The Brazen Nose Volume 41 2006-2007

The Brazen Nose 2006-2007





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

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

(Revised 1999)

Fellow Editors - Sos Eltis, William James, Christopher McKenna Editor - Kate Love



CONTENTS

Brasenose College 2006-2007 4	Mexi
Principal's Notes 10	Irela
Class Lists17	Italy
Higher Degrees 21	Artic
Matriculations 200722	Brase
College Prizes 2007 25	How
University Prizes27	
Elections to Scholarships and	Paint
Exhibitions	Brase
Award Holders and Scholars	Grah Weel
Blues and Half Blues	
Reports	The
JCR 40	My I
HCR	Beyo
The Library 45	News
Chapel 52	News
Staff Report54	Obit
The Phoenix Common Room 56	Deat
Brasenose Arts 200758	Peter
The King's Hall Trust60	Geof
The Ellesmere Society	Stanl
Ale Verses 2007	David
Sports reports	Keith
BNC Cricket 2006-0766	Peter
Men's Football69	Colir
Men's Hockey71	Norn
Netball 73	N. S.
Boat Club President's Report	Anth
Men's Rowing75	Robi
Women's Rowing77	Profe
Rugby Union79	Sir C
Table Football81	Dr Jo
Travel grant reports	John
India	Brase
Greece	Brase
Australia85	Past

Mexico
Ireland92
Italy
Articles
Brasenose Rogues 105
Howard Hodgkin
Paintings 1992-2007 117
Brasenose In The Fifties 120
Graham Richards Celebration Weekend, 19-20 May 2007 123
The Blue Blazer and
My Impressions 130
Beyond Emmaus
News and notes
News and notes
Obituaries
Deaths Notified 140
Peter Fraser
Geoffrey Guy 146
Stanley Hunt CBE
David Hutchinson Smith 151
Keith Ingram 154
Peter Kininmonth 158
Colin McFadyean 160
Norman Mitchell-Innes 162
N. S. 'Mandy' Mitchell-Innes 165
Anthony (Tony) Moreton 167
Robin Parfitt 170
Professor Sir Gareth Roberts 172
Sir Gareth Roberts 174
Dr John Sharp 181
John Stanley Williamson 183
Brasenose Society
Brasenose Society Minutes 186
Past Presidents



BRASENOSE COLLEGE 2006-2007

VISITOR

The Bishop of Lincoln

PRINCIPAL

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

FELLOWS

Richards, William Graham, CBE, MA, DPhil, DSc Professor of Chemistry

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

> > Ingram, Martin John, MA, DPhil Tutor in Modern History

Houlsby, Guy Tinmouth, MA, DSc, (PhD, Cantab) FREng, FICE Professor of Civil Engineering

> Robertson, Jeremy, MA, DPhil Tutor in Organic Chemistry

Edwards, Anne, MA, MRCP Adviser to Women Students

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

Morgan, Llewelyn William Goronwy, MA, (PhD, Cantab) *Tutor in Classics*

> Eltis, Sos Ann, MA, MPhil, DPhil Tutor in English

Bispham, Edward Henry, MA, DPhil Tutor in Ancient History, Librarian



Green, Abigail Frances Floretta, MA, (PhD, Cantab) Tutor in Modern History

McKenna, Christopher Davis, MA, (BA, Amherst; MA, PhD, Johns Hopkins) Tutor in Management Studies

> James, William Siward, MA, DPhil, (BSc, Birm.) Professor of Virology, Tutor in Physiological Sciences

Davies, Anne Caroline Lloyd, MA, DPhil Reader in Public Law, Tutor in Law

Knowland, John Sebastian, MA, DPhil Bursar

Groiser, David Simon, MA, DPhil (BA, Sussex) Tutor in Modern Languages, Dean

Jones, Jonathan Alcwyn, MA, DPhil Professor of Physics, Tutor in Physics

Bowman, Alan Keir, MA, (MA, PhD, Toronto), FBA Camden Professor of Ancient History

Krebs, Thomas, MA, (LLB, Kent), BCL, DPhil Tutor in Law

Herz, Laura, MA, (Diplom, Bonn; PhD, Cantab) Tutor in Physics

Bitsakakis, George, MA, (PhD, MSc, Lond), (MA, Michigan), (BA, MSc, Athens) Tutor in Economics

> Vogenauer, Stefan, MA, MJur Professor of Comparative Law

Wiggs, Giles Frederick Salisbury (BSc, PhD, Lond.) Tutor in Geography

Sharp, Robin Elisabeth (BA, Denison) Director of Alumni Relations and Development

Thun, Eric (BA, PhD, Harvard) Peter Moores Tutor in Chinese Business Studies

Palfrey, Simon David (MA, DPhil, BA, Australian National) Tutor in English

Olson, (Carl) Jonas Peter (MA, PhD, Uppsala; MA, Lund) Tutor in Philosophy

Stockley, Andrew (MA, BA, Canterbury, New Zealand; LLB, Victoria University of Wellington; PhD, Cantab) Senior Tutor, Tutor for Admissions

> Lea, Susan Mary (MA, DPhil) Reader in Structural Biology, Tutor in Biochemistry

Wills, Abigail Grace (BA, PhD, Cantab) Career Development Fellow in History

Gaffney, Eamonn Andrew (BA, PhD, Cantab.) Tutor in Mathematical Biology

Johansen, Thomas Kjeller (BA, PhD, Cantab.) Tutor in Ancient Philosophy



WILLIAM GOLDING AND NICHOLAS KURTI FELLOWS

Zisserman, Andrew (MA, PhD, Cantab.) Senior Kurti Research Fellow, Professor of Engineering Science

> Somogyi, Peter (MSc, PhD, DSc, Hungary) FRS Senior Kurti Research Fellow

Hagger, Mark Simon (MA, MLitt, PhD, St Andrews) Junior Golding Research Fellow

Higgs, Douglas Roland (MA, MB, DSc, Lond) FRCP, FRCPath, FRS Senior Kurti Research Fellow

Evans, Trevor Vivian (BA University of New England; PhD Sydney) Senior Golding Research Fellow

Marzano, Annalisa (BA, MA, Florence; MPhil, Phd, Columbia) Junior Golding Research Fellow

> Robinson, Damian Jason (BSc, PhD, Bradford) Junior Golding Research Fellow

> > Weir, Alexander (BA, DPhil) Junior Kurti Research Fellow

Foster, Russell Grant (BSc, PhD, Brist) Senior Kurti Research Fellow

Fries, Steven Michael (MPhil, DPhil, BSc, Pennsylvania) Senior Golding Research Fellow

> Lifschitz, Avi (DPhil; MA, Tel Aviv) Junior Golding Research Fellow

Dawe, Helen Rebecca (BSc, Manc; PhD, London) Junior Kurti Research Fellow

EMERITUS FELLOWS

Barltrop, John Alfred, MA, DPhil., DSc Brunt, Peter Astbury, MA, FBA Ackrill, John Lloyd, MA, FBA Jones, Philip James, MA, DPhil, FBA, FRHistS Altmann, Simon Leonardo, MA, (PhD, Lond) Stockton, David Leonard, MA Judge, Harry George, MA, (PhD, Lond) Birch, Bryan John, MA, (MA, PhD, Cantab), FRS Rudden, Bernard Anthony, DCL, FBA (LLD, Cantab, PhD, Wales) Cook, Peter Richard, MA, DPhil Davies, John Windsor, BCL, MA, (LLB, Birm) Gasser, Robert Paul Holland, MA, DPhil Millar, Fergus Graham Burtholme, MA, DPhil, DLitt, FBA



Peach, John Vincent, MA, DPhil Proudfoot, Nicholas Jarvis, MA, (BSc, Lond; PhD, Cantab) FRS Rowett, John Spencer, MA, DPhil Foster, John Andrew, MA

SUPERNUMERARY FELLOWS

Hockaday, Thomas Derek, MA, DPhil, FRCP Chevska, Maria, MA status Fellow in Fine Art

Popplewell, David Arthur, MA status, (PhD, Sussex) Fellow in Psychology

Klenerman, Paul, BM, BCh, DPhil, MRCP Professor of Immunology, Fellow in Clinical Medicine

Crook, Joseph Mordaunt, CBE, MA, DPhil, Hon DLitt, FBA

Parrott, Melanie Jane (LLB) Domestic Bursar

Dennis, Paul David, BA, BSc, BM, BCh Richardson, The Revd Graeme, BA, MTh, MPhil *Chaplain*

HONORARY FELLOWS

Freeman, Rt Hon. John, PC, MBE, MA Brademas, Stephen John, DPhil Fraser, Peter Marshall, MC, MA, FBA Eveleigh, Rt Hon. Sir Edward Walter, PC, ERD, MA Clower, Robert, MA, DLitt Moore, Philip Brian Cecil, The Rt Hon Lord Moore of Wolvercote, PC, GCB, GCVO, CMG Kornberg, Sir Hans, MA, DSc, (ScD, Cantab; PhD, Sheff), FRS, FIBiol. Totterman, Richard, DPhil Judd, Brian Raymond, MA, DPhil Hahn, Erwin, (PhD, Illinois), FRS Hodgkin, Sir Howard, CH, CBE, Hon DLitt. Acheson, Sir (Ernest) Donald, KBE, DM Blundell, Sir Thomas Leon, BA, DPhil, FRS O'Neill, Robert John, AO, MA, DPhil, (BE, Melb), FASSA Young, Sir John, AC, KCMG, MA Wates, Sir Christopher Stephen, BA, FCA



Smith, Anthony David, CBE, MA Roberts, Sir Gareth Gwyn, FRS, MA (BSc, PhD, DSc, Bangor) Vallance, Iain David Thomas, Lord Vallance of Tummel, Kt., MA, (MSc, Lond. School of Business Studies) Saville, Mark Oliver, The Rt Hon. Lord Saville of Newdigate, PC, BCL, BA Janvrin, Rt Hon Sir Robin Berry, PC, KCVO, CB, MA Windlesham, The Rt Hon Lord David James George Hennessy PC, CVO, MA, DLitt, Hon LLD, FBA Mellor, Julie Therese, BA Baker, The Rt Hon Sir (Thomas) Scott (Gillespie) Lord Justice, Kt, PC Palin, Michael Edward, CBE, BA Akers-Jones, Sir David, DBE, CMG, CBM, MA Gill, Robin Denys, CVO, MA Allen, Katherine, MA Cameron, The Rt Hon David, MP Khattak, Mohammad Aslam Khan, MA Mortimer, Sir John, CBE, QC, FRSL

VISITING FELLOW

Choueiri, Edgar, (MA, DPhil Princeton)

LECTURERS NOT ON THE FOUNDATION

Harker, Anthony Henry, DPhil, (MA, Cantab) Solid State Physics Wollenberg, Susan Lesley Freda, MA, DPhil Music Bird, Richard Simpson, MA, (PhD, Lond.) Computation Nicholson, Michael Andrew, MA, DPhil Russian Horder, Jeremy Christian Nicholas, BCL, MA, DPhil (LLB, Hull) Law Taylor, Jeremy Simon Hudson, MA, (BSc, Brist; PhD, Lond.) Human Anatomy Rogers, Alisdair Peter, MA, DPhil Geography Johnston, Ian, MA, MSc Engineering Pazos Alonso, Claudia, BA, DPhil, (MA, Lond.) Portuguese



Tasioulas, John, MA, DPhil Philosophy Zancani, Diego, MA, DPhil, (PhD, Lond.) Italian Abrams, Lesley Jane, BA, (MA, PhD, Toronto) Medieval History Bourne-Taylor, Carole Juliette Angelique Marguerite, MA, (PhD, Grenoble) French Moran, Dominic Paul, MA, (PhD, Cantab) Spanish Leal, Dave, MA, (BA, PhD, Leeds) Philosophy

Ballinger, Christopher Alan John, MA, MSc *Politics*

> Meredith, David, DPhil Metabolic Chemistry

Palano, Silvia, MA, (DPhil Florence) Economics

Archer, Rowena, MA, DPhil Medieval History

Cowan, William, MA, DPhil Classics

Ritchie, Grant, MA, DPhil Physical Chemistry

Middleton, Anthony N, MA Physics (Mathematics)

Nickau, Hanno, (PhD, Siegen, Germany) Computation

> Preston, Gail M, (PhD Cornell) Biological Sciences



PRINCIPAL'S NOTES



Welcome to another edition of the *Brazen Nose*, our annual opportunity to report and reflect on the events of the College year. 2006-2007 was both busy and productive and Brasenose continues to be the warm and friendly College it always has been and, I hope, always will be.

Our overarching aim at Brasenose is to ensure that our people have the best education, one that not only fits them for academic, intellectual and research pursuits but also enables them to play an important part in wider society. Oxford's alumni, and indeed Brasenose's alumni, have made an astonishing contribution both nationally and globally.

Michaelmas has seen another generation of Freshers arrive and this year's group are as diverse and as enthusiastic as ever – just as we'd hoped when they were first selected. As we welcome the Freshers, so we wished a fond farewell to another generation of Finalists who have moved on to a variety of careers and further study. We look forward to seeing them back at BNC from time to time, and to keeping in touch with them as their lives progress.

A regular theme of my Principal's Notes has been the increasing importance that the University and Brasenose now attach to graduate, as well as to undergraduate, students. I am pleased to say that this year our graduate intake is slightly increased, with a new wave of talented individuals joining us from all over the globe. One of the big changes in Oxford over the last few decades has been the dramatic rise of international students, particularly graduates, who contribute a great deal to the life and character of Brasenose. As graduates become an ever more significant force within the College, we are improving their conditions and environment and investing in better facilities for them. The HCR has moved from its previous location underneath the Library to a new ground floor location between staircases 3 and 4 in Old Quad. This Common Room is splendidly fitted out and we hope this will provide our graduates with a pleasant base in College, and some respite from labs and libraries.



We have also started building a new graduate annexe near the Saïd Business School, which should almost double the amount of accommodation available to graduate students. Located on Hollybush Row, the new annexe is sited in an area of Oxford which we believe will be developed by the City and the University in the future. The annexe will be a splendid addition, enabling us to offer rooms to all first year graduate students when they arrive at Oxford, something particularly welcome for those from overseas.

This year we gained a good set of Firsts and University prizes at Schools but also saw a temporary slip in the Norrington Table. We really should be somewhat higher than this year's 21st position; we usually sit towards the upper end of the list.

There was, however, a little more success on the sporting front last year. As many of you will have noticed in the *Brazen Notes*, the Men's football team won Cuppers, beating St Anne's 4-0 in the final. Unfortunately, Principal's Collections detained me and I could only enjoy this success second hand; the score and commentary being relayed to me by text message.

The first ever Polish person to row in the boat race was from Brasenose, Michal Plotkowiak, who also helped the Men's First VIII to rise on the river for the first time since 1997. More from this team next year? Let's hope so, if their commitment and enthusiasm is anything to go by.

This year saw a vibrant Arts Week, unfortunately somewhat dampened by the inclement summer. The termly Platnauer concerts were well supported in their now customary format after dinner on a Sunday. It really is nice to see the JCR, the HCR and the SCR coming together after such concerts for dessert in the Senior Common Room.

This year has seen a big change in the Fellowship, brought about by three factors: the research assessment exercise (more about that in a moment); the rebuilding of the Fellowship across all subject areas; and our continued commitment to bringing the best researchers to BNC through the Kurti and Golding Fellowship scheme.

The research assessment exercise (RAE) is only too familiar to people involved in universities; every five, six or seven years the Government, through the Higher Education Funding Council of England (HEFCE), evaluates every person in every department in every university in the country, and the research funds received by the universities from HEFCE are very dependent on those assessments. A new assessment will occur in the 2007-08 academic year and everybody who will be entered needs to be on the books by October 31st 2007. The University, very sensibly, follows a policy of early appointment to posts of the very best qualified



people, so that their quality and quantity can be included in the RAE. This has led us to appoint five new Fellows.

Rui Esteves arrives as the new Fellow in Economics. He did his doctoral work at the University of California at Berkeley and most recently has been Assistant Professor at Simon Fraser University in Canada. His thesis was entitled *International Finance: Crisis Debt Renegotiation*. No doubt this will come in handy in the current climate; a climate we hope does not persist for too long.

Mark Wilson is the new Fellow in Chemistry replacing, effectively, Graham Richards (if that is really possible!). He was an undergraduate at Keble and then a post-doctoral fellow in Stuttgart. He returned to England with a Royal Society University Research Fellowship, which he held first in Oxford before moving to UCL. We are lucky to get him back. His particular areas of interest are nanoparticles and nanotubes.

Christopher Timpson is our new Fellow in Philosophy. He started life at the Queen's College as an undergraduate and graduate student in Physics and Philosophy, writing a thesis on Quantum Information Theory and the Foundations of Quantum Mechanics. Most recently, he has been a lecturer at Leeds University and is now returning to Oxford to continue his interest in Quantum Information Theory.

Owen Lewis is our new Fellow in Quantitative Biology. He too was a Royal Society University Research Fellow and Ernest Cook Research Fellow at Somerville. He was originally an undergraduate in Oxford, did his PhD in Leeds as an ecologist, and currently studies plant pathogens and tropical tree diversity.

Finally, Philip Goulder is a new Fellow in Paediatrics. He began with a Zoology degree at St John's, did medicine in Cambridge, and, after study in the USA and Australia, has returned to Oxford where he is Professor of Immunology. He retains an appointment at Harvard Medical School and an Honorary Professorship in Durban. His major area of interest is in AIDS and HIV, particularly in the young.

We will also welcome back our Economics Fellow, Tony Courakis, who has spent the last three years in Paris as the Greek Ambassador to the OECD.

Our one departure from the Fellowship is George Bitsakakis, who was here as a short term Tutorial Fellow in Economics. He had a tremendous reputation for the teaching and support of students. Fortunately for Oxford, his talents have not been lost, as he is now moving to Pembroke College. Many students owe a great debt to George for all the effort that he put in with them, particularly as they came up towards Finals.



I now turn to our new Kurti and Golding Fellows. It is a pleasure to introduce our Senior Kurti Fellow, Anton van der Merwe. He began his medical and scientific career in Cape Town, South Africa, where he completed a PhD in molecular endocrinology. He came to Oxford in 1991 to pursue MRC-supported research in cellular immunology and is now an MRC Research Professor working on the mechanism of T-Cell activation.

Shawn Carbonell is one of our Junior Kurti Fellows. He took his first degree in psychology at the University of Washington, a PhD in neuroscience and an MD in medicine at the University of Virginia and is now a Cancer Research UK Senior Post-doc Research Fellow at the Churchill, where he works on brain cancer cell metastasis.

Sinead Farrington, our other Junior Kurti Fellow, was an undergraduate in Edinburgh, did her PhD in Glasgow and is just moving from the University of Liverpool to become a 5-year Advanced Fellow of the Science and Technology Facilities Council at Oxford. She works in my own area of particle physics and is searching, along with many of us, for the Higgs particle.

Alicia Hinarejos Parga is our new Junior Golding Fellow. She is a lawyer, and studied initially in Valencia before coming to in Oxford to take a MJur in 2003. She has just finished her DPhil and is particularly interested in legal problems arising from EU anti-terror legislation.

Of course as we gain Golding and Kurti Fellows, we also lose some. Trevor Evans, one of our Senior Golding Fellows, has returned to Australia to a permanent job at the University at Macquarie. Avi Lifschitz, only with us for a year, now holds a lecturership at University College London.

Finally, we have a new Visiting Fellow for the year, Professor Nigel Grindley from Yale University. He was educated in our sister college in Cambridge, Gonville and Caius, and took his PhD. He pursued his career in the United States as a Professor in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry. He was elected to the Royal Society in 2006 and his research is in the biophysics and biochemistry of DNA.

On this note it is also a pleasure to record the election of Senior Kurti Andrew Zisserman, as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Sadly, I must also report the death of one of the Fellows. As many of you will know, Peter Fraser was an Honorary Fellow of the College and had been a contemporary of Barry Nicholas. He was kind enough to unveil the plaque to Barry in Chapel and reflected on their lives, focusing particularly on Barry's contribution to Roman Law and the life of the College.



Some of you may be expecting me to write about Graham Richards' retirement at this point. Being a 'victim' of the RAE, he has not yet been allowed to leave! He is going to be with us until the end of the calendar year before officially retiring, so I reserve my comments for the *Brazen Nose* of next year. We did, however, pre-empt things by having a party for him in the summer which was beautifully arranged by Kate Burt (1988), Paula Carter (1978) and the Alumni Relations Office. The turnout was large and the College staff came up trumps, giving us a thoroughly enjoyable weekend which included a tour of the Chemistry building (with which Graham was so closely involved), a cricket match and an excellent dinner.

Building the Brasenose community has been a major theme for us in recent years. Higher Education, and Oxford and Cambridge in particular, will have many challenges to face in the future. To ensure that the things we all expect of an Oxford education are preserved and enhanced will require not only the efforts of our current academics, administrators and students, but also of our alumni.

Our primary means of communicating with you is through the Alumni Relations and Development Office. They have had yet another exhausting but fun year. We have entertained nearly 1,000 of you in College, in large and convivial groups through Gaudies and other events, as well as individually for those who have exercised their alumni dining rights.

Gaudies are particularly important events for the College - but so too are those organised with the Brasenose Society. Last year they included the Eights Week Lunch, the Brasenose Society Drinks Party (hosted by the then President Jeremy McMullen (1967) at the Royal Courts of Justice), the 'younger' Alumni Reception (admirably masterminded by Matt Forbes (1997) at Teatro in Shaftesbury Avenue), and of course the Brasenose Society Dinner in September. Many of you also returned to Oxford for the first ever university-wide reunion, and we hope that in future years even more of you will be able to make a weekend of it, with the BNC Society Annual Dinner as the highlight on the Saturday night.

Two major activities consumed a great deal of time and energy in the Alumni Relations and Development Office during the last year. The first was the questionnaire, to which many of you responded, so we now know where most of you are throughout the world. Secondly, of course, was the launch of the first Brasenose College Annual Fund. This has met with a tremendous and generous response and in the first year (2007-08) you have contributed more than £150,000, not counting the many pledges for the future. This is a brilliant start, but we would still like to see more alumni engaged in this activity, giving at whatever level is appropriate. I do hope you will want to join me, the Fellows,



and so many other Brasenose alumni in making a commitment to BNC and its future generations.

In the meantime, we continue to plan for 500th anniversary celebrations – or 'BNC 500' – in 2009. The programme is now almost finalised. One date is fixed and that is 26 September 2009 when we will be holding a 'Gaudy of Gaudies' for everyone to celebrate our fifth centenary. Please put a note in your diary.

The last year has seen the University in the press a good deal. Writing these notes gives me the chance to reflect on the many views expressed there, to put a few of them right and perhaps even to add my own perspective.

Many of you will have noted the spat in the newspapers about access to the University, which suggested that Oxford was not living up to its obligations to increase numbers from state schools. In fact, we have agreed to work to increase the number of applications from state schools, and we have been doing just that – and very successfully. We have, however, always reserved our right to choose only the best candidates, those who can really benefit from the education Oxford and its colleges provide. We remain committed to preserving this standard of excellence, but equally to widening access. The Fellows and students play a vital role in this; many visits are made to schools, establishing contacts and increasing aspirations, particularly throughout the state sector.

Apart from the issue of access, last year saw the governance debate in the University come to a head when Congregation rejected the new proposals that had been put forward. The decision of Congregation was taken by many to be indicative of Oxford's unwillingness to change or take outside advice. Of course, it is not that at all - it is a matter of getting governance right. What Oxford and its colleges are good at is taking change at an appropriate pace, thus ensuring that we guarantee our future well beyond any current government or enthusiasms. The appointment of external representatives were one issue but Oxford already has outside representatives on its University Council who are highly valued for the contribution they make. Likewise, within Brasenose, we have alumni on our Investment Committee and 2009 Committee, helping us in advancing the College. Oxford has never really been an Ivory Tower.

You will also have heard that the Vice-Chancellor John Hood has decided to step down at the end of his five year term of office. While University governance has made much play in the media, it should be noted that he achieved a great deal. Not least of his achievements was a root and branch review of the University's financial management and the establishment of the Oxford Opportunity Bursary Scheme, which is arguably the best in the UK. John Hood has a further two years to



serve while the University seeks a successor who will continue to move this great University forward as an institution of global significance.

I can only hope that you, as Brasenose alumni, will look for the other side of the story when you read slightly sensationalised accounts about Oxford in the press. If you are particularly concerned by anything, then do please get in touch with me for a fuller picture.

However, there are some things in the press that you can believe. Many Brasenose people have made the headlines during the course of the last year. Philip Yea (1974) was frequently in the newspapers as the acceptable face of private equity, during the storm in the middle of the summer which involved him appearing before the Treasury Select Committee.

Russell Foster (2006), one of our Senior Kurti Fellows who joined us a year ago, was also in the news earlier in the year. He was quoted as having discovered that it was cruel and unkind to make young people at school and university work early in the morning and that an afternoon start was much more useful; their circadian rhythms would just about cope with that. Of course, this observation will be only too familiar to many of you, perhaps from personal experience, perhaps from watching your children!

We also heard that one of our Honorary Fellows, Lord Justice Scott Baker (1957) is presiding over the Princess Diana Inquest – and what a difficult job too, but at least it is in safe hands. He also appeared in the pages of *Hello*! magazine. Now there's diversity for you!

Sir Robin Janvrin (1966) has retired as The Queen's Personal Private Secretary, and it is with great pleasure that I record that, on retirement, he was made a life peer – Baron Janvrin of Chalford Hill – and Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order (GCVO). He continues to be involved with BNC, helping us to arrange the 2009 quincentenary programme.

As I wind up my notes for another year, let me once again encourage you to come and take up your alumni dining rights. The number of you doing so is growing, but we would like to see it grow even more. It really is an honour to welcome you back to BNC, and always a pleasure for Annie and me to meet you personally. We both look forward to seeing many more of you in the coming year.



CLASS LISTS

FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL

BIOCHEMISTRY

1	Ellis	Susan Angela
2:1	Dixon	Charlotte Lois
2:2	Wilson	Miranda Sophie Claire
Pass	Pagett	Elizabeth Kate

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

2:1	Armson	Kathryn Joanne
2:1	Honsinger	Claire-Lise
2:1	Paul	Jon Christopher
2:1	Windham	Thomas Ralph
2:2	Lawrence	Isabelle Olga Jane

CHEMISTRY

1	Crawford	Matthew James
2:1	McGuiness	Mairi Ann
2:1	Stevenson	Robert David
2:2	Gale Grant	Georgia

CLASSICS

1	Abdulla	Adam
1	Ross	Ian Donald
1	Rutherford	Jack

CLASSICS & MODERN LANGUAGES

1	Pigott	Anna Louisa
2:1	John-Davis	Emily Elizabeth
2:1	Parrish	Victoria Jane

ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT

2:1	Bidewi	Basel
2:1	Ross	Sophie Anne-Marie
2:1	Sonic	Tatiana
2:1	Thomas	Isobel Angharad

ENGINEERING & COMPUTATION

1	Dogaru	Miruna Ioana
1	Donachie	Eve

ENGINEERING, ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT

Chung

1

Hoi Kei Ronald



ENGINEERING SCIENCE

1	Griffiths	David Matthias Millington
1	Siddorn	Philip David
1	Wang	Jin
2:2	Lamble	Geraint Owain John

ENGLISH

1	Young	Freddie George Mumford
2:1	Allen	Miya
2:1	Critchley	Eve
2:1	Harker-Smith	Philip John
2:1	Henniker	Charles Edwin Major
2:1	Lee	Heather Jane
2:1	Periyan	Natasha Victoria
2:1	Thompson	Joanne Sarah

ENGLISH & MODERN LANGUAGES

2:1	Knox	Stephanie Victoria
2:1	Walsh	Penny Mary Susan Rose

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

2:1	Mortimer	James Edward Neil

FINE ART

2:1 Olney Thomas Owen

GEOGRAPHY

1	Profumo	Thomas David
2:1	Evans	Lucy Catherine
2:1	Rintoul	Guy Daniel Gregory
2:1	Wilson	Gary

HISTORY (ANCIENT & MODERN)

1ButlerDaniel John2:1HemusGuy Langley2:1MartinBenjamin William

HISTORY (MODERN)

1	Southcott	Henry John
2:1	Ahmed	Farhan
2:1	Carver	Matthew James
2:1	Cope	James Alan
2:1	Ingold	Chloe Katherine
2:1	Warner	Alexandra Sarah Vivian
2:1	Williams	Rhiannon Sarah



HISTORY (MODERN) & MODERN LANGUAGES

1 Pooley William George

HISTORY (MODERN) & POLITICS

2:1ApperleyJames Alexander2:1CrawfordJason

LAW

2:1	McArdle	Isabel
2:1	McAteer	Helen Walters
2:1	Smith	Catherine
2:1	Taylor	Benedict James
2:1	Thompson	Sarah Jane Isabella

LAW WITH LAW STUDIES IN EUROPE

2:1	Brown	Natalie Francesca
2:1	Cumming	Michelle

MATHEMATICS

2:1MeersWilliam Neame2:1StephensChristopher Paul2:2WallsAndrew William

MATHEMATICS & PHILOSOPHY

2:1 Tabick Roni

MEDICINE

1	Curtis	Elizabeth Mary
2:1	Corbet Burcher	Georgina
2:1	Gifford	Hugh Edward Carroll
2:1	Norrington	Karl David Francis McFarlane
2:1	Shilling	Rebecca Elizabeth
2:1	Tahir	Abdul Qader
2:1	Williams	Timothy Mark
2:2	Cook	Asni Jacqueline

MODERN LANGUAGES

2:1	Kidd	Christopher Darryl
2:1	Morgan	Campbell William
2:1	Simpson	Michael Charles
2:1	Walton	Nicole Paula

MUSIC

2:1	de Gruchy-Lambert	Aimee Rebecca Joy
2:1	Gell	Jennifer Christine Marie



PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS & ECONOMICS

1	Eve	Amanda Pascale Rosalind
1	Williams	Benjamin Rhys
2:1	Archer	Timothy James
2:1	Cole	Megan Eva
2:1	Egginton	Camilla Ann May
2:1	Feld	Andrew Samuel
2:1	Isaacson	Jeremy
2:1	Molyneux	Mark
2:1	Quigley	Christine Patricia
2:1	Rosser	Richard James
2:1	Wereko-Brobby	Olympia Ata

PHYSICS

11115165		
1	Ford	Benjamin
2:1	Engel	Hauke
2:1	Grant	Robert Francis
2:1	Walker	Melanie Jane
2:2	Bills	Alan Stanley
2:2	Vincent	Leo
2:2	Walker	Anthony Rupert

PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

David Gareth

PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY & PHYSIOLOGY

1	Glazer	Emilie Werbner
2:1	Kipling	Sarah Louise
2:1	Leese	Kate Elizabeth



HIGHER DEGREES

DPhil

Nicholas Apostoloff	Engineering	Matric 2002
Celia Blacklock	Music	Matric 2001
Denise Brocklebank	Clinical Medicine	Matric 2002
Margaret Burgess	History of Art	Matric 1996
Hongsheng Dai	Statistics	Matric 2003
Manuel Da Silva Rocha	Economics	Matric 1998
Peter Deakin	Chemistry	Matric 2003
Rosemary Dyson	Mathematics	Matric 1999
Lisa Hagerman	Geography	Matric 2004
Isla Hamlett	Clinical Medicine	Matric 2002
Myrina Kalaitzi	Classical Archaeology	Matric 2000
Theothanis Karayannis	Pharmacology	Matric 2003
Rhian Kiely	Clinical Medicine	Matric 2002
Mark Leaver	Pathology	Matric 2002
Sarah Owen	Clinical Medicine	Matric 2004
Myrtani Pieri	Human Anatomy	Matric 2003
Sven Jari Stehn	Economics	Matric 2004
Rolf Suabedissen	Mathematics	Matric 2002
Henriette van der Blom	Ancient History	Matric 2001
Douglas Wu	Clinical Medicine	Matric 2004

MPhil

Saskia Dirske	Byzantine Studies	(Distinction)
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MSc

Zoe Enstone	Nature, Society and Environmental Policy	(Distinction)
Caitlin McElroy	Nature, Society and Environmental Policy	(Distinction)

MSt

Joshua Kinlaw Ancient History (Distinction) Christa Neudecker Greek and Latin Languages and Literature (Distinction)

- Sau Chan Kei Hui Pooja Mahajan Jean Ng Adam Turner
- **BCL / MJuris** Distinction Distinction Distinction Distinction



MATRICULATIONS 2007

Christopher Fraser Adams, Richmond School, Munir Akkaya, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Alexander Nicholas Allen, Peter Symonds College, Emma Victoria Attwood, Oxford High School, Vladimir Bagaev, St Petersburg State University, Agnia Baranauskaite, Columbia University, Theodore Barclay, Eton College, Constance Amelia Barnwell, Dauntseys School, Jack Barrett, Peter Symonds College, Luisa Marlene Bartels, Potsdam University, Manmeet Singh Bawa, Delhi University, James Thomas Benson, St Columbas College, Camilla Mary Suzanne Berridge, University of Hull, Carla Elaine Bissett, University of New South Wales, Alexander Blessley, Kings School, Jacqueline Bond, City of London School for Girls, Richard Briggs, Charterhouse, Jessica Brooke, Stockport Grammar School, Suzanne Lorraine Campion, Southampton University, Edward Michael Forbes Chalk, Radley College, Amy Louise Chang, St Albans High School, Elena Chong, Parkstone Grammar School, Tze Siang Chong, Mabecs, Olivia Catherine Christie, Grosvenor Grammar School, David Nicholas Church, University of Sheffield, Charlotte Louise Clemson, Edgbaston High School, Giles Benedict Clifford, Alleyns School, James Alexander Coates, St Marys College, Alex Cousins, University of Edinburgh, Rebecca Craig, Dean Close School, Leslie Craig, Strathclyde University, Helen Dale, University of Queensland, Seraphina D'Arby, Marlborough College, Michael Davies, Georgetown University, Vicky Dhir, Indiana University, Bloomington, Julian Robert Mario Dickmann, Herbart Gymnasium, Andreas Dienst, York University, Madeleine Dodd, Green School for Girls, Laurence Robertson Doyle, Hinchley Wood School, Brian Draggoo, Washington State University, Anna Jane Driver, Repton School, Priti Duggal, University of Texas, Rebecca Dyar, Oxford High School, Anna-Kristin Edler, Bucerius Law School, Estelle Edwards, Churchers College, Oritsema Lucia Ejuoneatse, Blue Coat School, Christopher James Evans, Royal Grammar School, David Charles Fajgenbaum, Georgetown University, Philippa Jane Farrington, Bootham School, Amnon Ferber, University College School, Spela Ferjancic, University of Sussex, Oliver Field-Johnson, Harrow School, Danielle Abena-Ina Findley, Kings College London, Cory Fletcher, University of Waterloo, Canada, Maria Fofanova, Malvern College, Alice Kate Fox, Kings School, Olga Friedmann, Humboldt-Oberschule, Berlin, Charles David Furness-Smith, University of Bristol, Lucy Fyffe, Wimbledon School of Art, Alice Gimblett, Caterham School, Megan Goldman-Petri, Johns Hopkins University, Lara Giuliana Gouveia Simonetti, St Gregorys High School, Jack Edwin Thomas Grimes, Pates Grammar School, Hugo Grimmett, Perse School, Varun Gulshan, Indian Institute of Technology, Boyd Gwyther, Harrow School, Alexander Hadwick, Whitgift School, Matthew David, Harman, Farnborough Sixth Form College, Lauren Harris, Haberdashers Aske's Girls School, Philippa Harris, City of London School for Girls, Cyrus Harrison,



St Paul's School, Mariah Hartman, University of California, Berkeley, Jonathan Miles Hawkins, Manchester Grammar School, Margaret Heathcote, Abbey Grange C of E High School, Alexandra Hedges, Haberdashers Aske's Girls School, Janice Shu Ming Heng, Raffles Junior School, Edward William James Hewitt, Kings College, Catherine Hill, Bishop Luffa School, Juliet Isobel Helen Hogarth, James Allens Girls School, Simon Hugh Holland, Trinity School, Georgina Hood, Headington School, Richard Philip Hoyle, Calday Grange Grammar School, David Alexander Hughes, University of New South Wales, Nimneh Vera Hyde, Atlantic College, Maidul Islam, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Sarah Louise Jackson, Ashlyns School, Frances Mary Ann James, University of Exeter, Rachel Anne James, Redland High School, Glen Derek Jeffries, Royal Grammar School, John Kallaugher, Dulwich College, Amreet Narinder Singh Kang, King Edwards School, Anne Karing, Friedrich-Schiller University, Joanne Ke, Kendrick School, Bernadette Maria Rosina Kell, Ludwig-Maximilians University, Victor Khadem, Greenhead College, Jieun Kim, Seoul National University, Konstantin Matthias Klein, University of Bamberg, Guido Klingbeil, Cologne University, Sarah Jane Knock, University of Nottingham, Beth Alice Kruszynskyj, Stratford On Avon Girls Grammar School, Johannes Lechnowitsch, Bucerius Law School, Ella Fong Liang, City University of Hong Kong, Peng Liu, University of Toronto, Arielle Kaji Locoh-Donou, Paris University, Robyn Catriona Mackay, Colchester County High School, Ilaira Mallalieu, St Pauls Girl's School, Georgia Mallin, Lady Margaret School, Robin William Carr Malloy, King Edward VI School, Paul Marsden, Blackpool Sixth Form College, Melanie Kirsten Marshall, University of Toronto, Cristina Martinez Gonzalez, Mexico University, Lydia Lenore Veronica Matthews, Rhodes University, Hayley McDaid, Yarm School, Daniel Medawar, Malvern College, Nikola Mitrovic, Zaragoza University, Charles Humphrey Bateman Moore, Winchester College, Priyanka Anjana Nandanwar, King Edward VI Camp Hill Girls School, Christian A O Nordby, Eton College, Francois Noujaim, American University of Beirut, Iga Marta Nowicz, Lodz High School, Poland, Brenda Ntambirweki, Makerere University, Aidan Gerard O'Keeffe, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, David Oppenheimer, St Edwards School, Caitlin Page, Alleyns School, James George Gillan Paris, Denstone College, Max Parker, Esher College, Naomi Jayne Petela, St Brendans Sixth Form College, Tobias Daniel Pfundstein, Munich University, Douglas James Pivnichny, The Wardlaw-Hartridge School, Edison, USA, Elizabeth Poston, Cheltenham Ladies College, Bobby Previti, London School of Economics, Carmen Valentina Prozzillo, Exeter University, Emily Kathleen Purser, Woodbridge School, Emma Louise Radford, Moreton Hall, Prabhu Ramaiah, PSG College of Technology, Ahmed Anwer Ali Rattani, Cambridge University, Peter John Reader-Harris, Howells School, Thomas Rees, Prudhoe



Community High School, Laurence Sidney Nige Ridgway, Exeter College of Art & Design, Joe Ridout, Royal Grammar School, Adam Charles Roe, Victoria University, Florian Rosenthal, Phillips-University Marburg, Jack Ross, St Paul's School, Nicholas Russell, Sydney University, Alexa Saller, Berkhamsted Collegiate School, Thomas William Samuel, Westminster School, Whitney Shaffer, Wellesley College, Teymour Etemad Shahabi, Harvard University, Elizabeth Rose Shepherd, Queen Margaret College, Andrew Graham Shipley, Victoria University, Ahmed Zulfigar Siddigui, Bath University, Chima Kareem Simpson-Bell, Eton College, Sam Sims, Peter Symonds College, Arvind Singhal, Cowbridge School, Emily Margaretta Sloan, University of California, San Diego, Matthew David Smith, St Davids Sixth Form College, Alastair David Smith, Caterham School, Robert Henry Snell, Bath University, Siddharth Srinivasan, Indian Institute of Technology, Victoria Louise Stephens, Bassaleg School, Eleanor Kate Stoneham, St Swithuns School, Anup Surendranath, Nalsar University of Law, Lucy Taylor, Howells School, James Thomas, Gordano School, Duncan James Turnbull, St Peters School, Peter Joel Vanderpuy, Cardiff University, Matthew Dominic Waszak, Winchester College, Edmund Charles Robert Watson, Queen Elizabeth School, Ingo Wey, Trinity School, Daniel Joseph Wilner, Harvard University, Larissa Wilson, Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I College, Michael Wiseman, King Edward VI Grammar School, Yan Ling Wong, Purdue University, James Peter Worthen, Bristol University, Paul Mikael Ylioja, Helsinki University, Heini Maria Ynnila, Bath University, Taisuke Yonemori, Central St Martins College of Art & Design, Bastian Alexander Zahn, Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Andrea Zubovic, Sarajevo University.

INCORPORATIONS

Alexander James, Robson, Churchill College, Cambridge, Morris Simon Schonberg, Magdalene College, Cambridge.

MIGRATIONS FROM OTHER OXFORD COLLEGES

Wing Hei Chu, Mansfield College, John William Hanson, Lady Margaret Hall, Carly Mattravers, St Hilda's College, Jennifer Ann Sigafoos, St Hilda's College, Rhea Danielle Snounou, Lady Margaret Hall.



COLLEGE PRIZES 2007

First in Finals: Adam Abdulla (Classics); Daniel Butler (Ancient & Modern History); Ronald Chung (Engineering, Economics & Management); Matthew Crawford (Chemistry); Elizabeth Curtis (Medical Sciences); Miruna Dogaru (Engineering & Computation); Eve Donachie (Engineering & Computation); Susan Ellis (Biochemistry); Amanda Eve (PPE); Benjamin Ford (Physics); Emilie Glazer (PPP); David Griffiths (Engineering Science); Michael McLoughlin (Mathematics); Anna Pigott (Classics & Modern Languages); William Pooley (Modern History & Modern Languages); Tom Profumo (Geography); Ian Ross (Classics); Jack Rutherford (Classics); Philip Siddorn (Engineering Science); Henry Southcott (Modern History); Jin Wang (Engineering Science); Ben Williams (PPE); Freddie Young (English).

First in Mods: Samuel Bentley-Toon (Biological Sciences); Maxwell De Vere (Mathematics); Alice Gledhill (Classics); Charlotte Harrison (Classics); Joseph Parker (Mathematics); Christopher Tudor (Classics); Benjamin Wong (Mathematics).

Distinction in Mods: James Butler (English); Elliot Fry (Law).

Distinction in Prelims: Martin Bell (Modern History & Economics); Jan Bergmann (PPE); Sanjay Budhdeo (1st BM Part 1); Sara-Louise Cooper (Modern Languages); Jessica Enoch (PPE); Jennifer Foreman (Physics); Camilla Gruffyd Jones (English & French); Timothy Macdonald (Modern History); David Meryon (Engineering Science); Martha Rowsell (Modern History & Modern Languages); Elizabeth Szanto (PPE); Cyrille Thinnes (Chemistry); Daniel Yeo (Fine Art); Joe Zhang (1st BM Part 1).

For Collections: Harriet Allison (Biochemistry); James Apperley (Modern History and Politics); Martin Bell (Modern History); Edward Blacker (Medicine); Harry Bradwell (Classics); Eleanor Buchdahl (Modern History and Modern Languages); Rachael Burke (Medicine); Christopher Cant (Experimental Psychology); Ricky Chall (Chemistry); Matthew Cole (Engineering Science); Michelle Cumming (Law); Jonathan Dale (Biological Sciences); Martina Dalton (Medicine); Jessica Enoch (PPE); Amanda Eve (PPE); Stephen Fendyke (Physics); Carrie Ferris (Classics); Jennifer Foreman (Physics); Alice Gledhill (Classics); Charlotte Harrison (Classics); Andrew Hey (Physics); Robert Hughes (Classics); Alexander Hulme (Classics); Charlotte Hutchinson



(Medicine); Marie-Pierre Jageneau (Biochemistry); James Cope (Modern History); Timothy Jenkins (Medicine); Kate Leese (PPP); Thomas Lintern-Mole (Modern History); Emma Lochery (Law); Robert MacAndrew (Physics); Stephanie Madgett (Classics); Tom Maisey (Modern History); Rhian Major (Law); Benjamin Masters (English); Isabel McArdle (Law); Melanie McDowell (Biochemistry); David Mervon (Engineering Science); James Miller (Chemistry); Mark Molyneux (PPE); Matthew Neve (Philosophy and Modern Languages); Maria New (Biochemistry); Eleanor Nicholl (Classics); Alexander Odysseos (PPE); Matthew Owen (Classics); Joseph Parker (Mathematics); William Pooley (Modern History and Modern Languages); James Pope (Mathematics); Robert Price (Ancient and Modern History); Thomas Roscoe (PPE); Richard Rosser (PPE); Martha Rowsell (Modern History and Modern Languages); Jack Rutherford (Classics); Alexander Smith (Chemistry); Harry Southcott (Modern History); Thomas Steward (Classics); Elizabeth Szanto (PPE); Cyrille Thinnes (Chemistry); George Tsangarides (PPE); Christopher Tudor (Classics); Natalia Waights (PPE); Daniel Warren (Physics); Benjamin Warshaw (Economics and Management); Thomas Westwell (Classics); Helena Wilding (Physics); James Wilson (Biological Sciences); Benjamin Wong (Mathematics); Emma Wright (Classics).



UNIVERSITY PRIZES

Sau Chan - Ralph Chiles CBE Award in Human Rights

Sara-Louise Cooper – Countess of Warwick Travelling Bursary for best Prelims performance in French; Andrew Collins Prize for best Prelims performance in Russian

Charlotte Dixon - Immunology Prize for the most meritorious essay or project in Immunology

Jennifer Matthews - Heath Harrison Prize

Michael McLoughlin – Junior Mathematical Prize for performance in the Final Honour School of Mathematics

Laura Noiret – Joint Gibbs Prize for best Part I Project in Engineering Science

Philip Siddorn - Institution of Mechanical Engineering Project Prize

ELECTIONS TO SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS

OPEN SCHOLARSHIPS

Harriet Allison, formerly of Pates Grammar School (Biochemistry); Karen Angus, formerly of Lancaster Girls' Grammar School (Biochemistry); Samuel Bentley-Toon, formerly of City of Bristol College (Biological Sciences); Jan Bergmann, formerly of Lancing College (PPE); Sara-Louise Cooper, formerly of Sacred Heart Grammar School (Modern Languages); Alice Gledhill, formerly of Sutton High School (Classics); Timothy Macdonald, formerly of Hampton School (History); Matthew Owen, formerly of Caterham School (Classics); Joseph Parker, formerly of Dane Court Grammar School (Mathematics); Thomas Roscoe, formerly of St Paul's School (PPE); Christopher Tudor, formerly of St Olaves Grammar School (Classics).

OPEN EXHIBITIONS

Martin Bell, formerly of Hills Sixth Form College (History and Economics); Sanjay Budhdeo, formerly of Haberdashers Askes (Boys) School (Medicine); James Butler, formerly of London Oratory School (English); Christopher Cant, formerly of Convers School (Experimental Psychology); Jonathan Dale, formerly of Eton College (Biological Sciences); Maxwell De Vere, formerly of King Edward VI School (Mathematics); Jessica Enoch, formerly of North London Collegiate (PPE); Jennifer Foreman, formerly of The King's School (Physics); Elliott Fry, formerly of Judd School (Law); Camilla Gruffydd-Jones, formerly of Kings of Wessex Upper School (English and Modern Languages); Andrew Hey, formerly of Westwood High School (Physics); **Robert MacAndrew**, formerly of Reading Blue Coat School (Physics); Benjamin Masters, formerly of Roade School (English); David Meryon, formerly of Monkton Combe School (Engineering); Maria New, formerly of Colyton Grammar School (Biochemistry); Steven Nunn, formerly of King Edward VI School (PPE), Martha Rowsell, formerly of Brighton Hove & Sussex Sixth Form College (History and Modern Languages); Barnaby Stannard, formerly of Torquay Grammar School for Boys (PPE); Elizabeth Szanto, formerly of Epsom College (PPE); George Tsangarides, formerly of Merchant Taylor's School (PPE); Daniel Warren, formerly of Adams Grammar School (Physics); Benjamin Wong, formerly of Kolej Matrikulasi Yayasan Saad (Mathematics and Statistics); Daniel Yeo, formerly of Byam Shaw School of Art (Fine Art); Joe Zhang, formerly of City of London School (Medicine).



AWARD HOLDERS

Heberden Exhibition Riou Benson

Erasmus Prize Scholarship

Jan Bergman Sara-Louise Cooper Michael McLoughlin Tristram Smith Christopher Tudor

Fisher Exhibition

Iona Bergius

Kathleen Lavidge Bursary Billy Kenber Timothy McDonald

Michael Woods Travel Grants

Sanjeev Jeyakumar Mukta Prasad Tom Roscoe

Holroyd, Collieu, Stelling, Hall Memorial Travel Grant Andre De Haes Felicity Johnston Emma Wright

SCHOLARS

Rhodes Scholar Chenoa Marquis (Bryn Mawr College) Elizabeth Mayne (Stanford University)

Commonwealth Scholar Quintin Wells (University of the Witwatersrand)

Fitzgerald Scholar Raphael Thalakottur (US Naval Academy)



THE BRAZEN NOSE

1986 Scholar

Laura Inglis (George Mason University) Danielle Granville (Boston College)

Fiddian Scholar Thomas Ashton (St Anne's College, Oxford)

> **Barry Nicholas Scholar** Adam Turner (Brasenose College)

Hector Pilling/Clarendon Scholars

Aarti Jagannath (Anna University) Kerry Walker (Dalhousie University)

Senior Germaine Scholar

Alexander Coward (St Hugh's College, Oxford) Hannah Mischo (Friedrich Schiller University) Rosalind Seeds (Cambridge University) Nikolaos-Pavlos Tzevelekos (National Technical University, Athens)

> K. C. Wong Scholar Ying Cui (Sun Yat-Sen University)

Senior Hulme Scholars

Stephen Bernard (Sherborne School) Eugenio Donadoni (Winchester College) Anna Johnson (Alun School) Elias Mitropoulos (Westminster School) Ross Williams (Bangor Grammar School) David Wong (Stanborough School)

Senior Organ Scholar Mark Martinez (Cardinal Vaughan School)



BLUES AND HALF BLUES

Blues

Men	Neil Gallacher Adam Maitland George Smibert Matthew Wordsworth	Hockey Mod. Pentathlon Rugby League Rugby League
Women	Kate Bugler Harriet Creelman Roseanna Price	Rugby Yacht Lacrosse
	Half Blues	
Men Women	Philip Duggleby Timothy Jenkins Oliver Newman James Paget Mukta Prasad Jason Shell Ralph Windham Elizabeth Curtis Georgia Gale Grant Stephanie Madgett	Athletics Lacrosse Yacht Lacrosse Badminton Lacrosse Rugby Fives Yacht Cricket Athletics
	Team Colours	Tranetico
Men	William Meers Richard Rosser	Cycling Golf
Women	Emma Lindsay Hannah Mischo Sophie Steel	Hockey Water Polo Lacrosse


























Students perform Peter Pan at Arts Week 2007



JCR

Victoria Hutton, President

JCR Committee 2007 President: Vice-President: Treasurer: Ball President:	Victoria Hutton Imran Jina Sian McKinley Tristram Smith
Academic, Admissions, and Careers Rep:	Chris Tudor
Arts Rep:	OJ Dyar
Charities and RAG Rep:	Felicity Johnston
Domestic Rep:	Tim Robbins
Entertainments Rep:	Stephanie Madgett
Environment and Ethics Rep:	Kay Penicud
IT Rep:	Michael McLoughlin
OUSU Rep:	Benedict Kamill
Sports Rep	Tom Brown
Welfare Rep:	Riou Benson

It has become clear that the Brasenose JCR is far more than a body of students who attend - or don't attend - a fortnightly meeting to drink beer, eat crisps and vote on motions. This year Brasenose's Undergraduates have been getting involved in all areas of College and University life, from Blues sports to putting on dramatic extravaganzas. The College has certainly lived up to its fine university-wide reputation.

Brasenosers have been particularly active on the sports field; many achieving the celebrated Blue status. Despite evidence of such high standard University participation, College sport has not been neglected, coordinated masterfully by our Sports representative Tom Brown. The highlight of the year was most certainly the First XI's victory over St Anne's in the Football Cuppers Final. The pitch-side stand was awash with black and yellow, buzzing with Brasenose chants and cheers for our boys - a truly memorable exhibition of the infamous Brasenose spirit.

These and many other sporting achievements will be recognised by the three common rooms through the introduction of a Sports Dinner in the forthcoming year. The dinner, intended to celebrate and proclaim the efforts which members have been making on the sports field, will become a new fixture in the Brasenose annual calendar.

This year will also see an Arts Dinner, intended to honour all those who are involved in less physically-active pursuits. Indeed, Brasenose Arts has given the College much to celebrate this year. We have seen that the JCR is stuffed full of talents which go far beyond those necessary for taking on the rigours





of an Oxford degree, and its members have been highly active on the stage, in concert halls and galleries across Oxford. Within the College walls, efforts were no less impressive. This year's week-long Arts Festival was the largest ever, thanks largely to the imagination of O-J Dyar, Paula Reid and the Arts committee. Despite some horrendous weather (which decided to hang around for most of the week) stunning performances of *Romeo and Juliet*, *Peter Pan* and *Fools* were laid on for the public. The festival closed with a fabulous Cabaret Evening which overflowed with an incredible mixture of individual talent. This JCR proposes more of the same next year!

The Pater Society has also been very much in evidence since its relaunch over a year ago, organising some thought provoking film nights in the JCR. The Society has great promise for playing a larger role in Brasenose College life.

Irrespective of musical and sporting prowess, we have seen that the average Brasenose undergraduate is wonderfully adept at having fun, a characteristic which was very much in evidence at the Brasenose 'Matador' Ball on 5th May. Under the direction of Ball President Tristram Smith, a very talented and hard-working Ball Committee transformed our College buildings into a fiesta. From the marquee decorations to the bucking bronco, the Ball was a roaring success. College members danced to the tunes of the infamous DJ Judge Jules long into the night. However, College entertainments have not just been confined to one evening! Steph Madgett, our Entz Rep., and many others have done much to organise bops, sports days, club nights and even some BNC ice-skating. Many of these entertainments were to be had during Freshers' Week, which was expertly organised by the ubiquitous Chris Tudor. During the week, new students were given a taste of what was to come during the years they will be spending at Brasenose.

As for those meetings which were mentioned at the beginning of this report, they have not been uneventful. We have seen the JCR vote to support a



number of deserving charities, including Amnesty International, Oxford Development Abroad and Macmillan Nurses. The JCR has also voted on a number of motions, ranging from the introduction of a table tennis table to a number of Green issues (most of which were introduced by our most conscientious Environment and Ethics Rep., Kay Penicud). Although all of these (mercifully short) discussions every other Sunday evening have not been uninteresting, it is probably fair to say that it is the free beer, cider and Pringles which have been most appreciated!

Many members of the JCR Committee have been commended thus far, but praise is due to those members whose 'behind-the-scene' roles were crucial to the JCR as a whole. Thanks must go, of course, to our Vice President, Imran Jina, who has continuously done a sterling job of keeping the undergraduate body informed of what is going on in College. Also, Sian McKinley, our Treasurer, organised a great garden party in Hilary term and has managed our books expertly and kept us afloat for another year! Fliss Johnston has done an amazing job at promoting our JCR's altruistic behaviour, having organised countless events and schemes to raise money for worthy causes. In turn, Riou Benson has looked after our mental health, making himself constantly available to support our welfare (often by the provision of Krispy Kreme doughnuts, a solution to all essay crises!). Tim Robbins has worked incredibly hard to maintain a dialogue between College authorities and the undergraduates. Whether it has been about Hall food or the 'toaster issue'. Tim has devoted himself to the task wholeheartedly. Benedict Kamil has also provided an important 'linking' role, this time between our JCR and OUSU. He has never failed to keep us all updated on what is going on at the centre of student politics. And then there's Mike McLoughlin, our IT Rep, the first person in JCR history to hold a position for three years. He has done a wonderful job of keeping our website (http://jcr.bnc.ox.ac.uk) up to date and informative, and has been a great 'constant' on the Committee; Mike's years of experience have been a real benefit to us all.

I am sure you can see that the Brasenose JCR has had a fabulous year. I will certainly be sorry to hand over the position of President, but I am confident, looking back on all the energy and enthusiasm of the last year, that BNC undergraduates have another cracking year in store.



HCR

Andrew Lomas, President

HCR Committee 2007-2008

President	Andrew Lomas
Vice President	Nicholas Russell
Secretary	Caillan Davenport
Social Secretaries	Ceri Hunter, Samir Bhatt, Charles Furness Smith
Domestic Representative	Jingjing Zhang
Steward	Ross Williams

It's a difficult task to encapsulate a year in the life of any body as diverse as the Hulme Common Room. This year the unenviable task is mine to undertake: as I struggle through the haze of many an entertaining night to review the HCR's activities, I trust that the reader will indulge any omissions, errors or downright libels.

The year has been one full of event and activity with a wide array of sybaritic delights on offer. Freshers' Week topped Michaelmas with a push to create a sense of community and fun for which the HCR is becoming famed. Small group dinners at a variety of homes and restaurants in Oxford were followed by a pizza night in the HCR. A quiz night and bop at Balliol marked both the end of Freshers' Week and the acquisition of academic commitments as Michaelmas proper got underway.

A traditional feature of every term is the excellent Graduate Dinner, at which fine food and wine is complemented by an after-dinner talk. First up in Michaelmas was an exposition on plasma rockets and the feasibility of manned space flight to Mars by Professor Edgar Choueiri, a Visiting Fellow from Princeton.

Another tradition which continues in fine health is the regular 'Blurbs' where a Fellow and graduate from a variety of research areas speak for 30 minutes to an assembled audience comprising members of both the Senior and Hulme Common Rooms. After the talks the debate is continued, firstly at High Table and then over port and cheese in the HCR.

Colin Dexter joined the Common Room for dinner in Hilary to talk about his life as a teacher, the merits of Classics and his most famous creation, Inspector Morse. The reader will be reassured to learn that life didn't imitate art that cold spring night and that everyone left the dinner unharmed. Indeed, the only danger to graduates that evening was the hazard posed to their waistlines by the generous second desserts on offer in the HCR! The term ended with a Body Shop night, which enabled the HCR to head into the Easter vacation more fragrant, moisturised and exfoliated than ever before.



The beginning of Trinity term saw, amongst other things, the handover of responsibility for the HCR to the current committee. The new President led the way as Captain of the HCR Croquet Cuppers Team, valiantly blazing a trail to a second round exit at the hands of Trinity College. Summer Eights was celebrated on the balcony at the boat-house with an array of chocolates and snacks to keep supporters in good voice. The final graduate dinner of term was visited by Dr Sarah Thomas, the new Bodley's Librarian, who provoked a great deal of discussion and debate on the future of libraries. The curtain was brought down on the term, and the year, with all of the committee, (along with resident HCR barman Russell Towers), lending a hand for a good-natured garden party in the Deer Park.

Touching upon the Deer Park, I can inform the reader that the Hulme Common Room has finally moved from that familiar location to beautiful new rooms on Old Quad. Many thanks in this regard are due to the Bursar and Domestic Bursar, without whose commitment and effort the move would still be but a dim prospect on the horizon.

Another transition that has taken place at the end of the year is a change in personnel with Dr Susan Lea succeeding Professor Richard Cooper as the Tutor for Graduates. As anyone who knows Richard will testify he is both a wit and a gentleman. Under his stewardship, the HCR has gone from strength to strength. (A 1983 Château Ducru-Beaucaillou from the HCR has, we hope, oiled his passage to the new heights of Vice-Principal!) As for Susan, she has already impressed on everyone a desire to take the HCR on to bigger and better things, starting as she means to go on in a whirlwind of activity.

Finally, it is a pleasure for me to take the time to thank all of those people who've aided, assisted or otherwise made life easier for the HCR in the past year. The Hall staff deserve special mention for consistently providing a professional (and patient!) service. The Principal and Fellows have accommodated the Common Room with good humour and warmth, making Brasenose a truly hospitable place for graduates and undergraduates alike. Lastly, the committee - who have tolerated the President's more abstract ideas and suggestions with good grace - have been indispensable, and for their hours of hard work I am eternally grateful.



THE LIBRARY

Fellow Librarian - Dr Ed Bispham

College Librarian - Liz Kay

To the onlooker it may appear that the Library had a quiet and uneventful year, but behind the scenes it was another matter. Unlike last year, there is no major project to report the completion of, but there have been a variety of activities throughout the year to keep everyone busy. The deficit in staffing hours created by the departure of Brad Sekedat in summer 2006 was made up by Lianne Smith increasing her hours during term time, ensuring that two full time members of staff were on hand during each term. This level of staffing is crucial given the popularity of the Library and the many everyday tasks that must be carried out in order to keep it running smoothly.

The cataloguing of antiquarian books suffered a hiatus owing to the departure of Molly McFall and it was not until we received an important donation from an alumnus (Paul Lloyd) that cataloguing could recommence, at least for the duration for which the donation will support the employment of a cataloguer. We are pleased to have been joined on a casual basis by Sophie Floate, an experienced cataloguer of serials, books and, most importantly, antiquarian material. It is our hope that one way or another we will be able to keep Sophie on after this initial injection of money runs out, the cataloguing of our early books being such an important library project.

The importance of our antiquarian holdings in an international context is illustrated by an important event over the summer. On July 13th Brasenose hosted an exhibition and workshop for the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH)-funded Summer Seminar for College and University Teachers, "The Reformation of the Book: 1450-1700." The seminar was led by academics, Professors Bracken and King, from Ohio State University; the subject was the Latin antecedents, and nine early editions, of John Foxe's Acts and Monuments, as well as selected early hand-press works from our collection. The College is one of the few places in the world to own all nine of the early editions and the organizers afterwards reported that their day at Brasenose was one of the highlights of the group's six week tour across Europe. Although facilitating this event did involve rather more work than anticipated, and despite that fact that it took place on "Friday 13th", it proved to be such a success that the NEH may wish to include a similar event in their 2009 or 2010 programme. Only seminar projects of a very high standard are awarded a prestigious and fiercely competitive NEH grant: it is a tribute to the quality of our collection that Brasenose played such an important part in the programme. Ohio State has extended a reciprocal invitation to see their collection of Foxe's editions should we happen to be in the vicinity. We are pleased to have been able to share our treasures with experts in the



field and feel that this illustrates what huge scholastic value there is in our early book collection. As soon as more of the Brasenose early books are catalogued, it is likely that a wide range of scholars will discover the richness of our collection and be able to benefit just as the NEH group did earlier this year. We would like to express our thanks to Foxe expert David Loades, who attended on the day, and to Stephen Bernard, who was not only an excellent invigilator, but also acted as removal man, delivering the enormous, and in some cases fragile, volumes back to the Library after the event.

Moving on to perhaps less exciting but nevertheless important Library matters, we can report that Biochemistry tutor Susan Lea, having had time to settle in at BNC, was keen to update the collection in her subject with the result that many new books have been purchased in this area. Furthermore, at Susan's request, the biochemistry books have been split from the all embracing "P" Physiological Sciences section and a new section, "O", created. The new section makes it easier for students to browse and the addition of many new titles has vastly improved the provision of up to date material for the biochemists.

Another weeding exercise was carried out over the summer months in an attempt to create space on the shelves and allow collections to be refreshed and tailored to the needs of the undergraduates. There is more work to be done, but we can now move to an annual weeding programme which we hope will become institutionalized and control excessive demands on space.

During the Christmas 2006-07 vacation we carried out our second stock check and were grateful to be ably assisted by graduate student Nash Toledo, who carried out the lion's share of the scanning of barcodes over the Christmas period. Happily, this time round results were much more encouraging and ultimately there were only 160 items unaccounted for. Of course this is not ideal; we hope that this figure will be significantly reduced at the next stock check scheduled for Christmas 2008. Many of the books have been replaced now and in some cases with new editions, but the cost of replacing 160 books remains less than that of installing a security system. Monitoring the situation regarding loss of stock will help us make future decisions about how we retain the books in our collection.

We had planned a report on the impact of the new University Library Management System that the College pays Oxford University Library Services (OULS) to be part of, but unfortunately this is not yet possible. OLIS was due to be replaced by a new system over the summer but, owing to a whole raft of setbacks, the "go live" date is likely to be Easter or early summer 2008. One feature of the new system that we anticipate will be very popular is the ability to limit catalogue searches to a specific location. This means that our students will be able to limit a search to books held within the BNC library; this could be particularly helpful when seeking a book late at night when all other libraries are closed.



On the buildings and housekeeping front, some progress has been made regarding the quest for appropriate light fittings for the Library. The Clerk of Works has been searching for a suitable fitting for several years and the latest news is that a prototype is en route from Lebanon. Watch this space! Also, an important step forward has been made towards the expansion of the library into what was the HCR. The HCR has vacated the premises and relocated to splendid new guarters in Old Quad, clearing the way for planning to begin in earnest. The Governing Body has agreed that the space be used for expansion of the Library, more to enhance the popular but cramped working environment than to house books, although there will be some expansion there: it would also allow ground floor Library access under the terms of SENDA. This project has been the subject of more work than might be imagined: an architect has visited and discussed possibilities for the work, and preliminary drawings have been made; we have also held preliminary discussions with a company who specialise in library refurbishments in buildings such as ours. As soon as funding becomes available for the project we hope that it will progress at speed, benefiting undergraduates and graduates alike. We are also pleased to report that the now annual clean of the library books and shelves has created a better working environment and making it possible for the Library scout to maintain a clean and pleasant working environment throughout the year.

The long-awaited Library web pages have not yet materialised but we hope that it will be possible to develop them soon. Meanwhile, in October a new approach to library orientation was adopted. Larger groups were given a short introductory talk in Lecture Room XI followed by a walk through the Library. The new arrangement allowed information to be conveyed much more easily than in the past and with minimum disruption to those working in the Library. A note of thanks should go to Freshers' Week organiser Chris Tudor, who helped make this happen. The PowerPoint presentation used in the undergraduate sessions was put up on the HCR website to help graduates understand how the library operates and, thanks to the support of HCR Vice President Caillan Davenport, attendance of the short orientation sessions offered to graduates was considerably greater than in previous years.

Next summer, there will be a major exhibition at the Bodleian providing the Colleges of Oxford with a unique opportunity to let the wider world know about Oxford libraries and donors outside the Bodleian. The working title is 'Beyond the Bodleian', but the eventual name is likely to be quite different. The exhibition will feature interesting and precious items donated to the colleges by their members. Each college was invited to submit a list of items for consideration and the following two Brasenose items have been short listed:

Edward Lear *Gleanings from the Menagerie* and *Aviary at Knowle* (1846) v.1 with lithographs of drawings by Edward Lear. Presented in 1847 by the Rev



George Hornby (1789-1872) m.1808, Hulme Exhibitioner 1812, Fellow 1815 - 1816 and major benefactor.

Maria Sibilla Merian *De Europische Insecten* (first ed 1720) OR *Over de Vooteeling...der Surinaemische Insecten* (1719) Presented in 1942 by the Rev Dr S P Duval m. 1889 and Senior Hulme Exhibitioner 1892.

At the time of writing it is not possible to say if either of the above has been selected, but the exhibition with surely be of interest and worth a visit to anyone who is in Oxford next summer.

Although changes are often subtle where the Library is concerned, we strive to create an environment that is relaxed yet conducive to study, a place that can help all those who use it to fulfill their academic potential.

STOP PRESS (23 January 2008): We are happy to report that the Edward Lear has been chosen for inclusion in the exhibition.



REPORTS

PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF COLLEGE OF THEIR OWN COMPOSITION

Helmy H Baligh - Organization Structures: Theory and Design, Analysis and Prescription, 2006.

Revd. Professor John R. Bartlett - *Two Thousand Years of Christianity and Ireland (ed. with Stuart D Kinsella)*, 2006.

Emma Bridges - Cultural Responses to the Persian Ways: Antiquity to the Third Millennnium, 2007.

David Cameron - Social Responsibility: The Big Idea for Britain's Future, 2007.

Chloe Carpenter - The Law of Privilege, 2006. (Contributor)

Jessie Fletcher (nee Childs) - Henry VIII's Last Victim: The Life and Times of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, 2006.

Anthony J. Garratt-Ree- Energy-Dispersive X-Ray Analysis in the Electron Microscope, 2003.

John Gray - Lawyers' Latin: A Vade-Mecum, new ed., 2006.

Gerard McMeel - The Construction of Cntracts: Interpretation, Implication and Rectification, 2007.

Richard Kent - Charles William Kent: The Demon Spurter, 2007.

Simon Mawer - The Fall: A Novel, 2003.

Gregor Mendel - Planting the Seeds of Genetics, 2006.

Donald Moyer - Yoga: Awakening the Inner Body, 2006.

Nigel Nicholson - Aristocracy and Athletics in Archaic and Classical Greece, 2005.

His Honour R A Percy - Charlesworth & Percy on Negligence, 11th ed., 2006.

Jonathan Reuvid - Mergers & Acquisitions: A Practical Guide for Private Companies and their UK and Overseas Advisers, 2007.

John Sayer -Jean Racine: Life and Legend, 2006.

Robbie Sharma - Hiraeth: Selection of Poems and Writings, 2007. (Contents of this book have been gathered, published and presented to BNC by the family of Robbie Sharma.)

Nigel Sinnott - Frightened Freethinkers and Timid Rationalists: a case of attempted censorship, 2006.



Christopher Stothers - Parallel Trade in Europe: Intellectual Property, Competition and regulatory Law, 2007.

Victor H Wheble - Wellcome Witnesses to Early Medicine Volume 29: Early Development of Total Hip Replacement. (Author of Appendix 2), 2006.

David Wiggins - Ethics: Twelve Lectures on the Philosophy of Morality, 2006.

Hugh Williams - East Midland Geographer, Volume 15, 2005. (Author of article p.18 "Looking Closely at Medieval Gothic Tracery in the East Midlands".)

John Rowe QC - (with David Hoffman) Human Rights in the UK: An Introduction to the Human Rights Act 1998, 2^{nd} ed., 2006.

Alan Taylor - Crime and Civil Society. Can We Become a More Law-Abiding People? (author of foreword), 2005.

James Travers - Gunpowder. The Players Behind the Plot, 2005.

Graham D Vinter - Project Finance, 3rd ed., 2006.

Brian Wilson - The Trodden Way, 2005.

PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF COLLEGE - WORKS NOT OF THEIR OWN COMPOSITION

Syed Atif Ansar - A selection of books in a variety of subjects.

Paul Barker - Arts in Society: Essays by Angela Carter, John Berger, Reyner Banham, Michael Wood, Dennis Potter and others edited by Paul Barker, 2006.

Author of chapter "A Tract for the Times" in The Rise and Rise of Meritocracy edited by Geoff Dench, 2006.

Ed Bispham - A Companion to the Roman Republic edited by Nathan Rosenstein & Robert Morstein-Marx, 2006.

Ron Daniel - The Anglo-Saxon Library by Michael Lapdge, 2006.

Paul Dennis - The Biological Basis of Cancer, 2nd ed. by Robert G McKinnell et al., 2006.

Ben Ford - All You Wanted to Know About Mathematics But Were Afraid to Ask: Mathematics for Science Students v. 1 & 2 by Louis Lyons, 1995. Div, Grad, Curl and All That: An Informal text on Vector Calculus, 3rd ed. by H M Schey, 1997.

Christine Quigley - Politics in Industrial Society: The Experience of the British System Since 1911 by Keith Middlemiss, 1979.



Tatiana Sonic - Calculus by K G Binmore, 1999. Price Theory and Applications, 6^{th} ed. by Jack Hirshleifer & David Hirshleifer, 1992. Macroeconomics: An Introduction to Keynesian-Neoclassical Controversies, 2^{nd} ed. by Roasalind Leva'i' and Alexander Rebmann, 1983.

Bill Swadling - Equity, 2nd ed. by Sarah Worthington, 2006.

Charles Harrison Wallace - The Seafarer, first published edition of the completed text, 2005.

PRESENTATIONS BY OTHERS

Derek & Julia Parker - Centuries of Meditations by Thomas Traherne, reprint of Bertram Dobell's 1908 edition with a new introduction, 2002.

Graham J Towl - Psychological Research in Prisons, edited by Grahm J Towl, 2006.

Susan Treggiari - Cicero: On Divination. Book 1. Translated with an introduction by David Wardle, 2006. Daniel of Beccles. Urbanus Magnus: The Book of the Civilized Man, complied by Anne Frith, Dorothy Smith, Anne Baers and Susan Treggiari, 2007. Asconius: Commentaries on Speeches by Cicero. Translated with introduction and commentary by R.G Lewis, 2006. Terentia, Tullia and Publilia:The Women of Cicero's Family, 2007.



CHAPEL

The Revd Graeme Richardson, Chaplain

The central acts of worship in the College continues to be College Prayers, a sung Book of Common Prayer evensong on Sunday nights, and a Common Worship College Eucharist at 6pm on Tuesdays. Both services are open to all, and a variety of people come. College Prayers is now guite wellattended, and the Eucharist on Tuesdays often exceeds the number Jesus thought appropriate for the original celebration. To the Chaplain's surprise and delight, a number of those beginning Brasenose life at the same time as him joined him in the habit of saying the daily offices. These are said at 8:10am and 6:15pm respectively, allowing for banter; and the popularity of "Chapel Crew" as they've become known, ensures that Divine Service is performed in the Chapel every day in term-time. Preachers at College Prayers this year included Dr Mark Chapman, Vice-Principal of Ripon College, Cuddesdon; the Right Reverend James Bell, Bishop of Knaresborough, who was Chaplain here from 1976-1982; and Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne MEP. The most memorable sermon of the year for many listeners was from James Methven, no stranger to BNC and now Dean of Oriel, who spoke on "Walter Pater and Habit". Charities supported at college prayers were the AMAR foundation, the Children's Society, and SeeSaw – Grief Support for Young People in Oxfordshire.

The Choir received important new recruits from the latest batch of Freshers, though it continued to rely on well-established choral scholars: Tom Steward, Eleanor Nicoll and Jennifer Gell. Mark Martinez, our Senior Organ Scholar, performed great service to the College throughout the year, and has been invaluable in trying circumstances. At the beginning of the year, Mark was joined by a Junior Organ Scholar who resigned her post almost immediately to the relief of all concerned (including the Junior Organ Scholar). Nick Prozzillo once again stepped into the breach and (thanks be to God!) prepared to begin a DPhil in Brasenose and return officially in Michaelmas 2008 as Graduate Director of Music. In July, the Choir crossed the channel and sang in Paris at what is known as the American Cathedral: it was a great honour and a great experience for all concerned. The experience was made even more memorable by being in Paris on Bastille Day.

The Chaplain instituted "Chaplain's Breakfast" in his room on staircase 9, at 9am on Sunday mornings. This was for those about to go to church, those who'd already been to church and those who were too hungry to wait for Sunday brunch; it proved a surprising hit, and it was good to organize one social event that didn't involve alcohol! In March, the Chaplain led the inaugural "Chapel Hike", a circular walk of about 7 miles going South-East from Wallingford into the hills. The William IV at Hailey, by cunning design of the



Chaplain, provided refreshments. (On this occasion, more usual BNC practice was very welcome....)

The ante chapel continued to be a great place to hear music, with many small concerts and recitals by Brasenose musicians, and visits from choirs such as the Arcadian singers. We had three outstanding Platnauer concerts, a series benefiting from the combined zeal of the Principal, Professor Proudfoot and Mr Prozzillo. A special highlight was the concert by the Soprano Elizabeth Watts in Hilary term – surely a star of the future. In May, poets from the Landfill Press gave a reading in Chapel – the sort of event we would like to see more of in future. And in Arts Week, the Chapel was the venue for a funny and energetic performance of Neil Simon's farce *Fools*, directed by Charis Demetriou.

Very sincere thanks to all who've supported Chapel Life in the last year.

Baptisms

Benjamin Rollason – 2nd December 2006 Katherine Sykes – 12th June 2007 Veronika Elisabeth Vogenauer – 30th June 2007 Alexander Washington – 22nd September 2007

Weddings

Caroline Simon and Adrian Hyde – 7th April 2007 Jessica Redgrave and James Clark – 18th August 2007 Phil Thompson and Annie Baker – 18th August 2007 Matthew Featherstone and Armina Grigorian – 16th September 2007 Michael Atkins and Amanda Kelly – 30th September 2007

Chapel Officers 2007-8

Rachel Mugford – Bible Clerk Matthew Carver – Chapel Treasurer Mark Martinez – Organ Scholar Nicholas Prozzillo – Graduate Director of Music

Preachers at College Prayers

Michaelmas Term – The Revd Dr Mark Chapman, the Revd Dr Tim Bradshaw, Dr Alison Salvesen

Hilary Term - The Very Revd David Leaning, the Revd Paul Thomas, the Rt. Revd James Bell, the Revd Gordon Warren

Trinity Term – Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, the Revd Richard Watson, Dr James Methven, the Revd Dr Anders Berquist



STAFF REPORT

Mel Parrot, Domestic Bursar



The past year has been exceedingly busy for the College staff.

The year saw a major re-structuring of the kitchen team. Steve Peedell took on the role of Executive Chef, paving the way for Lorraine Watkins to become Head Chef of Brasenose College. James Goodwin took the post of Second Chef, working alongside Third Chefs Lewis Buy and Tony Evans (who left Brasenose employ in June, to be replaced by Eamonn Bennett in the summer), Fourth Chef Robert Timms (who left in November, and for whom a suitable successor is being sought) and Commis Chefs Richard Simmons and Adam Owen. Alison O'Brien remains the SCR Chef and is ably assisted by the Head Kitchen Porter, Fakrul Islam, and Kitchen Porters Keith Palfreeman and Peter Smith.

While one might think such changes would cause some disruption, the kitchen team performed admirably throughout term time and during the conference season. Lorraine and her team were nominees for Best Chef and Support team at the prestigious Oxford Awards for Catering Excellence (ACE). Although they did not win this time, the nomination proved the advances being made in Brasenose kitchens. We are hopeful of their renomination and victory in the future.

Gertie's, run by Karen Galloway and Fiona Palfreeman, had another successful year, increasing its turnover and improving its food selection. The Servery, supervised by Julia Jeffery, saw a change in layout and improved product content and displays. These changes have met with the approval of students and staff alike.

Finally, the kitchen staff and the College offer their congratulations to Lewis Buy, whose girlfriend had a daughter just prior to Christmas.



To the College workshop, where Clerk of Works Joe Johnston reports that they are halfway through two refurbishment projects, namely upgrading the kitchens at Frewin and the showers in St Cross. There were two new additions to workshop personnel: Mr Cliff Jones (Plumbing) and Mr John Saunders (New Quadperson).

The Principal's Office was pleased to welcome Melanie James, who took over the role of Principal's PA after her predecessor, Pat Spight, became the Fellow's Secretary. Heather Flintham also joined the Principal's Office as its new Housekeeper.

Dilani De Jonge (who joined the College in 2004-05 as Finance Assistant) moved from the Finance Bursary to the Domestic Bursary, and Amanda Gooding joined us as the new Domestic Administrator.

The last year has seen some considerable change in the Finance Bursary, and some major life events. Kerry Forbes (who has been part of the team since the middle of 2004) had her first child, Phoebe, in September 2006, and returned to the department in March 2007. (We were thankful for the able assistance of Doug Jobson, who provided maternity cover while Kerry was away.) In the same month, Fiona Gair joined us to look after our students needs after Dilani moved to the Domestic Bursary. We also welcomed Joanne White, who joined us just as the academic year 2007-08 started to keep a particular eye on our payroll and staff and Fellow-related financial matters. Finally, we said goodbye to Rob Wood, who joined this year and left to pursue a career in accountancy in London.

Jan Jordan, who has seen many changes in the Finance Bursary over the last few years, has helped to maintain continuity in this new team. We sincerely hope not to report any substantial staff changes in the next edition!

Mike Taylor, the Head Porter, has overseen changes to the running of the Lodge, which is now open round the clock. This change necessitated some adjustments to the work schedule and an increase in staff. The night shift is run as a separate operation, taken on by Paul Manning, who was joined by a new employee, Anthony Dawe. Mike runs the day shift with Geoff Wyatt and two new employees, Dave Shayler and Kenny Beechers. The new 24-hour system has been in place since April 2007 and appears to be working to everyone's satisfaction.

It only remains for me to thank all members of staff for their continued dedication, enthusiasm and effort, without which Brasenose would be very poor indeed. Your work is enormously appreciated by the Fellows, students and alumni of the College, and your efficiency and friendliness helps in no small measure to keep the spirit of BNC alive.



THE PHOENIX COMMON ROOM

Thomas Profumo, Secretary

This year must surely have been one of the Phoenix Common Room's finest vintages, made possible in no small part by the hard work of my predecessor, A.N. Holbourn. I was proud and honoured to be at the helm of a Common Room that continues to thrive due to the solid principles upon which it is founded.

Michalemas term saw the PCR once more entertain honoured guests and members of the fairer sex at events carried off with characteristically devilish aplomb. But OOF was thirsting for some fresh blood to join his ranks, and unsullied souls were dutifully supplied through the election of three "top men": E.M. Donadoni, A.C. De Haes, and K.L. von Bismarck.

With eleven members, the PCR was in a fine position to satisfy the wishes of Our Old Friend and see him through his most difficult of months during Christmas and Lent. The return of the traditional Fathers' Night was an evening that delighted young and older alike; it is now clear whence our more sinister genes arise! Three fathers (they shall remain nameless) were later to commit themselves to the pleasures of the "Filth" night club, thus protracting their evening of fine wine and fine company. Another excellent occasion in the PCR calendar was the trip to Krakow in Poland. All returned unscathed despite meeting numerous members of the local dancing establishments, and the attempt to leave Mr Ciardi at the airport proved abortive.

The pinnacle of a great year was no doubt the dinner at the Hellfire Caves in West Wycombe in honour of Prof Graham Richards, which saw the Common Room return to reclaim what has always been its true lair. A great collection of "top men" – sixty-five of our finest, aged twenty to eighty-two, came from all corners of the globe to celebrate this descent – symbolically and ceremoniously entered the caves for the main event. After thirteen of the most Satanic toasts, the Principal himself displayed his appreciation by raising the silver phoenix above his head. I am so glad that we managed to give Prof Richards such a warm farewell.

After the success of the Hellfire Caves dinner, four of our older members found comfort with OOF during the desperate hours of finals revision. Striding through the stage with confidence, the PCR set about preparing for its descent. Celebrations began with the enjoyment of a champagne breakfast in the Deer Park and a few sets of the King's Game, followed by lunch at Vincent's club. The day reached its climax with the now worldfamous Phoenix Garden Party, where one hundred and fifty of Oxford's finest young folk partook in devilish brew and embarked upon a downward spiral to perdition.



Returning to the ashes this year, aside from myself, are A.S. Feld, J.A. Cope, F.G.M. Young, excellent men all, and our "godfather" T.G.H. Bowden, who, after four years assiduous service, has finally plunged into OOF's embrace (in Bournemouth, I am told). The reins of the PCR have been seized by F.G.D. Ciardi, who I trust will uphold the spirit of our great institution. My gratitude goes to our senior member, Dr Anne Edwards, for her support and scintillating company throughout, and to William Hernandez and Alan Bennett, among many others.

It has been a great honour and quite exceptional fun to be part of this fine institution, and we leave with a definite comfort knowing that the Common Room will remain strong for the years to come – its founding principles are too great for it to be otherwise.

Fay ce que voudras.

Author's note: Our Old Friend would also be comforted to know that we have had two successful cricketing victories against the Octagon – one in Oxford and one in Holland Park.



BRASENOSE ARTS 2007

O-J Dyar, JCR Arts Rep.

Brasenose College Arts exists to promote, encourage participation in and fund artistic endeavours in College. This year has been no exception, with increases in all of these areas. The Pater Society has continued to flourish under the support of Heather Lee and Katrina Hamlin. A series of successful film nights were held in the JCR throughout Michaelmas term, and, in partnership with the Phoenix Picture House in Jericho, a free evening of cinema was organised for all undergraduates at Brasenose. The end of Michaelmas term saw many return to the Phoenix for another event: the premiere of *We've got the Toaster*, starring Emma Blake.

Over the course of the year, Brasenose Arts has shown diversity in its status as a university funding body for dramatic ventures, supporting productions such as *Going Postal* (Old Fire Station) and *Six Characters Looking For An Author* (Oxford Playhouse). Two shows at the Edinburgh Fringe also received pro-rata loans: *Monsters* and *Under Milk Wood*. Beyond this, Brasenose Arts have funded Mark Blake's string quartet, who will be putting on a series of short concerts over the next three terms in Brasenose Chapel. Finally, this year has seen BNC Arts invest in a fifty-strong DVD library for the JCR and also graphic design software.

What has arguably been most impressive this year are the solo pursuits of College members. Owen Findlay continued to build his reputation on the stage with strong performances in The Threepenny Opera (Playhouse) and Switch Triptych (Burton Taylor). Arden Moscati, having sung with Out of the Blue for a year, took on more acting roles in The Threepenny Opera (Playhouse) and Monsters (Edinburgh Fringe). Meanwhile, in the technical sphere of drama, Ben Williams was Production Manager for Under Milk Wood (BT) and the tremendously successful Going Postal (OFS). The evercapable Paula Reid took on the enormous role of Production Manager for two Playhouse shows (Entertaining Mr Sloane, The Oxford Revue). O-J Dyar acted as Sound Designer for two shows (The Threepenny Opera and Our Country's Good) and Production Manager of two (The Curious Case of Sophia Wyatt, Portrait of Dylan). Billy Kenber, along with other first years at Brasenose, mounted an impressive adaptation of Jason and the Argonauts at the OFS in Trinity term. Out-going BNC Arts Rep. Charlie Henniker produced Under Milk Wood at the BT and Edinburgh Fringe, and was Assistant Producer of Bank at the King's Head Theatre in London.

Another great BNC tradition continued this year with the Christmas Pantomime, written by Tom Olney and starring many of the Junior Common Room members. Third Week in Trinity term saw the annual Arts Festival, with close to a thousand visitors passing through the doors on Radcliffe



Square over the week. *Peter Pan* was superbly adapted and directed by Ben Bransfield, starring Sam Bright in the lead role, Alice Hyland as Wendy and Tom Richards as Hook/Mr Darling. Costumes and innovative props were designed by Emma Wright. The second New Quad show was *Romeo & Juliet*, directed by Billy Kenber, with Andre de Haes and Josie Thaddeus-Johns giving terrific performances as the eponymous star-crossed lovers. The College proved to be a great venue to stage the play, with candles and sword fights in the corner of New Quad and the Shackleton Room providing the setting for the famous balcony scene. All this made for a highly atmospheric production. This year, we invested in an 8m by 10m marquee to house the audience for our outdoor shows; this proved a prudent move, as the rain did not abate all week. (This did not stop both of the New Quad shows selling out, however!)

The Chapel was the setting for the first Oxford staging of Neil Simon's *Fools*, directed by Charis Demetriou and starring James Pope and Imran Jina, amongst others. As this production was our ten-day play project, everybody was very impressed with what could be accomplished. This show also sold out for the duration of its run.

Alice Hyland was Music Director for the Festival, organising a series of lunchtime concerts (performed by James Pope, Aimee de Gruchy-Lambert, Jennifer Gell and Mark Blake) as well as the Arts Festival Concert on the opening night. New Quad played host to open-air cinema on the weekday evenings, thanks to the construction skills of Festival Technician Catherine Cleary. We showed a range of films, climaxing with a music-video competition run for members of the JCR. Daniel Yeo and Oli Newman were responsible for running the Fine Art and Photography Exhibition. Throughout the week, the Deer Park Bar (run by Julia Gibson and Charlotte Harrison) served Pimm's and the winning flavour of our G&D's Ice Cream Competition.

The theme of this year's Festival was of 'Involvement', and to this end Laura Scott coordinated a series of workshops ranging from a Poetry Masterclass with the Chaplain to a Circus Skills Afternoon with David Lewis-Hall. David was also instrumental in the final event of the Arts Festival, acting as compère for Cabaret Night. This evening above all others was perhaps the most indicative of the depth and breadth of artistic talent at Brasenose.

Finally, I wish to offer my thanks to the Festival Producers, Paula Reid and Lorna Wilson, and the Senior Members and staff of the College, without whose help the Festival would not have been possible.



The King's Hall Trust for

the Arts



Registered charity: 1057101

Rikesh Shah

Treasurer, The King's Hall Trust for the Arts

The King's Hall Trust for the Arts was founded eleven years ago by a group of Brasenose undergraduates, graduates and staff who sought to provide support for the ongoing development of the arts across Oxford and at Brasenose in particular. We are proud of our growing history and of our continued support for arts projects across the University and beyond. The KHTA now stands as a central figure in the arts infrastructure of Oxford University.

This has been one of our most exciting and lively years to date, investing directly in work by Brasenose students and graduates more heavily than ever before, and giving out some of the largest grants in our history. We have been busily pursuing our chief objectives of increasing participation in the arts, promoting links between the arts and education and promoting the arts talent blossoming at Brasenose and throughout Oxford.

The current board of trustees is made up of professional arts practitioners and business leaders, all of whom are graduates of Oxford. The majority are proud graduates of Brasenose. The Trust is led by two freelance theatre designers (whose work includes designs for Shakespeare's Globe, The Soho Theatre, and work in Ghana, Pakistan and even Siberia); the Chief Administration Officer at The Royal Ballet School; the Senior Acting Teacher at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts; an Investment Analyst for Barings Bank; and Research Director for Opinion Leader. The strength of this board means we are able to provide not merely financial support, but as great a breadth of advice and expertise as we are able.

The core of our unique activity remains providing underwriting to student productions across the University. This year we have supported productions



led by Brasenose students at all the major university theatres. We supported eleven productions, which include innovative productions of classics like *Much Ado About Nothing, Ghosts, The Barber of Seville* and *Ruffian on the Stair,* as well as new writing by undergraduates. We continue to receive many more applications than we are able to support, but equally we continue to seek a balance of excellence and innovation. Once again, Oxford has proven itself to be a hive for new writing talent and visionary creative teams. There can be no doubt that the University will continue to feed the professional theatre world with some of its leading talents.

Although theatre projects form the mainstay of our activity, they do not represent our whole work. This year has seen a continued focus on participation and education. We used the grants we can afford to offer to support this work in particular. Four grants were made this year: one to the Lower Windrush Choral Society; one to Ruskin students' Catalogue show; one to an Educational Book by artist Rachel Williams; and one to the endof-year exhibition for the LCC Photography Class.

We survive on the generous donations of alumni, most of whom support the Trust because they themselves benefited from participation in – or indeed enjoyment of – the arts while at Oxford. We would like to thank all those who have supported the Trust over the years and look forward to their continued involvement in the future. The fruits of their generosity are apparent all across the Oxford arts calendar.

The Trust has achieved much in its first 11 years. We are now looking forward to increasing the scale and impact of our involvement in the arts at Brasenose and Oxford and within the wider community during the rest of the Trust's second decade.

We welcome comments and enquiries by e-mail to info@khta.org.uk.



THE ELLESMERE SOCIETY

Helen Walters McAteer, President

Term began once again with a new Secretary (Emma Lochery) and a new Treasurer (Laura Scott), who worked closely with President Helen McAteer.

Our first task was to organise the Freshers' drinks, which, as usual, proved a great way to start off the year; second and third year students had an opportunity to catch up with one another after the summer, and Freshers were introduced to the larger community of their peers.

The next big event for the Ellesmere was the annual Society dinner. This year's dinner, the Society's 85th, was (as in the previous year) organised in conjunction with the College Development Office, making it truly an event where current students could meet with both recent and not-so-recent alumni. The guest speaker was Francis Neate, head of the International Bar Association. In a speech that was both entertaining and thought-provoking, he challenged those present by focussing not only on his own career as a lawyer, but on the role that lawyers have to play in a changing political landscape.

I hope and am sure that all of those who attended the dinner had an excellent evening and thoroughly enjoyed the food and the company. For my own part, I am already looking very much forward to the next dinner!

Following the dinner, there were a number of moots which highlighted the role of the Ellesmere Society. It is not just a society which brings Brasenose students, past and present, together. Rather, the Ellesmere Society has a crucial role in helping us develop the skills which we as lawyers will need in the future.

The main competition in which Brasenose lawyers took part this year was the Sherman and Sterling moot, fielding two all-Brasenose teams. Helen McAteer and Emma Lochery performed well in the first round, but were pipped to the semi-final. Natalie Brown and Isabel McArdle, were, however, the stars of the day, reaching the final. They were unfortunately defeated, but did both themselves and Brasenose proud.

The final big event of the year was the Society photo and the summer meal. For many this would be the last Ellesmere event they would attend as undergraduates. The dinner took place at Pierre Victoire. It was an excellent night, and heartening to see so many members in attendance.

Next year begins with more new faces and with another committee. I wish my successor David Lewis Hall the best of luck, and I am sure that Laura wishes Nic Kennedy the same.



ALE VERSES 2007

The annual "Ale Verses" competition took place on Shrove Tuesday, February 20th 2007, in Brasenose Hall.

We began with an alternative grace:

oculi, cervisia, omnium in te spectant. datur a te copia nunc facendi quae amant. manum tuam aperis atque imples omnia pacis et libidinis, vomitus preaterea. mensas nunc superfluas ut delapsum hominem adaques et dolor cras fiet gloria. Amen.

Two translations were provided. One was deemed 'poetic':

All our eyes to thee, O Ale, Look with great humility Thou, to their desires avail, Givest the ability. Thou, when opening thy hand, fillest ev¹ry living thing with both peace and lust¹s command, finally there¹s vomiting. Now from tables overflow so Thou those recumbent men you will water. Tomorrow glory will be pain. Amen.

The second was 'literal':

The eyes of all look to thee, Beer. Ability is given by you to do those things which they love. You open your hand and fill all things with peace and desire and finally vomiting. Now may you overflow tables to water the fallen man. Tomorrow glory will become pain. Amen

Standing up on the benches and swigging beer, the congregation in Hall then began to sing, accompanied by Mark Martinez on the Clavinova. We made our way through ten of the best entries: *The Brasenose Picnic* (Chorus: 'Breakfast time at BNC / Nobody's up but me / They all had too much to



drink last night.'); An Undergradutate is Deaned (to the tune Jerusalem – 'And did the Principal awake / Like Zeus in Homer's Book Fifteen?'); The Porter Cometh (a version of the Flanders and Swann favourite about the Gasman); La Vie Brasenose ('When your vision starts to blur, / Your tongue is growing fur, / This is La Vie Brasenose.'); Instructions for an Interviewee (to the tune You'll Never Walk Alone); The Economist Song ('A bold Greek Economist was sitting one day' – another Flanders and Swann favourite, originally about mud); The Brasenose Poacher (memorably describing our Bursary – 'Long John Silver with his Parrott at his ear'); Dean Me Baby One More Time (the eventual winner, of which more later); Thine be the Glory ('Lo, Chappers meets us / In his cycling vest); and Formal Hall (to the tune of For All the Saints).

Many others were submitted; but too much of a good thing is good to avoid, and the remaining verses were printed for posterity, later perusal and, if possible, pleasure.

Using that trusty scientific instrument, the Clapometer, it was decided that the Champagne for the winner should go to "Dean Me Baby One More Time". This entry had the advantage of describing contemporary events (notably the seizure of several illegal toasters from student rooms), and is ludicrously set to the pop-tune "Hit Me Baby One More Time" by Ms. Britney Spears. The combination proved irresistible to the crowd:

Domestic bursar, how was I supposed to know That hot bread was ille-gal? You took my toaster, now I don't know what, to dooo-ooo-ooo, I might just have to starve, yeah

Tell me, how now can I ea-at Toast and but-ter? That was clearly stu-dents' staple diet.

My lack of toast is killing me, (and I) I must confess, I'm breaking free (breaking free). My electric heater toasts perfectly, so give me a fi-i-i-ne. Dean me baby one more time.

Domestic bursar, you're hoarding them all, I bet, Down in the Bursary, yeah. Ten thousand toasters, a proper menageriee-ee-ee of Breville and DeLonghi.



Marma-lade, honey, and mar-mite, No they just don't taste as good with cold bread underneath.

My lack of toast is killing me, (and I) I must confess, i'm breaking free (breaking free). My electric heater toasts perfectly, so give me a fi-i-ine. Dean me baby one more time

After the winner was decided, the evening finished with a recitation of one final entry, which summed up both the evening and the tradition - *The Brasenose Ale-ing Ode:*

Before a sportsman scored a try, or on the river rowed, The ailing Brasenose drunkard wrote the Brasenose ale-ing ode. A tasteful ode, a toastful ode, submitted to the Dean, Observing stipulations to be topical and clean; A pining ode, a punning ode, and such as was re-hashed The night we sang a madrigal in praise of getting smashed.

I've read no word of Golding, Farrell, Buchan or Traherne, In my benighted state school no Latin did I learn, But I will write an ale-verse, and if my course I fail, I'll always sing the glory of the famous foaming ale -When you and I came into hall beneath the Unicorn And sang a vulgar limerick about his splendid horn.

Our rhymes will be forgiven us, though some are truly dire, And melody's a matter better dealt with by the choir, Our history's inaccurate, but no-one will begrudge Or notice our errores (except for Harry Judge); Don't doctor us, or proctor us; if no-one thinks it odd The knight can take the Bishop and go dancing round the quad.

My friends, before you catch a crab and join the sainted crew, May you take more from Brasenose Ale than it takes out of you. And if these college customs in retrospect seem weird, Think fondly of the Principal, still boozing through his beard; For there is good beer yet to drink, good people to prevail, Before we reach senility by way of Brasenose Ale.



BNC CRICKET 2006-07

Mathew Owen Captain of Cricket



Reporting on behalf of a very old and traditional club, I start with a line all too traditional in recent Brasenose cricket reports: it has been a season of mixed fortunes for Brasenose. The club's great enthusiasm and spirit has too seldom been converted into results, meaning that the season I can record on paper inadequately represents a very enjoyable year.

I begin with an all too brief report on Cuppers. The only game Brasenose played was in fact the best performance of the season. A sublime second wicket stand of 148 between Brown and Owen, on the back of the opening partnership of 71 between Brown and Smith, meant that Brasenose set 253-5 in 35 overs, a mountain on which a puny Linacre side were unable even to set up a base-camp. Drawn against Pembroke in the second round, Brasenose men were ready to do battle again and fancied their chances, but were constantly frustrated by the Rain God; eventually, a bowl-off was held to decide the matter, and a fortuitous gust of wind directed a Pembroke delivery onto the stumps and sent BNC cruelly from the competition.

The league season had the similar traits of ill-fortune and inclement weather. However, this did not stop Brasenose showing its full capability. Several Freshers bolstered the side of keen second years and academically-negligent finalists: Elliott Kelly bowled with real class throughout the season, combining accuracy, pace and swing to claim vital scalps in difficult conditions, notably swimming up to bowl on the Christ Church quagmire; Smibert kept very tidily, but really made his mark with his batting, which was described variously as 'powerful', 'alarming' and 'agricultural'; Fortune (no relation of the goddess who had so deserted the team in Cuppers) grew in confidence with each game, culminating in a magnificent all-round performance against University; and the commitment and passion of Warshaw, Thomas, Harper, Bell and Jeyakumar cannot be overstated. Victories for the Eleven came against Said Business School (by 3 wickets), Trinity (in a nail biting if slightly bad-natured affair) and University (by 201 runs). For performances in the league season,



mention must go to a blistering 60 from Smibert (including 31 off an over), Smith's century in 110 balls and several super innings by Brown. With the ball, fewer exceptional performances occurred, but rather all bowlers contributed regularly and effectively: the ever-present Jones, returning for his highlyillegal fifth season, picked up several 3-fors, as did Elliott Kelly and the tediously exceptional Price. The breadth of Brasenose talent with the ball was embodied by batsman 'Savlon' Mowat, who overcame pouring rain and some devilishly uncomfortable friction to bag 4 for 19 against House.

Despite the fine efforts here recorded, Brasenose remains in the third division next year, having finished sixth. However, it is worth remembering that Brasenose, with its usual sense of priority, conceded their final game against Oriel (in which victory would have placed us fourth and just fifteen points behind the leaders) to attend the Garden Party.

The highlights of every BNCCC season are the friendly games, which provide respite from the huge mental strain of the league and cup campaigns. The first such game was the inaugural 'Steve Stuart Memorial Match' against Jesus College, Cambridge. This is to be held annually in memory of a fine Brasenose man and cricketer (and previously a student of Jesus, Cambridge) who was tragically killed in a road accident last summer. Eleven men set about trying to be the first to take the new trophy on a glorious summer's day in Cambridge, but despite a fine innings from Smith, lethal bowling from Jones and Prytherch's bucket hands, BNC were defeated by a very strong team from the Other Place. Undaunted, the Oxonians set about proving that any lack of cricketing talent was comfortably compensated by intellectual clout as they annihilated several 'Tab teams to emerge in radiant - and slightly inebriated - majesty as victors of the Jesus Bar Quiz. After such rigorous mental application, it was decided that refreshment was needed - and duly taken with some gusto.

The Club was also fortunate enough to be asked to field a side against an Old Boys team in May, and on another splendid day Brasenose matched a fine innings by Old Boys' skipper Hammond (80) with an inspired fielding display and another immaculate spell of 5 for 47 from Price. Brasenose batted well, if slowly, on a bowlers' track, and the game eventually closed in a wellfought draw. The thanks and best wishes of the Club must go to Professor Graham Richards, in whose honour the contest was held and by whose munificence a hog-roast and several gallons of claret were provided for the players and substantial crowd for lunch.

Finally, the annual match versus the Buxton Strugglers was held at the beginning of June, and saw another fine bowling performance from Jones (4-27) and an equally excellent spell of 8 overs for 6 runs from Price. Thakerar's demonic leg-spin finished the job off at the close to leave BNC chasing 175 in 40 overs. Brown and Owen again passed 50 for the first wicket, and after Owen's demise



Smith picked up the baton and ran with it well. However, the performances of all players were dwarfed by the towering effort of Brown, who scored his second century of the season (110), playing devastating strokes with little respect for some accurate bowling. His innings enabled the home side to cruise home for only 2 wickets with 8 overs in hand.

Even more so than their 1st XI colleagues, the 2nd XI's season was blighted by precipitation. The only other major problem for the Seconds was the loss of their Captain, Prytherch, before the first game: he broke his wrist during rather over-vigorous revelries and subsequent escape attempts at a Cambridge college, surely the only honourable manner for a Brasenose cricketer to sustain an injury. Only four league games were played, with a win against Wadham early in the season and two defeats later on. The fourth match was a cold and damp affair against St. Catherine's, in which elegant innings from Mitropoulos and Tudor looked to be directing the 'Nose to victory. However, a man short, the skipper called upon the Club Captain to bat eleven at the death. He faced two balls and was already looking the epitome of class until he was ignominiously summoned from the field, along with everyone else, as the scorer believed the game to have ended with the scores tied. Further inspection later vindicated the dismayed batsman, as one ball was (as is still) left to be bowled, but the game was declared a draw and the reproaches of colleagues declared both mutinous and unjust. The 2nd XI therefore finished mid-table and remain in the first division for next year.

In closing this log of the 2007 season, mention must be made of certain individuals. A more-or-less combined bowling award to the men from the Valleys, Price and Jones; a clear batting trophy to Brown, for consistently outstanding and important innings and two hundreds, and who must also take the player of the season award for his bowling, fielding and vice-captaincy; and thanks to all who played. Farewell (unless, *deo volente*, Jones' precedent is followed) to finalists 'Wasim' Hemus, Rule, Southcott and others, and especially to Smith for support as well as cricketing performances. Thanks to the Committee of Tom Brown, Jack Prytherch and Tom Lintern-Mole for their stalwart camaraderie and diligent efficiency. Welcome also to the new Committee: Smibert (Vice), Fortune (2nd XI skipper), Elliott Kelly (Fixtures Secretary) and Harper (Treasurer). In fine, a look to the men of BNCCC can sit back, sip a nourishing orange juice, and reflect on another fine season for the black and gold.

Please also look at our website, complete with photos and match reports: http://cricket.bnc.ox.ac.uk



MEN'S FOOTBALL

Freddie Young

This season was an historic one for BNCFC, culminating as it did with the return of the University Cuppers trophy to its rightful place in Radcliffe Square for what is, according to the record books, the first time since 1953.

We were bereft of a few key players from last year's side, but as the Freshers more than compensated for these losses, we looked strong going into the new season. The team had an international flavour, with Greek adonis Eli Mitropoulos a colossus in goal in his fifth year in black and gold, German wunderkid Philipp Langer at left-back, and the enigmatic Guadeloupian superstar Thomas Ballet a real handful up front. The start to the season was impressive; a home defeat to an exceptionally talented New side was the only loss of the Michaelmas Term, with impressive wins against Jesus, St Hugh's and a blistering 5-0 victory over St Catz which featured a magnificent brace from set-piece specialist Langer.

After the defeat by New College, BNC embarked on a 10-game unbeaten run which lasted until a defeat to the same side in February. Despite leading 2-0 at half time and playing the best football of the season with Tom Brown surging down the flank, some questionable refereeing and an awesome second-half New display resulted in a 3-2 turnover which effectively ended our title ambitions.

And so our attention turned to Cuppers. Having edged past Queen's 2-1 in the first round and destroyed St Hugh's 5-2 thanks to a ruthless hat-trick from right-wing flyer Gavin McCormick, we were faced with a treacherous quarter-final away at Exeter. Their wealth of Blues players showed in the early exchanges as they took a 1-0 lead in front of noisy home support. But an expert volley from Gallic wizard Andre de Haes restored parity before a blistering second-half showing from Brasenose ensured a 3-1 win, with a handsome goal from Oli Garthwaite capping a superb team display.

Last year's captain, the legendary midfield enforcer Simon Richardson, finished his 2005-6 report in the *Brazen Nose* with a message for this year's side: 'Now go beat Worcester', he implored. The 2007 victory over Exeter set up a semi-final meeting with the Walton Street college, responsible for our exit from the competition last year and the architects of so much BNC heartbreak over recent years. Worcester went into this semi-final tie hot favourites again – undefeated since the first day of the season, marching to yet another Premier Division title, and hailed by the press as invincible. But on a blustery day off the Abingdon Road, with a substantial crowd braving the cold, Worcester were undone. Outmuscled, outfought and outplayed, they were helpless as the tactical superiority of the 'Nose, married to the kind of passion only seen by those sporting the sacred black and gold, Tim



Archer's deft flick gave BNC a 1-0 lead which was protected ferociously by stout-hearted centre-backs George Lambert and Dave Grant, who reduced Worcester's celebrity strikers to a pair of whining prima donnas. Garthwaite added a second with fifteen minutes to go and Brasenose were in the final; Richardson would have been proud.

A distracted BNC suffered back-to-back league defeats to a bitter Worcester side subsequently, but Andy Byrne's creativity and some smart finishing from Colum Elliott Kelly in an electric 5-3 win over rivals Teddy Hall ensured a 3rd place finish in the Premier League and an exciting build-up to the big day at Iffley. The team arrived ready after an evening of team bonding and meticulous tactical preparation. St Anne's were the opponents - already champions of Division 1 and unbeaten in over a year, they would be no pushovers. St Anne's started the brightest on a windy day, their silky passing proving fruitless owing to the heroics of a defensive line marshalled by the vocal Mitropoulos and inspired by BNC stalwart and darling of the press Chris Staves. Several exquisitely-timed Staves tackles and an excruciating near-miss from a busy Grant were all the crowd had to cheer in a difficult first half. But Brasenose were a different team after the break, and de Haes headed us in front with barely five second-half minutes on the clock. Anne's were shaken, BNC were buoyant and, cheered on by a raucous set of supporters which featured several great figures from BNCFC's past, we extended our lead before long. Lambert emerged around the back of a host of defenders to meet Langer's free kick perfectly, scoring with a superlative diving header. Score 2-0. James Leviseur, crippled for much of the season with a career-threatening ankle injury, capped a sparkling return to the side with a calm finish to make it 3-0 minutes later and a penalty in the closing stages, selfishly commandeered and unconvincingly struck by the captain, sealed a 4-0 win and a joyous end to the season.

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped make it such a successful year, and to say that it has been an honour to lead such a fine group of men. I wish the team all the best for next season, and I'm sure that under the guidance of Dave Grant and Eli Mitropoulos BNCFC will add more silverware in no time. All that remains now is the league title.



MEN'S HOCKEY

George Lambert

The new season brought a number of fresh faces to the Brasenose hockey team, and, under the continued captaincy of Alexander Smith, we set about displacing Worcester from the top of the college league. With the league structure changing so that champions, promotion and relegation would be decided once at the end of Michaelmas, and once at the end of Hilary, we even had two bites at the cherry!

A 2-1 victory against a strong Magdalen side in a pre-season friendly gave us further confidence. There were assured performances by James Leviseur and Tom Maisey, who provided a goal in each half.

Michaelmas term brought many enjoyable fixtures and socials. A 6-0 win against New, a 2-1 win against St Anne's/Somerville (affectionately known as Anne Summers), and a 2-0 win against Magdalen took us to 2nd place in the league. Socials were seemingly almost as important as the matches, with good turnouts at hockey cocktails and trips to India Garden. Equally well attended were the regular games of 'snake-eyes' in the BNC bar.

We continued our run of good form when I took over the captaincy in Hilary term. A 2-1 win against Queens, (an awkward fixture considering the fact that it was played on the grass), was followed by a 4-2 win against Anne Summers, reputedly one of the strongest sides in college hockey. A walkover against New, who were already playing another college side when we arrived at Iffley to play them, was unsatisfactory, but it gave us a crucial three points. A 5-0 demolition of LMH/Trinity was the pick of the bunch, with a hat trick from Ralph Windham and goals from James Leviseur and Guy Hemus. Unfortunately we then handed the title to Worcester on a plate by losing 5-1 to Magdalen in a game in which we were missing a number of crucial players. Our 2nd place was little consolation.

The annual Cuppers Competition brought the last chance for Finalists to get one over on their rivals. After coming 2nd in the league in Michaelmas term, we were given a bye in the first round, and were drawn against University in the second. We competently dispatched University 4-2, with goals coming from Ralph Windham, Guy Hemus (2) and myself. However, the third round game against New proved to be a hurdle too far; we struggled against a number of Blues players and lost 3-0. New went on to reach the final of the competition.

Trinity term saw us enter the Mixed Cuppers Competition with high hopes. The competition was played as a straight knockout over one weekend. Gaby Bishop, Aarti Arora and Beccy Anderson provided a strong base of


female University hockey players, but our hopes were to be short-lived. Despite dominating our 1st round match against Jesus, hitting the post twice and missing a number of good opportunities, we were cruelly beaten on sudden death penalty flicks after I skewed one wide under the pressure!

BNC hockey loses a number of the most talented players in the college hockey leagues this year. Ralph Windham, Guy Hemus, Rich Rosser and Anthony Walker all move on to further their hockey careers elsewhere, but a core of players remain, and a talented influx of freshers will strengthen the side to ensure that there is every chance that Brasenose will remain one of the most feared College hockey sides in Oxford.



NETBALL

Matilda Ruffle

Brasenose Netball started the season off with a strong team of First and Second years. However, disaster struck almost at once when, during our first match and on the brink of slaughtering Jesus College, Ruby Thompson (our key WA) tripped and fractured her wrist. As the year went on, the Second years found they had more work to do. The once golden team began to diminish, resulting in a disappointing 12-8 loss to Hertford and, despite our best efforts and team spirit, a fairly uneventful performance in the Cuppers tournament against LMH. As new, less-experienced (but by no means less keen) players were added to the team, the Brasenose Netball team found a new slant on the game: a social one. As the year went on, the number of 'Crew Dates' and 'Ring of Fire' nights rose dramatically until, by the end, the Netball team were known as the most social team in the Nose!



BOAT CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dan Whalen

Due to fast streams that have plagued the Isis throughout the year, Torpids 2007 was cancelled at the last minute, leaving a strong set of Brasenose rowers thoroughly disheartened. To train so hard for an entire term -8 times a week in the case of the Men's 1st VIII – only to be robbed of an opportunity to prove themselves was unfortunate indeed.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the previous committee, whose sterling work over the last year has seen the Boat Club continue to regain strength and momentum that we fully intend to build on.

First, I'd like to thank the outgoing President, Dan Butler, who handed over the reigns to me at the end of Hilary term. He then went to the schools to take a first in History – a blow perhaps to any misguided Fellows that might feel one cannot participate in this glorious sport and excel academically!

Much gratitude is also owed to Rob MacAndrew and Emma Lochery, our outgoing Captains, whose tireless efforts and strong leadership have been unfaulting. They are true assets to this Boat Club.

Now, to the rowing. The miserable weather, which resulted in the truncation of Christ Church Regatta and complete cancellation of Torpids, meant coxes had to cope with a fast stream that frequently went red flag and prevented any crews from using the Isis. As a result, it was difficult at times to get crews out onto the water before Eights. We were, as a consequence, left with keen but somewhat inexperienced crews.

Despite the relative inexperience of the newer members of the Boat Club, the core of the Men's 1st VIII was largely retained, and was strengthened by the return of ex-president Hauke Engel from the Lightweights and the addition of the Michal Plotkowiak, a returning Blue.

I am also happy to report that membership of the Boat Club, on the women's side in particular, has swelled. Three Women's VIIIs were trained this term; a far cry from the three or so girls the Boat Club could boast when I matriculated. Indeed, this is a vast improvement from Michaelmas 2005, when we reported that the Women's Captain was the sole member of the Women's squad!



MEN'S ROWING

Matthew Neve, Men's Captain

Former BNC rowers and supporters alike will be delighted to learn that BNCBC has had its most successful year in a decade. For the first time since 1997, the 1st VIII moved up the rankings in Summer Eights.

A year's solid preparation was essential to our success, and yet it has been a difficult year for any sort of training. Inclement weather resulted in the truncation of Christ Church Regatta and the sudden cancellation of Torpids, which meant coxes were regularly faced with a Thames that did not flow softly, much less sweetly. Red flag conditions were common, and prevented any crews from using the Isis. Nevertheless, all crews made the most of their time on the river, and the 1st VIII performed admirably.

Despite having to row in the venerable – and leaky - 'Bash', our top Four (consisting of Riou Benson, Rob MacAndrew, Dave Meryon and myself, and coxed by Thomas Westwell) was victorious at Autumn Fours in Michaelmas term. The 1st VIII made an excellent showing in the Isis winter league, finishing only one second behind the winners, New College. Rob MacAndrew did a great job coaching two novice Eights for Christ Church Regatta, which was sadly cancelled due to poor weather conditions. This left all involved very disappointed.

In Hilary term, the squad embarked on a gruelling fitness programme consisting of ergs and circuits. The novices from Michaelmas, undeterred by the cancellation of Christ Church Regatta, moved into the 2nd VIII under the able coaching of Mike Bradfield. After considerable training and effort, both crews were again disappointed as the event was cancelled due to the flooding of the Isis. The whole year rested on the success of Summer Eights.

I took over as Captain in Trinity term, and arranged a training camp in noughth week. The weather was beautiful, and the training proved to be a great success, giving the squad a much needed boost after the disappointments of the previous term. Our Ist VIII was weakened by the loss of the four man and President, Dan Whalen, to the schools, but the loss was compensated by the return return of stalwarts Michal Plotkowiak (Blue's Heavyweight squad) and Hauke Engel (Lightweight squad). I appointed a new coach that season, and Dan organised a rack for us at Godstow – a excellent stretch of water. An intensive five weeks of training followed, which was gruelling but ultimately highly productive. I'm sure the crew will join me in thanking Harry Bradwell, who coxed the Ist VIII for many sessions only to lose his place to Tom Westwell for the competition itself. Harry's efforts were greatly appreciated and played no small part in the success that was yet to come.



One week before the race, we braced ourselves for a 2km ergo test, in which Barney Stannard and Jon Dale performed especially well. This, coupled with our continued training, ensure that the crew was at the peak of its fitness going into Summer Eights. On the Wednesday of Eights, we found ourselves behind St Anne's, whom those in the know favoured to blades in Division Two. We had a phenomenal first half and rowed to within a metre of them, but unfortunately a mix up with the pushes meant we didn't quite get the bump, and Anne's caught Jesus. Encouraged by our performance the previous day, we exploded off the start on Thursday and bumped Jesus within one minute. Coming into the Friday, with adrenaline coursing through our veins, we set off in pursuit of our old rivals, Lincoln. We bumped them convincingly by the gut. Our challenge on the last day of racing was St John's one of the best crews in our division. Despite our best efforts, and a really gutsy row by the crew, we found ourselves unable to bump them.

If I have dwelt at length on the performance of the 1st crew, it is only owing to my closeness to it. It would be most remiss of me not to mention the 2nd VIII, who also performed well this year in Summer Eights, rowing over on three days and being bumped only once.

I have been very impressed with the commitment and determination shown by the men's squad this year. Many of the squad are going to be here next year, and if their level of commitment and enthusiasm continues, it cannot help but lead to further success.



WOMEN'S ROWING

Lauretta Desmedt Rudman, Women's Captain

Hilary term was my first as BNCWBC Captain, and I quickly realised how much work the role involved. The Easter holidays were spent sorting out the crews, recruiting novices and scouting a new coach for the Women's 1st VIII. We began with a three day training camp for the 1st crew, and tried to ignore the worried looks of the newly appointed coach on the bank. The crew improved steadily, however, and by the first week of term we were training on water four times a week, looking forward with some trepidation to Summer Eights, which loomed only five weeks distant. The training was intense; we worked harder than we had done in the past three terms, and at times we found it hard to remember just why we were exerting this much effort. Personally, I was not enjoying the two 5.45am starts a week, and the early starts were not mitigated by the weather; the promised sunshine never came, and our outings were cold, wet and miserable. The nearer we came to racing, the harder our coach pushed us, the tougher we were on ourselves and the more fraught tensions became within the crew. We were nervous when the Regatta began, as for most of us this would be our first race for BNC. However, we were excited and keen to see the results of our hard work. We started in a good position in Division II, and had every intention to bump. Luck, however, was not on our side. Confusion and nerves on the first day meant that we dropped our bung line too early, upset our line and crashed into the bank on the start gun. Wailing and gnashing of teeth ensued, and the long, sad row home was unforgiving. It was not the start we had hoped for.

Having dropped one place in the Division, we were even more determined to have a successful second day. However, a technical hitch shattered our hopes, with the loss of one of the boat club seats. Rowing in sixes proved troublesome, and we were bumped at Donnington Bridge. Day three was tough, but we rowed well as the 'sandwich' boat of Divisions II and III. We held off an imminent bump in the first race, but rowing over meant that we had to row again, back in Division II. Again we rowed over, and, having not bumped, were to be 'sandwich' boat again the following day. Day four saw us bumped by an extremely-impressive looking St Anne's crew, who certainly deserved the blades that they won. This bump, however, put us at the top of Division III for next year. We are confident of greater success next year, and plan to capitalise upon a solid but somewhat inexperienced squad in time for next year.

Trinity term saw a number of new arrivals into the Women's 2nd VIII, including first-time cox Rachel Burke. The crew worked with their previous coach David Pallot, and trained hard; the crew was on the water at least three times



a week and really pulled together as a team. As a novice cox, Rachel learnt remarkably quickly and was a credit to the crew, without whom they would have had to have been coxed by me. As a result of their hard work, the crew qualified for Summer Eights easily and were lucky enough (owing to the random draw) to be placed in a very favourable position near the bottom of Division VI. Donning black and yellow war paint (with matching gold headbands), the Women's 2nd VIII took Summer Eights by storm, proving beyond doubt that women's rowing at Brasenose is a force that cannot be ignored. The crew narrowly missed out on blades due to their race on the third day being klaxoned only inches before a bump. The crew felt it had won 'Moral Blades', but this was only some consolation after the otherwise excellent performance all week. They certainly did me proud, and I'm sure next year will be hugely successful for them.

It should be noted that a Novice VIII, coached by Robert MacAndrew and Riou Benson, was also formed in Hilary term, crewed by a mixture of girls with an interest in some leisurely rowing. Although we decided against entering them into Eights, they showed great potential. I'm hopeful that a number of the girls will carry on into Michaelmas and race in the Christ Church Novice Regatta.

In conclusion, I'd like to thank all those who rowed or supported the Women's Boat Club this year. I'm especially thankful to my deputy, Emily Miles, to whom I delegated responsibility for the Women's 2nd VIII. Without her help, thing would not have gone as smoothly as they did and rowing might very well have become my enemy. Coach David Pallot also deserves special thanks for his hard work, especially considering his medical finals fell during Summer Eights! Here's to another successful year in the best traditions of the BNCWBC.



RUGBY UNION

David Auld and Anthony Walker

This year was something of a revival for BNCRFC, as a mixture of new Fresher talent and returning heroes intimidated the opposition in the lower leagues. From a team struggling to get fifteen men in the same place at vaguely the same time last year, we were suddenly blessed with a host of new players: a fly-half in Andre De Haes; two hard-tackling wing forwards in Finn Toner and Matthew Biden; and two strong running (or proper "bosh" might be a more correct term) centres in Peter Forster and George Smibert.

The backline this year was completed by Jack Davies, Adam Turner, Matthew Wordsworth (of varsity rugby league fame), Phil Duggleby (with his ridiculous gas), and, at fifteen, Guy "safe hands but don't ask me to run with it" Hemus. The pack benefited greatly from a rotation of Andrew Mowatt, Anthony Walker, Riou Benson, Rob McAndrew and Rob Stevenson in the lock forward/back row positions. Thanks go to Riou and Rob; it was nice to see some hardcore rowers taking the time to turn out for some proper sport. The front row, such an asset in college rugby, was made up of Tom Bowden, Peter Radford, Hugh Gifford, Tim Williams and Robin Ewing. At Scrum-half was Matt Houston and, when not filling in any position between one and ten, David Auld (famous for his kick down the line that hits the centre spot).

At the beginning of the season the outlook could not have been better. We had a full squad, new kits and even sponsorship courtesy of KPMG. All we needed was results. Then, in the form of two massive wins over Merton/Mansfield and Hertford (51 - 0 and 61 - 0), we got them. Everyone who played distinguished himself in those matches, but special mention must go to Thomas Hamnett. Tom returned to Oxford from his real job (which seems to involve playing lots of rugby for various corporations) to gas his way round the opposition and cross the line to add to the already mounting score. Rob Stevenson, still with us due to fourth year Chemistry, also came good to teach the new guns some of the lesser-known rules. For example: to score stylishly in a tight situation, just slam the ball one handed onto the upright, and if Hertford have an 8 stone winger, just gently launch him from the field of play (incidentally the latter example was deemed illegal by the referee).

However, after such a bright start, work and a few niggling injuries (including an amusing one for Williams who unfortunately "sat on himself" to injure his wrist) must have caught up with the squad as we were forced to concede to Christ Church and Lincoln. Also, despite having a very strong side, we lost to St Anne's/St Johns. This cost us promotion but I think we would have missed out on playing our favourite opposition Hertford in the next term so, in the long run, rugby was the winner.

The lack of available players did have an upside, however, as it brought about a win that can only be described as comedy. 11-man Brasenose took



on the full Herford team in a match that ended in a glorious one point victory. Smibert and Hemus were seen to disintegrate their constant four man overlap with the greatest of ease and the full flowing champagne rugby (now commonplace in the new, revitalised BNCRFC) scored the necessary points.

Another thriving part of the club was the social aspect. Rugby Captain's Cocktails (of which, I regret to say, I only remember the first half), was a success, bringing back fond memories of my first year. Also, the club was helped in times of need from a few friends of the College, such as Robin "kinky blue boots" Ewing and Andrew Chadwick. To cap it all off we found more allies when we combined with Exeter for the day to compete for the Rugby League Cuppers tournament. The successful partnership was brought to an end in a hard fought final with a defeat to Keble, a union premiership side. Collecting the runner-up was a fitting end to an extremely enjoyable term.

The second term was a mixed bag. It began with the game against Univ (first cancelled due to snow, then forfeited) and a solid 35 - 15 victory against Merton/Mansfield. This finished off the league phase of college rugby. Cuppers then brought us back down to earth, for, despite fielding an excellent team, we crashed out in the first round. It was a close but ultimately unsuccessful match against Jesus. However, our blushes were spared as they eventually made it to become plate champions.

The following week we celebrated the end of the XV's season with a superb dinner in College. This again emphasized that, whatever our mixed fortunes on the pitch, the social scene remains strong. Indeed, so strong was the pull of BNCRFC that even during Trinity Finn Toner, the newly appointed social secretary, was putting out a crew date 'side' every few weeks.

The summer 7s tournament provided one final opportunity for glory, seized enthusiastically by a somewhat forward-heavy 7s squad. With 27 teams in the competition, we did well to get to the last 8, knocking out on the way a team which included an 86 times capped, world class Wallaby. Ultimately, our forwards heritage let us down, and we lost to an exceptionally pacey St Hugh's.

Despite not quite making it, I'm confident that such performances bode well for the future of the team. Although we lose a number of golden oldies (including Tom Bowden) whose BNCRFC careers date back almost to the turn of the century, the club has been strengthened by an unparalleled stream of new talent. We can only hope that next year's batch of Freshers will contain even more. It is a future that lies in the hands of all our Second year leadership team which includes George Smibert as Captain; Vice Captains Pete Forster and Andre De Haes; and Social Secretary Finn Toner. Both co-Captains from this year wish them another successful – but more importantly, enjoyable – season.



TABLE FOOTBALL

Dave Grant

Following its promotion at the end of last year, Brasenose started the Michaelmas season in Division 1, facing opposition a lot tougher than we had previously fought. We had lost 4 of our 6 players, and were very relieved to welcome into the side Chris Stevens, Shuhei Imai, Jon Paul and Carl Moore. Together with Mark Sheehan and myself, the team battled hard and held its own within the division. (We even held a place in the top 3 for a short while.) With two games to go, we knew we needed only 5 points of a possible 28 to avoid the drop. It was in the penultimate game, when we fought back from 6-2 down to gain a 6-6 draw, that our survival was sealed. Carl Moore returned to Stanford University at the end of Michaelmas, and was replaced in alternating weeks by First years Joe Zhang and Guy Kemball-Williams. We ended the season 4th (of 8) having played 7, won 3, drawn 2, lost 2 and scored 48 points.

The Hilary season saw a number of other teams drop out, which resulted in a big shake-up of the league. Anyway, it was in this season that Brasenose TFC showed what they could do, and did their College proud. We finished top of our league following an unbeaten season, having played 5, won 4, drawn 1 and scored 54 points.

I'm pleased to offer my heartfelt congratulations and thanks to all those who played. I am also indebted to Fabian Seshadri, who helped out whenever the team was short of players (and even managed to win one game!). I wish every success to Joe Zhang, next year's Captain.



MATHIESON MUSIC SCHOOL, INDIA

Mark Blake



Since Anup Biswas founded the Mathieson Music School in 1994, volunteers from the United Kingdom have frequently visited the school both to help with teaching and experience life in Calcutta, one of the world's busiest and most vibrant cities.

On July 28th I flew to Dum Dum International Airport, Calcutta, along with Rosie Shakespear of Somerville College. Due to the terrorist attacks at Glasgow International Airport the same day, security at the terminal was tight. Upon arrival in India, after a slightly delayed tenhour flight, we were informed that our luggage had not yet left London – it was 'delayed indefinitely'. However, having escaped the chaos at home, it was a relief to be in Calcutta at all.

The Mathieson school is situated in the outer suburb Thakurpukur, a thirty-minute taxi drive followed by a twenty-minute rickshaw ride south of the central business district. The role of the 'M.M.S. Gaps' (volunteers) is to teach Environmental Studies, Information Technology, Social Studies, Moral Sciences, General Knowledge and to give Western instrumental lessons. The children also have lessons in Indian dance, song and tabla (a traditional Indian percussion instrument) in addition to Music, English, Mathematics, Science, Bengali and Hindi. The intensity of the daily timetable, beginning at 5.30am with instrumental practice and concluding with homework until 8 pm, is rather impressive,



especially when compared with the standard day in a British school. Despite this, the children always seemed to be full of energy, determination and happiness.

After spending two weeks at the school Rosie and I spent a week visiting Agra, New Delhi and Varanasi. Seeing the Taj Mahal and various tombs and forts in Agra was simply breathtaking. New Delhi provided lots of attractive retail opportunities, as well as the Jama Masjid-India's largest mosque and the memorial museum of Mahatma Ghandi. Finally we visited Varanasi, one of the most sacred cities to Hindus. The entire city is centred around the holy river Ganga (Ganges). It is believed that bathing in its water cleanses one of all previous sin, and that death in the city results in emancipation from the cycle of reincarnation. Varanasi features impressive and enjoyable sights, such as the extravagant architecture and the playful rooftop monkeys, but it is the spirituality of the city which draws millions of Hindu pilgrims and a comparable number of tourists each year. Witnessing riverside cremations and religious festivals truly reveals the essence of the city, and Rosie and I were fortunate enough to be invited into the Durga Temple on a holy day.

After a brilliant week we gladly returned to the school for a final week of teaching, and found the children tremendously academic, musical and social throughout our stay. I will most definitely be returning to Calcutta at some point in the future for a longer placement at the Mathieson Music School.





GREECE

Christa Neudecker

Although I had just finished a degree in Classics, I had never been to Greece in my life. The College generously supported my post-finals trip with money from the Michael Woods fund, designated for nonresearch-related travel. So, while ancient ruins were a main focus of interest for me and my companion, enjoyment, not work, was the aim of the exercise.

We arrived by plane in Thessaloniki. After a brief trip to Olynthos, an extensive and marvellously situated excavated city on Chalkidike (complete with tortoise), we made our way inland to celebrate a friend's wedding near Kozani. Journeying via Larissa and the 'suspended' monasteries of Meteora (where the tortoise reappeared) we encamped on the Pelion peninsula. Here we took a break from sightseeing and enjoyed the transparency of the sea and the leafy mountainside with its abundant wild orchards. We passed through Delphi and Athens and crossed the straits of Euripus to spend some time in Eretria on Euboea (not in Africa). While Delphi and the Athenian Acropolis attract mainly foreign sightseers, Eretria is a popular seaside resort for the modern inhabitants of Athens. Although it has seen important excavations for many years, we felt a bit mad climbing up the Acropolis in the heat of the midday sun instead of enjoying the beaches.

A highlight of the Peloponnese was the valley of Messene, beneath the idyllic village of Mavromati. In the fourth century the surrounding mountain range was surmounted by a huge wall. The reconstructed gate is reminiscent of late medieval fortifications. The experience of Megalopolis, the eponymous huge site in a wide plain, was spoilt by the proximity of a power station and its rank exhalations. Mantinea and Tegea we visited from Tripoli, and Navplio and Epidavros from a lovely campsite by Mycenae. Before flying back from Athens our last expedition was to the temple of Aphaea on the island of Aegina, crowned by a dinner of the finest octopus we had tasted so far.

Lasting impressions also include the generosity of the Greeks themselves, who often went out of their way to help us when we were lost; of the diversity and the cool comfort of the countless archaeological museums; and of the endlessly repeatable pleasure of having a fresh Greek salad. This first trip will not be my last.



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MEDIA SUMMIT, SYDNEY

Billy Kenber and Mike Sweeney

The International Youth Media Summit is an annual event that brings together students from around the world to discuss the media's exploration of issues affecting young people. This year, two Brasenose undergraduates - Billy Kenber and Mike Sweeney - were chosen to represent the United Kingdom at the summit in Sydney, Australia.

Delegates from twenty-two countries (including Iran and Sierra-Leone) convened in Sydney for a week-long forum hosted by the *Cinewest* media centre. The event's central theme was the exploration of seven key social issues and their portrayal in the media. Representatives were placed in one of seven groups, each of which produced a ninety-second film on a specific issue.

Mike's role was to co-write a film exploring the issue of health. Research he had prepared for the event had shown that in poor and rich countries alike, differences in wealth and status closely corresponded with inequalities of health. The health film looked at the reasons for this pattern, focusing in particular on how feelings of social disengagement and disempowerment result in 'health-apathy'. It followed an adolescent with nowhere to go and nothing to do, for whom drugs and alcohol were simply ways of escaping reality.

Billy was the writer and director of a film on poverty. As part of the summit, groups visited welfare organisations that operated in the area and who dealt with the issues we were exploring on a day-to-day basis. Discussions in a youth centre in a deprived area of Sydney were the main inspirations for the poverty film, which attempted to give the viewer an insight into what it is like to experience poverty. It was filmed on location in the more run-down outer-suburbs of Sydney.

The films were shot over three days and edited in one intensive fourteenhour stint. They were then shown to local government representatives and media personnel at a cinema in central Sydney. (This was also where diplomats were given the chance to present the findings of their research.) The films are now being aired at festivals at conferences around the world, and last year's film featured in an MTV documentary. It is hoped that this years' will gain the same kind of exposure.

As well as facilitating some interesting and provoking discussions, the summit provided us with the opportunity to meet with experienced



journalists, and to work with professional film-makers and their highquality equipment. We were fortunate enough to meet people from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and it was interesting to find out how they viewed the role of their national media. Although the language barrier was occasionally a problem, we also noticed how easily we could communicate our ideas about the films. The similarity in our perceptions of the key social issues was striking.

For both of us, this opportunity has been an invaluable experience in developing skills and learning about how life is experienced around the world. We would like to hope Brasenose College was represented in a positive capacity too. We are extremely grateful both to the Brasenose JCR committee and the Principal for their generous grants towards this trip.



MEXICO

Charlotte Harrison



My original reason for visiting Mexico was to explore its rich Aztec culture. However, when I arrived, I found that Mexico offered much more than this. Although it is a relatively small country it is packed full of contrasting regions. In five weeks, we saw such varied places, including the most populous city in the world; the UNESCO world heritage site of Oaxaca; the massive waves of the Atlantic coast; the Mayan city of San Cristobal in the highlands of Chiapas; the jungle; and the Caribbean coast.

My old friend Sarah and I arrived at the airport in Mexico City and were greeted by my uncle Scott, aunt Izzy and cousin Theo. As the plane descended onto the runway I had already spotted the conspicuous roof of the best-travelled 1960s double-decker bus in the world parked right next to the runway. It is now painted circus green. My uncle and aunt had left England eleven years ago with my newly born cousin, Theo. Trouble started at the Dover-Calais ferry, where they learned that doubledecker busses do not fit into the category of motor homes over 12 foot! Since then they have travelled on the bus (complete with kitchen, living room, and two bedrooms upstairs) all around the world performing their circus show, which involves diabolo, juggling, acrobatics, tissu and trapeze. So far they have travelled through France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Venezuela,



Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Belize. We finally met them in Mexico. The last time I had been out to see them was in Columbia four years previously, so, once we had picked up our vast amounts of luggage (including new juggling balls, diabolos, false eyelashes and some new injectors for the bus), I was quite surprised to find a remarkably taller and more grown up Theo, whose primary language was now Spanish!

Not only had we just arrived in Mexico, but so had they, having travelled for three days at top speed (that's about 20mph, 10 uphill) to get to Mexico City in time to meet us. We negotiated the crazy Mexican traffic together, driving far into the suburbs of Mexico City to the house of a lady named Lucha, whose address Scott had picked up from a friend a few years previously. We arrived in the suburb of Nezahuacovtl and were welcomed by (a somewhat bemused) Lucha. Over the course of the next few hours my GCSE Spanish was given a full work out. Only recently have I discovered, through speaking to Mexicans in England that we were not in the safest of places. As I have been writing this report I have discovered (and I quote Wikipedia) that 'Nezahuacotyl is a sprawling, dusty expanse of low income houses...considered among the most dangerous places in Mexico due to the rampant crime in the area.' Luckily it didn't seem too rampant while we were there, but now all the raised eyebrows which we got when we mentioned to other Mexicans where we were staying make a lot more sense. Sprawling expanse of low income housing it may be, although I think that is a rather unfair description, but we were welcomed wholeheartedly by all the members of the community. Whenever we went to the market with Lucha to help with the shopping we came back hours later, having spoken to everyone, laden with flowers and with burning mouths after







having been coerced into trying all the local delicacies which inevitably seemed to involve ludicrous amounts of chilli, while my cousin had found a seemingly endless supply of ice cream somewhere.

We spent a bit of time settling in, during which we experienced some freak Mexican weather. One day the streets were flooded in two feet of water, which seemed like it would be a lot of fun to bike around in – that is, until you realised it was in fact mixed with

sewage. We also experienced a hail storm of such ferocity that we were able to build a snow man with all the kids on the street with the fallen hail. However, it was soon time to scout out possible show spaces and do a bit of advertising. This, I learned, involves driving around the area with one person sitting on the front of the bus singing and playing the guitar; my aunt Izzy on the other side with a microphone announcing when the show would be; and Scott standing on the roof of the bus, juggling. My job was to walk along at the side and shout out whenever any power cables were coming up so Scott could jump over them. Due to the lack of suitable green spaces in Neza, we decided that the only way to survive Mexican chaos was to join in with it, so we perfected the art of closing off roads, setting up the rig, drawing in a crowd, doing a show and leaving all before anyone realised what was going on. But after seven days in Mexico City, we felt it was time to explore the rest of Mexico, and so Sarah and I set out on our own.

Our first stop was the beautiful city of Oaxaca, with its amazing colonial architecture and baroque cathedral. We arrived at night to find the whole town buzzing and what seemed like the whole city sleeping in make shift tents on the streets. After a few slightly confused conversations, we learnt that they were teachers who had gone on strike. You could sense the tension in the atmosphere; not only were the teachers striking, but the country was waiting for the announcement of the general election. With the election of President Calderon, federal troops were sent into Oaxaca to quell the protests. After a few days



exploring the city and its markets, we headed on an excruciatingly windy 10 hour bus ride for the Atlantic coast. We arrived in the little town of Puerto Escondido, one of the top ten surfing beaches in the world. Initially we had no intention of experimenting in the waves, and our intuitions were only confirmed when we saw the 7 foot waves crashing dramatically on the shore. But, on venturing into a bookshop to expand our holiday library, we were told we must surf, and were promptly taken to the best surfing beach, Zicatela, by the owner of the shop. After an afternoon's surfing (and having swallowed an exorbitant amount of salt water) we emerged from the waves exhausted; my experience of surfing in Devon had obviously not prepared me well enough for the Zicatela undertow!

From here we travelled inland to the state of Chiapas, and stopped in the Mayan town of San Cristobal, one of the four cities that the Zapatista army of National Liberation took in its uprising in 1994, fighting for the rights of the indigenous people to retain the profits of the natural resources. The Chiapas Indians and the Mayans have felt oppressed since the Spanish introduced Christianity to the areas in the 1500s. More recently, the Zapatista movement have sought autonomy for the indigenous people. Although the Mexican and foreign media insist that the Mexican government and the Zapatista movement came to a peaceful settlement, the story of the people of San Cristobal is very different. They remember the massacre of Zapatista sympathisers and their families by the Mexican government.





From San Cristobal we took a bus to the town of Palenque and watched from the bus as the landscape changed from open hills to dense jungle. Arriving at night, we headed out to a small village near to the ruins and managed to rent a tree house to stay in. We decided to explore the place before going to sleep and as we walked around the dirt tracks we were drawn in by the sound of drumming rising up above the screeching of monkeys. Following the noise we stumbled across a clearing with a bar and a group of girls spinning fire. The fire show ended as we bought our first drinks, and the stage was cleared for dancing. We appeared to have found the hippest hangout in town. The next day we ventured out to the ruins of Palenque, a Mayan city abandoned in the 8th century, remarkably well preserved and possessed of some weird and wonderful wall paintings.

From Palenque we headed to the Caribbean coast, where we met with some friends of my uncle's in Playa del Carmen, who are also circus artists. We were invited to join them on a trip to see some cenotes. Cenotes are underground caves with water, and are some of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. We travelled down the coast from the built-up city of Playa del Carmen only an hour before we found the deserted white sands of Tulum, which I'm sure is destined to become another Cancun in a couple of years. At the moment, however, it is deserted apart from the clusters of wooden huts. We trekked along the beach to find a hut and spent the next couple of days without electricity, living the simple life on the beach with our friend Bilbo the iguana, who liked jam sandwiches.

From here we travelled back to Mexico City, by which point my uncle and aunt had found a circus space for Mexican teenagers, and so we spent the rest of our time in Mexico being taught trapeze and tissu by the Mexican children.



IRELAND

Emma Blake, Benjamin Bransfield, Felicity Johnston, Chris Tudor

The Michael Woods Travel Grant funds trips which are ideally 'intellectually constructive' in some way but do not directly correspond to university studies and – most importantly - are fun!

Given these excellent criteria, and our theory that some of the most exciting and interesting areas of the world can be found unexpectedly close to home, we applied for and won part of the grant for our trip to Ireland in the summer.

Needless to say the trip had no difficulties fulfilling the 'fun' category. But it was also an opportunity for us all to learn something of a country which is so near and yet historically, geographically and politically different to our own in many ways.

Driving through Belfast, one is immediately struck by the evidence of recent political history. We felt this came across particularly strongly in the painted curbstones and walls we observed on both sides of the community.

Northern Ireland is also home to many unusual geographical features, the most famous of which is probably the Giant's Causeway. As we set off to see this striking rock formation we took the scenic route along the north east coast, crossing the strikingly beautiful Glenshane Pass.

After visiting the Giant's Causeway we stayed overnight in an amazing youth hostel at the foot of the cliffs on the shore near Coleraine. The next day we walked along the coast, visited the Mussenden Temple and ended our day by swimming in the Irish Sea. Looking back towards the shore (through the rain) from the sea, there is a truly beautiful view of the North Mountains which I don't think any of us will ever forget.

The next day, we headed back to Belfast and indulged in a traditional Ulster Fry made by an amazing chef and, thus fortified, took the four-hour coach ride down to Dublin, on which Fliss got to talk to 'a real Irishman' and we had a brilliant view of the breathtaking Mourne Mountains. Once in Dublin we visited the General Post Office, the site of the 1916 Easter Rising, where bullet holes made during the conflict could still be seen. We then ventured to try a genuine Dublin Guinness (which most of us managed to finish!) followed closely by a visit to the area of Oscar Wilde's birthplace, which pretty much made Ben's life.



Taking advantage of the lack of rain, we went on an open-topped bus tour which was both informative and very amusing! Craig, our friendly guide, showed us around and filled us in on the areas of significance and interest in the city, concluding the tour at the gates of the Guinness Factory.

All in all, the trip was a massive success and we will never forget the beautiful country and its friendly, open and unusually good-looking people. We are very grateful to the College for enabling us a go on this unforgettable trip, and would recommend that anyone planning a similar trip apply for the Michael Woods Travel Grant in 2008.



SING, MUSE, OF ROME, FLORENCE, VERONA, POMPEII, SIENA, VENICE AND BOLOGNA

Emma Wright, Felicity Johnston and Christopher Tudor (featuring Edward Blacker, Sian McKinley and Anna McDonald)

Under cover of night, we fled Britannia. With the trireme having been boarded, We raced down the motorway, like Apollo Darting down from the peaks of Olympus, angry at heart. Thus we sped towards our destination. But having arrived at Stansteadius We realised that Fliss, miserable wretch, Had left her richly-decorated baculus in the trireme. And lovely-haired Fliss, letting forth a fresh tear, Spoke winged words: "Nothing is worth the equal of my baculus! Not even all the gold They say is in Orchomenos, or in Thebes In Egypt, hundred-gated city." So she spoke, but Emma made no reply, But raised her head in disapproval, For it had been long ago fated that These three would find a noble city. When late-born, rosy-fingered Dawn appeared, We arrived at a green and pleasant land, Largely uncultivated. Northwards we headed Towards the fortress, passing shady parks, Flourishing with hyacinth, rose, parsley, and wolf-thicket, And - alas! - a statue of Victor Hugo. Soon, We arrived at a travertine staircase, stately and vast,

We arrived at a travertine staircase, stately and vast, Which mortals call the British School at Rome, but the gods call it Home. Thrice seven and four there were, All in the first flower of their youth. All but one, who was at the cruel threshold of old age. And the cooks were busy at work, preparing the meal, Deftly cutting the meat, and threading it onto spits. And the wine was mixed in a Scythian fashion. When we had put away our desire for eating and drinking, Each went to his own bed, lofty and scented, And all-conquering sleep overcame him.



When bright Dawn had put the stars to rout, We tied our sandals under our feet, and, Having put on our togas, we came to the court Of god-like Robert Coates-Stephens, And beside him sat brave Matthew Nichols, scion of Ares. As a shepherd tends his flock, carefully driving them Through valleys and hills thick with woods, So did god-like Robert lead us through Rome. Many and great were the wonders we saw:

We marvelled at the fine port of Ostia, Where followers of Mithras had once slain the great bull of Zeus: Never had such men walked the Earth, And never will such men walk the Earth again, But we were among them, and we saw A synagogue, a bakery, a shrine, Which was guarded by the serpent of Minerva, Looking out malevolently as it coiled round itself. No less were the marvels of the house of Hadrian, Where once the god-like emperor had escaped The amorous advances of a Tuscan Adonis, Scarcely then we would have escaped, If you, prophet Chryses, had not reminded us That our path lay beyond the bounds of fertile Latium.

* * *

At times Robert was a doer of deeds But at others he was a speaker of words, When night had come over the fertile earth. He lectured on many and diverse topics, But especially: Building Materials, Who Could Build in Rome?, Rome in Late Antiquity, Augustus, the Forum, Bread and Circuses, Triumphal Processions, the Horti Romani, Hadrian's Villa.

We relished every minute in this calm paradise, Not knowing what hardships might await us In Italy; when we would resume our travels, For long exile from Kent was our lot. We took our fill of lemon sorbet and other flavours of that Italian gelato, furiously seeking only the best. With many white-marbled museums being visited, The Villa Borghese stood out like a star, Shining in the dark sky, it makes all others seem dim.



Here are housed magnificent sculptures of Bernini. Among them are Pluto and wretched Proserpina, And Daphne and Apollo, who strikes from afar.

And then Notte Bianca, White Night, fell over Rome, And we set out to see this city alive with light. There shone the Circus Maximus, filled with glowing globes, Gloriously coloured, fading into different shades. Roaming homewards, we encountered an obstacle. A Latin mob, sent by the wrathful goddess Juno, Clustered in the streets as bees stream around Many-hued blossoms and lustrous lilies And all the fields murmur with the humming, And so close to each other were the Italians that Their helmets touched when they moved their heads, Shield pressed on shield, helmet on helmet, man on man, It was here that Fliss first wet her sword Of pietas with the blood of hard graft, Steering us between the throngs so swiftly That it was as if a mist, sent by the gods, Shrouded us against the rioting mob. With these three returning, Fliss rode high on her triumph, Vaunting late into the night, until the prophet Chryses, Placing his right hand on hers, spoke thus: "Let it be enough that beneath your navigation The plebeians have fallen away; This first taste of Glory I vouchsafe you; For the rest, Fliss, refrain from riots."

Fliss retired to her loom, abashed.

And when the brightness of the sun had set And had scattered from the sky the dewy shades, Then we drank deep with our companions, Taking our fill of the gift of high-born Dionysus, Ignorant (O horror!) that the next day cruel fate would bring Not the honey-sweet gifts of the gods but bitter Exile, whose heart is set on baneful crimes.

Now life-giving Earth was reddening with the rays of dawn, And from heaven's height Aurora rode her chariot, Drawing near, bearing Latona's children, Born after long labour, those twin deities



Apollo Blacker and Diâna McKinley. They stood forth, gleaming in the clear light, Godlike in face and shoulders with youth's ruddy bloom, And on their eyes a joyous lustre. We burned with eagerness to clasp hands But, even as we embraced, a moan pierced our ears, As cruel Fate plucked the life from the prophet Chryses.

Then indeed did we hold funeral games. Here comes Emma, vowing never to leave these seven hills; Here comes Anna, with hope in her wavering mind, Entreating us to remain ever by her side. Duly we poured a libation, but (woe!) Did the wine turn to putrid blood and the milk to mud. To these unfavourable omens we yielded, Turning our faces coldly from Anna McDonald, Poor maiden, eating her heart out in anguish. Having held counsel long into black Night, We made resolution to part company, The one believing a noble city to lie in the north, The other wishing to seek it in the south.

And so Fliss strode onwards, following Diâna, Who flew straight as an albatross, steadfast and strong. Thus the well-built city of Florence was discovered; Then to Verona, home of hospitality: Weary they were, yet still they journeyed on, Eager to chance upon the most noble of cities, which One day, even the gods, who make their home on Olympus, Would look down upon and smile in divine mirth. Thus they scoured the land, ever observing: The Arena, meeting place of the ancient and modern spheres, The fine-walled Basilica di San Zeno Maggiore, Porta Borsari, and that famed balcony of Romeo and his Juliet, a love second only to that of Dido and Aeneas.

No less meanwhile Emma and Apollo journeyed south, Penetrating the dark heart of Campania, Where, it is said, lie the empty halls of Dis; A town occupied by shades, phantom Pompeii. The Sibyl Colborna, girt with bloody pall, Strumming her Thracian lyre and tuneful strings, Stormed wildly in the entrance chamber:



"Easy is the descent to Pompeii;
To recall one's steps and pass out into the upper air, This is the task, this the toil!"
They shuddered at her dread enigmas
But advanced nonetheless, wandering dimly through The deceptive tangle, a maze inextricable.
They passed through the House of the Faun; The temple of Isis; and lingered in the Lupanare, For lo! they had not previously heard of that position.
On they trod, until their careless steps brought them before A ghastly rendering of a dog in mosaic, bearing the warning 'CAVE CANEM' and here suddenly In trembling terror they lifted their reluctant gaze

And beheld the prophet Chryses, long since departed From the upper light yet now roaming the pleasant lawns And happy seats of the Blissful Groves. He raised his beatific countenance and spoke to them winged words: "Do you see how drowsy Vesuvius is rumbling? Direct your feet to the north, wherein lie Many noble cities, worthy of your piety."

Pondering much and pitying in their hearts his unjust lot, They marched upwards, ever approaching the frozen North, Surveying meanwhile Siena, Firenze and charming Bologna. At last, their weary souls found solace in Venice, Where, on hearing a joyous shout, Each turned hither their two-eyed gaze And (joy!) met with their long-suffering companions, Whose blood yet had the freshness of youth, Pius Fliss, grey-eyed Diâna, and weeping Anna, And much and varied discourse did they weave.

Happy youths! If my poetry has any power, No day shall ever blot you from the memory of time.





Encaenia 2007





New Quad at night





The Principal, Roger Cashmore











Night-time shot captured during the filming of The Golden Compass



BRASENOSE ROGUES

Elizabeth Boardman, Archivist

Dr Ratcliffe was a Knave

There does not seem to be sufficient matter ... to justify so harsh a censure. Dr Radcliffe's great benefaction to the College should secure his memory from all dishonorable imputations, which are not founded upon the most direct and positive evidence.¹

These two comments are endorsed on a legal paper of the 1660s which relates to the dispute about Principal Samuel Radcliffe's benefaction to the College. They sum up the difficulties of attempting to define a rogue. Roguery, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder.

'Hearty, kindly, a prince of sportsmen and good fellows, he was one of the last members of an ancient and honourable company, the old English country gentleman', wrote John Buchan about Sir Tatton Sykes, who came up to Brasenose in 1788. Buchan went on to say that 'I cannot help regarding this great Yorkshire squire as in a peculiar degree representative of the College, and what the College has at all times delighted to honour.'2 Buchan was speaking of the popular and affectionate view of Sykes, a huntsman and racehorse breeder who carried eighteenth century dress and living into the 1860s. But his son's great-nephew painted a different picture, of a man who 'ruled over his family with the vicious rage of a stone-age tyrant'. He made his children rise at dawn, forbade hot water, had his six daughters sharing one small room and used the whip freely. On one occasion his two sons were disciplined on their return from Harrow 'because, on unpacking, the unmanly frippery of tooth-brushes was discovered among their effects'; on another the father was seen armed with a whip driving the elder boy 'barefoot and screaming down the drive'.³ Sykes' sporting reputation was shared by another Brasenose man, George Osbaldeston (1786-1866), the 'Squire of England'. Even before he arrived at the College at the age of eighteen he had had a reckless career by his own account, beginning with truancy and rule breaking at Eton.⁴ In later life his passion for racing ruined him, and he had to sell his estates to pay gambling debts.⁵

Another example of differing opinions is Douglas Haig, Commander in Chief during the First World War. Some would definitely call him a rogue, for he has been called an idiot, a blunderer and a butcher. But when he died *The Brazen Nose* described him as 'a lovable person' and a 'splendid personality'.⁶ Immediately after the War many Brasenose men, including soldiers, subscribed to the war memorial which included his portrait. That many of the donors' letters were later eaten by silverfish might be seen as symbolic of what has happened to his reputation, which continues to change.



Sometimes we have no information upon which to judge the rogue. The first Bursar of Brasenose, Roland Messenger, was removed from his Fellowship for unnamed offences in 1522. After his exclusion he was employed on Wolsey's work at Christ Church, and it has been suggested that his exclusion from the College might have been connected with the differences between Wolsey as a proponent of the new learning and Brasenose founder Richard Sutton as a conservative. There is also evidence that Messenger could be unscrupulous. Whatever the offence, it was sufficiently serious for a clause to be added to the College statutes stating that Roland Messenger must not be a Fellow, or even have a chamber in Brasenose for more than one night. These statutes remained in force for three hundred years.⁷

A rogue in one age may be none in another, as rules and conventions change. The days of compulsory Chapel are gone, so there is no longer a reason for any undergraduate to give the excuse for persistent absence offered by R.H. Barham, author of the *Ingoldsby Legends*. Chapel was at 7am in the early 1800s. He claimed that the hour was too late for him; if he did not get to bed by five or six at the latest he was fit for nothing the following day.⁸ In 1843 four men were found guilty of playing cards 'from about half past nine o'Clock on <u>Sunday Evening</u> ... until a late hour of the ensuing morning'. Three of them were sent down for a term, but for the man in whose rooms the offence took place the dismissal was final. No longer is anyone rusticated for going to London without permission and staying away overnight, as J. Gott and W.H. Foster were in 1851.⁹ And nobody climbs in any more after the College gate is closed, a transgression for which B.G.H. Vernon was sent down for four months in 1885.¹⁰

Drunkenness is a perennial problem. In 1788 it was singled out as the most serious of N. Bland's multiple offences. He was ordered 'to withdraw from College for the Space of one whole year and be not allowed to return without bringing with him satisfactory Testimonials signed by three Clergymen of his good behaviour during his Absence.'¹¹ One account of the 1880s speaks of 'sixty drunk and naked men yelling and shrieking about the quad, and, as they passed out completely, being bundled into a hand-cart and wheeled back to their rooms.¹² Nor was the fault confined to the students. Drunkenness was claimed against a Fellow as early as 1530 ('he has wasted time in frequenting taverns').¹³ In the eighteenth century a Doctor of Divinity was seen trying to cross Radcliffe Square to reach Brasenose. He reached the Camera, but was only able to stand up by keeping one hand on the building. He continued walking round and round until rescued.¹⁴

The penalties for offences against academic and College discipline have changed. In 1815, when public readings of exercises were still required, graduate student G. Baldwin 'omitted to take his turn in the Antechapel in the cycle of English Essays'. His punishment was to read his exercise from the Undergraduates' Desk in Hall. Already guilty of repeated offences, he was





F.W. Bussell

also ordered to leave the University and not return until 'he brings with him the means of preventing the College from being disgraced by his being put into the Vice Chancellor's Court'.¹⁵ Confinement to College was a common punishment. R. Leigh arrived late at the beginning of term in 1830 and was restricted to College for a fortnight, as well as being required 'to transcribe the first Book of Homer's Iliad in Greek & English interchangeably word for word'.¹⁶ When V.D. Stenhouse was refused permission to play in a cricket match at Cheltenham in 1889 he went anyway, and was gated at 7pm for the rest of the term and sent down after Schools.¹⁷ On one occasion a graduate returning to take

his M.A. was gated *out* of the College for standing under the Vice Principal's windows and singing: 'I love D^r Bussell, his coat is so warm / And if I don't hurt him / He'll do me no harm'.¹⁸

However, in the early years of the nineteenth century your fate might be affected by your status. In Hall one day Lord Nugent, later an M.P. and Irish peer, poured a dish of hash over the heads of two brothers who were 'remarkably quiet and formal in their manners'. Nugent had said that 'he must try if he could not animate them'. They gave chase and he only just sported his oak in time. The Principal 'condemned Nugent's conduct as subversive of all decorum and decency; as most ungentlemanly and degrading; he could only compare it to the act of a drayman or coal-heaver in a low coffee-shop. Had Nugent not possessed influential friends he must have been expelled; as it was he had to write a most humble apology, and was suspended for one term.¹⁹

Attempts to deceive the College met with strong rebuke. In 1779 the Cook, William Lay, was found guilty of 'unjust & unwarrantable proceedings', including the raising of prices without permission and 'refusing to let the young Gentlemen have their Provisions in the usual Quantities'. However, the College tempered justice with mercy, in consideration of 'the large family the Cook is now burthened with & the distressed Circumstances he labours under'. He was given a severe reprimand and warned that two future offences would be punished by large fines and a third would be instant dismissal.²⁰ He seems to have reformed, for he continued to work for Brasenose for more than twenty years.²¹ In 1816 an undergraduate was sent down for a term after failing to put his name down for an examination when ordered to do so. The affront was compounded by his having 'been able to manage this omission by deceiving his Tutor and the Dean'.

But the worst deceit was one which embarrassed the College before the University. In 1822 S. Bagnall was advised to leave, both 'from kindness towards himself' and 'to save the credit of the College, which ... would be hopelessly


committed' if he were to take part in public academic exercises. However, he came up the following term and entered his name. On the Principal's advice the Junior Proctor did not accept the entry, and Bagnall then 'endeavoured to array the Authority of the Vice Chancellor against the Junior Proctor and through him against the College'. He was dismissed forthwith, but did obtain a Cambridge degree three years later.²²

One of the College's most colourful figures was F.W. Bussell, Fellow 1886-1917, a man whose outlook was reminiscent of earlier centuries (his politics were 'early Carolean').²³ He claimed simony, the practice of dealing in ecclesiastical benefices, as a hobby; in his memoirs he refers to livings 'I frankly purchased in order to present myself'.²⁴ One account recalls that 'he was always ready to bid for any cure of souls that came into the market with any out of the way privilege or prerogative attached. ... A gem of his collection bestowed on the incumbent the privilege of inducting himself ... with the gusto of a schoolboy he proceeded to play the parts of Bishop and parson on the Cox and Box principle, running nimbly from one part of the church to the other and addressing to himself homilies in the most feeling accents and accepting them with equal sanctimony.²⁵ In 1898 he acquired the Living of Shelland in Suffolk 'by auction & personal bidding' but continued to perform his duties as Fellow and Vice Principal. The College took advice from the Visitor on the appropriate Statute and he decided that, by the act of taking legal possession of Shelland, Bussell had vacated his Fellowship. Fourteen days after this Bussell was reinstated, having resigned the benefice.²⁶ During this fortnight he continued to act as Vice Principal, wearing a plain black gown in Chapel instead of his surplice and hood. Forty years later the event still rankled: 'Yes, I lost my Fellowship by decree of the experts ... I seem to have broken(!) the letter of the Statutes by reopening the little Suffolk Church after closure for seven years! ... BNC was the only college in Oxf. or Camb. that peremptorily forbade any Fellow to hold any cure of souls. situate anywhere'.27

At one of Bussell's churches very few services were required, but one fell on a day when he had a train to catch. He held the service an hour earlier than the accustomed time, with a house guest as his congregation, and left a note to say that it was over. In Oxford few attended his lectures on more obscure subjects, so he would stand in the corridor and misdirect the undergraduates arriving for the popular lecturer in the next room. The young men might find themselves listening to a discourse on the Byzantine Empire instead of the law lecture they had been expecting.²⁸

Two Brasenose men were guilty of forgery. Thomas Frankland was both undergraduate and Fellow, and was ordained a priest. However, after resigning his Fellowship in 1668 he renounced his orders and began to practice medicine in London. He was admitted as a candidate for the College of Physicians in 1671, and was a good enough doctor to be elected a Fellow. But his personal



unpopularity led to an investigation and the discovery that having no medical degree he had forged his own doctoral certificate. He was expelled from the College of Physicians.²⁹

Sixty four years later, in 1746, another Brasenose forger was hanged at Carlisle, but for High Treason, not forgery. Thomas Coppock had been a chaplain in the army of Charles Edward Stuart. A well known figure among the rebels, after his death accounts of his life painted him as black as they could, including the demonstrably false accusation that he was expelled from the University without a degree. After his graduation in 1742 he is said to have stolen from those who gave him lodging, sold quack medicines and been indolent and dissipated. Whatever the truth or otherwise of these accounts, it is certainly true that he came by his deacon's orders dishonestly. Having no testimonials to present to a Bishop so that he might be ordained, he prepared one for himself, forged the signatures of two clergymen on it, and then seems to have persuaded a former schoolmaster to sign it. With this in hand he was ordained and then succeeded in obtaining the curacy of Snave, in Kent. However, within nine months the forgery was discovered and another man was licensed to the curacy. Within weeks Coppock had joined the Highland army. When he was arrested he wrote to the Archbishop of Canterbury, but it seems that he was to be judged on his career as a forger as well as that of a rebel. The Archbishop's reaction to Coppock's letter was to endorse upon it: 'Thos Coppock is in deacon's orders, & for bringing a forg'd Testimonium was remov'd from a Curacy in Kent'.³⁰

Henry Mainwaring had matriculated at Brasenose in 1599. In 1611 he received a commission to proceed against the pirates infesting the Bristol Channel, but by the following year he had become a pirate himself. It seems that he had been set to sail with merchant ships accompanying an embassy to Persia. but that the Spanish ambassador intervened to stop the expedition, fearing that the real aim was piracy in the West Indies. 'Disgusted at this treatment. he went off with a number of vessels and by way of revenge on the Spaniards proceeded to capture any of their ships that chanced to cross his path, finally finding himself at the head of thirty or forty sail, mostly taken at the expense of the Spaniards.' At this period piracy was not an unknown career even for members of the aristocracy; it was said that none made better pirates than the English. In due course Mainwaring 'reigned supreme on the Barbary coast'. The Spanish even offered him a high command in the Spanish royal fleet, but to no avail. They seized Mainwaring's base while he was away and he settled in another; five ships of the Spanish royal fleet were sent against him and he defeated them; they offered him a pardon and 20,000 ducats a year, but he refused. The French had also suffered at Mainwaring's hands, and both French and Spanish ambassadors lodged repeated complaints. In 1616 James I offered him the choice of either facing a fleet strong enough to defeat him or accepting a free pardon if he abandoned piracy and returned



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Lawrence Washington to be sued

home. He accepted the terms, was pardoned, and almost immediately turned to suppressing any pirates he encountered.³¹ Shortly afterwards he commissioned a pinnace from shipbuilder Phineas Pett on behalf of Lord Zouche, the warden of the Cinque Ports. Pett recorded that 'I received only 100*l*. from the Lord Zouche, the rest Sir Henry Mainwaring cunningly received in my behalf, without my knowledge, which I could never get from him but by piece-meal, so that by the bargain I was loser 100*l*, at least'.³² Mainwaring's later career included knighthood, court appointment, Parliament and the Mastership of Trinity House.³³

Piracy is theft on a grand scale. The offence of Lawrence Washington, great great grandfather of George Washington, was less dramatic. He took his degree in 1623, became a Fellow a week later and resigned his Fellowship in 1633. He left in debt to the College, owing 17s 10½d personally and £9 5s ¼d on behalf of a pupil. A Bursar added to the note of the debt 'Mr Washington to be sued', but as far as we know this did not happen and the debt remained outstanding. In 1924 a party of Canadian and American lawyers was shown the account of these debts and suggested that they should pay the personal debt of 17s 10d, subject to no interest being charged by the College. A pound note was produced amidst much laughter. Unfortunately the light hearted gesture was not appreciated by some of George Washington's more seriously minded supporters and two newspaper articles denied indignantly that there had ever been a debt in the first place.³⁴ Whether it was actually paid is something of a moot point, as the pound note in question is still in the College Archives.

'Squire' Osbaldeston was a self confessed thief, for he records that he went out poaching when he was an undergraduate. He would hire a man to hold his horse while he shot, and then ride away as soon as the gamekeepers appeared. And even F.W. Bussell was not above some sleight of hand. A freshman who dropped a sixpence in the quad in 1900 saw it picked up by the Vice Principal. Even as the owner held out his hand Bussell pocketed the coin, remarking that finding was keeping.³⁵

Two Brasenose thieves were actually condemned to death for their crimes, but in neither case was the execution carried out. Both stole from the College. John Clavell was admitted to Brasenose in April 1619, but left without taking a degree. The College archives tell us no more about him, but records at The National Archives give a very clear clue as to why he left. In April 1621





John Clavell

a pardon was granted to Clavell 'for stealing plate out of Brason nose Colledge'.³⁶ The College plate book lists three salt cellars (one substantial) and three goblets stolen 'by breaking up of our Treasure howse' at about this period, but the thief is not identified.³⁷ Clavell went to London, where he made some very untrustworthy friends. He later claimed that they rendered him penniless by their 'cunning and unconscionable dealings', and at one stage had him committed to Newgate Prison. In 1625, newly married, he made the decision to take to the road as a highwayman. Although his career lasted less than a year he became well known, not for any particular feats but because this highwayman was a 'gentleman' by birth. Early in 1626 he was sentenced to death, but was once again pardoned as part of a general amnesty for the coronation of Charles I, to whom he sent this appeal:

I That have Robb'd so oft, am now bid stand, Death, and the Law assault me, and demand My Life, and meanes; I never us'd men so, But having ta'ne their money, let them go; Yet must I dye? and is there no reliefe?



The King of Kings tooke mercy on a theife, So may our gracious King in mercie save me, Although grim Death, and Law, doe thus out-brave me.

He seems to have remained in prison for about two years. During this time he wrote his poem *A Recantation of an ill led life*, which revealed some of the secrets of the road and included 'full Instructions, how to know, shunne, and apprehend a Theife'. The poem was published after his release. Subsequently he wrote the undistinguished play *The Sodder'd Citizen*, which was performed by the King's company in the early 1630s. He also practised later as both a lawyer and a physician in Ireland.³⁸

James Brucker was the Common Room Man, a College Servant who had come to Brasenose in 1778. He joined John Brucker, probably a relative, who had been in service since 1765 and who lived in College property in Amsterdam (where Staircases XI and XII now stand). Another Brucker, William, joined the staff in 1781. But in mid May 1788, after ten years of service, James Brucker's name suddenly disappears from the staff records.³⁹ On 5th June the Vice Chancellor committed him to Oxford Castle, charged on the oath of the Brasenose Vice Principal 'on violent suspicion of feloniously stealing and carrying away forty-eight Dozen and four Bottles of Red Port Wine'.⁴⁰ A week later the College resolved to pay the expenses of a prosecution 'for breaking into and robbing the Binns in the Wine Cellar'.⁴¹ Brucker's job seems

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The year before his conviction James Brucker signs a receipt for port he didn't steal



to have included care of the cellar. 'By cash from Brucker' appears regularly in the Common Room accounts, in which sometimes he was handling cash up to £130 a year.⁴² He also provided wine for College feasts, for which there were separate accounts.⁴³ It appears that when a check of the stock was made five hundred and eighty bottles, valued at £50, were missing and a key to the cellar was found hidden in Brucker's room.⁴⁴

On 9th July he came to trial at the Oxford Assizes, presided over by Lord Kenyon, the newly appointed Lord Chief Justice. Brucker found the money to employ a defence counsel, which was unusual for someone of his standing. Two technical defences were offered, first that the College was not the owner of the port (presumably because it belonged to the Common Room), and second that the offence was more of a breach of trust than a felony. Lord Kenyon refuted the first and refused even to hear the second. Brucker was condemned to death, in a manner which made it very clear that his offence was considered the more serious because he had stolen 'the Property of his Masters, which it was his Duty to protect'. Jackson's Oxford Journal reported Kenyon's opinion in terms a modern judge could only dream of reading in the press: 'with Astonishing Perspicuity his Lordship adduced several Cases ... to shew the Futility of the Objection'. The paper went on to say: 'we sincerely hope that the Punishment ... will be an Example to others, and teach them, that to invade their Masters Property, under the specious but mistaken Idea of a Breach of Trust only, is one of the highest Species of Misdemeanor, and such as very seldom escapes condign punishment⁴⁵

Sadly the College appears to have made a clean sweep of the family. Within three weeks of James' disappearance from the staff lists William Brucker's name is missing.⁴⁶ John Brucker's widow Maria had continued to live in Amsterdam since John's death in 1781. But in September the lease of her home was advertised, and the following year saw another tenant in possession.⁴⁷ However, there was some comfort, for on 17th July a respite from the sentence was received,⁴⁸ and in October Brucker was reprieved to transportation for life. The previous year the first convict ships ever to set out for Botany Bay had sailed in the flotilla now known as Australia's First Fleet. Brucker was to travel with the Second Fleet. He remained in Oxford Gaol (the Castle) until April 1789, was transferred to the Thames hulk Stanislaus, and sailed on the ship Surprize in January 1790. The ship was unsuitable for a long voyage. Even in relatively temperate weather the decks were very wet, and in heavy seas after the Cape the convicts 'were considerably above their waists in water'. Inevitably scurvy and other diseases set in and could not be controlled. The mortality rates in the Second Fleet were the highest in the whole history of Australian transportation. It is likely that James Brucker was one of those who died, as no record of him has been found in the convict colony.⁴⁹



'All young men have amours in their time, but the recital of these is neither decorous, proper nor interesting except to those concerned ... "Kissing and telling" is against all honour, is base ingratitude and most degrading to any man who pretends to the character of a gentleman.' With this statement 'Squire' Osbaldeston declined to name a married woman with whom he had an affair, one whose husband was 'a regular dolt' who 'had not the penetration to detect his wife's infidelity'. But he named 'a young woman by the name of Green' with whom he had a child and identified the area in which she lived. 'As I do not consider my relations with this lady an intrigue, she being probably well known as the mother of two children by different fathers in the neighbourhood, there is nothing dishonourable in my mentioning her name.' He also recalled encountering two girls, cousins, who had 'left their home for a lark'. He had no hesitation in seducing them both, commenting that 'I gathered that they were daughters of farmers in that neighbourhood'.⁵⁰ At least his sexual misdemeanours were in private for the most part. The adulteries of Principal Robert Shippen, described as 'a most lecherous man', were 'frequently talked of'.⁵¹ And in 1530 Fellow William Sutton actually caused a riot. He was accused of taking advantage of the College's temporary residence in Cold Norton (because of plague in Oxford) by keeping a tradesman's wife in a nearby house. When challenged by a group of local men he threatened them and called them 'horesons churls and knaves'. The following night, he and twenty others armed themselves with bows and arrows and saw off the constables of Chipping Norton. Needless to say he lost his position.52

The antiquary Anthony Wood hinted at other sexual misconduct. In 1669 he wrote that the niece of Principal Yates had married a Brasenose undergraduate 'which, if true, a scandall will be brought upon the College.' Certainly the young man did not remain in residence. Two years later Wood reported that a child was left in the Brasenose quadrangle. It cried, and this was heard by Richard Duckworth, one of the Fellows. While he searched for a candle in the Buttery a Bachelor of Arts 'carried it away under his gowne'.⁵³ As a later commentator remarked, 'we can only hope that the B.A. was neither conscious of responsibility in the matter, nor a young anatomist seeking for material for study'.⁵⁴ And in 1683 Wood told of a woman dressed in boy's clothes dancing in the Mitre with Brasenose men. She was 'seised on next morning in her bed' by the proctor, which hardly sounds more respectable.⁵⁵

However, not all mud sticks, and at least one alleged Brasenose rogue was vindicated. In 1760 William Eldridge inserted this apology in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*:

Whereas from a Report made by me to some Officers of the University, Occasion was taken to suspect William Johnson, Under-Porter of Brazen-Nose College, of bringing Girls into College; in consequence of which



several Gentlemen's Rooms were entered and searched; I do hereby assure the Public, that there was not the least Foundation for such a Suspicion, but that the whole Information given by me was frivolous and false; humbly asking Pardon of all those Gentlemen who had any Trouble on this Account, and the said William Johnson; and promising never to be concerned in such Practices for the Future.⁵⁶

- ¹ College Archives Hurst College Principal 24
- ² Brasenose College John Buchan (1898)
- ³ Four Studies in Loyalty Christopher Sykes (1946)
- ⁴ Squire Osbaldeston: his autobiography ed. E.D. Cuming (2nd edition 1927)
- ⁵ Dictionary of National Biography
- ⁶ The Brazen Nose vol. IV no. 8, May 1928, p.335
- ⁷ Brasenose Quatercentenary Monographs (1909) Monograph IX, pp.45-51
- ⁸ Ibid. Monograph XIV.2, p.11
- ⁹ College Archives GOV 3 A1/11
- ¹⁰ Ibid. GOV 3 A1/13
- ¹¹ Ibid. Clennell B 3b 27
- ¹² The Brazen Nose vol. IX no. 9, pp. 325-326
- ¹³ Victoria County History Oxfordshire vol. III, p.209
- ¹⁴ Brasenose Quatercentenary Monographs (1909) Monograph XIII, p.53
- ¹⁵ College Archives GOV 3 A1/8
- ¹⁶ Ibid. GOV 3 A1/9
- ¹⁷ Ibid. GOV 3 A1/13
- ¹⁸ Ibid. MPP 51 uncat
- ¹⁹ Squire Osbaldeston: his autobiography
- ²⁰ College Archives GOV 3 A1/6
- ²¹ Ibid. Clennell A8
- ²² Ibid. GOV 3 A1/8
- ²³ The Brazen Nose vol. IX no. 5, May 1951, p.176
- ²⁴ College Archives MPP 51 uncat
- ²⁵ The Brazen Nose vol. IX no. 3, May 1950, pp.100-101
- ²⁶ College Archives GOV 3 A1/14
- ²⁷ Ibid. MPP 51 uncat
- ²⁸ The Brazen Nose vol IX no. 3, May 1950, pp.101-102
- ²⁹ Dictionary of National Biography
- ³⁰ Parson Coppock by Beatrice Stott in Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society vol. XL 1922-1923
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- ³⁸ John Clavell, 1601-1643
- ³⁹ College Archives Clennell A8.56-79
- ⁴⁰ Oxfordshire Record Office QSP I/1
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- ⁴² Ibid. Clennell B 1c 37
- ⁴³ Ibid. Hurst Bursarial Tradesmen's Bills
- ⁴⁴ The Second Fleet: Britain's Grim Convict Armada of 1790 Michael Flynn 1993
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- ⁴⁶ College Archives Clennell A8.79
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- ⁵⁴ Brasenose Quatercentenary Monographs (1909) Monograph XII, p.14
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HOWARD HODGKIN Paintings 1992-2007

Bernard Richards

Sir Howard Hodgkin is one of our distinguished Honorary Fellows; he was a Visiting Fellow in the Arts in 1976 and 1977, and has since had many successful exhibitions. This latest one, covering his output from 1992 to the present, has been on view at the Yale Center for British Art and the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge. He generously presented the college with two sets of prints some years ago, and they have been widely enjoyed. His works are at once accessible and difficult. They are accessible because the sheer physical appeal of the colours and shapes are as immediate as it is possible to be. They are difficult because the 'subjects' of the paintings are not straightforward representations of visible objects but manifestations of what the artist feels about and remembers of those objects. Such a programme would be typical of many great artists – Turner included – but Howard is at the very extreme end of the spectrum. This means that to derive pleasure beyond the surface material the spectator has to inject something of himself or herself into the response, and Howard, being an intensely private and elusive artist, will never vouchsafe any help – beyond the enigmatic titles. This is very different from the situation in which the Pre-Raphaelite painter Ford Madox Brown provided a lengthy pamphlet explicating his Work. One picture in the exhibition, Clarendon Road, demonstrates the case very vividly. In an essay in the catalogue, Richard Morphet writes:

The subject is a location known to both Hodgkin and me.... The 'scene' is at the London house of cousins of Hodgkin, the principal rooms in which were filled with fine and applied art by the Bloomsbury artists. One of these rooms led into another, which overlooked (and in turn led to) first the garden of the house itself and then the larger, enclosed garden shared by the house and many of its neighbors. Insofar as this image is an account of things seen ... I cannot tell by looking at it what is shown, even though the remembered setting is so particular.... *Clarendon Road* cannot, therefore, be read in a straightforward way either as a view from interior to garden, or as a view of interior or garden individually, or as a fusion of the two.

Something like this is true of most of Howard's *oeuvre*. Amazingly, in an early work, *Memoirs* (1949), figures in a room are clearly present, and the style is highly reminiscent of Patrick Caulfield's. When in Rome is typically enigmatic. Morphet thinks it's a view of 'the far, azure empyrean' from a chamber, but it struck me as a couple of bread rolls on an oval plate. Of *You are my Sunshine*, he writes that there 'might or might not be a strangely close-up figure.' In his brilliant study of Hodgkin (2001) Andrew Graham-





Dixon says that the flesh-coloured fragment in *Love-Letter* (1984-88) could be a detail of a human body, the page of the letter or a sandy beach. He is right to say that the 'professional exegete' is no more likely to produce a valid interpretation than anyone else. It's not like looking at Titian, is it? One 'motive' it is possible to identify in many works is the curtain, at once occluding and revealing a subject – a process which might parallel the activity of consciousness. The experiences Howard is trying to capture have the sort of elusiveness, to indulge in Mario Praz-like associationism for a bit, of the meeting of the hero of John Banville's *The Sea* (he is writing a book on Bonnard) with Constance Grace:

There is a multi-coloured patch in my memory of the moment, a shimmer of variegated brightness where her hands hover.... How intensely that sunbeam glows. Where is it coming from? It has an almost churchly cast, as if, impossibly, it were slanting down from a rose window high above us. Beyond the smouldering sunlight there is the placid gloom of indoors on a summer afternoon, where my memory gropes in search of details, solid objects, the components of the past.

The epiphanic aspects of many of the paintings reminds one of the gesture of the flung arm and the jasmine bushes lit by the sun 'like a golden stream' in Kundera's Immortality. (Sorry, writing about this painter brings such things on.)



Like most major painters, Howard is very self-consciously aware of his predecessors, and his works stand in relationship (not necessarily easy to explicate) to them. Of the old masters he admires Samuel Palmer, and *After Palmer* is a homage to his work, but even Palmer aficionados might be challenged to say precisely how this relates to the visionary artist. Other tributes are made to Matisse, Degas, Vuillard and Morandi. Howard's principal technical debts are to the abstract expressionists and his methods recall those of Jackson Pollock, Willem De Kooning and Jasper Johns. Morphet makes great play for the influence of Sickert, but the suggested parallels don't seem helpful or illuminating to me.

His affiliations are not simply to painters though. Those of us privileged to enjoy his company at Brasenose thirty years ago will recall how impressively intelligent and learned he was, and there is a literary component in his paintings – no easier to understand though than the pictorial components. Small Rain takes it title from a late medieval ballad:

Western wind, when wilt thou blow, The small rain down can rain? Christ, if my love were in my arms And I in my bed again!

The Body in the Library alludes to traditions of detective novels, but insufficient clues are left behind to solve the pictorial mystery; the body of evidence is too slight. Old Sky is, according to Anthony Lane, Hodgkin's alteration of and tribute to Samuel Beckett's Old Earth, but Graham-Dixon thinks it is a tribute to those old masters who painted nature the colour of a Cremona violin – 'varnished truth'. In addition he employs the materials of popular culture, popular songs and popular idioms, which, in his takes on them, are given new life – rather as Scott Fitzgerald often added richer meanings and associations to the banal popular songs of his time. One won't listen to *You are my Sunshine* and *These Foolish Things* in quite the same way after seeing his painting. Popular idioms – such as *On the Rocks* and *Keep it Quiet* – are also reanimated by the extraordinary displays of paint.

I had the pleasure of meeting Howard briefly at the private view, and we reminisced about the time he spent in the old school-house in Shoe Lane, which was his studio. I was accorded the enormous privilege of being allowed to watch him paint one winter afternoon. The main thing I remember about the painting was that the results looked as if they were produced by furious and frenetic activity, but in fact the marks were made with great care and deliberation. The building has since been demolished, I told him, and replaced with a new building. 'Time must go on,' said Howard. Indeed it must.



BRASENOSE IN THE FIFTIES

Richard Askew



As I look back at my arrival at BNC in the mid-1950s, my first impression is that we formed the last conformist generation before the revolution. Most of us arrived cowed by two years of National Service, normally spent trying to hold together some disintegrating fragments of Empire. Freed from the shackles of real authority, we were delighted to string along with the bizarre anachronisms of University authority.

We found it, for instance, enormous fun to crank open the College railings with a car jack at the start of each Michaelmas Term to permit easy midnight access to the High from the Arab Quarter: what a deprivation for later generations to be tamely issued with their personal key to the College gates!

This grey-flannelled conformity, relieved by puerile breaches of discipline, endured only till 1956. As with the country as a whole, so with Oxford; the Suez fiasco was a significant hinge event in our national self-consciousness. It was, on a minor scale, our Vietnam, the moment we realised that we had to give up the pretence of being the world's policeman and pass the truncheon on to the Americans (who, it must be said, have done no better than we did).

If you are going to sin, it is important to do so efficiently, and Suez was not efficient. The weeks of preparation before the unwieldy Franco-British fleet lumbered into action gave the opposition groups time to gather steam.

At Oxford, the customary political apathy was for once punctured and both dons and undergraduates were sharply and vocally divided. BNC Hall witnessed stirring scenes: the Boat Club, ever the standard-bearers in the vanguard of reaction, bought everyone in Hall a glass of beer and then proposed the Loyal Toast. All drank the Queen's health gladly, while in no way proclaiming undying loyalty to Anthony Eden and his government.



A party of us went up to the House of Commons to lobby our MPs against the imminent military action. We gathered with contingents from other colleges on Oxford station platform, where the police, totally *ultra vires*, took down our names and colleges, subsequently circulating this list to college authorities for them to take disciplinary action about our going to London without permission. At BNC, our Senior Dean, Robert Shackleton, wrote to the Chief Constable thanking him for the list because 'I shall now be able to congratulate each undergraduate personally'. Once at the House of Commons I found myself in the company of a fellow Brasenasal man who was half Egyptian and therefore felt passionately about the issue. He cut a strange figure, wild of eye and bristly of chin, clad in a dirty old mac and topped, for some reason, with a large, floppy pointed black hat. He looked exactly like Guy Fawkes. Such was the innocence of the times that a kindly policeman, spotting him, chuckled heartily and asked, 'What've you got under that mac, sonny – a bomb?'.

For me, Suez was a personal turning-point; I discovered that cabinet ministers could lie through their teeth and that Britain did not necessarily pursue an ethical foreign policy. This was deeply disturbing to my security: up till then I had believed that God, if he existed, was an Englishman from south of the Watford Gap who voted Tory. This discovery precipitated a year of inner turmoil which eventually culminated in my arrival at a real faith. I must be the only convert ever to have been shepherded into the fold by the actions of a Tory government.

Suez was a turning-point, veering us towards the anarchic 1960s. The ancient regime continued placidly on its way, seemingly unaware of the deluge to come. Dons continued to take snuff by the pinchful after their port. Women were rare in that all-male college society. Only dons were permitted to invite female guests into dinner in Hall. Usually these visitors were lady dons. advanced in years and dowdy in appearance. On one occasion, however, an American academic, much younger and of a startling pulchritude, was ushered through the door to High Table. In the awestruck silence that ensued, our guick-witted Bible Clerk hastily adapted the Grace - 'Oculi omnium in te, dea, spectant ...'. Apart from such donnish indulgences, however, the College as a whole was to hold out for a further ten years against the female invasion, like some secular Mount Athos. Docile undergraduates continued to wear their gowns dutifully, unaware that their human rights were being abused; again it took another decade before the barricades were manned to the cry of 'Clowns wear gowns'. The Bible Clerk. resident in the Old Quad, still pastured there the tortoise he so closely resembled. The immaculately-suited Head Porter, formerly employed at Buckingham Palace, used frequently to be mistaken for the Principal by impressionable American tourists. Only in my last year did the advance guard of the sans culottes burst in upon our comfortable Bastille in the person of an amiable youth known as Shambling Ed; hirsute to his shoulders,



ear-ringed and be-jeaned, he stuck out, in those conventional times, like a sore thumb, a hairy harbinger of the cultural revolution to come. We were much the richer for his arrival in the midst of our sartorial old-fogeydom.

Everyone no doubt imagines that his time at Oxford marked the close of a golden age. Returning ten years later as Assistant Chaplain, I am perhaps better qualified than most to make that judgement. Certainly I remember my time as an undergraduate with much affection and nostalgia. It was a chance to recover from the inhibiting constrictions of school life followed by the mindless discipline of National Service. At Oxford you could do your own thing for the first time, make your own friends – lasting ones at that – and discover your own identity. You could even try a little academic work if you were so minded. I remember BNC as a tolerant, good-humoured and mature society to which it was – and is – a privilege to belong.

The photo accompanying this article was graciously supplied by Albert Chatterley (1950) and shows Derek Beard, Albert Chatterley, John Hughes, Lionel Thompson and Derek Dowell in front of the Brasenose Annexe in Manor Road, Autumn 1950.



GRAHAM RICHARDS CELEBRATION WEEKEND, 19-20 MAY 2007

Paula Carter, Chemistry 1978

I was delighted to be asked to help organise a tribute to Graham Richards' extraordinary career and contribution to Brasenose College over a period of forty nine years. I had benefited myself as an undergraduate and Part II student from Graham's enthusiasm and knowledge, and I was aware of a network of Chemistry and Biochemistry students now scattered across the world and in a range of different careers and fields of endeavour who would also want to join in with any tribute to him. The word quickly spread and I was soon overwhelmed with offers of



support. We decided that the event would have to recognise all of Graham's achievements and interests, including his professional achievements in the field of chemistry, his sporting achievements for the college and the university, his long standing support for and membership of the Phoenix and his contribution to the college history through his championing of the introduction of women to BNC.

The weekend and guest list were then shaped by this ambition, and we planned a visit to the new Chemistry building, for which Graham had raised the funding, a black tie dinner in Hall and a celebratory cricket match at the Brasenose Sports Ground. Someone in the team had clearly made all the necessary libations to the gods, as we had perfect weather which showed the College and Sports Ground to best effect, and the group of Graham's friends and colleagues who came from around the world were treated to a weekend of extraordinary emotion and pleasure. Graham spoke inspiringly at the new Chemistry buildings of his life-long love affair with the subject, and a tour of the new facilities made those of us from an earlier generation rather envious of today's undergraduate and graduate Chemistry students. Drinks in the Old Quad that evening continued to provoke warm emotions as Kate Burt made a moving speech in praise of Graham's academic and commercial achievements, and we moved into a dinner which was one of



the most moving that I have ever experienced in my time as a student or since then. One guest told me afterwards "I cannot remember a more powerful and warm atmosphere in Hall. It was a great privilege to be there." Speeches from Rod Clayton and Richard Cooper were followed by Graham himself musing on his time at the College and what he had achieved, a speech which is reproduced below.

On the Sunday, Nick Langham had organised a cricket match between a Graham Richard's Invitation XI, drawn from guests from the night before, and members of the Strollers team and the current Brasenose First XI, while spectators enjoyed a hog roast lunch. Sadly, while the gods had delivered perfect weather and ground conditions, they failed to give Graham's team the necessary ability and stamina to beat the younger, fitter and more able opposition; but it seemed not to matter as this memorable weekend came to a close.



AN ADDRESS GIVEN BY GRAHAM RICHARDS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT DINNER

19 May 2007

I would like to thank the Principal and the College for setting up this delightful occasion and in particular Paula Carter and Kate Burt for the planning, and Kate Love and Pat Spight for taking care of the detail. I am highly honoured and more than a little touched.

It is sheer delight to see so many friends and former pupils. That has been a problem since, having been here almost 50 years, I have had several hundred pupils and the Hall will only accommodate just over 100. Hence not all former pupils could be invited, especially as the College encouraged me to suggest others with whom I have been involved over the past half century.

We have here some of my closest contemporaries; some former Governing Body colleagues, and folk from the Finance and Estates committees upon which I served for several decades. There are the good people who have carried the Brasenose Society, a fair selection of the Phoenix Common Room and even the odd Vampire.

We have half of the 1964 University Challenge team: me and Bernard Richards, with whom I have opened mail in error for nearly 50 years. Most of the hockey team which won Cuppers in 1961 are here and a fair few from the team which won Athletics Cuppers in the same year.

Of these activities the only one where I think I had real talent was as a high jumper. I have often thought that high jumping could be the basis of an essay on life. It is a very salutary event. You always fail at the end, no matter how well you do, and the rules are quite complex due to counting back if competitors end up on the same height.

There are real advantages if one starts late in the competition, missing out the early stages. In my life that was something I did not do. I cannot claim to have started in the gutter, but I was probably the last British student to come to Oxford with a parent who had not had a secondary school education: these days most students have graduate parents. My mother was one of 14 children in deepest rural mid-Wales, and like all her sisters left school at the age of 11 and was sent to England, to Birkenhead, as a domestic servant. In fact four of her sisters had sons who became professors: one a distinguished English scholar in Toronto and another who was Nicholas Kurti's first graduate student.

In the high jump you are allowed two failures at each height. At school in Birkenhead I was the school swot. I was top of everything and was the first and perhaps only scientist to win a State Scholarship in the second-year sixth. Normally one retook A-levels in the Upper Sixth. I was then sent to



Jesus College, Cambridge where the school sent its top science candidates. I failed to get in and also at Jesus College, Oxford, where I did not get a scholarship reserved for Welshmen. Last chance and much improved as a person by the failures, I was offered a place at Brasenose to read Chemistry, although I had applied to read Physics. To this day I don't know whether that was a mistake or prescience on the part of John Barltrop.

Whatever the reason it was a change from which I benefited greatly. I have been here so many years that there is a danger of making these words over long. But they have been very happy years and I would do the same again were I to have the choice. The academic life is wonderful.

I have had some real giants amongst my Brasenose colleagues. Robert Shackleton, whom all who knew him like to imitate; Sir Ronald Syme, quite the meanest who would do anything for a free trip to Heathrow (he used to give me last year's University Calendar and the offer of a drink, but then found he had none); Nicholas Kurti; Otto Kahn Freund; and many more.

The things which I have done which I have pride at the College level are dominated by the admission of women, which was largely due to me. Brasenose has not really had the credit it deserved for that change, but by having a two-thirds majority to change our statutes in 1967 it enabled us to drive the process when the possibility arose again in 1973, after being blocked by the women's Colleges earlier.

At the University level my significant legacy is the new Chemistry Research Laboratory which some of you saw earlier. The building was constructed at no cost to the University. In fact I think I may have raised more money for the University than anyone in history. It comes to over £100 million. For the laboratory I raised £64.5 million. Oxford Molecular yielded £10 million to the University when it sold its shares. I started the Innovation Society, which has brought in about half a million pounds per year for 20 years, and my own rolling research grant from the National Foundation for Cancer Research is \$200,000 per year. It is also the case that the University is now heavily dependent on the profits from the Oxford University Press, but got virtually nothing from that source until I caused a fuss in the late 1980s by suggesting that the University should float the OUP: a battle which I lost and from which I still bear scars, although the University is now a major beneficiary.

My future will include continuing some research, but with postdocs rather than graduate students. More actively I will develop the business career which started with Tony Marchington and Oxford Molecular, but which took a leap forward following the deal with Beeson Gregory which I did to help fund the new lab. They gave £20 million for half the University equity in spin-out companies from the Chemistry Department. This grew into the public company IP2IPO Group Plc, of which I became Chairman, and now



the FTSE 350 company, IP Group. We now have deals with 10 universities; have created over 50 companies; and made a profit of £50 million last year. I also have several other non-executive directorships.

So I am all right, but what about the Oxford I leave? There are problems. For the University there are tensions between the science departments and the humanities. The finances are very different and the scientists do not want libraries: we want everything on line. The Bodleian is a black hole which the laboratories subsidise; the Departments pay the University a space charge of £150 per square metre.

Even more serious are tensions between the colleges and the University, inevitably about money. For every Chemistry student, the Government gives the University £8000. Of this, the centre keeps £2000, the Colleges get £4000 and the Department, which has the majority of the costs, only £2000. It is not a sustainable system.

Attempts at reform have been thwarted, but the problems are real. Many of them are due to Governmental interference. It is very telling that most of our international rival institutions are private rather than public.

Brasenose, which is essentially private, by contrast is in great shape. A vigorous Principal and wise Bursars, notably Norman Leyland and Robert Gasser, have put the College in an excellent position as it contemplates its quincentenary. Above all we have a wonderfully loyal and talented set of alumni and alumnae.

Thank you for giving me such a memorable weekend to cap what will be a 50-year Brasenose career.



'THE QUINTESSENTIAL BRASENOSE MAN'

Excerpts from tributes to Professor Graham Richards, presented as a book in honour of his retirement.



Clive Corlett (1957): BNC will not be the same without you. You've *been* the College for many of us over the years, and the warm welcome we always received from you on our visits is a reminder of the great days we spent together in the '50s.

Nigel Jones (1980): I was too young and naive in the early 1980s to appreciate how significant an impact your dedication and patience as my physical chemistry tutor, and guidance as the Senior Member of the Phoenix, would have on my post-BNC life. But our more recent encounters have made me realise how lucky I was then, and how lucky I am now, to have had the privilege of learning from such a powerful force.

Anne Dickson (nee Cowap, 1974): I shall always remember Graham as being a man with tremendous vision as well as being extremely personable. He was instrumental in championing the entry of women to Brasenose. A huge benefit to Raksha and myself who were the first women chemists at BNC!

Peter Sinclair (Fellow and Tutor in Economics, 1970-1994): No one captures the essence of what the College means to its old members more than him. Sportsmen and women, Phoenix members, miscreants when he was Dean, Fellows, chemists: all these groups have known him really well. But he has been a familiar and greatly liked figure to everyone, colleagues, students and staff alike.



Perry Gauci (1986): When the great histories of Oxford University are written in 2109, they will doubtless recall [Graham's] outstanding contribution to the field of chemistry. Hopefully, somebody will have the gumption to realise that you did a great deal more than that, and that they will recognise your imprint all over this yellowing fragment of times past.

Polly Arnold (1990): Since my first meeting with [Graham] I have always looked forward to interviews. Apparently this is an unusual characteristic in a person, for which I have you to thank. I always expect to find them as enjoyable, and stimulating, as my entrance interview to BNC with [Graham] was all those years ago.

Gerry Harrison (1958): I did some scary things before Oxford in the Army, and after Oxford as a reporter. But the most frightening experience of all was riding on the back of Graham's scooter to London. Generous as ever, he offered to give me a lift and I hadn't the courage to decline. [...] I hope all Chemists lucky enough to have come under Graham's wing realise how fortunate they were – to be encouraged and led by an enthusiastic specialist who enjoyed and understood so many other aspects of the real world.

Martin Keiffer (1980): Graham is highly regarded as an academic, distinguished in his field, a major contributor to the work of the PCL as a whole and to the Department of Chemistry. [...] Graham has always taken a keen interest in the business of the College, as well as the various College Societies, and moreover has given long and distinguished service to the Brasenose Society, serving as its President. [...] In so many ways, Graham is the quintessential Brasenose Man.

Catherine Burt (1988): Most people I know had a pretty rotten time when they did their PhD. I took my time and did a lot of research before choosing a supervisor. My shopping list was:

- A sound theoretical basis preferably in Quantum Chemistry
- A practical application preferably in the area of medical research
- I didn't want to work for a tyrant!

Graham fitted the bill in all three aspects, not least the third, and everyone I asked told me that he was a great supporter of women in science. Boy, did I strike gold.

Mhairi McLuskie (1978): It is great to have the opportunity to remember how much you contributed to my life at Oxford and to thank you for that. Maybe I should be saying insightful things about revelations over electron microscopes or computer printouts of quantum calculations – but this is not what strikes me now 25 years on. Rather, it is the example you set as a person, with your strong intellectual abilities coupled with a positive and inclusive disposition.



THE BLUE BLAZER AND MY IMPRESSIONS

Michal Plotkowiak

The Blue Blazer is quite an expensive piece of raiment, about £200 for something that resembles a carpet. At least it is a dark blue 'carpet', not a light blue that I would call greenish, which Cambridge has to wear. Apart from the fact that it is too warm and quite heavy, it is also almost bullet proof, which makes it an extremely good outfit for college balls and other social activities.

Being more serious, the 2007 Boat Race season was an unforgettable experience in my life. The first time I heard about the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race was at the age of 14 when, at a rowing camp back in Poland, I happened to read *Playboy* magazine. There was an article describing the Race and the typical pre-race season. I still remember the description of the Oxford gym where Nietzsche's famous quotation hung on the wall, "What does not kill me, makes me stronger". Even many years later, I had never thought that one day I would become a part of something that I perceived as legendary.

And here I am. I arrived in Oxford in September 2006 to start my DPhil in Biomedical Engineering at the Life Science Interface Doctoral Centre. A few months before, during my interview for the course, my current supervisor asked me not to row as it would interfere largely with my first year lectures. However, as soon as the term started, I was already at the OUBC gym with 35 other guys eager to face Cambridge on the 7th of April.

The usual OUBC week consists of 12 training sessions. From Tuesday to Friday we train every morning starting at 7.00 at the Iffley gym. Every afternoon we row in Wallingford. During weekends we train either in Wallingford, Caversham or in London on the Boat Race course. There are a number of erg tests, physiology tests and seat races that are a part of the selection process. The whole group is systematically reduced to the final 16, and then split into the Blue Boat and the second eight called Isis.

From the very beginning of the season we knew Cambridge had an extremely good team, consisting of World Champions and Olympic medallists. As a younger and less experienced group, we were perceived as the underdogs. It was a good position to be in. It helped us to push harder during every single training session. As someone once said, every session was like chasing the Cambridge ghost.

The selection was almost over at the end of January. The Blue Boat had the following line-up: Ante Kusurin (Croatia), Terence Koyker (US), Brodie Buckland (US), Andrew Wright (Can), Magnus Fleming (US), myself (Poland), Adam Kosmicki (US), Robin Ejsmond-Frey (GB) and cox Nick Brodie (GB).



As a part of the Boat Race preparation there were two fixtures, practice races, one against the American national team eight and the second one against the Leander Boat Club eight. We managed to beat the Americans, but unfortunately we lost to Leander. The defeat was like a cold shower that helped us to revisit some issues and make another step forward. Still, looking for more speed, our coach Sean Bowden, decided to slightly change the final line-up in the week before the race.

The last few days before the race were quite difficult. There was a lot of distraction caused by the media, families and random people wanting to see us training. Every rowing session there would be a huge motorboat following us, stocked with cameras, reporters and family members. Because I happened to be the first Pole in the Boat Race, I was especially beset by English media as well as by Polish ones.

Finally it was race day. All I have in my head now are single snapshots of memories from that day. There were hundreds of people waiting for us outside the boathouse where we had our final race preparation. Some of us looked through the windows trying to spot their families mixed within the crowd. Most of us hadn't seen our relatives for the last few months because the training was so intensive and demanding. Finally we started our warm-up on the water, which began about 40 minutes before the race was supposed to start. I remember thousands of people on the riverbanks and the Putney Bridge, shouting Oxford or Cambridge, one through another. There was also a helicopter above our heads with the ITV camera crew. I don't remember much from the race itself. I knew we were leading from the start and managed to keep that position for more than half of the race.

Although we lost to Cambridge by one and a quarter lengths, we were not disappointed. We knew we gave everything during our eight months of training as well as during the 18 minutes of the race. Some people had predicted Cambridge leading from the start and winning by many lengths, but we proved them wrong. One reporter after the race said that it was a battle between Cambridge pedigree and Oxford passion. Without casting aspersions on the pedigree of the former, I can certainly attest to the passion and spirit of the Oxford side, of which I was proud to be a member.



BEYOND EMMAUS

Robbie Sharma

Lord, that day you appeared To some of the disciples On the dusty road to Emmaus Was it a quiet day?

Lord, I love to think of that meeting On the dusty road. Horizons of distance spreading around, Emmaus still far off, Jerusalem behind.

Lord, where were you going Beyond Emmaus. Why go further?

It must have been strange To feel again Dust under your feet, Feet having recently stood upon the vanquished body of Death. Perhaps You wanted to tread further To feel more the victory underfoot. Perhaps you knew the business was not finished And stretched far beyond Emmaus. Perhaps that way lay the way back to heaven.

Lord, was it a relief To walk again, the agony of death overcome? Lord, such a quiet meeting, Such a dusty road, To herald such a victory.

Lord, I somehow see you As a quiet ghost Looking far beyond Emmaus To hearts that would welcome you And to which You yearned to go.

Lord, did you see my hear Beyond Emmaus?

Reprinted from *Hiraeth: Selection of Poems and Writings* by the late Robbie Sharma (BNC 1983), with the permission of his parents Nath and Angela Sharma.



NEWS AND NOTES

Carole Bourne-Taylor (Lecturer): I gave a talk on the text of *L'Ecume Des Jours* by Vian prior to a staging of the production by Emilie Janvrin (2001) at the Institut Francais in London on 20 March 2007.

Peter Somogyi (Nicholas Kurti Senior Research Fellow): Elected a Member of the German Leopoldina Academy of Sciences (http:// www.leopoldina.halle.de), the second current Oxford academic to be elected as Member. The Leopoldina Academy of Sciences was founded in 1652 as the Academia Naturae Curiosorum in the free imperial city of Schweinfurt and moved to Halle (Saale) in 1878. The Academy has a maximum of one thousand members under the age of 75 in 28 scientific sections. Three quarters of the members come from the German speaking home countries of Germany, Austria and Switzerland, and one quarter from countries around the world.

1940

Valliath Madhathil Madharam Nair: Retired as Ambassador of India in 1977. Since then based in Delhi, India.

1945

Hugh Wallace Mann: Not a very impressive record, a life of survival rather than achievement. Scottish Farmers' Union Council 1967-70. Fourth parliamentary election in Midlothian in Conservative interest 1979. Town Councillor 1962-64. Proudest achievement: did a charity walk, age 70, Southern Upland Way, 212 miles in 13 days.

1946

Charles Edward Lukin Beck: Finally retired at age 85 after 56 years in the courts; 21 years as a Barrister and 35 years on the Benches of Rhodesia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland as a Trial Judge and as a Judge of Appeal.

Richard Edmund Clement Fownes Parsons: Chairman of West Norfolk Music Society. Previously a Governor of Sadler's Wells Trust. Chairman of Ruskin Foundation. Five novels and one book of plays published.

1947

Kenneth Arthur Shearwood: Publications: Whistle the Wind (Rupert Hart Davis), *Pegasus* (Oxford Illustrated Press), *Evening Star* (Bradford Barton Truro). Hardly a scholar. Married for 61 years. Patron of the Lancing 1848 Society.



1948

Vincent Marks: Publications: Panic Nation (jointly), Blake Publishing, London 2005. Insulin Murders (jointly), RSM Publishing, London 2007.

1952

William Lawrence Twining: Elected Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Publication: *Rethinking Evidence* (2nd edn), Cambridge University Press 2006.

1955

Jonathan Michael Reuvid: I have extended my publishing interests. I have joined Roger Shashoua, the international entrepreneur, as Publishing Director in launching a private joint venture equity fund to support the new title development of independent publishers with growth potential.

1959

Eric Stephen Albone: Recipient of Japan Society Award for 2007 in recognition of his work building UK-Japan Young Scientist Partnerships. Chair RSA Wales & Western Region (from July 07); Member of Court (representing RSA) University of Bristol (from 2006).

Martyn David Hughes: Continuing late development. Now working as lecturer and computer officer in Department of Mathematical Sciences at University of Liverpool. Just in time to retire!

William (Bill) Michael Wardell: I am moving, with Dorothy, from Princeton, New Jersey, to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where I plan to continue expanding my Pharmaceutical/Biotechnology consulting firm, Wardell Associates International, LLC. (I have been in the consulting business for nearly 10 years after a career first in Academic Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology, and then in the pharmaceutical Industry.)

1960

David Walter Thornton: I changed from full-time to part-time work in August 2001, still as HM Principal Inspector of Railways (with HM Railway Inspectorate), finally retiring from that office in February 2006. Subsequently I have been working as a consultant in railway and tramway safety.

1961

William (Bill) Norman Roberts: PGCE from Oxford Brookes. Now teaching Maths and Physics part-time at D'Overbroecks College, Oxford. Now living in north Oxford - visitors welcome!



1962

Stephen Edgar Alexander Green: Moved into The Charterhouse in London on 22 January 2007.

1963

(James) Alastair Carruthers: President American Society for Dermatologic Sugery 2006-2007.

1968

(Julian) Nicholas Anstey Bradbury: PhD from Cardiff University on the practical theology of the French Dominican Pierre-André Liégé. Now a Senior Fellow in Leadership at the King's Fund, and living in central Oxford.

1969

Richard Arthur Dixon: Elected to membership of the US National Academy of Sciences (1 May 2007).

Roland Leslie Trope: I am continuing to practice law, advising on cross-border corporate and technology licensing transactions, as partner in New York City offices of US-Dutch law firm, Trope and Schramm LLP, and to teach as Adjunct Professor, Department of Law, US Military Academy.

1970

Graham George Hamer: MSc (with distinction) Human Resources -London South Bank University 2002. Appointed Pastoral Secretary, Diocese of Hereford.

Joseph Ernest Roulston: Diocesan Chaplain General, appointed by The Earl of Rosslyn, Brian, Lord Bishop of Edinburgh, to be also Priest-in-Charge (part time) at St Matthews Collegiate Church Roslin, commonly known as the Rosslyn Chapel, with effect from 30 May 2007.

1974

Christopher George Longden Hall: President, American University in Kosovo (2007-). After ten years in US politics (in the Maine House of Representatives and Senate, State Party Chairman and Democratic National Committee), I have made a radical career change to become President of the American University in Kosovo. Brasenose visitors to the Balkans will be most welcome!

Antony (Tony) Nigel Tyler: Chief Executive of Cathay Pacific Airways with effect from 1 July 2007.



1976

Susan Mary Treggiari (née Franklin): Publications: Terentia, Tullia and Publilia: The Women of Cicero's Family, London: Routledge, 2007.

1977

Deborah Mary Jenkins: Appointed Chief Executive, The Derwent Initiative and Board Member, NHS North East.

Ennis Christopher John McBride: M.Phil in Philosophy (London School of Economics), May 2004. Called to the bar (Middle Temple) November 1987. Qualified as a Certified Counter Fraud Specialist, October 2006.

1978

Michael Joseph O'Sullivan: Secretary General, EU Chamber of Commerce in China, from August 2007.

1979

Julia Margaret Sallabank: PhD in Sociolinguistics (University of Lancaster), June 2007. From October 2007, Research Fellow in Language Support and Revitalisation, Endangered Languages Academic programme at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Has had three papers published in collections and journals on language planning and language and identity (2006).

1981

David Savile Bradbury: In May 2007 became Honorary Alderman, London Borough of Southwark.

David Samuel Levene: I took up the post of Professor of Classics, New York University, in September 2006.

1982

David John Benedict Hazlehurst: I am now Vicar of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne St Andrew and Dewlish in Dorset. I am also the founding member of 'Accepting Evangelicals', an Evangelical pro-gay network.

1984

Peter Richard Frank Dobson Aylott: Appointed Education and Training Director, The Nautical Institute.

Andrew (Andy) James Bethell: Appointed Deputy Headteacher at The Castle School, Thornbury (from January 2008).



Geoffrey Hugh Mead: Partner at Eversheds LLP, specialising in employment law, since September 2006. Married Corinna Drysdale in May 2005.

1985

Lucy Margery Amaryllis Blackburn (née Hunter): Appointed Director of Policy, Historic Scotland and member of the Historic Scotland Management Board. Our daughter, Holly Kate, was born in December 2006.

Michael Solomon Sanson: Doctorate in Business Administration from the University of St Gallen in Switzerland; my thesis looked at the supply of executive coaching services. I moved from Bern to Mexico City in September 2006, due to my wife's career in the Mexican Foreign Service. I am continuing my executive coaching work in Europe and now in the Americas. Our fourth son, Leonardo Antonio, was born in March 2007.

1987

Diamond Ayorkor Ashiagbor: Appointed Reader in Law, University College London and Visiting Scholar, Columbia Law School, New York, 2007. Publication: The *European Employment Strategy: Labour Market Regulation and New Governance*, Oxford University Press 2005 (Winner of the Peter Birks Prize for outstanding Legal Scholarship, 2006).

1988

Jonathan Hew Cabread Jones: Joined Veale Wasbrough, a commercial law firm in Bristol in September 2006, specialising in public sector projects/PRI/PPPs, after six months travelling in Asia.

Karen Tracey Usher (née Houghton): Currently working as senior manager for Procter and Gamble, based in Manchester. Celebrating the birth of a second daughter, Amy Rebecca, in October 2006, a sister to Lauren Mary Jane born in March 2004.

1989

Rachel Louise Fell (née Hunter): Married to Terry Fell (BNC 1989) for seven years. We have two lovely children Ben (6) and Lily (3). Terry is a teacher at Ripon Grammar School and I am a professional support lawyer for DLA Piper in Leeds.

Benedict (Ben) James Archibald Lankester: I have been appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon with a special interest in hip and knee surgery at Yeovil District Hospital Foundation Trust. We are



moving to Sherborne in West Dorset. Jackie (BNC 1989) has left medicine to pursue her career as an artist, currently painting cow portraits (see http://www.cowsoncanvas.com for exhibition details).

1992

Jessima Mary Timberlake: Lily Josephine D'Amato born 7 December 2006, a sister for Olivia Grace, born 13 September 2004.

1996

Roberto Blanda: Appointed Director Human Resources & Organisation, Daimler Chrysler Italia Holding, Rome. Prior to this was Human Resources General Manager at Toyota Motors, Italy.

Nicholas and Heather Goddard (née Scott): A son Daniel, born 23 August 2007.

1997

Birke Haecker: Married Dr Tobias Reker in July 2007.

Emma Marshall: Having worked on establishing the English Music Festival since leaving BNC, I held the inaugural festival in October 2006 in the nearby town of Dorchester-on-Thames. It was a splendid success and I am now working towards the next festival in May 2008, whilst writing a book on British composers and the landscape at the same time!

2000

Elizabeth (Libby) Clare Payne: Completed the Legal Practice Course (LPC) at ICSL in 2007. Was awarded the Gamlen Law Prize by the Holborn and Westminster Law Society. (The Prize is awarded to a candidate who was considered the most promising candidate on the Legal Practice Course run within the Society's area, regard being had to the candidate's ability to reduce a complicated subject to simple and lucid language which is suited to a lay client.) Started a training contract with Olswang in September 2007.

2001

Charlotte Stevens-Fields (née Fields): Lecturer in the English Department of The Philipps University Marburg, Germany. Married Matthew Stevens (New College) on 19 January 2007.

2002

Birgit (Biggi) Albrecht: Assistant Professor in Physical Chemistry at Loyola College in Baltimore. Married Brian E Ray (BNC 2002, PPE).



Neil Edward Hunter: My wife Victoria (Newnham 1996) and I are delighted to announce the birth of our son George David Hunter on 2 March 2007.

DEATHS NOTIFIED

*denotes full obituary

Peter John Ash (1947)	18 April 2007
Leonard Christopher Ross Balding (1926)	24 February 2007
Michael Charles Beresford-West (1948)	September 2006
Raymond Francis Bomford (1920)	1953
Hugh John Alexander Cassidy (1946)	24 September 2007
Stanley Cawthorne (1940)	24 July 2007
Donald Cooke (1926)	2007
John William Craythorn (1975)	2007
Roy Charles Davey (1934)	2 February 2007
Iain Stewart Denniss (1967)	2007
Christopher John Ellis (1969)	1999
Robert John Fitzgerald (1969)	2004
Peter Marshall Fraser (1937) *	15 September 2007
Geoffrey William Gallimore (1949)	30 January 2007
Edward Christopher Bagot Gilman (1934)	8 February 2007
Francis John Gosling (1943)	January 2007
Geoffrey Colin Guy (1940) *	5 December 2006
Peter Maurice Hamilton-Ely (1941)	16 May 2007
Robert Frederick Harding (1933)	23 December 2006
Dr Michael Edward Harper (1963)	21 May 2007
John Graham Holmes (1940)	24 March 2007
Stanley Charles Hunt CBE (1947) *	22 January 2007
Ronald Keith Ingram (1949) *	5 January 2007
Robert Arthur Jenkinson (1938)	3 August 2007
Colonel Dr Harold Ian Jory (1944)	15 February 2007



Christopher Simon Overton King (1959) 10 April 2006 Peter Kininmonth (1946) * 5 October 2007 Clifford Robert Knight (1957) 2007 Peter James Lloyd (1964) 1996 Dr Richard Melville Malins (1962) 31 July 2002 John Colin McFadyean (1933) * 7 May 2007 Norman Stewart Mitchell-Innes (1933) * 28 December 2006 December 2006 Anthony John Moreton (1960) * Robin Parfitt (1971) * 17 August 2006 John Bennett Parry (1970) 31 October 2006 2004 Sidney Derek Pearce (1939) Peter Ivor Pring (1958) 2 October 2007 Prof Sir Gareth Roberts * 6 February 2007 Dr John Sharp OBE (1946) * 24 November 2006 Dr Peter Victor Skinner (1945) 28 December 2006 Geoffrey Souter (1958) 30 November 2006 John Deloitte Straton-Ferrier (1940) 13 June 2007 Francis Hamilton Stuart (1931) February 2007 Dr Alan Herbert Turner (1949) 19 August 2007 Dr Daniel Hugh Twining (1933) 19 April 2007 Paul Wansborough (1943) 23 December 2006 Cecil George Wilson Whibley (1932) 22 February 2007 Dr John Wilks (1940) 27 September 2007 Stephen Mark Williams (1973) 4 April 2007 Gwynfor Lloyd Williams (1947) 18 July 2007 Theodore Williams (1949) 2007 John Williamson (1948) * 7 June 2006



PETER FRASER

Classical scholar and pre-eminent historian of the Hellenistic age who also loved modern Greece.

Peter Marshall Fraser, historian and classical scholar: born 6 April 1918; MC 1944; Lecturer in Hellenistic History, Oxford University 1948-64, Reader 1964-85; Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford 1954-85 (Emeritus), Acting Warden 1985-87; FBA 1960; Director, British School at Athens 1968-71; married 1940 Catherine Heaton-Renshaw (one son, three daughters), 1955 Ruth Renfer (two sons), 1973 Ann Stewart; died Oxford 15 September 2007.

The Oxford scholar Peter Fraser was the pre-eminent historian of the Hellenistic age, the world created by Alexander. There was no kind of evidence he could not handle with mastery – for instance, he knew Arabic – but his special expertise was Greek inscriptions on stone. He had several lives, both in succession and in tandem (for three years from 1968 he contrived to combine his university readership with the directorship of the British School in Athens, two jobs normally considered full-time), including an unusually interesting war behind enemy lines in Greece.

His second Greek identity was an essential part of him. He spoke Greek impeccably, and this, and nerves of iron, once got him through a lengthy Gestapo interrogation. Visits to the country which he loved, though with a critical and ironic affection, always had a noticeably rejuvenating effect.

Deeply and widely learned, Fraser was also phenomenally productive. He published, when not far off 80, an important and original book about the city-foundations of Alexander – Cities of Alexander the Great (1996) – which reduced the usually accepted total by means of a brilliant literary hypothesis, a royal "battle of the books". He posited a mendacious Ptolemaic list which attributed cities to Alexander himself, so as to diminish the achievement of the rival dynasty, the Seleucids, who had really founded them.

The book built on his period (1972-82) of leading involvement in the Society for Afghan Studies, when he masterminded British excavations in Old Kandahar in southern Afghanistan, and visited that still moreor-less normally functioning country several times until the Soviet Russian invasion put a stop to everything.



In a month spent there in 1978 with his wife Ann and some academic friends, he showed his enviable ability to drink hard – malt whisky for preference – and talk entertainingly till far into the night, with no noticeable effects next morning. The embassy Landrover driver, a tiny Afghan, must have recently graduated from donkeys, because he never changed down gears when climbing hills, but urged the vehicle on by a series of "gee-up!" movements, to Ann's futile exasperation.

A short Greek metrical inscription found during the excavations, published by Fraser in 1979 ("The son of Aristonax at Kandahar" in the journal *Afghan Studies*), indicated that Kandahar was a foundation of Alexander himself: "Alexandria in Arachosia". But Fraser was not content with this new evidence; to write the book, he familiarised himself with Chinese and other exotic sources, and came up with further new proofs, derived from an Arabic adapter of a late Greek geographer, to clinch the Kandahar identification.

His most enduring achievement and legacy is, however, A *Lexicon of Greek Personal Names*, a multi-volume, multi-contributor project which, when complete, as it nearly is, will facilitate and make more exact the writing of the social and political history of the ancient Greek world – prosopography, migration, demography, servile origins, the spread of cults – from the Archaic to Byzantine periods.

He started this lexicon on a small scale at the beginning of the 1970s, when it consisted of cards in shoe-boxes in one of the Hawksmoor towers in his college of All Souls. By his death it was, thanks to a remarkable collaboration between him and his co-editor Elaine Matthews, an internationally admired computer-based resource, adopted many years earlier as a major research project by the British Academy and eventually affiliated to Oxford University. A conference at the British Academy in 1998 to mark his 80th birthday resulted in an unusual festschrift, Greek Personal Names: their value as evidence: unusual because the honorand was persuaded to contribute.

Five majestic Lexicon volumes appeared between 1987 and 2005, and there are a couple more in the pipeline. In 2006, when nearly 90, he completed his final book, *Greek Ethnic Terminology*, in effect a monograph about the sources of an important but gappy and inscrutable compilation of place-names, the Ethnika of Stephanus of Byzantium. It was a great source of satisfaction to him to know that this will be published by the British Academy, of which he was a Fellow for nearly half a century.


Fraser was proud to be not only a Scot but a highland Scot, who served with the Seaforth Highlanders in the Second World War. He went to City of London School. Then, as a young undergraduate, he met one day, over tea at the Hellenic Society in London, the dominant Hellenistic historian of the day, William Woodthorpe Tarn, another highlander, but by marriage and residence; like Fraser, he lived to nearly 90 (he died exactly 50 years ago). The meeting was formative, as Fraser acknowledged long afterwards in the preface to the Alexander book.

His undergraduate college was Brasenose, which to his enormous pleasure made him an honorary fellow in 1977. He took Mods, the first half of the Oxford classics degree course, but the war intervened and he never completed it by sitting Greats. He was parachuted in 1943 into the Peloponnese as part of Special Operations Executive, and though for most of his life he rarely spoke about the war, and never wrote about it (this attitude softened towards the end), it is known that he blew up the airport near Argos, and that by the end of the war, still only 27, he was in effective command of the Volos region. He was decorated with the Military Cross in 1944.

It was in this early phase that he made his first acquaintance with Alexandria in Egypt, which was to be the subject of his magnificent three-volume Ptolemaic Alexandria (1972); his knowledge of the poetry of Cavafy and his collection of Cavafiana were superb, and represented a continuing personal link with the city. But he only ever taught modern Greek literature as a visiting professor at Bloomington Indiana in the 1970s.

Returning to Oxford to do research after such a war cannot have been easy for him, or others like him; but the support of the Camden Professor of Ancient History, Hugh Last, was decisive. Fraser set to work on a thesis about Hellenistic Rhodes, an island which became part of the Greek state only in 1947 and was for a while under British occupation. Scorning to supplicate for a doctorate with this, he instead, rather superbly, entered it for the prestigious and lucrative Conington Prize, which it duly won. He did not publish it as such, but built on it for two later books on Rhodian epigraphy and monuments.

Fraser applied for conventional Oxford tutorial posts at this period, including that at Oriel, in succession to the great Marcus Niebuhr Tod. Another Last protégé, Peter Brunt, himself a future Camden Professor, went in gloom to see Last after the Oriel interviews, sure that Fraser would be elected, but Last said, "You needn't worry about Fraser, he's made it clear to the fellows of Oriel that he doesn't want to teach."



Actually he did teach undergraduates at Brasenose for a few years in the early 1950s, and his pupils at that time included the future Wykeham professor George Forrest from New College – who he taught relatively early Roman history, from a distinctively Greek viewpoint.

It might be thought that All Souls, that famously undergraduate-free institution to which he migrated in 1955, was the perfect berth for the man who "didn't want to teach". But that would be wrong. He held a specially created university post in Hellenistic history in combination with his All Souls Fellowship, and he did teach, in two valuable ways. First, he supervised a choice but outstanding series of successful doctoral students, in decades when truly professional supervision of ancient history graduates at Oxford tended to be confined (David Lewis apart) to the Roman side of the sub-faculty. Second, he "taught the teachers", by a series of extraordinary high-level seminars, most famously on the bafflingly obscure poet Lycophron (his long article in the 1996 edition of The Oxford Classical Dictionary is a gem), but more often on the inscriptions of Cyrene, Rhodes, Asia Minor, the Antigonids, and so on.

His attitude to All Souls was loyal and affectionate – he edited anonymously but with typical care and precision a collection of college memorial addresses – but at times wary: in early decades he did not much like being patronised by clever and sometimes conceited junior fellows. But when in the 1980s he served as acting warden for a couple of years, as surrogate for the warden Patrick Neill in his period as Vice-Chancellor, he became an unexpectedly popular, even cult, figure with precisely that frivolous constituency, largely because of his amusing, but subversive and unprintable, "Fraserisms". He was also a surprisingly good and courteous chairman, there and elsewhere – surprising only if one knew his private opinion of some of the committee members.

Simon Hornblower

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GEOFFREY GUY

November 4, 1921 - December 1, 2006

Pilot over the Burmese jungles who later governed a succession of Britain's island possessions.

Flying a Hurricane of 28 Squadron in a photo-reconnais-sance role over the jungles of Burma from its base at Imphal in India from the autumn of 1943, in the spring of the following year Geoffrey Guy found himself instead a combat pilot when, in March 1944, the Japanese surrounded the town and cut it off.

Now armed with cannon and machineguns, the squadron's aircraft provided close cooperation with the troops fighting out the desperate battle on the ground. Air supply and air defence were vital factors in the Battle of Imphal, which ended in a Japanese withdrawal in July, and marked the beginning of the ebb of their fortunes in the Burma theatre.

Thereafter, Guy resumed to reconnaisance sorties as the Japanese withdrew from India and retreated through Burma. These he rated as no less dangerous, since the requirement to fly low over the jungle canopy to obtain photographs of Japanese troop concentrations, artillery positions and bridges, made the photographic reconnaissance unit (PRU) aircraft easy targets for AA fire.

Casualties were heavy in No 8, and on one occasion Guy was the only pilot occupant left in the NCOs' tent. In two years the squadron lost 97 pilots. In his postwar life as colonial governor of a series of island paradises in the Caribbean and South Atlantic he was wont to reflect on his luck in having survived when so many of his comrades perished.

Geoffrey Colin Guy was born in 1920 and educated at Chatham House School, Ramsgate, from where he went to Brasenose College, Oxford, leaving after a year to join the RAF in 1941.

After pilot training in Canada and conversion to the photoreconnaissance role in Lancashire, he was ordered to fly a new PRU Spitfire, as one of a batch, to 680 Squadron at Cairo.

No 680's CO liked the new aircraft, but would have "no NCO pilots in his squadron".

So this useful detachment was left to kick its heels in the desert until sent to India to join 681 Squadron on strategic reconnaissance. Based



at Dum Dum, this flew sorties deep into Burma in its Spitfires and Hurricanes, refuelling en route at Chittagong, to give its missions greater effective range.

Then, in October 1943, Guy joined 28 Squadron, based at Imphal. After the raising of the siege, No28 followed the 14th Army as it advanced down through Burma in pursuit of the Japanese. One of his last PRU missions was to photograph the Ava bridge over the Irrawaddy River in March 1945.

Surrounded by high teak trees and well defended by AA guns, this was a hazardous objective. Bursting AA shells momentarily sent his aircraft out of control, but he was able to recover and was able to nurse it back to base.

With the Japanese driven out of Burma not long afterwards, Guy, by now commissioned, joined Special Force 136, retraining as a commando to lead a team behind enemy lines. The dropping of the A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki obviated this attempt.

Demobbed after the war, Guy spent several years in management with Scribbans-Kemp before, in 1951, joining the Colonial Administrative Service as a cadet in Sierra Leone. There, as a district commissioner, he skilfully defused riots which occurred as the prospect of the ending of British rule drew closer. He was appointed MBE in 1957.

In 1958 he began a sojourn of 15 years in the Caribbean. He was Administrator, Turks and Caicos, until 1964, a period during which the islands were struck by Hurricane Donna, which in 1960 devastated agriculture. As managing director of the islands' salt industry, he used profits from its sale to build airstrips and lay the foundations for tourism, today the islands' staple.

He was advanced to OBE in 1962 and appointed CMG in 1964. The following year he moved to Dominica where he was administrator and during 1967 governor, when in that year the island achieved internal self-government.

He was appointed CVO in 1966.

He remained as a resident until 1973 when he went to the South Atlantic as Administrator for three years on Ascension Island. In 1976 he moved to St Helena as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. He remained there after the end of his tenure of office in 1981, becoming Speaker of the island's parliament.



He and his wife Joan (Johnny) stayed on St Helena until 1992 when they retired to Kirk Hammerton, Yorkshire. Johnny died on January 7, 2007. They are survived by their son.

Geoffrey Guy, CMG, CVO, OBE, wartime reconnaissance pilot and postwar colonial administrator, was born on November 4, 1921. He died on December 1, 2006, aged 86

© The Times, 26 February 2007



STANLEY HUNT CBE

Stanley came up in 1947 to read Modern Languages, not directly with his Collins Exhibition from St John's, Leatherhead, but as a battlehardened 23-year-old after two years' national service in the Inns of Court Regiment. He was thus only slightly younger than his Tutor, Robert Shackleton. His College contemporaries included another Robert (Runcie, the future Cantuar), ex-Grenadier Guards, by whom he had not been specially impressed, as I learned when we met at Robert's Memorial Service, addressed by the Archbishop.

Disappointed to miss a First, Stanley could not follow in his Tutor's footsteps, but luckily for Europe - and more particularly for some of us Nosemen – chose, in 1951, to put his considerable talents, also linguistic (having a French grandmother), at the disposal of the fledgling Council of Europe, with its seat in Strasbourg (the location favoured by Churchill and Bevin, as a symbol of Franco-German reconciliation).

From the start, Stanley's advice, dedication and skilful drafting were highly appreciated by influential politicians like Pierre Pflimlin ('little plum' in Alsatian dialect) and those who succeeded him as Assembly President. But bureaucratic infighting and political skulduggery, for which Stanley blamed the late Sir Peter Smithers, a Tory Secretary General and dashing former (licensed to kill) wartime Naval Commander, saw him promoted sideways into Admin and Personnel. This was fortunate for some Nosemen like myself, George Walker and Piers Gardner, in whose recruitment he was instrumental, purely on grounds of merit, of course, incorruptible as he was.

Then a shift in the political pendulum saw Stanley return to more congenial work, heading the Private Office of a German Socialist Secretary General, Georg Kahn-Ackermann, whose memoirs surprisingly describe his Chef de Cabinet as a British Colonel. Finishing a highly distinguished 38-year career as Director-General of Admin and Finance, he was awarded the CBE (the only Strasbourg Briton, as far as I am aware, to achieve this distinction), which he also shared with Robert Shackleton.

The latter gave me Stanley's address when I came to do my linguist's year-out in Alsace in the year of the big freeze, '62 – '63. One high point of my European initiation was to conquer, in his company, the Swiss Wetterhorn, just a 'beginner's stroll' for Stanley, who must have scaled every Alpine peak as well as walking every Vosgian footpath. Small and wiry in build, and super-fit until his last illness, I was never



able to beat him at tennis. He was also passionate about history and gardening. To us – my wife is also of BNC stock – he was friend, mentor and godfather to our elder son, Robert.

Stanley died a bachelor, though his Memorial Service, in February 2007, was attended by a bevy of devoted ladies and two Countesses, including a descendant of Mme De Stael, of whose importance for late 18th century thought no pupil of Robert's will need reminding.

Roger Massie



DAVID HUTCHINSON SMITH

Group Captain David Hutchinson Smith, who has died aged 83, gave up a promising career in the RAF to develop Blue Cheshire cheese as a commercial enterprise.

On retiring from the service in 1970 he intended to run with his wife Jill her 88-acre family dairy farm in Shropshire. But he found that its profitability would have to be radically improved to support their two sons and a daughter.

This led to a joint decision to make Blue Cheshire, a hard-pressed crumbly red cheese with blue streaks that were traditionally the result of dairymaids failing to control its fermentation or leaving it in a draught.

The mistake left the product with its own distinctive flavour, which had been known as far back as Roman times without anybody thinking to make it commercially. Employing a sharp pencil and a calculator, Hutchinson Smith worked out a plan for the next 20 years, during which they employed between 14 and 20 staff.

He appointed himself an "assistant cheesemaker" while his wife, an agricultural scientist, undertook the risky business of finding the right milks from neighbouring farms and learning to cope with the vicissitudes of weather and bacteria to arrive at a consistent product.

One of his greatest pleasures was making the cheese when the cheesemaker had a day off and checking on the sleeping herd of cattle. Eventually the Hutchinson Smiths' product found customers throughout Britain (including at Buckingham Palace) and beyond.

They became the second largest producer of blue cheese in the United Kingdom, after Stilton. When the couple visited Zabars, the New York delicatessen, they were greeted by one staff member with "not *the* Hutchinson Smiths!"

David Windle Hutchinson Smith was born on February 23 1924 near Wolverhampton, where he attended Tettenhall College, before winning a scholarship to read History at Brasenose College, Oxford.

He joined the University Air Squadron and flew his first solo flight in a Tiger Moth after only five hours' instruction, then completed his training in Canada before being posted to Burma.

Hutchinson Smith joined No 31 Squadron, flying Dakotas from Assam, when General Slim's Fourteenth Army was starting to drive out the



Japanese, and had to be supplied by aircrews whose greatest problem was not Japanese fighters but the monsoon.

During the fierce fighting to regain Meiktala in March 1945 Hutchinson Smith flew Dakotas on re-supply sorties, on one occasion arriving over the airfield to be told that he was number 80 in line to land. Flying away and returning an hour later he still saw 20 landing, 20 unloading and others were taking off.

By July he had completed 800 hours of operational flying and was posted to another Dakota squadron, flying passenger routes throughout South-East Asia.

After the war Hutchinson Smith became a night fighter pilot. To meet the increased political uncertainties in Egypt following the abrogation of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, the RAF reinforced its presence in the Canal Zone.

Hutchinson Smith was appointed flight commander of No 219 Squadron, which was reforming as a night fighter squadron at Kabrit, and in April 1951 he ferried the first Mosquito to the squadron from the UK.

As tension increased in late 1951, with a massive withdrawal of local labour and riots that had to be put down by the British Army, No 219 maintained a high state of alert in case the Egyptian Air Force intervened. The "colonels' revolt" of July 1952, which saw the ousting of King Farouk, added to the unease.

After re-equipping with the Meteor jet, Hutchinson Smith flew a Meteor escorting the short-range Venom fighters of No 222 (Rhodesia) Squadron to Southern Rhodesia to take part in the Cecil Rhodes centenary celebrations the following year.

Following his tour with No 219, Hutchinson Smith was awarded the AFC and posted to the Central Fighter Establishment to develop night fighter tactics.

In 1956 he was appointed Fighter Command Liaison Officer at the Gloster Aircraft Company, which was producing Javelins for service with the RAF. During this period he flew many test flights on the delta-wing fighter.

After a brief spell at the RAF Staff College, he was given command of No 41 Squadron, equipped with the latest version of the Javelin.



Flying from Wattisham in Suffolk, Hutchinson Smith led a formation of 16 Javelins at the head of the annual Queen's Birthday flypast over London on June 10 1961.

Five years later Hutchinson Smith returned to central Africa when Ian Smith, the Rhodesian prime minister, declared independence, and an RAF squadron of Javelin fighters was sent from Cyprus to Zambia.

Since President Kenneth Kaunda refused to accept aircraft fuel delivered from South Africa, an RAF airlift was organised, initially from Mozambique and then from Kenya. As commander of the British Forces in Zambia, when the main RAF headquarters was 2,000 miles away in Aden, he found plenty of scope for individual decision-making.

In 1966 Hutchinson Smith joined a defence policy team working for Denis Healey, the defence secretary, then was appointed to lead the fighter cell of the Central Tactics and Trial Organisation.

Ever in demand for his speechmaking skills, he was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Shropshire in 1974 and president of the Shropshire British Legion, while continuing to serve on the council of the Royal Agricultural Society and running the food hall at the Royal Show.

In later life he enjoyed fishing and sailing. In addition to his three children, he assumed legal guardianship of his sister Diana's son, Charles Clover, The Daily Telegraph's environment editor.

David Hutchinson Smith died on May 15.

© The Telegraph, 21 July 2007



KEITH INGRAM

In the summer of 1950, Keith Ingram was elected Secretary of the Brasenose JCR. At the same time Charles Cuddon became its President. Both proved to be most happy appointments. Each was very approachable, friendly, open to new ideas and well liked in the College. Their term of office was happy and harmonious – if not entirely without mishap.

Keith had rooms upstairs in the Old quad, adjacent to the venerable Sundial. After his birthday party, it was observed that his rather tattered umbrella had been deposited on that Sundial, too far away from a window to be safely hauled in. There it stayed for an embarrassing week or two, before being retrieved by an enterprising Porter.

Then Keith and Charles Cuddon, later in the term, held a small evening celebration at which the whisky ran out. The party was saved when a replacement bottle was 'borrowed' from the Senior Common Room (to which Keith and Charles held a spare key, in case of emergency).

Next morning the Vice Principal (Maurice Platnauer) summoned Charles to his rooms. 'Someone seems to have got into the Senior Common Room last night' he said, 'and a bottle of whisky is missing. Perhaps you could make discreet enquiries?'

The alarmed Charles said he would. He hurriedly rid himself of the guilty (and now empty) bottle (which he sank in the Cherwell). A quick whip round enabled Keith and Charles to buy an expensive replacement, which they left outside the SCR with a contrite anonymous letter of apology.

Needless to remark, nothing further was said on the matter. The SCR had promptly recovered its whisky, and the quiet wisdom of Maurice Platnauer had resolved the situation without bloodshed. Both Keith and Charles went on to be highly successful and well respected teachers – perhaps just a shade wiser for the episode of the borrowed whisky.

Keith had come up in 1949 to read Mods and Greats. At King's College, Wimbledon, he had captained the record-breaking, unbeaten Rugby XV of 1946 (playing at Centre Three Quarter). But his highly promising rugby career was cut short by a serious knee injury. This not only made him unfit for National Service, but also, sadly, prevented him from ever playing Rugby Football again. Yet he still had a very distinguished school career; Head Boy, Editor of the school magazine and winner of the school Divinity Prize were among his many achievements.



Instead of National Service, he taught for a year at a preparatory school in Reigate – which may have helped to shape his eventual choice of career.

Once at Brasenose he threw himself into the social and sporting life of the College with great gusto. He soon became the (non-playing) Secretary of the BNCRFC, and often served as a Touch Judge. He did much, too, for the OURFC Greyhounds and for his services he achieved the rare signal honour of becoming an honorary Greyhound. But he could still manage to play cricket (no short singles) and in 1951 he became Captain of the Brasenose Hornets CC. That involved him in the delights of rustic cricket in Oxfordshire villages and led him (and his successor as Captain in 1952) to arrange an annual Hornets Tour - a long weekend of five days playing five village teams. These tours lasted well into the 1980s - by which time Hornets with sons of cricketing age reinforced us with their offspring. And when Keith became Headmaster of the Dragon School, he invited Hornets who did not live locally to stay in the school as his guests for the tour.

Among College Clubs, of which Keith became a lively member, were the Vampires (a much-banned group), and The Phoenix Common Room, quite possibly the oldest dining club in Oxford. It was so venerable that it was the only club for which the Porter would discreetly advise the members when it was after midnight and he was about to reopen the College gate, so that members were able to walk out of the College rather than risk a climb.

But that generous gesture seemed wrong to Keith. If he was going out of the College after 10 pm (when the gate was officially closed) he felt honour-bound to *climb* out — over the old bathhouse roof (with its rusty barbed wire), down into the Rector of Lincoln's garden, and thence over the wall into the High.

No one could dissuade him from his rash purpose, so as Keith went off to scale the old bathhouse (gammy leg and all), the rest of us walked slowly up the High and waited by the Rector of Lincoln's house for Keith to emerge.

He did not emerge. A rescue party had to climb into Lincoln College and up onto the BNC bathhouse roof to try to find him. He had got no further than that roof where he had somehow fallen and impaled himself on the treacherous barbed wire. A group of Phoenix diners (still in their eccentric brown and black tails), detached him from the wire and swept him off to the Radcliffe A & E department (then in the hospital basement). Keith's wounds were there cleaned and bound up



while a couple of adventurous Phoenix diners discovered a wheeled stretcher which they pushed up and down the underground corridors solemnly intoning the words 'bring out your dead'.

As for Keith, he was discharged from the A & E around 3 am with heavily bandaged hands. For many weeks thereafter he required friends to cut up his breakfast bacon.

When his Mods exams that year came round, they coincided with the final of the Rugby Cuppers, in which BNC were to play New College. Keith at that time was Honorary Secretary of the BNCRFC and he was dismayed to find that his final exam was on that very afternoon. He desperately wanted to know at once who had won. So he persuaded John Baker (one of the few undergraduates to have a car), to stop his vehicle outside the Examination Schools on his way back to the College after the match and blow one of two signals on his very conspicuous horn. One blast indicated a win – two blasts a defeat.

After Brasenose had won, John drove straight to the schools and loudly blew one long blast on his horn. Fine. Keith heard it, with half an hour of his exam still to go. Unfortunately, he had forgotten which signal was for which result. He spent the last half hour of his exam paper in an agony of ignorance, trying to remember what one blast on the horn signified.

Surprising as it may seem, not only did Brasenose win the final, but Keith somehow passed his Mods.

His injuries notwithstanding Keith was elected to membership of Vincent's Club, of which he was rightly very proud.

He also loved to travel, especially in France, where he was for many years a part-owner of a single row of vines – at first in Chablis and later in Gevrey Chambertin. But his travels took him far further afield than French vineyards. He flew to New England in the Fall, and visited places as distant as Morocco, Kenya, Turkey, New Zealand, Greece, South Africa and Australia, to name but a few. It is perhaps remarkable that he always somehow found his way home again, for he could be a very absent-minded traveller; once he boarded an Oxford-bound train at Paddington and woke up in Wolverhampton.

Toward the end of his time at Oxford, and still without a job to go to, he chanced to meet Joc Lynam (Head Master of the Dragon School) at Carfax. 'What are you going to do when you go down?' Joc asked him.

'I'm not really sure' said Keith. 'I haven't fixed anything yet'.



'Why not join us at the Dragon School?' asked Joc – and Keith's future was settled there and then, amid the crowds of shoppers and all those red buses.

Not only was it a job that clearly suited him, but he showed great versatility there from the start. He mowed cricket fields in the summer, worked fanatically to turn the school House lawn into an ice rink, as well as teaching Classics. When Joc Lynam retired in 1965 Keith was appointed Head Master – which he remained until his own retirement in 1989.

His friendliness and approachability endeared him to staff and pupils alike; he was kind, consistent and virtually unflappable. He will be remembered affectionately both for his great sense of fun and for his trademark penetrating gravely voice.

Of the many tributes paid to him at the Dragon School Memorial Service these three stood out:

'Inky! A great man because of his extraordinary humanity and humility, and his wonderful sense of humour and enjoyment'.

'His kindness and concern knew no bounds'.

'I loved the man. I think everybody did'.

Michael Charlesworth Repton, September 2007



PETER KININMONTH

Peter Kininmonth, the former Scottish rugby captain who has died aged 83, kicked a famous drop goal to inspire his country to a sensational victory against Wales, and in his eighties won the Cheese Lovers' Trophy, an honour much prized among cheese-makers.

He was capped 21 times for Scotland between 1949 and 1954, scoring a try on his debut, led the country eight times, and played in three Tests for the British Lions on their tour of New Zealand in 1950. Although born in England, where he spent most of his life, a player for Oxford University and Richmond – and the possessor of such a lordly English accent that his team-mates called him "Peetah" – he qualified for Scotland through ancestors from north of Aberdeen.

On a raw February day in 1951 an inexperienced Scottish side faced the triumphant Welsh, holders of the Grand Slam, conquerors of England at Twickenham and a team containing 11 British Lions (Kininmonth was the only Scottish Lion that day). At half-time Scotland held a tenuous three-point lead. Then, catching the ball under the Murrayfield grandstand about 45 yards out, Kininmonth dropped the goal that astonished everyone who saw it and made him a Scottish hero.

It completely deflated the Welsh team, which conceded three further tries and lost 19-nil. Back row forwards were not supposed to drop goals, especially a giant like the Scottish captain.

Kininmonth, a bustling rover and support player in the loose and a specialist lineout jumper, was renowned for the strength of his tackling and all-round work-rate on the field. He had been made captain of Scotland at the end of the 1950 season, so that all four home countries could take their captains on the Lions tour — the others were Karl Mullen of Ireland, who led the Lions, Bleddyn Williams (Wales) and Ivor Preece (England). They were known as the "Singing Lions", possibly because most of them were Welsh, and even cut a record.

That was the last Lions' tour to travel by passenger boat, out via the Panama Canal and back through the Suez Canal, thereby navigating the globe. Kininmonth met his future wife, Priscilla Sturge, daughter of a future chairman of Lloyd's, on the passage home.

Born at Bebington, Cheshire, on June 23 1924, Peter Wyatt Kininmonth went to Sedbergh, a school that boasts several rugby internationals, including Wavell Wakefield, Will Carling and Will Greenwood. Surprisingly, however, he rose no higher than the school



3rd XV, concentrating on cricket instead. He said he had been so shaken by his first rugby tackle that he could not face any more.

From school he volunteered to join the Indian Army and within four weeks was on a troop ship to Bangalore to join the 3rd Gurkha Rifles at Dehra Dun. In 1944 he was posted to Allied Forces headquarters in Algiers to join the 2nd battalion before returning to Italy, where he fought at Assisi and in the Arno Valley. He then served as intelligence officer to Colonel Bill Somerville, DSO, MC, sweeping through the peninsula near San Marino as the Germans retreated. In 1947 he was on the North-West Frontier in action against Afghan tribesmen.

His mother, meanwhile, who was one of the first female undergraduates at Liverpool University, determined that he should go to Oxford and refused to leave the town until Brasenose College had given him a place to read History. It was at Oxford, by chance, that he shared a staircase with some rugby players who, impressed by the returning soldier's physique (he attributed his extraordinary chest development to the 50 sit-ups he did every morning at Sedbergh), persuaded him to overcome his dislike of tackling.

They had such success that he won Blues in 1947 and 1948 and was selected for Scotland while still at university. On an Oxford rugby tour to Argentina, he was introduced to Eva Peron.

Transferring his abundant energy and enthusiasm from the rugby field to the City, he had a successful career in insurance broking, from which he retired in 1995.

A widely accomplished sportsman, he played for the Free Foresters and I Zingari at cricket and was a member of numerous golf clubs in Britain and the United States. He was president of Lloyd's Golf and Rugby Clubs, and of Lloyd's 1992 Olympic Appeal. He became chairman of the Richmond Fellowship, High Sheriff of the City of London and a patron of Glyndebourne Festival Opera.

He created stunning gardens at his houses in East Sussex and Dorset and, at the age of 79, established the Cranborne Cheese Company at Manor Farm, Ashworth, Dorset, which had been in his wife's family since the 18th century. The company has created a range of awardwinning cheeses.

Peter Kininmonth is survived by his wife and their three sons and a daughter.

© The Telegraph, 11 October 2007



COLIN McFADYEAN

International business lawyer who travelled the globe cultivating good relations through face-to-face meetings.

Colin McFadyean was perhaps one of the first international business lawyers. As a senior partner at Slaughter and May, and long before the term globalisation had entered the English vernacular, McFadyean was pushing his firm to expand abroad, a policy that was treated with some suspicion. History shows him to have been ahead of his time, forging a path that is now central to the strategy of every leading City law firm.

Born in 1914 and educated at Rugby, Colin McFadyean also spent part of his childhood in Germany. His father, Sir Andrew, was a diplomat, serving first as general secretary to the Reparation Commission, and then as Commissioner of Controlled Revenues in Berlin, and the experience of living abroad was an influence in shaping the young McFadyean's cosmopolitan outlook.

After reading Greats at Brasenose College, Oxford, McFadyean joined Slaughter and May in 1937, as an articled clerk. When war broke out, he had already joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve and was sent to protect the convoys escorting British and allied shipping across the Atlantic from German U Boats and raiders. It was during this time that he first met the German-Jewish refugee Marion Guttman, whom he married in 1940.

After two years at sea, an injury to his eye, sustained while chopping wood, rendered him unfit for duties on the watch, and he was transferred to the Naval Intelligence Division, having been recruited by Ian Fleming.

As a fluent speaker of German, he had the task of interrogating U-boat prisoners at a secret Buckinghamshire location. His work with Naval Intelligence was crucial to the war at sea, as he and his colleagues passed vital information to "the Tracker Room", under the renowned command of Captain Rodger Winn. This gathering of intelligence continued after the war, when McFadyean used his extensive range of contacts to arrange meetings with members of the German nobility, the purposes of which were partly social and partly business.

Returning to Slaughter and May, McFadyean was admitted as a solicitor in 1946, and became a partner in 1951. He built a formidable practice in commercial law, counting the original Channel Tunnel company and Westland helicopters among his best-known clients, together with numerous US corporations.



Typically attired in monogrammed shirt and slightly crumpled suit, McFadyean's professional style was clear-headed and precise. Extremely intolerant of unnecessary verbosity, and renowned as a hard taskmaster, he was also a warm and inspirational leader, eager to assist with any task, no matter how menial. On visiting his firm's Paris office, he would often busy himself with proof-reading while others were occupied with substantive law, despite being the most senior lawyer in the building.

McFadyean also had a finely honed sense of how to combine business and pleasure. One highly effective ploy was to use the slightest pretext for a visit to some far-flung clime. A chance phone inquiry from a foreign lawyer regarding some minor point of English company law or practice would often be met by the assertion that it could only be properly dealt with by a face-to-face meeting. Within minutes, he would be en route ready to wow both counterparts and clients with his energy, expertise and suave knowledge of European arts, culture, and the more expensive ends of the wine list.

Outside of law, McFadyean pursued his hobbies as diligently as his career. He was particularly interested in the ancient world and, as a long-time member of the Folio Society, was invited by Charles Ede in 1971 to become a director of the latter's new business dealings in antiquities. Also in 1971, he became vice-chair of the business law section of the International Bar Association, and served as chair between 1974 and 1976.

After his retirement in 1982 and well into his eighties, McFadyean continued to pursue his passion for travel, including four months spent in China in 1995. He prided himself on getting local details right and was proud to be among the first to use the new name Beijing long before it had achieved common currency in this country. He was also a keen gardener and an avid collector of cuttings for his splendid garden.

His first marriage was dissolved in 1960. McFadyean married the BBC television presenter Mary Malcolm later that year. She survives him, along with his daughter and stepdaughters. His other daughter, Andrea, died in 1983, and his other stepdaughter, Lucy, died in 2006.

Colin McFadyean, solicitor, was born on September 21, 1914. He died on May 7, 2007, aged 92.

© The Times, 12 June 2007



NORMAN MITCHELL-INNES

Norman Mitchell-Innes, who has died aged 92, was the oldest surviving England Test cricketer, having played against South Africa in 1935, when he was an Oxford undergraduate.

In an era of gifted amateurs, "Mandy" Mitchell-Innes stood out for the effortlessness of his timing and the grace of his technique, the kind of batsman who had only to lean on the ball to send it scudding to the boundary.

Over his four seasons at Oxford (1934-37) he set a record with 3,319 runs for the university at an average of 47.41. No one – not the Nawab of Pataudi (senior or junior), not Colin Cowdrey, MJK Smith, nor Abbas Ali Baig – has ever scored so highly for the university.

In May 1935 Mitchell-Innes caught Plum Warner's eye with a magnificent 168 for Oxford against the touring South Africans, and was chosen for the first Test at Trent Bridge. The England batting order for that match read Sutcliffe, Wyatt, Hammond, Mitchell-Innes, Leyland and Ames. Alas, Mitchell-Innes played back when he should have played forward and was lbw to Bruce Mitchell for only five.

The selectors retained Mitchell-Innes for the next Test, at Lord's, but he felt he had to cry off because he was suffering from hay fever: "I might be sneezing just as a catch came in the slips," he wrote to Plum Warner. His friend Errol Holmes, with whom he was staying, took his place at Lord's while he went south of the river to the Oval and scored a brilliant century for Oxford against Surrey. He would never have another chance for England.

Norman Stewart Mitchell-Innes was born on September 7 1914 in Calcutta, where his father was a businessman. His Mitchell ancestors had been merchants in Aberdeen from the 16th century. His greatgrandfather William Mitchell (1778-1860) inherited a fortune from his cousin James Innes, changed his name to Mitchell-Innes, and purchased estates at Ayton and Whitehall in Berwickshire.

In the 19th century the family made a mark as golfers. Norman's father won the championship of India, and his grandfather, Gilbert Mitchell-Innes, was captain of Prestwick, where the Open Championship originated between 1860 and 1870.

In 1870 Tom Morris junior became the owner of the championship belt after winning it for the third time in succession. Gilbert Mitchell-



Innes was one of those who seized the opportunity to propose a wider basis for the Open. In the upshot Prestwick joined with the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers and the Royal and Ancient Club to order the famous claret jug, first presented to the winner of the Open in 1873.

When Norman Mitchell-Innes was five, his father returned from India to live at Minehead in Somerset. Norman won a scholarship to Sedbergh, his father's old school, where he soon showed exceptional gifts as a cricketer.

He played for the first XI at the age of 15, and the next summer scored 302 not out during a single afternoon in a house match. (He liked to recall that he was dropped three times before reaching 13.) A master at Sedbergh passed on news of the prodigy to John Daniell, who had captained England at rugby and Somerset at cricket. Then, late in August 1931, Mitchell-Innes went to play in a golf tournament in Scotland. "Let us know if he gets knocked out early," Daniell told his father. In fact he lost his match on Thursday afternoon, and on the Friday was out on the course as a spectator when he was handed a telegram asking him to play for Somerset against Warwickshire the next day at Taunton. He was still only 16.

He arrived in Taunton exhausted, having travelled all night, and spent a hard day in the field while Warwickshire amassed 473. He did manage, however, to take two wickets with his fast-medium bowling, and after a day of rest on Sunday made a respectable 23.

Mitchell-Innes captained the Sedbergh XI in both 1932 and 1933, and in the latter season averaged 109 with the bat. "Such cricketers rarely come this way," The Sedberghian ruefully reported. He also excelled at fives, played in the rugger XV, became president of the debating society, and won an exhibition to read Law at Brasenose College, Oxford.

In August 1933 he also did well for Somerset, making his maiden firstclass 50 against Warwickshire. The next year he had a tremendous first season at Oxford, starting with a century in the first match, against Gloucestershire, making a fine 171 against Surrey, and scoring 998 runs for the university at an average of 55.44.

Perhaps on account of his hay fever, he only once did himself justice in the Varsity match, scoring 43 and 84 against Cambridge in 1936, when he captained Oxford. This did not prevent Cambridge from winning for the second year running; and it was not until Mitchell-Innes's final



season for Oxford, 1937, that he had the satisfaction of victory at Lord's. He also captained the university's golf team.

In 1935-36 he toured Australia and New Zealand with Errol Holmes's scratch MCC side. In Australia, hay fever once again affected his performance; he did much better, however, in New Zealand.

After the Varsity match each year Mitchell-Innes continued to turn out for Somerset, doing exceptionally well in 1936, when he averaged over 50 and scored two fine centuries. He also played three times for the Gentlemen against the Players at Lord's. But his entry in 1937 into the Sudan Political Service – an organisation once satirised as "Blues ruling Blacks" – curtailed his career in first-class cricket. He did, however, score a century at Khartoum.

In the course of four post-war seasons (1946-49) Mitchell-Innes managed to play for Somerset 22 times while on leave, without ever recapturing his former brilliance. At the beginning of 1948 he answered an SOS to captain the county four times. The results were not remarkable, but that was never really the point for Mitchell-Innes. "Thoroughly enjoyed it," he recalled. "Great fun."

In all, he played in 132 first-class matches and scored 6,944 runs (including 13 centuries) at an average of 31.42. He also took 82 wickets at 34.79 apiece.

Mitchell-Innes left the Sudan Political Service in 1954, and moved to the north-east of England to become company secretary of Vaux Breweries in Sunderland, a position he held for 25 years. In 1980 he retired to Herefordshire, and after the death of his wife nine years later lived with his daughter's family in Monmouthshire.

His charm, modesty and delight in life remained unassailable. Although very frail at the end, he smiled when told that the current England team would profit from a player of his talent in Australia.

Mitchell-Innes died on December 28. There is now no longer an England cricketer extant who played in a Test before the Second World War. Ken Cranston, at 89, becomes the oldest living England Test player.

Norman Mitchell-Innes married, in 1944, Patricia Rossiter; they had a son as well as their daughter.

© The Telegraph, 30 December 2007



N. S. 'MANDY' MITCHELL-INNES

Surrey cricketer whose crippling hay fever restricted his England career to a single Test appearance.

Capped against South Africa at Trent Bridge in 1935, "Mandy" Mitchell-Innes was a powerful and stylish right-handed batsman, useful seam bowler and reliable slip. He was an Oxford Blue four years running and played county cricket for Somerset.

He was a 20-year-old undergraduate at Brasenose when he got his Test call, after a fine innings of 168 against the touring South Africans was witnessed by Pelham Warner, the chairman of selectors. In the Test Mitchell-Innes made only five but was retained for the next match, at Lord's, only to withdraw with hay fever, an affliction that stayed with him. He told Warner he was afraid of sneezing just as a catch came in the slips.

Errol Holmes, who replaced him, failed with the bat, while Mitchell-Innes went on to make 132 not out for Oxford against Surrey at the Oval, despite being forced to drop down the order after a bout of heavy sneezing. But he was not chosen for England again.

He gave up any thoughts of a regular cricket career after joining the Sudan Civil Service from Oxford in 1937 but played occasional games during his annual leave.

Norman Stewart Mitchell-Innes was born into a Scottish family in Calcutta in 1914. He showed exceptional talent at Sedbergh, scoring 302 not out in a house match in a single afternoon.

He made his Somerset debut in 1931 when he was 16, summoned to Taunton while playing in a boys' golf championship in Scotland. He scored 23 and took two wickets.

He was one of the outstanding university batsmen of his time and in his four years at Oxford he made 3,319 runs at an average of 47.41. In his best season, 1936, he hit 1,438 runs and captained Oxford in the varsity match, scoring 43 and 84. He also captained the university golf team. He represented the Gentleman against the Players at Lord's and in 1935-36 toured Australia and New Zealand with the MCC, though no Tests were scheduled. In 1937 he played for Scotland, scoring 87 against the New Zealanders.



With Somerset short of players after the Second World War Mitchell-Innes turned out when his leave permitted, though lack of regular cricket meant that he rarely recaptured his prewar form. In 1948 he was appointed joint captain, with Jake Seamer (who had been at Oxford with him and also joined the Sudan Civil Service) and George Woodhouse. Mitchell-Innes was available only to the end of May, leading the side with enthusiasm but little success.

In a first-class career that ended in 1949 he scored 6,944 runs at 31.34 and took 82 wickets at 34.70. The highest of his 13 centuries was 207 for Oxford against H. D. G. Leveson-Gow-er's XI at Reigate in 1936.

On retiring from the Sudan Civil Service in the mid1950s he became company secretary of a brewery. He retained his interest in Somerset cricket as a member of an association of former county players formed in 1982.

N. S. ("Mandy") Mitchell-Innes, cricketer and colonial civil servant, was born on September 7, 1914. He died on December 28, 2006, aged 92.

© The Times, 7 February 2007



ANTHONY (TONY) MORETON

Tony came up as a scholar from King Edward's Birmingham in 1960 to read Modern Languages. Although short of stature, he more than held his own. Nor were Shackleton's Language Boys much known for underachieving: in sport, we boasted a Welsh hockey international and, in the intellectual sphere, nation-wide top marks were notched up in the Civil Service and FCO entrance exam, while our 'Cornish international' was to advance to the highest administrative rung of English Freemasonry. Tony, for his part, coxed the College boat and, far from weight-watching, could frequently be seen downing quantities of beer with athletes twice his size.

After graduating, Tony opted for commerce and industry and was obviously set for great things. When both worked for Nestlé, he shared a flat in London with high-flyer John Winter. (John rose to be CEO of the Commercial division of Coates Viyella before cancer sadly struck him down in 2004.)

But in the late 1960s, Tony disappeared from view. Not a reunion went by without shaking of heads to the question 'Any news of Moreton?' until a couple of years ago, when three decades of cover were blown. Following a tip-off, he was found happily pursuing his business career; we discovered he was, for example, Export Sales Manager at Bacco, and also prominent in the Strasbourg Chamber of Commerce in the relative anonymity of Alsace – all this barely half an hour from the European Institution which had been keeping other pupils of Robert Shackleton busy (see the Obituary of Stanley Hunt in these pages). We had been neighbours all along!

Though quite rotund, Tony seemed his old ebullient self, by then living in busy semi-retirement, as he termed it, 'travelling in ladies' lingerie' in Turkey, making one realise how much bureaucrats can miss out. Equally typical and endearing was proud recollection of his Shrove Tuesday 'Ale Verses', published in the Brazen Nose 40 years ago (reprinted below). Ruefully he admitted that authorship had cooled his relations with Robert Shackleton, who had not appreciated the chorus 'O tidings of gourmandise and want'. In it, the poet juxtaposes Jeffrey Archer's (yes, he of Weston-super-Mare and Belmarsh) War on Want charitable austerity and our dear Tutor's more sybaritic entertainments for the happy few. How happy Vice-Principal Shackleton had been to miss the visit of the Beatles to Brasenose, an Archer-sponsored stunt, when we linguists offered him the alibi of a meal in Soho!



This resumed contact was to be cut cruelly short. Taken ill in December 2006, Tony was carried away by cancer in a matter of weeks, surrounded by his family. He leaves a talented artist wife, Myriam, from Belgian Wallonia, two married daughters and six grandchildren.

Roger Massie

Brasenose Ale Verses No. CXXII Shrove Tuesday, February 11, MCMLXIV

Nasal Tidings

Come drink ye merry Brasenose men Let nothing you prevent, Nor Deanish rules nor those of Schools Shall mar our merriment. We all shall quaff the brimming cup Till it is finished up. O, Tidings of Whitbread and 'E', Whitbread and 'E', O Tidings of Whitbread and 'E'.

The news to date, sad to relate, Shows Nose's sorry plight, Eight Blues in all, and Women in Hall! Will nothing else go right? The statue on the New Block lawn, O tempora, O Moore O, Tidings of shapely things to come, things to come, O, Tidings of shapely things to come.

The College sport has come to nought, Our cupper teams have cracked. Our score in Schools makes us look fools, The S.C.R. must act! Brain and Brawn in equal parts Is what the College wants, O, Send us more Sportsmen next year, Sportsmen next year O, Send us more Sportsmen next year.



But Freshmen staid be not afraid Your timid limbs to stir. And let it not be said of you 'Those were the weak that were.' Lay hands to oar and stick and ball Till 'Nose has beat them all. O, Tidings of Bump Suppers again, Suppers again, O, Tidings of Bump Suppers again.

The New Vice-P. we're glad to see Is Robert Shackleton. The Oxfam drive to feed and save, Jeff Archer's here to run. To these and other Brasenose men We gladly raise our cup, O, Tidings of Gourmandise and Want, Gourmandise and Want, O, Tidings of Gourmandise and Want.

But Brasenose' name has culled more fame Amongst the Upper Crust. For honest Jack and Christine's game Kicked up a lot of dust. O what a dignus alumnus And he was one of us! O, Tidings of wenching and joy, wenching and joy, O, Tidings of wenching and joy.

Stand up and sing, the Ale's the thingTo set the Nose aglow.It's full of alcohol and spice,So let it gaily flow.Let's drink the toast in a silver cupTo Nose men everywhere,O, Tidings of Whitbread and 'E', Whitbread and 'E',O, Tidings of Whitbread and 'E'.

TUROLDUS.

(Tony Moreton)



ROBIN PARFITT

Entrepreneurial and energetic prep school headmaster.

Robin Parfitt was a seminal figure in the world of independent schools. As headmaster of the country's largest prep school and inspector for the Independent Schools Inspectorate he combined innovative leadership with the ability to drive projects through to the benefit of all concerned. His headmasterly skills were complemented by an entrepreneurial edge which transformed a number of prep schools and influenced the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools.

Robin Parfitt was born in 1946 in Rhydyfelin near Pontypridd. Educated at Burton-on-the-Wolds primary school, where his father was head, and then at Loughborough Grammar School, he read history and music at University College, Cardiff, took an MA in theology and went on to Brasenose College, Oxford, to read for a DPhil.

His doctoral work was interrupted by the beginning of his teaching career. He first taught at Carmel College in Wallingford then went on to Colet Court, the prep school to St Paul's School, London, to teach English. In 1985 he married his second wife, Angela, also a teacher from a teaching family.

His first headship was at Ardenhurst School in Henley-on-Arden, Warwickshire, and it was here that his administrative and entrepreneurial talent first showed itself. Within four years the student body had doubled and building projects were under way.

He then moved to be head of the preparatory section of Chigwell School, Essex. Here he raised the profile of the school, made radical changes to the curriculum and gave it a separate identity from the parent body while raising the number of pupils.

It was at his final school, Danes Hill in Oxshott, Surrey, where he was appointed head in 1989 that he made his most enduring mark. During his tenure the number of pupils doubled, the number of school buildings expanded impressively and Danes Hill became the largest and one of the best prep schools in the country. Despite the administrative burden he also taught history and got children through the scholarship exams at schools such as Winchester, King's College School, Wimbledon, and St Paul's. In recent years he pursued his vision of establishing a senior girls' school attached to Danes Hill.



Parfitt's most characteristic trait was a constant desire to help lame ducks. He routinely screened for dyslexic children, and many of the nohopers he took on in his schools turned out to be swans.

He is survived by his wife, Angela, and four sons.

Robin Parfitt, prep school headmaster, was born on December 22, 1946. He died of cancer on August 17, 2006, aged 59.

© The Times, 29 September 2006



PROFESSOR SIR GARETH ROBERTS

Professor Sir Gareth Roberts, the physicist and President of Wolfson College, Oxford, who died on February 6 aged 66, led his fellow university administrators in sounding the alarm about the funding of higher education generally and science teaching in particular.

Roberts held numerous positions on public and academic bodies, serving as founder president of the Science Council, chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP). He was also chairman of the Higher Education Funding Council for England's research committee, chairman of Setnet, the Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics Network and chairman of the UK Research Careers Initiative. Before his appointment as President of Wolfson College in 2001, he was vice-chancellor of Sheffield University.

As chairman of the CVCP in the 1990s, Roberts led his troops into battle, threatening to impose a £300 levy on first year university students if ministers did not withdraw the latest round of funding cuts. Although he quickly retreated (earning unkind comparisons with the Grand Old Duke of York) he left politicians of all political persuasions in no doubt that, after 20 years in which funding per student had been cut by 40 per cent, they had a crisis on their hands.

Public concern led to the appointment of Sir Ron Dearing to head a committee of enquiry into higher education, and Roberts was delighted that Dearing's main recommendations, including the introduction of tuition fees, were almost identical to the advice given by the CVCP.

In 2001, worried by anecdotal evidence of a decline in the supply of scientists and engineers, Roberts was invited by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, to investigate. His report, published in 2002, demonstrated that while the number of students taking A-levels was rising, the numbers taking science subjects had fallen – in physics by 21 per cent in eight years. Meanwhile the brightest brains at university were opting for careers in the City rather than embarking on industrial research or teaching. Science graduates who opted to teach, Roberts claimed, would be £350,000 worse off by the time they retired.

Roberts's 36 recommendations, which included better pay and training for teachers and post-doctoral researchers, were accepted in full by the government in its Comprehensive Spending Review.

This led to an increase in the stipend paid to research students, but Roberts remained disappointed by the lack of progress in schools and,



last month, called for urgent action to tackle the problem and prevent Britain from losing its status as a leading scientific nation.

Gareth Gwyn Roberts was born in North Wales on May 16 1940 and took a First in Physics at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. He went on to take a doctorate in the physics of semiconductors and, after lecturing for a few years, became a senior reseach scientist with the Xerox Corporation.

Returning to Britain, he was appointed professor of Physics at the New University of Ulster then professor of Applied Physics and head of department at Durham University. From 1985 to 1990 he was chief scientist, then director of research, at Thorn EMI.

In 1986 he was appointed to a visiting professorship in the Department of Engineering Science at Oxford and to a fellowship at Brasenose College.

During his time as Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University, from 1991 to 2001, he was elected chairman of the CVCP and served on several public bodies in Yorkshire, including the Sheffield Development Corporation, the Sheffield Health Authority and the Regional Development Agency for Yorkshire and the Humber. As well as the presidency of Wolfson College, Roberts also held a chair at the Saïd Business School and served on the management committee of Oxford's Business Park.

In 2004 Roberts completed a review for the UK funding councils of the research assessment exercise, whereby university science departments are awarded research grants. The review recommended a two-tier system of funding with the biggest grants going to the top performing international-class departments.

Roberts was a fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and was elected FRS in 1984. He served as president of the Institute of Physics in 1998 and in 1990 presented the Royal Institution's Christmas lectures on the BBC.

He was knighted in 1997.

Gareth Roberts was twice married, secondly, in 1994, to Carolyn Butler, who survives him, together with the daughter and two sons of his first marriage.

© The Telegraph, 22 February 2007



SIR GARETH ROBERTS

Physicist and university administrator who prompted successive governments on science and education.

Gareth Gwyn Roberts, physicist and university administrator: born Penmaenmawr, Caernarvonshire 16 May 1940; Lecturer in Physics, University College of North Wales, Bangor 1963-66; research physicist, Xerox Corporation 1966-68; Senior Lecturer, then Reader, then Professor of Physics, New University of Ulster 1968-76; Professor of Applied Physics, and Head of the Department of Applied Physics and Electronics, Durham University 1976-85; FRS 1984; Chief Scientist, Thorn-EMI 1985, Director of Research 1986-90; Visiting Professor of Electronics, Oxford University 1985-93, Visiting Professor of Science Policy 2004-07; Fellow, Brasenose College, Oxford 1985-95; Vice-Chancellor, Sheffield University 1991-2000; Kt 1997; President, Institute of Physics 1998-2000; President, Science Council 2000-06; President, Wolfson College, Oxford 2001-07; Chairman, HM Treasury Review on Supply of Scientists and Engineering in UK 2001-02; Chairman, UK Funding Councils Review of Research Assessment 2002-03; President, Association for Science Education 2006-07; Chairman, Engineering and Technology Board 2006-07; married 1962 (two sons, one daughter; marriage dissolved), 1994 Carolyn Butler (two stepdaughters); died Oxford 6 February 2007.

Gareth Roberts was a distinguished research physicist who played a key role in keeping education and science at the top of the Government's agenda. President of Wolfson College, Oxford, at the time of his death, he was a strong and charismatic leader, capable of achieving a consensus where others could not.

The son of a quarryman, Roberts was born in 1940 in Penmaenmawr, North Wales. Raised in a Welsh-speaking home, he learnt English at school and attended chapel every Sunday. As a young boy he missed two years of schooling through illness. This setback gave him the opportunity to develop a deep appreciation and love of music by listening to the radio. From the John Bright Grammar School in Llandudno, he progressed to the University College of North Wales at Bangor, gaining a First in Physics in 1961, followed by a PhD in the nascent field of semiconductor physics.

His rise through the academic ranks was rapid. By the age of 34 he held the chair of physics in the New University of Ulster at Coleraine, having earlier been made head of department, and only 10 years after his first



academic appointment at Bangor. In 1976 he moved to Durham University where, as head of the Department of Applied Physics and Electronics, he developed the interface between science and engineering. Following a visit to Durham by the University Grants Committee, he was invited to become a member of its Equipment Committee, which he then went on to chair.

Although an academic at heart, Roberts was also at home in an industrial setting. He spent two years in the 1960s working as a research scientist with the Xerox Corporation in Rochester, New York, and one day a week with ICI in the 1970s, creating a team to develop the company's interests in electronics. In 1985 he took on a new challenge, becoming Director of Research at Thorn-EMI, with responsibility for the technology strategies of each of its operating companies.

This appointment was particularly attractive to Roberts in that it bridged the industrial and academic domains, including, as it did, a visiting professorship in electronic engineering at Oxford University and a fellowship at Brasenose College. It enabled him to establish a new research group in the university's Department of Engineering.

By then he had gained an international reputation for his research on the physics of semiconductor devices and in the emerging field of molecular electronics. His output was impressive — over 200 papers, several patents and a standard work in the field of molecular electronics, Langmuir-Blodgett Films, published in 1990. He was also the founding editor of the Journal of Molecular Electronics.

In 1984 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Two years later he received the Holweck Gold Medal and Prize from the Institute of Physics and the French Physical Society. At this time he was a member of the Prime Minister's Advisory Council on Science and Technology, and later served as chairman of the Defence Scientific Advisory Council.

Sheffield University's search for a new vice-chancellor in 1990 coincided with Gareth Roberts's decision to move into university management – and there was no shortage of suitors for his services. He chose Sheffield, he said, because of the subjects it offered, its academic potential and the persuasive powers of its then Chancellor, Lord Dainton. He was strikingly successful in his new role, attracting world-class academics to the university, stimulating interdisciplinary research, and promoting enterprise in teaching and research. His personal qualities of integrity and fairness engendered trust, and enabled him to implement far-sighted policies with strong support from all the faculties.



In the field of widening participation, his "Early Outreach" and "Compact" schemes, aimed at local communities with no tradition of higher education, were in place long before access became a cornerstone of government policy. By the time he left Sheffield, over 200 Early Outreach pupils had entered UK universities, and a parallel scheme for training medical students drawn from deprived areas of the city had been introduced.

He was a prime mover in the establishment of the Russell Group of research-led universities; the Worldwide Universities Network - an alliance of 17 major universities in the UK, United States, Australia, China and mainland Europe; and the White Rose University Consortium, involving Leeds, Sheffield and York universities. He was also a tireless ambassador for Sheffield and its region, co-founding the Sheffield First partnership with the leader of the city council and serving on the Boards of the Sheffield Development Corporation, Sheffield Health Authority and the Regional Development Agency for Yorkshire and the Humber.

Many of these initiatives had their origins in Roberts's "Town and Gown" dinners, which he hosted with his wife, Carolyn, at the Croft, their university residence. Quizzes (which invariably included the question "In what year did Cardiff win the FA Cup?") were a memorable, and much-enjoyed, feature of these popular social occasions.

In 1995 Roberts was elected Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the collective voice of the UK higher education system, now known as Universities UK. His two-year term of office was among the most turbulent on record, as the CVCP collided with the government of the day over its continuing cuts in university funding. Led by Roberts, the CVCP joined forces with the campus unions to mount a vigorous national campaign aimed at bringing the financial plight of the universities to the attention of the political parties and the public at large.

The resulting Dearing Inquiry into Higher Education, commissioned in 1996, drew heavily on input from the CVCP - particularly in connection with future funding strategies, lifelong learning, access, research investment and teaching quality. The New Labour government accepted a great many of the principles in the 1997 Dearing Report, building on the key recommendation that the costs of higher education should be shared among those who benefit.

Shortly after completing his term at the CVCP, Roberts joined the Board of the Higher Education Funding Council for England (Hefce),



remaining a member until 2005. He had previously served on the Universities Funding Council from 1989 to 1992, successfully arguing for the establishment of a Welsh sub-committee, which he chaired, to raise the profile of higher education in the Principality.

As the chairman of Hefce's Research Committee, he was a powerful advocate for research funding for universities, while his detailed review of the Research Assessment Exercise – the vehicle through which universities receive much of their research income – was presented to the UK's four higher-education funding bodies in 2004.

When the Australian government decided it needed advice on assessing the quality of publicly funded research, Roberts was the person invited to chair its expert advisory group. His expertise in education was also sought in Hong Kong, Singapore and Dubai. Last year he presented a penetrating report on UK-US research partnerships, in which he identified areas of collaboration between the two countries that might be especially valuable for the future.

Gareth Roberts's research background made him the natural choice to chair the Research Careers Initiative (1997-2002), aimed at enhancing the working conditions, training and employment opportunities of over 37,000 contract research staff in UK universities and colleges.

His pragmatic approach led to an invitation from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, to undertake a comprehensive review of the supply of skilled scientists needed to support a competitive modern economy. Roberts's report SET for Success, published in 2002, highlighted the serious shortages in the funding and supply of scientists, engineers and mathematicians in UK schools and universities, and the steps needed to remedy the situation. The Government gave its full backing to his report, investing £1.25bn in science and technology at all levels, from classroom to contract research staff, from school laboratories to national research facilities.

With his passionate commitment to science and engineering, it was inevitable that Gareth Roberts would be invited to lead national bodies in these fields. He was an inspirational President of the Institute of Physics (1998-2000) and was the driving force behind the foundation of the Science Council, launched in 2000 by the Science Minister, Lord Sainsbury of Turville, with Roberts as its first President. Over the six years he was at the helm, the council achieved its Royal Charter and launched its Chartered Scientist designation, while the membership grew to 30 organisations. Last year, he was appointed Chairman of the Engineering and Technology Board.



In recent years, Roberts became increasingly involved in promoting the study of science and technology in schools. He chaired and reorganised both the Network of Science Learning Centres and Setnet, the DTI-sponsored body responsible for school science enrichment, and was President of the Association of Science Education. An engaging (and humorous) public speaker, he presented the Royal Institution/ BBC Christmas Lectures in 1988, on "Science and Technology in the Home of the Future".

In Oxford, Roberts played a full and active part in the life of Wolfson College, introducing the Haldane Lecture, with speakers drawn from the world of science, and continuing his Town and Gown evenings that had been so successful in Sheffield. He held a visiting professorship in the Saïd Business School and served on the board of Isis Innovation, the research exploitation arm of the university. He was also chairman of Medical Solutions plc and a director of Global Education Management Systems UK. He was knighted in 1997 for his services to higher education.

There was an endearing Welshness about Gareth Roberts - he lost neither the lilt in his voice nor the deep love he felt for his homeland. His family always came first. He also expended a good deal of his spare time in supporting Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, for which the rewards in recent years were sparse but, when they came, were celebrated warmly.

When cancer was diagnosed towards the end of last year, Roberts continued with fortitude and equanimity in the same organised and dignified way in which he had conducted his entire life. He was working at home up until the day he died.

Gordon Duff

Gareth Roberts and I first met in a café in Bangor in the autumn of 1962, writes **Sir John Meurig Thomas**. He was an impecunious secondyear graduate student in the Department of Physics at the University College there and I an impecunious lecturer in Chemistry. We both had located the cheapest, most convenient eating spot in the city when the college refectory was closed.

As he had attended a seminar that I had given in the Department of Physics a year or so earlier, he knew of my interests in the properties of solids. With justified pride, he began to relate the contents of the two papers that he had recently written (with his supervisor, R.H. Treadgold, a bright theoretical physicist) and that had just been accepted for publication. Thereafter, with increasing frequency, especially after he was made a member of the teaching staff at the tender age of 23, we exchanged ideas on topics of mutual interest in the borderland between solidstate physics and solid-state chemistry. Joining us on many of these occasions was his junior (by one year) colleague, Robin Williams (now Professor R.H. Williams, and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Wales, Swansea) and Robin's exact contemporary, my PhD student J.O. Williams, later head of the Department of Chemistry, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

My education in solid-state physics owes a great deal to those early discussions with Gareth Roberts and Robin Williams. "J.O." and I were great beneficiaries since, through them, we were introduced to new techniques that were unfamiliar to most chemists, such as "spacecharged-limited currents" and "conductivity-glow" measurements, which we discovered complemented beautifully our own microscopic work aimed at establishing the links between dislocations in crystalline solids and their chemical (and electronic) consequences.

We continued to interact by correspondence even after he had been persuaded by the Xerox Company to join their research laboratories in the US as an exceptionally gifted 26-year-old physicist. And, later, from his laboratory in Coleraine, where Robin Williams had (independently) been appointed to the staff at the New University of Ulster there, I received numerous reprints and short written tutorials from Gareth on such arcane topics as thermally assisted tunnelling phenomena in organic crystals and films. (Many years later, I was told by a Professor of Chemistry at Sheffield, when Gareth was Vice-Chancellor there, that all the chemistry he, Gareth, knew he had learnt from me and that all the physics that I knew I had learnt from him.)

As well as his formidable skills as a physicist and a superb administrator, he was also a very fine lecturer, who could inspire and entertain in equal measure. As Director of the Royal Institution, I had no difficulty in convincing the science staff and producers of the BBC that Gareth Roberts would be an ideal television personality who could give the Royal Institution Christmas lectures. His series in 1988, dealing inter alia with the impact of electronics in the home of the future, was a conspicuous success.

In pondering his passing, one cannot but marvel at the fact that he and many of his contemporaries became world-class scientists who were taught in small classes in a college that, at that time, had no more than 900 students at all grades and in all subjects, including philosophy,


Greek, Latin, Hebrew. These have since given way (along with Physics) in Bangor, as in so many other British universities, to the more "relevant" and popular subjects.

Two of Gareth's other contemporaries (all, like him and "J.O.", keen on soccer) were David Rees (now Sir Dai Rees FRS, former head of the Medical Research Council UK) and Les Dutton (now Professor D.L. Dutton FRS, head of the Johnson Foundation for Biophysics in the University of Pennsylvania).

© The Independent, 5 March 2007



DR JOHN SHARP

John Sharp was a headmaster for 25 years, first at Christ College, Brecon, and then at Rossall School, Fleetwood, both of which he ran with a firm hand and a clear sense of purpose. He was a tall, imposing, figure and one of his Christ College staff, who later became a Chairman of the HMC, wrote that he never courted popularity and that ' there was a Yorkshire dourness about him, but from time to time he would emerge and trumpet spectacularly like a bull elephant at boys who were not where they should be. Otherwise he would stride around the campus, with a curious idiosyncratic swinging of one arm, never without his suit'.

Born in 1927 in Brontë country and raised as an only child on a family farm near Haworth, Sharp won a scholarship to Keighley Grammar School, where he was well taught in very small classes and moved on to Brasenose College, where the vast majority of the freshmen in 1946 had been demobbed from the services. After completing his degree in Chemistry he was drafted into the RAF, joined the school of education and was soon organising lectures and courses for NCOs and officers. In 1952, he received a grant to do research at Oxford under Professor Sir Robert Robinson and in six terms completed a DPhil thesis related to the synthesis of cortisone, which it was hoped at that time would prove to be a cure for arthritis. His enjoyment of teaching and administration in the RAF steered him towards schools rather than university research and he was appointed to teach Chemistry at Marlborough in 1954, rising rapidly to be Head of Chemistry in 1956 and Head of Science in 1959.

He was 34 when he arrived at Christ College three years later and he proved to be very much a 'hands-on' headmaster at this small boarding school of 218 boys, teaching all the 'A' level Chemistry and being in charge of careers and university entrance as well as the overall running of the school. He also became a member of the Breconshire Education Committee. When Roger Ellis moved from the headship of Rossall to Marlborough, he suggested Sharp's name to the Rossall governors as a steady hand and able administrator who would settle the school down after his own very busy and innovative five years. Moving into the elegant Rossall Hall in 1973, Sharp found himself in charge of a boarding school with some 517 boys, and in his first five years numbers climbed to a record 559 (though after that, as in many UK boarding schools, there was a gradual decline, offset to some extent by the admission of girls from the late 1970s onwards). Under Sharp, Rossall remained



traditional, but also liberal, though he himself was always a formal figure and probably one of the last members of HMC not be called by their Christian name in the Common Room. He was very active in HMC circles and came close to being elected Chairman. He was also a member of Lancashire's Education Committee. He retired in 1987 to Worcestershire and immediately became involved with the establishment of one of the first City Technology Colleges, in Solihull, and served as Chairman of the Governors at Christ College, Brecon from 1993 to 1999. He was appointed OBE in 1994. In 1950 he married Jean Prosser, a Yorkshire girl from the next village, and she and their son and two daughters survive him.

Dr John Sharp, OBE, headmaster, was born on 18 December 1927. He died on 24 November 2006, aged 78.



JOHN STANLEY WILLIAMSON

(1925 - 2006)

John Stanley Williamson (formerly Williams) was born in Plymouth, Devon in 1925. He was educated at The Bible College, Swansea, South Wales. In 1948, after serving three years in the army in Burma, he went up to Brasenose College, Oxford, to read English. At Oxford, he rowed, socialised and read English with various tutors including Leslie Styler (Chaplain Fellow). He received his MA in 1955.

After Oxford, he went into Banking and Commerce, both of which proved unsuitable choices for him. By this time, Williamson had met and married a Speech Therapist, Rona Thomas, from Swansea. Their families had known each other for years and the couple married in 1958. During holidays in Gower, they met Dylan Thomas and stayed at his cottage in Laugharne. Williamson finally settled on teaching English in a variety of schools; Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn and Watford Grammar School, Hertfordshire, were favourites.

Williamson spent eight years of his early-married life in Lancashire, while teaching at Blackburn Grammar. He began to pursue his interest in writing. In 1961, Williamson's first child was born, Felicity Jane, and Rona published a book on Speech Therapy.

In 1962, Williamson's first novel, On The Way Out, was published under Hutchinson. Williamson was on his way to success and a further three novels and five short stories appeared. The novels were: Death is a Lizard, The God Seeker and The Spinsters. Kingsley Amis, a close friend during the 70's said of On The Way Out 'This is an attractive and promising first novel more soon please'. There were numerous favourable reviews in The Times and The Daily Mail. Williamson told a journalist from The Daily Mail that he would like a best seller and to break into the short story world.

However, in 1967 his luck changed, *The Spinsters* was published and this was his last novel to reach publication. It was strange because he had a fifth novel, *Blundig*, in draft. What had happened? At the beginning of the 70's, Williamson's publisher suddenly changed due to illness and despite numerous attempts to carry on under Hutchinson, it seemed that he was no longer popular.

Williamson discouraged and disappointed, took early retirement and moved to Suffolk, where he and Rona enjoyed some years of socialising, sailing and theatre visits to London. Rona painted with some degree of



success. Williamson continued to write, Rona acting as his agent, sought further avenues for publication, sadly to no avail. Williamson leaves some fourteen unpublished novels, many of which were written in Suffolk.

Williamson enjoyed social life to the full. There was never a dull moment at the weekends. Saturday night was not complete without a dinner party, often celebrated with local friends and artistic folks, although the circle of friends was wide and included a large variety of people.

In the 90s Williamson, dissatisfied with Suffolk, decided after much deliberation to return to Hertfordshire. London was always a pull for the couple. Rona celebrated her 70th birthday and they re-established themselves amongst their remaining friends in the locality. Things are never the same of course, and they were unsure about the decision they had made.

They considered returning to Suffolk but the opportunity did not arise and the years went by. Hertfordshire made a comfortable home and London was near. So, they went to the city to visit friends, shows, the theatre and the cinema. The arts were an interest and galleries were at hand. Rona had a love of France, which Williamson also enjoyed. They went often to Paris, The Alps and the South of France. There were trips to Sussex to visit their daughter. Days were spent reading and listening to a large selection of music, which Williamson had spent some years collecting; jazz, opera and classical music.

He returned to Brasenose College Oxford to Gaudies and on occasions to meet his daughter, who has a love of the city.

In 1996, an article appeared in the Sunday Telegraph titled *Martin's Model*. It referred to Martin Amis's novel *The Information*. It held a connection with Williamson - the main character Richard Tull was based on Williamson. Martin Amis commented, that Kingsley often spoke of Williamson as 'a strange case and could not understand why publishers lost faith'. He had reviewed his first novel and was encouraging about his work.

Another interesting episode occurred in 2003. Zachery Leader, a friend of Martin Amis's telephoned to ask Williamson if he could interview them with regards to their experiences with Kingsley Amis. He was writing a book, *The Life of Kingsley Amis*. The couple were mentioned on several occasions, when they shared time with Kingsley and his first wife Hilly in Swansea. The novel was published after Williamson's death in 2007.



Suddenly in 2005, Rona was taken ill with a chest complaint, which was never resolved in her lifetime (a tumour on the lung) and within six months, she was dead. She was 77. Williamson was devastated. He struggled and turned to his daughter and son-in-law for comfort, with whom he had a close relationship. He spent more and more time with them. On holiday with the family in France, he suffered a heart attack that lead to pneumonia. He was in hospital for several months in Paris. Mercifully, he recovered thanks to French medicine and was flown back to England in time for Christmas 2005.

In 2006, he moved to Sussex to live with his daughter and son-in-law, who had bought a house with an annex. He lived there in a contented fashion, enjoying the company of friends and red wine. Sadly, this new life was cut short. He had contracted leukaemia. He fought the illness courageously, taking a positive attitude, taking an interest in the new house, future plans for renovation and trying to enjoy every day. He died peacefully at home in Sussex on 7 June 2006.

Williamson was a clever, kind man, who was unlucky professionally and therefore lacked confidence to achieve the goals, which he could have met. He was a good father, who is dearly missed and will be remembered by all for his lively charm.

Williamson is survived by his daughter Felicity Jane, and a brother David, who played a large part in his life, and who lives in Hertfordshire.

Felicity Jane Burnet





Committee Meeting: 17 January 2007

A meeting of the Committee was held at 6.00pm at the offices Linklaters (One Silk Street, EC2).

Present: Jeremy McMullen (President), Barney Smith (Immediate Past President), Alexandra Marks (Vice President and Secretary), Roger Cashmore (Principal), Nigel Bird (Treasurer), John W Davies (Oxford Secretary), Elizabeth Carter, Paula Carter, Matt Forbes, Drusilla Gabbott, Mike Rountree and Donald Rushton.

In attendance: Robin Sharp (Director of Development) and Kate Love (Associate Director).

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from: Donald Blakeley, Kate Burt, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Alastair Dick, Drusilla Gabbott, Sos Eltis (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), David Hills, Robin Janvrin (Past President), John Knowland (Bursar), Christopher McKenna and Iain Vallance (Past President).

2 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2006 were approved.

3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4 Report from BNC Development Office

The Director of Development reported that some income is starting to come in from alumni in the United States. This is, of course, enormously encouraging. In April 2007, an Annual Fund will be launched in the UK. There will not be a telephone campaign to support this initiative because it is not thought to be consistent with BNC style. The Annual Fund's objectives are to support College sports, arts, the Chapel and students facing hardship. There will be a report at the end of each year, with "College Life" being the theme.

The questionnaire distributed by the Development Office to all alumni had generated a positive response, with only three complaints (all



related to the level of income enquiry). Much useful information had been gathered, and was being inputted into the database by Laura Pack (ex-New College), who started work in the Development Office just a fortnight ago.

It was noted that there is a pleasing level of participation and interest within College now, and a good response to members' entitlement to dine in College (on guest nights on Tuesdays and black tie on Sunday nights).

Overseas trips have been undertaken by the Development Office (with the Principal) to India, Pakistan, Hong Kong and Singapore. A trip to Australia is planned, where there are many enthusiastic alumni and where, indeed, two Brasenose scholarships were set up about 10 years ago. Further trips will be also undertaken to the United States and South Africa during 2007.

The Development Office is considering programmes for parents of students, as well as former students.

5 The Brazen Nose and The Brazen Notes

The Brazen Nose is due to appear at the end of March. The deadline for inserts is the end of January.

The President remarked that the termly publication of *The Brazen Notes* is most welcome; its lively, newsy and pictorial style is greatly appreciated and perhaps reaches a larger (or at least, different) readership than *The Brazen Nose*.

6 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Society's finances are in a healthy state: indeed, the Society arguably holds excessive reserves according to Charity Commission guidelines, which suggest that around £3,000-£4,000 would be sufficient for an organisation of the Society's size. By this standard, the Society has around £8,000 more reserves than it needs. Even recalling the Society's desire to subsidise (or at least underwrite) College activities (such as the Arts Festival) and the fact that the Society's only source of income is the surplus (if any) generated by events, there is scope for the Society to pay for some administrative support of its activities.

It was suggested that part-time administrative support might be available from Margaret Molloy (formerly of Christ Church Development Office), who works around 12 hours per month in the Development Office and could assist with aspects of event



organisation (confirmations, enquiries, database updates etc.) as well as with drafting Minutes of our meetings. The Secretary agreed to discuss this further with the Development Office, and to arrange to meet Margaret herself.

7 Annual Dinner and other Society Events

The Annual Dinner has been timed to coincide with the first ever Oxford Reunion weekend on 14/15 September (post-meeting note: unfortunately, due to a clashing booking of the Hall, the Annual Dinner will now take place on Saturday 22 September). The Development Office is considering a tour to support the weekend, and to collect stories and photos from alumni. It was suggested that Gaudies would provide a good opportunity to request these. It was noted that a central co-ordination resource will be required.

Jeremy McMullen reported that he would be hosting the Presidential Summer drinks party at the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand on Thursday 21 June 2007.

Drusilla Gabbott had kindly agreed to organise another North West drinks party at Chethams College some time in the autumn (*postmeeting note: since fixed for Friday 23 November 2007*).

Matt Forbes reported on his investigations of possible venues for drinks party aimed at more recent alumni (those who had matriculated during the past ten years or so). Of the twelve or so locations he had considered, the best appeared to be Teatro in Shaftesbury Avenue which would permit us to reserve the bar area until 10pm on the basis of a minimum spend of £1,000. If 50-75 people were to attend, the ticket price could be kept to around £20-25 per head for drinks and canapés. Various dates in April and May were canvassed (post-meeting note: since fixed for Friday 27 April 2007).

The lunch for alumni and guests in the College Hall on the Saturday of VIIIs week was very well-attended and a great success last year, as it was in 2005, so it would be repeated in 2007 on Saturday 26 May.

8 Year Reps.

It was suggested that we should consider "best practice" sharing for Year Reps., and perhaps arrange a special event for them. Once the website is up and running, information for Year Reps. could be provided through it. It was suggested that Gaudies would be a good recruiting ground for Year Reps. where there are vacancies, and a welcome opportunity to engage Year Reps where they are already in post.



It was suggested that there should be some clarity of role between Year Reps. and the Development Office, and perhaps Year Reps. would benefit from, and welcome, information about College finances, for example.

9 Grant making

The Committee agreed that the Society should continue its policy of making small grants to worthwhile projects within College, such as the Arts Festival - perhaps for no more than one such project a term and for no more than £250 per term (preferably by way of underwriting, rather than outright grant).

If, for example, the Society were to support the College Arts Festival (which takes place during the third week of Trinity Term - around mid-May), its support could be publicised on Festival posters.

10 Dates for future meetings

The next committee meeting would take place at the home of the President (in Chiswick) at 11:00am on Saturday 28 April 2007. The following meeting would take place on the afternoon of the AGM and Annual Dinner (post-meeting note: since changed to Saturday 22 September 2007).

11 Any other business

It was noted that Keith Ingram's funeral and memorial service would be taking place shortly. James Edmiston had indicated that he would be attending.

The President offered to speak to Mike Gill, who had expressed an interest in assisting with the Society's mentoring programme.





Committee Meeting: 28 April 2007

A meeting of the Committee was held at 11:00am at the home of the President in Chiswick W4

Present: Jeremy McMullen (President), Barney Smith (Immediate Past President), Alexandra Marks (Vice President and Secretary), Roger Cashmore (Principal), Nigel Bird (Treasurer), Elizabeth Carter, Paula Carter, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Matt Forbes, Drusilla Gabbott and Mike Rountree.

In attendance: Robin Sharp (Director of Development) and Kate Love (Associate Director).

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from: Donald Blakeley, Kate Burt, John W Davies (Oxford Secretary), Alastair Dick, Sos Eltis (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), David Hills, Robin Janvrin (Past President), John Knowland (Bursar), Christopher McKenna, Donald Rushton and Iain Vallance (Past President).

2 Approval of Minutes

In Item 4, no overseas trip had been made to India, and the Australian scholarships referred to were to attend Oxford University, not BNC. Otherwise, the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2007 were approved.

3 Matters arising

The President reported that he had recently returned from a trip to Australia, where he had met BNC alumni in both Melbourne and Adelaide.

4 Report from BNC Development Office

The Director of Development reported that plans are progressing well for the Quincentenary. The Governing Body would soon be invited to approve the proposals. Committee members expressed their support for some sporting events to mark 2009, perhaps a cricket match in London (maybe at Lord's).

The updated College website should be launched in late 2007. It would have a secure section to enable alumni to register their details online,



and search for other alumni e.g. by country, date of matriculation, subject etc.

There is optimism about income from alumni for the Quincentenary Appeal. An Annual Fund will be launched in the UK in May 2007. As many as 20 Fellows have already signed up to the Annual fund, which is an excellent achievement, and should set the Fund off to a flying start. The Annual Fund's objectives are to support College sports, arts, the Chapel and students facing hardship.

Overseas trips have been - or are to be - undertaken by the Development Office (with the Principal) to South Africa, Australia, Hong Kong, New York and Washington D.C.

BNC Society members have already assisted with introductions to other alumni, and this was greatly appreciated and encouraged.

5 The Brazen Nose and The Brazen Notes

For The President remarked that *The Brazen Nose* had been distributed very late this year, which diminished the response time for included invitations. The Associate Director pointed out that invitations had been issued separately this year to obviate this problem. The Secretary suggested that a strategy be developed for announcing and publicising events well in advance.

The Brazen Notes newsletter - produced in 10th week of every term - is an excellent method for including topical information such as forthcoming events. Reports of such events - with colour photographs - would be most welcome, as would a "President's column".

6 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Society holds around £12,000 cash, considerably greater reserves than it needs. Notwithstanding the Society's desire to subsidise (or at least underwrite) College activities, such as the Arts Festival, and the fact that the Society's only source of income is the surplus (if any) generated by events, there is scope for the Society to pay for some administrative support of its activities.

The Secretary had since met Margaret Molloy (formerly of Christ Church Development Office), who works in the Development Office for around 12 hours per month. She kindly agreed to provide part-time administrative support to the Society at a modest hourly charge and proved willing to assist with Society events (dealing with replies, enquiries, database updates etc). During that meeting, the Secretary had concluded that it would not, however, be practical to expect Margaret to assist with preparing the Minutes of our meetings.



7 The Annual Dinner and other Society Events

As noted previously, the Annual Dinner would no longer coincide with the Oxford Reunion weekend on 14/15 September but would now take place on Saturday 22 September 2007.

The Presidential Summer drinks party would take place at the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand on Thursday 21 June 2007.

Drusilla Gabbott had kindly agreed to organise another North West drinks party at Chethams College on Friday 23 November 2007.

The "recent alumni" drinks at Teatro in Shaftesbury Avenue the previous evening (Friday 27 April 2007) had been a tremendous success. The turn-out and atmosphere had been excellent. Matt Forbes was warmly thanked and congratulated for organising such a terrific party. Matt commented that the ability to pay for events by credit card, rather than by cheque, would be of enormous benefit. The Associate Director said that such a facility was a high priority and should be in place within a few months.

The Secretary (and Vice-President) said that she hoped to arrange for her Presidential drinks party to take place at the Old Bailey during May/June 2008. Although there would be no hire charge, the Society had been invited to make a charitable contribution in lieu to the Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund (which assists ex-offenders, and is based at the Old Bailey). The Committee agreed to a donation of £1,000 accordingly.

8 Oxford Reunion Weekend

The Principal would be hosting a drinks party in College during the Reunion Weekend (Saturday 15 September 2007). The Secretary had reserved tables at Gee's restaurant for any alumni who wished to dine together afterwards.

9 Vice-President/President for 2008/9

IA number of possible candidates for the Vice-Presidency and Presidency for 2008/9 were discussed whom the President and Vice-President said they would approach.

10 Year Reps.

It was suggested that authoritative guidance was needed for Year Reps.

It was agreed that the Director of Development, the President and the Secretary would arrange a meeting with the Year Reps Co-ordinator (James Edmiston) to take this further, and arrange a special meeting for all Year Reps. by the end of 2007.



11 Grant making

The Committee had agreed to a £250 underwriting grant to support the College Arts Festival (which was to take place during the third week of Trinity Term - around mid-May). Committee members were encouraged to attend Festival events if they were able to do so.

12 Date for next meeting

The next committee meeting would take place on the afternoon of the AGM and Annual Dinner, namely Saturday 22 September 2007, at 5:00pm in the Shackleton Room.

13 Any other business

It was suggested that we might establish a "local committee" of volunteer alumni who live or work in or near Oxford.

It was also suggested that the Committee might meet, perhaps over lunch or dinner, with the SCR, and maybe the JCR Committee.

The Secretary agreed to follow up with Mike Gill, who had expressed an interest in assisting with the Society's mentoring programme.





Committee Meeting: 22 September 2007

A meeting of the Committee was held at 5.00pm in the Shackleton Room.

Present: Jeremy McMullen (President), Alexandra Marks (Secretary and Vice-President), Roger Cashmore (Principal), Nigel Bird (Treasurer), Elizabeth Carter, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Sos Eltis (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), Drusilla Gabbott, David Hills and Mike Rountree.

In attendance: Robin Sharp (Director of Development), Kate Love (Associate Director) and Tina Mavraki.

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from: Donald Blakeley, Kate Burt, Paula Carter, John W Davies, Alastair Dick, Sos Eltis (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), John Knowland (Bursar), Matt Forbes, Robin Janvrin (Past President), Christopher McKenna (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), Donald Rushton, Barney Smith (Immediate Past President), and Iain Vallance (Past President).

2 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2007 were approved.

3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.

4 Report from the Development Office

Robin Sharp reported that the College's new website was due to launch the following week. It would be of huge value to prospective students as well as the rest of the College community, including alumni. By January 2008, alumni would be able to share their details with each other if they chose, greatly assisting Year Reps. in their role.

The website would list events, and proposed overseas visits by members of Governing Body, thus facilitating contact between alumni and current members of College. From October 2007, it would be possible to make donations to the College on-line.

Governing Body had agreed on a programme for the Quincentenary Year in 2009 (BNC 500). The goal was to secure good attendance at a variety of high quality (rather than large quantity) of events. The



schedule would be ready to launch in December 2007. Brief details of the main events were outlined to the Committee.

It was reported that Laura Wu (nee Pack) had joined the Development Office as the fourth member of the team.

5 Report from the Principal

The Principal reported that momentum was building for BNC 500. Over the past year, more than 800 alumni had attended College events (including those arranged by the Society). An investment committee had been established - which included four alumni - and a BNC 500 committee had been set up which included two alumni. Alumni, and their involvement in events, were seen as critical to the success of BNC 500.

The Principal reported that, during Christopher McKenna's sabbatical year, William James was the Fellow co-editing with Sos Eltis the content of *The Brazen Nose*.

The Principal gave an account of plans for reform of the University's governance arrangements, some of which had received considerable media comment.

6 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Society's finances remained in a healthy condition. With the exception of the Annual Dinner (where late cancellations had resulted in a deficit of over £600), all the Society's events during the year had made a surplus. The Society had relatively sizeable reserves - nearly £13,000 - but it should be recalled that, as membership of the Society is free of charge, the surplus generated by events is the Society's major source of income.

The Committee agreed that, in view of the cost of late cancellations, future application forms for Society events should make clear the cut-off date for refunds. Given the Society's current reserves, the Committee agreed to continue its policies of subsidising events if necessary, and of making small grants available to worthwhile projects within College, such as the Arts Festival.

7 Recommendations for the AGM:

7.1 Election of Officers and other Committee Members

For the forthcoming year, the Committee proposed to recommend to the AGM Alexandra Marks for election as President, and Constantina (Tina) Mavraki as Secretary. Tina had kindly agreed to act as Secretary at least for the duration of Alexandra's presidential year.



In accordance with the Society's Rules, the Treasurer (Nigel Bird) and Oxford Secretary (John W Davies) would remain in office until resignation or removal by the AGM.

Ex officio officers of the Committee were: the Principal (Roger Cashmore), the joint Editors of *The Brazen Nose* (Sos Eltis and Chris McKenna) and the three most recent former Presidents (Robin Janvrin, Barney Smith and Jeremy McMullen).

The following members of the Committee wished to stand for re-election: Donald Blakeley, Kate Burt, Elizabeth Carter, Paula Carter, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Alastair Dick, Matt Forbes, Drusilla Gabbott, David Hills, Michael Rountree and Donald Rushton.

7.2 Nomination of future Vice President

For the forthcoming year, the Committee had no recommendation for election as Vice President. Clearly, consideration would have to be given to identifying a candidate for President during the College's Quincentenary Year in 2009.

7.3 Membership fee

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, the membership fee fell to be fixed by the Committee. With the generous agreement of the College to continue to publish and distribute *The Brazen Nose* without charge to all members of the Society, the Committee would again be able to fix the membership fee at nil for the next year. This would enable former members of the College to be members of the Society, at no cost, for as long as the College can afford it.

8 Year Reps.

In the absence of James Edmiston, the Year Reps. co-ordinator, the Secretary reported that although there had been no meeting of Year Reps. that afternoon, a meeting and lunch for Year Reps. was planned for later in the year.

9 The Annual Dinner and other Society Events

Next year's annual dinner would take place on Saturday 20 September 2008 to coincide with the University's Reunion Weekend. The College would provide overnight accommodation to its alumni on both Friday and Saturday (19/20 September 2008) for those attending the Reunion weekend and/or the Society's Annual Dinner.

Lunch for alumni and guests in the College Hall on the Saturday of VIIIs week was popular, and becoming a well-established tradition. It would take place on Saturday 24 May 2008.



Alexandra Marks reported that, if elected President, she would be hosting a Summer drinks party at the Old Bailey on Thursday 19 June 2008.

Drusilla Gabbott reminded the Committee that the North West drinks party would be taking place at Chetham's School of Music on Friday 23 November 2007. All members and guests were welcome.

Plenty of advance notice of all 2008 events would be given: application forms would be sent out with *The Brazen Notes* distributed to all alumni just before Christmas 2007.

10 Oxford Reunion Weekend

The Committee considered whether, in view of the timing of the Annual Dinner 2008 (during the Reunion Weekend, to which guests are invited), guests would be eligible to attend the Dinner too. The Committee agreed to continue the discussion by email following the meeting to enable those absent from the meeting to submit their views.

11 Grant making

The Committee agreed that the Society should continue its policy of making small grants to worthwhile projects within College, such as the Arts Festival. It was suggested that the availability of grants could be publicised on the website.

12 Mentoring Scheme

The Secretary reported that the mentoring list needs to be updated and circulated to current members and Fellows of the College.

The President reported that Mike Gill, a Society member, had offered to take over the administration of the scheme, pending the Development Office taking responsibility for it.

13 Date of future meetings

The next meeting of the Committee would take place during the week commencing 21 January 2008 (at 6pm in London, followed by supper), and thereafter on Saturday 26 April 2008 (at 11am, followed by lunch) and on Saturday 20 September 2008 (at 5pm, prior to the Annual Dinner).

14 Any other business

It was noted that Iain Vallance would be leaving the Committee, due to expiry of his *ex officio* term as Past President. There was a vote of thanks for his great contribution to the Society and his enthusiastic commitment to the College.





Annual General Meeting: 22 September 2007

A meeting of the Committee was held at 6.00pm in the Lecture Room XI.

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from: Donald Blakeley, Kate Burt, Paula Carter, John W Davies, Alastair Dick, Sos Eltis (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), John Knowland (Bursar), Matt Forbes, Robin Janvrin (Past President), Christopher McKenna (Joint Editor of *The Brazen Nose*), Donald Rushton, Barney Smith (Immediate Past President), and Iain Vallance (Past President).

2 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2006 were approved save that Sos Eltis had been present.

3 Matters arising

Due to a regrettable administrative error, the date of the Annual Dinner had been changed - thus it had not, as originally intended, coincided with the first ever University-wide Reunion Weekend. Apologies were offered on the College's behalf. By reason of the date change, the number attending the dinner was lower than in recent years, though quite a few alumni and their guests had attended a drinks reception hosted by the Principal (as part of the College's participation in the Reunion Weekend) the previous weekend.

4 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Society's finances remained satisfactory, with an overall surplus for the year of some £400. With the exception of the Annual Dinner (which had made a loss due to late cancellations), all the Society's events during the year had made a surplus. While this was most welcome, it should be remembered that - due to the Society's nil charge for membership - the Society had no source of income other than any surpluses arising from events. In view of the cost of late cancellations, the Society's Committee had decided to apply a stricter policy to refunds in future.

The Treasurer reported that the Society held around £18,000 cash, and £14,000 net funds. Accordingly, the Society had sufficient



resources to pay for administrative support for its events, and to subsidise such events if necessary. Further, the Committee had agreed that the Society should continue its policy of making small grants available to worthwhile projects within College, such as the Arts Festival (to which it had made a grant of £250 during the past year).

5 Election of President, Secretary and other Committee members

5.1 For the forthcoming year, Alexandra Marks was proposed for election as President and, at least for the duration of her presidential year, Constantina (Tina) Mavraki was proposed for election as Secretary.

The proposals for election of the President and Secretary were seconded and carried nem. con.

The Treasurer (Nigel Bird) and Oxford Secretary (John W Davies) would remain in office until resignation or removal by the AGM.

Ex officio officers of the Committee are: the Principal (Roger Cashmore), the joint Editors of *The Brazen Nose* (Chris McKenna - during whose sabbatical year, William James would be standing in - and Sos Eltis). The three most recent former Presidents (Robin Janvrin, Barney Smith and Jeremy McMullen) were also ex officio members of the Committee.

5.2 There were proposed as members of the Committee: Donald Blakeley, Kate Burt, Elizabeth Carter, Paula Carter, Paul Dawson-Bowling, Alastair Dick, Matt Forbes, Drusilla Gabbott, David Hills, Michael Rountree and Donald Rushton.

The proposal for election of Committee Members was seconded and carried nem. con.

6 Membership fee

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, the membership fee is to be fixed by the Committee from time to time. The President reported that, at its meeting earlier the same day, the Committee had again fixed the membership fee at nil for the time being. This would enable former members of the College to stay in touch, through the Society, at no cost to them for as long as the College can afford it.

The Society is able to manage its finances without levying a subscription from its members, thanks to the generosity of the College in publishing and distributing *The Brazen Nose* without charge to the Society - and, as indicated above, due to the small surpluses generated by Society events



7 Year Reps.

James Edmiston, the Year Reps. co-ordinator, reported that although there had been no meeting of Year Reps. immediately preceding the AGM (as had recently become the custom), a meeting and lunch for Year Reps. was planned for later in the year.

8 Future Society Events

The annual dinner 2008 would take place on Saturday 20 September to coincide with the University's Reunion Weekend. The College would provide overnight accommodation for alumni on both Friday and Saturday (19/20 September 2008) for those attending the Reunion weekend and/or the Society's Annual Dinner.

Lunch for alumni and guests in the College Hall on the Saturday of VIIIs week would take place on Saturday 24 May 2008.

The President's Summer drinks party would take place at the Old Bailey on Thursday 19 June 2008.

More imminently, the North West drinks party would be taking place at Chetham's School of Music on Friday 23 November 2007. All members and guests were welcome.

The Principal reported that the programme of events to mark the College's quincentenary (BNC 500) in 2009 was taking shape. Further news would follow in *The Brazen Notes*.

9 Grant making

The Society would continue its policy of making small grants to worthwhile projects within College, such as the Arts Festival to which £250 had been awarded during the year. Members were invited to draw to the Committee's attention any other potentially suitable recipients of similar grants.

10 Mentoring Scheme

The Secretary reported that the mentoring list needed to be updated and circulated to current members, and Fellows, of the College.

The President reported that Michael Gill (1968) had offered to take over the administration of the scheme, pending the Development Office taking responsibility for it.

11 Date of 2008 Dinner

As mentioned above, the Society's next annual dinner would take place on Saturday 20 September 2008.



12 Votes of thanks

Votes of thanks were extended to the Principal and Fellows for their hospitality; to the Bursar, Domestic Bursar and staff for the annual dinner arrangements; to Chris McKenna and Sos Eltis for an excellent edition of *The Brazen Nose;* to Robin Sharp and Kate Love for their hard work in the College's Development Office and to members of the Committee for their support of the President during his year of office.

The President paid tribute to Iain Vallance, recent past president, who was retiring as a member of the Committee and whose contribution to the Society was greatly appreciated. Of particular note was his unprecedented feat - at least in the Society's recent history - of delivering the after dinner speech on two consecutive occasions due to the unavoidable absence of his successor.

A further vote of thanks was paid to the outgoing President, Jeremy McMullen, for his presidential year - and for hosting a most successful and well-attended summer drinks party at the Royal Courts of Justice.

Finally, there was a special vote of thanks to Annie Lindsay Cashmore, who had accompanied the Principal to every Society event during the past year. Her support of the Society was greatly appreciated by its members.

13 Any other business

There was no other business.





PAST PRESIDENTS

Unknown	Sir Robert Pearson
Unknown	Sir Arthur Salter
1948-50	Sir Alan Ellis
1950-51	R H Peck
1951-52	H M Last
1952-54	Sir Guy Nott-Bower
1954-55	D Drysdale
1955-57	M Platnauer
1957-59	C H M Waldock
1959-60	A D Grant
1960-61	M Platnauer
1961-62	
1962-63	
1963-64	P R Frere
1964-66	Sir George Baker
1966-68	Sir Ronald Bodley Scott
1968-70	A J F Doulton
1970-72	Sir Reginald Verdon-Smith
1972-74	Sir Leslie Scarman
1974-76	Sir Val Duncan



1976-77	Sir Colin Thornley
1977-78	J S O Haslewood
1978-79	Sir Edward Eveleigh
1979-80	R A K Runcie
1980-81	G Rippon
1981-82	Sir Lindsay Alexander
1982-83	R F Brown
1983-84	Professor J K B M Nicholas
1984-85	A T Whitehead
1985-86	R K Ingram
1986-87	D A Emms
1987-88	J R Moss
1988-89	Sir Robert Reid
1989-90	Sir Ralph Gibson
1990-91	D L Stockton
1991-92	N A Ward-Jones
1992-93	Sir Colin Cole
1993-94	G A Wilson
1994-95	P R Dawson-Bowling
1995-96	R D Gill
1996-97	Professor Graham Richards
1997-98	Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge
1998-99	Sir Rodger Bell
1999-2000	Alan Smith
2000-01	Francis Neate
2001- 02	Christopher Penn
2002-03	Sir Scott Baker



2003-04	Sir Iain Vallance
2004-05	Sir Robin Janvrin
2005-06	Barney Smith
2006-07	Judge Jeremy McMullen
2007-08	Alexandra Marks