the 1815 Boat Club, overall there had been a small surplus for the year (of just under £170). Total cash reserves remained at around £12,500.

Election of President, Vice-President, and other Committee members

For the forthcoming year, Paula Carter was proposed for election as President. The Committee had in mind an individual for nomination as Vice-President but as the intended candidate had not yet been approached, it was proposed that the election be held over.

The proposal for election of the President – and non-election of a Vice-President – were seconded and carried *nem. con.*

Ex officio officers of the Committee are: the Principal (Roger Cashmore), the Editor of *The Brazen Nose* (Graeme Richardson). The three most recent former Presidents (Alexandra Marks, Mark Saville and Joe Mordaunt Crook) were also *ex officio* members of the Committee.

There were proposed as members of the Committee: Elizabeth Carter, David Clark, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Tristan Elbrick, Matt Forbes, Charlie Furness-Smith, Drusilla Gabbott, Jeremy McMullen, Mike Rountree and Donald Rushton.

The proposal for election of Committee Members was seconded and carried *nem. con.*

Membership fee

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, the membership fee is to be fixed by the Committee from time to time. The President reported that, at its meeting earlier the same day, the Committee had again fixed the membership fee at nil for the time being. This would enable former members of the College to stay in touch, through the Society, at no cost to them for as long as the College can afford it.

The Society is able to manage its finances without any subscription from its members, thanks to the generosity of the College in publishing and distributing *The Brazen Nose* without charge to the Society.

One member repeated his suggestion from the previous year that the Society could charge a subscription, since most members would be happy to pay a modest sum (such as £10) for membership and to receive publications. However, it was pointed out that subscriptions had been abolished a few years ago to ensure that all former members of College automatically become members of the Society and receive its publications free of charge. What is more, the Society does not need funds because its events are essentially self-financing, it has limited expenditure and relatively substantial reserves. The Society is also not a charity – in contrast to the College which would welcome charitable donations, no matter how modest, especially if made on a regular basis to its

Annual Fund.

The Principal confirmed that the College's preference was for the Society's subscription to remain at nil. Rather than receive payment for publications currently provided free of charge by the College to Society members, the Principal hoped that members of the Society would instead feel encouraged to donate to the College via the Annual Fund. He pointed out that *The Brazen Nose* lists all donors (but not the amounts of donations, nor their names if they ask to be anonymous).

Year Reps

The Year Reps co-ordinator, Matt Forbes, reported revival of the custom of holding an annual meeting to thank Year Reps for their work, and collect their thoughts. Such meeting had taken place over a congenial lunch at Quod restaurant earlier in the day, and had been much enjoyed by the dozen or so people present. For the forthcoming year, it was hoped that communications with Year Reps would be more regular. The first of such communications, jointly from David Humble-White of the Development Office and Matt Forbes, had been made by email a few weeks earlier.

David Clark reported that he had recently assumed the position of Year Rep for his own year, 1970. He found it great fun, and a rewarding activity. He had encouraged others from his year group to attend the dinner this year, and four had accepted his invitation – the highest attendance by 1970 matriculees at any Society event! David remarked that the Development Office provides great support, including draft

“College Register” entries for his peers so that he could invite them to verify or correct them. He said that he had also reminded his year group that they could give to the College via the Annual Fund, but that the primary role of Year Reps is to bring people together and gather their input. So far, the feedback he had received had been most positive. He encouraged others to consider taking on the role for their own year.

Future Society events

As in previous years, there would be a “family lunch” event in Hall on the Saturday of VIII's week and the President would host Summer Drinks at a venue yet to be confirmed, sometime during Trinity term. The dates and other details of both events would be confirmed in due course, as would any others (such as an event in the South-West or North-West should there be sufficient concentration of Society members and, crucially, a volunteer to organise such an event).

Grant making

The Society would continue its policy of making small grants to worthwhile projects within College. Members were invited to draw to the Committee's attention any other potentially suitable recipients of similar grants. During the past 12 months, the Society had made a grant of £250 towards the launch of the College Boat Club's 1815 Club.

Mentoring Scheme

Mike Gill, co-ordinator of the Society's mentoring scheme, was on an extended trip so had handed over responsibility during his absence to Jeremy McMullen. Jeremy reported that there is now a long list of volunteer mentors from amongst the alumni. The role of mentor need not be an onerous one. It could comprise just a one-off conversation or, at the other end of the spectrum, a long-term supportive relationship between the alumnus/alumna and a current (or recently graduated) student seeking career advice. He invited anyone present wishing to add his or her name to the list of volunteer mentors – especially those with careers other than in law (which is already well-represented) – to contact him via the Development Office.

Date of 2010 Dinner

The Society's annual dinner in 2010 would take place on the Saturday of the University-wide “Reunion weekend”. The date was yet to be confirmed.

Further details of this, and the other events planned for the forthcoming year, would be publicised on the College website.

Votes of thanks

Sincere votes of thanks were extended to the Principal and Fellows, the Bursar, Domestic Bursar and staff, and the Development Office for their support of the Society's AGM and Annual Dinner.

The President paid tribute to Jeremy McMullen, who was retiring as an ex officio member of the Committee as recent past president, but who would be returning to the Committee as an elected member. Thanks were also given to David Hills who was stepping down from the Committee after many years of service and to Mike Gill, during his temporary but extended absence overseas. Their respective contributions were gratefully acknowledged.

Further votes of thanks were paid to outgoing President, Joe Mordaunt Crook, for an excellent Presidential year, and particularly successful and well-attended summer party.

Any other business

There was no other business.

MENTORING

The Brasenose Society is a treasury of alumni in all walks of life, ready and willing to offer help to the students and recent former students of the college. We have a substantial database of volunteers to act as mentors.

This wide title means you can learn from the inside about law, banking, teaching, the voluntary sector, public service, science and business. You can shadow a practitioner, meet to discuss vocations, talk about career change, do some tasting or get some personal one to one GPS on your own career plans. Contact us through the development office or the JCR/HCR officers.

BRASENOSE ALUMNI - YEAR REPS WANTED!

Brasenose Year Reps are college alumni who volunteer to act as a point of contact for their peer group. Year Reps play a pivotal role in keeping the alumni network thriving – they ensure their year group remains connected, is well informed of College and Society events and encouraged to attend.

It is a rewarding job for people who like to keep in touch with their old College friends and maintain a strong network of contacts throughout their social and/ or professional lives.

The exact role is very much up to the individual, but the job does not need to be onerous – an annual message to your year group highlighting the forthcoming College events, along with notes of encouragement for any particular events will suffice (although some Year Reps like to get more involved than this). Furthermore, there is plenty of administrative support available from the Alumni Relations & Development Office who can provide contact details for your year, or even send out communications on your behalf.

As a token of thanks for their efforts, Year Reps are invited to an annual lunch in Oxford or London.

Below is a list of current Year Reps. If you are interested in taking on the role for your year, please contact David Humble White on: david.humble-white@bnc.ox.ac.uk or 01865 287 277. If there is a gap in the list for your year, you will be given the role automatically. If not, please do still get in touch, as the incumbent rep may be looking to step down in the near future (the role is intended to be for a minimum of three years, but is not expected to be for life!), or may just appreciate some support.

David Humble White, Alumni Relations & Development Office

Matt Forbes, Year Rep Co-ordinator, Brasenose Society Committee

Year	Name
1943	David Hills
1944	
1945	
1946	
1947	Tony Vivian
1948	Alex Jones
1949	Mike Rountree

1950	
1951	Patrick Lowe
1952	Donald Blakeley
1953	John Buckler
1954	
1955	John Edwards
1956	
1957	
1958	Francis Neate
1959	Robert Hawes
1960	Richard Tettenborn
1961	Richard East
1962	Nicholas Kennedy
1963	James Edmiston
1964	Clive Evans
1965	John East
1966	Duncan Greenland
1967	Jeremy McMullen
1968	Christopher Moss
1969	Vivian Huxley
1970	David Clark
1971	Moray Thomas
1971	Steven Moore
1972	Christopher Berkeley
1973	Anthony Marchington
1974	

1975	Sally Hammond
1975	Elizabeth Annesley
1976	
1977	Peter Davies
1977	Kristina Stutchbury
1978	Paula Carter
1979	Jeremy Legge
1980	Christopher Mousley-Jones
1981	Ceri Hutton
1982	Kay Eyre
1983	Tony Murphy
1984	Sarah Williamson
1985	Lyndall Gibson
1986	
1987	
1988	
1989	
1990	
1991	Graham Thomas
1992	
1993	Che Odlum-de Vivenot
1993	Thomas Cartwright
1993	Alastair Dick
1994	Alexander Evers
1995	Katherine Alexiou
1996	Henry Fyson
1997	Matthew Forbes

1998	Ann Brewin
1999	Sinead Keller
2000	Laura Hannay
2001	
2002	
2003	Samantika Gokhale
2004	Rhiannon Williams
2005	
2006	
2007	
2008	
2009	

Obituaries



DEATHS NOTIFIED

* denotes full obituary

Ernest D Acheson	(1944)*	10 January 2010
Gurth L Addington	(1946)*	19 June 2010
Stuart H Arnold	(1956)*	12 November 2009
Roy James Birch	(1957)	November 2010
George C Buckley	(1949)*	04 January 2010
Catherine Burt	(1988)	October 2009
Hubert C Clarke	(1946)	11 June 2010
William G Cowell	(1944)*	June 2010
Brian J Cumbers	(1950)	13 August 2010
Ella R Currie		14 April 2010
Geoffrey N Dalzell-Payne	(1948)	12 January 2010
Hugh A Disney	(1936)*	02 November 2009
Thomas H Douglas	(1954)	20 March 2010
William P Duckney	(1953)	24 February 2010
John B Evans	(1953)*	05 September 2009
Byron N Georgiadis	(1945)	03 January 2010
Allan P Hamilton	(1951)	14 June 2010
Geoffrey P Harvey	(1964)	21 October 2009
Stephen Hearst	(1946)*	27 March 2010
Alan G Howard	(1956)	August 2010
Clifford E Jacobsen	(1949)	22 October 2009
Colin Laycock	(1951)	07 March 2010
Alexander G MacIntyre	(1951)	19 August 2009
John A Methuen	(1966)*	18 July 2010
Michael M Mousley	(1941)	26 March 2010
Ralph W Neeld	(1949)	29 April 2010
Philip C Pritchard	(1950)	27 September 2010
Annette C Pullan (dec'd)	(1984)*	20 October 2009
Geoffrey E Rickman	(1951)*	08 February 2010
Andrew J Ritchie	(1965)	31 March 2010
Anthony J Russell-Wood	(1959)*	13 August 2010
Hector J Sants	(1946)	08 June 2009
Robert Senior	(1955)*	24 May 2010
Gordon R Sharwood	(1953)*	19 April 2010
Peter F Skinner	(1952)	November 2009
Charles G Strachan	(1954)	July 2010

Michael J Telfer	(1956)	21 October 2009
Brian C Vickery (dec'd)	(1937)	17 October 2009
Colin Wells*		11 March 2010
Victor H Wheble	(1938)	10 January 2010
Dennis A Wray	(1966)	November 2009

Acheson, Sir Ernest Donald Acheson

Former Chief Medical Officer

When Donald Acheson came to the post of chief medical officer in the Department of Health and Social Security in 1983, he did so from an impeccable background of clinical and academic epidemiology during which he had been foundation dean of the new Medical School at the University of Southampton for ten years from 1968 and a director of the Medical Research Council (MRC) unit in environmental epidemiology. In this period he had achieved a high reputation through a number of striking pieces of research on aspects of public health, notably his important work on the health hazards of asbestos and the desperate need to improve primary medical care in the inner cities and comprehensive recommendations on how that might be achieved.

In the hot seat of the Government's chief medical officer he found himself in an environment at some remove from that of university and MRC research. His post was one without executive powers or a budget, though it did carry the power to influence ministers and to reassure, or alarm, the public. This was especially so in an era when health issues were becoming ever more at the forefront of public concern, and when health problems that might have been the subject of dispassionate, exhaustive analysis in a MRC atmosphere could suddenly be translated into white-hot crises under media scrutiny.

In such circumstances the chief medical officer's task could be an extremely difficult and delicate one, given the weight that was likely to be ascribed by ordinary people to whatever he said. A considered and temperate opinion might well be oversimplified in transmission through the press, radio or television and could easily return to vex its originator.

Among the burgeoning health problems which Acheson was required to address himself with frequent public statements during his tenure, were screening for breast cancer (about which he occasionally got himself

into hot water with women's groups), meningitis among children, and the spread (and control) of Aids (for which he promoted a bold and explicit advertising campaign). But none more starkly exemplified the difficulties of his position than an outbreak in 1988 of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), commonly known as mad cow disease.

The potential impact of BSE went far beyond simply health considerations, though these appeared grim enough, and the deaths of a number of children from what seemed to be an incurable affliction only heightened the sense of menace. There were also huge economic implications, with the safety for health of the whole of British beef production coming under suspicion almost overnight. In such a highly charged atmosphere it was Acheson's task to balance his reactions as a scientist (about a disease he later admitted he had never heard of until then) with a sense of the manifest urgency of the BSE problem. As such he gave high priority to discovering whether there were risks of a spread to human beings, and to containing any such risks.

As he later admitted in evidence to the BSE inquiry, he was often uneasy in the position in which he found himself, falling foul of the tension between the Department of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff), regarding the latter as failing to inform him about the BSE outbreak for six months, and being unnecessarily secretive over the scientific research to determine its nature. Over all this, he conceded, hung a not always unspoken government pressure to minimise the potential effects of the BSE outbreak. It was perhaps one of the most dramatic and difficult health concerns to cross the path of a chief medical officer.

On stepping down from his post after an eight year-tenure in 1991 Acheson continued to put his scientific knowledge and research experience at the service of the medical community in posts ranging from special representative of the World Health Organisation in the former Yugoslavia, 1992-93, to his chairmanship of the independent inquiry into inequalities in health commissioned by the Blair Government in 1997, which led to the publication of what became known as the Acheson report on the subject the following year.

Ernest Donald Acheson was born in Belfast in 1926, the son of a doctor who specialised in public health and a mother who was the daughter of a Tyneside shipbuilder. He was educated at Merchiston Castle School, Edinburgh, and Brasenose College, Oxford, where he

obtained his MA and DM and was to become an honorary Fellow in 1989.

Qualifying in 1951, he had early house appointments at the Middlesex Hospital and did his National Service as an acting squadron leader in the RAF Medical Branch between 1953 and 1955. There followed 12 years, 1957-68, at Oxford where he was a Fellow of University College, and a medical tutor in the Nuffield Department of Medicine at the Radcliffe Infirmary. He was director of the Oxford Record Linkage Study and Unit of Clinical Epidemiology, 1962-68, and Reader in Medicine from 1965.

In 1968 he moved to Southampton as Professor of Clinical Epidemiology combining this with an honorary medical consultancy at the Royal South Hants Hospital. In that year he also became foundation dean of the university's faculty of medicine. In 1979 he became director of the MRC unit in environmental epidemiology, where with Professor Martin Gardner he conducted research on the health risks from asbestos that led to a ban on blue and brown asbestos imports and to the introduction of stringent safety standards.

At the same time he was chairman in 1981 of a study group investigating primary healthcare in inner London. This put forward what was at that time acknowledged as a remarkable report, with no fewer than 115 radical recommendations for urgent change in areas ranging from the retirement of family doctors at 65, to changes in hospitals, surgeries and community nursing.

These qualities made him a natural candidate in 1983 for the post of chief medical officer, and he threw himself into the task with imagination and energy. At that time what appeared to be an Aids epidemic was being perceived as the most pressing public health crisis and in spite of his self-avowed Calvinistic upbringing Acheson engaged with all its implications for sexual behaviour, going on television and not hesitating to discuss the most intimate details.

He was the first to admit that the first television advertising campaign had been "amateurish", but he did not duck the use of the medium in bringing the problems associated with the fight against Aids into the home. He was later to say that government ministers, and especially the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, often appeared embarrassed about the frank advertising that he regarded as vital to any meaningful campaign to change sexual behaviour.

Acheson was appointed KBE in 1986. After retiring as Chief Medical Officer in 1991 he continued in demand in a wide variety of spheres: as a university examiner, for the World Health Organisation in Bosnia, and as a government adviser. He was a past president of the Association of Physicians of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Medical Association. He was the recipient of numerous honorary degrees.

Donald Acheson was twice married. There were a son and four daughters (and one daughter deceased) of his marriage to Barbara Mary Castle, which was dissolved in 2002. He was married in that year to Angela Judith Roberts, with whom he had one daughter.

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Addington, the Honourable Gurth Louis Francis

“A quintessential Englishman”

Dad was born in India during my grandfather's Indian Army service and died in Australia where he retired after 25 years working in the media industry in New Zealand. During their marriage my parents travelled the world and their nine children were born in Aden, Canada and New Zealand.

Dad had a very special connection with Brasenose. Not only were his brother and nephew (both deceased) alumni but so was his great, great grandfather Henry Addington, Viscount Sidmouth. Remembered today by Brasenose's debating club the Addington Society. Henry Addington held office from 1801 to 1803 and was the college's only British Prime Minister, until David Cameron's election in May. Changes following responses to Brazen Notes.

Dad came up to Brasenose after the war to read English and History. He was very popular with an amazing gift for friendship and made many lifelong friends. He regularly wrote to more than 100 people across the world, including Henry Bicket (1940) who said: “Gurth was a very dear friend of mine and an inspiration to all who knew him at BNC”.

Educated at Downside and the Royal Navy College, Dartmouth, dad joined the RAF in WWII and completed 40 operational flights for Bomber Command as an aimer and navigator. It is hard now to understand the courage of the young men who flew in those planes.

There was no GPS or proper radar and you navigated by looking out of the window and checking the ground below or, if it was cloudy, by dead reckoning. If the wind speed was different from what was forecasted you were in real trouble.

Dad seldom talked about his experiences during the war, until he moved to Australia in 1985. He then revealed that the night before his 30th flight, he was convinced that he would be killed so he wrote a will, a letter to his mother, packed his suitcase and tidied his room. He never considered calling in sick.

Later in his log book I read the entry for his third flight: “found target, hit another A/C returned safely”. It transpires they lost about two metres off the end of a wing that flight; dad was always one for understatement!

After leaving BNC dad was offered a job in Aden and asked mum to marry him before he left. She travelled to Aden and they were married in Kenya, as there were no Christian priests allowed on the Saudi peninsular. Their first two children, Mary-Clare and Martin were born there, followed by Catherine, Deirdre, myself, Mark and Monica, born during the six years they lived in Canada, and Barbara and Jane who were born in New Zealand.

Dad was a true romantic and marriage was the defining act of his life. He declared his diamond wedding anniversary, celebrated the month before he died, as the second happiest day of his life, second only to his wedding day.

Faith was a central part of who dad was and he was a regular at church. He was very grateful that the church didn't hold a grudge, as on one flight during the war, he was horrified to learn later that bombs dropped in one mission had drifted off course and had exploded in the gardens of the Pope's summer castle.

Dad was a quintessential Englishman of the 1920s/1930s. He grew up in the depression and then went to war. He believed strongly in love, duty, responsibility and honour. He also believed in family and had a strong sense of gratitude for the life he had and everything in it. It was important to tell the truth and do the right thing. When I got into trouble at school, which sadly happened far too often, he would just accept the apology and expect me to do better next time.

I once asked dad what he was doing with an MA from Oxford and a titled family, in middle management in a middle-sized company in New

Zealand. He told me that he defined success as a happy loving family with lots of children. It was what he wanted, what he held dear and had achieved.

As a family we have been overwhelmed by the number of phone calls, emails and letters from friends and family all over the world. The warmth of feelings is a testament to the man he was. He will be sorely missed.

*David Addington, son
(Sydney, Australia)*

Arnold, Stuart Hugh

Stuart Hugh Arnold was born on 17 October 1935 and passed away on 12 November 2009. He grew up in the small village of West Hagley in Worcestershire and was educated at King Edward VI School, Stourbridge. From 1954 to 1956 he did his National Service in the RAF. This included a spell at the Joint Services School for Linguistics, where he gained a Russian translator's certificate, and nine months service in Berlin. He attended Brasenose College, Oxford between 1956 and 1959 and received an MA in modern history. He then took a Diploma of Education in Oxford from 1960 to 1961.

Stuart's days at Oxford were extremely happy and he was proud to have gone there. In September last year, although he was unwell, I accompanied him to a celebration lunch at Brasenose College to celebrate its 500th anniversary. It was a very special day to share with my father who could still summon some energy and enthusiasm. It was a day he greatly enjoyed.

In 1959 and 1960 he went on a thirteen month 'Around the World Working Tour' and made £100. Countries he visited included Canada, USA, Japan, Hong Kong, South Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Burma, India, Nepal, West Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, the Soviet Union and Finland. The world was a completely different place then and I believe this period began his love and enthusiasm for travel.

Work during this trip included: teaching high school in Manitoba; labouring and working as a surveyor on the Trans-Canada pipeline in Ontario; lecturing for the British Council and the Iranian government's business schools, and working as a journalist and astrologer on Tehran's

English language Kayhan International newspaper. While he was in Afghanistan, he spent time travelling with the great historian Arnold Toynbee.

From 1960 to 1961 Stuart was a senior English master and house master at St George's School in Jerusalem under the Anglican Archbishop, Campbell Macinnes. He was also a member of the John Allegro Dead Sea Scrolls Christmas Cave Expedition in the Jordan Valley.

While in Jerusalem he got engaged to a beautiful Armenian woman Nina Madeleine Simonian. In 1962 she came over to England and they were married. They had two sets of twins – Neal and Michelle, and Mark and Jonathan – with an age difference of under three years. He was fiercely proud of his children.

In 1962 Stuart joined a branch of the Midland Bank in the Birmingham area. In 1966 he became assistant secretary of the management committee at head office and from 1967 onwards worked in the international division, later becoming head of international public relations. He retired in 1986 and concentrated on travel writing.

As you can imagine, his work allowed him to travel extensively, opening Midland bank branches and centres around the world including South America, Asia, and Africa. This experience and knowledge enabled him to build up a good network of contacts and write for many publications. These included the *Daily Telegraph*, *Financial Times*, *Illustrated London News*, *Travel Trade Gazette*, *Far Eastern Agriculture*, *The Banker*, *Export Times* and *British Airways Executive World*. He also wrote a number of travel guides including ones on Thailand, Finland, The Netherlands and Poland.

In 1970 Stuart won a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship and spent four months in the Pacific basin looking at aspects of banking in such places as Japan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand. He was a group leader on tours to Cuba and Albania and went on a trip to China with the author Christopher Portway. I seem to remember a story of him teaching the Hokey Cokey at a Chinese wedding reception.

In February 1992 he went to Saudi Arabia for 18 months to work as a senior manager in public relations for Riyad Bank. His afternoon tea parties there were legendary.

In later years, due to ill health, his travelling was more limited, I think his last big trip was to Peru. He was active as an advisor to Essex Blind Charity and a council member of the National Railway Museum.

He always had interesting stories to tell about his travels and even the week before he died he was telling me about a trip to Somalia in the late 1960s where he had lunch with the then president and prime minister. Somewhere there is a menu that they both autographed!

My father was a remarkable man and will be greatly missed.

Neal Arnold, son

Buckley, George Christopher

Christopher was born on 29 December 1929. After Wellington School, he did National Service in the Navy before going up to Brasenose for what he said were: 'the best years of my life'. He took a degree in PPE and was captain of the University sailing team – gaining a half blue – and also belonged to the Oxford and Cambridge Sailing Society. Christopher started yacht cruising at Brasenose and over the rest of his life bought a series of yachts – each a little bigger and more comfortable than the one before.

After university, he married his first wife Ann and became managing director of the family motor business but his first love continued to be sailing. He joined his father as a member of the Royal Cruising Club later becoming Secretary. He also belonged to the London Corinthian Sailing Club during the heyday of river sailing and was elected Commodore and then President.

We married after his first wife died and had an adventurous 18 years cruising the coast of Europe. We also travelled to see the rest of the world including New Zealand, the birthplace of his father.

A stroke and knee problems did not curtail his adventurous life. He died in January 2010 after a very short illness just days after his 80th birthday.

Sally Buckley, widow

Kate Burt

Kate was an academic high flyer with a unique and flamboyant personality. She arrived at Brasenose in 1988 to study for a DPhil in Chemistry, under Prof Graham Richards. In the impossibly brief two and half years it took Kate to complete her doctorate, she packed in a great deal:

a junior deanship; various publications; a commercial computer program called ASP; sundry college balls; singing in a band, Norwegian Entry, and in a choir at St Aloysius' Church on the Woodstock Road.

Not only was Kate brilliant academically, she was also witty, perceptive and well-informed – larger than life, impossible to ignore. She was tall, blonde, attractive, straightforward, and the life and soul of any party. Kate will be greatly missed.

Kate was born in Bramley, Leeds. She arrived comparatively late on in the lives of her parents Jack and Joy Burt, was an only child, and all the more adored for it. Science was an early interest. One of Kate's cousins tells the following story about a three and half year old Kate: "Katie looked perplexed and I asked her what she was thinking. She replied, 'I'm trying to work out stars. Are they there because there are holes in the night sky... like looking at a light through a blanket? Or, are they just like small suns?'"

Kate did a Chemistry degree in Leeds, where she got the highest first-class degree ever recorded in its Chemistry Department. After that, she spent 6 months travelling around Australia, which began a life long love affair with that country.

Kate then studied for her doctorate at Brasenose, which she often described as the happiest years of her life. She loved the beauty of Oxford, the intellectual life, and the social scene. She was the bright and vivacious partygoer whose outrageousness and plain-speaking brought people together and made for unforgettable Oxford days of punting, parties and Pimms. One of her roles was as Junior Dean, controlling the undergraduates – a job she was well cut out for. She was outgoing, confident, entertaining, and equally blunt regardless of whether she was dining with the dons on High Table, or throwing undergraduates out of the bar when it was past closing time.

Kate kept up her ties with Brasenose after she left, becoming a committee member of the Brasenose Society, and organising events for old Members.

After Oxford, Kate worked for a short time at an Oxford start-up, before moving to Pfizer in Canterbury, where she spent most of the rest of her career. She worked on molecular modelling, and was very proud of her work there, which included ground-breaking research on the HIV virus. Kate was the Chairperson of the international Molecular Graphics and Modelling Society, a charity that promotes public education in

the science of molecular graphics. One of her colleagues described a lecture given by Kate as follows: “Kate took an immensely complicated subject – molecules, folds, enzymes, proteins and more and made it understandable to all in the room including me and with a passion you’d never imagine.”

Kate had a real gift for friendship. Her warmth and confidence – she thought nothing of talking to complete strangers on the tube, and often did – meant she had a large circle of friends. Every Christmas, messages, photos, and a long handwritten card would go to friends around the world, and she had friendships stretching for more than two decades. Kate was intensely loyal, kind, and supportive – a big sister to many of her friends. As well as providing support, Kate was great fun, with a tremendous energy for life, whether it was rollerblading in New York, skiing in Europe, listing to traditional Jazz in New Orleans, going on a ranch holiday in Texas, safari in South Africa, travelling around India, or partying in London.

No description of Kate’s life would be complete without mentioning music. Kate had a lovely singing voice, was pitch perfect, and knew the words to every song she had heard. She loved Cole Porter and traditional jazz, and was never shy about singing in front of others. She sang at work parties, friends’ parties and weddings, Lola’s gospel brunch in New York, karaokes and piano bars. The theme of Kate’s farewell party in London in June 2008 was ‘perform your party piece’. The theme of her party in Canterbury was a ‘girls behaving badly belly dancing party’. For many people, those will be their last, and joyful, memories of Kate – dancing wearing a glittering outfit with veils and gold sequins, and singing Cole Porter songs until the small hours.

Kate moved to Australia in July 2008, to take up a position in a pharmaceutical company in Melbourne. She was very excited about the prospect of a new life there, but unfortunately the change was too much for her. She had a breakdown from which she never recovered, and her condition was exacerbated by the death of her beloved mother in August of this year.

A memorial service was held for Kate in Brasenose Chapel on Saturday 1 May, 2010: many thanks to all who came and joined in the celebration of her life.

Vina Shukla

Cowell, Professor George William

My much loved husband George Cowell died at our home in Pasadena, California earlier this year after a long and honourably fought illness. We came to the United States in 1977 for George to pursue the medical career that has taken us to many parts of the world.

Before George went up to Brasenose to study medicine, he served with the Royal Naval Voluntary Reserve in India, Sri Lanka and Burma. He was an enthusiastic sportsman gaining a blue in discus, as well as distinguishing himself on the cricket and rugby field.

We returned to Brasenose for the baptisms of our two elder children in the BNC Chapel. Our third child was born in Kenya where we lived for over 20 years.

In 1977 we moved to the United States and George joined the University of California, Los Angeles and the University of Southern California where he was an associate professor, retiring at the age of 72.

George remained great friends with his Brasenose contemporary Cyril Wiggishoff (1946) who was an eminent physician in Chicago and President of the Illinois Medical Society, before retiring to Arizona.

Paddy Cowell, widow

Disney, Group Captain Hugh Anthony Shipley

Hugh Disney died aged 92 at the end of a long, varied and adventurous life that saw him hunting U-boats in the Mediterranean and playing key roles in the partition of India, the establishment of NATO maritime command and the British thermonuclear weapons tests in Southern Australia.

My father came up to Brasenose, from Winchester, on an exhibition to read chemistry in 1936. An active member of college, he joined the Ornithological and Phoenix Societies and learned to fly in the University Air Squadron. My uncle Paddy Disney was a rugby blue at BNC and Hugh also wanted to play rugby. However, the college persuaded him to play soccer (as he had been at a soccer school) and he gained a blue in his first term and, indeed for three successive years.

When war broke out he joined his father and three brothers in the RAF and was mentioned in dispatches for his work on convoy and anti-

submarine patrols over the North Sea. Posted to Yorkshire in 1940, he asked his great friend at BNC John Anglebeck if he knew anyone who lived near Middlesborough. He said to get in touch with Eira Wynn-Williams who had been at St Hugh's. They married in 1942.

He then joined RN/RAF operations as an air controller targeting U-boats in the western Mediterranean. The patrols proved so effective that no enemy U-boat or major warship managed to attack the allied fleet heading for Normandy.

After the war, my father served on the Government of India's establishment committee, and in 1952 joined Coastal Command where he drew up plans for the newly established Nato maritime command and was appointed OBE. In 1957 he was promoted to Group Captain and led 1,000 men providing air support for the atomic trials in Maralinga, Australia. RAF commands in Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur followed. His time in Kuala Lumpur coincided with the communist insurgency.

He retired from the RAF in 1963 and spent the rest of his career in printing. In the early 70s he was interviewed by Robert Maxwell to run one of his companies. He came away saying: "I couldn't work for that man." Later he published two books on the family history tracing it back to Norman times, *The Disneys of Stabannon (1665-1996) – a history of an Anglo-Irish family* and the *Disneys of Norton Disney (1150 -1451)*.

During his time at BNC my father was a member of Vincent's and in later life, when he returned to live in Oxford, he continued to meet up with his Oxford friends there every other month. I went to a BNC society dinner with him in 2003 and he was the only pre war participant.

He is survived by my three sisters, Sarah, Anna and Tania, and myself.

Patrick Disney (1975), son

Evans, John Bryan

John Evans came up to Brasenose to read Honour Mods in 1953, changing in his sixth term to PPE. He played a full part in the sporting and social life of the college, especially in rugby, rowing and bridge and, more erratically, darts. He also joined the University Air Squadron and took a course in pilot training. Immediately after Oxford he completed three years National Service in the RAF as an education officer.

In 1960 he began a distinguished career as an economist and financial expert with various appointments within Courtauld's: Personal Assistant to the Marketing Director, Member of the Economics Department, Senior Member of the Finance Department (consolidation of group accounts, internal audit, accounting aspects of acquisitions).

From 1969 to 1971 John was Senior Tutor in Finance at London Business School (under Professor Harold Rose). He also produced two important publications, *Discounted Cash Flow* (with A M Alfred) and *Replacement Investment* (with J Connor).

From 1971 to 1975 he was General Manager of Courtauld's Pension Fund and Chief Economist at Courtauld's (in charge of the Economics and Market Research Departments, corporate strategy, acquisitions and dispersals). From 1981 to 1985 Director of Churchbury Estates as Chairman/Chief Executive. From 1986 to 1994 he was Investment Manager of Courtauld's Pension Fund. In addition, he was Chairman and Director of Northern Retail Property Fund and Fleming Overseas Investment Trust.

John also helped and advised the College in financial matters over a number of years.

Bridge had been an important part of his life at Oxford and continued to be in later years. He was an enthusiastic and accomplished player. One of the more unusual pleasures he shared with his wife Harriet during their very happy marriage, was part-ownership of a racehorse and they enjoyed going to see it perform at various racing venues in the UK and USA.

John also pursued his interest in rugby continuing to turn out for one of the Roslyn Park 'Junior' sides long after most people would have considered it safer to retire.

Despite the brilliance of his professional career John will be most vividly remembered for his delightful, engaging and eccentric personality and sense of humour. He once wrote in reply to a letter of mine: "Thank you for your idea that we should share a flat. I have been entertaining it – lavishly – for some days."

He was a prominent member of a small club – the VS Club – founded by a few BNC men in June 1957 which continues to meet and dine annually. Each of us felt that he would probably have gained a degree at least one class higher if he had not met the rest of us. But we all agreed that it was a price well worth paying.

Our sympathies go out to his widow Harriet, who nursed him lovingly through the pain and exhaustion of his final months, and his son Matthew.

Alastair Mackenzie (1954 to 1957)

Hearst, Stephen

Controller of Radio 3

As controller of Radio 3 (formerly the Third Programme) Hearst made the mainly classical music network much less stuffy and hidebound, sweeping away the academic language in which pieces were introduced and emphasising that listeners should be encouraged to enjoy the output rather than necessarily understand it all. “We must seek to widen understanding through enjoyment,” he noted.

When he discovered that musicological introductions being read out by announcers totalled an hour and a half a day, he ordered the verbiage to be cut down; when academics from the BBC’s Music Division bickered in meetings among themselves and with him, Hearst threatened to walk out.

There were differences, too, between Hearst and Robert Ponsonby, who succeeded Sir William Glock as the BBC’s Controller of Music in 1972. When Hearst proposed the first simultaneous transmission on radio and television of an Albert Hall concert to mark the BBC’s 50th anniversary, Ponsonby complained that a single television camera would displace 50 members of the audience. But, Hearst gently explained, the result would be three million viewers.

Another innovation was Hearst’s idea for a weekly bulletin of “good news” in *The Positive World*, but this lasted only a year; more successful were a revival of the old Third Programme series *The Critics* – reincarnated as *Critics’ Forum* – and his “theme” days, beginning in January 1973 with French Sunday (featuring music, poetry and drama from France) and followed by a Women’s Day and German, Polish and Italian Weekends.

But when he launched *Your Concert Choice*, with music chosen by listeners phoning in, senior figures with the BBC branded it a populist “disgrace”; a few months later, one of Hearst’s own producers openly doubted that Radio 3 was “the great cultural institution that the Third Programme had been”.

Hearst bore such travails with equanimity, remarking that the station should reflect not just the nation's intellectual life but also "initiate new life". But in turning over many evenings to opera, some of it contemporary, he provoked many critics, and was warned more than once by the BBC's senior managers that his network was failing in its primary job of scheduling classical instrumental music in the evenings. In *The Daily Telegraph*, Sean Day-Lewis agreed, calling on Hearst to ensure that his channel spent "more time in the mainstream".

In fact, Hearst was only a lukewarm fan of much contemporary classical music, and disliked the *avant-garde* once complaining that it left him "baffled if not wholly alienated".

Stephen Hearst was born Stephan Hirschtritt in Vienna on October 6 1919, the son of a prominent dentist who knew the Mahler family well. In 1938 Stephan's medical studies at university were interrupted by Hitler's Anschluss, which drove him underground because, as he explained, he was not only Jewish but had also distributed pamphlets "and stuck labels for the Patriotic Front on to the backs of Nazis".

Although his father would later establish a successful dental practice in Harley Street, Stephan arrived in England alone with £10 in his pocket, and recalled a vivid memory of newspaper placards at Victoria station bruiting Len Hutton's record 364 Test runs against Australia. That evening, at the Savile Club, he found himself being introduced to HG Wells.

Early in the Second World War, like many German-speaking refugees, he was interned – three members of the Amadeus string quartet languished in the next tent – before joining the Pioneer Corps, changing his name at five minutes' notice to Stephen Hearst, and seeing action in the beach landings in Italy. Later, in Palestine, he became commandant of a camp for Italian PoWs.

On demobilisation Hearst took a degree in History at Brasenose College, Oxford, and briefly became a trainee at Marks & Spencer before joining the BBC in 1952 as a holiday relief scriptwriter for television newsreels. Although he had become an instant early devotee of the Third Programme on the wireless – "The whole of the *Ring* – one had never heard this before on radio!" – he remained in television; he worked as a documentary scriptwriter for Richard Dimbleby for two years, and as a writer-producer from 1955 until 1965 when, under Huw Wheldon, he was appointed executive producer of arts programmes and deputy to Humphrey Burton, the BBC's first head of music and arts.

In 1967 Hearst became head of television arts features, presiding over the making of two of the BBC's most outstanding documentary series during what is now perceived as a vanished golden age: Kenneth Clark's monumental survey of European art, *Civilisation* (1969); and Alistair Cooke's equally sweeping television history of the United States, *America*, first shown in 1972. In January of that year, promising to build audiences, Hearst switched to radio as Controller, Radio 3.

His arrival was inevitably viewed with a mixture of suspicion and hostility: the network's entrenched cadre of producers suspected a television man of wanting to "dumb down" and boost ratings. But Hearst impressed them with his cultured outlook, intelligence and charm, and soon created a relaxed atmosphere, despite the continued ravings of some diehard elements of the Radio 3 audience.

Meanwhile, Hearst made plain his initial disapproval of Patricia Hughes, the station's only female announcer, demanding that it get rid of "that terrible woman with the Kensington voice" (he later relented). Many of his innovations have since become standard BBC practice: he gave titles to concerts, showcased them in *Radio Times*, and promoted more new drama on Radio 3. But as Hearst himself noted later in *The Daily Telegraph*, the more the cultural prestige of his network rose, the more the audience declined.

By 1976, the 30th anniversary of the founding of the old Third Programme, his station's broadcasting hours were being cut to save money, and some of its programmes were being shared with Radio 4, notably *Man of Action*. But Hearst could point to Radio 3 being the only network not obsessed by ratings. "It is the last-ditch defence of the BBC," he said, "and it will be there at the end."

In 1978 Hearst was succeeded at Radio 3 by Ian McIntyre and appointed controller of the BBC's "think tank", the Future Policy Group, a position that earned him the unofficial title "Deep Thought". He was appointed CBE the following year.

For the last four years of his time at the BBC, between 1982 and 1986, he was a special adviser to the director-general, Alasdair Milne.

On retirement he became an independent producer and consultant, and a visiting professor at Edinburgh University.

Stephen Hearst, who died on March 27, married, in 1948, Lisbeth Neumann, who survives him with their son and daughter.

Methuen, the Revd John Alan Robert

Dean of Ripon from 1995 until driven to resignation in 2005

His appointment to a cathedral in a peaceful, conventional northern community came as a surprise to many, and not least to himself. A gifted and colourful priest, he had spent the previous 18 years ministering with considerable success in tough, multi-ethnic parishes in Reading and Manchester. His ability was not in doubt.

At Ripon, however, things soon began to go badly wrong. Failing to recognise the difference between parish and collegial cathedral life, he was accused of being autocratic and impossible to work with. Several high profile resignations included those of the Director of Music, the Chapter Clerk and the Bursar, followed by the successor Director of Music and Chapter Clerk.

Morale in the Close plunged and there was great unhappiness among the cathedral congregation. Rumours about excessive drinking and inappropriate behaviour to women were spreading, and in 2001 the Bishop initiated an inquiry to consider the many complaints against the Dean. Other attempts to find a solution failed, and it was recommended that he should leave. Methuen, however, always strenuously denied the allegations, and he was not without supporters in the cathedral community.

An independent assessor, Judge Peter West, was then engaged, and he concluded that there was a case to be answered by Methuen in respect of many of the allegations. This led to the serious step of convening a Consistory Court to judge 21 charges of “conduct unbecoming in the office of a clerk in holy orders”, and one charge of “serious and persistent neglect of duty”. The prospect of an embarrassing and, for the Church, seriously bruising trial was avoided when Methuen resigned before its opening and the diocese agreed to drop the case.

Before all this, when rector of Hulme, in Manchester, Methuen had achieved considerable notoriety by permitting a Sri Lankan to claim the right of sanctuary in the church and defy the immigration authorities and the police from the end of 1986 until January 1989.

The Sri Lankan, who had lived in the parish for several years, was admitted to Britain as a student but abandoned academic life in order to pursue the activities of a “revolutionary communist”. When ordered by the Home Office to leave Britain he refused, claiming that if returned

to Sri Lanka he would be arrested, tortured and executed because he supported the Tamils.

At the invitation of the rector, who was supported by the Bishop of Manchester, he moved into the church vestry, which was equipped with a refrigerator, television and microwave oven. He added posters of Che Guevara and stayed for more than two years – a personal meeting in June 1987 between Methuen and the then Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd, having failed to break the deadlock.

Eventually immigration officials and 50 policemen broke into the church. The arrest and subsequent deportation brought 1,000 protesters to a demonstration outside the church and led to sharp criticism of the Home Office in the House of Commons.

John Alan Robert Methuen, the son of a clergyman, was born on 14 August 1947. He was a chorister at Eton, attending its choir school, then went to St John's School, Leatherhead. At Brasenose College, Oxford, he read Theology and was a member of the Egypt Exploration Society, winning the Gerald Avery Near-Eastern Archaeology Prize.

He prepared for Holy Orders at Cuddesdon Theological College, where Robert Runcie (1941), the future Archbishop of Canterbury, was the principal, and from 1971 to 1974 was a curate at Fenny Stratford in Buckinghamshire. He then returned to Eton as assistant chaplain and also became priest-in-charge of nearby Dorney, where he was warden of the Dorney-Eton College Centre, based in the vicarage.

There Etonians were prepared for Confirmation, conferences were held and children from deprived inner-city areas given holidays. Children affected by the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl were also welcomed, and under Methuen's lively leadership the centre became a place of some significance both for the college and the wider community.

In 1977 Methuen became vicar of St Mary's church, Reading – a multiethnic parish in which he worked closely with the West Indian community and organised the West Reading Festival, which became an annual event.

It was on the strength of this skilful and imaginative ministry that he became rector of Hulme in 1983. Located next to the notorious Moss Side district of Manchester, the parish shared most of its neighbour's problems – high unemployment, run-down housing, youth crime and drugs. The Church of the Ascension was, however, a new building and Methuen made it an important centre of community life.

Accommodation was provided for Alcoholics Anonymous, the Labour Party, a Saturday Thrift Shop and other local groups.

After 12 strenuous years in this always demanding environment, Methuen's health began to fail and after recovery from a serious operation he was appointed to Ripon, where it was believed he would bring valuable experience to a diocese which had problem parishes in Leeds and other West Riding urban areas.

His resignation in 2005, after so many troubled years, became inevitable and the Bishop of Ripon and Leeds, having paid tribute to Methuen's concern for justice and peace, added the masterly understatement: "Cathedrals are not always easy places in which to work."

John Methuen then built a new career in which his archaeological expertise and special gifts as a communicator were used by Swan Hellenic and other cruise and pilgrimage companies. He also became a lecturer, writer and broadcaster, and worked for the Actors' Church Union.

He is survived by his wife, Bridgett, and two daughters.

© *The Telegraph*, 26 July 2010

Annette Pullan née Chandler

Annette was overjoyed to gain a place at Brasenose and spent four happy years there reading chemistry. She also excelled in her other great passion, swimming. She was a half blue, held official positions in Oxford University Swimming Club, organised a competitive tour in Poland and met her future husband, fellow Oxford swimmer Andy Pullan (Keble, 1984). Annette and Andy set up home together after she finished her degree and married six years later.

Motivated by her father, Annette and her sister Julia had begun swimming training at a young age. Annette was soon swimming competitively and won four county championships. She also competed in triathlons and had no nerves when shooting. Her bullets were always on target.

Professor Graham Richards recalled: "I first met Annette when she was still at school and contemplating applying to Oxford. She charmed us and we were very happy to admit her to one of the largest and most successful groups of chemists we had in many years. As a student she was quietly competent, but my abiding memory is of her coming to an

early morning tutorial with her hair still wet from swimming at which she shone.

“I last saw her at a Gaudy, looking quite stunning and was not surprised to learn that she had just completed a triathlon. Having lost my own wife to cancer at a young age and having to bring up sons on my own I am sure that, as in my case, the influence of their mother on her children will remain as an enduring memorial to a fine young woman who was a pleasure to have as part of the Brasenose family.”

After leaving Oxford Annette worked for the finance team at Unilever but with the birth of her two eldest sons Jack and Charlie, went part time until a third son George was born in 2001. Three years later she was diagnosed with a melanoma but the growth that George liked to ‘twiddle with’ had grown too large. The specialists said that 85% of patients with Annette’s statistics survived a further ten years.

Annette had to take special care when she was out in the sun. It was difficult to find appropriate clothing and the seed of a new business was sown. Within a year she had set up Equatorsun which imports and sells, mostly to UK customers, the best UV and sun protective clothing she could find in the world. The business continues in her memory.

Annette nurtured her boys as only she could for another five years. She hid the gradual degradation of her health well. By the time she could hide it no longer she had secondary tumors in her liver and lungs. Annette died aged just 43, leaving a devastated husband and three young sons without a mum. Her funeral was well attended and included many old friends from Brasenose despite many not having seen her for years. A close friend from Brasenose remembers Annette as: ‘A wonderfully warm person who remained loyal to her friends. At Brasenose and afterwards, she was dynamic and always full of new ideas and ambitions. She loved her family and always put them first. Life is emptier for many of us without her.’

Annette was an extremely brave, forgiving and determined person. She was full of energy and ideas and loved the natural world around her. She loved her children and was blissfully happy holding them close or helping them with their homework. She told them to enjoy nature, to care for themselves, to value their lives and eventually to find truly kind, loving relationships

Annette’s love and inspiration will be sorely missed by us all

Andy Pullan, widower, and others

Rickman, Geoffrey Edwin

Head of Roman History at the University of St Andrews

Professor Geoffrey Rickman was a man of integrity whose scholarship was never advertised. He was devoted to the study of ancient history and especially Rome: appropriately he was known at St Andrews University, where he taught for more than 35 years, as “the father of ancient history”. He was an inspiring teacher and a charismatic lecturer who was respected and much admired by generations of students. He built up, by his own sheer enthusiasm and commitment, the Department of Ancient History to one of international repute. His qualities of wisdom and incisiveness were widely recognised in the university community where he held various important posts. As Master of the United College in the 1990s, for example, he oversaw the introduction of the modular system. For five years after his retirement Rickman was an inspiring chairman of the council of the British School in Rome. It was an institution to which, like St Andrews, he was devoted.

Geoffrey Edwin Rickman was educated at Peter Symond’s School in Winchester and Brasenose College, Oxford. From 1959 to 1962 he held a junior research fellowship at The Queen’s College, Oxford before being appointed lecturer in ancient history at St Andrews. The department expanded under his determined stewardship; in 1968 he was appointed senior lecturer and in 1981 Professor of Roman History.

One of his colleagues, Professor John Richardson, now at Edinburgh University, said: “Geoffrey was responsible for building up the department. He was a brilliant teacher and students attended single lectures: always a sign of an admired teacher. He was a modest man. I know, for example, he resisted our attempts to get him a professorship; but his reputation as an eminent scholar was rightly acknowledged when he was made a Fellow of the British Academy in 1989.”

Rickman had an ability to involve his students in the subject being discussed and impart his knowledge as well as to encourage students to think for themselves. As Professor Jill Harries said in her speech on his retirement in 1997: “The secret of Geoffrey’s success as a teacher lay in part in his abiding love of young people and his sympathy with the perspectives and problems of youth.”

Much of Rickman’s research work was concentrated on how the ancient world worked. He wrote his thesis in 1971, entitled Roman

Granaries and Store Buildings, which explored many facets of the workings of the Roman economy. His last project was a comprehensive survey of the management of the ports of Rome and he spent many days at Ostia, Rome's principal port, amid its wonderful remains. His research there was exhaustive and thorough. He uncovered much information as to the original use of the buildings and what trade was carried out in them. This he then developed by researching further into other buildings along the Tiber.

Rickman was a leading authority on Roman social and economic history and his work undoubtedly advanced our understanding of how the economy of the Eternal City functioned. He was a most articulate and erudite man who did not parade his knowledge.

But Rickman was no estranged academic. Many remember his laugh, his ability to involve colleagues and students and, as Professor Christopher Smith, the director of the British School in Rome, recalls, "the deep love and affection with which Geoffrey was held by so many. He was a deeply good man. I will always remember him laughing, and us all laughing with him."

Rickman was a Fellow of the British School from 1957-58. There is a picture in the School's archives of Rickman sitting on the ancient lavatories at Ostia among a group of scholars, one of whom is Anthony Blunt.

Rickman was a passionate lover of opera and enjoyed swimming. One of his great pleasures was walking along the West Sands at St Andrews in all types of weather.

He was married to Anna Wilson in 1961. She and their son and daughter survive him.

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Russell-Wood, Professor Anthony John R

Herbert Baxter Adams Professor of History at The Johns Hopkins University, and widely published expert in the history and culture of pre-Columbian and colonial Latin America.

A faculty member at Johns Hopkins since 1971, my father was a prolific author and one of the world's foremost historians of Brazil and the Portuguese seaborne empire. His voracious appetite for knowledge and the

impressive breadth of his interests was reflected in his many publications on administrative and urban history, history of art, technology, public health, women, race, slavery, and historiography.

He wrote or edited ten books, most recently *Slavery and Freedom in Colonial Brazil* (2002), and made more than 80 contributions to scholarly articles. His eclectic research interests led to a diverse teaching portfolio including graduate seminars on Brazil and colonial Latin America, and undergraduate courses on Africa. He frequently contributed to documentaries shown on National Public Television and the History Channel.

My father delighted in teaching and nurturing his students and in guiding graduate level candidates through their dissertations. In the classroom, former students praised his even-handedness and availability to answer questions or offer support. But he went beyond the books, often holding ‘refugee parties’ at home for students unable to go away for the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter holidays. His charisma lent itself to offering both grace and charm to any conversation in which he took part.

Professor William T. Rowe, chairman of the History Department, said: “John was the one colleague you could always count on for help, or turn to for advice. It is no exaggeration to say that he was loved by us all.”

Father served as director of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences’ Program in Latin American Studies and twice as chairman of the History Department. He also contributed significantly to the Center for Africana Studies and served on the Academic Council at the university’s Homewood campus. He won tenure in 1976 and in 2001 succeeded his friend, the late Philip Curtin founder of US. scholarly studies in African history, as Professor of History.

At Brasenose he studied modern languages and then took a DPhil in modern history at St Anthony’s. During his time at Oxford he was mentored by the late Hugh Trevor-Roper, Earl Dacre and the late Sir Peter Russell. The university shaped my father not only in a preparatory capacity and launch-pad for his long academic career, but his long-time mentors from Oxford were a life-time connection bringing him back to the UK many times a year. He was an avid, and internationally recognised, squash player earning a blue at Brasenose in 1960 and 1961 and represented the United Kingdom in international competitions.

Outside the office, father treasured the personal time he spent with his family and dog Abby, a stray pit bull that my mother Hannelore

adopted many years ago. He possessed an unrelenting curiosity, a trait satisfied through constant exploration of the world and people around him. His own youth was spent travelling the far corners of Europe, often relying on his intrinsic good fortune and the benevolence of others to accommodate him.

In raising his sons, he fostered cultural awareness, strong ethics and a firm command of oneself in all situations that life presents. He impressed on my brother Christopher and me the importance of hard work and the value of a strong education. We both completed our undergraduate and graduate education at Johns Hopkins.

He was also a passionate community volunteer. As chairman of the Maryland Committee for the Humanities, he was asked in 1981 to serve on the Maryland Heritage Committee to organise and coordinate Baltimore County's celebration of the state's 350th anniversary. In 1983 he received gubernatorial and mayoral citations for public service.

My father was intimately bound to Portugal and Brazil. Pursuing his studies, completing academic research, and supporting local charitable trusts for indigent education, he spent over six years in Brazil. During his career he was awarded numerous honours including the Portuguese National Order of Knighthood, Commander of the Order of Dom Henrique, presented to him by the President of Portugal. The title of *Benemerito* was conferred by the Santa Casa da Misericordia of Bahia for his contribution to scholarship. In 2000, he was named Commander of the International Order of Merit of the Misericordias and in 2002 was made Officer of the Order of Rio Branco. In 2006, he was granted honorary citizenship of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Hannelore, his two sons and four grandchildren, Karrigan, Elisabeth, Isabelle and Haviland.

Karsten Russell-Wood, son.

Senior, Robert

My father Robert Senior died on 24 May 2010, aged 72. He was brought up in Manchester and came to Brasenose from Manchester Grammar School in 1955 to read Classical Mods and English.

One of my father's hobbies at Oxford was playing in a skiffle group – which went by the name of Rainy City Exile – with his Brasenose contemporaries Dudley Harrop, Colin Rogers and Dennis Woolf, Colin

recently wrote to us to say: “We played with an enthusiasm which more than matched that of our audiences”, and that: “Robert played the washboard with a gusto not normally associated with men using the instrument for the purpose it had been originally intended.”

My father graduated in 1959 and then did National Service with the Royal Army Educational Corps. He was posted to Berlin and witnessed the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961 which, as he reminded me as a child, “was the first version of the ‘Wall’ because in 1961 it was not in fact a wall but 96 miles of barbed wire fence”. During his final year in Berlin, he was assigned to guard Nazi war criminal Rudolph Hess at the infamous Spandau prison.

Robert then entered journalism, spending four years as a reporter and subeditor with local newspapers including the *Bath Chronicle* and *Bristol Evening News*. He went on to join *The Times*, then in Fleet Street, where he spent nearly ten years in various ‘backbench’ roles concerned with editing and commissioning material for the business pages. He left in 1981 to begin a long period as a freelance writer and editor mainly for business and financial publications.

In his free time Robert was a dedicated and devoted family man. He also had an interest in both the First and Second World War. His extensive reading and research on those subjects once culminated in a well-planned cycling trip from England to France in order to visit the sights of various battle scenes, war cemeteries and museums.

Whenever he re-visited Oxford, if the opportunity arose, he would enjoy the tranquility of taking a punt on the river Cherwell, a love that stemmed from his college days. Robert retired to the historic town of Bradford-on-Avon in the West Country in 1997. His most treasured pastime was his narrow boat on which he enjoyed many hours of happiness with my mother. He is survived by her, two sons and a daughter.

Justin Senior, son.

Sharwood, Gordon Robertson (1953)

I first met Gordon Sharwood when we were fellow students at BNC in 1953. Gordon had graduated from McGill University in Montreal the previous year and, following in the steps of his father who had attended the College in the 1920s, proceeded to BNC to study jurisprudence.

I had completed my law degree and Bar qualifications in New Zealand and had come to BNC to pursue postgraduate studies. My activities included acting as tutor to Gordon and other students in constitution law.

The student body at BNC at that time was a relatively mature one that included a number of us from various overseas jurisdictions pursuing post-graduate studies and a considerable number of students who were at BNC after having completed their required period of National Service.

During the first year at BNC when we lived in College, a strong friendship developed between Gordon, myself and Denis Acheson – a Rhodes Scholar from Northern Rhodesia (as it then was). This friendship led us to move out of College in the following year and lease the lower storey of a house at 12 St Margaret's Road in North Oxford. These lodgings became known as 'Colonial House' and were a magnet for social contacts with a broad range of expats from a wide range of countries, particularly Canada, South Africa and New Zealand. That aspect in itself constituted an educational exposure for all of us.

During the summer, we kept Colonial House as our base and undertook various trips. One of these had Gordon and myself visiting opera houses throughout Europe, including Bayreuth, Salzburg, Milan and Paris. On another occasion we travelled along the Moselle Valley at wine festival time in late August, again a broadening educational experience!

When I left Oxford in 1956 to take up a teaching position at the University of Chicago, I travelled across the Atlantic to Quebec where I was met and welcomed by Gordon and introduced to his family. We visited their log cabin retreat in the Laurentians and took in a game of Canadian football which had little resemblance to rugby!

I eventually moved to Toronto where Gordon had also settled and I was pleased to have been able to act as best man on his first marriage. In ensuing years we managed fishing and other trips together, but our respective career paths increasingly took us in different directions.

Gordon had an active career in the financial area, initially with banks and trust companies and later with his own investment banking business which provided advice and financial assistance to smaller enterprises. Unfortunately, in his later years Gordon suffered increasingly poor health which curtailed his activities. He passed away peacefully on 19 April of this year.

David Horsley (1953)

Wells, Professor Colin

Classical historian and archaeologist, visiting Fellow and lecturer at Brasenose

Colin Wells was a distinguished classicist, archaeologist and historian. Over a career of 45 years he wrote or edited four books and more than 120 articles and reviews on the Roman frontier and army, the social and economic history of the empire, Ancient Carthage and the African provinces.

The work for which Wells will be most remembered is *The German Policy of Augustus: an Examination of the Archaeological Evidence* (1972). A review in the *Journal of Roman Studies* (LXIV 1974: 256) captured its fundamental and lasting importance in the opening sentence. "This book is an authoritative study of Augustan military activity in Germany and the archaeological evidence for it, by a scholar who must certainly know more about his subject than any save those actually engaged on the recovery of the primary archaeological material in the Rhineland, Switzerland and Bavaria."

Wells was widely acknowledged as the leading English-language scholar on the Roman Army and frontier in Germany. His second book, *The Roman Empire* (Fontana/Collins 1984 and Harvard 1995) was an elegant introductory survey of the Roman Empire from 44BC to AD235, and was described by a reviewer as "a very good book, written with freshness, deftness, and enviable familiarity with the evidence and with current scholarship. It deserves to succeed as an introduction to a protean subject." It reached a wide audience and was ground-breaking in its combining of literary and archaeological evidence.

Colin Michael Wells was born in West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, in 1933. He attended Oriel College, Oxford, from 1952 to 1954, but after the unexpected death of his mother he took leave of absence from the university for military service. He achieved the rank of 2nd lieutenant, and was commissioned into the Royal Artillery, serving in Egypt and Germany before returning to Oxford where he received his BA in 1958 and MA in 1959. He subsequently served as a lieutenant in the South Notts Hussars Yeomanry, Royal Horse Artillery.

In 1960 he was married to Kate Hughes, daughter of the novelist Richard Hughes who wrote *A High Wind in Jamaica*. They had two sons.

Wells earned his DPhil in 1965 at Oxford under the supervision of Sir Ian Richmond, Professor of the Archaeology of the Roman Empire. His

thesis, “The frontiers of the Empire under Augustus”, originated in an undergraduate essay he had written for his tutor, P. A. Brunt. Although Brunt remained a powerful influence on Wells, it was Richmond who, in his words, sealed his lifelong interest in the Roman Army.

Wells began his academic career teaching Latin in 1960 at the University of Ottawa. He rose to professor and was deeply attached to the university. In addition to a very active research and teaching agenda, he served as chairman of the Département des Études anciennes, overseeing a period of growth, Vice-Dean, and editor of *Echos du monde classique*. Wells’s tenure at Ottawa coincided with a period of political tension over Quebec, and he was especially proud of his efforts to bridge the divide between English and French-speaking colleagues in the Canadian academic community, and was aided in this regard by his remarkable command of French and affection for Francophone culture.

In 1988 Wells resigned his position at Ottawa to take up the first T. Frank Murchison Distinguished Professorship of Classical Studies at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, where he taught and served as departmental chair until his retirement in 2005. Wells was well supported at Trinity by its President, Ronald Calgaard, who saw in Wells an opportunity to build a distinguished national programme in classics. Wells found the new cultural experience of Texas fascinating and took devilish pride in saying “us Texans”. He was especially at home in his office which had space enough for his great collection of books on all aspects of the classical world.

From 1976 to 1986 Wells was director, initially with the late Edith Wightman, of the Second Canadian Team excavations at Carthage in modern Tunisia. Fieldwork focused chiefly on the excavation of the Theodosian Wall and later the Odeon Hill. Although the final report on the excavations was unfinished at the time of his death, Wells published more than two dozen articles and papers on the important work of the project. This was followed from 1990 to 1992 by new excavations at the site of the Odeon funded by Trinity University.

Wells was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, Corresponding Fellow of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Visiting Lecturer and Fellow at Oxford and Brasenose College (1973-74), and held visiting professorships at Berkeley (1978) and Strasbourg (1990).

Wells’s extraordinary service to the discipline is reflected in his leadership and service in, among other professional organisations,

the Association of Ancient Historians, the Archaeological Institute of America, the American Philological Association, the Classical Association of Canada, *Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautores* (of which he was president for six years), the Limes Congresses and the Society for Libyan Studies

On retirement Wells returned briefly to Oxford before moving permanently to Domjean in Normandy where he continued to write, the latest publications being a series of articles on Caesar's campaigns in Normandy in 56BC. He also began to work with energy and enthusiasm on a short history of the Roman Army in the West for the Association of Ancient Historians, and was planning a book on the Hellenistic world. The last important publication to appear before his death was, appropriately, a review of recent archaeological works on Roman Germany in the *Journal of Roman Archaeology*.

Wells was a man of myriad interests and wide-ranging tastes. His fondness for cricket was well known, and during his undergraduate years at Oriel his talent briefly earned him the reputation in the *Oriel Record* as "the great C. M. Wells". He converted to Roman Catholicism as a young man and remained devout throughout his life. He loved poetry, particularly the works of A. E. Housman and Rudyard Kipling, and was fond of interior design, which he put to good effect in the brilliant redesign of his homes in Wales, Texas and France. He and his wife Kate enjoyed entertaining friends, colleagues and students in their homes in Oxford, Ottawa, San Antonio and Domjean.

Wells was a warm, learned, intellectually curious and humorous man with a passion for life. He had many friends, including former students.

The last week of his life was spent, fittingly, at his beloved Oxford where he attended lectures, enjoying dinners at Brasenose and All Souls, and visiting friends and family. He is survived by his wife Kate and two sons.

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We take this opportunity to remember the following alumni and friends who were kind enough to make provision for Brasenose in their wills.

1932 Mr J W Seamer
 1936 Group Captain H A S Disney
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 1952 Mr M F Smith
 1956 Mr R. C Beetham
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Like all Oxford's Colleges, Brasenose owes its very existence to the generosity of its benefactors who have ensured that it has continued as a centre of scholarship and preparation for life for 500 years. The Circle is named after Alexander Nowell, a Fellow, then Principal, of Brasenose, and one of the most energetic and committed supporters of the College. As well as his many personal benefactions, he persuaded Elizabeth I to join him in granting funds for 'the poor Scholars from the School of Queen Elizabeth in the Royal Hall and College of Brasenose'. His books, willed to the College, are still in the Library. Membership of the Alexander Nowell Circle is open to all those who have notified us of their intention to join generations of Brasenose Members by including a gift to the College in their Will. We are very grateful for their generosity and are delighted to take the opportunity to honour them below. If you would like information about leaving a legacy to Brasenose, please contact the Alumni Relations & Development Office.

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Lecturer	Anthony N Middleton and a number who wish to remain anonymous.

