



VOLUME 92

FOR MEMBERS OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

The Eagle 2010



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Eagle

2010

Volume 92



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CONTENTS & EDITORIAL

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CONTENTS

Editorial	7
Articles	
Message from the Master	10
Message from the Senior Tutor	14
Message from the Development Director	16
Malte Schwarzkopf: 2009: a student’s view	19
Dr Mark Nicholls: Commemoration of Benefactors: Forever Coming Second – honouring and neglecting Mary, Countess of Shrewsbury	21
Dr James Harmer: Annotated Histories of Sir John Cheke	26
Andrew Gilligan: Will history be fair to Tony Blair?	30
Dr Christopher Stray: The Wooden Spoon: A tale of order and disorder	33
Colin Greenhalgh: In Praise of Headship – William Hall Kennedy and Michael Barclay Mavor	38
Stephen Thompson: From agriculture to services: the changing economic and domestic uses of the Triangle Site over two millennia	45
Dr Matthew Mason: An Ear to the Ground: Hearing in Subterranean Mammals	53
The late Dr John Alexander: Popski at St John’s	59
David Bryant: Ewart Johns – An Appreciation for St John’s College	64
T Brian Robinson: Cambridge Memories	70

College Sports and Societies	75
Fellows and Members' News	117
Obituaries	135
Poetry	149
Book Reviews	153
Donors	163
Donors to the Library	179
College Notes	183

Editorial

Welcome to the 2010 issue of *The Eagle*. This year we have a wealth of articles together with the familiar sections of Fellows and members' news and reports from College societies and sports teams.

This year's issue has a strong historical focus, with articles about various periods of the College's history, including the second foundress, Mary Countess of Shrewsbury, the changing uses of the Triangle Site and the study of humanism during the sixteenth century. The late Dr Alexander investigates the early life of a famous Johnian, while Andrew Gilligan reflects on how history will treat Tony Blair. Colin Greenhalgh looks back over the careers of two Johnian head teachers and their roles in inspiring generations for the future. Dr Mason provides a fascinating insight into the world of mammals and, in our Focus on a Fellow section, you can learn about the fieldwork undertaken by Dr Jiggins as he identifies new species of butterfly. You will also find an addition to the College Notes section, recording the achievements of our undergraduate and graduate students over the past year.

Unfortunately an error was introduced to the referencing of *The Eagle* in 2008, when volume 90 was mistakenly numbered volume 110. This issue of *The Eagle* is numbered volume 92, which is correct according to the original sequence.

If you would like an item to be considered for inclusion in *The Eagle* 2011, please contact the Development Office no later than February 2011. The content of *The Eagle* is agreed by the Publications and Public Relations Committee, which meets termly. Please submit notices for the Members' News section, such as news of appointments, honours, births, marriages or publications, using the enclosed form or online at www.joh.cam.ac.uk/johnian/publications/members_news_form until 22 April 2011.

Last but not least, a warm thank you to everyone who has been involved in this year's issue of *The Eagle*, including contributors and members of College staff. I would particularly like to thank the Development Office team for their hard work. 

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ARTICLES

ARTICLES



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Message from the Master

It is a pleasure to write my third 'Message from the Master' for *The Eagle* in this our 499th year, as the College is in excellent heart after a very happy and productive year that culminated in a splendid May Week.

Unlike in some recent years, the sun shone when it was needed – for garden parties and General Admission for example – and the night of the Ball was fine and dry. The Gentlemen of St John's' traditional 5.15 am slot succeeded in gathering together the (many) survivors in New Court prior to the famous 6.00 am photograph on the Backs. And there is much to cheer about in the emerging examination results, with a remarkable number of Johnians topping the Tripos lists and collecting University Prizes.

When I was writing my message for last year's *Eagle* we were about halfway through the celebrations of the 800th Anniversary of the University of Cambridge. I was able to report in particular the triumphant performance of the College Choir during the 'Cambridge Prom' at the Royal Albert Hall, in the presence of the Prince of Wales. Later in the year we were treated to a number of other ceremonies marking this historic year, culminating in the visit of the Queen to the University in mid-November. The Vice-Chancellor, in her Loyal Address on this occasion, reminded us that Her Majesty has unusually close connections with Cambridge: her mother was the first woman to be awarded a degree by the University – an honorary doctorate of Laws – conferred in 1948, two of her children were undergraduates here, and her husband has been Chancellor for over 30 years. And, of course, her predecessors were instrumental in founding at least five colleges, including St John's.

It was an occasion worthy of such an anniversary, with various junior and senior members of each college having an opportunity to meet the Queen. There was just one representative from outside Cambridge at the ceremony, the recently appointed Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, Professor Andrew Hamilton FRS, but he is not far outside as he is a Johnian. In order to help him in his challenging role he is fortunate to have the help of four other Johnians who are heads of colleges in Oxford. During the course of the year the name of the new Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge was announced to be Sir Leszek Borysiewicz FRS. Any transient disappointment that he was not a Johnian like his Oxford counterpart was short-lived when we realised that he is at least a Johnian parent, as his daughter read mathematics at St John's. I am pleased to say that in his role in Cambridge he will also be able to count on the support of four Johnian heads of colleges!

As well as being the 800th anniversary of the University, 2009 was the 900th anniversary of the Diocese of Ely. The Bishop of Ely is our Visitor and in November we hosted a function in the Combination Room for the Ely Cathedral Trust. Shortly afterwards, however, we bade a sad farewell to Anthony Russell on his retirement. Bishop Anthony has been a good friend and supporter of the College over the last ten years. Indeed if one of his predecessors had possessed his qualities of persuasion and encouragement, St John's could well have become the first college to be established in Cambridge; in the mid-thirteenth century the then Bishop of Ely billeted a group of students on to the Hospital of St John the Evangelist. But either the Augustinian Friars running the Hospital did not get on with the students, or the students did not get on with the Friars (or possibly the patients), and so they hastened up to the other end of town and became Peterhouse, whose statutes are based on those of Merton, the first college in Oxford. In fact it took another 250 years for St John's College to emerge, when Lady Margaret Beaufort and her Confessor, John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, achieved what the Bishop of Ely had not done, by wisely moving the existing occupants out before moving the students in.

It is an interesting twist of fate, however, that despite not sharing its role as the first college in its respective university, St John's is linked to Merton in another way, as a significant proportion of our main site was owned by Merton from the thirteenth century, and only finally acquired in its entirety by St John's in the 1950s. As well as the Scholars' Garden (acquired by St John's in 1805 when it was an orchard) the Merton Estate included much of the land on which the Cripps Building now stands, and also (not surprisingly) Merton House, Merton Cottage, the former Merton Arms and Merton Hall. The latter has just emerged from a giant package of scaffolding and plastic sheeting after a total refurbishment that has been a real triumph; thanks to the generosity of a donor it now provides nine sets for non-resident Fellows in a stunning building that dates from the early sixteenth century and can now be seen in something much closer to its original form.

The adjoining building, the School of Pythagoras, was built in about 1200 and indeed is the oldest building that stands in any Cambridge or Oxford college. It too was owned by Merton, for some 700 years, and after its purchase by St John's it was refurbished in the 1960s as a function room and theatre for the Lady Margaret Players. In this role it served the College very well indeed, but is now in need of further restoration and, as most of the events that it currently hosts will move to the Divinity School following its refurbishment, the Governing Body has just given its approval for the School of Pythagoras to become an Archive Centre. Such a Centre will be a marvellous addition to the College, enabling us to house in one place, and make available for research and exhibition, the incomparable records of the College over the last 500 years, and indeed those that remain of the documents associated with the Hospital of St John that

preceded the College. Initial funding for this project has also been made available by a donor, and we are optimistic that we can raise the rest of the funding needed for it to proceed.

Later in this issue of *The Eagle* you will read reports on many of the activities of our junior members, with many successes to be celebrated in the remarkable number of activities in which they are involved. Their exploits – for example on the sports field, the river, the stage and in the Choir – never cease to amaze me, and contribute to that all-round Johnian education of which we are so proud. Few things give me greater pleasure as Master than having the opportunity to meet so many of our splendid undergraduate and graduate students, and to share their aspirations for the future. In a perpetual institution such as St John's I often think that our graduates both take something highly tangible from their predecessors, and leave something of themselves behind for their successors. In this way the unique ethos and heritage of our wonderful College are passed on from one Johnian generation to another, and indeed are reinforced by the increasing number of events that bring 'more senior' Johnians into contact with our current junior members.

Elsewhere in this issue you will read about the continuing success of our fundraising Campaign, which has now passed the £35 million mark in cash and pledges towards our target of £50 million by 2012. The generosity of Johnians appears to have no bounds, and it has been a huge pleasure to see that an increasing number of our alumni appear at events organised by the College. There has never been a time when the support of Johnians has been more vital to the future of the College in the light of the current financial and political circumstances and the increasing pressure on public funds. And next year is our 500th anniversary, and we shall be sending out with the next *Johnian News* a full programme designed for all Johnians and their families and friends. The programme includes a music festival that will run throughout the year and a series of talks and debates involving many of our most distinguished Johnians. I look forward to seeing all of you in 2011!



Professor Christopher Dobson
Master of St John's College



Dr Dörrzapf, Richard Curling, Richard Butler, the Master, Daniel Guetta and Vishnu Parameshwaran at the Larmor Award presentation, June 2010.

Message from the Senior Tutor



It is the day of General Admission when it suddenly becomes apparent that it is once more time to reflect on the academic successes and deficits, on the challenges we have faced and the achievements we have reached. Johnians have once more won numerous University prizes (more than sixteen!) and some subject groups have shown truly outstanding examination performance. Four of our seven students in History Part II earned Firsts along with two of the three students in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic. Of the fourteen students taking Part IA Mathematics eight received Firsts, while in Part III eleven out of twenty-one earned Distinctions. Of the four Firsts across the University in Part I Theology three were awarded to Johnians. Altogether we counted 113 Firsts and Distinctions. There are of course also a number of subject groups who have perhaps not performed to their full potential and we are analysing very critically how the College can offer our students the ideal environment for them to flourish.

One of my favourite events in the run-up to General Admission is the Larmor Awards ceremony. The awards are made for outstanding academic achievements in combination with exciting contributions to College life. We considered an extremely long list of nominations with more than 20 extraordinary students from a very diverse set of subjects, backgrounds and interests. The Larmor Awards truly reveal that behind all numbers and exam statistics it is the individual stories underlying these impressive personal achievements which make it so rewarding to teach at this great College and to be part of these young people's developments. One feels really proud when seeing that the student who came top of the Pharmacology Tripos was selected four years ago by the Dean and myself to read Theology and not only did he do brilliantly in Theology, he amazed us all with his confidence and courage! Such a case really shows the true strengths of the Tripos and the very individual education our students are lucky to benefit from, an education tailor-made for their interests, developments, needs and strengths. I have seen once again a number of students improving by two whole classes over their three year course and I have seen many students achieving top Firsts at all stages.

But it is a very challenging task to offer the best and most suitable support for our students. Schools have become very strategic. Often their aim is now to maximise their chances of placing students at top universities and therefore their decisions and their advice to applicants tends to be more strategic than educational. As a result preparation for the very demanding Tripos may suffer. This is exacerbated by the ever changing school curricula and the very much exam-focused rather than understanding-focused modular A-level system. Within the last year we have

responded to a number of these issues and developments by consistently easing the transition from school to university and preparing our students better for the challenges of university education. However, there is no doubt that we can still improve in these areas and must do so as a matter of very high priority. We want our students to think independently at an early stage in their university career. We insist on strengthening their interaction and communication skills. It is whilst presenting their work in front of their peers when the real process of understanding takes place. Furthermore, interdisciplinary, essay writing and study skills have become a priority. As a result of modular school examinations our students are exposed to a last minute culture, a strategy which simply does not work for the more demanding Cambridge Tripos where deep understanding of the subject matter is so much more important than repetition of results.

To ease the transition from school to university and to put our Freshers into the right mind-set we have introduced a series of orientation days before the start of Michaelmas term. Time management, organisational skills and how to work within an academic environment are amongst the qualities that have been given high priority. In some subjects these efforts have already shown to be very fruitful and we have generally seen that academic values have become more important. There has been a remarkable increase in the interest for research projects, many of them over the summer vacation, and the College has been very supportive in making it possible for a large number of students to stay in College for this purpose.

Whilst school examinations may seem more like a memorisation exercise, educationally the benefit of examinations is of course far beyond that. The real value of examinations is not the examinations themselves but rather the learning and understanding that take place whilst going through the process of preparing for the end of year examinations. This lets the students solidify their knowledge and this is when understanding is achieved. The process of working on their own and clarifying knowledge in their minds is as essential as learning to think independently in the framework of the knowledge they were taught. To help our students with this process we have introduced a number of activities including College Progress Tests at the start of the Michaelmas terms, mock examinations and examination preparation sessions in the Easter term.

Being successful within such a demanding and competitive system is of course only possible if we get it right at the very start by attracting to St John's the most able students with the highest potential. It has become a changing and a very competitive market and we are determined to demonstrate to the best candidates why they want to be educated by us and why they would thrive if they were to join this great College, the College that has by tradition always admitted a very diverse stream of students and has enabled them to turn into the most successful and highly educated individuals now known as Johnians. 

Dr Matthias Dörrzapf
Senior Tutor

Message from the Development Director



Stephen Teal

I write this piece just over three and a half years into my St John's career. I have reached a point where I have been at the College for longer than most undergraduates and, suddenly, I realise that I am now more than just a hired hand; more than a cold-eyed professional. In my time here I have already attended marriages, christenings and, sadly, far too many memorial services. I can now name more than half of my colleagues in the Fellowship, I know which football teams many of the Porters support, and I have learnt that 43-year-old men can't eat two three course meals a day without alarming consequences. The legends of Big Bob, the Cripps Bar and room cricket have seeped into

my bones. In spite of my studied philistinism, I have thrilled to the sound of the Choir, and marvelled at Greek drama in the Combination Room... the harpsichord recital was, perhaps, a step too far. As warm and involved as I feel, when I look across various dining tables and see the likes of Wilkes, Goody, Leake and Linehan, I can only begin to imagine what St John's means to them, and vice versa.

Many Johnians share this very real connection with the College. However, there are also a fair proportion of our alumni who enjoyed their time here, are grateful for the opportunities the education has afforded them, and yet they feel a little distanced. Like many other British institutions, the College has been a little slow to fully embrace the idea of a progressive alumni relations policy, hence the rather patchy nature of our relationship with Johnians. We are working hard to address this issue and there is little doubt that more and more Johnians are coming to events, reading our publications and visiting the website. For example, in 2004–05 some 800 alumni attended College events; by 2008–09 this figure had risen to 2,100. The variety of what we now offer reflects the diversity of the Johnian body – the past 12 months have seen events as varied as the Varsity

Match Lunch, a concert by the Choir in Birmingham, a Winfield Society talk on diversity in the legal profession, a reception and lecture about the links between St John's and the Genizah Collection, a Family Day for alumni to share their College with their children and partners, and a reception in London for graduates of the last decade. The scope and range of events and publications will continue to expand and improve, and we are moving forward with plans for an online community. The latter is particularly important as it will encourage much more direct contact between the College and its alumni, and it will also stimulate more contact between Johnians whether it be for careers advice, networking or outreach work.

So to fundraising. Our £50 million Campaign has now reached a total of some £35 million. Given the financial climate of the last couple of years this really is quite an achievement and, with two and a half years to go, the target still looks realistic. We remain incredibly grateful to all those major donors who have done so much to drive the Campaign to date, and the results of their generosity can be seen all around the College. Equally pleasing is the fact that some 15% of Johnians have now made a gift to the Campaign – pre-2007 fewer than 2% of Johnians had donated to St John's. Smaller gifts are extremely valuable to the College as they demonstrate widespread support for our aims and objectives both to outside funding bodies and to some of our larger donors (who understandably don't want to feel they are carrying the entire burden).

This past year saw the launch of the Beaufort Society for those Johnians (and some non Johnians) who have pledged to remember the College in their wills. Chaired by Richard Perham, this body seeks to thank, keep informed and acknowledge those kind enough to have made such a personal and significant commitment. As the outlook for Higher Education funding grows murkier and more worrying by the day, if St John's is to gain more independence from state funding, legacies will have a central role to play.

Preparations for the College's 500th anniversary in 2011 also have us looking ahead to the changes that will face St John's over the next century. The whole of the College community has been working extremely hard to ensure 2011 is a year to remember for all our members. Celebrations will reflect everything that makes St John's great and the emphasis is firmly on encouraging Johnians to return to College. The two extra-special Quincentenary Weeks in July and September will provide an ideal opportunity to come back and re-live your student days.

The year will be an extremely busy one for the Choir, with a US tour and a music festival spanning the whole year. This music festival will have a decidedly Johnian feel to it, showcasing the outstanding musical ability of our students and alumni.

Next year also sees the publication of a new College history, edited by the outgoing Dean of Discipline Dr Peter Linehan (1961). This substantial volume, will offer the first comprehensive study of the College from its foundation up to the present day. As you may already be aware, a Johnian benefactor has ensured that every Johnian may collect a copy free of charge.

We are also planning a few surprises along the way. Don't forget to check our webpages for further details of the year and look out for a full programme in the Michaelmas *Johnian News*. 

Stephen Teal
Development Director

2009: a student's view

Malte Schwarzkopf (2006) has just completed the first year of his PhD at St John's. Malte is Vice-President of the JCR and during his time here has also served as the JCR Computing Officer, notably developing an online database of student rooms.

When I first saw the Main Gate of St John's on an Open Day in 2005, I was captivated by the way these red-brick buildings seemed to have defied weather and time for hundreds of years – an impression that was certainly intensified by the dripping rain around me. Little did I know that this place would become my home. Had someone told me that I would then go on to spend a further three years here, I would have laughed. Four years down the line, many things have changed. St John's has become my home and I have become a Johnian through and through. The following review of the year will provide a mixture: both a personal recollection of 2009 and a record as a Johnian. The two are intertwined.

The year started off with a memorable 'ringing in' and light show that marked the beginning of the University's 800th anniversary celebrations. At the same time, finishing touches were being made to Corfield Court, the College's eastward extension across St John's Street, and home-to-be for a number of Fellows and about 40 graduate students, including me. My own mind at that point was very much set on my dissertation and my final exams, due in May and June. Having applied for graduate study in a variety of places – including Cambridge – I can also remember a great deal of anxiety about what the future would have in store for me.

In April, I moved from the Warehouse into the newly refurbished D8 North Court – a splendid set of rooms, overlooking the courtyard and Bridge Street on one side and the Master's Lodge on the other. Easily the pinnacle of my accommodation at John's, these rooms provided an ideal setting for the exhaustion of Easter term – and for what came after exams. Waking up to birdsong and with the sun shining through my bedroom window on the day after my last exam is one of my fondest memories from recent years! However, all too soon the term was over and I had to move out of D8. At this time it was still uncertain where I would be in October.

Some way through the summer, I finally received word that I would be able to return to John's, generously supported by a College scholarship, meaning that I would again be a Fresher, this time a graduate Fresher!

Coming back to College in October, I became one of the first generation of residents of Corfield Court – comfortable and spacious graduate accommodation right in the centre of town. Being fortunate to be able to experience not one, but two Freshers' weeks simultaneously, the undergraduate one as part of the JCR Committee and the SBR one as a Fresher myself, I was once more captivated by the strong sense of community in St John's.

In the transition from undergraduate study to a PhD, the nature of my work changed: having exchanged the lecture bench for the office chair, I now work on better data storage solutions for a networked world. One aspect of undergraduate life, however, has not escaped me yet: supervisions. While I was initially terrified when seated on 'the other side of the table', I have now found that giving supervisions can be a very rewarding and enjoyable experience. Supervising Johnian students has been a particular pleasure, and – in my opinion – leads to a very positive atmosphere of communal learning.

Even though my everyday schedule has changed very much from my undergraduate time, I still sense a strong continuum in my life: involvement in a College community that could hardly be any more vibrant or diverse. We graduate students are supported by an excellent SBR Committee, who did the SBR's fiftieth anniversary credit. And let us not forget Professor Boyde's wonderful work on the other 'border', that between junior members and Fellows, which has resulted in many memorable events!

At the start of 2010, I walked back from the University's 800th anniversary finale light show, musing about how much my perspective had changed over the course of a year while so much had remained constant. I also considered how much I appreciate the privilege of living in this wonderful Johnian community, a privilege that I – at times this year – thought was about to come to an end, but which I am now to enjoy for another three years. It will be some time before I bid the red bricks farewell, and I am glad about that!



Malte Schwarzkopf

Commemoration of Benefactors: Forever Coming Second – honouring and neglecting Mary, Countess of Shrewsbury

On 2 May 2010, Dr Mark Nicholls, President and Librarian of the College, delivered the following sermon at the Service of Commemoration of Benefactors. Dr Nicholls is a historian of the Tudor and Stuart periods and is currently co-authoring a biography of Sir Walter Raleigh.

For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks? Psalm 6:5

Let me start with the self-effacing Johnian. Our College has produced a great many retiring, gentle men and women. Henry Welby back in the seventeenth century, for example, who in over 40 years never once left his London home, all the time living on gruel porridge, salad, and small beer, while helping his neighbours and giving generously to the city poor. Welby owes his place in the *Dictionary of National Biography* (a place alongside one thousand other Johnians, some two per cent of all the names in the book) entirely to his reclusive lifestyle and his good works.

So far as we know, Welby gave nothing to his College, other than the memory of a kindly nature which is a sound enough legacy. The world of Grub Street, where he lived, is a long way from First Court – perhaps he forgot all about us. But many other Johnians, when they choose to support their College, echo Welby's modesty by opting to do so in ways that conceal their generosity.

The processes of concealment are many and varied. Within a perpetual institution anonymity can be preserved, alongside the memory of a benefaction, for all time. Anonymous gifts to the College's Harris Fund, which alleviates hardship among our assistant staff, may on occasion suggest a donor moved to a specific act of compassion where publicity would seem inappropriate, or embarrassing. In cases such as this the veil must be drawn. The unknown benefactor can also offer a belated challenge: many years on, the surviving evidence occasionally allows us to close in on the donor responsible for a gift. During the 1880s Joseph Timmis Ward, Fellow and Tutor, gave £160 per annum towards the foundation of Choral scholarships. Ward informed the Bursary that he was but the conduit; that the money came from a group of anonymous well-wishers. When we recall, however, that Ward loved choral music, and the beauty of Evensong, it comes as no surprise to discover in the records that he was himself the donor behind much of this most generous gift.¹

With the passage of years, anonymity can deepen. It is difficult today to identify those nameless benefactors who in 1884 presented to the College a portrait of Edward Henry Palmer, late Professor of Arabic. The Palmer in this painting is dressed in Bedouin robes, for the donors wished to commemorate both his expertise in semitic and other languages, and also Palmer's death at the hands of bandits while on a mission in the Sinai for the British secret service. Like the young man in the Newbolt poem, Palmer fell among thieves – but there is no poetry in this tale. It was a sad, sordid end to a remarkable career, redeemed only in small measure by John Collier's fine portrait.

Anonymity can also be thrown off with time. That is as well for our records, for our ancient duty to commemorate, and indeed for the variety in the list that we hear every year. How sad it would be now if our opium dealer, our ejected Fellow, our lieutenant colonel in the Indian Medical Service and our Californian forester, were anonymous. The names of the long dead, recited and reflected upon, make them live once again.

In some cases the concealment of a donor's identity is never meant to endure. It is a tactic in the delicate negotiations that confirm generous intent. Consider, for example, the College's Old Library. Our Library was not always old, of course. In its heyday it housed one of the finest modern collections of books in England, and John Williams, Bishop of Lincoln, having decided to give over two thousand pounds towards its construction in the 1620s, was at first reluctant to take credit for his donation. He had other irons in the fire, and the College might attract further support were the primary donor's identity left vague. Of course Williams eventually set anonymity aside. He was not the kind of man to hide his light under a bushel. But in keeping his name out of the initial negotiations Williams was only following a recent precedent. It is this precedent that I wish to dwell on today.

For many Johnians in the seventeenth century our College had two foundresses. While Lady Margaret Beaufort gave her court to St John's, so too did Mary, Countess of Shrewsbury. Mary Cavendish was the formidable daughter of a formidable mother, Bess of Hardwick, a Tudor dynast, resilient, wily, and ruthless. Furthering her mother's social ambitions – Bess married, as her fourth husband, the sixth earl of Shrewsbury and set about dovetailing her own family to his – Mary was married at the age of eleven to a particularly unlovely Elizabethan magnate, Gilbert Talbot, the future seventh earl.² Gilbert quarrelled with everyone, and treated his tenants with contempt. Courts were for the faint-hearted. He resolved disputes through violence, sending the toughs round to break down boundaries and smash weirs. But Gilbert himself was only 15 at their marriage, and he always deferred to his wife, or perhaps just rather liked her. Queen Elizabeth I, who saw much of the young couple, understood that the



Mary, Countess of Shrewsbury

husband was under the management of the wife. Mary, we come to appreciate, had her ways.

One of those ways was subterfuge. When it came to parting with family cash, wealthy Tudor husbands had to be caught at the right moment, and brought to generosity by persuasion. And Gilbert was immensely wealthy – blessed with extensive estates and a consequently impressive income from land, he took the proper, aristocratic view that debt was ‘but a moth in your garment’. Mary was herself persuaded to support the College by a former Fellow – in her case the earl’s steward, Robert Booth. Once

persuaded, the Countess knew how Gilbert – an Oxford man³ – would instinctively react to the idea of helping a Cambridge college, and so she and Booth insisted at first that no names were mentioned, that the matter be kept under wraps until an opportune moment came. Happily for St John’s Mary took her chance, in the end. She found her husband in a good mood, and the College built the three new ranges of Second Court at a cost of a little over £3,000. Both Gilbert and Mary were thanked, of course, but soon the Countess was given sole credit. It seems that both donors preferred it that way.

The Countess’s court did not and does not impress everyone – Thomas Baker thought it ‘slight and crazy’ – and parts of it have slumped or fallen down over the centuries. But it nevertheless possesses a grandeur that First Court has never really enjoyed. In the Shrewsbury Tower it has one of the most imposing gatehouses in Cambridge. And that was of course the point. For just as generations of Johnians and their visitors passed to and fro through Lady Margaret’s gatehouse into Lady Margaret’s court, so too did they pass through the Countess’s gatehouse into the Countess’s even larger court. A second foundress indeed!

Some donations are best left unpublicised. Associations with those who fall out of favour can be difficult for any College. And now we see another of those curious half parallels between the first and the second foundress. Lady Margaret Beaufort and Mary Cavendish were both political creatures, who thrived on the

gamble that was court life and who were prepared to take extravagant risks in order to achieve their ends. Mary was a generous woman. She was also openly Roman Catholic, and, like her mother, a compulsive plotter. She schemed in support of her own niece and King James I's cousin, Arabella Stuart, engineering Arabella's marriage to the earl of Hertford's grandson, who also had royal blood in his veins. The Catholicism did not bother King James at all. He set personal loyalty above personal religion, and his court contained many individuals who were openly Catholic. It did not bother the College much either. The days of strict Puritanism were past, and St John's was full of more accommodating men. But the plotting mattered to both. No king could tolerate disrespect on this scale. Mary was imprisoned in the Tower of London, the College looking on appalled as, for a time, a replay of the Fisher tragedy seemed possible. Mary was, in her own way, quite as intransigent as the Bishop of Rochester. She did not die on the block, but her actions devastated her family.⁴ Mary's refusal to swear allegiance cost the earl £20,000 in fines, and the wear and tear contributed to Gilbert's death in 1616. Altogether tougher, Mary lived on for 16 years.

Not every donation works out as planned. Robert Booth gave £300 to construct a fountain in Second Court, but the College struggled to see the point of fresh water and built an organ instead. The Countess of Shrewsbury hoped to be remembered in the same breath as Lady Margaret, but of course she is not. We are not like Queens' College.⁵ We have only one Foundress, only one name is given special prominence at the head of the list read out by our Deans. In part this is because the College has gone on growing, acquiring courts and buildings through the generosity of our benefactors: Williams, Wood, Cripps, Corfield. Mary Cavendish's gatehouse now stands, incongruously, in the centre of the College. The studs on which night gates once swung are there still – but the gates are gone. Nothing gets shut. The top of the Shrewsbury Tower facing Third Court, once the proud face of the College looking down upon a busy river, was restored in modern brick during the middle of the last century. The prettier, salvaged Elizabethan bricks were saved for the Second Court side.

We are only some 12 generations on, and human nature does not change that fast. Generosity often goes hand in hand with a wish for immortality, a donor hopes to be remembered kindly, and the College remains happy to respect their desires. Nevertheless, the nature of that collegiate immortality responds to changing fashion. Acts of remembrance and the reasons for remembering can mutate with each succeeding generation, and anonymity, regardless of whether it is sought or set aside, may creep back. In giving to build Second Court, Mary Cavendish thought in the old, Catholic traditions of her predecessor. Though now a Protestant foundation her College would have remembered her, just as it said prayers for Lady Margaret, and in the mind of a Catholic lady such good remembrance was more than just a courtesy, it was of practical effect. But we

should ask if we, as a College, have short-changed the Countess, as we short-changed Robert Booth: College records show how she has receded in our Collegiate mind. Sixteenth-century building accounts for Second Court record donations from ‘the founders’.⁶ Baker in the eighteenth century twice refers to Mary as a foundress in his history of the College.⁷ Charles Yate, who died in 1860 describes Mary in his notes on eminent people connected with St John’s as ‘the Foundress of Second Court’,⁸ and indeed he labels John Williams ‘Founder of the Library’ for good measure. But neither Williams nor the Countess is ranked by Yate alongside *the* Foundress. Four centuries on, while Lady Margaret is prayed for each night in Term, and remembered through the post-prandial grace at High Table, that other great Catholic benefactress, Mary Cavendish, is remembered only in this annual ceremony – well down the chronological list – through her portrait and two sconces in the Combination Room, and, of course, in her Tower. In the modern College, the foundress of Second Court has become the benefactress behind a mere Gatehouse.

The Countess of Shrewsbury’s gift, however, is of particular significance in the history of St John’s. It changed ways of thinking, responding to the growth of ambition in a late-Tudor College. Encouraged by the space at its disposal, St John’s built on the original court, demolished the early outbuildings, and set out on a march through time that has ranged over the river, and out to the west. This morning, recalling the importance of a first step in any long, ongoing journey, we might remember with particular gratitude our second foundress, Mary Cavendish, and, indeed, her grumpy but accommodating husband. 

Dr Mark Nicholls

- 1 Here, as elsewhere, I rely greatly on the detailed research into benefactions undertaken by the College’s Archivist, Malcolm Underwood.
- 2 G R Batho, ‘Gilbert Talbot, seventh earl of Shrewsbury (1553–1616): the “great and glorious earl”?’ , *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* 93 (1973), 23-32.
- 3 Though he had been awarded an honorary MA by Cambridge in 1595.
- 4 ‘The good old earl is found untainted by her faults’, it was said in 1611, ‘but forebears the Council table for her sake’ (ODNB).
- 5 Although Erasmus referred to his College as ‘Collegium reginae’, and the dual foundation was consistently recognised only from the nineteenth century.
- 6 St John’s College Archives, D57.185, fo. 4r.
- 7 J E B Mayor (ed.), *History of the College of St John the Evangelist, Cambridge, by Thomas Baker* (Cambridge, 1869), i, 190-1.
- 8 St John’s College Library, MS H.31.

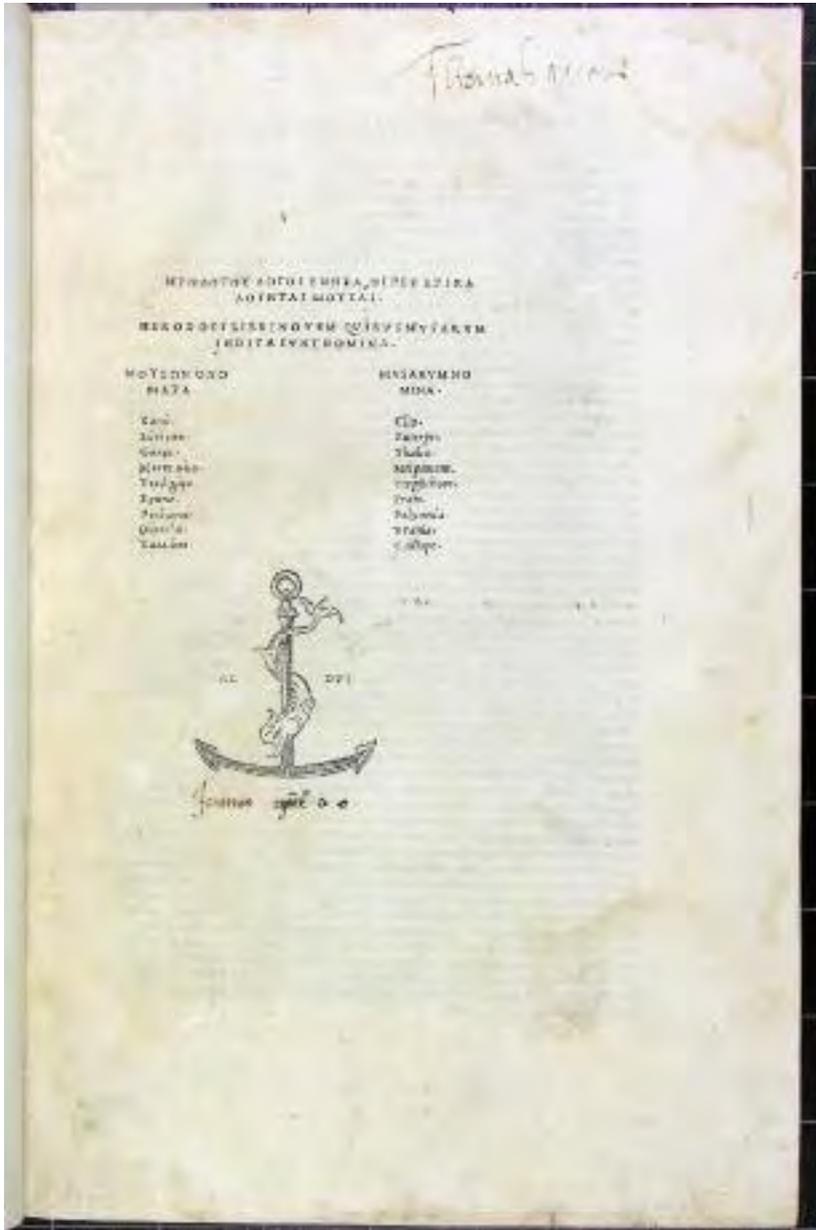
Annotated Histories of Sir John Cheke: a window into Renaissance humanism

Dr James Harmer joined St John's in 2009 from Corpus Christi College. His research is concerned with philosophies of language and theories of meaning in the Renaissance, and what imaginative writing of that period can tell us about the origin of language and how language represents thought. Having published two articles about Shakespeare and Marlowe since the start of his Fellowship, Dr Harmer is currently preparing further work on the poetry of Edmund Spenser and George Chapman in addition to a book about his research.

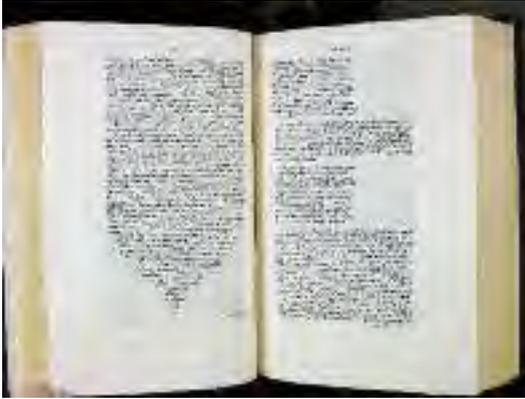
A magnificent donation made this year to the College Library by Brian Fenwick-Smith (1956) will help future generations of scholars to study the life and work of Sir John Cheke (1514–1557), a figure who exemplifies the College's central place in the history of the English Renaissance. The volume comprises three separate works of Greek history by Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon¹ that were owned and extensively annotated by John Cheke himself and shed a fascinating light on the intimate Renaissance relationship between scholarship and statecraft.

John Cheke was born in Cambridge and entered St John's in 1526. He was tutored principally by George Day, another important figure from the College's early history who was helping to make St John's a major centre of what is now known as Renaissance humanism. Humanism can be thought of as a programme of educational, cultural and religious reform which had its beginnings in Italy in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries before spreading rapidly across Europe. Its chief focus was the study of the classical past – its history, languages, and thought – as a rich resource for the shaping of the whole individual person. Humanistic study (encompassing the kinds of discipline and methods of inquiry we now refer to as the study of the 'humanities') taught one how to live both an examined, private life, and also a civic, public one. For humanists, scholarship and statecraft went hand in hand; what one found in the histories or poems or orations one studied could be applied directly to the way in which one lived one's life and served one's society. Someone with a humanist education could do all kinds of things: understand love, draft a law, write a poem, take part in a debate, learn how to read the Bible, and advise a prince.

At St John's, Cheke excelled at the study of the classical past and its languages. He was admitted as a Fellow in 1529 and took his BA in 1530. During the 1530s, Cheke concentrated on his Greek studies, and became in 1540 the University's first Regius Professor of Greek. It was also during this period at St John's that



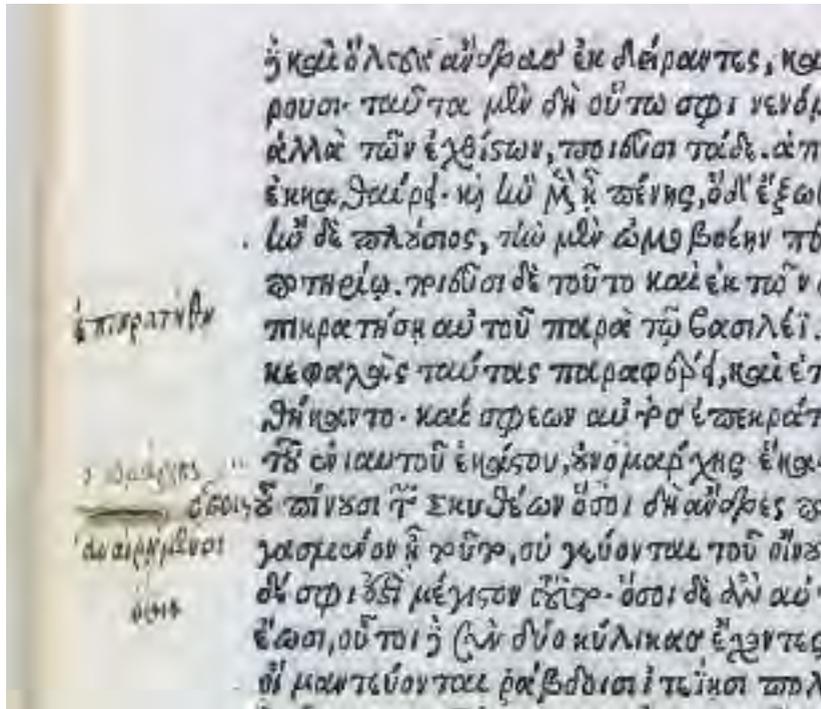
Title page with John Cheke's ownership signature, in Greek



Cheke taught a number of Johnians who would go on to have distinguished careers, including William Cecil (Elizabeth I's principal minister) and Roger Ascham (tutor to Elizabeth I). Cheke's public profile grew further when he was plucked from Cambridge and dropped into the very centre of court life. In 1544, Cheke became

tutor to Prince Edward, to whom he taught, in Greek, the works of Aristotle and Plato. The Prince became King Edward VI in 1547, and in 1553, having remained close to Edward throughout his short reign, Cheke was appointed his principal secretary. Yet 1553 also brought the death of the young King, and the staunchly Protestant Cheke was to spend his last years struggling with life in Queen Mary's Catholic England, spending time in exile and in prison before his early death.

So, there is a firm and direct line to be drawn from Cheke's place at the heart of humanist St John's to the heart of the political and religious life of mid-Tudor England. Cheke's work at St John's, and especially his groundbreaking study of ancient Greek texts, was what gave him the authority to advise a young King, help direct government policy, and play a prominent role in the English Protestant Reformation. Brian Fenwick-Smith's donation to the College Library gives us a vital insight into this extraordinary Renaissance relationship between classical scholarship and the workings of society. In the margins of the three works Cheke has written down hundreds of individual Greek words and phrases. Sometimes one can glimpse Cheke extending his Greek vocabulary: he notes the words for a fawn, a small horse, and for a ferryman. At other moments, Cheke is interested in finding the word that best captures a passage of military action. Several times he comes across descriptions of battles where one side is being overwhelmed by the other: Cheke notes the Greek for being 'squeezed' or 'crushed'. Cheke makes a habit of finding in these texts a Greek keyword which encapsulates a chunk of writing. Cheke picks out words that are very moral, political, action-packed. Here is a passage from Herodotus that Cheke notes is about 'retribution'; here is one about being 'barbaric'. Here is a passage in Thucydides about being 'suspicious', here is one about handling 'grievances'. Here is a good example of 'wickedness'. What Cheke is doing with these books is extracting examples of policy and conduct, and finding Greek words and meanings for those examples that can refine or enrich English words and deeds. After the 'Life of Thucydides' that is included in the volume, Cheke writes a line in Greek that seems to say



An example of Cheke's marginal annotations in Greek, here describing the warlike behaviour of the Scythians

something like this: 'A display which burns brightly for anyone'. This is the stuff, these are the writers, out of which good courtiers, good advisers, and good Kings are made.

It is more than 30 years since the celebrated Renaissance scholar Lisa Jardine wrote about 'Humanism and St John's' in *The Eagle*.² Brian Fenwick-Smith's donation of a sparkling product of life at humanist St John's shows how much there is still to be understood about this critical period in our cultural and intellectual history. Thanks to this and Brian Fenwick-Smith's other recent donations, such as a first edition of Thomas More's *Utopia*, and a treatise by John Dee, it is certain that the College will continue to be a major centre for the study of the English Renaissance.



Dr James Harmer

- 1 The Aldine press in Venice printed all three works in 1502–3.
- 2 *The Eagle*, Easter 1978, volume LXVIII, no 286, p 8.

Will history be fair to Tony Blair?

Andrew Gilligan (1992) read History at St John's before pursuing a career as a journalist. He is currently London editor for the *Daily* and *Sunday Telegraph*.

When I was asked to speak at the College History Society this year – on the theme of whether history would be fair to Tony Blair – it was both a pleasure and a distinct surprise, because I may well have been the worst historian in the recent history of St John's. I was once actually doorstepped in my College room by my own supervisor, Simon Szreter, in what we hacks call a 'desperate last-ditch bid' to extract an essay (he knew I was in there, and he just kept knocking – a good technique, and one I went on to use in my own job against various corrupt politicians and timeshare cheats).

But though I was a terrible student, and quite a controversial journalist for a while, my case is a very minor example of how perceptions can change in one's favour over time. I notice that in the College's entry in that admittedly not very reliable historical source, Wikipedia, I am now listed as one of its 'famous alumni', alongside such nobodies as William Wordsworth. Admittedly, they have also got Sid Waddell, described as a 'darts commentator', and Jamie Bamber, described as 'star of *Battlestar Galactica*', on that list. But if I was pretty unpopular, and have become slightly more popular, could something similar happen to Mr Blair?

Perhaps history's first serious verdict on Blair will be that provided by Sir John Chilcot's inquiry into the Iraq War. Its opening stages were not so much an inquiry as a Whitehall version of *Murder on the Orient Express*, with everyone lining up to stab the same victim. Chilcot's carpets were worn thin by the stampede of various mandarins and politicians to dump – with varying degrees of subtlety – on the former Prime Minister. Nor did Blair do himself many favours – with the inquiry or with the public – by his rather recalcitrant performance. But one should never underestimate the capacity of such tribunals to devise verdicts kind to those formerly in power.

And there is, in truth, a case for looking more kindly at Blair's biggest decision: for a lot of what we think of as settled fact about Iraq is, when you go back and look, very far from fact. There is a fascinating case for arguing how the Iraq War could have gone right.

It's received wisdom, for instance, that Blair went to war in defiance of overwhelming public and expert opinion. That is just not true. Though there was passionate opposition, opinion polls at the time show that the public was split, or at best only narrowly against the War. And all those civil servants and

diplomats suddenly airing their consciences before Sir John Chilcot were pretty silent at the time, when it actually mattered.

There was a case for invading Iraq – admittedly not the case Blair made, but a case nonetheless. Years of sanctions had inflicted enormous suffering on the Iraqi people. Few now remember quite how monstrous that toll was, but the best available study, from Columbia University, estimates that between August 1990 and March 1998 some 150,000 Iraqis died prematurely because of sanctions. Saddam and his cronies not only never suffered – they prospered. Maybe a war, properly planned and conducted, was better than another 13 years of that.

The popular understanding of Blair’s war is of a giant deceit. It was, of course; but how it should be understood historically is as a miscalculation.

I’m quite sure Blair never believed that Iraqi weapons of mass destruction were a serious threat to anyone. But what he did believe was that the French and the Russians would come, diplomatically, on side; that he would get his second UN resolution; that the occupying troops would be welcomed; and that a few barrels of WMD would be found that could plausibly be presented as dangerous. He calculated that it would be much like Kosovo – a vast fuss among the liberal classes, predictions of body bags and refugee convoys, but in fact over very soon, with very few casualties and, like Kosovo, very swiftly forgotten.

If those calculations had been right, Blair’s deceit would not have mattered much. Nobody would have cared. But all those were the biggest miscalculations of his life, miscalculations with few recent historical parallels. As a foreign policy disaster, Iraq is often compared to Suez. Ultimately, however, it was far worse. Suez damaged and humiliated Britain internationally – but had no adverse effect on our domestic security. Iraq did both. It has quite clearly placed us at greater risk of terrorism.

Iraq was a textbook case of drawing the wrong lessons from recent history; not only from Kosovo, but also, if only subconsciously, from Suez. The events of 1956 embedded in the British ruling class the notion that they must never again allow themselves to be separated from the US. Ironically, however, the other disaster of Iraq is that an action intended to reinforce the transatlantic relationship has ended up damaging it. There is real contempt in Washington for our abject failure to last the course in Basra, where we effectively surrendered the city to the militia and it was left to the Iraqi and American armies to rescue the people. It is hard to argue that, for instance, Germany’s relationship with Washington is the worse for its having steadfastly opposed the war.

We should briefly look at the verdicts on other prime ministers who left office reviled. The auguries are not good for Blair here, either. Eden never recovered.

Even prime ministers with much less serious blots on their copybooks do not seem to have benefited from the passage of time. Harold Wilson was disliked for similar reasons to Blair – his obsession with tactical management, his achievement of relatively little for all his electoral success – though he was, of course, in one important way completely different, resisting heavy US pressure to get involved in Vietnam. On his retirement, one of his colleagues, Harold Lever I think, said: ‘History will be kinder to you than your contemporaries, Harold.’ Thirty-five years on, and there is still no sign of that.

In the short term, the depressing appendix of the Brown administration may make Blair look better by comparison. In the longer term, I’m not sure the chances of rehab for Blair are high. But I do think we need to remember his failings correctly. Much as it pains me to say it, the deceit issue in which I was so closely involved was a sideshow. The dossier row was created by the government as a diversion. The real issue was the gigantic miscalculation by the Prime Minister, based on a false understanding of the lessons of history. 

Andrew Gilligan

The Wooden Spoon: A tale of order and disorder

Dr Christopher Stray is an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Swansea. Dr Stray specialises in history of classical scholarship and teaching, including pedagogy and publishing. His current projects include an edition of the correspondence of Sir Richard Jebb, a book on the Cambridge Classical Tripos c1820–1920, and a study of the Wooden Spoon c1800–1909.

The phrase ‘the wooden spoon’ is familiar all over the English-speaking world as a joking label for poor performance. It has been applied to ministers whose voting record in Parliament is exceptionally poor, and to the rugby teams at the bottom of league tables – in fact, to anybody who is the least competent at anything. In the late eighteenth century the lowest scorer in the honours list of the Mathematical Tripos came to be known informally as the Wooden Spoon; in the late nineteenth century, he was presented with a large, decorated, spoon during the degree ceremony in the Senate House. At the other end of the honours list stood the Senior Wrangler, who headed the first class in the Tripos. Both titles disappeared after 1909, when the rank order was abolished in the Mathematical Tripos in favour of alphabetical listing. The last spoon of all was awarded that year to Cuthbert Holthouse of St John’s. It was fitting that it was given to a Johnian, since St John’s was in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the great mathematical College in Cambridge, and despite being considerably outnumbered by Trinity throughout the period, still managed to produce more Senior Wranglers than its rival. We might assume that the phrase was a widely-known one which came to be used within the narrower Cambridge context at a particular period. In fact it happened the other way round: the phrase ‘the wooden spoon’, so well known in a variety of different contexts, actually derives from this specifically late-eighteenth century Cambridge usage.

The Wooden Spoon was at the bottom of the list of Junior Optimes (third class) in the Mathematical Tripos. Above them were the Senior Optimes (second class) and the Wranglers (first class), who were headed by the Senior Wrangler. This division into classes had existed since 1753, but the first known use of the title ‘Senior Wrangler’ comes from 1791, the first mention of the Spoon occurring two years later in 1793. This was an intensely competitive environment, where one might have expected the dunces to be left in the shadows while the spotlight fell on the top scorers. In an institution where it mattered so much whether one was in the first or the second class in honours, why should the lowest member of the third class receive any attention at all? This is one of the questions which makes the Spoon phenomenon not just of antiquarian interest, but something central to the wider phenomenon of the Cambridge mathematical powerhouse of the nineteenth century, the dominant producer of mathematicians in Britain.



The last wooden spoon was presented to Cuthbert Holthouse in 1909 and is displayed in the Small Combination Room.

The first known appearance of an actual spoon was in 1804, when after members of Clare College had been Spoons for three years running, someone left a large shovel (probably a malting shovel) at the College gate. The choice of shovel may have hinted at excessive drinking as the reason for the Spoon's feeble performance in the examination; but a malting shovel was probably the most easily available form of large spoon. In those days colleges brewed their own beer and were famous for their quality and potency. The malting spoon may have been simply the spoon nearest to hand.

The Wooden Spoon in slang

The decade of the 1790s, when the terms Senior Wrangler and Wooden Spoon first appear, was a time when a wider efflorescence of slang terms and interest in slang can be seen. In the late eighteenth century several glossaries of slang and canting terms were published, some of which incorporated undergraduate slang along with that of gypsies and of the criminal classes. The universities and the rookeries of London were alike in being relatively closed and independent societies, and both were tapped for contributions. A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in 1795 mentioned the Spoon, whom he called 'this very remarkable personage [who was] ... annually the butt and laughing-stock of the whole Senate-house'. In the same year, 'spoony' was included in a slang dictionary, meaning a fool or simpleton. Cambridge competitiveness and English slang usage had come together.

The Wooden Spoon was not the only spoon. In theory the other classes also had their Spoons (golden and silver for the first two classes of honours, leaden for the pass men). The Senior Wrangler and the Wooden Spoon were the positions and terms which carried enduring symbolic weight. Below him was the Gulph – the list of men who while unworthy of honours, were not failed. Below those who failed were the men who did not attempt



This 1906 picture by Sir William Russell Flint shows two spoons being dangled from the gallery of the Senate House.

Cuthbert Holthouse and spoon outside the Senate House in 1909.



honours, but took pass examinations. Thus the focus on the Spoon derived in part from his location, not just at the bottom of the honours list, but at the boundary between the honours men and their inferiors.

Apart from the malting shovel left outside the gate of Clare College

in 1804, the first time an actual spoon is mentioned is in 1832. For the first time, two men were bracketed at the bottom of the list, and at the degree ceremony one of them, Richard Shilleto, declaiming an appropriate Latin couplet, took a spoon from his pocket, split it in half and handed one half to his co-Spoon. The next sighting was very different. In his diary for 28 January 1854, the University Registrar, Joseph Romilly, wrote that 'A Trinity man (Rokeby) was wooden Spoon. A gigantic one was dangled from the gallery by a string'. This is the earliest known reference to the spoon-lowering ceremony which later became a regular feature of degree day.

The next phase in the history of the Wooden Spoon is the appearance of decoration. The earliest evidence comes from 1872, when the Spoon was from St Catharine's. According to a newspaper report of the ceremony, when the Spoon went up to receive his degree,

... a malting shovel, emblazoned with the Catharine wheel, the coat of arms of St Catharine's College, was suspended from the cord and lowered just beyond his reach, at the end of the shovel dangling a toy doll. This was received with shrieks of laughter, but ultimately the shovel and its appendage were seized by the University Marshal and by him borne off in triumph.

In 1882, the ceremony was still being resisted by the authorities:

The spoon was smuggled into the galleries, and in an attempt to lower it, it fell, striking a lady rather violently. It was thereupon taken by an official ... It was, however, again taken into the galleries and the proctors intervened. A fight ensued for its possession, and all the proceedings were stopped.

What did the Spoon's recipient feel about his shameful glory? Reactions varied, as was suggested in his memoirs by Thomas Thornely, who had been at Trinity Hall in the 1870s:

If its recipient was a man of sense, he would seize upon it joyously, and, brandishing it over his head, march off with it as a valued trophy; but if, as sometimes happened, he was timid or nervous and shrank from it as a symbol of shame, it would, as like as not, pursue his retreating rear with sounding smacks.

The Spoon's last bow

In 1907 it was decided to abandon the long-established numerical ranking of candidates in the Mathematical Tripos. This effectively abolished both the bottom of the tripos list (the Spoon) and the top (the Senior Wrangler), and Cuthbert Lempriere Holthouse of St John's was on 22 June 1909 the last Spoon. It is painted in the colours of the Lady Margaret Boat Club, of which Holthouse was a keen member – hence the choice of an oar – and bears the College arms and the boat club motto. (Not surprisingly, keen oarsmen often found themselves at the bottom of the honours list.)

The Wooden Spoon phenomenon was a striking symbol of a uniquely intense competitive environment based on mathematics, in which the bottom was celebrated alongside the top. It was also a part of undergraduate social life: for more than fifty years, it was lowered to the (human) Spoon, and often fought over with the proctors and their bulldogs. The Spoon is both serious and silly; but even its silliness – indeed its spooniness – deserves serious study. 

The five wooden spoons that survive in Cambridge.

From left to right they are:
Emmanuel, c.1889; Corpus, 1895;
Selwyn, 1906; Corpus, 1907; St John's, 1909.

They were all brought together on one wall at an exhibition in the College Library in 2009.



Dr Christopher Stray

In Praise of Headship – William Hall Kennedy and Michael Barclay Mavor

Colin Greenhalgh (1960) entered the teaching profession in 1964 and served as Principal at Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, from 1984 to 2002 since when he has been Vice-Chairman and Senior Independent Director of Cambridge University Hospitals. He was awarded an OBE for services to education in 1997, advanced to CBE for services to further education in 2003 and appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire in 1998.

Great head teachers have a profound influence on the values and vision of their school, the aspirations and achievements of their pupils and the careers of their staff. My parents left their early twentieth century elementary schools aged 14. They were astonished when Dr Hyman Frazer, Headmaster of The Gateway School in Leicester, said their son should go to Cambridge. With encouragement from St John's, which in those days had a reputation for seeking to recruit the Head Boy of every minor grammar school, Frazer ensured that this aspiration was achieved. So strong was the influence of this experience on me that St John's led seamlessly to a career in school teaching. Sixteen years later I witnessed the charismatic headship of Bay Cooper at St Bartholomew's School, Newbury, as he merged boys' and girls' grammar schools and magically created an outstanding comprehensive school. This was a masterclass for Cooper's Deputy aspiring to headship. Frazer and Cooper were imbued with a resilient and infectious optimism, a refusal to accept second best for their pupils and staff.

These qualities were shared by two outstanding Johnian headmasters who died on 6 and 8 December 2009 respectively. William Hall Kennedy (1931) lived to be 97 whilst Michael Barclay Mavor (1965) died at the tragically young age of 62. Like Frazer and Cooper, Kennedy and Mavor possessed exceptional professional qualities which will result in their being long and affectionately remembered by numerous pupils and teachers. As Sir Eric Anderson, former Head Master and Provost of Eton, said of Mavor, 'No one ever doubted that his pupils and his colleagues mattered most to him'. Throughout their headships, both Kennedy and Mavor enjoyed wonderful support from their wives and families, an often unacknowledged strength in a sometimes lonely role.

Bill Kennedy, as he was always known, enjoyed a distinguished career in education and in the Army. During the Second World War he served as a Major in the Seventh Battalion, the Frontier Force Regiment in the Indian Army, becoming Chief Instructor of the Jungle Warfare Training Unit in Assam. Kennedy's physical fitness, powers of endurance and acceptance of Spartan



Bill Kennedy

comforts proved to be lifelong strengths. The same was true of his emerging leadership skills which included moral courage, serenity, broad human sympathies and a sense of humour. Kennedy developed remarkably good relationships with all sections of the local community where his troops came from a diversity of religions. His final day in India was marked by an extraordinary incident. He had said farewell to everyone except the religious teachers of the Muslim, Sikh and Hindu faiths, whom he could not find. Instead, he left a message for each of them. At the railway station he saw a small horse-drawn carriage being driven at speed towards him. Out stepped the three teachers who came onto the platform to talk to him and stood together as the train pulled out. Kennedy was particularly touched as the faith teachers did not traditionally associate with each other but they had put their differences aside and

come together to see him off. Kennedy's experiences in India showed him the value of such relationships and gave him a sense of proportion that was invaluable when dealing with the young and with the petty tribulations of school life. School teaching was in Kennedy's blood, his great-uncle being Benjamin Hall Kennedy, the eminent nineteenth century Headmaster of Shrewsbury who wrote the famous *Latin Primer*. His father, the Reverend John Kennedy, had been a Classics Scholar at Eton and at King's College, Cambridge, and was later Headmaster of Aldenham School in Hertfordshire from 1877 to 1899.

Bill Kennedy was born on September 24 1912 at Charmouth, Dorset. He won a Foundation Scholarship to Marlborough and then a place at St John's in 1931, where he read Classics in Part I, taking a First with a distinction in Latin Verse and being awarded a Scholarship, and History in Part II. Kennedy represented the College at cricket and hockey. After graduating, he joined the staff of Aldenham School as Assistant Master teaching Classics and History where, interrupted only by war service, he remained for 25 years. Kennedy was an inspiring teacher and an enthusiastic coach of hockey, football, squash and fives. One of his referees commented, 'It seemed the most natural thing in the world that he should become a schoolmaster'. His promotions to House Tutor, Head of History and Senior Master were well deserved. Returning from the Army to Aldenham in 1946, Kennedy married Pauline Nott-Bower, 'the sun of my life'. He also became Housemaster of McGill's House. For the next 26 years the Kennedys were to live and work as a partnership in a boarding house for 60 boys. Pauline, whose warm personality and charm were such assets, was responsible for the catering and health and both of them worked tirelessly for the care and happiness of their boys.

In 1959 Kennedy was appointed Headmaster of Kirkham Grammar School near Preston, overcoming considerable competition and supported by powerful references: 'Mr Kennedy will and should undoubtedly go on to a headmastership'. Such was the dismay caused by Kennedy's departure – *The Aldenhamian* described the loss as 'irreparable' and hailed his wisdom and 'great powers of leadership' – that when soon afterwards the Headmaster of Aldenham accepted the post of High Master of Manchester Grammar School, Kennedy was encouraged to apply for the vacancy. He declined, having given a commitment to the Governors at Kirkham that he would remain as Headmaster for several years which he did until retiring in 1972.

The sixties were a difficult time for those responsible for young people. Challenge to tradition and convention abounded and vied with local authority plans for comprehensive reorganisation, to which as a voluntary aided school Kirkham was subject, in adding to the burdens of headship. The School also had to compete for able pupils with neighbouring direct grant schools. Kennedy could be proud of his record as Headmaster. Oversubscribed, Kirkham Grammar

School increased from 340 to 450 pupils, two winning Cambridge scholarships in his final year. Kennedy also laid the foundations for the School's future success when it later joined the independent sector. On his retirement, the Divisional Education Officer wrote, 'There are many excellent Head Teachers, but in my experience you stand out, not only for your depth and clarity of thought but for the quite remarkable compassion and gentleness with which you have tempered your judgements and actions. I cannot speak too highly of the personal and professional regard in which I hold you.'

Kennedy expected the highest standards of conduct from everyone, not least himself. With clear Christian values, he was strong in character and integrity and sound in judgement. Kennedy disliked the second rate, believing in the importance of giving of your best and being honest and honourable in any endeavour. Tall, with a headmasterly presence, he was a compassionate and kindly man with the common touch. Kennedy knew his pupils and staff well, promoting their self esteem by recognising generously their individual strengths and achievements. In spite of demanding leadership and administrative challenges and a boarding house of 60 pupils within the headmaster's house, Kennedy always found time to watch School teams and other extra-curricular activities. He was supportive of staff, not least younger teachers who spoke appreciatively of his encouragement and concerns for their lives and careers. Pauline was a well loved figure in the town, where she started and ran the WRVS meals-on-wheels and a luncheon club for the elderly.

Kennedy was especially fortunate in sharing a long and loving marriage with Pauline whose constant presence was invaluable throughout his years at Aldenham and Kirkham. Subsequently, they enjoyed a happy retirement in Somerset, hundreds of Christmas cards, letters and visits keeping the Kennedys in touch with former pupils and colleagues. Bill and Pauline Kennedy delighted in their two daughters, Anne and Liz, who survive their parents, Pauline having died in 2002.

Michael Mavor was an exceptional pupil at Loretto School near Edinburgh, a Trevelyan Scholar and Exhibitioner in English at St John's and successively an outstanding head of Gordonstoun, Rugby and Loretto. He was intellectually able, independent minded, well read and wise, always placing high quality teaching and learning at the heart of his vision for the schools he led. Career and professional development opportunities for staff were a high priority, as witnessed by Mavor's role as Chairman of the Oxford Conference on Education, many of whose members later became heads. Michael Mavor's Memorial Service at a packed St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh bore eloquent witness to the love, affection, respect and appreciation of family, friends, colleagues and pupils from all phases of his life.

Mavor was born on 29 January 1947 in Malaya where his father had been posted by the British and Commonwealth Office. The family returned to Edinburgh in 1951 and Mavor began a long association with Loretto. Head Nipper in the prep, he later became Head of School, Captain of cricket, hockey and golf, a member of the rugby and tennis teams, editor of the school magazine and pipe-major of the school band. He was also a keen thespian. Mavor was taught by Jonathan Smith (1960) who suggested an application to St John's to read English where Mavor secured a good Second. He played rugby for the College and the University, narrowly missing a Blue, and cricket for the College and the Crusaders. He was elected to the Eagles and to the Hawks Club. From Cambridge, a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship took him to Northwestern University, Illinois, accompanied by Elizabeth whom he met in Cambridge whilst directing a play in which she was acting. They married in the chapel at Loretto. A close friend who witnessed their love described Elizabeth as 'the most gentle, loyal, sensitive and considerate of women'.



Michael Mavor

Mavor returned to England as a teacher of English at Tonbridge School. He edited the school magazine, directed plays, including a memorable production of *Hamlet*, coached cricket and rugby and organised general studies. His ability to organise time to optimum effect was prodigious. The boys called him *Mr Perfect*. Staff admired the achievements of their dynamic and versatile colleague, who wore his learning lightly, the more so after Mavor spoke openly and wittily in Tonbridge Chapel about his diabetes. He was offered the headship of Gordonstoun at 31, out-performing more experienced candidates. At Gordonstoun, Mavor successfully demanded higher academic standards whilst sustaining Kurt Hahn's ideals of growth towards self-assured adulthood through community service and practical challenges such as mountain rescue and seamanship.

In 1990 Mavor was appointed Head Master of Rugby. His experience at Gordonstoun had given him the confidence and leadership skills to address the challenge of a great boys' boarding school at risk of losing its pre-eminent position. Courageously, with the support of governors but opposition from many pupils and staff, Mavor determined to make Rugby co-educational. Raising academic standards and refurbishing the buildings also played a part in changing the atmosphere and tone, Mavor's fine eye for detail impressing in these as in other areas of school life. A twinkle in the eye, the ability to relate well to pupils, staff, governors and parents, good listening skills and a ready sense of humour were other valuable assets in achieving substantial change. Even pupils and staff who disagreed with his views thought Mavor a sympathetic and fair man. He was capable of eccentricity too, once astonishing pupils and staff by skateboarding in the chapel. When a pupil asked him where creativity came from, he replied, 'Bang your forehead on your desk three times'. Mavor's remarkable transformation of Rugby was perhaps the greatest of his many professional achievements.

After 11 years at Rugby, Mavor returned to Loretto as Headmaster. Proximity to salmon rivers and the splendid golf courses of East Lothian must have added to the attraction. Mavor raised academic standards and established a golf academy at the school, proving to pupils and staff his enthusiasm for the finer points of the game by driving a golf ball straight down the centre of the chapel. Throughout his career, although conservative in style for such a reforming mind, Mavor always had a kindly word for pupils and staff. His appreciation of their efforts and achievements was generous. A modest, loyal, thoughtful and thoroughly decent man, together with Elizabeth, he was also a warm and hospitable host, organising Scottish country dancing for staff parties.

Mavor received several honours. After Princes Andrew and Edward attended Gordonstoun, he was appointed CVO. He became a member of the Queen's Bodyguard in Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers, in 2007 winning the Musselburgh Arrow. As a result of his peers' esteem, in 1997 Mavor became Chairman of HMC and organised a strikingly different and outstandingly successful Annual Conference in Brighton, strongly influenced by Mavor's love of literature and mastery of language. He was elected President of the Johnian Society for 2000 and in 2004 rejoined the Johnian Society Committee. Mavor's talents and experience made him in considerable demand as a school governor.

Little more than a year after retiring from Loretto in 2008, Michael Mavor died on a family visit to Peru. His outstanding leadership with no thought for himself or self pity, complemented by the unstinting support of Elizabeth, deserved so much better for them both. Mavor admired the philosopher Emperor Marcus Aurelius's words, 'It is not death that a man should fear, but he should fear never beginning to live'. He leaves Elizabeth, his daughter and son Veronica and Alexander, his brother Ian and his son-in-law David. Veronica's and David's new son, born in time to attend the Memorial Service, was christened Alexander David Mavor Morant.

The profound influence of Bill Kennedy and Michael Mavor on the schools they led and on the lives of so many pupils and staff prompts the question, how many other Johnians have become head teachers? College records suggest that since 1900, 266 Johnians have become heads in various kinds of school. Given current national concerns about access to leading universities by children from families where such access is uncommon, there is opportunity for future generations of Johnians to make a significant contribution by choosing teaching and perhaps headship as their life's work. As the College approaches its quincentenary of excellence in scholarship, teaching and learning, it would be good to see more of the brightest and the best embracing school teaching as a rewarding career with potential for profound influence on future generations of pupils from every kind of social background. As Alexander Mavor said at Michael's Memorial Service, 'My father spent his life helping people realise that there was more within them than they themselves thought possible'.



Colin Greenhalgh
Chairman of the Johnian Society

From agriculture to services: the changing economic and domestic uses of the Triangle Site over two millennia

Stephen Thompson is a Title A Fellow in History and one of the first residents of the newly refurbished Corfield Court. His recently completed doctoral thesis examines the British state's response to unprecedented population growth in the century after 1750.

In last year's issue of *The Eagle* (p. 12) the Master reported on the opening of Corfield Court by Nick Corfield (1978, Honorary Fellow 2001), describing the renovation of the 'Triangle Site' as 'a marvellous restoration project that gives us some 40 rooms for graduate students along with several sets for resident Fellows.' Readers may also recall the appreciation of the Triangle Site which the College archivist, Malcolm Underwood, and former Master, Professor Richard Perham, co-wrote for *The Eagle* 2006 (pp. 16–25). Since that article dealt with the Triangle's former occupants, in particular its tenants since 1750, as well as the College's gradual acquisition of the properties which now make up Corfield Court, this article brings the story up-to-date, but also provides a longer term history of the Site, based on the archaeological evidence unearthed prior to the recent renovation work.¹



Before work began

For many Johnnians, the Triangle Site may only have ever been seen externally, most likely while walking its perimeter, either along All Saints Passage, Bridge Street or St John's Street. Alumni will no doubt remember visiting the various different shops which lined the Triangle, where one could buy tobacco, cheese, chocolate, classical music, haircuts, tea and cakes, jewellery, suits and even mortgages. Should none of these retail delights have appealed, then the Bridge Street surgery must have seen generations of Johnnians go through its doors. Former post-graduate students, meanwhile, may

have vivid memories of taking their theses to be bound at Stoakley's Bookbinders, not least because of the overwhelming sense of relief (and hopefully achievement) which comes from completing three or more years' full-time work on a single, largely solitary project.

The buildings that now make up Corfield Court date from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries and it is a testament to the design of the architects – van Heyningen and Haward – that the new £9 million courtyard feels coherent, elegant and visually striking (at least in the eyes of this non-specialist), rather than simply being a hotchpotch of old buildings whose continued existence owed more to their Grade II listed status than any intrinsic merit or utility. Indeed, one of the biggest challenges faced by the architects was satisfying the incredibly stringent requirements which the city planners placed on the project, not only before work began, but during construction itself.

Before the contractors moved in, a comprehensive report, or Conservation Plan, of nearly 200 pages was compiled which gave a detailed history of the Site. Each building was classified A, B, C or D, depending on its architectural and historical significance, a practice which is increasingly common in projects of this kind. Although no buildings were 'A' rated, that is, of international significance, virtually all of them were classified as B (nationally significant, equivalent to Grade II* listed) or C (locally significant, equivalent to Grade II listed). Only the Music Shop (built in the 1820s as a fruiterer's shop), the Old School Room (built



The former Bookbinders, converted to a Fellow's set



Hamond's map of Cambridge, 1592



Custance's map of Cambridge, 1798



First edition OS map 1886

in 1874) – once used for the College’s choristers – and the Bookbinders (built in 1876 as the College granary and bakehouse) were designated as below grade C. In other words, the design for Corfield Court required the conservation of virtually all the existing buildings on the Site, ranging from the pre-1592 timber frame of the pub at 70 Bridge Street (most recently known as the Flying Stag) to Champney’s 1878 Divinity School.

Under the original plans, first commissioned by the College in 1998, the Music Shop, the Old School Room and the Bookbinders were all due for demolition so as to open up the centre of the Triangle as much as possible. Indeed, prior to work beginning in 2007 the Old School Room effectively divided the interior of the Site into a north and south side, with no through access between the two. In the event, however, only the Music Shop was knocked down – essential if the contractors were to gain access to the Site – while the Old School Room was hollowed out to provide a cloister for the courtyard and the Bookbinders was converted into a laundry on the ground floor and a Fellow’s set on the first floor. As the current resident of the first floor, I am grateful that plans changed as it has been transformed into a bright, modern and spacious studio apartment, seemingly much sought after among the Fellowship. Professor Dobson even suggested to me on one occasion that it might be suitable for retired Masters...

In the words of the Conservation Plan’s authors, the buildings which comprise Corfield Court, and the Triangle Site itself, are interesting because of what they tell us about ‘the incremental and accumulative process of city growth through several centuries: it is important evidence of the changing face of the city as a response to changing economic, commercial and social factors.’ As well as growth, however, the ground beneath Corfield Court also revealed a story of significant, albeit temporary, urban decay when it was excavated by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) in 2007.

Bridge Street, as one might guess from looking at a map of Cambridge, forms a section of the old Roman road, the *Via Devana*, which ran from Godmanchester to Colchester. Although CAU found no evidence of pre-Roman settlement during their digs, it is likely that the Triangle was part of an ‘agricultural hinterland’ which served an Iron Age settlement at nearby Jesus College. During the period of Roman occupation, however, the Site was quarried to provide material for the construction of the *Via Devana*. Further evidence of habitation, such as domestic property boundaries, pottery, coins and iron fragments, indicate that the Triangle was part of a southerly, extra-mural, suburb of Roman Cambridge (known in the second century AD as Duriloponte).

From the early fourth century AD, however, the suburb was deserted and the Triangle Site was probably reclaimed for arable farming. The period of Saxon decline, which lasted six and a half centuries, meant Cambridge at this time was



View towards Bridge Street



View of North Courtyard

confined to the Castle Hill area of the present-day city. When the Triangle was inhabited again in the mid-tenth century, shortly after Grantabrycge had been conquered by the kingdom of Wessex, it is likely that the town was growing relatively rapidly. A century later the Church of All Saints was under construction just to the south of the Triangle, which provides further evidence of Cambridge's medieval growth.

By 1140, the Triangle, and the area immediately surrounding the Round Church, was home to the local Jewish community. Although we know relatively little about either the number or business activities of Cambridge's Jews, it is thought that Cambridge was home to the fifth largest Jewish community in twelfth-century England. In the early thirteenth century All Saints Passage was referred to as Jews' Street (vicus Judeorum) and their presence was remembered long after their expulsion from the town in 1275 by the fact that the nearby church was known as 'All Saints in the Jewry' until its demolition in 1865. We also know that on 12 August 1266 the Jewry was pillaged and many Jews were murdered. This happened despite Henry III's instruction that neither the Jews, nor their property, should be molested. Although no conclusive archaeological evidence of the Triangle's Jewish period was found by CAU to confirm existing documentary evidence, it is possible that a cattle bone discovered at the Site bears signs of kosher butchery practices.

After the Jewry had been emptied of its Jews, the Triangle was subdivided and sublet into at least 11 separate properties. It may also have been in the late medieval period that the Site's residential function was first supplemented by retail activity. Located at the intersection of the old Roman road (Bridge Street) and the newer Trumpington Lane (along which some of the town's earliest churches were built), the Triangle Site was well placed to act as third centre of mercantile activity, roughly equidistant between the two formal marketplaces near Castle Hill and Market Square.

In the two centuries or so before the College's foundation in 1511, the centre of the Triangle was used as a cemetery for the Hospital of St John and this probably explains why the earliest maps of the Site, dating from 1574, 1592 and 1688, indicate that buildings did not encroach into the central gardens. In the early modern period, the Triangle was densely occupied, incorporating at least three different metal workshops and two taverns. In addition to uncovering evidence of iron forging and welding, CAU also discovered a considerable volume of food waste in a large refuse pit, including several thousand fish bones from imported cod.

By the late eighteenth century, the Triangle had its own coffee-house. Some 288 ceramic vessels were recovered by CAU, including teapots, coffee cans and side plates. Drinking glasses, bottles and jars were also found. The coffee-house and the tavern probably served a similar range of food: as well as finding evidence

of meat and fish consumption, residues of figs, strawberries and grapes were identified at both locations.

For a millennium or more, the Triangle has been used continuously for domestic habitation. Further back in time, it was situated in the heart of a Roman suburb that lay alongside a major thoroughfare. Over the last two thousand years, the Triangle has been used for agriculture, manufacturing (metalwork) and services (finance, retail and education). Despite its size – the Triangle covers perhaps a third of the area of the main College site – it offers a fascinating microcosm of long-run economic change and urban development.

Newly renovated, it continues to fulfil multiple functions. The Bridge Street surgery has been re-located to purpose-built £1.5 million premises in All Saints Passage, while the retail space has been extended and enhanced along the Triangle’s perimeter. As well as providing accommodation for postgraduate students and Fellows, there are several teaching and seminar rooms in 1 All Saints Passage. In preserving a distinctive feature of nineteenth-century Cambridge’s townscape, Corfield Court clearly represents a highly significant conservation project. Yet it is perhaps worth reflecting whether the Triangle’s history would have been quite so varied had modern planning rules prevailed in the past. Paradoxically, though, it is largely because of the stringent regulations now in place that archaeologists have the opportunity to investigate the rich history of sites like the Triangle.



Further reading:

Philip Dixon, Clare Herring and Peter Rawlings, *St John’s College: the Triangle Site* (John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, 2003).

Richard Newman, *St John’s Triangle, Cambridge: an archaeological excavation and watching brief*, Report No. 851 (Cambridge Archaeological Unit, 2008).

Stephen Thompson

1 I would like to thank Rachel Elliot, Henry Binns and Kate Withstandley of van Heyningen and Haward Architects for all the information they provided relating to the Corfield Court project.

An Ear to the Ground: Hearing in Subterranean Mammals

Dr Matthew Mason (1992) studied Veterinary Medicine whilst at St John's. Now a Fellow of St Catharine's College, where he is Director of Studies in Physiology, Dr Mason's research area focuses on the structure and function of the middle ear of mammals.

All vertebrates – fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals – possess an inner ear; a series of fluid-filled canals buried within the skull in which are located hair cells. These hair cells perform the essential function of transducing vibrations in the surrounding liquid into electrical signals, which pass to the auditory nerve and then to the brain. Given that they all have an inner ear where vibrations can be detected, all vertebrates, even fish, are capable of hearing. Although we humans tend to think of hearing as the perception of airborne vibrations, vibrations travelling in any medium can, at least in principle, be perceived as sound by the ear.

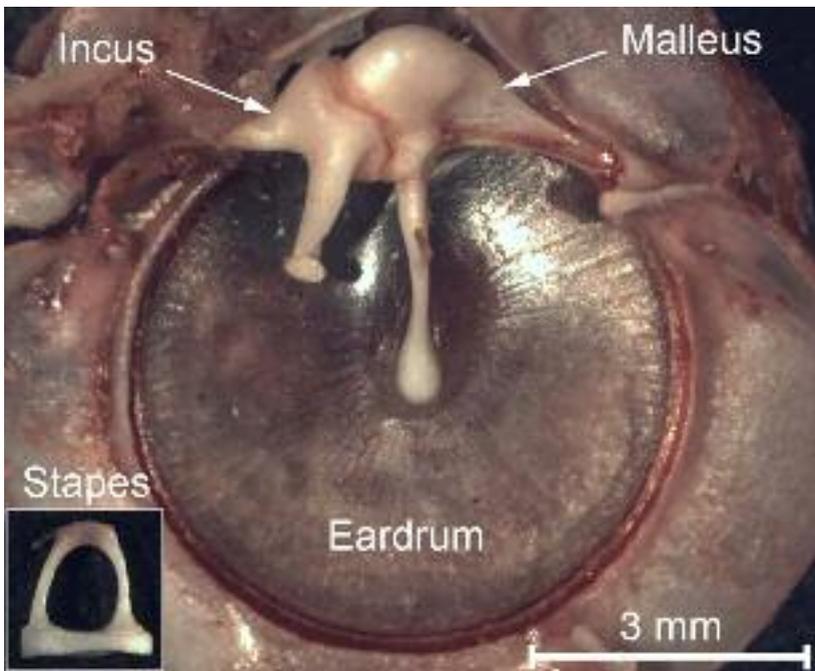


Figure 1. Middle ear structures in a squirrel, seen from inside the left middle ear cavity. The inset shows the isolated stapes.

As terrestrial vertebrates, we experience a particular problem if we want to hear airborne sound. Air is a much less dense medium than the fluid in our inner ear and because of the consequent impedance mismatch, over 99.9% of the energy of any sound vibrations in air which were to reach the inner ear directly would be reflected back from the air-liquid interface. To get around this problem, most terrestrial vertebrates possess a mechanical system located within an air-filled cavity inside the head, the middle ear, which works as an impedance-matching device. This ensures that less sound energy is reflected, so more gets through to our hair cells.

In humans, having passed down the external ear canal just behind the jaw, sound vibrations excite the eardrum. This translucent, flexible membrane marks the entrance to the middle ear; its inner surface is connected to the first of three auditory ossicles. These tiny bones, the malleus, incus and stapes (hammer, anvil and stirrup, Fig. 1), are the smallest in the human body: the largest of them, the incus, weighs only 34 milligrams, and our tiny stapes a mere 2.5 mg. Perfectly sculpted, glistening white and suspended by ligaments within the middle ear cavity, the ossicles form a vibrating chain between the eardrum and the inner ear. In non-mammalian vertebrates there is only one ear ossicle; the stapes. However experiments that I have performed with Professor Peter Narins at the University of California, Los Angeles have shown that the cartilaginous rod which connects the stapes to the eardrum in frogs actually functions as a second ossicle, the joint between the two probably having a similar protective function to the joints between the three mammalian ossicles. But that's another story.

The middle ear apparatus performs its impedance-matching function by increasing the pressure applied to the inner ear while reducing the velocity of vibrations there. The increase in pressure is based largely on the difference in areas between the large eardrum which collects the sound and the small stapes footplate located within the entrance to the inner ear. Differences in length of mechanical lever-arms formed by the ossicles contribute to increased pressure and reduced velocity. How well the middle ear performs its function depends on the frequency of the sound: although tiny, the mass of the ossicles will reduce the sound transmission at high frequencies, while the elasticity of the ligaments, membrane and air cavity will limit the transmission at low frequencies. The optimum transmission of sound energy will therefore be attained at some intermediate frequency.

The mechanical properties of the middle ear apparatus thus help to determine what sound gets through to our hair cells, and therefore what can be heard. We might expect that different animals living in different environments would have different middle ear structures, reflecting the relative importance of the different sounds that they are exposed to. My research involves looking at middle ear

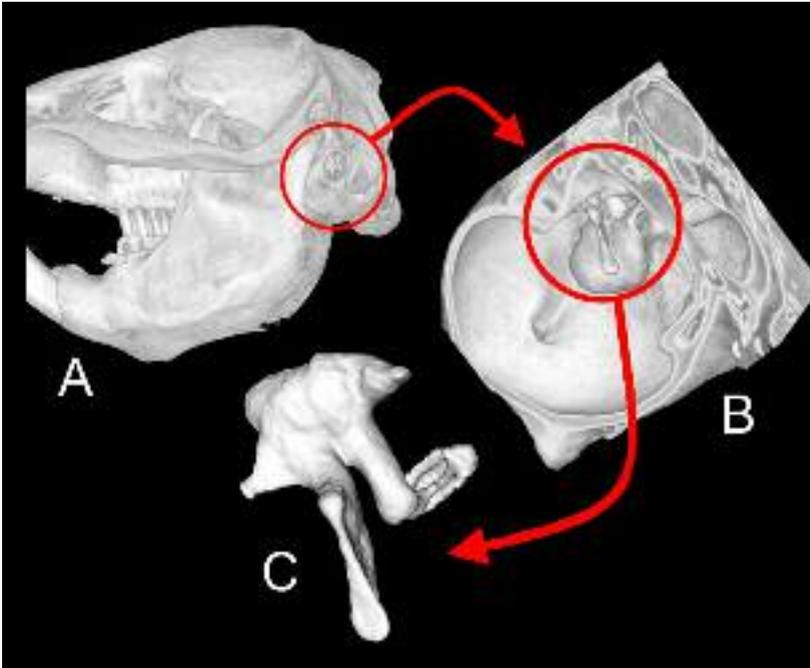


Figure 2. Micro-CT reconstructions of the skull (A), middle ear cavity (B) and middle ear ossicles (C) of the Gansu zokor, a Chinese mole-rat.



Figure 3. X-ray of the skull of the Namib Desert golden mole (seen from above, nose downwards), showing its enormous ear ossicles.

morphology in different vertebrate groups, to try to predict what animals are able to hear and how hearing might have evolved. Because much of the middle ear apparatus is bony, I can examine the structures of the ear in preserved museum specimens and even dried skulls, allowing me to investigate the hearing of rare animals which could never be tested live in the laboratory.

Going underground

When Caliban exhorts his inebriated companions ‘Pray you, tread softly, that the blind mole may not hear a foot fall’, Shakespeare was probably alluding to a commonly-held notion, dating back at least to the Middle Ages, that moles must have acute hearing to make up for their visual deficiency. Most species of moles are not blind. Parting the fur on the head of the European mole, *Talpa europaea*, reveals beady little eyes in the normal place. What of their hearing?

Low frequency airborne sound of a few hundred hertz has been shown to travel further than higher frequencies in underground tunnels: it is not so quickly absorbed by the walls. One might therefore expect that a mole would have middle ear structures specialised towards the transmission of low frequencies. To achieve this, its middle ear cavity might be unusually capacious, its eardrum expansive and its ossicles massive. In the mole family (*Talpidae*), I have shown that increasingly subterranean habits have indeed resulted in the evolution of a ‘lower frequency’ middle ear, but not unusually so compared with mammals as a whole. Turning to unrelated South American rodents, we found that the subterranean tuco-tucos (their bizarre name comes from the sound that they make) also have ‘low frequency’ ears, but in this respect they are very similar to their terrestrial relative, the degu (a guinea pig-like animal). The ears of this group of rodents are evidently pre-adapted to a subterranean environment, but they were not built by natural selection specifically for hearing underground. Behavioural studies of subterranean mammals agree that they tend to have reasonable but unremarkable low-frequency hearing – but interestingly, these animals have much reduced hearing at high frequencies, reflecting the poor transmission of these frequencies underground.

Good vibrations

As mentioned earlier, hearing is not limited to the detection of air-borne sound. There is good reason to suppose that ground-borne (seismic) vibrations might be of more interest to some subterranean mammals, and not just for conveying footfalls of the ill-intentioned. Vibrational signals could travel between burrow systems, telling a solitary animal about the presence and reproductive status of his or her neighbours, and in predatory species they could in principle be used to detect prey in the soil.

I have investigated seismic hearing in several groups of mammals including the Israeli mole-rat, *Spalax ehrenbergi*. *Spalax* uses its flattened snout and forehead to knock on its burrow wall, in order to communicate its presence to its neighbours: this is particularly important given that *Spalax* is very aggressive and has been known to kill intruders within its burrows. It had previously been proposed that *Spalax* could detect seismic signals by pressing the side of its head to the burrow wall, vibrations passing through its jaw, skull and middle ear ossicles to the inner ear. This is a form of 'bone-conduction' which would not require the eardrum. Using the technique of micro-computed tomography (micro-CT) to reconstruct 3D structures from a series of x-rays, we examined this proposed pathway in *Spalax*, as well as in a Chinese relative called the Gansu zokor (Fig. 2) and in a Kenyan mole-rat with a less captivating name. Although all three are known to head-knock in order to communicate, important features of the proposed conducting pathway were missing in the zokor and the African species. A previously overlooked fluid pathway extending from just behind the jaw into the brain cavity (found in all three mole-rats) might represent an alternative route for sound vibrations to get to the inner ear, and my Israeli collaborators and I are hoping to test this experimentally in the near future.

Although the middle ears of many subterranean mammals can be disappointingly similar to those of their terrestrial relatives, one enigmatic group has developed some bizarre and unique adaptations. Golden moles are small, burrowing mammals from Southern Africa, named for their beautiful, iridescent fur: they are only distantly related to our European moles. Some species have developed middle ear ossicles of extraordinary size (Fig. 3). If these moles were scaled up to human dimensions, their malleus bones would each be the size of your fist, one in each ear! My work suggests that these enormous ear-bones work essentially as inertial seismometers, like those designed by humans to detect earthquakes. When the ground vibrates, the head of the mole vibrates with it but these massive ossicles tend to remain in place, resulting in relative movement which sets the inner ear fluid vibrating and thereby stimulates the hair cells. The low-frequency ground vibrations which these little predators are interested in might include those made by prey species such as termites directly, or, it has been suggested, vibrations induced by wind whistling over the grassy tufts where the termites live. I travelled to the Namib Desert to test this hypothesis, as part of a field study led by Professor Ted Lewis from the University of California, Berkeley. We buried an array of thumpers in the sand, each capable of playing seismic noise which simulates that made by a grassy tuft. The idea was to see whether released moles would head to an active thumper or not. Some of our moles made a bee-line for the thumpers in a wholly satisfactory way, but others did not behave quite so well and our results, although certainly suggestive, were not as convincing as we had hoped.

Up and away

Having spent some time considering subterranean mammals, my focus recently moved upwards. Professor Brock Fenton from the University of Western Ontario had put together an interdisciplinary team to make micro-CT scans of the heads of rare, preserved bats from the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto; my summer student Kirsty Brain and I helped with their interpretation. We were interested in the hyoid apparatus, a chain of tiny bones which helps to support the larynx. In those bats which echolocate, we found that the hyoid apparatus includes a long element called the stylohyal which is connected to and in many cases is fused with the tympanic bulla, housing the middle ear. In non-echolocating fruit bats, there is no such connection. We suggested that the connection between the larynx where echolocation signals are produced and the middle ear might be no coincidence and that vibrations might thus be communicated to the ear to provide the bat with information about the sound that it was making, perhaps for comparison with the returning echo. The results of our study were recently published in *Nature* issue 463, and have been generating some interest among bat experts, including palaeontologists who hope to establish whether bats known only to us as fossils might have been able to echolocate.

So what next? I have recently been considering mammals as a whole, from aardvarks to zebras, looking at the morphology of their middle ears and trying to interpret functionally the structural patterns that I have identified. The collegiate structure of the University has proven to be invaluable in allowing me to discuss ideas and form collaborations with mathematicians, engineers and other academics from diverse disciplines, as well as providing me with a steady stream of enthusiastic student volunteers.

I am often asked (usually by medics) what we gain from studying hearing in animals like moles. Perhaps this is not as glamorous as drug discovery or molecular genetics, but some years ago a Christ's College graduate thought it worthwhile to pursue the study of earthworms, including experimenting on their responses to ground vibrations. 'The subject may appear an insignificant one,' wrote Mr Darwin, 'but we shall see that it possesses some interest'. That's the way I look at it too.



Dr Matthew J Mason

Acknowledgements

I thank Alan Heaver of the Department of Engineering for his help with the micro-CT scanning which yielded the images for Figures 2 and 3. Space does not permit me to thank my other collaborators individually, but my website http://www.pdn.cam.ac.uk/staff/mason_ma/ gives more details of the published work that I have referred to in this article, and the people who made this possible.

Popski at St John's

The late Dr John Alexander was a Fellow of St John's for over 30 years, having read for his undergraduate degree at Pembroke College. He conducted extensive archaeological research in Africa and Europe.

Members of the College may not be aware that Vladimir Peniakoff, famous during the Second World War under the nickname Popski for both the audacity of his units' activities far behind enemy lines in North Africa and Italy, and for adding PPA (Popski's Private Army) to his units' shoulder badges, was an undergraduate at St John's from 1915 to 1916. His autobiography *Private Army* (1950) was republished as late as 2004 and has been translated into nine languages. That 17 month period has been widely used, although not in his autobiography, to describe him as 'educated at St John's College, Cambridge'. While his time here marked a turning point in his life, the description does not fully reflect what we know of his experience in Cambridge.

Vladimir Peniakoff's Russian parents emigrated to Belgium in 1894, probably because of increased government persecution of the radically-inclined intelligentsia to which they belonged; they were wealthy and his father a distinguished scientist. Peniakoff was born at Huy, Belgium, in 1897 and given Belgian nationality. He was privately educated in Brussels until 1912, followed by two years as an undergraduate at the Université Libre in Brussels where he was awarded the Diplôme de humanité classique (Latin et Grec) and the Diplôme de candidat ingénieur which would have permitted him, at the age of seventeen, to proceed to a full engineering degree. The German invasion of Belgium in 1914 interrupted his plans and the family emigrated to France except for Peniakoff who was brought to England by his father who had visited here in 1893–94 as part of a research programme; it was Peniakoff's first visit to England.

They came to London and stayed with the Erichsens, an engineering family whom they had met in 1913 and had to stay with them in Brussels. His father's plans must have been for Peniakoff to continue his education. Through the family connections of the Erichsens with the Rootham family in Cambridge, Peniakoff was introduced to Dr Cyril Bradley Rootham (1894), Fellow and College organist until his death in 1938, described in the College archives as 'a prominent member in the musical life of the University'. Dr Rootham agreed to sponsor Peniakoff, for this is written on the application for admission which Peniakoff's father submitted to the College. The application was signed by the Master, Dean and Tutor and shows that Peniakoff was accepted on 19 January 1915 for an unspecified course of study in Physics (which then included electricity) and Mathematics. His birth certificate never arrived, and his mother's maiden name

was given incorrectly; it was not Brown but Rosenthal, a family which had distant Gollancz cousins in England.

Reasons for Peniakoff's acceptance are not far to seek: he had already been a very successful undergraduate in Belgium, was the son of a wealthy and distinguished scientist, was a personable polymath with fluent English (he claimed to have been taught English as his first language¹), and was a war-refugee from an allied country for whom much sympathy was felt. In 1914–15 the College had only 106 undergraduates in residence, compared to pre-war average of 200, his number in the College Register being 2707. He joined the College for the Lent term and remained until June 1916.

Few details of Peniakoff's life in College are recorded in the archives. They include his examination results, College rooms and bills paid from Lent 1915 to Easter 1916.² He took a Mathematics examination in March 1915 three months after his arrival and was graded Class 3. A note in the Tutor's hand dated 18 March 1915 says 'Bromwich [the College Lecturer in Mathematics] says should coach with Wren'; this must have been for the Easter term 1915. Evidence of other College activity was recorded briefly by John Willett in his biography of Peniakoff, published in 1954.³ In the Easter Vacation 1915 Peniakoff went down and stayed at the Lady Margaret Mission in Walworth, London, supported by the College.

Willett's records are much more informative about extra-collegiate activities from interviews he had in the early 1950s with Edward Richardson Brown (1914) Peniakoff's closest friend in College. Brown was a second year undergraduate and a mathematician, but in the extracts from the interviews that Willett published Brown commented only on Peniakoff's character and non-mathematical interests, perhaps because these particularly interested Willett. Brown recalled that Peniakoff was 'rather an aesthete, with a keen interest in modern art and a tendency to pick his friends from people on the left-wing of both art and politics'.⁴ Both men were atheists and it was Brown who introduced Peniakoff into The Heretics, a University society which discussed problems of religion, philosophy and art in the rooms of C K Ogden, already a distinguished linguist and editor of the *Cambridge Magazine*. Since it included men of the calibre of Bertrand Russell, G M Trevelyan and G E Moore with papers from visitors like P Wyndham Lewis and C B Fry, Peniakoff was fortunate to become a member. He must have been welcomed, for in his first term Ogden asked him to give a paper on the Aesthetics of Clive Bell. Peniakoff, on the other hand, dealt with his friends rather less kindly. In 1924, in a letter quoted by Willett, he wrote: 'of almost all those who then made up my world I have lost every trace: Cambridge friends, London friends, journalists, and conspirators, infantile and passionate reformers ...'⁵

In June 1916 Peniakoff took the Mathematics Part I examination and was again graded Class 3. Although a poor result it qualified him to continue to Part II of the Honours Tripos and presumably the College expected him back in October 1916, to read for the Tripos examination in 1918, but he did not return. In the vacation he went back to Paris and then to the south of France for two months to assist his father who had taken up war research on a new process for making potassium cyanide at St Jean de Maurienne in Savoy; Peniakoff himself wrote 'for poison gas, I am sorry to say'.⁶ For the next year he remained in France. Opinions vary on what he was doing except that it was working in or for the French Army. He claimed that he 'couldn't face the months of training I would have had to go through had I applied for a commission in the British Army' and that he had 'turn[ed his] back on a donnish career'.⁷

There is nothing in the College archives or in Willett's quotations from interviews with Brown to explain Peniakoff's reasons for leaving Cambridge. Factors may have included his poor examination results or the way Mathematics was taught at Cambridge. Peniakoff himself merely wrote in 1924 'I decided to go practical ... plain duty showed me at every moment what course to pursue.' The 'duty' he mentions may have been to take up war-work like his father, for his sister wrote that he 'was mobilised as a chemist'.⁸ In 1919 he qualified as an electrical engineer in the University of Grenoble. Peniakoff's departure from Cambridge appears to have coincided with an abrupt change in attitude. During his time in Cambridge, Peniakoff was a pacifist and both he and Willett mention the danger he felt if his letters published in England were to bring him before British war tribunals examining conscientious objectors to military service: 'I realise that the documents which I brought from England into France in 1916 and my newspaper correspondence might easily have brought me before a war tribunal.'⁹ None of this correspondence has survived. He continued, 'I realise that in many fields I was ignorant, intolerant and sectarian and that my enjoyment was always ardent but changeable.' Peniakoff's decision to leave Cambridge included breaking off relationships with many relations and earlier friends in France and Belgium.' That break foreshadows a similar abrupt break in relationships which he made when he joined the British Army in Egypt in 1941.

Before moving to England in 1946 the 16 months in Cambridge was the longest period he had lived here and seems to have left him with affection for Britain which was noted by many of his friends and lasted for the rest of his life. It was enhanced by his success in the British army, for he emerged from the Second World War as Lieutenant Colonel Peniakoff DSO, MC and already famous. In 1947 he took British nationality, marrying his second wife Pamela Firth, a British colleague from his war service in Vienna, in 1948 and publishing his autobiography, which he had undertaken as an official historian of his unit, in

1950. The book was an instant success and assured that he would always be remembered by those who enjoy well-written and genuine adventure stories.

After his death Peniakoff's long-time friend, Lieutenant Colonel John Willett, published a biography of him which, while the author was denied access to War Office archives, added so much to his non-army life that it and the autobiography could well be bound together as a single volume. The biography soon went out of print but the College Library has a copy of it given in 1956 by a former Fellow and Librarian, Francis Puryer White (1912). In various ways the biography is rather a strange book; Willett was the chief foreign-leader writer of *The Guardian* for many years, a post he gave up in 1951, apparently to research for Peniakoff's biography. That such a man should resign his *Guardian* post to investigate Peniakoff's life is surprising, as is the five page list of sources and acknowledgements for help. He corresponded with or visited and interviewed Peniakoff's friends and relatives all over Europe. He had the full support of Mrs Pamela Peniakoff, but it is clear that he never discussed the matter with Peniakoff himself and it is doubtful that it would have been welcomed. Peniakoff divided his life into separate sections and evidence from much of the early parts was lost, destroyed or ignored in the autobiography and was not available when the biography was written.

We have, in the College Library, the two books, the autobiography and the biography which were published within four years of each other. They both need to be read with care for they were written selectively with different ends in view. Their approaches to the events of the First World War years are very different. Peniakoff gave the version of them he wished to present to posterity whereas Willett applied to them the techniques he had learnt in the Intelligence Sections of the Eighth Army HQ. While information from the College archives, together with the two books, sheds some light on Peniakoff's time at St John's and provides an interesting background to the part of his life for which he is better known, the sources do not fill in the whole picture and some uncertainty remains about this part of the war hero's life. 

The late Dr John Alexander

Acknowledgements

I am grateful for the assistance of Dr Mark Nicholls, the President, Fiona Colbert, the College Biographical Librarian, and Malcolm Underwood, the College Archivist, with the research for this article.

- 1 Vladimir Peniakoff, *Private Army* (1950), p 9.
- 2 Lent 1915 in B1 First Court. Michaelmas 1915 to Easter 1916 in C4 Third Court.
- 3 John Willett, *Popski, A Life of Vladimir Peniakoff* DSO MC (1954).
- 4 John Willett, *Popski* (1954), p 27.
- 5 John Willett, *Popski* (1954), p 32.
- 6 John Willett, *Popski* (1954), p 29.
- 7 Vladimir Peniakoff, *Private Army* (1950), pp 9-10.
- 8 John Willett, *Popski* (1954), p 30.
- 9 John Willett, *Popski* (1954), p 32 quoting a letter written by Peniakoff in 1924.

Ewart Johns – An Appreciation for St John’s College

After graduating from St John’s, Ewart Johns (1941) combined his work in higher education with a successful career as an artist. Over the last ten years his achievement as a painter and sculptor has been recognised in four retrospective exhibitions around England. The following article was written by David Bryant, a friend of Ewart Johns since the 1960s.

St John’s College has recently acquired several paintings by the distinguished artist Ewart Johns for display in College buildings. Ewart Johns read Geography at St John’s College, graduating with a First Class Honours Degree in 1947. Following a year at the Institute of Education in London, he went on in 1948 to teach in the Department of Geography at the University College of the South West, now the University of Exeter, where he developed a particular interest in the history of urban design. This work culminated in the publication in 1965 of the influential book *British Townscapes* (Edward Arnold) which, illustrated by the author’s own drawings and photographs, offered an important new perspective on the formal and visual character of towns and cities in Britain. In particular the book demonstrated the significance of cultural preference and taste in the determination of national and regional building styles – townscapes reflect the societies that build them. The approach was surprisingly inclusive for the time: ‘... not only architects and builders, but also house decorators, shopkeepers, lighting engineers, jobbing plumbers and everyone who paints his garden gate, are responsible for the final appearance of the “landscape” of the towns in which we live’; and again, ‘Throughout history ... man has designed his villages, his towns and his cities not only for protection, comfort and economy, but also, in some measure, for the satisfaction of his sense of the propriety of the shapes in which he and his family should live’. This theme reflected Ewart Johns’ visual sensitivity and his feeling for ordinary landscapes, and these in turn owed much to his parallel activity in the world of art. Appropriately, in 1972 Ewart Johns was appointed the first head of the Department of Art and Environment (later the Department of Visual Art) at Lancaster University, a post he held until his retirement from formal academic life in 1982.

Ewart Johns’ position at Lancaster signified the growing importance of the visual arts in his life and work. Alongside his academic career Ewart Johns had become a successful artist exhibiting widely throughout the country. Born and educated in Barry in South Wales, his artistic life was profoundly influenced by the teaching and encouragement of Ceri Richards at Cardiff College of Arts where he attended classes in the early 1940s. At Cambridge he was able to sustain his interest in art by attending part-time life-drawing classes at Cambridge School of Art, now part of Anglia Ruskin University. Later, in Exeter, he benefited from his association with Clifford Fishwick and his colleagues at Exeter College of Art.

Ewart Johns' work received early recognition in London exhibitions at the Leicester Gallery in 1957 and the Grabowski Gallery in 1961 and 1963. These were followed by numerous exhibitions and commissions around the country culminating in four major retrospectives:

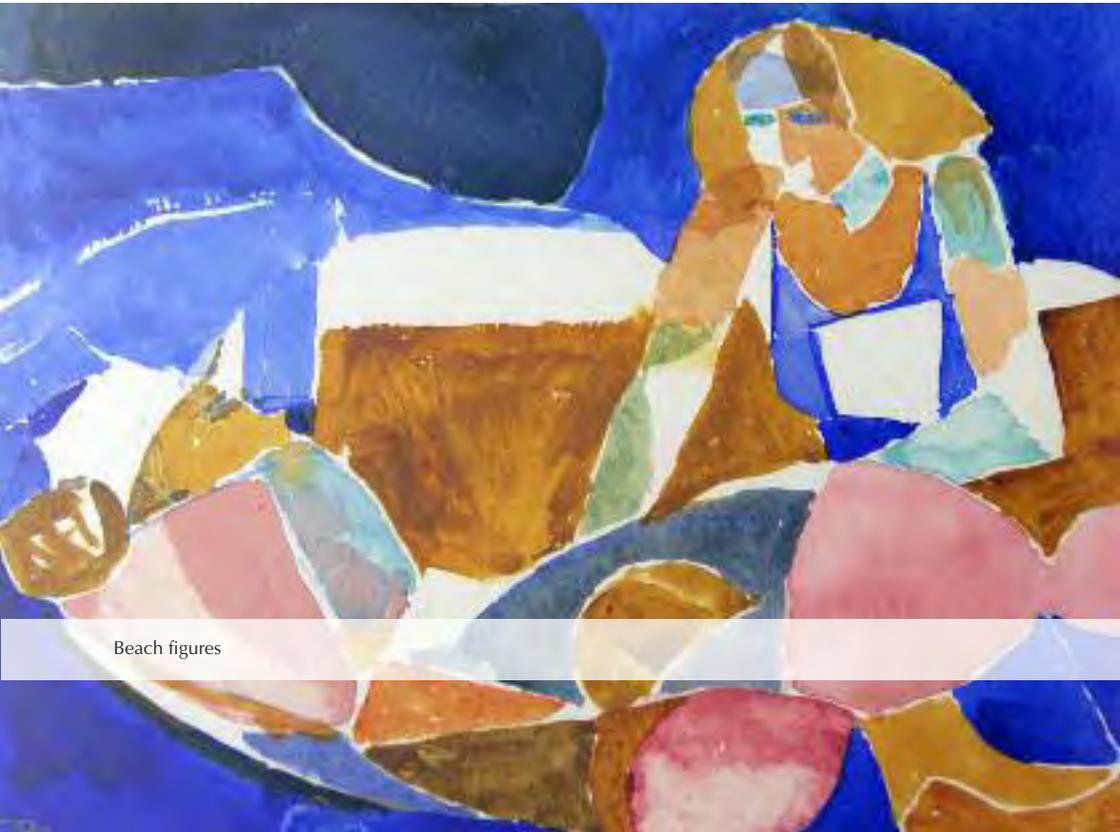
2001 at Dartington College of Arts on the occasion of the award of an Honorary Doctorate of Arts from the University of Plymouth;

2001 at the Fermoy Gallery, King's Lynn;

2007 at Cube/3 Gallery, University of Plymouth;

2008 at the Ceri Richards Gallery, Taliesin Arts Centre, University of Swansea.

Ewart Johns himself refrains from analysis of his work claiming that it 'speaks for itself.' However, a view of his painting over more than 60 years does reveal a number of important themes and characteristics. First is the central importance of line both as a source of ideas and in terms of helping to define the structure of the image overall. A second and more obvious characteristic is the frequent use of vibrant colour reinforcing the division of space in a work, but also clearly relished for its own sensual power. Third is a pre-occupation with landscape and the female nude, sometimes conflated to create 'figurescapes'. Fourth, Ewart



Beach figures



Girl washing with mirror

Johns' paintings reveal a tendency to work towards abstraction, improvising freely from original drawings or photographs. He is essentially a figurative artist because truly abstract painting is, in his own words, 'difficult to do'. Finally, examination of the development of Ewart Johns' oeuvre reveals an extraordinary intellectual vitality and inventiveness expressed in the dynamism of its images and a constant readiness to explore new ideas and approaches, including life-drawing, fragmented forms, subtle tonal compositions, photo-realism and collage – all in a variety of media and scale. Whilst acknowledging his debt to the works of others such as Botticelli and Vermeer, Turner and Seurat, Gauguin and Picasso, Matisse and Klee, Brancusi and Moore, Sutherland and de Stael, he has developed his own way of seeing and his own distinctive 'voice'. Nevertheless, his work sits comfortably alongside an impressive post war tradition of British modernism exemplified by artists such as Paul Nash, Nicholson, Lanyon, Sutherland, Hitchens and Keith Vaughan.

It is not surprising that Ewart Johns' creativity has expressed itself in other directions, especially in the fertile environment of university life. In addition to writing, he applied his interests in music and design to directing for the operatic stage, and in 1968 he collaborated with the composer Helen Glatz to create a new studio opera, *The Mask of Ceinan*, which was performed in March that year

at the recently opened Northcote Theatre in Exeter. Based on a Welsh folk tale, the theme was, significantly, a visual one, the plot centring on destructive conflicts arising from different conceptions of female beauty resulting in the mutilation of a naturally beautiful young woman who is made to conform to popular tastes.

The breadth of Ewart Johns' interests and activities, together with the fact that these have been based away from London, have tended to work against his wider recognition as an artist. His life does not conform either to the popular conception of the bohemian artist struggling alone with a creative obsession, or to more contemporary notions of artistic notoriety and 'celebrity'. Proximity to metropolitan centres of influence and 'the market' have clearly been critical in the establishment of many contemporary reputations. Nevertheless, Ewart Johns' work has a strong following and is held in a number of public and private collections, both in this country and abroad. The paintings now located in St John's College are an appropriate and welcome addition.

A particularly interesting aspect of Ewart Johns' life and work in recent years has been his ability to come to terms with the gradual onset of blindness caused by the progressive condition retinitis pigmentosa. At first he focused on outlines in black and white using a complicated apparatus of mounted camcorder and screen. These arrangements soon became more difficult in practical terms and less rewarding. However, although now completely blind, he has used his acute visual memory and sense of touch to devise means of working with clay and off cuts of wood to create a variety of sculptural pieces, ranging from small hand-held 'feelies' to more complex studies of natural forms. This experience recalled for the artist the sculptor Brancusi's experimental *Sculpture for the Blind*, involving a simple ovoid form carved in marble and exhibited inside a bag.

The construction of wooden figures involves using an assistant to help with the physical assemblage of selected suitably shaped pieces using wood-glue or dowels. Most recently Ewart Johns has extended this approach to facilitate a new means of working again with colour. This is based upon his mental recollection of various Artists Colours with their names such as cobalt, ultramarine, vermilion, emerald, crimson lake and yellow ochre. After a lifetime's experience these are still clear in the artist's mind's eye. The shapes of an abstract or semi-abstract composition can be cut out of thick card and colour-coded and assembled on a firm backing. Once again, the help of an assistant is then required to paint the forms and glue them in position. Thus, aided by his trusted amanuensis, Diana Gower, Ewart Johns is painting again and in May 2009 was able to mount a new exhibition of work.

Ewart Johns' efforts to overcome his disability are an indication of the profound creative urge evident in all true artists' work. In his own words: 'I work because I have to. If you are an artist, art is something that you are impelled towards. When I have just completed a work, I feel rather as I do when I've had a meal – I've done something that was necessary. All I want to do then is get on with another one.'

Now 86 years old and blind, Ewart Johns is still painting, sculpting, exhibiting and writing. He is admired by his friends and helpers and is an inspiration to us all.



David Bryant

The following paintings by Ewart Johns are displayed in St John's College:

Seated nude in Bentwood Chair, 1988. (Displayed in the Buttery Dining Room.)

Sun Worship, 1989 (Sandra) (Displayed in the Buttery Dining Room.)

Beach Figures, 1990. (Displayed in the Librarian's Office.)



Girl's back leaning on a car bonnet

The College recently acquired six further works by Ewart Johns:

Figure with imposed patterns (2).

Girl in a bath (2).

Girl's back leaning on a car bonnet, c.1979.

Standing figure and reflection, c.1984.

Girl washing with mirror, c.1985.

Patterned figure, early 1990s.

Cambridge Memories

Brian Robinson (1951) read Mechanical Sciences at St John's and has recently published his memoirs, *From Faraway Shores*, which recall his early life in Britain, including National Service in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and his time at St John's College, before emigrating to Canada and retiring in Nova Scotia. The following extract is taken from his memoirs, a copy of which resides in the College Library.

For my first year at St John's in 1951, which then had an undergraduate enrolment of about six hundred, I was placed in licensed lodgings in the town. This worked well as the first year was largely occupied with settling into the community of Town and Gown.

There were four of us in the lodgings on Carlyle Road, each of whom had a furnished bed-sitter. The only common space was shared with our landlady as we breakfasted each day in her kitchen. Getting to know each other was relatively easy. We were all engineering students, two pre- and two post-military training; two aged eighteen and two aged twenty; two green from school and two worldly-wise. Those differences didn't last long as we found common ground in our studies, and our quest for female company in our leisure hours. This may sound trivial today, but then all colleges in Cambridge were still single sex, with only two being for women.

At the beginning of the second term we four students in 'digs' together held a council-of-war to discuss where in Cambridge we could find a source of women who would be suitable companions at the many social occasions of the academic world. After much debate we decided that the most promising place would be the nurses' residence at Addenbrooke's Hospital. The next question was how to meet.

By a wonderful example of serendipity I was rushed to the said hospital days later with a perforated appendix, an event which cost me most of my first year's learning. The staff nurse on the ward, who later married my roommate Douglas Parkes (1951), subsequently introduced us to other staff from Queen Anne Terrace (QAT), the senior nurses' residence. Thus began what was affectionately known as 'The Queen John Society', a group of Johnian students associated with a similar and like-minded group of nurses at QAT. No fixed pairings were entertained, at least not until well into our third year. It served one highly sought after purpose, companionship without serious attachment. Sexual activity was not a high priority then for most young adults of either gender. Two or three of us from St John's wandered over to QAT about eight-thirty when the nurses were

home after day duty, and collected whoever was available and interested in heading to The Mill pub for a drink and chat. We went to a small back room therein and for most evenings we were the only inhabitants. It fulfilled the role of a very enjoyable private club. The standard fare was a fascinating draught cider known as 'Merrydown'. It was potent, about the strength of a good white wine, and by custom was consumed by the pint by the men, and by half-pint by the women. Two drinks were more than sufficient for one night. On these occasions there was definitely no driving involved! During my second year I also met Judy Freckelton, one of the nurses at QAT, who later became my wife one week after graduation.

Residence in the College [during the second year] produced a new wrinkle which had to be explained at the end of every term. Part of the Tutor's role was to oversee and guide the students' behaviour. College doors were closed at 10 pm and locked at 11 pm, after which students were checked in. The Tutor received all late arrival reports. Since the pubs didn't close at 10.30 pm and going back to College via the nurses' residence took more than 30 minutes all of us were frequent late check-ins. This explanation was graciously accepted by my Tutor, Mr R L Howland (1924), a gentle Classics professor, with a disguised smile, a furrowed brow, and a twinkling eye. Since he was also Senior Proctor that year, I suspected he probably had seen us on our way home from QAT on more than one occasion. Had our late evening behaviour been accompanied by adverse reports from my Director of Studies and Supervisor, I'm sure his reaction would have been quite different.

Occasionally we would just walk across the road from College to have a drink at The Mitre pub. Not our usual haunt and in fact not the usual collection of customers for a Cambridge establishment. Instead of the inevitable mob of students, its clientele was overwhelmingly American. This was the local watering hole for US personnel from Mildenhall Air Force Base. We spent many happy hours in their company, chatting about the differences between our two cultures, and incidentally learning how to be polite to the more brash members of their crowd. Like most pubs there was a noise level which, though not obnoxious, was loud enough to maintain a certain amount of privacy in our conversations. It was also quiet enough to catch the odd enthusiastic statement from other groups.

On 1 April 1953, Gerry, a sergeant rear-gunner of a B17 was yakking away as usual and I heard him say, 'You know, there were a couple of guys in The Eagle yesterday and one of them announced that they just found the secret of life. Boy, I wondered who the chick was who could do that to a feller. Either that or these two were real fruit cakes.' A few days later the headlines screamed about something called a DNA double helix, discovered by James Watson and Francis Crick at the Cavendish Laboratory.

Sometime during student years in Cambridge, attendance at a May Ball was a must. For me, June 1953 was the perfect time, now that I had Judy to invite. Judy and I went to the St John's Ball with several of our friends and enjoyed what can only be described as the dance of a lifetime. The setting was perfect for a romantic evening, in the classic surroundings of the Great Hall where the College community normally gathered for meals and other solemn events. The usual refectory tables had been removed and the true size of the Hall was revealed in all its glory, with its marble floor and remarkable stained glass windows. Floodlights had been placed outside the windows so that coloured beams of light streamed down on the celebrating throng of magnificently gowned women and their black-tied escorts. Over all this merriment presided the Master of the College, with a host of Fellows in his entourage.

The highlight of the Ball was the dinner, when we were ushered into the Combination Room to our appointed sitting. This room has always been carefully preserved in its original state as built in 1600, and completely fills the second floor of the north side of Second Court. The exterior is a rich and mellowed red brick of Elizabethan days. The interior walls are thick ornate dark oak panels, and it was illuminated only by candles in beautiful silver sconces portraying the College coat-of-arms. The dining tables stretched the whole length of the room. On the floor was an enormous Persian carpet which still did not show any noticeable wear. Mind you the normal use of the room was a retreat for the Senior Fellows, who don't have a reputation for rushing around!

Into this ancient setting came the meal, roast swan, served only at St John's on very special occasions. The centrepieces of the tables were huge silver platters, on which were arranged some carved slices of the birds and adorned with a swan's neck and wings. In 2004, I e-mailed the College to see if I could find any history of the tradition of serving swan at the May Ball dinner. The reply contained a great deal of detailed information, including the fact that swan rearing had been practised as early as 1637. There is also direct reference in the College Archives to swan being on the Christmas dinner menu during much of the nineteenth century. However, there is no record of any consumption in the twentieth century. 'By the 1950s it is clear that chicken or goose or perhaps another fowl was being eaten at the May Ball', with a dummy swan neck and wings being added to the platter. 'There are photos of these extras in the Archives.' It therefore would appear that, rather than eating swan then, I have to eat crow now!

The weekend before the end of the Lent term of 1953, Judy and I decided to get engaged at New Year and so thought that it would be a good idea to go to her home in Leicester, to let her parents know. As part of the exercise I knew of 'Freck's' [Judy's father's] love for port, so I purchased a bottle from the College Buttery. This was a rare 1934 vintage, laid on its side, dusty and encrusted inside

the bottle. It also came with a warning to transport carefully and ‘under no circumstance disturb the crust, which would ruin the wine.’ In order to get the bottle to Leicester, we managed to borrow ‘Antigone’, a Cambridge blue Austin A30, from its owner [a student at Girton College], and carefully set the bottle on the rear seat, encased on a mountain of cushions! The journey to Leicester and back was a one night weekend event, with Alan Nisbet (1951) driving since neither Judy nor I had a driver’s licence. It was taken at a very gentle pace, on relatively minor roads and so was accomplished without causing too much anguish for drivers who were obliged to follow us at discreet speed and distance until the rare passing opportunities would occur. The bottle and its contents arrived safely and the port was then decanted carefully into another bottle and delivered into Freck’s hands, much to his delight and appreciation of his future son-in-law’s thoughtfulness. In other words, it worked!

One week later, Judy and I left Cambridge for Leicester, by train this time, she for a few days holiday and I with her, on my way home to Wigan for the Christmas vacation. Neither of us had ever tasted the port since it was far too expensive for the wine cupboard of a mere student, and so we were really looking forward to a sampling. When we arrived, Freck greeted us with a wide grin and told us again that he really had appreciated the gift, had spent the week having a daily glass after his supper, and had finished it off the previous evening. He hoped that maybe we’d bring another some time! I never really forgave him for that. 🍷

T Brian Robinson

SPORTS & SOCIETIES

SPORTS & SOCIETIES



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The JCR

There is much to tell about the 2009/10 JCR. Perhaps our proudest achievement was launching the new website: www.sjcjr.com. Malte Schwarzkopf, Computing Officer, worked tirelessly from outlining the earliest design plan, through compiling the contributions of each of the officers, to finally declaring it open and celebrating in style (with pizza) in October.

But the channels of communication were certainly alive right from the Committee's inception in February. Andrew Wheelhouse, JCRC Vice-President, used his renowned public speaking skills to present our hopes to work with the leading bodies of the College. In collaboration with the SBR, we pieced together a reform of the Committee of Senior and Junior Members, helping to foster its new and improved sense of openness and productivity.

The year also saw one or two momentous constitutional changes. We took the plunge to propose a move in the timing of the JCR elections to earlier in the year, in Michaelmas term. The primary aim was to create a much-needed shadowing period, so that the outgoing and incoming Committee members could liaise over the vacation. Following the successful amendment, we were thrilled to see record numbers of first years standing for positions, given some initial concerns that they would be discouraged from running in their very first term.

This confidence among the first years undoubtedly had much to do with the fantastic work that Kath Maude, as Welfare Officer, and Will Johnston, Equal Opportunities Officer, did to help them settle in during Freshers' Week. When Kath was not out and about with the Freshers, she was miraculously managing to look after the rest of us. 2009 marked the first St John's International Freshers' Week, which Will ensured was a great triumph for improved integration, as St John's continues to attract newcomers from all over the world. In addition, Peter Catterall, as Finance Officer, really helped to oversee the organisation of the week from start to finish, taking responsibility for much else besides putting the 'fun' into 'funding' (his words, not ours). His contributions to the steady progress of the Committee as a whole were huge.

But Freshers' Week was far from the first or only climactic event on the JCR calendar. The 'Circus Royale' June Ent (complete with fire throwers!) saw Polly Mitchell, Ents Officer, give her all to make sure that we offered a show-stopping night. Aurora Horwood, Yearbook Officer, hand-painted a wonderfully colourful poster that we used to smother each of our notice boards to advertise the event,

and it was also brilliantly well-sponsored thanks to Victoria Ball's flourishing industry as Publicity and Sponsorship Officer.

But even when the JCRC's term was coming to an end you could guarantee that Richard Butler, our Academic Affairs Officer, was still at it, as he campaigned for students to keep their own rooms to study over the vacation. Robert Emberson, our Secretary, steadfastly continued to report back from CUSU on a wide range of seminal issues, such as the National Student Debt Crisis. Meera Ragha, as Access Officer, was always there to remind us of the outside world through her relationships with schools up and down the country, as well as her connections with RAG! that saw our charitable work expand considerably. We raised a grand total of £3,700 for a variety of causes, including our chosen JCR charity, the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Meera was not alone in reminding us of our responsibilities beyond the Cambridge bubble. How could we ever forget the truly magnificent input of Mike Kattirtzi, Ethical Affairs Officer, and his super-powered Ethical Affairs sub-committee. The team, with Paloma Navarro as Green Officer, Sejal Mahida as Ethical Consumerism Officer and Ariel Levy as Charities Officer were unstoppable. From securing recycling bags in Cripps kitchens to arranging for the famous Dr Mayer Hillman to come to speak, they definitely threw the green doors of St John's wide open to the whole University.



The JCR Committee, 2009/10

But who was keeping everything going behind the scenes? From tea in the JCR to bikes at forecourt, Margs, as Services Officer, provided for all our needs long after exam term was over and Dawn Kelly, Facilities Officer, did not rest. There was not a department of the College that she was not in communication with on a weekly, if not daily, basis, to ensure that everyone in the College was working towards our mutually thriving community. This she will continue to do with great vigour and success, as JCR President in the coming year. Good luck to her and her new Committee. All that remains to be said is a huge thank you to everyone who did so much to help the JCRC this year. To the Master and his wife, the Fellows and the staff of the College, and each and every Johnian: thank you.



Francesca O'Brien
President

The SBR

The term of the SBR Committee 2009/10 has been one of the busiest and most exciting periods in the recent history of the SBR. We eagerly set forth with the objective of improving communication at all levels of engagement, enhancing the facilities available to SBR members, diversifying entertainment and strengthening our function as representatives of the postgraduate student body. Much of this ambitious agenda, we believe, has been realised!

The energy of the new SBR Committee saw a multitude of events hosted throughout the year, each designed to cater in some way to the tastes of the 330 members of our society. Live music characterised our approach to entertainment, beginning with the jazz band at the summer garden party, the jazz-funk fusion band at the Annual Christmas Dinner and the live swing and jazz band at the gala dinner celebrating our golden anniversary. We continued to uphold established traditions including an enthralling Freshers' Fortnight of events, an exchange with Balliol College, Oxford, continued support for the Families Hall, and coordinating an insightful student survey.

For the first time, we hosted a Summer Vacation Hall, with four guest colleges in attendance. Hall exchanges took a central role in the termly activities of the SBR, with an exchange being held every week. We introduced the hostel crawl – a successful event we hope will feature in Freshers' Fortnight calendars of the future. We placed a new focus on graduate talks that were hosted twice a term and which evolved into well-attended and engaging evenings of academic exchange between SBR members, accompanied by pizza and wine.

Improvements to the internal management of the SBR were made at the start of our tenure and included: introducing an internal SBR wiki to archive and record the activities and history of our society, the advanced planning of SBR activities, issuing term cards of our events and providing a synopsis of our work twice a term by e-mail. We also saw new changes to the format of the Committee of Senior and Junior Members, in a move towards enabling meaningful consultation within College structures. A small sports teams support budget was also allocated – this remains limited though and one area in which more support will be needed.

We have been fortunate to see the official opening of Corfield Court, a College court dedicated to the housing of graduate students, which marked a



The SBR Committee, 2009/10

significant change to graduate life in College. With much planning, consultation and dedication throughout our year, we created a graduate study room, a place where graduate students who may not have a desk assigned to them by their departments can work: a tremendous achievement for the Committee and our members.

Our work on improving the condition of the SBR began with the refurbishment of the kitchen and after many years of request, the installation of a wireless access point in the SBR. Our Committee leaves the SBR with polished floors, cleaned carpets and sofas, a spread of new portraits and a much improved, modern entertainment system.

2010 marked the fiftieth anniversary of our society, and we shared our history by means of a short composition in the *Johnian News*. To celebrate our founders ('have dinner parties and entertain the ladies'), we hosted a celebratory evening in Hall and the Combination Room on Saturday 20 March, which was attended by many of those who have and will continue to contribute to the success of the SBR.

The SBR thanks the Master and all other College officials for their continued support of our activities. Most importantly, it has been my pleasure to have been

the head of a uniquely diverse and talented team. I would be remiss not to thank each of these individuals for their contributions to College life: I give thanks to Margaret McCarthy (Secretary), my right-hand and our pillar of organisation and strength; Mark Wilson (Treasurer) our chancellor and defender of the SBR exchequer; Muhammad Irfan (Dining) who re-energised the dining experience and the captain of many of our refurbishment projects; Kayla Kingdon-Bebb (Social), our fountain of creativity, without whom SBR events could not have succeeded; Sai Shiva-Reddy (Welfare) our bastion of support and perspective and a most apt adviser on all matters technological; Dick Mathekga (Computing and Publicity), our webmaster, art director and singular champion for equitable network usage; Liang Lin (Sports), superbly versatile, thorough, efficient; Hannah Pincham (Graduate Affairs), the galvaniser of graduate talks and purveyor of pizza; and Rachel Kulick (External), who takes our experience and best wishes with her into the next Committee.

We leave our offices with pride and the SBR in the best of health.



Shakir Mohamed
President

COLLEGE SOCIETIES

The Johnian Society

The Society was founded in 1923 at a reunion of Johnnians under the chairmanship of Sir Edward Marshall Hall, KC, as a means of maintaining a link with the College and with each other. The Society now has nearly 9,000 members.

The Johnian Society objectives are; to maintain and foster relationships formed between Johnnians in their time at College, to inform and facilitate contact between the community of all Johnnians, to enable participation in the current life and work of the College and to provide a collective 'voice' to the College.

As a member of the Society you will be able to enjoy Johnian Society events and news from the Johnian Society and its members. Through representation via the Johnian Society Committee you will be able to participate in the life and development of the College. Also, as a member, you will be supporting current students through the Johnian Society's bursaries and travel exhibitions.

The Committee members for 2010 are: Sir David King FRS (President), Mr Michael Brearley OBE (Vice-President), Sir Jack Beatson (Immediate Past President), Mr Colin Greenhalgh CBE DL (Chairman), Sir Alastair Norris (Vice-Chairman), Mr Graham Spooner (Honorary Secretary), the Master (ex officio member), Professor Nick McCave (College Representative), Miss Rachel Harker, Dr Jo Griffiths, Mrs Heather Hancock, Professor Peter Hennessy, Ms Fiona McAnena, Dr Jeevan Deol, Mr John Wyn Owen, Dr Kamal Ahuja, Mr Stephen Teverson and Ms Sarah Wilson. Two former presidents of the Society, Lord Crisp and Mr Francis Baron OBE, stepped down from the Committee in 2009, as did Catherine Twilley who had been a stalwart Honorary Secretary for several years. Also, Mark Chichester-Clark completed his term as a member of the Committee. Our thanks to all.

Sadly, in December 2009, Michael Mavor CVO died most unexpectedly and he will be much missed by us all, both as a Johnian and as a member of the Committee. The Society's Chairman represented the Society at Michael's Memorial Service, held at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh in April 2010.

The Society supports the College's Access Exhibition Fund. A capital gift of £12,500 was made in 2001 with annual donations having been made since. In 2009, the Society made a gift of £3,000 to support one undergraduate.



The day of the Johnian Society Christmas dinner

The Society also supports the College's Travel Exhibitions, with £4,500 (including £1,000 from a gift by Mr Neil Thomason) being donated to several recipients in 2009.

Last year's Johnian Society Day took place in College on Saturday 12 September 2009 with lunch in the Wordsworth Room and a dinner in the Senior Combination Room following a reception in the garden of the Master's Lodge for Johnians and their guests. The Johnian Society Lecture was given by Mike Clasper CBE (1971). Mike is Chairman of HM Revenue & Customs and *Which?* (the consumer publication). His talk was entitled 'Corporate Responsibility in Today's World?' We also held a members only Christmas Dinner on Saturday 19 December with drinks served in the Old Music Room followed by a general meeting and the dinner in the Wordsworth Room. Dr Mark Nicholls, the College President, kindly agreed to be our guest at the dinner and gave the toast to the Johnian Society and Sir Jack Beatson, the Society's President, responded with a toast to the College. Those attending were not deterred by the alpine weather.

The Annual Golf Day at the Gog Magog Golf Club was held on Friday 30 July 2010. The Johnian Society Day (comprising the annual lecture and dinner for members and their guests) took place in College on 11 September 2010. The Johnian Society lecture was delivered by Sir Kevin Tebbit (1966), former Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence and a witness at the Chilcot Inquiry, on the subject of National Security. The Members' Christmas Dinner and Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in College on Saturday 18 December.

All Johnians are welcome to join the Society. The cost of joining the Johnian Society is normally £25.00 for life but in anticipation of the College's impending quincentenary, there is currently an amnesty for Johnians not in residence in College.

The Society's officers are working very closely with the Development Office to achieve a memorable year of celebration of the College's 500th Anniversary in 2011. I would particularly like to thank Helen Morgan and Nicola Coles in the Alumni Relations team for all their help and support, and Colin Greenhalgh, the Society's Chairman, for making me so welcome in my new role.



Graham Spooner
Honorary Secretary

The Choir of St John's College, Cambridge

Once again the Choir has had another incredibly busy year, having sung at nearly two hundred College Chapel services during the course of the year, book-ended by the Matriculation and Graduation services. There are several particular services worthy of specific mention: the Choir was joined by members of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment for three Cantata Evensongs. Putting these excellent Bach pieces back into the liturgical context they were written for has proved immensely popular and has provided the opportunity for the Choral Students to sing solos with some of the best orchestral players in the country. The Choir was also joined by string ensembles to perform Viennese Masses for two Sunday Eucharists in the Easter term. In September the BBC invited the Choir to film music for two *Songs of Praise* programmes. BBC Radio 3 broadcast the traditional Advent Service on Advent Sunday and a memorable *Choral Evensong* on Wednesday 28 April, during which the Choir sang the thought-provoking canticles by Honorary Fellow, Jonathan Harvey. BBC Radio 4 broadcast a service from the Chapel for *Morning Worship* in February. Once again the Choir climbed the 163 feet to the top of the Chapel tower to commemorate Ascension Day, as usual hundreds of people gathered in the court below. The candle-lit Epiphany Carol Service has grown in popularity over recent years, to the extent that this year the decision was taken to hold two, on the first Saturday and Sunday of the full Lent term. The Chapel was full on both occasions creating an incredibly special atmosphere. Returning Johnians are warmly welcome at this and all services.

The Choir has one of the largest and most wide-ranging repertoires of any of its kind and this has been exemplified this year by two new collaborations. The first collaboration in January was a contract with Chandos Records to record five CDs. The first of these was a disc of music by former Acting Organist of the College, Herbert Howells which was released in March 2010. The Choir recorded a disc of Choral Favourites in April, which will be released in November 2010, and teamed up with His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts in July to record a disc of music by the sixteenth century Flemish composer, Orlando Lassus. Always keen to promote new choral music, the second collaboration saw the Choir enter into a year-long partnership with *Choir & Organ Magazine*. This involved the commissioning of four new choral and two organ works to be premiered by the Choir and Organ Students in Chapel in conjunction with articles in the magazine. It was particularly pleasing to perform a work by Richard Wilberforce, former Alto Choral Student. Another highlight was the commission

written by Giles Swayne, *Adam Lay Ibounden*, premiered at the Advent Carol Service. All of the pieces written were subsequently featured in the Choir's weekly webcasting project, which continues to go from strength to strength. On average 7,500 people a month stream our services from all over the world and we have received messages of thanks from people in Australia, Japan and the USA.

The Choir is much in demand for concerts, especially during the Christmas period, and 2009 was no exception. Concerts as part of the Cambridge Music Festival (with the London Mozart Players), and at St John's College School were followed by sell-out concerts at the Birmingham Symphony Hall and Amsterdam Concertgebouw, the latter broadcast live on Dutch National Radio. The Choir was joined for these by two former Choral Students, Alex Ashworth (Choral Student 1995–1998) as the baritone soloist, and Graham Walker (Chorister 1986–1991, Choral Student 1996–2001) playing the 'cello. The Choir then embarked on a six-concert tour of the Netherlands. During the Easter vacation the Choir travelled to Milan and then on to the picturesque World Heritage Site of Bellinzona in Switzerland, giving well received concerts in both venues. In the summer the Choir was at the Thaxted Festival, preceded by a reception for Choir and College alumni. The following week the Choir paired with the King's College Choir in King's College Chapel for the annual joint service. The music chosen was composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, whose centenary fell this year. The final service, held on Sunday 4 July, had a performance of Walton's *The Twelve*.

The Choir is, as always, indebted to its leavers. Senior Organ Student Tim Ravalde leaves to take up the post of Assistant Organist at Chichester Cathedral. Amongst the Basses, we are losing Edward de Minckwitz and Tristan Hambleton, who have won places respectively to the Royal Academy of Music and on the Heidelberg Exchange Programme. The Tenor line loses Johnny Langridge and Francis Williams; both will continue to sing and work in Cambridge. Leo Tomita (Alto) has won a place at the Royal Academy of Music. Leo will be one of six former members of the Choir studying there next year. Six Choristers have also left: Thomas Mullock (Head Chorister), Thomas Last (Deputy Head Chorister), Benjamin Glass (George Guest Chorister), Patrick Baldwin, Ned Cambell and Jack Jackson. All of these boys have offered tremendous commitment and have sung to an incredibly high professional standard over their five years in the Choir. We wish them all well.

Edward de Minckwitz



The Gents of St John's

Once again, it seems that the impossible has been achieved, namely that this year has been even busier for The Gents than last year.

We were sad, as ever, to bid farewell to our leavers in June 2009. Gareth John and Sammy Furness have gone on to higher things at the Royal Academy of Music. We also miss Dominic Kraemer and Olie Hunt, as both Gents are now working in London. George Dye also left us for the year, but we take solace in the fact that he will return as a stentorian Russian bass in October.

Stepping in to fill the empty spaces in The Gents was a fine group of young men. Showing no signs of any lack of confidence both in their singing and otherwise, they proved themselves from the start of the year. Huw Leslie and Dan Macklin added to the already thundering bass line; Nick Edwards bolstered the alto section; James Imam made his own contribution and has found a new talent in composition. We were lucky enough to be joined for the year by Johnny Langridge who has helped us in recent times to make even closer ties with the school; and Jules Gregory, an old chorister in St John's Choir, was promoted to 'team tenor' after a short spell at the School.

Shortly before these young whippersnappers arrived, The Gents returned from performing a UK mini-tour throughout the nation, to Shrewsbury, Sevenoaks, Oundle and Battersea. Over the year we continued in our ancient duty to sing the daily services in Chapel, the highlights of which have been the Bach Cantatas with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, in which the solos are all taken on by members of The Gents.

The run-up to Christmas is always busy and this year was no exception. The preparation was all the more important because it was leading up to our launch concert of *A Gentle Christmas*, our celebrated new CD. Following a very successful concert the previous year, we were delighted to get as eager a crowd for 2009. Our concert tour continued with performances in Ramsey and Braughing and then, with the Choir, a performance in Birmingham Symphony Hall and a trip to Amsterdam.

Then began the long string of dinner engagements which permeated the Lent and Easter terms and are planned for well into the summer. These are always a pleasure for us as they involve singing for interesting societies. Also this year our friendship with the Global Poverty Project began. We donated some of the proceeds of our CD launch to the project and sang at their Cambridge presentation. We are hoping to collaborate further in the future. At Easter we enjoyed a whistle-stop tour of Milan and Bellinzona.

Always fond of establishing new traditions, we have instituted the ‘Gents in London’, a group of recently-graduated Gents who sing at engagements in London and otherwise for us whilst we are away; ‘Gents in London’ has become our permanent backup team. Our greatest traditions however are, of course, our set at the famous May Ball and our infamous Garden Party.

The Long Vacation holds in store a plethora of engagements, from the many weddings and dinners to concerts in churches and auditoria in Geddington and Minchinhampton. On top of these, we continue our dedication to singing in schools around the country, with a workshop and performance planned in St Alban’s School. We are also singing in September at a high-profile wedding in Germany. The groom, himself a Johnian and knowing The Gents, has booked us in for a trip to Oktoberfest – I have a feeling that some Gents may never return!

It is matter of great sorrow for us to see a group of very talented young singers leave St John’s at the end of the year: Ed de Minckwitz, Johnny Langridge, Leo Tomita, Tristan Hambleton and Francis Williams. We also say goodbye to our Senior Organ Scholar of the last two years, Tim Ravalde, as he moves on to be Assistant Organist at Chichester Cathedral. We are lucky enough to hold on to Pablo Strong and Bradley Smith as lay clerks for 2010–11.

I would like to thank the Master and his wife for their insatiable support of all that we do; the College for all that it does for our benefit; and Caroline Marks for her tireless work behind the scenes. I am also indebted to all of The Gents for helping to make this year a success, especially to Francis who has been an invaluable help to me throughout. It has been an immensely enjoyable year for me and I hand over now to Huw Leslie, elected as my successor, wishing him the best of luck in what I’m certain will be another excellent year.



Basil McDonald
Manager

The St John's Women's Society

After three years as President, from the Women's Society's foundation in 2007 to today, I will leave the Society and St John's full of incredible memories. I feel privileged to have worked with so many astounding people.

The last year was a great success for the Society. For our 'Women and Careers' talk, Miss Jolien Veldwijk from Concordis International delivered a touching and thought-provoking talk about her career path and active involvement in projects in Afghanistan and Congo, which encourages peace-building processes and strengthens the position of women in these countries. On this occasion we helped raise more than £60 for the charity.

We also raised nearly £100 for CamFed, a charity that promotes women's education in rural Africa, by hosting a dinner to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. This event, which attracted both students and Fellows, was made possible by the generous support of the President, Dr Mark Nicholls.

A very popular event was a panel discussion on 'Women in academia', where we had the privilege to host Dr Regina Jorgenson, Institute of Astronomy, Professor Abigail Fowden, Perinatal Physiology, Dr Máire Ní Mhaonaigh, Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic Studies, from Cambridge, and Professor Ottoline Leyser, Plant Sciences, York.

Our Monday and Thursday yoga classes are still going strong and the St John's Family Group has grown considerably this year. We now organise monthly get-togethers in the School of Pythagoras or in the College gardens.

My deepest thanks to the Committee: Sharmeen Irfan, Amy Bonsor, Hannah Keage, Kreepa Kooblal, Lucy Liu, Surabhi Ranganathan, Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri, Carla Lancelotti and Dr Janet Lees.

The new SJC WS Committee for the academic year 2010/11 will be presided over by Amy Bonsor and I hope that the SJC WS will continue to make its mark on the College for many years to come. 🐦

Simona Giunta
President



The Women's Society Committee 2009/10

The Winfield Society

The Winfield Society has once again had a very successful year. A highlight in the Michaelmas term was the Winfield Society Networking Event, organised by the Development Office, held at Allen & Overy in London. The Senior Partner, David Morley (1976), gave an interesting talk on diversity in the legal profession. Afterwards, current undergraduates enjoyed the opportunity to talk with alumni of the College.



This year the Society has become even more active in providing careers advice for our students, which we consider especially important given the economy's recent turmoil. We hosted a series of workshops with trainees from Lovells, who gave some invaluable advice on interview technique and how the City works. Michaelmas term was ended on the usual high note, with a particularly excellent Christmas Party, generously sponsored by Freshfields.

As always, mooting has been a key feature of Winfield activities, and we were lucky enough to have David Myhill of Crown Office Chambers provide some intensive coaching for our first years. The standard in our Annual Mooting competition was very high, with Adrian Woon being announced as the overall winner, and Waheed Chaudhrey as runner up. We are very pleased that we had a number of students participating in University competitions also.

We would like to thank Mr Nolan, Ms Waring and our Committee for all their support over the year. We have been delighted with the Society's achievements, and wish the Committee for 2010/11 the very best of luck.



Rebecca Arnheim and Adam Bond
Co-Presidents

Medical Society

It has been another successful and busy year for St John's College Medical Society. With the kind help of Professor David Lomas our evening talks have continued to be a great success. In total, we welcomed six speakers to the Society to talk on a variety of subjects related to medicine. Our first Michaelmas term speaker was Dr Rob Ross-Russell who provided great insight into the field of paediatrics. We then welcomed Professor Gordon Smith, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, followed by a fascinating talk on 'Acid Matters' by Professor Fiona Karet. In the Lent term we welcomed Dr Stefan Marciniak, MRC Clinician Scientist and Consultant, followed by Dr Diana Wood, Clinical Dean, who discussed some very interesting clinical endocrinology cases. We rounded off the term with a fascinating lecture by Professor Adrian Dixon, Emeritus Professor of Radiology and Master of Peterhouse College. I give a great deal of thanks to all of our speakers.

In addition to our regular talks, our welcome evening for Freshers, Part II choices drinks, Clinical School desserts evening and the launch of our website have also been a great success. The highlight of the year was our Annual Dinner, a splendid occasion enjoyed by students, Fellows and supervisors. I would like to thank Dr Steve Edgley for giving the after dinner speech.

The foundations have been set for a research symposium which will give students an opportunity to share their experiences of research and volunteering. We are also pleased to announce our first Alumni Dinner, which will take place on 9 October 2010.



During Easter term we had the Linacre lecture by Nobel Laureate, Dr Ramakrishnan, and our Annual Garden Party in May Week. Next year the President of the Society will be Dan Knights. I wish Dan and the new Committee all the best. 🐉

Leanne Burgess
President

The Film Society

The Film Society has had another exciting year. We continue to show a range of films twice a week. On Thursdays we bring lesser known or older films to the Palmerston Room's big screen. In recent months this has included such venerated classics as *Brief Encounter*, *North by Northwest*, and *The Red Shoes*, as well as cherished favourites like *Monty Python's Life of Brian*. We've also sought out some recent treasures of world cinema, including sweet Swedish vampire tale *Let the Right One In* and Pedro Almodóvar's *Broken Embraces*. Our Sunday double showings remain as popular as ever, with highlights for this year including Guy Ritchie's audacious re-imagining of *Sherlock Holmes*, the BAFTA-winning *An Education*, and Armando Iannucci's well-received political satire *In the Loop*.

As of Michaelmas term 2009, we have opened up our membership to interested film buffs from across the University, increasing our dedicated teams of projectionists, ushers and publicists. As a result the Society's socials have been better attended than ever, especially our Christmas party and the perennially popular Annual Dinner. We also hosted a drinks reception to start the term in style with our showing of the Coen brothers' latest masterpiece, *A Serious Man*. We repeated the trick with a glamorous Hitchcock event in late April, in collaboration with the cast and crew of *Hitchcock Blonde* which will be playing at the ADC. This tops off a number of fruitful associations with other societies within College and the rest of the University: CU Amnesty International, CUSU Ethical Affairs and the St John's College Christian Union. Several delegates from the Society will also be attending the Independent Cinema Office's programme of screenings at the BFI in London for the second year running, scouting out the cream of upcoming independent releases for next year's showings. 

Sarah Evans
President



Film Society Annual Dinner

Lady Margaret Players



This year saw the revival of the Lady Margaret Players, the performing arts society of St John's College. Easter term was busy with preparations for 'The Lady Margaret Players' May Day' re-launch event; a garden party and performance of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, which took place in the Scholars' Garden. The play was directed and performed entirely by Johnians.

The Committee was delighted that so many people attended auditions at the end of Lent term. A wide range of talents has been harnessed, with members of College helping with costume, set design and building, publicity and music.

It is hoped that the event will have raised the profile of the Society and will help make future productions possible. The Committee intends to put on a range of performances, having already received proposals for comedy, recitals and monologue evenings.

All current and past members of College are warmly invited to the performances put on by the Lady Margaret Players. If you would like to find out more about the Society or attend its performances please contact us through the Development Office.



Victoria Ball
President



The Music Society

This year has been particularly eventful for the Music Society. We have welcomed over 80 new members, and introduced a new Brass Ensemble, under the direction of Sarah Wedmore. The College Orchestra has gone from strength to strength, performing Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, and the first movement of Beethoven's *Symphony no. 8* in the Michaelmas and Lent term concerts. The St John's Singers too have been hard at work under the direction of John Challenger, performing in the term concerts works by Stanford, Mendelssohn and, in collaboration with members of the College Orchestra, Vivaldi's *Gloria*. They have also helped to lead numerous Chapel services.

In February, choral scholars from the colleges of St John's, Trinity, Clare and Gonville and Caius united to perform Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, with the idiosyncratic forces of piano and harmonium. In the same month, the outstanding musical talents of several Johnians were exhibited in the Combination Room Concert. The eclectic programme included works by Corelli, Beethoven, Duparc and Ravel. The Music Society has also offered regular recitals throughout the year. We have continued our series of weekly Saturday organ recitals held in Chapel, and there have been voice and piano recitals given by Johnians in the New Music Room.

My thanks extend to all those who have offered their support for the Society and its endeavours this year, in particular the many members of the various college ensembles and their directors. I would also like to thank sincerely the members of the Music Society Committee for all their hard work this year, especially the senior members; Professor Johnstone, Dr Glasscock, Mr Nethsingha and Dr Castelvechi.

Thank you all for your dedication and commitment that ensures the continued success of our concerts and music-making in College. May this year's triumphs continue into the next.



Bradley Smith
President

Jazz@John's

The eleventh Committee of Jazz@John's has seen some big changes over the past year. The Society is confined to St John's only by its name and there are very few music-lovers in Cambridge, gown or town, who do not associate us with unmissable jazz events. The welcoming atmosphere, student-friendly prices at the door and at the bar, and our reputation for high-quality music come together for the best Friday night out Cambridge has to offer.

Following the recent economic downturn the Society lost its long-term sponsorship, but that has in no way affected the quality of our attendees' experience. Our mailing list still boasts a 1500-strong membership and as of this year our publicity has been getting a boost from the Jazz@John's Facebook fan page and Twitter feed as we embrace new media. The result of this has been that every event has sold out with our undergraduate attendance increasing and so giving us the financial security to invest in high quality sound and light equipment. For our party events we have introduced a guest list system to avoid our most loyal fans and larger groups from being disappointed due to full capacity. This has proved to be a great success with much positive feedback from attendees.





At each event the help of the amazing Jazz@John's team of over 35 Johnnians and non-Johnnians has meant the night's proceedings have always been smooth, seamless and professional – from the scene decoration, to sound quality and ensuring the drinks keep flowing. The fact that many of the professional acts we have had keep coming back to play at the Fisher Building and that they praise our work is a real source of pride. A glowing review of our Halloween event on Varsity.co.uk reassured me that this was more than just my view of our efforts and was the public acknowledgement the team deserves.

Of course, the priority of the Society is to bring jazz to Cambridge, and thanks to our

Bands Manager, Vij Prakash, we have never been short of exciting new acts to attract the crowds. The first event of the Michaelmas term 2009 saw the Mark Perry Quintet captivate the house with their 'complex and forward-looking, yet gripping and pithy' sounds. Their performance was matched at the next event by the John Randall Quintet whose fan base descended upon the Fisher Building in full force to see the award-winning drummer blend jazz and rock with remarkable skill.

Lent term 2010 saw us welcoming back some old faces – Alex Merritt brought with him the young rising star of the UK jazz scene, Kit Downes, and the New York-based drummer Jeff Williams who is something of a legend on the circuit. The Andy Bowie Quartet also returned to please the crowds with drummer Ric Byer leaving everyone in awe of his talent.

The party event of Lent term was one of the biggest and most successful in Jazz@John's history. The line-up comprising a hefty four acts which were: Cambridge University Jazz Orchestra, Imperial College Big Band, Andy Bowie Quartet and Jules Chou-Lambert Quartet. The 250 guests were spoilt for musical

and atmospheric choice, with the option to dance away the evening with the big bands and classic vocal numbers in the Palmerston Room or relax with a drink in the Fisher Building Foyer on the sofas.

We hope that Jazz@John's continues to harbour more support and success as it has done in the past and the outgoing Committee wishes the new team every success with the running of the Society.

Personally, I would like to thank everyone on the Committee, all of those who have helped behind the bar, the technicians that made everything sound and look perfect, and those who have simply attended our events, for making the experience very rewarding and worthwhile. In particular, I want to thank Esther and Amelia Odida (Treasurer and Vice-President), David Molony (Technical Manager), Sean Burt (Bar Manager) and Tom Vallance (incoming Bar Manager) for their unfailing dedication.



Amir H Hajizamani
President

COLLEGE SPORTS

The Eagles

The Eagles have enjoyed a successful 12 months. The rugby Varsity match at Twickenham saw Eagle Burdon earning a first Blue, where he was joined by Eagle Reid who gained his third. Also in the squad was Eagle Cheetham, who had an excellent pitch-side view of the match and a Half-Blue. Eagles Barrett, Wells, Sonnenfeld, Shephard and Rickard all earned University colours in the LXs Varsity, while the last three also went on to play in the Under 21s match. Crossing codes, Eagle Linton earned a Half-Blue in Rugby League. All the aforementioned players, along with Eagle Lum, have contributed to another year of Johnian domination on the pitch, securing a formidable sextuple double.

In football, Eagle Maynard is set to claim his second Blue, while the John's first XI have enjoyed something of a transitional year under the captaincy of Eagle Rutt, assisted by Eagles Hambleton, Tolley, Verney and Caterer. The hockey club, captained by Eagle Armitage, have enjoyed better fortunes, with Eagles Robinson and Mackenney earning Blues. The cricket team also enjoyed a fine season, with the help of Eagles Hambleton and Tolley.

Leaving the field sports, former Boat Club Captain Eagle Houlsby again served the club with distinction, while Eagle Armitage took on the role of Lower Boats Captain. In golf, next year's Captain Eagle Dinsmore earned his first Blue in a winning Varsity match alongside Eagle Whittington, while in tennis Eagle Caterer is targeting a place in the Blues squad. Eagle Schaaf too has excelled in both basketball and athletics, earning a Half-Blue in the former and a full Blue in the latter. Finally, after romping to victory in the league in their debut season, three members of the St John's Darts Squadron – Eagles Sonnenfeld, Barrett and Tolley – went on to take part in the Varsity match.

Thanks must go to the club Secretary, Eagle Robinson and Dr McConnell, the Senior Treasurer, under whose guardianship this extraordinary club is sure to remain central to both College and University achievement in sport. 

Chris Tolley
Captain

Men's Rugby

The 2009/10 season has been yet another successful year for the Red Boys. The team stamped their authority on the League at an early stage with convincing victories over Trinity and Jesus. The hard work of the forwards, both in the set pieces and in the loose, resulted in a large number of points scored.

In keeping with last year's tradition, the University teams had a strong Johnian presence. The U21 XV had ten Red Boys in their ranks, including Captain Tom Stanton, and a further seven Red Boys represented the LXs. Once more, Sandy Reid assisted the Blues to victory at Twickenham, joined by Fred Burdon and Alex Cheetham.

2010 saw the League title retained for the ninth year in a row in another unbeaten season. It also saw the Red Boys Second XV dust off their boots to begin their Cuppers campaign. An all John's final was denied by the Second team's close defeat by Jesus. However, the Seconds embarked upon the plate competition with great enthusiasm, only Downing prevented them from winning in the final.

The First XV's journey to the Cuppers final went smoothly, defeating Emma, Girton and CCK (a team comprised of players from Clare, Corpus and King's) with ease. The final saw the First team claim the Cuppers trophy for the sixth year running in a 22–5 defeat of Jesus.

The gratitude of the Red Boys goes out once more to Head Groundsman Keith Ellis for his continued support of the club. Thanks also to Dr Samworth, Dr McConnell, Professor McCave and everyone who has endured the elements to support the club. Finally, thanks to this year's Committee and good luck to next year's Committee in their attempt for the 'decade of domination'.



Andrew Barrett
Captain



Men's Football

It was a disappointing season for the football team, which ended with relegation from the First Division for the first time in some 15 years. The team ended on seven points, with two victories, one draw and six defeats. Although overall the season was disappointing the season had some highlights with a 6–2 win over Pembroke and a 2–0 victory over Jesus.

The team will unfortunately be losing some long-standing members. The goalkeeper of four years and former Captain Tom Verney will finally be leaving the College to follow a singing career. Jack Hambleton, the team's resident Peter Crouch, is also leaving after a fine season as top goal scorer. Wingers Jamie Spencer and Yusuf Mohammad are also leaving and their flair will be sorely missed in the Second Division, although it is hoped that this will help some of the Freshers flourish next season. The team also loses its foreign flair as Sebastian Lapinski will sadly be departing these shores.

There was a flood of Freshers this year with the pick of the bunch being our very own Rory Delap, Dan Goodwin, who grabbed several assists with his long throws, and Mike Wilson, who also represented the University in Kestrels Varsity. Miles Lowry and Iain Scott were ever present, while Rupert Mercer and Tom Harrison provided a defensive stoicism all year.

Next season looks promising with hopes that Engin Akyol will rack up the goals. The team will also see the return of veterans Chris Tolley, Nick Cross, Kit Fitton, Pete Stovall, Chris Maynard, the resident Blue, and myself all primed to see a quick return to the First Division. The Captain is yet to be elected but whoever it is will inherit a team determined to make up for a disappointing season. 

Alex Rutt
Captain

Men's Hockey

Over this year the team developed from inconsistent also-rans to title challengers of the future. The first term was underwhelming for the First XI, with a lowly sixth position. We headed into Lent term looking to do better. The whole team stepped up, leading to a great third place finish. This result was promising due to the squad's youth. Chris Paluch, performed wonders as club secretary, Matt Jones



and Kyle Williams showed quality and maturity as the older club members. Several second years: Olliver, Denver, Dickens and Turner, have provided the team's core this year, while first years Bower and Halton have shone.

Our Cuppers campaign started strongly with a 9–0 demolition of Caius, and a surprising half-time positional swap between Blues' goalkeeper Robinson and University forward Salvesen. A solid result against Selwyn led to a quarter final against St Catharine's. Mackenney, another Blue, led the fight, despite being hampered by injury, but we ended up losing to the eventual tournament winners.

This year a second XI, inspirationally led by Jones, was reformed and performed admirably, posting a fourth and then a third place finish in their League. The team lost 4–3 in Cuppers to the to-be losing finalists, a great performance. Only two colleges are able to put out two sides, and we are proud to be one of them.

The most exciting event this year was the inaugural Old Boys XI vs First XI hockey match. We ran it on the same day as the Old Boys rugby match and it was a great social event. The match lived up to the hype with a thrilling 3–3 draw, including the clear goal of the season from Turner!

I wish the club and incoming Captain, Toby Dickens, all the best.



James Armitage
Captain

Women's Hockey

The 2009/10 season has been a great success for our club and we have been a huge contributor to John's domination. As expected, we lost several highly valued players to the real world at the end of last season. In exchange we have had a spectacular input of talent from the Freshers. As it stands, not only do we boast a fair few University players in our squad, we also have tremendous skill among our non-University players.

This year our team spirit and sheer determination to play the game we love has skyrocketed. This is shown in our results. We were placed fourth in the First Division of the League, despite having to concede a couple of walkovers due to frozen or water-logged pitches.

Reaching the Cuppers Final is a massive achievement (also a necessity as we are the defending champions), especially because our match days thus far have clashed with Blues matches, rendering several players unavailable.



Despite a lack of official coaching, there is not one player who hasn't shown a marked improvement over the course of the year. Some new members hadn't played for a few years and others started from scratch, so to now be fully integrated team players is phenomenal.

I'm so proud to have captained this team. I could not have asked for better support from my Vice-Captain, Helen Morgan-Rees, and more enthusiasm and commitment from the players. I am handing over the Captaincy to Rebecca Hammett-Burke for the coming season and I'm confident we will continue to be successful and enjoy playing together.

I would also like to say thank you to Keith Ellis, the Head Groundsman, for helping me to organise and purchase a whole new goalkeeping kit, which has further diminished the number of goals we conceded!



Vicky McEvoy
Captain

Lacrosse



Whilst lacrosse is a sport that has not been played by many before, many Johnians have given it a shot and thoroughly enjoyed participating in what is a fun and friendly College activity. The Freshers' Fair saw over 100 keen players sign up. This year has seen St John's Mixed Lacrosse win more matches than has been known to happen for many years. This has led to an excellent performance in the College League

and a promotion of the team to a higher Division. Highlights have included crushing neighbours Magdelene 1–0 in a fearsome and aggressive clash, but our high-point has to be destroying that College that stands in our back-garden, Trinity, 1–0. Special mention must go to our token Blues, Lauren and Laura, who helped bag these wins for us with great flare and style. Cuppers saw a strong performance from John's with guest appearances from Tom Chigbo and Luke Lorimer. On the social front, we enjoyed a fantastic Desserts Evening in the Wordsworth Room as well as some entertaining curry nights. This year has also seen the acquisition of new glow-in-the-dark sticks thanks to the generous

donation of the Captain's credit card. Colours this year have been awarded to Adam, Tom, Lauren, Laura, Gina, Susie and Sarg.

I would like to personally thank Sarg and Lauren, our coaches, for their great dedication and commitment. I have thoroughly enjoyed running lacrosse for this season and wish the club and Adam Whyte, the new Captain, all the best for the future.



Toby Al-Mugheiry **Captain**

Netball

With a severely depleted squad following last year's exodus, persuasion techniques employed at the Freshers' Fair were unashamed, but all fears were assuaged as Quality Street appeared to do the trick and turnout hit an all-time high, the five-fold increase in numbers incredibly withstanding sleet, snow and post-entertainment practices.

Michaelmas term saw highly spirited matches and practices week in week out, with substitutions at half time closer resembling an ice-hockey game as we repeatedly arrived at matches with an intimidating 14 strong side, and, having learnt the rules, the boys agreed to pass to the girls with the result that both the Ladies and Mixed teams finished third in their Divisions – remarkable considering an almost entirely new squad!

Team morale proved impervious to the heavy snowfall of Lent, and John's dominated the League for the first half of term, the unshakeable duo of Laura and Tory, coupled with a passionate defence racking up an incredible goal difference of 62 in 4 games, the team living up to the 'confident' Johnian stereotype with new '10 second goal' tactics dictating play. Competitive games against strong St Catharine's and Newnham sides saw a narrowly missed promotion but the Cuppers tournament provided ample opportunity for John's to shine with two Ladies teams entered. As other colleges dropped like flies in the relentless monsoon, John's powered through, the Second team putting up a fight against defending champions, Trinity, the firsts winning the round to reach the quarter finals where Newnham once again proved the stronger side.

The Mixed team too had resounding success conceding only one game for a well-earned promotion next season and, ably led by Kate Cope, put in a spirited Cuppers performance, also reaching the quarter-finals, with Trinity insisting that the giant shooting talent of Paul Denver could 'prety much levitate'.

Congratulations and thanks to the squad and to groundsman Keith for his invaluable work. With the resurrection of a Ladies Second team, and a wealth of talent staying on, we wish next year's Captains Charlotte Culpin, Kate Cope (Ladies First & Second) and Emma Marsden (Mixed) assisted by Jenny Green, the very best of luck in what is sure to be an even more successful season. 🏏

Natasha Williams **Captain**

Pool

It has been a mixed bag for St John's pool this year. Last year's old hands of Jon Nelson, Dunstan Barnes, Steve Legg, Dan Andrews and Abu Shoab were joined in the First team's First Division campaign by upcoming hotshot Tom Sutton and the prodigious Fresher Jack Roberts. However, the season couldn't have started much worse with defeat against old rivals Trinity. A near miss against pre-season favourite Queens' was followed by triumph over League leaders Peterhouse and the other favourite, Homerton, but some close reversals meant that it came down to the final game of the season to avoid relegation – a good result has meant that, at the time of writing, John's are in pole position to stay in the top flight for a record fourth season.

John's Second team had a quiet season in the third tier under the stewardship of Arash Moavenian, winning their solitary game against new team St Edmund's. Domestically, there was more success as the pool pyramid enjoyed its most active season in recent memory, with Rob Bell taking the prize for most frames won.



St John's also contributed at University level, with Dunstan playing another year for Cambridge A. Both Jon and Tom impressed in their debut appearances at the CU Masters and Open respectively.

I wish next year's Captain, Tom Sutton, every success and hope that St John's Pool Club will further prosper under his leadership. 

Jon Nelson Captain

Cycling Team

The terms 'cycling' and 'team sport' may not be instantly synonymous, however, many cyclists from St John's have excelled this year competing for the College and University. Firstly, the St John's Cycling Team represented the College in Cycling Cuppers, an individual time trial completed over a six mile course. The riders were Toby Parnell, Jake Clark, George Bate, Justin Houlton, Greg Caterer and Eva Maria-Hempe, the sole female competitor. The Men's team did well and came in second behind Downing College, who had several Blues amongst their ranks. Toby Parnell came second overall and Greg Caterer recorded a personal best time.



Earlier in the season, riders from St John's represented the University in the British Universities and Colleges Sports Championships (BUCS) in several disciplines including the Hill Climb, Cyclocross and Mountain Biking. Toby Parnell and George Bate helped Cambridge to a second place overall in the BUCS cyclocross. A few weeks later Toby Parnell went on to win the Mountain Bike Varsity Match against Oxford, and came fourteenth the next week in the BUCS event in Scotland, securing his Half-Blue.

St John's has also represented Cambridge in the BUCS 50 kilometre team time trial,

10 mile individual time trial and 25 mile individual time trial. Toby Parnell was in the team of three that won Cambridge BUCS gold by beating Durham by three seconds over the course of the 50 kilometre team time trial. Strong performances from Toby Parnell, George Bate and Jake Clark helped Cambridge win the BUCS 10 mile time trial. A scorching ride from Jake Clark in the 25 mile time trial (which incorporated the Varsity Match) saw the Cambridge Second team narrowly missing out on third place in the BUCS rankings, settling for fourth behind three first teams.

Cambridge looks set to win the BUCS championships overall, helped along by a strong group of Johnnians. Next year, the Johnnian contingent will again feature strongly on the University scene as Jake Clark continues to impress and develop, and George Bate takes up position of University Second Team Captain. 

Toby Parnell Captain

Lady Margaret Boat Club

Women's Coaches

A big thank you to Cath Mangan, Alison Gledhill, Karen Wiemer, Henry Addison and Lance Badman for all their coaching.

Men's Coaches

A big thank you to Roger Silk, Lance Badman, Sandy Black, Karen Wiemer, Tony Pryor, Jamie MacLeod, Jon Rhodes, Bill Harcourt, Andy Jones, Tom Edwards-Moss, Marcus de Grammont and Nick Pye for all their coaching.

The Lady Margaret Boat Club – Women

Henley 2009

The pre-season training camp in Henley was a bitterly cold introduction to senior rowing for the novices we took along. The camp was incredibly successful given the heavy snowfall; due to the girls' dedication and willingness to brave the conditions not one single outing planned was missed. With the help of our coaches the girls came on in leaps and bounds.

Novices

The novices enjoyed a great first term with First Novice Women narrowly missing out on the Queens' Ergs title. All three Novice Women's crews lined up for the Fairbairns and there were successes all round. Pleasingly so, there has been a strong contingent continuing through the terms.

Seniors

The Women's boat club have enjoyed a steep learning curve from the start of Michaelmas term following the departure of the majority of the previous First Mays crew. The Second Mays VIII stepped up to take on the challenge during Michaelmas term, with the First IV winning their category in the Winter Head to Head race. Injuries during the beginning few weeks of term left the crew slightly weaker for the Fairbairns race, however they still put in a good performance.

Lent Term 2010

Lent term began with a lot of work for the First VIII due to the significant novice presence within the crew. They trained hard and their coaches worked wonders on them to bring them up to standard. For many of them, therefore, it was their first Bumps. Unfortunately, the first two days left them down two in the table, being bumped by a strong Clare crew on the first day, then St Catharine's. Illness hit one of the crew so the rest of Bumps was rowed with a sub. An epic push to get St Catharine's back resulted in a row over, with the chase continuing the whole way. Unfortunately, the last day left them at down three, with a bump from Trinity Hall.

Injuries and lack of availability left a rather substituted crew to enter Women's Eights Head of the River Race at the end of the term. It is the first time LMBC women have entered in a number of years and is a race in which we hope to progress in and use as the start of Mays training in future. The gruelling Tideway race was the furthest a lot of them had raced before and in adverse conditions. The result was staggeringly successful, finishing within 20 seconds of the category winners.

Following this was the Women's Boat Races at Henley. We were immensely proud for our Hermione Mackay to step up to the stroke seat challenge in the Blue Boat, especially after less than a year of rowing before commencing her Blue Boat campaign in the previous summer. Congratulations as well go to Eva-Maria Hempe, who was selected for the preliminary Blue Boat but was unfortunately unable to make the final Boat Race.

May Term 2010

May term pre-season training camp was on-Cam. The camp was hard work but meant we really hit the ground running for the beginning of term. With Hermione returning we had a solid First Women's crew. Several on-Cam races left them well up the Women's First table. Bedford Amateur Regatta left them exhausted after a full day of racing, but satisfied. They reached the second round of the College Plate, but consistently beat down opposition by substantial margins to

reach the semi-finals of IM3, losing to the final winners Downing. The Second Women's crew have enjoyed a less aggressive approach to rowing this term, though still training hard and finishing well up in the Women's Second tables in the on-Cam races they have entered.

For the May Bumps, the First Women's crew proudly went up one to fifth on the river. Bumped by Christ's on the first day, they came back to come within a length and half of an overbump on the second day. They bumped Jesus on Grassy Corner to take them level again. On the Saturday they strategically timed their bump on Girton for a glory bump outside the Johnian tent past Ditton Corner. It was a super effort and the girls have come so far. The Second Women's crew had an unfortunate Bumps, going down four.

In true Cambridge style, the rowing year ends after the May Bumps. However, the First Women's VIII and a Second Women's IV entered Henley Women's Regatta the week after. Racing in the senior category, the First Women's crew were drawn first against City of Bristol RC. The competition was tough but we rose to the challenge and raced one of the best races of the year, narrowly losing by only three quarters of a length. The Second IV were also unfortunate in an unsuccessful race against Bournemouth University First IV.

I wish the girls the best of luck for next year and to Ellie Fielding, the new Captain. Also the best of luck to Martine Wellington and Tanya Paquet with Cambridge University Women's Boat Club Development Squad in the summer.

Bryony Shelton **Captain**

The Lady Margaret Boat Club – Men

Henley 2009

The LMBC sent the full May VIII to Henley Royal Regatta once again in 2009. With coaching from Roger Silk, the crew made an attempt to qualify for the Temple Challenge Cup, sadly they just missed out. It was, however, a good learning experience for Henley 2010 and we are grateful for the generous support of the LMBCA and of course the efforts of my predecessors Will Gray and Neil Houlsby.

Novices

This year saw some strong results from the novices. The club fielded five Novice Men's Crews, which later compressed to four. They first competed at Queens' Ergs, where the First Novice Men managed third and the Second Novice Men managed second place. The First Novices went on to place fourth in Winter

Head. At Clare Sprints neither of the top two Novice Crews survived past the second round in the Cup competition. In the Plate competition both crews fell foul of higher boats from Jesus.

The novices performed admirably at Fairbairns. The First Novice Men placed eleventh overall. The Second and Third Novice Crews had a solid race to finish thirty-third and thirty-fifth respectively. The Fourth Novice Men managed to beat Jesus Third; a truly excellent result. Thanks must go to all their coaches and thanks also to Lower Boats Captain James Armitage for his dedication to the LMBC Men's Novice boats.

Seniors

Michaelmas term saw only three of last year's May VIII return, allowing for the development of new oarsmen. A pre-term training camp gave us the opportunity to compete at the Boston Marathon in which we won the IM2 2- just seconds off the course record and placed fourth in Novice IV+.

The focus for the first half of term was the University IVs races. LMBC fielded a coxless IV and two coxed IVs. The Light IVs competition was strong this year, with our crew racing Jesus and First and Third to win the elite event of the term.



The LMBC in action

The coxed IVs did not fare so well, all were knocked out in the first round by 'higher' crews.

We decided to remain in University IVs for Autumn Head and this saw us coming fourth in the college category.

The squad responded to the University IVs' results well, continuing to use the IVs as a technical base for the term. We fielded an VIII for Fairbairns along with the IVs. The Third IV+, the only Third boat entered, finished only three seconds behind the fastest Second IV+ and less than a second behind our First IV+. The VIII struggled due to a lack of time together, but used the improved technique from the small boats to push through for eighth place.

Lent Term 2010

The Lent term started with training camps both at Henley and on the Cam. Two Vllls of seniors and former novices spent a week training hard on and off the water in Henley under the supervision of Lance Badman, Tom Edwards-Moss and Nick Pye. Despite some snowy weather and tricky conditions that resulted in frozen boats and frozen rowers, the opportunity to row uninterrupted on the world famous regatta course enabled improvements in fitness and technique. We are grateful to the LMBCA for their continued support of these camps, without which many athletes would struggle to attend.

Back in Cambridge four crews were selected for the Lent Bumps. The First VIII benefited from coaching making steady improvements in boat speed. The crew raced both on and off-Cam, narrowing the gap between us and Queens' (the fastest Michaelmas crew) substantially at the Head to Head race to finish in third beating all crews around us in Bumps. There was success at Peterborough Head with Will Gray being the fastest sculler at the event. The VIII also performed well moving up on the First and Third.

All of this racing proved excellent preparation for Lent Bumps, where the crew started third on the river. On the first three days we pulled away from Pembroke behind and crept up on Downing in front. Our plan to use our hard earned fitness to grind down Downing was working. On the third day however we lost our previous composure and allowed Pembroke to close in on us. We permitted them overlap for a large part of the reach until they blew up and our fitness saw us through to finish level over the four days.

With Lents completed, the crew resumed training for the Head of the River Race on the Tideway in London under the supervision of Marcus de Grammont. The crew made frequent trips to the Tideway for matches against Cantabrigian RC

and Crabtree BC. To get us match fit we raced Hammersmith Head. We finished placing 129th, our highest position in many years. Many thanks go to old oar John Davey for providing somewhere to stay during our training for the event.

The Second VIII was a relatively inexperienced crew. Starting fourth in the Second Division in Bumps, they rowed over on the first day. On the second day they were bumped by a well drilled St Catharine's crew. On Friday they were left with all crews around them bumped out and they rowed over. Unfortunately on the final day they were bumped by Sidney.

The Third Men finished down three, after a gutsy row over on the first day they fell to Magdalene II, Peterhouse II and Clare II. The Fourth Men started badly, but pulled together to bump Downing III back on the final day.

George Lamb represented the club rowing in the two seat of the winning Goldie boat in this year's Boat Race. Sadly he was unable to continue to row during May term with LMBC.

Many thanks to John Durack for umpiring.

May Term 2010

Preparations for the May Bumps started traditionally with a pre-term training camp in York for those in contention for the First VIII. The crew was able to make substantial progress, rowing continually for distances unheard of on the Cam. Many thanks to Jamie MacLeod for his hospitality and the LMBCA for their continued support.

We returned to Cambridge and competed in the Small Boats Regatta which saw Will Gray coming a close second in the Colquhoun Sculls.

Raising the stakes this year the First crew entered Wallingford Regatta at the elevated status of Senior and IM1 in IVs. We placed third in Senior coxless and fifth in IM1 coxed. At the Cambridge Head to Head race we placed sixth. The Poplar Regatta saw the LMBC winning IM2 IV+ by a considerable margin and coming fourth in an extremely close IM3 VIII final.

The crew approached Mays with growing confidence and after final sharpening races at the Metropolitan regatta where we placed sixth in IM1 IV+ and fourth in IM2 Vllls.

The club fielded six Vllls for the May Bumps. The first day of Bumps saw an aggressive start from the First VIII to pull away from Pembroke and their four Blues. We pulled away, but sadly the fitness and experience that comes with four Blues outweighed our enthusiasm and we were bumped ten strokes before the line. The second day saw a fast Downing crew copy our race plan and fly off the start; they bumped us on grassy corner. The final two days saw Queens' gaining on us in the earlier part of the race before we pushed them off convincingly over the full course leaving us down two overall.

The Second VIII settled quickly and made improvements with coaching. They showed their form by putting in a good show at Nines Spring Regatta winning their first heat before falling to a strong Downing II. In Bumps the Second Men rowed over on the first day. Sadly the next day saw a strong Selwyn crew bump them and on the third day Peterhouse managed to bump the Second VIII. On the final day Downing II managed to get the final bump on our Second VIII leaving them down three overall.

The Third VIII managed to achieve their oars by bumping up four times taking down Churchill II, Magdalene II, St Catz II and FaT III, taking the third boat headship in the process. The Fourth boat managed to only go down once to Corpus II, the rugby boat (Sixth boat) was bumped on the final day saving the Fellows and Graduates boat (Fifth boat) from achieving the spoons. The Sixth boat retains its position as the only permanent Sixth boat on the river.

Many thanks go to Lance Badman for his coaching of all crews and hard work in maintaining and improving the boathouse. I hope that he will continue to help the club progress for many years to come. I would also like to thank the Master, our President, for his continued support throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank the Junior Committee, and in particular my Vice-Captain, Rich Curling, for their support throughout the year. It has been a privilege and an honour to be Captain of the LMBC. I wish my successor, Steve Purvis, the best of luck.

Matthew O'Connor
Captain

Men's Crews

The Henley VIII

Bow	Steve Purvis
2	Aled Jones
3	Neil Houlsby*
4	Toby Parnell
5	Leo Scott
6	Will Gray*
7	Alex Rose
Stroke	Matthew O'Connor
Cox	Kayla Kingdon-Bebb

*denotes Captain

The 2-

Stroke	Matt O'Connor
Bow	Neil Houlsby*

*steers

The IV+

Cox	Jen McCann
Stroke	Alastair Smith
3	Steve Purvis
2	Akash Pancholi
Bow	Richard Curling

The Light IV

Bow	Steve Purvis *
2	Henry Charrington
3	Richard Curling
Stroke	Will Gray

* steers

The First Coxed IV

Bow	George Irwin
2	Ben Alden-Falconer
3	James Robinson
Stroke	Oliver Withers
Cox	Gina Blake

The Second Coxed IV

Bow	Martin Swinton
2	Alastair Smith
3	Giles Colclough
Stroke	Matt O'Connor
Cox	Kayla Kingdon-Bebb

The First Fairbairns VIII

Bow	George Irwin
2	Henry Charrington
3	James Robinson
4	Ben Alden-Falconer
5	Rich Curling
6	Will Gray
7	Steve Purvis
Stroke	Oliver Withers
Cox	Gina Blake

The First Lent VIII

Bow	Steve Purvis
2	Rich Curling
3	Ioan Coleman
4	Oliver Withers
5	James Robinson
6	Henry Charrington
7	Will Gray
Stroke	Matt O'Connor
Cox	Kayla Kingdon-Bebb

The 2-

Stroke	Matt O'Connor*
Bow	Steve Purvis

*steers

The First May VIII

Bow	Paul Denver
2	Rich Curling
3	James Robinson
4	Oliver Withers
5	Steve Purvis
6	Henry Charrington
7	Will Gray
Stroke	Matt O'Connor
Cox	Kayla Kingdon-Bebb

The Second Lent VIII

Bow	George Irwin
2	Jake Gluyas
3	Andy Winfield
4	Ned Cooke
5	Jamie Clark
6	Ben Alden-Falconer
7	Paul Denver
Stroke	Alastair Smith
Cox	Margaret McCarthy

The Second May VIII

Bow	George Irwin
2	Iain Olliver
3	Ioan Coleman
4	Ben Alden-Falconer
5	Ben Gregory
6	Jake Gluyas
7	Giles Colclough
Stroke	Alastair Smith
Cox	Gina Blake



FELLOWS & MEMBERS' NEWS



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

FELLOWS' NEWS

The following selection of news represents just some of the achievements of Fellows and Honorary Fellows at St John's College.

BARKER, Professor Graeme is juggling three major research projects. In Libya he is coordinating an international team of archaeologists and geographers investigating the antiquity of our species in North Africa and the effects of major climate change there on the development of 'modern' human behaviour. He is also studying the present-day lives of Penan hunter-gatherers and Kelabit rice farmers and the archaeology of rainforest foraging and farming on a project entitled The Cultured Rainforest with a group of geographers, archaeologists, and anthropologists in the Borneo rainforest. His third project investigates horse domestication and the development of horse-using cultures across the steppes of Eurasia from the Urals to China, using a combination of archaeology, 'zooarchaeology' (the study of animal bones from archaeological sites), and archaeogenetics (the analysis of DNA in modern horses and in archaeological bones).

CLARKE, Professor Malcolm published, with Dr Anthony Tarr and Dr Julie-Anne Tarr, *Insurance: The Laws of Australia* (2009). Professor Clarke has also published new editions of *The Law of Insurance Contracts* (6th (bound) edition, 2009) and *The International Carriage of Goods by Road: CMR* (5th edition, 2009).

DOBSON, Professor Chris was awarded the first Khorana Medal and Prize by the Royal Society of Chemistry. He also delivered the 2010 Brian Bent Memorial Lecture at Columbia University, USA. In May 2010 Professor Dobson was elected an Honorary Fellow by the Council of the Chemical Research Society of India. He is one of two chemists selected internationally for an Honorary Fellowship, which is conferred on 'eminent chemists in recognition of their monumental contributions to chemistry'.

GOODY, Professor Sir Jack published *Renaissances; The One or the Many?* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and *The Eurasian Miracle*, (Polity Press, 2009). See the review on pp 156-158.

GRIFFIN, Professor Roger, now 74, ran the London Marathon again in 2010. He sheepishly admits that his times are getting gradually worse year by year – this year it took him 3 hours and 57 minutes.

HINDE, Professor Robert published a completely revised second edition of *Why gods persist* (Routledge, 2009). Professor Hinde also published a booklet 'Ending War: a recipe' (2008, Spokesman) and distributed over 5000 copies to all secondary schools in the British mainland, Northern Ireland and the Channel Isles. The pamphlet is also available at: www.pugwash.org/uk/EndingWar/Ending_War.htm

HORROCKS, Professor Geoffrey published a second edition of *Greece: a history of the language and its speakers* (Wiley-Blackwell, Malden Mass and Oxford, 2010).

JOBLING, Mr Ray was appointed to The General Pharmaceutical Council in September 2009 as a lay member. Mr Jobling was appointed an Honorary Member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in recognition of his exceptional service to both the profession and the Society in May 2010.

KERRIGAN, Professor John was made a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at UCLA. He delivered the following named lectures over the course of 2009: Robin Dix Memorial Lecture, University of Durham; Andrew Lang Lecture, University of St Andrews; Long Room Hub Lecture, Trinity College Dublin; Distinguished Guest Lecture, Humanities Institute of Ireland, University College Dublin. Professor Kerrigan also lectured at the National University of Singapore, the University of Western Australia, the University of New South Wales, the University of Sydney, UCLA, Berkeley and California Institute of Technology.

LEAKE, Dr John presented the awards and spoke at the Cambridge Outstanding Achiever Awards Ceremony in Auckland, New Zealand, on behalf of Cambridge International Examinations (a part of Cambridge Assessment) on 18 February 2010. He also chairs the national Liaison Group for the BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) and the OCR Appeals Committee.

RINK, Professor John has given keynote papers in Jerusalem, Warsaw, Paris and London as part of the 200th anniversary celebrations of Fryderyk Chopin's birth in 1810. He has been invited to give further presentations in Lausanne, Barcelona, Seoul, Leipzig and Paris, along with lecture-recitals at Hatchlands Park and the Harrogate International Festival.

RUBLACK, Dr Ulinka will publish *Dressing Up: Cultural Identity in Renaissance Europe* (Oxford University Press, 2010) in September.

SALMON, Dr Frank published his most recent book, *The Persistence of the Classical: Essays on Architecture Presented to David Watkin* (Philip Wilson, 2008) which contains his own essay on the nineteenth-century discovery of curvature in the columns of the Parthenon, in 2008. He is currently Chairman of the Faculty of Archaeology, History and Letters of The British School at Rome, and Head of the Department of History of Art here in Cambridge.

SAMWORTH, Dr Richard co-authored 'Maximum likelihood estimation of a multidimensional log-concave density'. The paper was accepted as a discussion paper in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B* and was read to the Royal Statistical Society on 12 May 2010.

SMITH, Dr Alan was awarded the Lyell Medal by the Geological Society of London in 2008. The International Division of the Geologic Society of America presented him with the Distinguished Career Award in 2007. Dr Smith won the Ansari prize for Best Reference Work from the Geoscience Information Society (GIS, North America) for an outstanding geoscience publication: *A Geologic Time Scale 2004*, edited by Felix M Gradstein (University of Oslo), James G Ogg (Purdue University) and Alan G Smith. In 2004 Dr Smith was awarded a medal for field studies in Greece (Aristotle University, Thessalonika).

SZRETER, Dr Simon received the Arthur J Visellear Prize from the American Public Health Association at its annual meeting in Philadelphia in November 2009 'in recognition of his distinguished body of scholarship in the history of public health'. The prize was instituted in 1992 and previous distinguished scholars receiving the award have included Charles Rosenberg and Barbara Rosenkrantz. Dr Szreter is the first non-American to receive the award. He was also invited to give the annual Isidore I Benrubi Lecture in the History and Ethics of Public Health at Columbia University, New York.

WATSON, Dr Helen and Dr Sue COLWELL celebrated the twentieth anniversary of their election to Fellowships on 6 May 2010. They are the first female Fellows to reach this milestone.



HONORARY FELLOWS' NEWS

BURT, Mr Dan informs us that *PN Review* published a long recollection of places, people and experiences that helped determine how he frames events in its January-February 2010 issue. Marlborough Graphics published *Cold Eye*, a book of images and poetry made in collaboration with the artist Paul Hodgson, in March 2010. Hodgson made images – painted, digitally altered photos, or composites from archival or posed sources – in response to ten poems by Dan Burt. They then deconstructed the images and poems to approximate the way the artist arrived at the image made. *The Poetry Archive* recorded Dan Burt reading his poems and posted some of the readings on *The Poetry Archive* website in April 2009. A CD of the entire 45 minute reading went on sale through The Poetry Book Society shortly thereafter.

HARVEY, Professor Jonathan has been awarded the 'Grand Prix du Président de la République' for a life's work in Composition. Professor Harvey is the first British composer to have ever won the award; previous winners include Olivier Messiaen, Elliott Carter, Pierre Boulez, Gyorgy Ligeti, Yannis Xenakis and Henri Dutilleux.

HOPE, Lord. David was made a Knight of the Thistle on 30 November, Scotland's highest honour and the equivalent of the Garter. 

FOCUS ON A FELLOW: DR CHRIS JIGGINS

Dr Jiggins joined St John's as a Fellow in 2006 and is a Reader in Zoology. His research concerns the genetic basis of adaptation in natural populations and its roles in speciation.

I heaved on the rope and felt my feet leave the ground. A few minutes later I was suspended 15 metres above the forest floor in a climbing harness, the rope above me snaking over the branch of a tree. A mass of mosses and epiphytes, draped over every inch of the trunk and obscuring a clear view of the branch above that supported my weight, added an element of uncertainty to the whole operation. After a few moments, a long-winged yellow butterfly floated into the clear space below me, sailing towards the fluffy white flowers on a nearby tree. As the butterfly glided past, I gently swung my butterfly net and swept it up, then extricated it from the net, wrote a number on its wings, recorded the species and height at which it had been flying (before its rude interruption), and released it again.



Dr Chris Jiggins collecting specimens

We were in the Ecuadorean Andes, in some of the most diverse forests in the world. The discovery of insect species new to science is a routine occurrence here, but butterflies, thanks to generations of enthusiastic natural historians, are better-studied than most. Just to give an idea of the diversity, there are around 2700 butterfly species in Ecuador, as compared to 60 in the UK, the two countries

being roughly comparable in size. If one is interested in the study of biodiversity and its evolutionary origins, I think there is a good case to be made for working in this part of the tropics.

So back to the tree climbing. After nearly an hour suspended from the rope, I had collected 30 butterflies. All of these were slow-flying, brightly coloured species that are warning of their noxiousness to predators. In fact, the males collect toxic compounds from flowers as they feed, and transfer them to the females during mating. A toxic, but valuable, nuptial gift. Furthermore, several toxic species share the same wing patterns in order to reinforce this signal of

noxiousness, a phenomenon known as Müllerian mimicry (named after the nineteenth century German free-thinker and naturalist, 'Fritz' Müller, who emigrated to Brazil to escape the intolerant religiosity of the Prussian Empire).

This form of mimicry, between several well-defended species, is therefore one in which there is mutual benefit to all the parties involved, and we were interested in the implications of this interaction for the ecology of the butterflies. A useful analogy is with supermarket shelves, stacked with similar-looking brands of washing-up liquid in order to send a super-stimulus to the bewildered shopper. The butterfly species also wish to send a common message to predators (*'don't eat me!'*), and so we hypothesised that species with similar wing patterns should have evolved to fly together in the same area to reinforce this signal.

In testing whether two characteristics have evolved together (such as wing patterns and ecology), we need to take into account that related species might look and behave similarly due to recent shared ancestry, rather than evolutionary convergence. Nowadays, we can infer common ancestry from DNA sequences, so after many months of rather less dramatic research at the lab bench, the butterflies involved were sequenced for a small segment of their DNA. And the answer? Well, after taking genetic similarity into account, the species that shared a wing pattern were significantly more likely to fly together, at similar heights and in similar habitats. Mimicry influences not just superficial appearances, but all aspects of the ecology and behaviour of these butterflies.

Evolutionary biologists are sometimes characterised as having a harsh Malthusian outlook on the world, with little room for love or mutual aid. The reality is that many are concerned with how cooperation, which is arguably as ubiquitous as competition in the natural world, arises. Our study showed that mutually beneficial interactions between species can play an important role in how ecological communities are put together. Communities are not just random assemblages of species that happen to come together by chance, but may have evolved through a long history of mutual benefit.

I pause on my descent from the forest canopy and look out through the trees. The forest clings to a slope that drops sharply down to the river below, and rises on the other side, shrouded in wisps of cloud and scarred by landslides. I am humbled by the grandeur of the landscape, and by the amazing opportunity to work in these surroundings and contribute in a small way to our understanding of how it all came to be.



Dr Chris Jiggins

MEMBERS' NEWS

1943 HEARLE, Professor John was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to Archaeology in Mellor, Stockport, Greater Manchester in the New Year Honours List 2010. This follows the discovery in 1998 that John Hearle's house and garden was the site of an Iron Age Hillfort. Twelve years of excavation by the Mellor Archaeological Trust, of which John is Chairman, have uncovered 10,000 years of history in The Old Vicarage garden.

1951 ROBINSON, Thomas Brian has published his memoirs *From Far Away Shores*, depicting life experiences from childhood in Lancashire to retirement in Nova Scotia. The memoirs cover his childhood through World War II; undergraduate years at St John's College; a career in the Canadian telephony industry through the technical explosion years; dealing with cancer in both himself and his wife, a former nurse at Addenbrooke's Hospital; and then eventual retirement to his personal paradise in rural Nova Scotia. The book is available through www.amazon.co.uk. A copy rests in the College Library.

1952 CAMPBELL, Dr Alistair (Sandy) was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London (FSA) in June 2007.

HASLAM, Dr Michael has published *Alzheimer's* (Pipers' Ash Ltd, 2009), which depicts how he and his wife coped with the progressive illness of his mother.

1955 FLETCHER, Winston was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to the Creative Industries in the New Year Honours List 2010.

ROSS-MACDONALD, Sandy was elected a member of the Vice-Chancellor's Cambridge University Alumni Advisory Board and appointed Chairman of the Networks & Volunteers Working Group of that Board. He was also appointed a member of the Education Committee of the RAF Benevolent Fund chaired by Air Marshal Sir Michael Simmons which provides Scholarships and Bursaries to members of RAF families suffering the loss of a serving parent. *Sadly, Sandy died in August 2010. His name will appear in next year's issue of The Eagle.*

- 1956 JUDD, Dr Anthony was awarded a PhD in Archaeology by the University of Liverpool in July 2009.
- 1957 GOLDBERG, Mel was appointed Chairman of the British Association for Sport and Law in 2005 and Chairman of the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) in 2004. He was voted one of the world's 20 Most Influential Sports Lawyers (position 12) by Sports Business International in November 2009.
- 1958 DOWNES, Rodney (Rackstraw) was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in September 2009.
- 1959 GOUGH, Professor Douglas was awarded the Gold Medal for Astronomy, the Royal Astronomical Society's highest honour, in 2010.
- 1960 GREENHALGH, Colin informs us that his term of office as Vice Chairman and Senior Independent Director of Cambridge University Hospitals concludes on 31 October 2010.
- 1961 LESTER, Dr David was recently promoted to Distinguished Professor of Psychology at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, USA. His eighty-seventh book, *A multiple self theory of personality*, was published in 2010 by Nova Science.
- 1963 PLANT, Charles was appointed Chairman of the Board of the Solicitors Regulation Authority with effect from 1 January 2010.
- 1965 DALZIEL, Ian was appointed Director of Threadneedle Investments AG, Switzerland.
- LEWIS, Professor Kevin published *Lonesome, The Spiritual Meanings of American Solitude*, in 2009. The book is available from I B Tauris.
- MCKAY, The Revd Dr Johnston was awarded a PhD from the University of Edinburgh in 2008. He has been appointed Visiting Fellow, New College, Edinburgh for 2010 and Chalmers Lecturer, Universities of Edinburgh and St Andrews for 2011.
- 1967 KINGSTON, John was awarded an OBE for services to the voluntary sector in the New Year Honours List 2010.

1968 HEATHCOTE, Professor John (Godfrey) was appointed first editor-in-chief of the new *Canadian Journal of Pathology* in 2009. In July 2009 he was honoured with the William Boyd Award of the Canadian Association of Pathologists and presented the William Boyd Lecture: 'Ocular Pathobiology: Lessons for Diagnostic Pathology'.

MAIR, Professor Robert was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to Engineering in the New Year Honours List 2010.

1970 LETHBRIDGE, Professor Robert was appointed provost of Gates Cambridge Trust and will take up the post in October 2010.

PHILLIPS, Sir Jonathan has been elected Warden of Keble College, Oxford, with effect from 1 October 2010.

ROYALL, Christopher, one of the founder members of The Sixteen formed by Harry Christophers 30 years ago, sang at the Classic FM Gramophone Awards ceremony at The Dorchester in October 2009. The group won two awards including Artist of the Year, never before won by a choir. Mr Royall is now senior Vicar-Choral in St Paul's Cathedral Choir where he has sung since 1978.

1971 BOULTON, Ian took early retirement from GlaxoSmithKline in August 2008 and set up TropMed Pharma Consulting, a small consultancy working with organisations active in malaria and other neglected tropical diseases. He was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Malaria Consortium in December 2009.

SPRAY, Professor Chris holds the new Chair of Water Science & Policy at the UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, at Dundee University.

1972 HANN, Keith married Maral Danesh at Bunbury, Cheshire on 28 February 2009. Their son, Charles Henry Danesh Hann, was born in Chester on 18 June 2009.

HOULSBY, Professor Guy was appointed Head of Department of Engineering Science at the University of Oxford from July 2009.

- 1973 BEARDSLEY, The Revd Dr Christina published *Unutterable Love, The Passionate Life and Preaching of F.W. Roberston* (The Lutterworth Press) in 2009.

UNWIN, Professor Peter (Tim) was appointed chair of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in January 2009, and UNESCO chair in ICT4D at Royal Holloway, University of London, in 2007.

- 1974 DICKINSON, Christopher founded and is currently Chairman of Nepal Schools Trust, a charity registered in Scotland that works to help schools and young people in Pragatinagar Village District in the Nepalese foothills north of Chitwan.

- 1975 HERBERT, Dr Andrew was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for services to Computer Science in the New Year Honours List 2010.

HIGGINS, Dr Robert has served as Director of Patient Safety at University Hospital, Coventry since 2002 and is now Director of Antibody Incompatible Renal Transplantation, the largest such unit in Europe. Dr Higgins has recently published *William De Morgan, Vital CKD, Kidney Transplants Explained, Help I've got Kidney Failure* and *CKD Health Check*.

- 1976 PARSONS, Professor Floyd has published his book, *Thomas Hare and Political Representation in Victorian Britain* (Palgrave MacMillan) in 2009. A copy has been placed in the College Library.

RAWLEY, The Revd Ian was admitted to the degree of Master of Theology (with distinction) by the University of Wales on 14 July 2008.

TRANMER, John served as Chairman of the Independent Association of Prep Schools from September 2009 to August 2010. IAPS is the largest membership body of professionals working in the independent education sector in the UK. It has over 600 members, mainly heads, from over 550 schools.

- 1977 HARGREAVES, Brigadier David took command of the Saudi Arabian National Guard Communications Project in Riyadh in April 2010 following three years in command of 2 Signal Brigade.

- 1978 YARKER, Dr Patrick graduated from the University of East Anglia with a PhD in Education in July 2009.

1979 HILLIER, Dr Richard will take up his post as Head of the Yehudi Menuhin School in September 2010, where his predecessor was Nicholas CHISHOLM (1969).

1983 MCVAY, John was promoted to senior principal of management consultancy at Purvin & Gertz.

MUNDAY, Stephen was presented with an honorary Doctorate of Education by Anglia Ruskin University in November 2009 for 'services to education' and for helping to transform Comberton Village College (where he has been Principal since January 2001) into '... one of the most successful schools of its type in the East of England'.

1985 RINK, Professor John (formerly Professor of Music at Royal Holloway, University of London) was appointed Professor of Musical Performance Studies in the Faculty of Music as from 1 October 2009. One of his roles is to direct the £2.1 million AHRC Research Centre for Musical Performance as Creative Practice, which is based in the Faculty of Music. He was elected to a Fellowship under Title C at St John's as from 1 May 2010.

THOMPSON, Jonny, and his wife, Zoë, are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Susanna Juliet, on 12 January 2009, a sister for Zach. Jonny has practised at St Johns Buildings Barristers Chambers in Manchester since May 2008. (These chambers were founded in their current guise some 491 years after the foundation of the Cambridge college of the same name.)

1986 CLEMENTS, Paul and his partner, Jason Peck, announce the arrival of their two new sons, Nicco and Leo Peck-Clements, in August 2009.

HOLFORD, Dr Joanne and her husband, Simon Brown (Trinity, 1988), are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Nicholas Charles, on 2 April 2009, a brother for Katie, Jeremy and Sarah.

1987 ESPOSITO, Dr Giampiero was invited to speak at a parallel session of the Fourth International Sakharov Conference on Physics in Moscow in May 2009.

HORTON, Nicola joined Horwath Clark Whitehill LLP as a Partner in 2009, where she heads the Corporate Finance Lead Advisory Services provided by the London office.

1988 KELLY, Dr Fiona was appointed as a consultant in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care at the Royal United Hospital, Bath.

1990 FARNHILL, James and his wife, Alice, are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Hannah Sophie, in January 2010.

1991 COUTER, Rachel married Luke Talbutt on 25 July 2009.

ROBERTS, Emerson and Emma Bond are delighted to announce the birth of Theodore Thomas Bond Roberts on 17 May 2009, a brother for Felix.

1992 ARMSTRONG, Aaron and his wife, Anna, welcome their son, Edward Aaron Armstrong, born on 17 July 2009.

HAGGER-HOLT, Dr Rachel and her partner, Sarah Hagger-Holt, are delighted to announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Esther. *Living it Out: a survival guide for lesbian, gay and bisexual Christians and their friends, families and churches* by Rachel and Sarah Hagger-Holt was published in November 2009 by Canterbury Press. More information is available at www.livingitout.com

STOKES, Thomas and Vicki are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Madeleine Ava Stokes, born 21 December 2009.

THOMAS, Dr Reuben published his translation of *Elements of Automata Theory* (Cambridge University Press) in 2009.

1993 HALEY, Dr Christopher and Claire Haley (née Hilliard, Lucy Cavendish 1997) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Jessica Nansi May, on 25 January 2010.

1994 PIERCE, Dr Nicole (née ARMSTRONG) and Dr Christian Pierce (Downing, 1995) are delighted to announce the birth of Ronan on 15 February 2010, a brother for Finlay.

1996 HARVEY, Dr Judith obtained Chartered Engineer status and Membership of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, in 2009, and was commended for the standard of her written assignment.

1999 LAYFIELD, Dr Richard was awarded a Fellowship for Experienced Researchers by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The project, entitled 'Organometallic precursors to pnictogen-bridged transition metal clusters and networks', will be carried out at the University of Regensburg, Germany, from August 2010.

SALLOWS, Lianne (née CABUCHÉ) and Tim are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Arthur John Sallows, on 19 April 2010 at the Rosie, Cambridge, a brother for George Benjamin.

2001 LYNN, Dr Andrew, Chief Executive and Co-Founder of Orthomimetics, has been named by MIT Technology Review 2009 as one of 35 innovators under the age of 35 who exemplify the spirit of innovation in business and technology.

YOUNG, Roland and Julia (née ANGELL, 2002) were married at the Cambridgeshire Register Office on 8 August 2009, followed by a reception at St John's and a barn dance at the Cambridge Union Society. Roland finished a DPhil in Atmospheric Physics at the University of Oxford in December 2009.

2004 MOORE, Dr Tyler won the first Gordon Prize in Managing Cybersecurity Resources from the University of Maryland's Robert H Smith School of Business.



DEATH NOTICES

- 1927 YATES, Paul Lamartine, 18 June 2009, aged 100.
- 1930 ATKINSON, Myles Birkett, 11 February 2010, aged 97.
CLEMOW, John, 17 November 2008, aged 97.
- 1931 KENNEDY, William Hall, 6 December 2009, aged 97.
- 1932 WILSON, Frank Avray, 1 January 2009, aged 94.
- 1933 HOPKIN, Professor Sir (William Aylsham) Bryan, CBE, 10 October 2009, aged 94. A full obituary appears on pp 136-139.
- 1934 ASHE, The Revd Francis Patrick Bellesme (Pat), 6 January 2009, aged 93.
KELYNACK, Hilary Clifton, 19 January 2009, aged 93.
- 1935 GERRARD, Raymond Ormesher, OBE, 20 August 2009, aged 92.
HALL, Leonard Graham, 21 January 2010, aged 92.
KILFORD, William Kenneth (Ken), 28 February 2010, aged 93.
- 1936 BOYCE, Peter McConnell, 12 December 2008, aged 90.
BRAYBROOK, Clifford Herbert, 9 January 2009, aged 91.
DONALD, James Mackie, 21 July 2009, aged 91.
HULME, Allan, 29 December 2008, aged 91.
WALKER, The Revd (Richard) George, 21 May 2010, aged 92.
- 1937 EDWARDS, Lt Col David St John, 12 October 2009, aged 92.
SCOTT, Kenneth Alan, 4 October 2008, aged 89.
- 1938 ALLEN, Frank Stanley, 12 January 2009, aged 89.
FREEMAN, Ronald Walter, 3 February 2009, aged 84.
GRIBBIN, Brigadier Kenneth David, OBE, 27 May 2009, aged 90.
- 1939 JACKSON, Robert Flinders (Bob), CBE FREng, 13 May 2010, aged 88.
- 1940 COLLINS, Martyn, 24 January 2010, aged 87.
HASWELL, (Anthony) James Darley, OBE, 9 October 2008, aged 86.
REDFERN, Philip, CB, 1 June 2009, aged 86.
- 1941 ALEXANDER, Sir Charles Gundry, 31 December 2009, aged 86.
BARTON-ARMSTRONG, John (Barry), 30 January 2010, aged 86.
CORNEY, John Victor, 22 June 2009, aged 86.
LYON, William (Bill), 25 July 2009, aged 85.
OWEN, George, 23 November 2009, aged 86.
PICKETT, Eric Samuel John, 20 October 2009, aged 85.
- 1942 BAILEY, Professor David Earle, 30 June 2009, aged 85.
FINCH, Captain Frank Richard, 19 April 2008, aged 84.
GILES, Sidney Herbert, 2010.
LORD, Michael Hilton Joseph (Mike), MBE, 14 February 2010, aged 85.
SQUIRES, Dr Gordon Leslie, 10 April 2010, aged 85.
VAN DEN BERGH, Edward Arthur Roderick, 17 October 2009, aged 85.
WALLACE, William Dugald, 9 September 2009, aged 85.

- 1943 DAVISON, Deryck Porter, 26 January 2010, aged 84.
 DINGLE, Professor Robert Balson, 2 March 2010, aged 83.
 ERTEKÜN, The Hon Mr Justice Necati Munir, OBE (formerly Mehmed Nedjati MUNIR), 25 December 2009, aged 86.
 FARR, Peter John, 5 May 2009, aged 83.
 TALBOT, Clifford Heyworth, 24 March 2009, aged 83.
- 1944 BEAUMONT, William Hugh, 22 April 2009, aged 82.
 KNOWLES, Dr (Alan) Keith, 4 February 2010, aged 82.
 POWNALL, Alan Joseph, 21 May 2010, aged 83.
 RADFORD, Roger Nicholas, 29 November 2009, aged 82.
 THATCHER, (Arthur) Roger, CB, 13 February 2010, aged 83.
- 1945 BURSILL, Dr Claude, 21 September 2009, aged 89.
 GREEN, Professor Martin Burgess, 14 April 2010, aged 82.
 TROUP, The Revd Harold James Gardiner, 25 September 2009, aged 86.
 VALENTINE, The Rt Revd Barry, 16 October 2009, aged 82.
- 1946 BULLEN, Dr John Jaques, 3 January 2009, aged 88.
 CRADOCK, The Rt Hon Sir Percy, GCMG, 22 January 2010, aged 86.
 A full obituary appears on pp 146-148.
 GRIFFITHS, Dr Peter, 9 January 2010, aged 81.
 RIVETT, Professor Douglas Eric Arthur, 25 January 2010, aged 88.
- 1947 GENT, Derek Frederick, 8 October 2009, aged 80.
 HARRY, John, 17 April 2010, aged 85.
 JONES, Anthony Lewis, 26 November 2009, aged 84.
 MASSEY, Dr Paul Mackintosh Orgill, 21 October 2009, aged 80.
 PERRATON, Christopher John, 23 March 2010, aged 81.
- 1948 BOLT, The Revd David Dingley, 9 September 2008, aged 89.
 DARLING, William Hunter (Bill), 24 March 2010, aged 82.
 HOPPER, Michael Thompson, 25 July 2008, aged 79.
 JOHNSON, Derek, 26 November 2009, aged 79.
 MALTBY, Dr John Wingate, 2 January 2009, aged 80.
 PARRY-WILLIAMS, Dr Henry Wyn, 16 February 2010, aged 79.
 PLATT, James, 27 December 2009, aged 81.
 RILEY, Keith Mcfarlane, 1 March 2010, aged 82.
 SHARP, Sir Kenneth Johnston, 28 April 2009, aged 82.
- 1949 BENNETT, Donald Edward, 4 February 2010, aged 80.
 PETERS, David Robert, 15 May 2010, aged 81.
 WHITTAKER, Dr Charles Richard (Dick), 28 November 2008, aged 79.
- 1950 BECHER, Professor Roy Anthony (Tony), 9 March 2009, aged 78.
 FAWCETT, Dennis Hall, 27 August 2009, aged 78.
 HILTON, Michael Walter, 30 April 2009, aged 77.
 LLOYD, Jeremy Sampson (Sam), 29 July 2009, aged 78.
 MATTHEWS, Professor Robert Charles Oliver (Robin), CBE FBA, 19 June 2010, aged 83.

- MORGAN, (David) Ian, 31 May 2010, aged 78.
 REED, Dr John Langdale, CB, 9 October 2009, aged 78.
- 1951 HENDERSON, Dr Derek Scott, 7 August 2009, aged 79.
 MILLS, John Trevor Stanton, 28 February 2008, aged 75.
 REARDON, Professor Bryan Peter, 16 November 2009, aged 80.
 WADDELL, David Charles Manson, 26 October 2009, aged 79.
- 1952 RICKARD, Professor Peter, 2 April 2009, aged 86.
 THOMSON, (Andrew) Robert, 8 November 2009, aged 75.
- 1953 AUBREY, Dr (John) Edmund, 9 April 2009, aged 74.
- 1955 ANSELL, The Revd Howard, 5 April 2009, aged 72.
 HETHERINGTON, Michael Andrew, February 2008, aged 73.
 MATTHEWS, (John) Stephen, 14 April 2009, aged 72.
 SINCLAIR, Thomas Ferguson (Tom), 9 June 2010, aged 74.
- 1956 BERNSTEIN, Lord Alexander, 12 April 2010, aged 74.
- 1957 DESTEFANO, David Luigino, 19 May 2008, aged 69.
 MATTHEWMAN, Dr John Hamilton, 27 January 2010, aged 71. A full obituary appears on pp 140-142.
- 1958 HIND, Dr John Graham Firth, 19 April 2009, aged 71.
 WOODWARD, (Hugh) David, 27 July 2009, aged 71.
- 1959 FLEET, Robin John, 26 December 2008, aged 69.
 JONES, John Cyril, 11 January 2010, aged 68.
- 1960 PARSONS, Roger Wentworth, 28 August 2008, aged 66.
 POPE, John Francis, 12 January 2010, aged 68.
 WOODMAN, Dennis Vere, 25 December 2009, aged 68.
- 1961 BOYS SMITH, Dr John Wynn, 21 March 2009, aged 66.
 BRACEY, Robert Arthur Ross (Robin), 16 June 2009, aged 66.
 MITCHELL, Malcolm Nicholas, 7 February 2010, aged 71.
 THOMAS, Lindsay Michael, 23 March 2010, aged 67.
- 1964 JOHNSON, Dr David Charles, 30 March 2009, aged 66.
 TURBERVILLE, Christopher, 9 September 2009, aged 63.
- 1965 MAVOR, Michael Barclay, CVO, 8 December 2009, aged 62.
- 1969 SHAW, Alastair John Stuart, 1 September 2009, aged 63.
 STANTON, Professor Graham Norman, 18 July 2009, aged 69.
- 1970 CAHILL, (Christopher) Joseph, 11 December 2009, aged 57.
- 1971 CRYSTAL, Dr Ewan James Turner, 4 January 2009, aged 56.
 CRIPPS, Edward James Spencer, 23 August 2009, aged 57.
- 1972 WALLBANK, Robert Wallis (Bob), 1 March 2010, aged 56.
- 1974 LEFTWICH, Charles Ellis, 29 December 2009, aged 56.
 MAFFEI, Professor Domenico, 4 July 2009, aged 83.
- 2006 YANG, Xiangtao (Tony), 5 January 2010, aged 22.



OBITUARIES



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Professor Sir William Aylsham Bryan Hopkin CBE, 1914–2009: Obituary

Sir Bryan Hopkin, who died peacefully on 10 October 2009 at the age of 94, was a Johnian who achieved a significant reputation in both the fields of public administration and of academic economics. He matriculated in 1933 and was made an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1982. He was knighted in 1971 for services to government.

Bryan came from a modest background. His father, and many of his forbears, had been small farmers in the Vale of Glamorgan. Bryan was the first of his family to acquire a significant education, which began at the Barry County School for Boys to which he gained a scholarship at the age of 12 and from which he graduated in 1933, having secured a place at John's to read Economics. His three years as an undergraduate were crowned with distinction. Bryan achieved a First in both Part I and Part II of the Economics Tripos, was awarded a College exhibition and the Wrenbury Research Scholarship. His spell in the Economics Faculty coincided with Keynes' work on the *General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money* (published in March 1936) and he saw a lot of Keynes, both as a lecturer and a tutor. His stories of Keynes holding forth in his rooms in King's College to a group of disciples from both the senior and junior members of the faculty were a blend of reverence and amusement. Bryan's enthusiasm for what Keynesianism developed into (aggregate demand management) was fired in part by his experience in the Welsh valleys in the depression years, but such was his intellectual honesty that he always gave a fair hearing to dissenters, of which in later years there came to be many.

Bryan's first inclination after graduating was to pursue an academic career and in 1936 he obtained a post in the Economic Research Department of Manchester University to examine price competition in the cotton industry. He subsequently described his year of research as a failure; this was in part from the absence of any guidance or supervision. After six months at Chatham House he decided that his talents lay in an earthier environment than academia. Accordingly, in the summer of 1938 he sat the Civil Service Competition for the Administrative Class. It is a measure of his intellectual abilities that he was placed first in this highly competitive examination, above such a luminary as William Armstrong, who later became a distinguished head of the Civil Service.

The Civil Service proved to be Bryan's true *métier* and after a brief spell as the Private Secretary to the Minister of Health (at that time Malcolm McDonald) he was drafted to the Prime Minister's Statistical Branch, in which he served during the critical years 1941–1944. This unit was headed by Lord Cherwell, who had

the Prime Minister's ear on almost all aspects of government policy, from the running of the war to the issues of post-war reconstruction. Bryan was appointed Cherwell's Private Secretary. This was a post which gave him opportunities to make an important contribution to strategic decision making at the highest level.

As the war was drawing to an end Bryan was drafted to the job of servicing the newly appointed Royal Commission on Population; a body whose remit was to examine the consequences of what was perceived at the time to be the social and economic problems of a declining population. Bryan's main contribution was on the economic aspects of the pre-war population trend, in the course of which he became something of a demographer and was involved in both the 'Fertility Census' and a sample study of birth control practices. The Commission reported in 1949 and was fairly reassuring in its conclusion, as a result of which its report did not arouse a great deal of public interest and led to no policy changes.

By now Bryan had acquired a statistical and economics reputation in Whitehall and it was not surprising that he should then have been sent to the small but influential body, the Economic Section of the Cabinet Office. Their remit had originally been to advise ministers on the economic aspects of wartime policies, but which developed, after the War and the publication of the Employment White Paper of May 1944, into a more general analytical and advisory body for economic policy generally. The three years he spent there in the company of some of the most outstanding applied economists in the UK saw demand management as the guiding principle of fiscal and monetary policy. The Economic Section became even more influential than the traditional Treasury in steering ministerial thinking on how the economy should be managed and on how the Budget should be constructed. Bryan's role was to develop the technique of macroeconomic forecasting, specialising in particular on the balance of payments and investment.

After three years in the Economic Section, Bryan was promoted and moved to the Central Statistical Office to take charge of National Income and Expenditure Statistics – the raw material on which economic forecasting depended. Among his other innovations, he created a new publication 'Economic Trends' which encapsulated all the main economic time-series and incorporated articles which examined the on-going problems of national economic statistics. In the light of his success in this field he was now appointed to be the Director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, a post outside the civil service but one which had close links with the economists who were working in the Treasury. Under his guidance the Institute began to publish regular analyses of macroeconomic trends and forecasts of the likely course of the national economy. As such it became a public check on the Treasury's forecasts and

publications, and played a valuable role in enabling the public to test the quality of what the Treasury was saying, both to Ministers and to the world at large. It became known as 'the Treasury in Exile'.

After five years at the National Institute Bryan returned to the Civil Service and was given the job of servicing a newly established 'quango', the Council on Prices, Productivity and Incomes. This was an initiative of the Macmillan government to seek independent advice on how best to tackle a problem which had become endemic in the UK economy – inflation. By this time prevailing opinion was that inflation could not be controlled by demand-management but required some administered treatment; a form of prices and incomes policy. This had become Bryan's own view, but it was not that of the principal member of the Council, Dennis Robertson, who was firmly of the view that only a stiff dose of deflation could tackle the problem. Bryan found himself having to write a report about which he personally had strong reservations.

In 1958 Bryan returned to the Civil Service and was posted to the Treasury to be Deputy Head of the Economic Section, in which role he had charge of the whole forecasting exercise. From then until he retired from the Civil Service in 1977 he was, with only occasional absences, one of the most influential figures in the whole business of providing Ministers and senior Treasury officials with advice on macroeconomic policy. He did however take occasional periods off from Treasury service, notably to serve in Mauritius when the newly independent colony wished to re-orientate its national economy, and, later on, to help with the setting up by the Wilson Administration in the 1960s of the ill-fated Department of Economic Affairs. The latter job was not greatly to Bryan's taste as it was only tangentially involved in day-to-day policy and was immersed in the establishment of a vast and ill-thought-out economic plan to transform the British economy.

Released by the dismantling of the DEA in 1969, Bryan returned to his natural home, the Treasury, and for the remainder of his official career he was a dominating figure among government economists and advisers on economic policy. He did attempt to retire in 1972 to take up a chair in Economics at Cardiff University, and he spent a happy couple of years there distilling his experience of both academia and economic policy-making to the junior and senior members of the Economics Faculty. But in 1974 the post of Chief Economic Adviser to the Government unexpectedly fell vacant and Bryan was called from retirement to face what was perhaps the most challenging job of his career. He was at the centre of the crisis in 1976 when the Government applied for a large drawing from the International Monetary Fund. Bryan was heavily involved in the negotiations over the terms of the loan and was instrumental in persuading the Fund to modify its demands for a severe retrenchment programme and accept

terms which proved to be acceptable to Ministers. When these negotiations were completed he felt that his duty was done and he returned to Cardiff where he spent five years teaching. This was a particularly happy period of his life and he was especially pleased to be able to relax more with his wife in their lovely house and garden in Cowbridge, Glamorgan. Bryan and Renée had been happily married over 40 years and their return to South Wales with the enjoyment of leisure and study was to be an idyllic period for both of them. Sadly Renée suffered a stroke in 1994 and was somewhat disabled until her death in 2002.

I worked with Bryan on and off for over 30 years and like his other colleagues formed a deep affection for him. I was grateful for his solid support when I was Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and our friendship continued right until he died. Together we wrote a number of published pieces on economic policy and it was always a pleasure to debate issues with him. He was throughout his adult life a committed Keynesian and although he gave serious thought to the criticisms of economic policy in the 1960s and 1970s from classical economists and monetarists he was never persuaded that the essence of what Keynes argued in the 1930s was intellectually flawed. One of the most agreeable aspects of friendship with him was to experience the width and depth of his knowledge. Although he was professionally an economist and statistician, he had a curiosity in the natural sciences and kept an informed, if lay, interest in modern physics and cosmology. He could debate abstract ideas with clarity and was always generous to those who disagreed with his views. He was the most intellectually honest man I ever knew.



Sir Douglas Wass

Dr John Hamilton Matthewman, 1938–2010: Obituary

Anne and John Matthewman

It was on a dark December day in 1956 that I first met John Matthewman. We were on Lincoln Central station and we soon established that we were both on our way to Cambridge to take the 'scholarship exam', that we were both heading to St John's and that we would both be taking scientific and mathematical papers. There the coincidences ceased for John was aiming for Mechanical Sciences (as Engineering was then termed) and I for Natural Sciences. It cannot have occurred to either of us as we boarded the connection for Cambridge that our paths would continue to intersect for over 50 years.

John was born in Doncaster on 29 May 1938. There he went to Beechfield Junior School and then Doncaster

Grammar School where he was persuaded to study mathematics and to apply to Cambridge, following another Johnian engineer from Doncaster, Harry Marsh (Fellow, 1963–71). John was followed in 1963 by his brother Alan but the engineering link was broken; Alan read Economics. At A Level John won a State Scholarship and he came up to St John's in 1957. His undergraduate days were occupied perhaps less by the Tripos than by a major involvement with theatre lighting at the ADC augmented by his enjoyment of bridge and of the activities of the Yorkshire Society, and a willingness to umpire cricket matches. Nevertheless he gained a place on the one-year course for the Diploma in Numerical Analysis and Automatic Computing in 1960–61 and, with the guidance of Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, achieved a distinction. This success led to the award of a research studentship funded by ICL. In 1964, whilst working towards his PhD, he was recruited to the post of Senior Assistant in Research by the Department of Engineering, which had identified a need for a computer expert to help procure and then to oversee the installation and use of computing equipment to be used in teaching. In this he worked closely with another member of the College, Ken Livesley, whose recollections follow. Unsurprisingly the work involved with this post delayed completion of his PhD but his dissertation on *Syntax directed compilers for automatic programming languages* was formally approved early in 1967.

Meanwhile, in 1963 John had married Judy Ward, a Somerville graduate whom he had met when they were both Diploma students. They had two children, David and Anne-Marie (Annie). Now that computers are so widely distributed at home and work it is all too easy to forget that John and Judy were pioneers of home computing. Using a combination of their knowledge and practical experience Judy became one of the first people to work from home on a main-frame computer some miles away and thus was able to continue her work on crystallographic computing while looking after very young children. Their feedback in its early days contributed appreciably to the development of the University Computing Service, as it became in 1970.

A particular emphasis of John's work involved computing for civil engineering and he took an active role in the ICES Users' Group (ICES – Integrated Civil Engineering System – a suite of computer programs originally developed in MIT), becoming President of the European Section for 1976–79 and of the international group for 1978–80. John became especially interested in surveying, which is essential for successful civil engineering, and for many years ran courses in surveying for students in Engineering. The basic part involved the traditional surveys just outside the Department. As one colleague recalls, 'I remember John being involved with the surveying course over many years and I can still see him on Coe Fen, suitably attired with raincoats and jumpers, directing proceedings with his students. The weather invariably was not conducive to being in the open air for many hours.' Rather more demanding (but surely more fun) were the summer courses on distinctly more three-dimensional terrain in the Lammermuir and Pentland hills. From an early date these courses involved position-fixing using earth satellites. John published relatively little in the formal literature but he was an active participant in conferences and his contribution to teaching is well recognised. For example, in his textbook *Plane and Geodetic Surveying* (Spon Press, 2004) Aylmer Johnson records his thanks to John 'who taught me much of what I know about surveying'. John became Head of the Surveying Group in the Department of Engineering in 1988 and held that post for ten years.

Having been a Lecturer in Engineering in Churchill College from 1968 to 1972 and having become a University Lecturer in 1969 John returned to St John's as a Fellow in 1972 to fill, at least in part, the teaching need created by the moves in close succession of Harry Marsh to a chair in Durham and Stephen Harris to one in Lancaster. Now firmly established in an academic career, the customary range of duties in Cambridge came his way. For example, he was a member of the University's Computer Syndicate for a decade from the late 1970s while in College he directed studies in Computer Science for a spell and later did so for Part II Engineering. John retired from his University post in 1998 but remained active in College. He was a member of the College's Audit Committee for three

years and chaired it for the review of the 2000–01 accounts, a year memorable for the difficulties occasioned by the move to a new financial accounting package. The Committee's report for that year still makes salutary reading!

John and Judy were actively involved in their village community in Little Shelford and John was also active for many years in local politics as a Liberal Democrat. Sadly Judy died of cancer in 1993. The following year John married Judy's cousin, Anne Venables. They enjoyed many activities together, golf being the one about which we heard most. Whilst their golf was not restricted to England, their base was the Gog Magog Club in Cambridge. At the cerebral end of the game, John was a member of the Gogs team for the R and A Inter-club Rules Quiz in 2006–07. Both John and Anne officiated – and Anne has continued to do so – in the well-known amateur tournament at the Club, the Lagonda, which is open to top amateurs from all over the UK. When illness finally prevented him from playing John continued to use his skills and his computer scientist's attention to detail to contribute to the running of the Elders' section. As recorded by Ricky Metaxas in *The Eagle* in 2009, John also contributed to golf in the College, regularly participating in the President's Cup competition and acting as guardian of the Minute Book. Golf was far from being John's only interest. He played the oboe and sang as a baritone, both to a high standard. In retirement he rediscovered an interest in horse-racing, where his powers of mental arithmetic proved very useful, and he also explored the histories of his and Judy and Anne's families in some depth.

It was with great sadness that we witnessed the deterioration in John's health over the last few years but at the same time we admired his fortitude and determination to remain as active and involved as practicable. His last few days were spent in a hospice and he died on 27 January. He will be remembered not least for firmness when firmness was judged necessary and for great good humour at other times.



Dr John Leake

John Matthewman and the early days of computing in the Department of Engineering

Dr Livesley read Mechanical Sciences at St John's from 1944 to 1947 and became a Founding Fellow of Churchill College in 1960.

I returned to Cambridge as an Assistant Lecturer in the Engineering Department at the beginning of 1955, after three years in the Manchester Computer Laboratory. At that time a few research students were using the EDSAC, but the Department still maintained the philosophy that 'real engineers' only needed 'back of the envelope' calculations. My own work on the application of computers to the stress analysis of building structures was tolerated as a rather eccentric private research interest.

By 1963 it was apparent that computing was becoming increasingly important in engineering and a few members of staff had actually learnt to program (the most enthusiastic of these was Stephen Harris, a Fellow of St John's). I had recruited a succession of graduate mathematicians to give advice on numerical analysis, write programs for members of staff who felt such activity beneath them and teach programming to those who wanted to learn. The EDSAC had been replaced by EDSAC II and the Department had encouraged me to arrange optional programming courses for third year undergraduates. However, anyone who wanted to do computing had to go to the Mathematical Laboratory (as it was called in those days) and that seemed to prove to many that 'computing was not real engineering'.

I spent 1964 on sabbatical in Berkeley and on my return managed to persuade the Department that all its undergraduates ought to be given a course in computing. (The course we designed was based largely on courses run by the Mathematical Laboratory for the Diploma in Computing. It consisted of a number of simple exercises, a typical one being writing a program to produce prime numbers and actually getting it to run.) It soon became obvious that, in a Department with approximately 300 undergraduates in each year, such a course could not be run using EDSAC II, which was still the only computer in the University, although it was soon to be superseded by TITAN. We needed a machine of our own specifically for teaching.

It also became obvious that we needed a person with some expertise in computer hardware to help in procuring a suitable machine and to be responsible for running it once it was installed. I can't recall in detail how we came to appoint John (as a Senior Assistant in Research) to provide this expertise, but he proved to be an excellent choice. Thus in the mid 1960s the computing team consisted

of myself, John, a graduate mathematician, a graduate physicist, one or two staff members who had found computing fun and an assistant to punch tapes, who had come straight from school.

The computer, an IBM 1130, was, I think, the first to be installed in the University apart from EDSAC II – it had about the power of an iPod. While it proved a good teaching tool (we even ran programming courses for staff on it), serious research computing still had to be done on EDSAC II, which meant going to the Mathematical Laboratory, preparing program and data tapes, booking or queuing up for machine time and bringing back results. With John available it was possible to provide the Department with a computing service. Initially this consisted of someone, usually John, with a bicycle and a briefcase. Later we installed a teleprinter on the end of a normal BT telephone line – no broadband or fibre optics in those days! Eventually this in turn was replaced by two line-of-sight infrared transceivers mounted on the roofs of the two Departments. This project was certainly John's idea and provided a great improvement in data transmission rates. However, the equipment did not work in fog or heavy rain and at one point we experienced interference from the trees in Pembroke College!

John's appointment to a University Lectureship in 1969 was not simply a natural move up the academic ladder. At that time the Head of the Engineering Department, Sir John Baker, held the view that all teaching staff in his Department should be corporate members of one of the engineering institutions – civil, electrical or mechanical – or should at least have sufficient practical experience to become members. If John had been content simply to build on his already considerable computing experience he would probably have become a Senior Computer Officer (when the University established such posts) but he would always have been outside the general teaching activities of the Department. In fact he set about becoming an expert in surveying – one of the oldest branches of traditional engineering.

The Department had for many years conducted surveying courses on Coe Fen, and John took his share of these well-established activities. However, being John, he soon set about bringing surveying into the computer age, eventually running courses on modern developments like global position fixing and satellite navigation. I remember that he returned from a surveying week in Scotland complaining bitterly about the local telephone operators (they were human beings in those days!) Apparently he had taken a teleprinter in the boot of his car to transmit raw surveying data back to Cambridge for processing. However, the local telephone operator, mystified by the strange non-human sounds coming over the line, had assumed that a fault had occurred and aborted the call!

In 1960 I had been elected as a Founding Fellow of Churchill College and appointed as one of its two Engineering Directors of Studies. When looking for suitable undergraduate supervisors it was natural to think of John, and the College made him a Lector from 1968 to 1972. This arrangement terminated when he got his Fellowship at St John's. The reason why Churchill did not offer him a Fellowship was simply that his area of expertise was seen as being too close to my own.

When John and I started our academic careers computing meant programming and the natural computer language to teach to engineers was FORTRAN, a language John and I became fluent in. But just as our ability to handle punched paper tape was made obsolete by the advent of the video terminal, so our programming skills became increasingly obsolete, at least in the eyes of the next generation of computer scientists, who regarded FORTRAN as a language as dead as ancient Greek. But still, I think we had more fun than they ever did! 

Dr R K Livesley

The Right Honourable Sir Percy Cradock GCMG, 1923–2010: Obituary

Percy Cradock was among the most distinguished Johnians of his era. With his starred Firsts in English and Law he might well have remained the don he became after graduating. His Presidency of the Union (of which he wrote a history) hinted at more public gifts and it came as no real surprise to his contemporaries when he joined the Foreign Service as a late entrant in the mid-1950s. After four years in Malaysia he persuaded his somewhat reluctant superiors to allow him to learn Chinese (they thought him too old) and China subsequently became the main focus of his career. His second posting there (his first was in the early 1960s) coincided with the most violent phase of Mao Zedong's Cultural Revolution when the British Mission was sacked in retaliation for the suppression of left

wing sponsored riots in Hong Kong. The experience taught him lessons regarding the nature of Chinese communism and how to handle its officials which he was not to forget. The most important of these lessons was that in dealings with China progress was more likely to be achieved through cooperation rather than confrontation.

After two years as Ambassador to the German Democratic Republic, Cradock found himself back in Beijing, this time as Ambassador. It swiftly became clear that Hong Kong would be Britain's, and hence Cradock's, main preoccupation during his period of office. In the 'talks about talks', which followed a visit to Beijing that Mrs Thatcher was persuaded to make in September 1982, that cooperation proved difficult to achieve. While the British argued that sovereignty (which they were prepared to concede) could be separated from administration (which they wished to retain) the Chinese took the view that negotiations could only take place on the premise that the whole of Hong Kong was Chinese territory and that Britain's sole function was to hand it back in good order.

A way out of this impasse was eventually found and negotiations proper were launched. In these Cradock and his Embassy team were supported by the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir Edward Youde, and his Political Adviser. While this breached their formal position that there could be no role for Hong Kong in the

negotiations, the Chinese appeared to recognise that some Hong Kong participation was essential if they were to learn what they needed to know about the way Hong Kong worked.

More than twenty gruelling rounds of talks ensued over the next two years. For most of these Cradock led the British side, from London when it was not from Beijing. Under his skilful direction Deng Xiaoping's vague if reassuring formula of 'one country, two systems' was transformed into a series of detailed provisions demonstrating how the preservation of Hong Kong's existing systems was essential to the maintenance of the territory's economic success.

The upshot was the Joint Declaration, signed by Mrs Thatcher and her Chinese counterpart in December 1984. Mrs Thatcher was more than pleased with this outcome and with Cradock's substantial part in securing it – to the extent that she subsequently kept him by her side as her personal Foreign Affairs adviser.

The next five years saw the zenith of Anglo-Chinese relations, encompassing as they did a State Visit by the Queen for which the Chinese pulled out all the stops. But the political skies darkened in June 1989 with the suppression of the pro-democracy demonstrations which became known in the West as the Tiananmen Square massacre. There were increasing pressures from Hong Kong and the British media for greater democracy (not hitherto a major British preoccupation). Mrs Thatcher sent Cradock to Beijing for a series of 'secret' meetings with Chinese leaders which led to an improvement in the political atmosphere though little progress in the matter of elections. These were difficult times for Cradock, who often found himself at odds with British Ministers though seldom with Mrs Thatcher, with whom he found frankness paid.

Cradock's activities were not confined to China. He advised Mrs Thatcher and her successor John Major on important foreign policy issues, and he served as Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee throughout his time in Downing Street. Two well received books resulted after his final retirement: *In pursuit of British interests*, a series of reflections on foreign policy, and *Know your Enemy*, described as 'How the Joint Intelligence Committee saw the world'. He had already published a memoir – *Experiences of China* – of his years in China.

It was perhaps inevitable that Chris Patten's appointment in 1992 as the last Governor of Hong Kong should bring the two men into conflict. In Patten's view a major part of his role was to speed up the process of democratic reform, with China's support where possible, but unilaterally where not. Cradock took a different view. He was mindful of the Joint Declaration requirement for 'closer cooperation' in the latter half of the period between the signature of the Treaty and the handover in 1997. And he believed – correctly – that the Patten line was bound to lead to confrontation with China, from which no one would benefit.

The disagreement became open and rancorous. Cradock's attacks were directed at Patten the man as well as his policies. Though understandable this was perhaps unwise; among other things it may well have led to the omission of the principal British architect of the Joint Declaration from the British delegation to the Handover Ceremonies in 1997. But Cradock's critics were far from the mark in accusing him of a desire to kowtow or perform 'pre-emptive cringes'. They did not know, or, if they did, did not care, about Cradock's experiences during the Cultural Revolution, when he narrowly escaped from the besieging mob of Red Guards.

Cradock was a grammar school boy. After wartime service in the RAF he became, along with his elder sister, the first from his family to attend university. Many of his photographs show a man of stern, even sour demeanour. But this was misleading. Those who knew him best recognised the almost impish sense of humour which lay beneath the somewhat crusty exterior he chose to present to the world.

Cradock had suffered from ill-health in recent years and was deprived of the tennis that he and his Danish wife, Birthe, loved to play. But he took pride in his relationship with St John's, and in particular with the Honorary Fellowship which the College awarded him in 1982. 

The late Sir Robin McLaren KCMG

POETRY

POETRY



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Professor Raphael Loewe

Professor Raphael Loewe (1938) was a lecturer in Hebrew at Leeds University, and later Reader and Goldsmid Professor at University College, London. In 1954 he was appointed Bye Fellow of Gonville and Caius College and was Visiting Professor in Judaica at Brown University from 1962 to 1963. He has served as President of the Jewish Historical Society of England, the Society for Old Testament Study and the British Association for Jewish Studies. Professor Loewe was elected Honorary Fellow of St John's College in October 2009, and composed the following poems to mark the occasion.

Nuper togatus, Castaliae steti
de fonte potor Melpomenes cliens;
tu, Came, mi lymphis reduci
mater ut alma sitim fugasti,

collegium qui perfluis, integrans
antiquiores pontibus et novas
partes domus et disciplinae,
mutuus ipse duabus aptas

Johannis aedi, quam genetrix pia
regum creavit. Porta mihi fuit
ad Graeciae mentem legendam
praecipuam, geniumque Romae,

legemque Moysis cui reverentia
jurisperiti corpora digerunt,
divique laudes quas canebat
voce lyra nablioque David.

Exempla nobis inferioribus
iam sunt alumni qui patriae bene
servire quingentos per annos
hic didicere, suis et orbi.

Si debitas nunc reddere gratias
heu nescio, mi corde tenebitur
scriptum: scio me Margaretae
perpetua pietate vinctum.

Raphael Loewe composuit nonagenarius a. d. iv kal. Aug. MMIX

English translation

From Castaly my youthful palms did take
 What flowed, all rhythmic, from the muses' spring;
 Then came I home, where Cam, my thirst to slake,
 More gently flowed, maternal, steadying,

Riving, yet, bridged, uniting either strand
 To link our college buildings new and old,
 So, too, our studies: time-worn arts here stand
 Next science, mutual respect to hold.

Our Foundress, mother she of kings, did build
 In St John's name for scholarship a home:
 For me, a gate to thought that Greece distilled,
 And to the genius of ancient Rome,

And Moses' law, in which jurists to show
 Implicit universal truth aspire.
 Likewise the psalms, through which God's praises flow
 Transfigured by the tones of David's lyre.

Five hundred years have seen our College send
 Forth sons whose deeds enriched life in this land,
 Nay, health and wealth of mankind to extend:
 We, dwarfed by them, the challenge understand.

For all the benefits I did receive
 Words adequate for thanks I cannot find;
 Yet love, and shared ideals, I do believe
 Must me to Margaret for ever bind.



A A Marcoff

A A Marcoff (1975) read English while at St John's. An Anglo-Russian poet, born in Iran, he has lived in Africa, Iran, France and Japan. He is a regular contributor to haiku magazines (in the UK, the USA and Japan), and has had longer work appear in *Poetry Review*, *Agenda*, *Ambit*, *Fire* and *Acumen*. Resident in Surrey, he lives near the beautiful River Mole. His poem, 'Composition', was first published in *Poetry Review* volume 99.2 in the summer of 2009. A sequel, 'river of morning', will be appearing therein soon. The College Library holds a number of slim volumes by him.

the cool & swerve of the shore,
 more marvellous than dream:
 Leviathan heads off into
 blue space – vast symphony
 of sea: we are walking
 at dawn watching the sun
 rise from water as light
 penetrates every aspect of our world
 with visibility: dawn
 comes like a wave: this is
 the sea of light & dream,
 sea of salt & tongue & sun:
 the waters are massive & unearthly,
 as horizons curve into the distance
 like blue myth: the white flight
 of seabirds is hieratic,
 a prophecy of light & sky:
 waves come & go
 like thoughts we surf
 in the imagination of the spray:
 inner light, a mind of sea ...

look, the sun is rising in this sky –
 a revelation, & the waves of the sea move
 with light: we are celebrants
 of the waves & the white chorus of the birds:
 we walk into morning poised
 on shifting sands, with footprints
 for a moment becoming sea
 in time, in the cool & swerve
 of the beautiful shore, this dream
 everlasting ... imbued with the deep
 blue dawn of God & bird



BOOK REVIEWS

BOOK REVIEWS

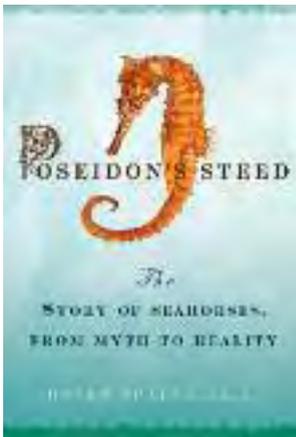


ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Helen Scales, *Poseidon's Steed. The Story of Seahorses, from Myth to Reality* (Gotham Books, 2009).

Pp. 261 ISBN: 978-1-592-40474-2.

Dr Tim Bayliss-Smith is a Fellow of St John's and a Reader in Pacific Geography at the Department of Zoology. His research is in the area of political ecology, sustainable use of natural resources, and the history of forest use in Melanesia.



It is probably quite unusual that a zoologist's first book after the completion of her PhD is about a creature not even mentioned in the doctoral dissertation. Helen Scales wrote her thesis on Napoleon wrasse, a coral reef fish of the Indo-Pacific region. She studied its spawning aggregations, the behavioural trait that makes this species so vulnerable to Malaysian fishermen who can scoop up whole populations in the South China Sea to sell as live fish for the Hong Kong restaurant trade. She admits in *Poseidon's Steed* that she took time off from her fieldwork on Napoleon wrasse to go night-diving in shallow seagrass meadows in search of seahorses (*Hippocampus*), but without

success. However, her secret passion for this mysterious fish did not subside and in 2007, after many field trips and 14 years after her first scuba dive, Helen Scales sighted wild seahorses for the first time in Vietnam. Here, as elsewhere in the world, the fishermen regularly find a few specimens among the trash fish, crabs and shrimps in their trawl nets. Even a handful of seahorses adds value to their regular catch because of the booming trade in traditional Chinese medicines. This market now provides commercial incentives for the ruthless pursuit of *Hippocampus* in its various forms – there are at least 33 recognised species – so that immature dried seahorses are now listed alongside tiger skins and ivory as banned commodities in international trade.

In this delightful book Helen Scales takes the reader on a mystery tour that touches on all aspects of mankind's relationship with seahorses – from ancient Greek symbolism to twenty-first century *Hippocampus* taxonomy, from the aquarium boom of Victorian Britain to our modern knowledge of seahorse reproductive biology, and from the history of Chinese medicine to a modern

world in which Tamil labourers in Singapore are offered free flights to their homeland if they fill their suitcases with dried specimens of this commodity when they return. This is a global story in which landlocked places like Cambridge scarcely feature, although the famous Mildenhall Treasure was dug up only 20 miles away, at Thistley Green. It included the Great Dish on which there are engraved scenes of aquatic revelry involving Neptune, Bacchus and a throng of naked sea nymphs riding on a seahorse and other sea creatures. Why did the Picts in their symbol stones change their depictions from realistic seahorses to dog-headed fish monsters? What is the link to the kelpies of Irish legend, dangerous water spirits that try to drown you when you mount them? Although Helen Scales is primarily a marine biologist, she is very happy to wander off the main sea routes to explore the many backwaters of seahorse scholarship.

Today *Hippocampus* is not merely the ancient steed of Poseidon, Neptune or the Manannán mac Lir of Celtic folklore. Reincarnated as Horsea, Seadra and Kingdra in the Pokémon computer game, seahorses seem to achieve an eternal life in our imagination. Yet all is not well in the seagrass meadows that were once their tranquil home. Trawled and over-trawled in pursuit of shrimps, these habitats have become deserts to creatures that are unable to reproduce rapidly enough to recover from unselective human predation. According to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), seahorses are banned as trade items unless from 'sustainably managed' populations, but this concept defies accurate definition for most *Hippocampus* species. Moreover, four nations, Norway, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, have opted to ignore restrictions on the seahorse trade. Many other countries have neither the will nor the means to enforce restrictions on such a lucrative business. China's appetite for seahorse aphrodisiacs and medicines has become insatiable. Even as new species are discovered by scuba divers and biologists, the future for *Hippocampus* is less secure than ever. Helen Scales presents this story in a stylish book that will fascinate a wide readership.



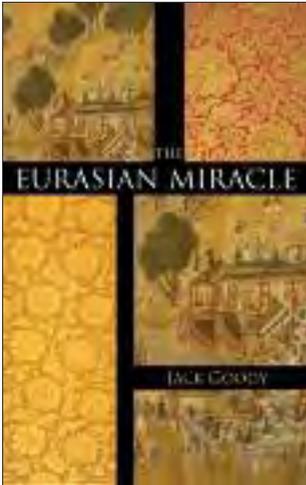
Dr Tim Bayliss-Smith

Professor Sir Jack Goody, *The Eurasian Miracle* (Polity, 2009) and *Renaissances, The One or the Many?* (Cambridge University Press, 2009).

Pp. 200. ISBN 9780745647937

Pp. 332. ISBN-13 9780521768016

Reviewer: Dr McDermott is University Lecturer in the Social and Economic History of China and the Director of Studies for Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at St John's.



Over the past three decades Jack Goody (1938) has turned his anthropological eye to the study of world history and, more recently, Western historians. Educated at St John's first in English Literature and then after the war in Archaeology and Anthropology, he had in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s written a series of pioneering anthropological studies based on field work in Africa, especially Ghana. His subsequent shift of interest to history, especially his reflections on the significance of Western history, was neither in intention nor in effect a turn inward or backward. Decades of reading, reflection, and experience (including extended stays in German prisoner-of-war camps) had persuaded him of the common history of Eurasia. Whereas many Western historians

make a career stressing the differences between East and West, Goody found, amongst all the diversity within the cultures of Eurasia, remarkable patterns of similarities in their institutions, cultural values, kinship organisation, religious life, inheritance customs, and commercial practices. A series of widely-read and influential books followed on everything from literacy and representations to romantic love and even flowers, all of which pointed out telling similarities in Eurasian values and practices. In place then of a sharp East-West conflict in which the West has been dominant virtually ever since antiquity, he has shown the ongoing vitality of non-European cultures and indeed considerable alternation in the extent to which Europe has drawn on these cultures' technological and intellectual advances over the past three millennia.

A pair of Goody's recent publications can now be read as welcome summaries and extensions of these ideas. *The Eurasian Miracle*, brief, broad-ranging, and highly approachable, is a good place for the uninitiated reader to start his or her education in this increasingly influential approach to the writing of history. In a series of provocative essays Goody shows the value of taking seriously the argument first made by the archaeologist Gordon Childe well over half a century ago about the ongoing impact of the Urban Revolution of the Bronze Age. After its classical era Europe seems to have lost many of the Bronze Age's advances, while Asian civilizations preserved them longer and better. Armed with such historical insight, Goody casts a sceptical eye on the litany of Western historians' claims about the uniqueness of certain Western practices and accomplishments that paved its way to 'modernity.' Small nuclear families, 'the Protestant ethic,' urban institutions, the devotion to romantic love, cultural and religious individualism, the ways of capitalism, and high literacy rates and the printed book (a point he first made together with his Johnian friend Ian Watt [1935]), all have far richer histories in the rest of Eurasia than many Western historians and the media suspect. With so much technology adopted directly or indirectly from China, with the vast wealth of classical Greek learning and literature regained by Europe from the Islamic world, and with so many religious ideas, medicine, and technology adopted from the Middle East and south Asia, early modern Europe undeniably benefitted greatly from the wide-ranging accomplishments of the rest of Eurasia in its own rise to pre-eminence. Thus, in the *longue durée* of Eurasian history the undeniable Western or European dominance in numerous spheres of human activity during the past five centuries is something relatively new and certainly not fixed in stone. Indeed, to the extent that the points of similarity within Eurasian countries have been the very cultural institutions and values required for the making of our modern world, all of Eurasia's major cultures would seem to share the components necessary for a successful transition to modernity and indeed, despite their continuing differences, to a common Eurasian modernity.

For those who think this approach merely reflects current nostrums of political correctness, it is wise to recall that Goody was making these points long before they entered the arena of contemporary political and cultural debate. Also, his argument is buttressed by considerable learning, as can be seen in his most recent book, *Renaissances, The One or the Many?* This study of the Western Renaissance can be seen as a logical next step for his project of re-assessing Europe's place in human history. Most of us have learned from school textbooks to see this period in Western history as the time when the southern and then the north European countries regained knowledge of their classical past and thus laid the basis for subsequent major advances in art, science, technology, and other fields of knowledge. Goody has no objection to this view, but he does object to

its slighting of the European Renaissance's reliance on learning from the Islamic world as well as to its neglect of the occurrence of cultural rebirths within other Eurasian cultures. His accounts of Indian, Islamic, and Chinese 'renaissances' demonstrate that the historical basis of Europe's subsequent rise to world dominance was not unique among the major cultures of Eurasia, particularly in comparison to China's renaissance during the Song dynasty (960–1279). The most important changes for the great divide between East and West would come much later, during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Inevitably, specialists will carp over some points in the argument, experts will point out its omission of a wealth of important detail, and yet others will take his conclusions to support points that Goody never made (he is certainly not denigrating the amazing accomplishments of Western civilization in the past five hundred years). No one, however, will deny the indefatigable energy, integrity and intelligence, that he has put into a project that has crowned an already distinguished career and helped to lay the foundation for a more inclusive and accurate kind of history that our children and grandchildren will be lucky to learn.

By the way, Jack Goody has just turned 91, having 'in retirement' authored no fewer than 22 books in his rooms at St John's.



Dr Joseph McDermott

Jane Milburn, J F Hall-Craggs and others, *The History of the Lady Margaret Boat Club, St John's College, Cambridge*, vol. III 1957–1982 (Lady Margaret Boat Club, 2008).

Pp. xiv + 468 + numerous plates and illustrations.

Reviewer: Dr Linehan is the editor of the forthcoming College History, which will be published to celebrate the College's Quincentenary in 2011.



In succession to volumes I and II (published in 1926 and 1957 and covering the years 1825–1926 and 1926–1956 respectively), volume III of the *History of LMBC* continues the established tradition of providing an almanac of the Club's crews, in this case from 1957 up to the arrival of women in 1982, together with a summary of each term's triumphs and rather frequent disappointments. The saga of jammed slides, wrenched rowlocks, wrecked riggers and the like begins with K W Blyth as Captain of Boats and Dean Bezzant rescuing one tired member from the clutches of the constabulary, occasioning the observation in the Captain's

Book (the principal source of much that follows) that 'Whatever one's personal inclinations, it is worthwhile to keep on good terms with the Dean.'

The value of that lovingly polished gem of ancient wisdom, incidentally, is regularly confirmed in Bezzant's correspondence with Dr Blyth who has kindly permitted use to be made of it in the forthcoming History of the College, not least in the matter of the oar which unaccountably became attached to the Chapel tower after the 1957 May Bumps Supper (mentioned here though lacking the then Master's description of it as 'sacrilegious') and the long-continuing series of nocturnal explosions on the same occasion (omitted, alas, from the present account). As perhaps with some of the other after-supper exploits of the 1970s themselves, what Bezzant would have thought of them had better not be recorded. Inevitably, his interventions were to prove ineffectual until 1961 when, 'after an unfortunate incident involving vomiting and a piano', the tradition of having the 1st VIII render T R Glover's Boat Club anthem at the May Concert

was discontinued, thus terminating a sixty-year-old tradition dating from the time when the club had complained about the concert being 'too *musical*' and when on one occasion, which *is* reported here, the anthem had served as a sort of mating call between a pair of youngish Heavies for purposes of communication across the South African veldt.

So furious were the flames engulfing the sacrificial eight when LMBC went head in 1959 that the windows of Second Court cracked: an outcome unlikely to be repeated at least for as long as the dead hand of Health and Safety is holding the thermometer. The recovery of the headship in 1974, of which an epic account, jammed slides and all, is provided, would see the 77-year-old P H G H-S (Hubert) Hartley together with the Club's Senior Treasurer, the magnificent Col Ken Wylie, jumping over the burning boat: a scene delightfully evoked in Keith Jeffrey's contribution to the 'Profiles of Great LMBC Oars and Coaches'. For eight of the twenty-five year period under review the Club was Head of the Mays. In 1966, for the first time since 1879, the Club won both the Visitors' Cup and the Ladies' Plate at Henley.

In 1958, we are told (p. 24), the object of the exercise was for crews to get 'more fairy-like', the magnificent inappropriateness of which certainly will strike some who were around at the time. Here, however, is an abundance of what the late Queen Mother, on being informed of Henry Pelling's expertise in Trade Union history, referred to as 'such human stories': of the heroic bow with gastric flu who rowed the course without mentioning having fainted just before the race; of the cox (of another college of course) dissolving into tears on being shouted at; and of that glowing heroic past when 'double Bottishams were the order of the day' (p. 362: an order not to be confused with Double *Cottenhams*, an extinct cheese bombed out of existence during the War). As to how one of the current Lords Justice of Appeal, trouserless at the time, came to be arrested by the constabulary, readers must enquire for themselves.

A distinct bonus is the miscellany of 'LMBC Quotes and Anecdotes' provided in lieu of an extensive introduction and furnishing a record of titanic achievements extending beyond the chronological limits of the volume. Look no further therefore for 'The Myth of the Fatal Accident'; for the Just So Story of How the New Court Clock Got its Hands; for Peter Hennessy's account of the triumphant Fellows' VIII of 1973 coached by the (no less magnificent) Col J H Faulkner (Captain of Boats in 1934: 'a protean heavy hewn from the original granite who ... thought the excessive brain-power of his crew [coxed by the present Governor of the Bank of England] was an advantage'); and for the history of 'The Maggie', the scarlet Armstrong Siddeley tourer *d'un certain âge* donated by a former chaplain of the College with a tendency to catch fire (the car, that is) at moments of high excitement ('The lights were not impressive, nor the drum brakes ... The tendency of the underside of the back seat to press on the battery or exhaust pipe

if the rear passengers were solidly built, caused a disconcerting smell of burning'), as well as for some not entirely indisputable tales. The reason why the Chapel memorials to J H D Goldie (the Cambridge stroke who in 1872 'broke his thole pin at Hammersmith, but maintained the rhythm without pressure on his blade, winning by 2 lengths') and to the legendary Day brothers are not mentioned is surely not that LMBC men are strangers to that place.

For a number of reasons, the study of the dynastic principle within the College amongst them, this fascinating and splendidly illustrated volume of LMBC's Wisden is enthusiastically to be welcomed, and both Jane Milburn and John Hall-Craggs, well known to many Old Heavies (not to mention their fathers), are warmly to be thanked.



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 Mrs Susan Warburton (née Hedges)

1991

Mr Ali Ali
 Dr Tomasz Brzezinski
 Mrs Anne Campbell (née Martin)
 Dr Andrew Gibbons
 Dr Stacey Lee (née Anderson)
 Mr Joseph Monk
 Miss Rebecca Palmer
 Lt Commander Gregory Parker
 Dr Theodore Potter
 Dr Mark Purcell
 Dr Jonathon Read
 Mr Stephen Tunnicliffe Wilson
 Dr Christopher Van Houten
 Mr Toby Watkin
 Mr Ben Whitmore
 Mr Paul Wuensche

1992

Mr Aaron Armstrong
 Miss Katharine Aubury
 Mrs Karen Birch (née Thomas)
 Mr James Bowden
 Dr Timothy Clapp
 Mr Richard Dale
 Professor Thomas Gallanis
 Mrs Lindsay Gardiner (née Chalmers)
 Mr Alex Johnson
 Mr Robin Mann
 Mrs Carrie Ricketts (née Allison)
 Dr Graham Stewart
 Mrs Rachel Stockdale (née Bromby)
 Mr Thomas Stokes
 Mr Jeremy Watkins

1993

Mr Daniel Bennett
 Mr Deepak Bhadri
 Mr Edward Cropley
 Miss Ursula Hurley
 Miss Karen Parkes
 Mr Nicholas Pye
 Mr Mark Savage
 Dr Owain Thompson
 Dr Roseanne Wilkinson
 Miss Catherine Wilson

1994

Mr Andrew Alexander
 Mrs Nicola Barrass (née Hunter)
 Mr Jeremy Bassinder
 Professor Steven Brenner
 Mr Christopher Brooks
 Miss Fae Dussart
 Mr Nigel Edwards
 Mrs Anna Iacuzzi (née Blackburn)
 Mr Peter Jones
 Dr Baylon Kamalarajan
 Mr Philip Makinson
 Dr Andrew Massey
 Mrs Sarah Pye (née Power)
 Mr David Richards
 Mr Ben Richardson
 Mr James Samworth
 Mr Richard Seago
 Dr John Winn
 Miss Tamsin Wright

1995

Mr Alexander Ashworth
 Mrs Sophie Boyce (née Gilder)
 Miss Hannah Bradley
 Mr Thomas Dare
 Mr Nick Geddes
 Dr Kieren Hollingsworth
 Mr Ross Hutchison
 Mr Matthew Kendry
 Mr Steven Lloyd

Mrs Rosanne MacKenzie (née Burton)
Mr Ross MacKenzie
Mr Alexander Massey
Dr Tamsin Mather
Ms Jemma Mindham
Mr Ross Olson
Mr Stephen Pedlow
Dr Mark Radon
Miss Nicola Stanton
Mrs Sarah Wills (née Mills)
Mr Graham Wynes

1996

Mr Justin Atkinson
Mr Steven Balls
Miss Joanna Beck
Miss Caroline Boddy
Dr Emma Brooker
Miss Meg Clothier
Mrs Jane Davidson (née Thomson)
Mr Christian Forsdyke
Mr Neil Goulbourne
Mr Timothy Hawkins
Mr John Ibbotson
Mrs Rachel Miller (née Compton)
Dr Adekoyejo Odutola
Mr Michael Rennoldson
Dr Sarah Rennoldson (née Hall)
Miss Rebecca Thevarokiam
Mr Alexander Thomson

1997

Mr Richard Avery
Mr Andrew Bostock
Mr Alistair Boyd
Mrs Eleanor Brown (née Davis)
Mr David Cox
Mr Christopher Gabbitas
Mr Stuart Gale
Mr Matthew Hall
Mr Jonathan Jackson

Dr Chong Kim
Mr Ronald Lin
Mr Ian Macho
Mr David Richards
Mr Claude Schneider
Mr James Scott
Mr Stephen Seale
Mr Andrew Veitch

1998

Mr William Addison
Mr Simon Bor
Dr Clare Bostock (née Palmer)
Mr David Broch
Miss Juliette Malley
Mr Huibert Maris
Mr Nicholas Ray
Ms Nicola Schwartz (née Dyke)
Mr Grant Smith
Miss Nathalie Walker
Mr Marc Zimman

1999

Mr Richard Burgon
Dr Daniel Cooney
Mr Timothy Foster
Dr Alexander Goldsmith
Dr Andrew Merritt
Professor Roger Parker
Mr Joseph Skinner
Mr Michael Strother
Mr Kiyotaka Tanaka

2000

Mr Rehaan Anjum
Dr Martin Dinter
Dr Chia-Ling Phuah
Miss Tiffany Sherrington
Miss Rosalind Tendler
Ms Salima Virji
Mr Jonathan Williams

2001

Mr Andrew Cullen
Professor Christopher Dobson
Mr Kevin Moran
Mr Benjamin Parker
Mr Geoffrey Paterson
Miss Christine Schoenart
Mr Richard Tamblyn
Mr Roland Young

2002

Mr Tom Dye
Mr Stelios Elia
Mr Matthew Fittall
Miss Zip Jila
Mr Stefan Kuppen
Mr Peter Scott

2003

Dr Samit Ahir
Mr Gregory Lowden
Mr Andrew Wheatley-Hubbard

2004

Mr Martin O'Neill
Miss Kate Swearengen

2006

Ms Jessamyn Liu
Mr James Park

Fellow Commoner

Dr Eugene Trani

Overseas Visiting Scholar

Professor Frank McKinney

Private Individuals

Dr Tirza Bleeheh
Mrs Kit Kemp
Mr Timothy Kemp
Mrs Anne Matthewman
Professor Joseph Zund

Organisations

Macfarlanes LLP
Marsh Christian Trust
The Johnian Society
The Thompson Trust



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Sir Richard Aikens (Honorary Fellow)
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Dr Ronald Bathgate (BA 1954)
Mr Neville Billington
Professor Cynthia Brokaw (Overseas Visiting Scholar 2009)
The Bromsgrove Society
Ms Eleanor Bron
Dr Jenny Bryant-Tokalau (Overseas Visiting Scholar 2010)
Dr Francis Burrows (PhD 1962)
Mr Paul Bush
Cambridge University Press
Ms S C Campbell
Sir Bryan Cartledge (Honorary Fellow)
Ms Laure Cinquin
Professor Clarke
Professor Peter Clarke (Fellow 1980–2000)
Professor Neville Collinge (BA 1947)
Dr Andrew Counter (Fellow 2008–09)
Ms Clair de Courcy
Mr H I Courts
The Rt Hon the Lord Crisp (Honorary Fellow)
Dr Terence Denman (PhD 1985)
Mr Luis de Sousa
Mr Jayantha Dhanapala (Overseas Visiting Scholar 2009)
Ms Anne Dolamore
Mr Jacques van den Dool
Mr Andrew Duff (BA 1972)
Mr Richard Eberlie (BA 1956)
Mr Phillip Emanuel (MPhil 2008)
Professor Emerton
Dr Stefan Fafinski (BA 1989)
Professor Emma Falque Rey (Overseas Visiting Scholar 2002-3)
Professor Graham Farmelo
Mr Paul Farrington (BA 1963)
Dr Emily Finch
Flemish Ministry of Culture
Flemish-Netherlands Association
Mr Peter Fletcher

Ms Amparo Flores (matric. 2006)
 Fondazione Internazionale Balzan
 Dr Fox
 Mr Nick Gifford (BA 1977)
 Mr Ian Goodhand (BA 1950)
 Professor Sir Jack Goody
 The Revd Dr Terry Griffith (BA 1975)
 Dr Christopher Hammond (BA 1964)
 Samantha Hardingham
 Professor Brian Harvey (BA 1957)
 Dr Michael Haslam (BA 1955)
 Mr Jim Hatfield (BA 1971)
 Dr Sebastian W K Hew (PhD 2009)
 Professor Hinde
 Mrs Thirza Hope
 Bequest of Professor Sir Bryan Hopkin (Honorary Fellow)
 Professor Howard
 Miss Rosy Hunt
 Dr Hutchinson
 Dr Ronald Hyam (BA 1959)
 Dr James
 Dr Timothy Kidd (Harper-Wood Student 1973–4)
 Professor Edmund King (BA 1963)
 Dr Desmond King-Hele
 Professor Charles Kittel (BA 1938)
 Mr Jan Kolodynski (BA 2008)
 Dr Roger C Lallemand (BA 1957)
 Ms Camilla Loewe
 Ms Joyce M Low
 Professor McMullen
 Mr A A Marcoff (BA 1978)
 Dr Martin Marriott (BA 1976)
 Marsh Christian Trust
 Dr John Martin (BA 1949)
 Dr Stefan Meinel
 Professor Michael Metcalf (BA 1955)
 Dr Midgley
 Mr Gerald Montagu (BA 1992)
 Dr Graham Morgan (BA 1973)
 Mr David Morphet (BA 1961)
 Dr Michael Neiditch (PhD 1978)
 Mr Siegfried Neukirch
 Mr William Newman (BA 1961)
 Mrs Doris Orr

Mr William Palmer (BA 2004)
Professor Floyd Parsons (PhD 1991)
Professor Perham
Mr Victor Perry (BA 1955)
Professor Michael Perryman (BA 1976)
Mr David Pollard (BA 1977)
Dr Jacinta Prunty (Overseas Visiting Scholar 2005)
Dr Rory Rapple (Fellow 2002–06)
Professor Reif
Mr Brian Robinson (BA 1954)
The late Mr Sandy Ross-Macdonald (BA 1958)
St John's College School
Dr Paul Samuels (BA 1972)
Professor Schofield
Miss Clarissa Scholes (BA 2008)
Professor Michiko Seimiya
Mrs Gabriel Sewell
Mr Michael Sharman (BA 1955)
Mr Warwick Sheffield
The late Mr T F Sinclair (BA 1958)
Dr Jonathan Steinberg (MA 1963)
Mr John Titford (BA 1967)
Mr Jean-François Viot
Mr Watson
Mr Charles Watts-Jones (BA 1962)
Dr Williams
Mr Alex Wilshaw (BA 2008)
Mr Derek Winterbottom
Mr David Winton (BA 1971)
Mr Nicholas Wood (BA 1959)
Mr John Woodman (BA 1933)



COLLEGE NOTES

COLLEGE NOTES



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

College Officers

The College Officers as of October 2010 will be:

The Master	Professor C M Dobson ScD MA DPhil FRS
The President	A M Nicholls MA PhD
Senior Tutor	M Dörrzapf PhD
Senior Bursar	C F Ewbank MA MBA
Dean of Chapel	Reverend D J Dormor BA MSc
Dean of Discipline	D M Fox BA LLB PhD
Domestic Bursar	Commodore J W R Harris MA
Librarian	A M Nicholls MA PhD
Praelector	Professor M Schofield MA PhD FBA
Director of Music	A M Nethsingha BA
Chaplain	Reverend G D Bayliss BA DPhil

The College Council

As of October 2010, the College Council will consist of:

	The Master	
The President	Professor Barker	
Professor Horrocks	Dr Dörrzapf	
Professor McCave	Professor Woods	
Dr Metaxas	Miss Tomaselli	
Dr Colwell	Mr Ewbank	
Professor Lane	Dr Mair	

The Fellowship

The Fellowship of the College as of October 2010 will be as follows in order of seniority:

The Master (Professor C M Dobson)
The President (Dr A M Nicholls)

Professor Sir Maurice Wilkes	Professor Sir Jack Goody
Dr E D James	Mr G G Watson
Professor R A Hinde	Dr J A Charles
Dr R H Prince	Dr D J H Garling

Professor R N Perham
 Dr G A Reid
 Professor P Boyde
 Dr J A Leake
 Dr P A Linehan
 Dr A J Macfarlane
 Professor D L McMullen
 Dr E K Matthews
 Mr R G Jobling
 Dr A A Macintosh
 Professor J Staunton
 Dr C M P Johnson
 Professor M A Clarke
 Dr A G Smith
 Professor J A Emerton
 Dr R A Green
 Professor J Iliffe
 Professor M Schofield
 Dr G A Lewis
 Professor R F Griffin
 Dr T P Bayliss-Smith
 Professor S F Gull
 Dr H P Hughes
 Dr P Goddard
 Professor P T Johnstone
 Professor I M Hutchings
 Professor H R L Beadle
 Dr J B Hutchison
 Professor S F C Milsom
 Dr D G D Wight
 Professor Sir Richard Friend
 Dr R E Glasscock
 Professor R P Tombs
 Dr R E McConnel
 Dr D R Midgley
 Professor P H Matthews
 Dr M Richards
 Professor J F Kerrigan
 Professor G J Burton
 Professor G C Horrocks
 Professor Sir Partha Dasgupta
 Professor M E Welland
 Dr H R Matthews

Professor B J Heal
 Dr T P Hynes
 Professor I N McCave
 Dr A C Metaxas
 Colonel R H Robinson
 Professor S Conway Morris
 Professor E D Laue
 Dr S A Edgley
 Mr R A Evans
 Dr S M Colwell
 Dr H E Watson
 Dr J P McDermott
 Professor C O Lane
 Dr C J Robinson
 Professor Y M Suhov
 Professor S R S Szreter
 Professor D J Howard
 Mr R C Nolan
 Professor M M G Lisboa
 Dr U C Rublack
 Professor B D Simons
 Dr K C Plaisted Grant
 Dr M Ní Mhaonaigh
 Professor D C McFarlane
 Professor C D Gray
 Dr I M Winter
 Professor N S Manton
 Dr N S Arnold
 Dr S Castelvecchi
 Professor A-L Kinmonth
 Dr J M Lees
 Professor A D H Wyllie
 Professor S C Reif
 Dr D M Fox
 Dr D M A Stuart
 Dr M Dörrzapf
 Dr V J L Best
 Dr P Antonello
 Dr P T Miracle
 Professor A W Woods
 Commodore J W R Harris
 Professor S M Best
 Dr P M Geraats

Dr P T Wood
 Dr S Olsaretti
 Dr E J Gowers
 Mr D J Dormor
 Professor U C Goswami
 Dr R J Samworth
 Professor G W W Barker
 Dr K Johnstone
 Dr D L Williams
 Miss S Tomaselli
 Mr C F Ewbank
 Dr A Galy
 Dr F E Salmon
 Dr C G Warnes
 Professor F M Watt
 Dr C D Jiggins
 Dr R H G Garner
 Dr D Burdakov
 Mr S W Teal
 Mr A M Nethsingha
 Dr J R Mair
 Dr A G Kesby

Dr T Larsson
 Dr R D Mullins
 Professor D A Lomas
 Dr T P J Knowles
 Dr G A Mailer
 Dr E J L Waring
 Dr J J W A Robinson
 Dr G L Evans
 Dr M Atatüre
 Dr H L A Johnston
 Dr A B Reddy
 Dr A W Truman
 Mr D C Ellis
 Dr J K Harmer
 Mr S J Thompson
 Professor Z Ghahramani
 Professor J S Rink
 Dr O Kucherenko
 Mr T E C Button
 Mr B R M Thomson
 Mr M N Goodhand

Honorary Fellows in order of seniority

The Revd Professor W O Chadwick
 Sir Jonathan Miller
 His Excellency Dr M Singh
 The Rt Hon the Lord Templeman
 Sir Douglas Wass
 Sir David Wilson
 Sir Bryan Cartledge
 The Rt Hon the Lord Griffiths
 Sir Derek Jacobi
 Professor Sir Roger Penrose
 Professor Sir John Horlock
 Professor Sir David Cox
 The Rt Revd P K Walker
 The Rt Hon the Lord Mustill
 Mr Justice R J Goldstone
 The Rt Hon the Lord Hope
 Sir Tim Lankester

Sir Christophor Laidlaw
 The Rt Hon the Lord Browne
 Professor M A King
 Mr J M Brearley
 The Hon Mr Justice Frank Iacobucci
 Ambassador A J Jacovides
 Sir Michael Scholar
 The Most Revd Dr P F Carnley
 Sir Mark Moody-Stuart
 Mr D M Burt
 Mr C N Corfield
 Professor J D Harvey
 Professor E S Maskin
 Professor Lord Renfrew
 Sir Richard Aikens
 Professor Sir John Ball
 Sir Jack Beatson

Professor J G A Pocock
 Sir David Hopwood
 Ambassador F Kazaura
 Sir Roger Palin
 Mr D W Pountney
 The Rt Hon the Lord Crisp

Mr S J Keenlyside
 Professor R M Goody
 Professor R J Loewe
 The Rt Revd Professor S W Sykes
 Professr L Cha

Benefactors' Scholars

Michael James Carroll
 Prajwal Ciryam
 Silva Mikaela Nurmio

T A Steinke
 Russell Martin O'Riagáin
 Christopher Franklin Wagner

Neeraj Garg Baruah
 Alexander Linden Vail

G M Thaler
 Laura Gabrielle Mary Bernadette
 Kilbride
 Ranja Golubic
 Christopher Andrew David Blair
 Thomas Joseph Cahill
 Dhananjay Jagannathan
 Francis Annor
 Kate Clara Purcell
 Johannes Benedict Hofmann

Classics, Trinity College, Dublin
 Chemistry, Northwestern University
 Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic,
 Aberystwyth University
 Pure Maths & Mathematical Statistics
 Archaeology, St Catharine's College
 History & Philosophy of Science,
 Northwestern University
 Geography, University of Delhi
 Zoology, James Cook University of
 North Queensland
 Politics & International Studies

English, Queens' College
 Epidemiology, Hughes Hall
 Mathematics, Trinity College, Dublin
 Chemistry, Stanford University
 Classics, University of Texas at Austin
 Psychology, Downing College
 Legal Studies, St John's College
 Applied Mathematics, Fitzwilliam
 College

Student Awards, Prizes and Scholarships

Larmor Award

The following students received the Larmor Award in June 2010:

Richard J Butler
 Richard T Curling
 Charles R D Guetta
 Maxwell J Kramer
 Vishnu Parameshwaran

Baylis Scholarship

D J Andrews
D L B Brantner
S T Hughes
S M Legg
A Shah
D Stanford
R H van Zwanenberg
C Witte
R Zhou

Davidson Scholarship

M I Atkins
S R Bathurst
P A Benson
L J Chambers
P H Clark
R T Curling
V Dalibard
C R C Draper
W R Johnston
J B Leigh
N D Patrick
C J Rogers
R Rose
J H Samuel
R R Stanciu
G A Ward Thomas

Duchess of Somerset Scholarship

J M Challenger
C Fitton

Henry Arthur Thomas Scholarship

R Mercer
C S Tolley
T J M Vallance

Horne Scholarship

T Avery
E C Bennett-Spragg
J H Clark
J R Colledge

T S Eaves,
T C Farrelly
B Grainger
C R D Guetta
J H Karmazyn
R N Lasenby
Z M Lim
D A Roberts
M M Schmittfull
N M Sharifi
B Török
C Travers

Lister Scholarship

G E T Blake
G L Colcough
K A de Rome
N J Lawrence
V Parameshwaran

McAulay Scholarship

A J Meredith
J S Morgan
J W Robinson
D Y Y Sim
J S Spencer

Nowell-Rostron Scholarship

H D P Burling
A J Ford
M J Kramer
H G J Leslie
D T Ryan
J S Tyndall

Prior Scholarship

B L Gregory
M Mitchell
C C Robinson
H Zhu
X Y Zhu

Rolleston Scholarship

G C Driscoll
 R F R Fisher
 N U Krall
 C Y Mason
 U R Moore
 C D Paluch
 C S W Tham
 C B Wright
 R Xavier

Townsend Scholarship

J P Gunton
 W L Heng
 N M T Houlsby
 M J Jones
 G D Keeves
 T McCollin
 A McCreanor
 D A H Orr
 M C Thomas
 C J Tilbury

**United Steel Companies
Scholarship**

P N Arran
 F M C Belfiore
 L Bortolotti
 L S Connell

College prizes

Adams Memorial prize: J H Karmazyn

Cargill prize: N M T Houlsby

Constable prize: N U Krall, C H Yuen

Cunningham prize: N M T Houlsby, N U Krall

Dirac prize: C R D Guetta

Earle prize: R R Stanciu, X Y Zhu

Gaskell prize: R E S Peat and D T Ryan
 J H Samuel and T J M Vallance

J P Day
 J Green
 T Howe
 A S Jones
 A Karmazyn
 J W L Lee
 A J London
 K K-H Ng
 A G Rose
 L S Schumacher
 M J Turner
 A E Ward
 C H Yuen,
 F Y Zhou

Whytehead Scholarship

D L Bennett
 C Bush
 R J Butler
 M Crowther
 A W N Dinsmore
 J R Forbes-King
 I N P Jayatunga
 Y S Lau
 K W Y Loke
 R E S Peat
 F E Taylor
 E L-W Yau

Hawksley Burbury prize: C S Tolley

Hockin prize: L S Connell, A S Jones, R N Lasenby, A J London

Hughes prize: J H Karmazyn, M J Kramer, N J Lawrence, V Parameshwaran
and J S Spencer

A J Iacovides prize: X Y Zhu

Johnston prize: P A Benson and J Green
H G J Leslie and Z M Lim

Johnstone prize: D Stanford

Lapwood-Towle prize: D L B Brantner, R Zhou

Leathem prize: Z M Lim

Malcolm prize: A W Torrens

Meldrum prize: N J Lawrence

Morton prize: M Mitchell and B R Smith

Phineas Quass prize: K A de Rome and H Zhu
R Rose

Pollard prize: A R Browning, J S Spencer

JP Read prize: N U Krall

Wright prize:

for Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic: R R Stanciu

for Archaeology and Anthropology: C R C Draper, R Rose

for Architecture: P A Benson

for Chemical Engineering: J P Day

for Classics: T J M Vallance

for Economics: H Zhu

for Engineering: L Bortolotti, N M T Houlsby, T Howe, D A H Orr, F Y Zhou

for English: W R Johnston

for History: C Bush, R E S Peat, J S Spencer

for Law: X Y Zhu

for Mathematics: D L B Brantner, J R Colledge, J H Karmazyn, R N Lasenby,
Z M Lim, D Stanford, R Zhou

for Medical and Veterinary Medicine: G C Driscoll, R F R Fisher
 for Modern and Medieval Languages: J H Samuel
 for Natural Sciences: F M C Belfiore, K A de Rome, J Green, N U Krall,
 N J Lawrence, V Parameshwaran, A E Ward
 for Theology and Religious Studies: M J Kramer, H G J Leslie, D T Ryan

College prize:

for Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic: J B Leigh
 for Chemical Engineering: W L Heng, A McCreanor, A G Rose
 for Classics: R Mercer, C S Tolley
 for Computer Science: V Dalibard
 for Economics: M I Atkins, C Fitton, J R Forbes-King, Y S Lau, K W Y Loke,
 N D Patrick, C C Robinson, C J Rogers
 for Engineering: P N Arran, J P Gunton, M J Jones, A Karmazyn, T McCollin,
 J W Robinson, D Y Y Sim, M C Thomas
 for English: D L Bennett,
 for History: J S Morgan, F E Taylor
 for History of Art: R J Butler
 for Law: A W N Dinsmore
 for Management Studies: R T Curling
 for Manufacturing Engineering: G D Keeves, E L-W Yau
 for Mathematics: D J Andrews, T Avery, E C Bennett-Spragg, J H Clark, T S
 Eaves, T C Farrelly, B Grainger, C R D Guetta, S T Hughes, S M Legg, D A
 Roberts, M M Schmittfull, A Shah, N M Sharifi, B Török, C Travers, R H van
 Zwanenberg, C Witte
 for Medical and Veterinary Medicine: U R Moore, C S W Tham, C B Wright,
 R Xavier
 for Modern and Medieval Languages: S R Bathurst, L J Chambers, P H Clark,
 I N P Jayatunga
 for Music: J M Challenger
 for Natural Sciences: G E T Blake, G L Colcough, L S Connell, B L Gregory,
 A S Jones, J W L Lee, A J London, C Y Mason, K K-H Ng, C D Paluch, L S
 Schumacher, M J Turner, C H Yuen
 for Philosophy: A J Meredith, M Mitchell
 for Politics, Psychology, Sociology and International Studies: M Crowther,
 G A Ward Thomas
 for Theology and Religious Studies: H D P Burling, A J Ford, J S Tyndall

University Prizes and Awards

The following Prizes and Awards to members of the College have been announced by the University.

The Armourers and Braisers' AWE Prize has been awarded to Louise S Connell.

A Roger Morris Prize has been awarded to Rebecca F R Fisher.

The Buncombe Prize has been awarded to Owen Griffiths.

The Glennie Prize in Child Psychiatry has been awarded to Kamilla Klepacka.

The Raphael Prize, for distinction in Organic Chemistry and the GSK Prize for the best Organic project have been awarded to Nikolaus Krall.

OUP Achievement in Biosciences Prize has been awarded to Natalie Lawrence.

The Shearline Design for Manufacture Prize has been awarded to Eesa Mohammed.

The Pharmacology Prize has been awarded to Vishnu Parameshwaran.

Part II Amalendu Dev Memorial Prize has been awarded to Linus Schumacher.

University Scholarships

A Jebb Fund Studentship was awarded to Steven Lydon.

A Cambridge Overseas Trust Scholarship was awarded to Zhibin Ben Ren.

A Prendergast Classical Studentship was awarded to Jessica Priestley.

Departmental Prizes and Awards

The Corporate Associates Prize for Practical Class Demonstration has been awarded by the Department of Chemistry to Hoi Tik Alvin Leung.

The Best Student Prize was awarded by the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy to Zhibin Ben Ren.

The Duncan Roland Studentship was awarded by the Clinical School to Rebecca Fisher.

Blues

David Allman was awarded a Blue in squash.

Frederick Burdon was awarded a Blue in rugby union.

Alexander Cheetham was awarded a Half-Blue in rugby union.

Andrew Dinsmore was awarded a Blue in golf.

Eleanor Fielding was awarded a Blue in cricket.

Andrea Kuesters was awarded a Half-Blue in squash.

Charles Linton was awarded a Half-Blue in rugby league.

Michael Mackay was awarded a Blue in squash.
 Peter Mackenney was awarded a Blue in hockey.
 Christopher Maynard was awarded a Blue in football.
 Ian Ralby was awarded a Half-Blue in lacrosse.
 Alexander Reid was awarded a Blue in rugby union.
 Christopher Robinson was awarded a Blue in hockey.
 Felix Schaaf was awarded a Half-Blue in basketball and a Blue in athletics.
 Nicholas Sutcliffe was awarded a Blue in squash.

Other Student Achievements

1998 HENDERSON, Arthur Smythe has been made a Life Member of the Architectural Association of London.

2006 KEEVES, Gareth has been awarded the highest mark worldwide for the Diploma in Financial Management. The Diploma is awarded by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and is aimed at middle or senior managers in non-accounting roles.

KOOPS, Kathelijne has been awarded a Junior Research Fellowship from Homerton College and a Phyllis and Eileen Gibbs Travelling Research Fellowship from Newnham College.

RALBY, Ian was elected President of the Hawks' Club for 2010–11.

2007 HEMPE, Eva-Maria won a Hawks' Charitable Trust award and the Cambridge University Entrepreneurs 100 Word challenge.

MOHAMMED, Eesa has been awarded the 2009–10 Parmee Prize for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise from Pembroke College.

WONG, Ivy was awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship in 2009.

2008 NATARAJAN, Harish was the 2009 10th Best Speaker at the World Universities Debating Championship, held in Cork, Ireland and the 2010 Semi-Finalist at the World Universities Debating Championship held in Koc, Turkey.

WILF, Nabil was selected as a finalist for the Sir Howard Dalton Young Microbiologist of the Year Competition based on his poster presentation at the Spring Meeting of the Society for General Microbiology in March 2010. The finals will be held in September 2010.





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