Old Members will notice that much of the content in this issue relates in some way or another to development matters. There are, for example, a number of articles that either outline or include a reference to an appeal or project such as the Annual Fund, the Library or Graduate Scholarships.

This is not signalling the beginning of a trend towards a more financially orientated publication; although it is true that, even more than in the past, fundraising will be absolutely necessary to maintain what we offer as a college, let alone enhance it.

We have chosen to focus on development because a number of events have coincided to push it to the centre of our attention just at this moment.

The recent publication of In perpetuity marks a watershed in the Campaign for Christ Church. It defines what we are here for and provides a business plan for the whole House. This is in place of the more usual pattern of “fire fighting” problems as they arise. A summary can be found here in the middle pages, and the full document can be requested from the Development Office with the form and envelope provided.

The second feature has been the landmark donation in October 2008 of £25 million from Michael Moritz (1973) and Harriet Heyman, towards the Christ Church endowment, possibly the largest ever made to an Oxford College by an individual Old Member. This donation accounts for a third of the amount necessary to achieve the goals set out by In perpetuity; and it contains an inviting condition that 1/8th of the income can be released only when matching gifts have been made by Old Members who matriculated after 1983.

I hope you will enjoy reading about the important developments that, with your help, will sustain and enhance the House in perpetuity.

Marek Kwiatkowski
Development Director
Old Members of the House are ubiquitous. A tour round them would take an age including, as it must, Rwanda, Kazakhstan, Cambodia and Chile, followed by a select gathering in Bermuda. What is true of geography is also the case in history; the past is no foreign country when it comes to Old Members cropping up.

So it was no surprise (just a privilege) for two of the Lewis family to meet an Old Member in Buenos Aires: one who had in the fairly recent past (according to the Rough Guide) been hurled into the River Plate and who had lost a hand at some stage in the scuffle. His misfortunes occurred because the sins of the sons are visited on their fathers and he was in some sense, a truly Argentinian sense, seen as an accomplice in the Falklands war.

George Canning is, of course, claimed as one of our clutch of Prime Ministers, but he only held that office for a short time, ill and in the last year of his life (1827). He is much better known as a distinguished Foreign Secretary and also as a talented orator, a skill honed during his time at Christ Church where, during a brilliant career, he helped form a debating society which sported a uniform. The college debating society still bears his name, but the uniform has vanished away.

In among practical jokes, the writing of parodies and the fighting of a duel (see his Oxford Dictionary of National Biography entry) he pursued a political career as a ‘central Tory’, the high point being the second of his two terms at the Foreign Office: 1822-1827. During this time, the question arose as to whether to recognise the independence of the countries in Latin America which had freed themselves from Spain. It was Canning who engineered the recognition of Argentina in 1824 and its people responded in due course with a statue, originally part of the Torre Monumental but now moved (post-Plate) to a less prominent position under the trees near to the British Embassy.

Buenos Aires also honoured Canning with an avenue (and a ‘subte’ station – Line D), although these have now been renamed in honour of the Argentinian writer and poet Scalabrini Ortiz. There is one lasting and contemporary memorial, however, in the form of a tango hall on what was his avenue: the Salon Canning. It would be superfluous to ask whether readers know of any other Old Member who has his or her name over the door of a tango hall. George Canning is unique.

Dean’s Diary

News of alumni….. Old Member rescued from River Plate

Christopher Lewis
Dean

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Five Centuries of Benefactions

Essential support for the House... from Wolsey to Moritz

On 15th July 1718, Dean Smalridge bought two lottery tickets for the fund for building the new library. It was an odd way to inspire confidence in the project.

No formal appeal was sent out, thus it took until 1779 to finish paying for the building, many members just leaving their caution money to the fund.

Most early projects were gifted by one or two men rather than through general appeals. Both Cardinal College, from Wolsey, and Christ Church through Henry VIII, received huge endowments at their foundation. Tom Tower was built in 1682 largely through a donation from Charles II in gratitude to Christ Church for accommodating his father during the Civil War. Peckwater Quad, 1705–11, was re-constructed when Anthony Radcliffe, whose name is commemorated on the north side, donated £3,000. Canterbury Quad, 1773–83, and the grand new gateway into Oriel Square, were built almost entirely through the generosity of Richard Robinson, the archbishop of Armagh.

Gifts were legion. The Library bookshelves hold collections from numerous donors, and General John Guise left his magnificent collection of drawings and paintings to the House in 1760. Many trusts were set up for all sorts of purposes. Robert South, a C17 canon of Christ Church, left the reversion of his estates in Kentish Town and Caversham, the proceeds to augment twelve of the poorer livings that were in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, to provide twenty nobles a year to six poor scholars from Westminster School, and the surplus to be put towards new building work. The South Trust is still very active today. Another huge gift was that of Matthew Lee, who left around £30,000 in 1755 – £3.5 million today (using the Retail Price Index) or close to £43 million based on average earnings.

This gift set up the Anatomy Lectureship, the Chemistry Readership, four mathematical exhibitions, an annual prize, exhibitions for boys from Westminster School, and enabled the building of the Anatomy School, which put Christ Church at the forefront of science education in Oxford.

Smaller bequests included that of Lady Holford, the daughter of a local coachman and widow of a wealthy merchant, who founded an exhibition for young men from Charterhouse in memory of her only son who matriculated in 1696 and died young. The funds came from the profits of a farm in Cutteslowe. Dean Boulton’s benefaction enabled “poor and deserving” men, preferably those heading for the church, to stay on at Christ Church and complete their studies. C19 bequests often specified a subject: the Duke, for example, was directed to those showing proficiency in French, and the Slade to those who were scholars of German.
In the later C18 and C19, stocks and shares became the preferred way to benefit the college. The estate given by Richard Frewin was sold for shares in South Sea … Yorkshire Railway 4% debenture stock. The Carey benefaction consisted of £10,000 in 3% consolidated bank annuities.

Appeals became more popular in the C19; many contributions were sent in for Chantrey’s imposing statue of Cyril Jackson, the popular and successful Dean who had resigned in 1809. The appeal to Old Members for the restoration of the cathedral in the 1870s prompted a mixed response.

In the 1960s appeals went out for two projects: the construction of Blue Boar Quad and of the Picture Gallery. The appeal for building the new accommodation on … was made to Old Members to provide accommodation for graduates over the road near the choir school, now St Aldate’s Quad.

The Campaign for Christ Church was launched in 2002 to fund certain academic posts, building restoration and improvement, and to support the Cathedral choir. Many Old Members were hugely generous, but two gifts stand out. The Oppenheimer family spearheaded the Campaign with large donations for Blue Boar and the endowment. Then in 2008 Michael Moritz and Harriet Heyman donated the exceptional sum of £25 million to increase the endowment, tie it in with Oxford University Asset Management, and lead the way for the next phase of realising Christ Church’s aim of financial independence.

With such generous benefactions from Old Members and friends it is easy to forget the other forms of help given to the House and the Cathedral. The Friends of Christ Church Cathedral provide endlessly and generously with hours of voluntary help and the new fountain and olive tree planter in the cloister garden were commissioned and paid for by Mr Robert Sandell. Members of the Christ Church Association also give of their time to help with career’s advice for students, investment advice for the college, organising events, and generally supporting the House. We owe all our benefactors a huge debt of gratitude, for Christ Church’s well-being is too important to leave to the Lottery.

Richard Robinson (1708-1794) was largely responsible for donating the funds for Canterbury Quad. Image reproduced by kind permission of the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland.

Some were delighted to contribute, but others were less impressed, particularly those who were incumbents in impoverished rural parishes with churches collapsing about their ears! Nonetheless Gilbert Scott’s work was completed in grand style.

The two wars prevented any great new buildings or ventures in the first half of the twentieth century, but with Old Members’ help the new boathouse was erected in the 1930s, as was a cricket pavilion. Later, much assistance was given in the form of bequests for educational purposes, whether to fund travel grants (the Dundas bequest, for example), the purchase of books (such as the Cresswick gift), or to help pay for research fellowships and scholarships (eg the Ida Mary Henderson bequest).

Michael Moritz 1973

In the 1960s appeals went out for two projects: the construction of Blue Boar Quad and of the Picture Gallery. The appeal for building the new accommodation on the old coal yard received the huge sum of £170,000 within three months, and the full £300,000 needed was in the bank well before building began. The plans for a new Picture Gallery were kick-started by a gift of £50,000 from Charles Forte. Twenty years later a further appeal was made to Old Members to provide accommodation for graduates over the road near the choir school, now St Aldate’s Quad.

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However the days when the Library was like an ointment, “For external use only”, are long gone; in many ways it is now the focal point for the House. As a resource it serves all our Members and underpins the Tutorial system; that most precious form of independent learning which now, increasingly, requires our protection. It is a social space too; where unspoken support for those studying for exams is so intense that it is tangible. This is further evident as furlow bowed students erupt through the heavy oak doors with their gleaming brass fittings, to light up, gulp a quick coffee, and gabble a few quick words on the Peck grass.

Dean Henry Aldrich (1648-1710) designed a new Library in 1705 to finish the fourth side of Peckwater Quad. Although he died before Peck was finished his sizeable bequest of books and manuscripts further emphasised the need for a new building, as for years the old medieval refectory behind the cloister had been full to overflowing. Thus his friends planned “The finest library that belongs to any society in Europe” (Canon Stratford), designed by Dr George Clarke of All Souls, and built by William Townsend (1668-1739).

Other great bequests, “libraries are not made, they grow” (Augustine Birrell), necessitated changes during building, and along with the splendour and scale of the work delayed the glorious interiors and fittings until the 1750s, with completion not until 1772. Of the total cost of £15,317, £13,312 came from 306 Members of the House; even then it was to its Members that the House turned, with donations averaging £43 each. The fundraising took until 1779, sixty three years, to complete.

The Library and its contents are, to this day, extraordinary. The collection of early printed books is, after the Bodleian, probably the finest in Oxford. Furthermore the Collection remains in its historical context and many books are in contemporary bindings with annotations and early ownership inscriptions. However its chief function now is to provide books, journals and audio-visual materials for undergraduates and postgraduates. In excess of 15,500 loans to present members were made in 2007/8. Over 600 monographs and pamphlets are added annually, and over 150 periodicals taken. The Library also provides a peaceful study space and access to computers linked to the electronic resources networked by the University.

‘Your library is your portrait...’

Simon Offen
Chairman, Christ Church Association
Deputy Development Director

Holbrook Jackson’s observation reflects the Christ Church Library in both the past and the present.

The building manifests an aristocratic past of privilege, wealth and grandeur. Undergraduates were not allowed access; except “on the common footing of strangers”; only graduates, noblemen and gentlemen commoners were. Those who agree that “The richest minds need not large libraries” (Amos Alcott) might smile ruefully, for the building was intended to match the great classical libraries of Trinity Colleges in Cambridge and Dublin, and to attract aristocratic students to Christ Church; the 18th century “finishing school for the nobility”.

PHOTOS BY ANDREW ESSON
Today, three hundred years after Aldrich’s death in 1710, the Library is in need of urgent and sizeable restoration work. Although in the 1950’s and 60’s re-facing of the three principle elevations, extensive work to the roof, and redecoration occurred; the south (rear) elevation is now in a critical condition with many of the ashlar stones needing replacement. A number of the large 18th century roof slates need renewing, the entire roof overhauled, and a number of the lead gutters replacing to prevent water ingress. Internally, there is an urgent need for rewiring to preclude any risk of fire, and the heating system must be replaced. In addition an improvement in the way the Library is used, such as access to electronic communications, book security and lighting will be undertaken, as well as more sensitive heating controls and fire-detection systems to safeguard the environment.

Yet again the House must turn to its Old Members for help. The restoration project will set the building in first class order for the long term. The total cost of the two years of work is £31 million, of which half has already been raised. A single UK donor has given £1 million for the Upper Library and a group from the years 1982-5 formed a “giving circle” to fund a wing. Giving circles can achieve a substantial target which would be out of reach of most individuals, and a number of younger members from the UK and the US have undertaken to create more of them. This will also trigger the extra tranche of money from the Moritz donation which is conditional on matching funding from younger Old Members (post 1983). However further assistance and generosity is needed. The building is splendid exactly because it is no ordinary college library; it is precious both for its architecture and contents, but it is a large and financially demanding privilege for which, in today’s more democratic age, we all have some duty to restore, maintain and where appropriate upgrade. A benefactor’s board in the Central Hall will give enduring recognition and gratitude for these contributions to collegiate study at Christ Church.

The Library project in fact consists of two parts. Firstly the “here and now” of the restoration challenge, and secondly an aspiration to bring about an enduring solution for the Library; its staffing, book purchasing, cataloguing, digitisation and conservation project costs; by endowing it in perpetuity. Endowment does not necessarily mean huge sums. “Bite sized endowment” by small groups; of the individual subject areas, can be affordable yet immensely significant.

The successful achievement of this ambition to bring about a complete resolution, in somewhat less than the sixty three years it took to fund the building of the Library, would truly show our commitment to the preservation of the special nature of education at Christ Church for all our Members, past, present and future. To paraphrase Cicero: to secure the House’s Library is to secure the House’s soul.
The Meadow is one of the greatest treasures owned by the House. Most of it was given to our predecessor, the Priory, by Lady Montacute who died in 1354 and whose tomb is in the cathedral.

As many Old Members will know, it has had to be protected from crazy threatened incursions, especially in the 1950s and 60s. One of W.H. Auden’s lesser known poems (1960) reads:

*May the Meadows be only frequented
By scholars and couples and cows,
God save us from all those demented Plans for a road through the House!*

The plan for a road was only decisively defeated in 1968 when the Spectator published a piece with the title ‘How virtue triumphed over progress’. Now such a plan would be unthinkable; on some fronts civilisation advances.

There were Longhorns on the Meadow until the turn of the millennium and there seems to be some historical evidence for them grazing in the 17th century, see the Logan print of 1673. What is more, the descriptive board at the entrance to the Meadow says that we have them still!

The herd was disposed of for a number of reasons. BSE: Longhorns take longer to mature than do other cattle (36 months) and could not be kept to maturity under the BSE rules. The herd was managed ‘in house’ and there were just not enough staff to continue to look after the cattle. The finances were not available.

However by the time you read this article the first Longhorns will have been reintroduced to the Meadow as the Governing Body has decided that they can return. The BSE rules, as were, are no longer
applicable, and arrangements have been made with a local farmer in Binsey to make sure that a herd of Longhorns can be properly managed. The plan is to have 10 cows, although it will take up to 2015 to build up to that number.

The overall cost of starting and building up the herd is approximately £40,000. However, Herbert Weintraub (1952) has already given a generous donation to the project... years’ costs are covered. The amount we need to raise for setting up the new herd is therefore reduced to around £20,000.

Once the herd is at full strength, the management fee for the farmer will be paid in cattle sold, there also being two per year for the Christ Church table. At this stage there should be no other management costs for keeping the cattle, unless there were casualties in which case Christ Church would have to make up the difference between the actual number of ‘finishers’ and those predicted (or forego one or more of its beasts for the table). There will be some vet and medical expenses for the House to pay.

Please help by joining Lady Montacute, W. H. Auden, Herbert Weintraub and the Governing Body in this great project. Old Members and friends might like to contribute to rebuilding the herd or the upkeep of the Meadow.

There is a Longhorn naming-opportunity at £3,000. Please contact the Development Office for more information:

+44 (0)1865 286 325.
development.office@chch.ox.ac.uk

© The 1673 Logan print clearly shows Longhorn cattle grazing in the Christ Church Meadow over 300 years ago.

Bishop George Bell
House of Lords Speeches and Correspondence with Rudolf Hess

Bishop George Bell always felt that the Church must endeavour to meet the problems of the modern world. He was thus foremost in applying the precepts of the Christian faith to national and international issues.

George Bell very often raised his voice in the House of Lords (of which he was a distinguished member from December 1937 till January 1958) against class and racial hatred, against war, and against totalitarianism, and spoke for the innocent and helpless victims of persecution. Complete texts of all Bell’s House of Lords speeches are presented here, published for the first time in one volume. The issues that Bell tackled are, in essence, still relevant today.

This volume also includes unpublished correspondence between George Bell and Rudolf Hess, Hitler’s deputy. After the National Socialists came to power in Germany, Bell, as a committed Christian, felt that he had to act in defence of the German church, which the Nazis were eager to destroy. The Bishop made strenuous efforts to contact people in power in Germany, people who, he knew, took decisions with momentous consequences. Rudolf Hess was one of them.

Peter Raina’s latest volume is available to purchase from the publisher’s website.

Foreword by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Dean of Christ Church: http://www.peterlang.com

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Peter Raina
Author & Senior Common Room Member
Cathedral Outreach Programme

One of the striking features of our world today is its interconnectedness. Initially a technologically-driven phenomenon, it has become a pervasive metaphor in patterning our relationships both personal and institutional. One thing this has meant to Christ Church Cathedral School is that we have become far more outward-looking, positively enthusiastic to make links far beyond our cramped Brewer Street site – in some cases with institutions on the other side of the world. A powerful engine in such link-making has been, of course, music, and in particular the Cathedral Choristers. We are now well into the second year of our involvement in the government’s Sing Up campaign, one of the most effective strands of which is the Cathedral Outreach Programme. This involves close collaboration with the local Music Service (in our case, Oxfordshire County) to work with primary schools to restore the lost art of communal singing, and so to train teachers that they become confident and enthusiastic singing leaders. It works like this: in the first term of the academic year four schools are visited by our music staff and a small group of Cathedral Choristers for an initial workshop. Our boys are there to raise by example the singing aspirations of the children and to share their love of music and its performance. In subsequent weekly visits the music staff teach, develop and hone singing skills and prepare for an end-of-term concert in the Cathedral. For many children (and their families) this will be their first visit to this beautiful and ancient church, it may well also be their first formal musical performance.

Apart from the impressive harmony what you must notice on these occasions is the evident enjoyment on all the faces. In the second and third terms the process is repeated with additional groups of schools although the first cohort continues to participate with a lighter programme of visits. The year ends with a massed concert in the Cathedral involving hundreds of singers and a capacity audience: the atmosphere is excited, the sound wall stupendous.

It is not just locally, however, that our Cathedral Choristers make connections. Whilst the Choir, like many of its collegiate and diocesan counterparts, has an impressive programme of tours abroad, these are not, for Christ Church, merely concert opportunities. It has long been a priority of Dr Stephen Darlington, the Cathedral Organist and Tutor in Music, that tours involve a significant outreach component. Thus the Choir’s visit to Jamaica in 2007 was built around shared music-making and performing with a Kingston school choir, celebrating its sixtieth anniversary and this year’s Bermuda trip similarly involved joint rehearsals and performances with a Southampton school gospel group. The arm of our outreach is long, and the benefits of mutual acquaintance and respect between groups of children in many ways far apart can only, surely, be a positive element of today’s connected world.
The grand design of St Paul’s Cathedral is well associated with the genius of Sir Christopher Wren. In its construction however he drew significantly on the skills of his old friend Robert Hooke, who after the Great Fire had been appointed as one of the City Surveyors. In particular Hooke is understood to have played a notable part in the construction of the Dome. The visible part of the structure, familiar as it is on the London skyline, bears little of the structural weight for the whole nor of the massive cupola which surmounts it. This is sustained by an inner masonry cone-like structure, invisible to the outside observer. It was in the calculations necessary to this and other ingenious plans that Hooke contributed.

As in so many other aspects of Hooke’s life, his remarkable inventiveness passed into oblivion after his death in 1703. It is only in recent years, notably around his tercentenary (2003) year, that steps have been taken to restore his virtuosity to the public awareness.

In December 2008, Hooke’s part in the construction of St Paul’s was finally publicly marked by the installation of a memorial plaque in the crypt, appropriately placed immediately adjacent to the tomb of Wren. The dedication took place after Evensong at which Oxford was represented by Dr Paul Kent and Dr Allan Chapman (Christ Church and Wadham) and by Professor Borthwick of the Engineering Department. Robert Hooke came to Christ Church in about 1653 and was taught by Thomas Willis (Tutor in Medicine and Chemistry), alongside Christopher Wren and John Locke. Later they became part of the Wadham group of natural philosophers led by John Wilkins, the Warden of that college, and were some of the early members of the newly formed Royal Society.

Further information about Hooke’s life and achievements can be found in “Robert Hooke & the English Renaissance” (ed) Paul Kent and Allan Chapman, (2005) Grallwerg.
I find it impossible to imagine what life would be like without any education. But many of the children I visited this month have had no education whatever, until they joined Saakshar. For children from India’s slums, the absence of education is a life sentence of poverty, ignorance and exploitation. But the Saakshar Centre for Non-Formal Education for Slum Children is providing the vital first step into education for severely deprived children in three ‘slum pockets’ in Palam, south west Delhi, and I have been privileged to stay there for two weeks this year as a photographer in residence.

Nasirpur slum is where Saakshar opened its first centre. It is an area of around 300 dwellings which is home to 800 adults and 500 children, and was formed during a wave of construction work as people looking for work set up home there. It has standpipes with water, and some electricity, but there is no drainage and it is very overcrowded, with large families of maybe ten people living in one room. Most of the residents are without regular work and wait outside the slum each morning in the hope of being hired for construction work.

In the daily struggle to survive, children’s education is often an impossible goal. Parents are mostly illiterate and many mothers have to undertake poorly paid domestic work and leave children to their
Saakshar is part of the Vigyan Vigay Foundation (VVF), which was established in 2001 by Asha Kumar and some friends who shared a common vision for improving the quality of life for some of Delhi’s most disadvantaged people. They quickly established a vocational training centre, a local development and advice centre, a community consultancy for rainwater harvesting, waste disposal and pollution control, and Saakshar.

Since I first met one of the founders of Saakshar in Delhi in 2003, we have been pleased to raise some money at Christ Church for their work. The ICR got the ball rolling with a Valentine’s Day event in 2004, and the Cathedral’s congregation contributed generously, which led to the founding of a second Saakshar school. This year it has been a real pleasure for me to see where this small kindness has gone - and the lives which are being transformed by education, given with care, patience and dedication. In the next edition of Christ Church matters I hope to tell some of the stories of the children and families it helps.

Ralph Williamson is the College Chaplain, Website Editor and a keen photographer. Photographs from this project will be on sale to raise money for Saakshar’s work, and both private and corporate donations are invited towards the cost of a much needed small minivan to take the Saakshar slum children on local visits. Can you help? For information go to http://saakshar.chch.ox.ac.uk or contact ralph.williamson@chch.ox.ac.uk
The Annual Fund

“As a regular supporter of the Annual Fund, I am delighted to see that my contributions are having such a direct impact on important aspects of college life. By supporting a different project each year, I am helping to ensure that others can make the most of their time at the House”.

Joseph Lau, (1999)

Few Old Members; even given that this is Christ Church; are in a position to bestow millions. Everyday worries about paying the mortgage, the school fees and putting money into the pension pot; made worse by the insecurity which is afflicting ever more people at present; often dominate our lives. Fortunately for the House though, many Old Members still give whatever they can afford by way of monthly contributions to the Annual Fund; the parable of the “widow’s mite” is still pertinent.

These small regular donations, which don’t break the bank for the individual, make a huge difference to Christ Church and the present members, like stringing individual pearls onto “the silken thread of benevolence”. The cumulative effect of such donations generates a substantial and fairly predictable income which both enables particular projects to happen; for example supplying data projectors to Lecture rooms one and two; but also reduces the call down from the endowment, thus helping with the overall funding gap confronting the House. Each year particular recommendations are published in the Annual Fund brochure. Some are quite small and specific, like contributing to the annual running costs of the new Old Members’ web community, HouseProud. Others are larger; at the top end of the scale for £20,000 you could name your old room. This level of support makes the donor eligible for Board of Benefactors membership, with the money going into a sinking fund for building and refurbishment projects.

“Studying at Christ Church has been a transformational experience. I am truly grateful to the American Friends for providing me with a roof over my head, thus allowing me to set about conquering other obstacles”


The support of all core educational expenditure lies at the heart of the Annual Fund. In 2007/8 £60,000 was given to fund a Career Development Fellowship to help protect the Tutorial system, and £7,500...
went towards upgrading computer facilities. But it is the funding of student support which is dearest to the heart of most, and to which many choose to direct their gift. Nobody would argue with this. Last year £155,000 was given towards student support of undergraduates and the American Friends’ scholarships for postgraduates. It is a vital area, especially in the present economic climate, and with Government policies as they are it will only become more important. I love the idea that money is like manure, worthless unless spread around to encourage young things to grow; though I hasten to add the Censors are careful to enrich good soil and avoid the thistles and stony ground. Last year about 90 students were helped with bursaries or financial assistance of some kind. The leaven that Old Members have already given has helped raise the fortunes of many students, and will be instrumental in doing so in the future.

“To have attended Christ Church and to have received an Oxford education was a privilege which provided me with a unique set of opportunities then and now. A good education should be a basic right; so as government-funded further education gradually becomes a thing of the past, it is more vital than ever that Old Members and friends help to keep the gates of Christ Church open to all who have earned their place here. In making my gift to “Student Support” I hope to help ensure the best academic talent does not get priced out of the best education”
Vicky Cunningham, (1987)

At a time when many are feeling the pinch it is worth contemplating the fact that with some 9,000 friends and Old Members, if everybody could give just £10 a month as an automatic thank you to their alma mater, it would bring in an extra £1 million a year. A little really could make a big difference.

The Annual Fund is about preserving an attitude of excellence. “Persistence is the twin sister of excellence. One is a matter of quality; the other, a matter of time.” It is seen in the history of the House, and we are determined it will be seen in the future too; whether in promoting and protecting academic excellence, sustaining and enhancing the resources and infrastructure around us, or ensuring we live in a happy thriving community. With everybody’s help and support it will be done.
Board of Benefactors

As part of our development strategy, the Governing Body has inaugurated a new level of recognition for major donors.

In view of the college’s continuing need for input and advice from its Old Members, we decided to form a Board of Benefactors, both to acknowledge Old Members and friends who have given £20,000 or more to the House, as well as to provide a means for interested donors to participate actively in Christ Church’s future. As we look to the future of the House, Old Members’ contacts and potential counsel should prove to be an invaluable resource that we hope that we can utilize to greater effect through the functioning of the Board of Benefactors. We therefore intend to divide the functioning of the Board to include both recognition and participation. Members, spouses and their guests will be invited to a special Benefactors’ Gaudy, as well as to Deans’ dinners and symposia with members of the Governing Body. Benefactors’ names will be recorded on a commemorative board and they will receive a certificate signed by the Dean. In order to facilitate participation, Members will be invited to an annual meeting to discuss strategy and will receive regular progress reports from the Dean, Censors and Treasurer through the Development Office. Benefactions totalling £20,000 including gift aid in the UK, may be made over a period of up to five years. In the UK, after higher rate tax relief and gift aid, this represents an annual net cost of £1,400 per annum. In the US, donations to American Friends are eligible for personal tax relief at the donor’s marginal rate of tax. Of course, the recent weakening of sterling against a number of international currencies means that non-sterling donations go further than they did in previous years, which is hopefully good news for our overseas contributors.

During the time that I have spent meeting major donors over the last 18 months, it has become increasingly clear that many Old Members feel that they have a contribution to make to the future of Christ Church that goes beyond the financial. The new Board of Benefactors will hopefully go a significant way to provide an institutional mechanism through which Old Members can express their views to the Dean, Censors and Governing Body, as well as allowing them to spend some enjoyable hours at Christ Church with former colleagues and contemporaries.

“To provide an institutional mechanism through which Old Members can express themselves”
Some 15 years ago a small group of Old Members in the United States decided to begin soliciting annual donations to benefit the House from the 500 or so Old Members resident in the U.S.

As a result the American Friends of Christ Church was created. At the same time, it was decided to establish the American Friends’ Scholarships for American graduates of North American universities who wished to pursue graduate studies in any discipline at the House. Support of these Scholarships was the initial goal of the American Friends’ Annual Appeals and over a period of time funds were raised to support six or seven scholars annually.

With the arrival as Development Director of Sue Cunningham, who greatly expanded the efforts of the Development Office, the American Friends was incorporated and obtained charitable status in the U.S. in 2004. Since then, the American Friends has acted as the entity through which U.S. resident Old Members and friends may make tax deductible donations to Christ Church, either in support of the enlarged Annual Fund (now conducted on a world wide basis) or to help the various capital projects set forth in the evolving Campaign for Christ Church. The principal component of the American Friends’ Annual Appeal remains, however, support of the American Friends’ Scholarships which have gone from strength to strength. Since their inception 47 students have benefited from them, many for more than one year.

The American Friends is run by its President, Peter S. Paine Jr., 1957, with the support of Ogden N. Lewis, 1965, Treasurer and Gregor E. Sohns, 1968, Vice President. All act on a pro bono basis. The considerable administrative tasks are all handled by Peter’s able Executive Assistant, Cindy Monty and the Friends work hand in glove with the Development and Alumni Office in Christ Church.

Thanks to the generosity of our U.S. resident Old Members and friends, the American Friends has a remarkable record of achievement. Since 2004 the American Friends have raised:

- **$ 273,000** for the American Friends Scholarships,
- **$ 191,000** for other projects supported by the Annual Fund
- **$ 3,622,000** for various capital projects of the Campaign for Christ Church.
- **Grand Total:** **$4,086,000**

In addition of course, the extraordinary benefaction of $50m from Michael Moritz and Harriet Heyman was also contributed via the American Friends.

**Thank you to everyone.**
IN PERPETUITY...

is a development plan for the whole House.

It lays out what Christ Church stands for, how it is financed, and a strategy for financial independence. With the help of Old Members we can offer an enduring solution that will sustain and enhance our core values in perpetuity.

“Thank you for sending me a copy of the brilliantly produced Christ Church Continuous Development Plan. It is amongst the best appeal documents I have ever set my eyes on.”

Peter Bowring CBE
**Aims and Objectives: core values**

Core values are those attributes that are of primary importance to the collegiate system and Christ Church in particular.

- Collegiate self-determination
- Continuation of the tutorial system
- A balance of undergraduate and graduate commitment
- Admissions on merit and potential alone
- Enhancement of cultural and sporting endeavour
- Preservation and upgrade of the historic buildings
- An appreciation and welcome for Old Members of the House

They are to be preserved, without devaluation, for graduates and undergraduates both now and in the future.

**Financial context and analysis**

The current and prospective financial performance of the House is analysed in detail over a five year period.

- In a market where fee income is capped, our endowment generates 45% of net income, but still it does not fully cover the cost of tutorials, student board, living and support as well as operation, maintenance and upgrade of the historic infrastructure.
- It is estimated that the Cathedral, Picture Gallery, Meadows, and Library, which are such a significant part of the Joint Foundation, incur annually £1.75 million more operating cost than most other colleges.
- The continuing capital projects for the restoration and upgrade of the fabric could be as much as £2 million annually, even after Blue Boar and the Library have been completed.

In the absence of further fundraising, forecasted income and expenditure would leave an annual funding gap of around £1.44 million over the following five years.

“To offer anything less than excellent undergraduate tutorials would be striking at the very heart of Christ Church’s standing amongst the leading colleges at Oxford.”

**Fundraising targets**

The projected funding gap must be permanently overcome if core values are to be retained without compromise.

For an enduring resolution we need to raise enough money, not only to cover current deficits (the ‘here and now’) but also, in a structured way, to build up endowment returns which will dispense with the need to be constantly fire-fighting (or deferring) capital projects in future.

This will require an endowment increase of £44 million over and above the £25 million so generously donated in October 2008 by Michael Moritz (1973) and Harriet Heyman.
Individual Funding options

‘Bite-Sized’ endowment breaks down total operating expenditure into smaller constituent elements that will be meaningful to Old Members. For example, Library expenditure can be endowed by subject area, or the CH Stuart Studentship by forty or so modern historians. Whilst securing an important part of the House’s responsibilities, these endowments will cumulatively release funds from the budget towards permanently covering the capital deficit.

Current capital projects still need to be funded until the endowment reaches its target; these include the restoration of the Library and beyond. For this purpose, it is proposed to set up a sinking fund, through naming of Old Members’ rooms, to accumulate resources ahead of the need to spend.

The Annual Fund contributes to continuing projects (e.g., student support) where a large number of smaller donations can make a significant difference. This important contribution has a direct impact on reducing the funding gap, by taking key expenditure items out of the annual budget.

In each case, a range of giving and naming opportunities are identified and quantified to suit individuals, small and larger groups. Through building them into one overarching development plan, it is intended that Old Members will feel their support is significant both to the aspect that they are funding and to the overall financial constraints which affect the long term prosperity of their college and university.

“A ‘bite-sized’ endowment combines significance with affordability.”

In conclusion, the document presents an open, transparent portrayal of Christ Church: what it stands for, how it is funded and what is needed to preserve its special standing in Oxford. It cannot deliver the highest possible standards without external support, particularly from its Old Members, many of whom have been so loyal in the past.

It is in the belief that this loyalty must be reciprocated by resourcefulness, enterprise and gratitude that we have so seriously set about the task of creating a framework for financial self-sufficiency that will preserve our core values and educational identity in perpetuity.

“Old Members of the House are recognised and valued as life-long constituents of the Christ Church community...”
Our contribution to the University-wide Campaign for Oxford

A statement of agreed values for the House and its Old Members

Our commitment to continue the tutorial system

A financial analysis of needs and resources over time

A fundraising programme for an enduring solution and financial independence

“...This document seeks financial support through a demonstration of agreed values, a cogently argued case and evidence of prudent management of the House and its resources.

The enduring (long term) target is to generate, through increased endowment, a predictable operating surplus that will meet capital expenditure requirements without resorting to short term campaigns.”
The Christ Church Art Room

"Art is not an end in itself. It introduces the soul into a higher spiritual order, which it expresses and in some sense explains."

THOMAS MERTON

Christ Church is the only college in the University to have an Art Room and a specialist Art Tutor.

The Room and the post of part-time Tutor were established in 1993 by the previous Dean, the Very Reverend John Drury. He was so passionate about the visual arts and their role in education that he wished to create a resource which would benefit not only students taking the Bachelor of Fine Art Honours degree at the Ruskin School of Drawing but would encourage those on other courses to maintain interest and activity in visual pursuits. This idea was inherited from King’s Cambridge, with which John was previously associated, where such an Art Room and Tutor have existed, I believe, since the 1960s. It was also part of the original brief for the Room and myself that we might be available to anyone at Christ Church, including academic and all other staff and their spouses throughout the joint foundation, and to students from the University in general.

The Room was originally housed in the “Fenton” canonry on Tom Quad and remained there until two years ago. It was then moved to the top floor of the Old Library which is, I believe, considered to be a temporary site since, although the present rooming is characterful and charming, it is also relatively inaccessible.

I have tried to fulfil John’s brief in making the Room a source of both recreation and stimulation. I have always been struck by the number, particularly of undergraduate students, who say how refreshing it is for them periodically to spend at least a little time focused on visual activity as punctuation to academic work within a...
particular discipline. Students also regularly say that they chose Christ Church because of its Art Room. I began by consciously making a balance between practical and theoretical activities, initiating an evening life-drawing class which has remained a constant and popular event ever since, periodically engaging visiting tutors to run studio workshops and holding talks and seminars about historical and contemporary art topics. Printmaking has recently become a major feature of the Room. I was, for a long time, a lecturer in printmaking and drawing at the Ruskin School and a few years ago was given a beautiful little etching press which I was unable to employ in my own studio, so I have loaned it to the Art Room where it has been extensively and lovingly used. Relief and screen printing are also featured.

The Room is importantly an open access studio for both individual and collective work. A University art group uses it regularly for one day a week. There have been occasional projects sponsored on behalf of Christ Church Old Member organizations and also in association with the Picture Gallery. Until the move to somewhat inaccessible premises, I had conducted summer schools in drawing as part of the University Continuing Education programme every year since its inception. Preceding the change of premises, the Room was host to numerous exhibitions of work from both inside and outside the college. It is good news that a new exhibition space has been established in Blue Boar, funded by Old Members.

There is now an opportunity for Old Members to help further by sponsoring or endowing this most valuable facility. Please contact the Development Office for details; development.office@chch.ox.ac.uk.

I very much enjoy supervising the varied functions of the Art Room and value the friendly and helpful ethos of Christ Church. It is also a privilege to be a tutor to such bright and interesting specialist and non-specialist students of all ages. I would like to thank everyone, beginning with John Drury, who have been so warm and encouraging during my time here.
Yard Gal
Award winning drama from Oval House

Gary Stewart
General Manager, Oval House

Yard Gal, which showed at Oval House in November 2008, recently picked up Best Production in the Fringe Report Awards - a remarkable achievement considering its director, Stef O’Driscoll, had never directed before and the entire creative team were under 23. Through the production written by Rebecca Pritchard, Stef had the opportunity to explore young urban London through a female perspective. Stef originally started out in Oval House’s Youth Arts Drama Company when she was 17 and here Gary Stewart, Oval House’s General Manager, interviews her.

G: Why did you choose the play?
S: I think we were all very passionate about it and wanted to be as honest with these characters as possible. We three (Stef and actors Stefanie Di Rubbo and Monsay Whitney) all come from working class upbringings. I had a passion to use theatre to avoid all those stereotypes you see in film or drama.

G: Right, you use the word passion... but I don’t think that entirely explains it.
S: How about some back-story where when all three of us were at university (St Mary’s in Twickenham) and we got loads of ridiculous comments like ‘council state trash, you think you’re so…’, about where we’ve come from, who we are, because of the way we spoke. So it’s the first time that I have ever dealt with issues that were important to me. I mean, I knew that people were richer than me, but I didn’t realise the issues about this in the world. But at university, I did.

G: And you use the word passion because you cared?
S: Yeah, it’s because we cared. The success of it, review wise, was amazing. But there was one night we had a group of girls, young offenders from Islington, and one of the girls was almost in tears, turned round and said ‘thank you, thank you very much for showing me this, I don’t want to be that person anymore, I don’t want to be that person going down’... And that’s what we did it for. That was the best feedback I ever had.

G: A bit more of a technical question, which is: is there anything you think that dates the play?
S: Definitely technology. In the actual play, which was written 10 years ago, there’s still a lot to do with mobile phone technology, internet, ways of communicating in that way. And there are a lot of issues that the girls face when they’re not with each other, and they can’t communicate in their different areas, that if they had mobile phones, there would be a lot more contact. However, that was the only thing. Everything else; all the issues that they deal with – the peer pressure, the drugs, gang fights, education system… the issues are still here.

G: Define this culture.
S: Like the Jamaican culture. The reason I chose two white girls, mainly because they’re talented, but that’s not what the play was originally meant to be cast as. It was supposed to be cast with one black female and one white female. And I think that’s because 10 years ago what was relevant at the time was a yard culture.

G: Did you receive any help from Nicholai?
S: Not really. He let me do what I wanted to do. I wanted him to come in and watch rehearsals but he dodged it because it was my time, he said. But I was blessed to have him as my mentor for many years and I count my lucky stars that I had a venue that supported me in my transition in becoming a professional artist.

G: Did you receive any help from Nicholai? (Oval House’s Head of Youth Arts)
S: Not really. He let me do what I wanted to do. I wanted him to come in and watch rehearsals but he dodged it because it was my time, he said. But I was blessed to have him as my mentor for many years and I count my lucky stars that I had a venue that supported me in my transition in becoming a professional artist.

G: Two-handers (plays with only two actors) can for me sometimes struggle to hold your attention but there is no problem here...
S: I think the script really allows it to be interesting. It’s kind of like they’re storytelling, but they go from telling the story to being in the action, and they play many different characters along the way so it always keeps you on the ball. But we had mixed reactions. We had people crying, we had people asleep, we had people shouting and laughing in really inappropriate places... so what this play does, it shows what type of people you’ve got in your audience, cos you’ve got nowhere to hide, and the audience are so close.

G: So congratulations on winning that award.
S: Thank you.
Blue Boar update finally finished!

James Lawrie
Treasurer

The project to renew and update Blue Boar Quad is finally complete. After 21 months on site, the main contractor handed over the final elements of the project in mid-May.

The building has exceeded expectations. The new 120 seat Lecture Theatre, in the space formerly occupied by the Archive and the rooms immediately above it, looks very fine and has been fitted with a modern audio visual system giving lecturers access to multi media resources. The front 20 seats are removable allowing a larger space for small theatrical and concert use.

The former semi-basement Seminar Room has been converted into an Exhibition Space, which can be used as a ‘break out’ area for events in the Lecture Theatre. Both these spaces have been transformed by lowering the external mound and creating an external ‘amphitheatre’, direct access to which can be gained from both the Lecture Theatre and the Exhibition Space.

Taken as a whole, these three public areas will transform the use of the building and benefit the cultural and commercial life of the House, providing much needed facilities for both the student population and the conference business in vacations.

The Archive now occupies much of the Brewhouse and an appropriate home for the House’s wealth of historic materials has been created, enabling improved access for scholars. Two bedsits and a teaching room make up the rest of the Brewhouse.

The renewed building with its superb facilities is now in regular use and occupants of the 70 undergraduate rooms have commented favourably on the ensuite washing facilities inserted into each room as well as the general refurbishment. The new rooftop, which has been created by inserting additional rooms at roof level, finished in copper coated with tin has also attracted positive reactions and looks very much in keeping with Powell & Moya’s original 1960s design.

The formal opening ceremony for the Lecture Theatre took place on 17 June 2009, at which Richard Curtis spoke on the subject of “TV, Movies, Justice and Doubt”.

Thank you to all who helped by contributing to the Blue Boar refurbishment, and to those who originally funded the building some forty years ago.

“Taken as a whole, these three public areas will transform the use of the building and benefit the cultural and commercial life of the House”
The Graduate Common Room 50th Anniversary 1960-2010

“Time is not measured by the passing of years but by what one does, what one feels, and what one achieves” Jawaharlal Nehru

Dr Katya Andreyev Tutor for Graduates
Simon Offen Association Chairman, GCR 1986
Kerrith Davies GCR President 2008/9

The Graduate Common Room celebrates its 50th anniversary in October 2010. There was a Bachelors’ Common Room at Christ Church around 1800 but it appears to have been short lived.

Oxford BCRs in those days seem to have revolved mainly around wine, punch and Port. They were ‘common rooms for BAs who remained for further study or for ordination, to await a college fellowship or a living to fall vacant, or just to be in Oxford.” (1) Readers may form their own opinion as to how much has changed.

Post 1945 Christ Church, as other Colleges, faced the problem that arrangements for graduate study were too unstructured, resulting in a worrying number of unfinished theses. To rectify this the GCR was (re)created in 1960 to help give post-graduates more pastoral support, better access to accommodation and more structure to their studies. The decision was guided through Governing Body by Dean Simpson and especially Dr. Paul Kent. In its first year there were 84 members.

There are now nearly 300 members contributing to all aspects of College life; the GCR has truly grown from strength to strength. Unfortunately our records are fairly patchy. One thing we can usefully do to celebrate the 50th is for all Old GCR Members to bring their records up to date, and send in their anecdotes and memories. Please do so; the results will be used in one of next year’s issues.

What information we have shows that the majority of Old GCR Members are, perhaps not surprisingly, academics. Whilst this fact may bring tears to the eyes of the Development Office; one thing a liberal education does is to make you philosophical enough to accept the fact that you will never make much money; the number of Professors amongst the membership is impressive. However we should perhaps remind ourselves of W.H. Auden’s definition “A Professor is someone who talks in someone else’s sleep.”

The Church is also well represented; including the Archbishop of Canterbury, as are the fields of medicine, science, engineering, law, finance and business. The true nature of a Christ Church education is highlighted by the fact that many GCR members are earning their living in areas apparently far removed from their original research subjects. Interestingly perhaps one fifth live and work in North America.

Celebrations are earmarked for the 24th/25th/26th September 2010. This is also the Oxford Alumni weekend, and the weekend of the Christ Church Association annual dinner, so there will be plenty to draw everyone back to Oxford. Initial ideas for the festivities; in addition to time spent in Hall; include talks, seminars, an art exhibition, a concert, and even some sporting endeavours.

If you have any views, or would like to help plan the weekend, please contact Simon Offen at Christ Church. All Old GCR Members, for whom we have details, will be sent the programme of events during Hilary term 2010; but mark the dates now!
The third part to celebrating the anniversary is the intention of announcing the successful raising of funds for ten Graduate Scholarships. “If you think education is expensive, then try ignorance” Fifty years on we are facing a new challenge. One of our agreed core values is to maintain a balanced mix of undergraduate, post-graduate and research study. We must attract the best at all levels, yet funding for graduate students from the Research Councils is drying up, and it is often our own highly qualified undergraduates who have the greatest difficulty in securing grants.

The picture is complex, with many variations, but what is not in doubt is that a graduate needs at least £18,000 a year to pay for fees and maintenance, and the University estimates that only 45% of Oxford graduates are fully funded from scholarships. Contradictory Government policies do not help; thus many graduates rely on their parents, on savings, or have to earn money while studying. This can have an extremely deleterious effect on their studies as the time students are able to devote to research and writing is affected. The University and some Colleges have increased the funding available to graduate students in response to these problems. Christ Church must do the same.

The American Friends’ Scholarships have shown the way, with generous Annual Fund donations helping a number of students come to or stay on at Oxford. We must provide as many, and as broad a range of scholarships as possible. By linking them with funding in departments and faculties we will ensure that the best candidates are secured for both college and faculty, and that both are really interested in, and supportive of the people accepted. Flexibility and constant reviewing will be needed, but it is essential that more is done to help some of our very promising graduates.

Taking into account existing funds and faculties’ grants an annual figure of £9,000 is needed for each Scholarship. To endow and name a graduate scholarship in perpetuity would cost £177,000, but there are tax efficient ways of giving which help to reduce these figures considerably. We hope that Old Members of the GCR especially might help, whether through a monthly or one off gift-aided donation via the Annual Fund, or by means of an endowment. Along with protecting the Tutorial system, student support lies at the very heart of what we do.

To all Old GCR Members, we look forward to receiving your details and anecdotes; we very much hope that you will join us in September 2010; and we thank you in...
Editorial

It might seem a little strange at first for us to be concentrating on development issues and donations to the House at a time when the economic climate means that purse strings are being tightened. However, when you read the reflections and other articles written by Old Members, you get an overwhelming sense of how much Christ Church has meant to so many people. For many, the House has helped them get to where they are today. For others, skills learned during their time at Christ Church have served them well in their careers. And for others, it is the friendships forged during their time in college that made their time there so important. So perhaps, it is little wonder that so many of our Old Members want to see Christ Church continue to thrive for the benefit of future generations.

There are many ways in which Old Members are “giving” to Christ Church. As well as the financial donations there is an abundance of good will that can be seen from the many voluntary activities in which our Old Members are involved, from organising Association events, to supporting the careers advice programmes and even to contributing to this publication.

Our Association Chairman, Simon Offen, is now working in the Development Office. This can only be good news for the Association. His commitment will mean that even more can be achieved as he combines his working day with voluntary hours in the evening and weekends to help drive initiatives for the Association and our members.

The launch of HouseProud, the Old Members’ online Web Community, is an exciting new development for the Association. If you have not already had a look at it, I encourage you to take a peek. On a lighter note, Ron Holding, 1969, takes us on a trip down memory lane on his punting trip from Oxford to Cambridge in 1971. Keeping with the water theme, David Livingston (2001) describes the Oxford Cambridge Boat Race when he and his brother were on opposing sides.

The Association AGM and dinner will be held on Saturday 26th September. I hope we will see you there.

The Christ Church Association 20th anniversary

Re-examining the purpose of the Association

On 27th October 1989 a dinner was held at the Deanery to discuss the formation of an Old Members’ Association. Nick Alexander (1973) became convener of the steering committee which met a month later to discuss the name, purpose, and constitution of the proposed society. In 1990 a questionnaire was sent out with the Annual Report to all Old Members. 13% of the 5834 respondents with 81% of these being very supportive of the idea. As a result the first Garden Party was duly held in July 1991, and happily the name “The Christ Church Association” (CCA) was preferred to “The Christ Church Old Members Association” (CCOMA)! The aims of the Association were, and still are “to encourage members to keep in touch with each other and the House” and “to promote members’ interests and those of the House”.

Twenty years on, with the volunteers who run the Association having less time to devote to it, and with some events attracting few attendees, it is right to ask if there still is a purpose for an Association. Emphatically the answer is yes! Nick wrote in 1993 that “an organisation is only as vigorous as its members”. True, but it is not necessarily a lack of interest that prevents people coming to events; there is plenty of evidence of good will towards the Association and the House. Changes over the years have meant people have more...
commitments at work and home, and there are many different and easier ways to keep in touch socially than attending large scale get-togethers. How should we respond?

The key points made at the CCA’s first meeting were that it should keep things simple, accessible, varied, decentralised and self-funded by the participants. I believe these points are as valid now as in 1989, except that more central assistance is needed with organisation.

I was becoming increasingly frustrated over the past four years as Chairman because my work commitments meant I missed events and had little time to drive forward many good ideas. By accepting the Deputy Director position in the Development and Alumni Office, I will have the time to be far more active on behalf of the Association, and be able to be a catalyst, to enable and encourage Members. Being Chairman of the Association and also Deputy Director are two sides of the same coin, at the end of the day the well being of Christ Church is the primary concern for all of us.

The Association must still be independent. Thus my first role is to build up the committee, rekindle the Year rep scheme, and extend it also to include Area reps and Sports reps. New strength of purpose is needed from more members with a clear remit – keeping in touch with each other and helping the House.

The Association would also benefit from its profile being raised within College, amongst students and Governing Body alike. The excellent programme of careers advice, now masterminded by Tony Hart (1973) can help here. I shall also be concentrating on ensuring we keep in touch better with recent leavers, organising events specifically for the Younger members.

For all Old Members we need more small, targeted, and varied social events including some outside London and Oxford; thus a series of regional events is planned, all good networking opportunities at a time when many may be in need of them. We are also launching our own Web Community, HouseProud, which will further help communication.

There is still a place for the Association. The extended Christ Church family numbers 9,000, and this is a vitally important well of support and advice for each other and the House. There are challenges in getting members to participate, but as I look out of one window across the Deanery to the Cathedral, and the other to the Library, with the sun shining and the magnolia in full flower, it is a challenge that I am only too happy to accept.

Old Members’ reflections

This issue we hear from Old Members who have donated to the House as they reflect on their time at Christ Church and their subsequent careers.

How Christ Church has influenced my life.

CHRIS ROCKER (1967)

There is no doubt that going to Christ Church was one of the formative experiences of my life. I had a good school education at the local grammar school in Harrow, but would never have thought about going to Oxford had I not been encouraged to do so by my Latin master who succeeded in convincing me that I had the ability to get a place. I still remember the interview. I was terrified and completely intimidated both by the place and by the people I met who seemed so much more capable than I was. However, much to my surprise, I not only got a place, but it came with an Exhibition as well. Happy days!

Getting in was just the beginning of a whole host of new experiences that after three years at the House, left me more confident and worldly, than I would otherwise have been. While I was at Christ Church I learned to organize complex and copious material so that it became comprehensible as well as the discipline of producing, by a given date, a logically argued and hopefully well presented viewpoint with respect to the subject at hand. These two skills have proven to be of supreme importance throughout my adult life and career. I also learned to become more self reliant as I knew no-one at Christ Church and had to make my own way socially as well as academically. I travelled widely with new found friends, enjoyed rowing in the rugger eight, started listening to classical music for the first time and sang in the college choir.
By the time my three years were over, I felt ready for the big world outside. Unfortunately things were economically bleak in the early 70s in the UK and so I joined an American bank, which took me to New York and I was able to escape the ugly realities of the three day week and the Miners’ Strike. I spent 26 years working for the same institution, enjoying a variety of locations and markets. My assignments changed regularly and I frequently had to learn a new geographic environment or financial product. The organizational and presentational skills I had gained at Christ Church were at the core of my career development and enabled me to move relatively painlessly from one responsibility to another. A merger in the mid nineties caused me to leave to join a London based client and brought me back to the UK after a total of 17 years spent in the United States.

During that time my two daughters went through the US educational system, both attending Ivy League universities. The focus that the House must now inevitably bring to fund raising to ensure its long term survival, is a well established art form in the US and can, I believe, offer us salutary lessons in effective and efficient methods of raising money. The first step in this process is to increase Old Members’ awareness of the true financial situation that faces, not only Christ Church, but each and every college at Oxford, so that people understand that if we are to continue to be able to offer the kind of education and experience that I enjoyed, we cannot take for granted that the money will come from “somewhere”. Unfortunately, at the end of the day, the resources will have to come from us, the Old Members. Government, which, when I was a student, was virtually the sole source of college and student financing, will no longer be able to fulfil that role for the students and the educational establishments of the 21st century.

I retired from the commercial world in 2005 and since then have been involved with the Development Office at Christ Church on a pro bono basis. For me, this is, in part, a way of giving back to the institution that gave me so much. I am responsible in my work for overseas alumni and I enjoy meeting new faces and presenting the Christ Church case in locations as far flung as New York and Hong Kong. I hope, both through my own financial donations as well as the meetings that I have with Old Members abroad, that I am able to make a personal contribution to the continued existence of a place that I feel made so much difference to my own life.

NICK NOPS (1968)

I arrived at Christ Church in 1968. It was a time of full employment and student revolts occurred in Paris and at Warwick University. Companies were keen to employ Oxford graduates and a job was guaranteed at the end of three years. All of which tended to make undergraduates rather pleased with themselves, but in spite of this everyone at the House always treated us with great kindness. We were never ordered to do anything, but instead notices were typically phrased “Gentlemen are kindly reminded to…”.

I read History and provided you could pass prelims in the first term, consisting mainly of De Tocqueville L’Ancien Regime and The Venerable Bede, you were there for three years. My main tutor was Charles Stuart, who was a kindly man, but rigorous in his exposure of any shortfall in your essays. I spent a lot of my time throwing the discus and conversely developed a love of music and the arts. My memories of Christ Church were above all the beauty of the place and the friendliness of everyone.

I left Christ Church in 1971 with no clear idea of what I wanted to do. My first job was with a Lloyd’s broker. This was a complete contrast to Christ Church and I found it difficult to adjust. The directors at the interview informed me that “you are just the type of person we are looking for and the sky’s the limit”. I thought at the time that it seemed too good to be true and so it turned out to be, as my first job was in the ‘Yachts & Miscellaneous’ department. I eventually moved to a Lloyd’s...
investment company, but unfortunately, this coincided with the most difficult period in the history of Lloyd’s. I managed somehow to survive, although there was a massive reduction in the number of companies operating in the market. I specialised in the investment of Lloyd’s syndicates and the education at Christ Church in the assembling of facts and arriving at a conclusion was helpful.

The present difficulties of funding educational establishments has meant that Oxford and Cambridge colleges are having to raise even more money from the private sector. There is so much which is special at Christ Church, the Cathedral choir, a picture gallery which is unique for an Oxford college, the library and a tutorial system with very good academic results. I am delighted to help Christ Church, which has always looked after me so well, so that it can be preserved for future generations to enjoy as much as I did and still do.

LUKE MEYNELL (1983)

Christ Church made a significant and powerful impact on the naive individual who went up to the House in 1983. Fresh from St Paul’s (and a disciplined education machine of high quality which left relatively little to the individual pupil to decide), I was faced with the different world of modern history under Charles Stuart, William Thomas and William Hague — a diverse trio who endeavoured to guide me. This was not without its challenges: when there are optional lectures and the rest is up to you, the range of exciting opportunities the House and the broader Oxford presented was initially rather overwhelming! Nevertheless, having survived the history Prelims, I went on to discover it was possible to balance efforts at scholarship while also experiencing the wonderful mix of social, sporting and other pursuits university had to offer.

Living in Canterbury quad for the first year, then Peckwater and finally moving out to a house in Stockmore Street; for these years it was possible both during term and the vacations to learn about and appreciate people in their infinite variety. Life in Oxford, travelling and early work experience (whether sorting Christmas mail or apprenticeship on a London building site), alongside the surprising enjoyment of an Officer Training Corps trip to a wet Wales, made it a straightforward decision to avoid the City and join the armed forces. Some six years in the 9th 12th Royal Lancers was followed by transferring from a world of men and machines to five years of people and manufacturing plant in Courtaulds Textiles — a move from a final role as Adjutant of the Queen’s Own Yeomanry to become the D & E shift manager at a factory making arab headshaws in Lancashire.

The lure of an advertisement meant life in “search” started on April Fool’s Day 1997 with Goddard Kay Rogers, a partnership that was subsequently bought by Whitehead Mann Plc in 2000. Returning a call from a former colleague (as any good headhunter should!) led to my joining Russell Reynolds some five years ago. The conduct of a range of board assignments continues to reinforce my fascination with the diversity of international business leaders and the challenges inherent in assessing their motivation and fit for a particular role.

In conclusion, three years at Christ Church has had a profound effect on my career, taking a sheltered public school boy and turning out a broader, more experienced individual to face the world.
CHRIST CHURCH ASSOCIATION NEWS

POLLYANNA DEANE (1984)

I’ve still got the Alternative Student Prospectus which I bought as a Sixth Former to find out more about Oxford and its colleges. Only 15% of Christ Church undergraduates had bothered to respond. They clearly had better things to do, which appealed to me, as did the fact that the accommodation received rave reviews. If I was going to do a four year course, it was important to get a nice place to live... and yes, I really did like the rooms. I lived in for those four years, so much so that when I heard about the opportunity to “adopt” a room, I wanted to make sure that I “adopted” my favourite, Canterbury 2:1.

The buildings however are only part of the experience, though a pretty impressive part. As a Classicist, I had every opportunity to work in the Library (whether I took it was a different matter). Changing to Law after Mods meant changing from a “real” subject to something I (subconsciously) thought less worthy, less real, and more to the point, something I enjoyed less. It took until I started work to realise that I did like practising law, just not studying it.

So although Christ Church was unable to teach me to enjoy studying Law, it provided other advantages, not least confidence, although this may be something that Oxford teaches generally. The traditional skills are always mentioned, the ability to think on your feet, defend your point of view, be adaptable and flexible and to work under pressure (all those essay crises) all acquired through practice in the tutorials and living closely with 400 or so other highly intelligent, opinionated people. They are as useful for the future as they are the tool kit for survival at Christ Church, but not unique to me. Coming as I did, from a boys school and arriving at Christ Church with its 4:1 male-female ratio meant living in a world completely dominated by men, which has stood me in good stead for my work in the insurance sector where it is rare for women to be in the majority.

Someone once said to me “You’ll never have higher highs than you will at Oxford, nor lower lows - perhaps you just feel them more intensely at that age and in the incredible hive of activity that is an Oxford term. Christ Church seemed to provide a very stable environment to discover that. There was always something remarkably peaceful about a deserted Tom Quad at night and there still is. ■

J

HILARY FITZGERALD (NÉE DAVIDSON) (1993)

My time at Christ Church was amazing – mostly dedicated to sport, drinking or having cups of tea with friends (although I squeezed in the occasional spot of maths). Other than attending a few recruitment events (the ones with the best freebies, of course), I can’t pretend that I gave my career a lot of thought.

Upon leaving, I wanted to travel. In order to do this, I needed cash, so took a job on the Eurofighter. But once ready for adventure, potential companions had no time or no money, so I admitted defeat and joined the graduate recruitment round.

My father, also an Oxford mathematician, made a career in IT, so I was determined not to follow in his footsteps. But after about ten job offers as a missile designer, IT didn’t seem such a bad option... The role I chose was in the customisation centre for a global business software vendor.

The biggest factor in this decision was the people I met at interview and the corporate culture – I stayed for seven years (& met my husband there), so this approach obviously had some merit!

The job was projects-based, from working with clients to understand their business through to designing, developing and implementing system changes to help things run more smoothly. Travel was fun, although generally a lot less glamorous than it sounded!

Having worked in a number of areas, for a number of clients, and starting to feel the seven-year itch, I left to do a full-time MBA. It was a very
intense year, but a great way to pull together all the pieces I’d learnt along the way and to make some great friendships.

Looking for a change, but without a specific direction, my next stop was banking – in Listed Derivatives projects at Credit Suisse, then a year later, a short hop to Equity Derivatives projects at Morgan Stanley. Scarily, I’ve now moved to Finance and am involved in a firmwide project looking at how the bank is funded. Not quite where I expected to end up!

Although my roles have been in different industries, they were all project-based – requiring organisational skills, the ability to learn quickly, the ability to connect and communicate with a whole range of different people, and sometimes just a willingness to try something and see what happens. I believe that these were all skills developed at Christ Church. At college, I was encouraged to pursue almost anything that took my fancy, and lucky enough to be given support to do this (in the form of travel, sport, book and vacation grants). Once I became financially stable, it seemed only fair to give something back and enable others to gain the same opportunities.

NICHOLAS SOPKIN (1996)

When thinking about my time as a graduate student at the House a flood of fond memories go through my mind. I have wonderful recollections of the grandness of Christ Church, from dining in what I now describe as the hall where they film the Harry Potter movies, to walking through Tom Quad, the Picture Gallery and the Meadow. However, what is most indelible was the spirit of the House, and specifically the students.

I had arrived at Christ Church after earning two other degrees (one undergraduate and one graduate). My flatmate was earning her masters in philosophy. I was earning a masters in business - an anathema to the throngs of students studying everything from art history to the classics. And while no one seemed to understand what it was I studied (and during the current economic crisis, one could argue that neither did I nor my colleagues), everyone welcomed me into their world. All the students, both graduate and undergraduate, were open, kind and excited to hear about my experiences as well as share theirs. I had been privileged to attend other great institutions, but from the moment I arrived it was clear to me that the House was different. There was a sense of community that was lacking from my prior experiences, and this was evident in daily life at the House. I had been slightly nervous about attending the prestigious, formal institution, by the second day the people had dispelled any concerns.

Earning my degree at Oxford enabled me to achieve a career in finance. The technical knowledge I gained, as well as simply having a degree from such a venerable institution, clearly put me in...
Can it be done? What is the route? Has anyone done it before? It would be a great achievement!

These were some of the thoughts that went through the minds of nine House men during their second year as undergraduates from the class of 1969. Talk was easy and there was plenty of it. What about some action? So we started to make some practical arrangements in the Spring of 1971. If we were going to do it then it would be good to raise money for charity. Which one? Shelter was a high profile charity for the homeless at the time and it was a cause we all had sympathy with - Cathy Come Home and all that. So they were approached and we were fortunate to find an imaginative and supportive Shelter Group in Oxford who helped us on our way.

So how to raise the money? Shelter’s Alun Jones (husband of local organiser Bettie) came up with a superb illustrated map of the planned route which helped a lot as we begged money from colleagues, tutors, friends, family and relations. Local businesses were approached too, and we were delighted when House man Tom Driberg took the sponsor form round the House of Commons and obtained contributions from a prestigious group there, including the Prime Minister, Edward Heath.

Where to get the punts? One of our members had contacts at Lady Margaret Hall which had punts of their own and we were very grateful for the loan of two punts. They were returned by Bishops Furniture van a little the worse for wear but still in two pieces!

It was decided that the nine of us would divide into three rotating groups, two groups in the two punts and one in the car to take round the tent and equipment and to find the next campsite.

As the day of departure arrived we all got quite excited, and so did the weather as it poured with rain for days and the Isis, which formed the first part of the journey, was in flood and far too dangerous to punt down. What to do? Shelter had arranged for the press to publicise the send off and also for some civic receptions on the way. There was only one thing for it - we had to change the route. Instead of down the Thames and up the Thame to the Grand Union Canal and onto the Ouse near Newport Pagnell, we went up the Oxford Canal to Napton near Warwick and then down the Grand Union Canal to Newport Pagnell to rejoin the original route onto the Great Ouse, an extra 21 miles making a total of 201. But it did not seem to be in the spirit of the enterprise to have the send off at the freight yard of the Oxford Canal, and so we were sent on our way (with the aid of ropes to stop us being washed away) by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Oxford, Alderman and Mrs T Meadons, and the Dean of Christ Church, Dr Henry Chadwick on the Cherwell at Magdalen Bridge. We even had an interview on the BBC Nationwide programme and articles in the national press. Then the punts had to be transported by road to the canal!

After the bad weather before we started, generally the weather was excellent for the trip along the canals and rivers and we enjoyed the wonderful countryside and interesting towns we travelled through. After a strenuous first few days, our fitness and punting ability increased quickly, making it more enjoyable as time went on. Highlights of the trip included a tow through the canal tunnel at Braunston, a noisy portion where the canal went between the M1 motorway and the main Euston to Birmingham railway line, the tranquillity of the Ouse and the Cam rivers, and the civic receptions at Bedford, Huntingdon, and St Ives, where we took boxing champion, Joe Bugner, for a quick punt on the river.

The Ouse eventually joined the Cam giving an upstream final portion to the journey and we were privileged to be greeted by the Mayor of Cambridge, Councillor Jean Barker, making the final part of the journey quite special. In order to gain the record, we puncted ceremoniously in Eton blazers and boaters to Magdalene Bridge before retiring to Selwyn College for a celebration and a good night’s sleep courtesy of Dean Chadwick’s brother who was Master there.

The aim was achieved and over £1000 was raised for Shelter. This gave satisfaction enough. But for us who took part the greatest blessing was the friendships that were cemented at that time. We still keep in touch with each other regularly. In 1996 we had a reunion in Oxford when 38 of us assembled. The nine had multiplied with the help of wives and partners, and it was good to see our offspring enjoying the punting as much as we did. What was strange is that out of the 25 offspring, 21 are male. Something to do with the water?
The Old Members’ Online Web Community

It was at the Association Committee meeting in January 2004 that Nick Alexander first expressed a desire for the Association to have its own page on the newly redeveloped Christ Church website, to be looked after by its own “Web Liaison Officer”. A sub-committee was set up to see how this idea might be developed.

Friends Reunited was all the rage in 2004, and members were asking if we could have our own version, either set up “in House”, or piggy backing off an existing service. Debates about the efficacy of the website, the time and finances available to look after Association pages, the need to find a volunteer to edit the site, the future plans for the House and the University’s own sites, and also changes in the Development and Alumni Office’s personnel, all served to frustrate the launch of an independent Association site.

However since 2004 the House’s website has grown and developed spectacularly; www.chch.ox.ac.uk; and the Development and Alumni pages within it are very good. There was a Members’ directory, put paid to by security issues after just a short while, but there is still plenty of information and it is kept up to date by the Association’s own Alumni Officer, who is paid for by the Development Office, and who also directs us to new items via regular “e-Matters” e-mails.

Yet the improvements to the website were essentially passive, so in 2007 the Development Committee decided to invest in an Online Alumni Community service called “NetCommunity”, by Blackbaud, who already supplied the House with their database software, thus giving great advantages of compatibility. There have been a number of birth pangs, but after a five year gestation period this service to our Old Members has just been introduced to the world. Initially conceived as “HouseMates” it has been rechristened “HouseProud” better to suit its heritage. If you have not already received information about it please contact us on houseproud@chch.ox.ac.uk or log in on http://houseproud.chch.ox.ac.uk

Being somewhat Neanderthal in my dealings with computers, I have always agreed that: “to err is human, but to really foul things up you need a computer.” However having witnessed the final stages of delivery first hand, I now see that: “to err is human, and to blame it on a computer is even more so”.

Let me welcome and encourage you to use HouseProud. This is not the House’s own brand rival to Cillit Bang but the first step on the long road to creating a Christ Church only social networking site. Younger Old Members will be very familiar with the concept but even as an Older Member I find I increasingly use LinkedIn and Facebook as a professional and social tool.

At this first stage HouseProud is an online database of Old Members. Please do log in and check and add to the information provided. It is up to you how much of this you make visible to other users but the more access we each allow the more useful it will be.

Eventually we hope that we can establish a wide range of groups by year, sport, academic or other interest, but the first step is for you to log on, see what is available already, and start to use it!

Initially conceived as “HouseMates” it has been rechristened “HouseProud” better to suit its heritage.

Simon Offen (1986)
Christ Church Association Chairman

Nick Alexander (1973)
Christ Church Association Vice President
Blood over Water
David & James Livingston
Published by Bloomsbury

The Boat Race is one of the most divisive events in amateur sport. For me personally, every year it causes a rupture within my family as my older brother James dons his light blue (Cambridge) jacket and I put on my dark blue (Oxford) jacket to support our respective teams. We once again become part of warring factions.

James and I recently released a co-authored book about our Boat Race experiences, called Blood Over Water which is published by Bloomsbury publishing. On an overcast day back in April 2003 James and I raced each other in the 149th Oxford Cambridge Boat Race. It was the first time brothers had battled each other in this gladiatorial and quintessentially British tradition for over 100 years. Sitting on the start line then we knew that only one of us could be victorious.

It was the first time brothers had battled each other in this gladiatorial and quintessentially British tradition for over 100 years.

Told in alternative narratives it is a locker-room insight into one of the least understood national sporting occasions, normally on view for only one day a year. It is an emotional and in Joint self-portrait of our relationship which was tested to breaking point and explores the darker side of sibling rivalry. The race itself was the closest in history; it was decided by just one foot after four and a quarter miles. If you’d like to see the race you can watch it on YouTube under the Oxford Cambridge 2003 Boat Race.

In many ways writing the book was the ultimate cathartic exercise. It got all our views out in the open and helped to reconcile our broken relationship. Reading what my brother had written led me to feelings of anger, guilt and even brought me to tears but it was great to finally have an understanding of his thoughts and feelings surrounding the race.

I imagine every Boat Race will stir up the old divisions between us but now I feel more confident than ever that whatever up and downs we go through we’ll always be brothers.

“Superb... a powerfully archetypal work.” The Times Literary Supplement

“Blood Over Water stands out from the mass of sporting memoirs” The Economist

“The rivalry is brilliantly told” The Guardian

David Livingston
(2001)

The Lost College
& other Oxford stories

Published by OxPens, 2008, £7.99

Each of the 14 stories in this paperback selection is by a different author from the Oxford Writers’ Group; all are set in or around Oxford. They vary widely in terms of style, genre and period: ‘The Honourable Guest’ tells of an epic journey up the Thames in the year 1004; ‘Two Timers’ concerns infidelity in 1887 and 2007; ‘An Oxford Interlude’ is an epistolary narrative set in the St. Hugh’s of the 1920s.

The House features to a greater or lesser extent in several stories (one author, who should know better, labels it ‘Christ Church College’). As for the ‘Lost College’ of the titular tale – well, that’s still to search for.

Chris Sladen
(1953)
Part of the prize was to have a photograph taken by the world famous photographer Rankin, shown at the start of this article. It can currently be viewed by the general public in the Oxo Gallery in Central London. For more about Affixxius, go to http://www.affixxius.com

© Rankin’s Photograph of Miles Lantham (Right) and his business partner Tim Cabrelli

BT Essence Award

A recent graduate from Christ Church, Miles Latham, (2003) and his business partner Tim Cabrelli, have been chosen by Peter Jones of Dragon’s Den fame and other judges as winners of the BT Essence of the Entrepreneur Awards. The twenty winning businesses were selected from five hundred others for their genuine entrepreneurial spirit and for making use of technology to forge a business in often saturated markets.

Miles, who started Affixxius with Tim when they were just 16, studied Theology and Philosophy at Christ Church from 2003-6 and returned to running the business full time on graduation. Affixxius provides high quality video production for major clients in the commercial and educational sectors and is flourishing.

Miles comments that, “The award really is ‘icing on the cake’ and is our first national business recognition at the age of 24.”

© From right to left: Miles Lantham, Peter Jones and Tim Cabrelli

25 September

PASTIME WITH GOOD COMPANY: CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR 8.30pm Christ Church Cathedral

A programme of choral music to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII’s coronation. The concert includes Henry’s own composition ‘Pastime with Good Company’ as well as other music from his court, and glorious sacred music by Christ Church’s own John Taverner and from the famous Eton Choir-book. The Christ Church Cathedral Choir is directed by Dr Stephen Darlington, one of the country’s leading choral conductors. Tickets are priced at £15.

Contact: Development Office +44 (0)1865 286 325 development.office@chch.ox.ac.uk

26 September

CHRIST CHURCH ASSOCIATION AGM 3.30pm, Lecture Room 1
The Christ Church Association AGM will take place on Saturday afternoon at 3.30pm in Lecture Room 1

Contact: Development Office +44 (0)1865 286 325 development.office@chch.ox.ac.uk

26 September

HENRY’S GALA BANQUET / CHRIST CHURCH ASSOCIATION DINNER Christ Church

This year’s Association Dinner will be combined with the spectacular Gala Banquet (part of the Henry’s House Party programme) with David Starkey as the after dinner guest speaker! We have a limited number of dinner only tickets available for Old Members so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Office +44 (0)1865 286 325 emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

25-27 September

HENRY’S HOUSE PARTY Christ Church

Between 25th and 27th September this year Christ Church is celebrating its founder on the 500th anniversary of his accession to the throne in 1509. Henry has been described as ‘the man who changed England forever’ and this three day event is an opportunity to study the man, what he did and what he accomplished, and all in the unique joint foundation of College and Cathedral that he established in the last year of his turbulent life. The weekend, run in collaboration with Hampton Court Palace, has Christ Church’s Dr Christopher Hugh and royal biographer Dr David Starkey among the speakers. The programme includes both the Christ Church Cathedral choir concert ‘Pastime with good company’ on Friday 25 September and the Gala Banquet in Hall on Saturday 26th September.

Contact: HenryVIII@chch.ox.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0)1865 286 848 / 286877

25 – 27 September

‘AN EQUAL CITIZENSHIP’: OXFORD ALUMNI WEEKEND Oxford

In 2009, the Oxford Alumni Weekend will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the former women’s colleges being granted the status of full colleges of the University. To the prominent feminist and author, Vera Brittain (Somerville, 1914), the admission of women to the ancient universities represented the quintessence of the whole movement for women’s emancipation, the context for the equal citizenship of the mind. The full programme of events is available to view online at www.alumnireunions.ox.ac.uk or you may request a brochure on the website if you would prefer to have a copy posted to you.

Contact: Oxford Alumni Office +44 (0)1865 619621

30 September

HENRY’S GALA BANQUET / CHRIST CHURCH ASSOCIATION DINNER Christ Church

The dinner is to mark the retirements of Hugh Rice and Jonathan Wright, and to celebrate the long history of PPE at Christ Church. We hope that Peter Pulzer and Peter Oppenheimer will also be present. The 30th September will be a very special night. The list of PPE and graduate alumni is a long one and we hope very much to fill the Hall and renew many old friendships.

Contact: Simon Officer +44 (0)1865 286 325 simon.officer@chch.ox.ac.uk

October 2009

2 October 2009

GAUDY (1994-1996 MATERICULATES) Christ Church

Contact: Helen Smith, Steward’s Secretary +44 (0)1865 286 580 helen.smith@chch.ox.ac.uk

15 October

1959 REUNION DINNER McKenna Room, Christ Church

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Office +44 (0)1865 286 325 emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

30 October

YORK MINSTER DINNER 7.00pm, York Minster

The Christ Church Association will be holding a reception and dinner in the Chapter House, York Minster on Friday 30 October of this year. The evening will begin at 7.00pm and carriages should be arranged for 10.30pm. Partners and spouses will be welcome.

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer +44 (0)1865 286 580 emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

November 2009

11 November 2009

YEAR REPRESENTATIVES’ DINNER Christ Church

The annual meeting and dinner for Christ Church Year Representatives.

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer +44 (0)1865 286 325 emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

21 November


Reception and Dinner for all who matriculated in 2004, to be held at Westminster School, London.

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer +44 (0)1865 286 325 emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

2010 GAUDIES

24 June 2010

GAUDY (1997-1999 MATERICULATES) Christ Church

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer +44 (0)1865 286 325 emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

December 2009

10 December

VARSITY RUGBY MATCH Twickenham 12 noon onwards.

The Association will have a Routemaster bus in the West Car park for Old Members to use as a meeting point, and for refreshments. Please see the website or contact the Development and Alumni office for more information. The bus will also pick up and drop off Old Members in the West End of London.

14 December

ST JOHN’S, SMITH SQUARE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL: CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR CONCERT 7.30pm, St John’s, Smith Square, London

Christmas Festival concert introduced by Howard Goodall (1976)

Box Office: +44 (0)207 222 0651 or www.sjs.org.uk

17 & 19 December

CAROL CONCERT: CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR 8.00pm Christ Church Cathedral

Music at Oxford Carol Concerts

Box Office: +44 (0)1865 700 069 or www.musicatoxford.com
Congratulations to the Christ Church First Men’s VIII, Head of the River 2009