Editorial

YOU WILL OBSERVE THE NEW DESIGN which this edition of Christ Church Matters bears. Motivated by Royal Mail’s decision to connect postage charges with size as well as weight, we decided to redesign Christ Church Matters in every particular. Printing costs have fallen in recent times to allow the luxury of a full-colour publication which, together with a plastic wrapping, produces a smaller, brighter, and altogether less expensive magazine. This issue comes with a personalised questionnaire, which I encourage you to return in order to keep our records up to date, and to give you the chance to win a case of wine!

The photographers used in this edition are all people with a connection to Christ Church, including Cambridge Jones (1985), Bi Scott (JRF), KT Bruce (wife of Martin Bruce, Headmaster of Christ Church Cathedral School), and David Neilson (husband of Carolyn Neilson, 1980). I warmly invite your comments and feedback about the appearance and content of Christ Church Matters.

The dual forces of continuity and change are always at work within any institution, and Christ Church is no exception. Whilst Christ Church Matters has changed its appearance, and indeed bears news of innovation within Christ Church (most notably within its fabric), it also heralds the continuance of excellence in research, teaching and – in this edition – music. We are also pleased to announce that Christ Church, Oxford: A Portrait of the House, a project of which we are very proud, has been published and is now available for you to purchase (in time for Christmas)! I trust that you will enjoy reading about progress and development at the House, whilst remaining confident in Christ Church’s commitment to excellence in all areas.

Sarah Thomas
Alumni Relations Officer

Development and Alumni Office news

Some of you will be aware that our Development Director, Sue Cunningham, left Christ Church in May to take up the position of Director of Development for the University of Oxford. Sue had overseen the establishment of the Development and Alumni Office as a highly regarded, professional office and had implemented the Annual Fund which has raised over £1.6 million, and the Campaign for Christ Church which has raised over £17 million. Since her departure Luke Purser has been Acting Development Director, ensuring the successful continuation of the work of the office before the new director, Marek Kwiatkowski, joins the House in January 2007.

Marek joins us from Shrewsbury School where he has been Foundation Director since 2001. He was educated at Shrewsbury School and read PPE at St John’s College Oxford. After a spell in the City and a further period at business school, he moved to Marlborough College in 1981. During 20 years at Marlborough, he served a ten-year period as Head of Business Studies before becoming Director of the Marlborough College Summer School in 1993. Marek’s leisure interests include horse racing, fishing and other country pursuits.

Another familiar face who will be missed is Margaret Molloy who retired in July after being part of the office for 6 years. We wish her all the very best in her retirement.

Marek Kwiatkowski, joins the House in January 2007
The British, or is it primarily the English, can easily be encouraged to discuss, with some would say inordinate passion and conviction, small matters concerning English punctuation. An obvious example would be the so-called ‘Oxford comma’. Likewise 1960s architecture (a sentence, you will have observed, with no verb).

From its very inception Blue Boar has aroused lively debate. Those who love it feel vindicated by its newly-acquired status as a Grade II* listed building. Those who hate it (a minority now) feel a little differently.

The 1960s were years of youthful energy, confidence, experiment, and risk-taking. Technological innovations and the invention of new building materials offered all sorts of new and exciting possibilities to 1960s architects. At the same time Higher Education expanded, the new universities were founded, and Oxford wanted to offer more students the chance of coming here. Christ Church was particularly concerned to continue the tradition of housing students within its curtilage. The site of Blue Boar was a long narrow strip on the northern side of the site.

This was offered to Powell and Moya for the design of new student accommodation. ‘Housemen’ supported both the vision and the building with great generosity. In many ways the design is conservative: the building is modest in scale, the traditional mix of senior member and student rooms on staircases is fundamental to its organisation, and each room has two doors to allow oaks to be sported. The façade is clean, plain and understated while at the same time creating interesting sculptural rhythms, a function of following the curves of the old wall along Blue Boar Street. Unlike so many 1960s buildings the dominant materials are fine open roach Portland stone and lead, rather than concrete. Contrary to rumour, the building is structurally sound.

Debates about the aesthetic of Blue Boar have largely been displaced by constructive discussion about what Blue Boar can offer by way of new possibilities for twenty-first century Christ Church. It is an exciting project and we aim to remodel and extend the building to include new en-suite accommodation, a lecture theatre with 120 seats with green room and foyer, an outdoor performance space, an Information Technology studio, a new access to the Quad that by-passes Killcanon, (note my predilection for the Oxford comma) and disabled accommodation. The archive will be re-located in the Brewhouse whose thick walls will provide the thermal stability needed. Building work is planned to start at the beginning of Michaelmas term, 2007. We have already raised £5.9m but we are still looking to bridge the £3.9m funding gap that remains. The generosity of old members and friends of Christ Church has been tremendous (and we were pleased to welcome many Blue Boar benefactors back to the House in June to celebrate that generosity) but we still have a way to go if we are going to be able fully to realise our vision.

Recognition at last...

As of October 2006, Blue Boar Quad has been listed Grade II*: a rare accolade for a 1960s building.

Belinda Jack
Tutor in French
Junior Censor
Winter Lullabies...

Put together the country’s best-known harpist, Catrin Finch, one of its leading composers, Howard Goodall, and the Choristers of Christ Church Cathedral, and what do you get? A wonderful new composition, Winter Lullabies, which is a suite of six settings of poems with a magical winter theme. Inspiration for the project came from the Choir’s agent, Val Fancourt, when the Choristers were performing with Catrin in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea last year. The whole project was made possible by a generous anonymous donation to the choir and the resulting CD is set to be a great hit. The Choristers sing sumptuous settings of classical musical favourites such as Panis Angelicus by Franck, Ave Maria by Schubert and Adam’s Cantique de Noel. The resources used by Howard in Winter Lullabies are similar to those used by Britten in his Ceremony of Carols, but of course the musical style and textures are quite different. Howard’s gift for matching music and words is brilliantly explored in this suite. The setting of a mediaeval lullaby and a poem by Thomas Campion stand alongside folksong texts from the Dominican Republic and Germany and, perhaps most poignant of all, a moving text by the Irish writer Theo Dorgan and a poem by the composer himself, heart-rending in its echoes of the current Middle East crisis.

Over recent years Howard Goodall has developed a very close relationship with the Choir, which has commissioned several works including a full-scale Mass setting and the anthem We are God’s Labourers sung at the present Dean’s installation. This latest composition demonstrates vividly that he is one of our most inspirational composers. The Choristers will be performing Winter Lullabies in St John’s Smith Square on 13 December accompanied by old member Victoria Davies (2001), who is developing a career as one of the country’s top young harpists. Come and hear the piece: you won’t be disappointed!

Winter Lullabies is available from the Chapter House Shop at £9.95 (or £8.95 to old members). Please call 01865 201971 or email chapterhouseshop@btconnect.com for more information.

A living tradition

Christ Church Choristers are part of an exciting and living tradition. Singing here is an experience which they treasure for the whole of their lives. It is no coincidence that many of the country’s most famous musicians were choristers. Christ Church is extremely fortunate in the recent generosity of benefactors, Ann Ronus and the Vidda Foundation, not to mention the continuing funding of choristers by the Friends of Christ Church Cathedral. The visible sign of this is the special medals which the Ursula Corning Chorister, and four Ronus Choristers wear with great pride, knowing that there is a wave of support from outside the institution for their activities in the Cathedral.

Stephen Darlington
Organist and Official Student in Music

Howard Goodall (1976)
Composer and Broadcaster

Snow, front to back: Andrew Blyth (the new Ursula Corning Chorister), Ryota Sakai and Jamie Blinko (two of the new Ronus Choristers)

Right: Choristers
PHOTOS OF BRUCE
Choristers win top awards

We take it for granted at the Cathedral School that our Cathedral Choristers, gifted as they are and with the benefit of training from a conductor of the calibre of Stephen Darlington (and from our own teaching staff), will enjoy success in winning scholarships to the senior school of their choice. So it proved this summer, with awards being taken at Eton College, Rugby and St Edward’s. That we would see other boys in the year win a further seven scholarships and exhibitions was very thick icing on the cake. Boys in the Worcester College Choir recorded successes at Bloxham (two), St Edward’s and Wellington College. A further two awards (Abingdon and Magdalen) went to boys not choristers at all. In other words, two thirds of the leaving cohort won music awards, a feat not matched by any of the other choral foundations in Oxford and near the record for the Cathedral School. Such distinction can only be the result of the very high quality music-making and learning to be found in the school, an excellence of which Christ Church may be proud.

Stephen Darlington: A coming of age

Saturday 9 September 2006 – a landmark for Stephen Darlington, Organist and Official Student in Music at Christ Church, as he celebrated 21 years in office with a lunch attended by over a hundred friends and well-wishers gathered from current and former undergraduates, Academical and Lay Clerks.

In a brilliantly witty speech Edwin Simpson (Senior Censor, and former Academical Clerk) traced Stephen’s career through Christ Church from undergraduate to the distinguished Student of today. Tracing through reports and crusty notes from past Censors he paid tribute to the encouragement, inspiration and guidance given to so many musicians over the years, finally reaching the dénouement, Stephen’s affectionately coined nickname! In his turn, Stephen acknowledged the contacts made over the years from Harry Bramma, his Director of Music at school (present at the lunch), to his current team in the College and Cathedral. A short concert by past and present Christ Church musicians (including a vocal octet of distinguished ex-Clerks led by Edwin Simpson and Matthew Vine) completed the proceedings and guests were encouraged to visit an exhibition in the Upper Library of manuscripts associated with the Cathedral Choir’s repertoire. The event, the brainchild of Stephen’s colleague Jonathan Cross, was a tremendous success and all hoped that music reunions would become a regular feature of the Christ Church programme.

Congratulations, Stephen!

Anthea Madden
Organist’s Secretary

The event... was a tremendous success and all hoped that music reunions would become a regular feature of the Christ Church programme.

Hurrah! Three cheers for your coming of age.

Christopher Lewis,
Dean of Christ Church

With thanks and admiration (especially for the front view of your conducting!) Professor Henry Mayr-Harting

With fond thanks for your support at Oxford and beyond and my deepest congratulations for your long and no doubt fruitful teaching years.

Steffan Rees (2001)

Stephen – many thanks for all your wonderful help and support over my eight years at Christ Church – you’ve been a superb tutor. Here’s to the next 21 years!

Sophie Biddell (1998)
I had never worked on a telephone campaign before, so I was pretty nervous making my first few calls, but it was wonderful how almost everyone I spoke to had something lovely to say about their time at the House. In fact, we spent so much time talking that we had to remind ourselves constantly about the fundraising part, which we did by running several competitions within the group for bottles of wine and Cadbury’s Miniature Heroes! We also had a prize for the student who recorded the wildest/funniest story from an old member over the course of the campaign. This led to some wonderful recollections of undergraduate antics, especially from the 1960s and 70s (climbing on the roof in Peck, swimming in Mercury, clay-pigeon shooting with champagne bottles... the list goes on!), which gave us a rather different impression of what college life has been like in the past.

Some of us were lucky enough to speak to people who were working in the professional fields we are hopefully heading for, and I would like to thank all the old members who provided us with some great careers advice and even, on some occasions, offers of experience. It is incredibly helpful to see and hear about the wide range of areas people go into after graduating, especially when they read your subject and had chosen a path that had not occurred to you before.

The response we received, with regard to the fundraising, was wonderfully enthusiastic, and around two thirds of the old members we contacted were happy to donate to the Annual Fund. We explained how important it is for student financial support, maintenance and repairs. We ended up raising a massive £262,000 in that fortnight alone, and we – the students who worked on the campaign and everyone in college who benefits from your support – want to thank again all those who contributed.

Calling all old members...

The sixth annual telephone campaign raises more than £260,000

“... it was wonderful how almost everyone I spoke to had something lovely to say about their time at the House.”

Old Member Accommodation
The House offers a limited number of guest rooms to old members. These are very popular so early booking is advised to avoid disappointment. Standard rooms (single or twin) are £40 per person per night; en-suite rooms (single or twin) are £55 per person per night. For more information please contact Linda Palmer, House Manager’s Assistant, on linda.palmer@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 276268.

Dining Rights
Old members who have achieved a postgraduate degree and those holding a conferred Masters are entitled to dine at high table, subject to availability. For more information please contact Margaret Heffron, Steward’s Secretary on margaret.heffron@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 286580.

Degree Certificates
These are not issued at the ceremony but may be obtained once your degree has been conferred. Please contact Student Records Office, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD or visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/sr/certs.shtml

Graduation
For detailed information and availability of ceremonies please visit www.chch.ox.ac.uk and select Students and Staff. Early booking is essential to avoid disappointment. To book a degree ceremony please contact Margaret Heffron, Steward’s Secretary, margaret.heffron@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 286580.

Did you know?

Old member privileges...
Whilst writing this article, I tried to consider what I would want to hear about from current junior members after I had left the House. By pure coincidence I recently happened to encounter two old members, one who had left but two years ago and the other seven years before that.

What struck me most whilst we talked about the college was how much the place could change in such a short time. Indeed in the twelve short months that I have been here the college has become a very different place to that into which I matriculated.

This past year has seen significant building works around the college, including, most notably for junior members, major new refurbishment of the JCR, cementing it once again as a social centre for the college. Plans for the refurbishment of Blue Boar Quad have been progressing quickly and within the next two years the interior of the building will be completely unrecognisable to members who have (often very fond) memories of the 1960s rooms.

It is good to see that many old habits never change, however, and Christ Church has continued to excel in sporting activities. Our Men’s 1st XI football team were promoted last season and the 1st XV are looking to become a team to be reckoned with this year. The Boat Club has also experienced major successes, particularly in Summer VIIIs. Our Men’s 1st VIII moved up a place while the Women’s 1st VIII finished second on the river and are looking for Headship this year.

While the past year may have seen many changes at Christ Church, it has gone from strength to strength. As much as the buildings and events may change, the atmosphere in the college is constant – students and alumni, young and old, will never forget what it is like to be a member of the House.

Being a member of the House

Converting a BA into an MA

When 21 terms (7 years) have elapsed post matriculation, holders of undergraduate degrees from Christ Church are eligible to receive a conferred Masters. For more information please contact Margaret Heffron, Steward’s Secretary, on margaret.heffron@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 286580.

Transcript of Academic Record

If you require a transcript of your academic record please contact Jane Nelson, Censor’s Administrator, on jane.nelson@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 276157.

The Cathedral Shop

Old members are entitled to a 10% discount on all items for sale in the Cathedral Shop.

Weddings in the Cathedral

Permission for wedding ceremonies must be sought from the Dean and Chapter and is normally given to members of Christ Church within five years of leaving. For more information please visit www.chch.ox.ac.uk and select Students and Staff – Chaplain – Marriages, or contact The Reverend Ralph Williamson, Chaplain, on ralph.williamson@chch.ox.ac.uk or 01865 276236.

Alumni Cards

Available to all Oxford alumni, these cards offer an array of benefits and discounts around Oxford and beyond, including reduced rates at the Macdonald Randolph Hotel. To view the full range of advantages please visit www.alumni.ox.ac.uk and select Services.
A woman’s place...

Given that Christ Church was founded over 450 years ago, 25 years of women might not seem particularly significant.

The Upper Library’s creative exhibition of women’s memorabilia reflected the low level of involvement of women in Christ Church before 1980. For example, a copy of Spenser’s Faerie Queene was on display. Spenser’s poem was dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I, who, as monarch, was the official Visitor of the House. Can Elizabeth I be described as a ‘Woman of Christ Church’? Certainly she and the other Queen Elizabeth are the only women boasting portraits in Hall.

From what Judy Pallot said after dinner, it became clear that the arrival of women at Christ Church was not exactly greeted with delight amongst many members of the House. This feeling was confirmed by some of the stories told by the first year of female entrants. On their first night in college a couple of girls had gone to the bar and ordered two beers. They met with the response: ‘I’m sorry, we don’t serve dogs here.’ This line had apparently been thought up and planned in advance. I find this story shocking on two counts. Not only does it display rudeness and disrespect, but even worse, it displays absolutely no humour, wit or intelligence! At least the other line circulating at the time, ‘A Woman’s Place is in the Home and not the House’, was a decent pun!

Despite initial hostility in some quarters, the women who have passed through Christ Church in the last 25 years have gone on to achieve great things. This was made clear by the wealth of interesting speakers available on the Saturday afternoon in a variety of careers-based panels. Louise Bagshawe – an alpha female such that she needed no panel to support her – had a supreme self confidence of a sort I have rarely seen in a woman. I suppose it’s the sort you might acquire when your first book is published when you’re 21. She has an amazing absence of self doubt, revealing that she was a convert to Catholicism, and thus regretted the sex scenes in her early work. The next bombshell (her talk began to be like one of her novels, with a new plot twist every few minutes) was that she aspired to become a Tory MP! The Q&A session at the end became almost comical, especially once our Chair declared herself to be a Lesbian Quaker.

This year, 200 alumnae returned to the House to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Women at Christ Church. Saturday 24 June offered an opportunity for alumnae to reminisce and celebrate a rich diversity of achievements. On Sunday 25 June families and friends of our alumnae were welcomed to Christ Church for a veritable carnival of activities. Many thanks to all who put together this successful and significant event.
On Saturday night, women of three decades could be found in the Undie dancing to retro cheese classics, some on the tables, some fending off the attentions of the handful of first year boys who had got wind of the event and made it their business to attend. This spectacle demonstrated the quiet – or not so quiet – confidence of these women, who although varying widely in personalities, and not necessarily friends (even in 1980, the small number of women in college did not all know each other’s names), nonetheless displayed the solidarity of a minority group who have worked hard to get where they are today, creating along the way a community in Christ Church accessible to men and women alike.

“What a glorious day, it was fantastic. I do hope you won’t wait another 25 years to organise another one!” Francesca Boschet-Michel (1985)

“A weekend to remember for a long time.” Katie Ernest (1984)

“The perfect mix of the seriousness of the occasion and the frivolity that characterised much of our time at ChCh.” Elizabeth Newton (1995)

The Queen meets the Dean
Royal visit to the House is great success.

John Harris, Steward

By this time the Queen had already completed several official engagements elsewhere in Oxford. Events at the House began with a reception in the Deanery, where groups representing different sectors of the academic community, staff and benefactors were presented.

Her Majesty took lunch in Hall and was warmly welcomed by the Dean, describing her as a ‘fellow member of this House’ and offering birthday congratulations. The lunch was attended principally by junior and senior members, as well as a number of civic guests. Head Chef Roland Dépit and his brigade had not had to compete on television to prepare the celebratory lunch for the Queen and 300 guests, producing an Aubergine Terrine, Best End of Spring Lamb and a Mango Tarte Tatin. The Buttery cellar had yielded a 1992 Johannisberger Erntebringer and a 1989 Chateau Beychevelle.

The extra ingredient in the day’s events was the performance in Hall of a play after lunch. Act I, scene VII of Macbeth was chosen. The players were undergraduates Jessica Lund and Luke Parker, and the piece was produced by Oscar Wood. The performance of a play in Hall to an Elizabethan monarch represented a piece of neat historical symmetry, Queen Elizabeth I having similarly enjoyed a play in Christ Church Hall in 1592.
A NYONE WHO HAS BEEN into Christ Church in the last few months can’t fail to have noticed all the trenches dug first around Tom Quad, then through Killcanon and into Peckwater. The ever-increasing demands for electricity have meant that new substations, new switchboards, and new cables have had to be laid. We all expect, these days, to have heat, light, power, and communication at the flick of a switch so, when these things failed to happen last winter, it was all a bit of a shock. But it’s not so long ago, at least in the great scheme of House history, that none of these were available.

Right back at the beginning, in the sixteenth century, candles were ordered for the Hall by the dozen every term, and fires were only lit in Hall. Special permission was given to students to stay in Hall after dinner on cold, dark evenings so that they could sit around the fire and hold conversation. Usually, meals were not to be lingered over, and they would be sent scurrying back to their rooms.

It was in 1818 that the Dean and Chapter took the momentous decision to have gas lighting installed. Everything was planned very carefully: a map of Christ Church was drawn, showing where the gas supply was to go, and lists were made of lamps that were to be lit all the time. A special deal was struck with the Hornley Ironworks in Birmingham who estimated that the cost of installing gas in the quads and on the staircases would be £595 provided the old lamps were used. New lamps would cost 30 shillings each. The City Gas Light and Coke Company laid the pipes during the long vac of 1819, and an agreement was drawn up for the supply of gas for lamps that would be lit at dusk and extinguished at 1am. In a rush of extravagance, the Chapter agreed to keep one in four lamps lit at night all year round at a cost of 3d per week each or a total of £87 10s each year. Full lighting would cease during the long vacations. However, gas was not installed college-wide in one go; it was not until the 1860s that the Hall was lit this way. Henry Grant, the butler, estimated that the cost of lighting the Hall would drop to £1 per week, in spite of the need to install some sort of ventilation.

Nearly eighty years after gas illuminated Tom Quad, discussions began about the installation of electricity. The Steward was asked to draw up a report in 1891, and he took advice and quotations from the Oxford Electric Company. There were some concerns about undergraduates tampering with the fittings, but these were dismissed – “supposing an undergraduate should contrive to give himself a shock from the wires, it would hardly be violent enough even to deter him from repeating the experiment”. In spite of reassurances on safety and on cost, proposals were rejected or discussions deferred until 1900 when approval was given for lighting in all residential rooms, except those on the top floor of Peckwater Quad. Undergraduate rooms, though, were probably not much warmer or brighter than they were in the 1550s. The permitted strength of light bulbs was tiny. As for warmth, old members who were here as recently as the 1950s talk of breaking the ice in the toilets and in their wash-basins, and having just a single-bar electric fire in their rooms.

Telephones did not arrive until well into the twentieth century, although there was an internal ‘speaking-tube’ system, first for the Dean and Censors, then between the lodges at Tom and Canterbury Gates. The first phone linked to the outside world was from the Junior Common Room in 1895, but the Porter’s Lodge wasn’t connected up until 1920.

As for computers… into the 1990s typewriters were still the norm for letter-writing in the offices, e-mail was virtually unheard of, and the notion that every undergraduate would arrive with their own PC, let alone a laptop, was inconceivable. We’ve never had it so warm, or so light, or so fast!
OXFORD INVESTMENT PARTNERS (OXIP) is up and running. Two more colleges, St John’s and New College, have subscribed to the fund and joined Christ Church, St Catherine’s and Balliol as shareholders in the management company. The Board has now met twice, under the Chairmanship of Lord Lawson (PPE, 1951).

A number of significant third party charitable trusts and funds are considering sizeable subscriptions. Moreover, OXIP has established a feeder fund enabling high net worth individuals to participate in a tax efficient way.

The diversified investment strategy has been pursued vigorously. The fund is now 85% invested and is exposed to 20 different investment strategies and asset classes. Given the long term focus of the fund, it is too early to comment on performance. However, it weathered satisfactorily the financial storms of the early summer and the portfolio is behaving as predicted, which augurs well for the future.

More information about OXIP can be found on www.oxip.co.uk. Should members of the House wish to find out more about the fund they should contact the Managing Director, Karl Sternberg (PPE, 1988), at karl.sternberg@oxip.co.uk or 01865 988155.

CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD: A Portrait of the House is now available to purchase. With 212 pages and illustrated throughout with high-quality archive and contemporary images, this important publication traces the story of Christ Church from its foundation in the mid-sixteenth century to the multi-faceted and rich community it is today.

Designed and printed to the highest production values, it provides an intimate and stimulating reminder of what makes the House such a special place for all who have passed through the gates beneath Tom Tower.

SPECIAL PRICE FOR OLD MEMBERS: £35.00 (rrp £45.00)

To order your copies, please fill in this form and mail it, together with your payment, to Sarah Thomas, Development & Alumni Office, Christ Church, Oxford OX1 1DP. Tel: 01865-286598. Email: sarah.thomas@chch.ox.ac.uk

Please send me ______ copies of CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD: A Portrait of the House at: UK – £40.00 / European Union – £45.00 / Rest of the world – £50.00. Payment by cheque only please, payable to Christ Church, Oxford. (Prices inclusive of post & packing)
Memories of the House

Such was my introduction to Drs Luke and Krailsheimer.

It must have gone quite well – I even remember laughing myself once or twice. Still, I emerged overawed and convinced that it was the end of my Oxford career, before it had really started. That afternoon, I looked out of the mullioned windows of my second-floor room in Old Library at the snow settling on the ground. Wintry branches in the college garden; cold birds pecking on the lawns; students hurrying past, their footfalls muffled. Black gowns against grey stone and white ground. My breath frosting the panes.

Then, out of a door in the staircase opposite, I spotted the diminutive figure of Dr Krailsheimer emerging. Before I even knew what I was doing, I dashed down the stairs four at a time and contrived to

Night time in Dhaka, Bangladesh: raven-black all around, the wind breathing through the palm trees. I am sitting in my study listening to Allegri’s Miserere, the first choral music I ever heard. As ever, it takes me straight back to my Christ Church days: summer sunlight on cream-gold stone, the hushed intensity of the libraries at night, the dusty thrill of old leather-bound books. And to my tutors, Alban Krailsheimer and David Luke: two immense, eccentric characters. On a whim I googled their names, and discovered with a sudden jolt that they had both died: Dr Luke just late last year. This is my tribute to them.

ARRIVED IN OXFORD for my interview back in December 1981. At the appointed hour, I was nervously shown into the tutor’s rooms and told to sit on an armchair. I remember little now except the pale green of the furniture, the fact that my knees were up by my chin in the badly sprung chair (not the most elegant of positions from which to fight for your academic future), the book-lined shelves, and the impression of my two interviewers. One was a shambly, tousled, barrel-chested figure in a fisherman’s sweater, with a soft voice and an inclination to giggle, and the other a slight, sharp, balding man in flashing spectacles, a pullover and tie, whose laugh was short and snappy, like a harsh cough. His black eyes drilled into me, and his rapid-fire staccato questions kept my mind racing.

“Now, don’t tell anyone I told you this, but I think we’re going to offer you a place.”
walk past him in the quad. He stopped, flashing me
an inquisitive smile, clearly somewhat intrigued by
this chimney sweep of a boy up (in his eyes) from the
bleak industrial valleys.

‘Morris, isn’t it? Still here then?’
‘Er, yes sir. My train leaves this evening.’
‘You know, you were rather good at
interview this morning. Jolly impressive, in
fact. Now, don’t tell anyone I told you this,
but I think we’re going to offer you a place.
Right. I must be off. Good afternoon!’

The snow-capped gargoyles up above began to
laugh. The shivering angels on the cathedral roof
lifed their trumpets and fanfared to the open sky.

I was as happy in that one moment as I had ever been
in my young life.

In my first term I soon got used to their ways –
the encouraging but nevertheless penetrating
questions of Dr Luke, whose study smelled of his two
snuffy dogs Kublai and Khan. A room overflowing
with opened books and scattered papers, with high
windows looking out over the elegant quad. A
struggle to find a free space on the sofa. And there,
in his familiar chair, this kindly man. He seemed
perpetually amused by life’s foibles, seldom without
a wry, curious half-smile. Always lamenting the lack
of intellectual curiosity of today’s youth, but never
taking himself or his learning too seriously.

Once when I was ill, he brought some biscuits
and a small packet of tea to my room, appearing
suddenly one fiery autumn evening, offering a few
words of comfort, and then leaving just as quickly,
ever one to make a fuss.

Meanwhile, over at Dr Krailsheimer’s study, my
punctual weekly knock on the door was always
followed by an immediate ‘Came!’ shot as if from a
rifle. (Word of advice: Never turn up for a tutorial late
or without your gown on, unless you want to be
barked half way back across the quadrangle.) Neat,
ordered books, the window always ajar, even in
winter, when Siberian blasts would keep your mind
alert, not that it was apt to wander in his
demanding presence. A view out over the Meadow
down the path through the naked trees to the old
river.

I grew up on a trail through the naked trees to the old
demanding presence. A view out over the Meadow
alert, not that it was apt to wander in his
winter, when Siberian blasts would keep your mind
ordered books, the window always ajar, even in

4

And though my memories of those years are
already changing colour and being tossed about like
dried winter leaves, I will treasure the image and
guard the legacy of these two teachers, until I too
turn to dust.

David Luke

David Luke generously left a significant sum of
money to the House in his will to enable the
endowment of two prizes. The first, the W.H.
Auden prize of £500, will be awarded annually
“for a piece of creative writing in English
following a competition advertised in Trinity
Term”. The second, the Luke prize of £250, will
be awarded each year to the member of the
House who performs best in the German
Modern Languages or associated Joint Schools.
The college is enormously appreciative of this
legacy, which will remind us each year of
David’s renown as a translator of German prose
and poetry, and of his colleague and friend, W.H.
Auden.

Edwin Simpson
Senior Censor
One of the literary events of the summer was the publication of *Letters from Oxford: Hugh Trevor-Roper to Bernard Berenson*, expertly edited by Richard Davenport-Hines. Mostly written from Christ Church, and partly composed during Trevor-Roper’s period of office as Senior Censor in the early 1950s, they reveal an Oxford emerging – gradually – from post-war austerities, providing a suitable arena in which Trevor-Roper could play the part he so brilliantly embraced, that of an enthusiastic promoter of university plots. Indeed, a hilarious appendix shows him at his Machiavellian best (and, remember, Machiavelli was most frequently on the right side), ensuring that his candidate for the Chancellorship, Harold Macmillan, won the post rather than an omni-competent and supremely dull academic worthy. Trevor-Roper was a doughty fighter for the Party of Light against the Party of Darkness, extolling the rewards of pleasure and learning at every available turn. Christ Church readers will be most grateful to him for his role in saving the Meadow from a mad plan to build a road through it, a plan hatched in order to clear the High Street of cars: ‘a Road through the Meadow and a Grass-Grown High Street.’ These are brilliant, penetrating, and richly rewarding letters – a superb reminder of the literary grace and acute intellect of one of Christ Church’s finest scholars.

Blue sky thinking for 37 St Giles

The exciting redevelopment of Blue Boar has given rise to new ideas about a no doubt less well-known Christ Church property and one very different in style.

Plans for the future of a wonderful late eighteenth-century building at 37 St Giles are under discussion. Built around 1789 the property is at the northern end on the west side of the broad tree-lined St Giles, and has a particularly beautiful façade. Christ Church has owned 37 St Giles since 1894 when it was left to the House by Susan Kidd, the last of four sisters of Dr John Kidd (1775-1851) an Oxford doctor and Professor of Chemistry in 1803, Dr Lee’s Reader in Anatomy in 1816, and Keeper of the Radcliffe Library in 1834. The house has been lived in by a succession of Christ Church senior members, including the last for whom it was a family home, the recently retired Professor Richard Wayne, Dr Lee’s Reader in Chemistry.

There are two large reception rooms at the front on the ground floor which are light and private, thanks to interior shutters which screen the bottom half of large sash windows. The hall is spacious and the remaining rooms on the ground floor are utility areas which will need to be redesigned. There is also cellars and a long, pretty private garden. The stairs are handsome and lead to two floors each with three sizable bedrooms and ancillary rooms. There is an ingenious second stair between the first and second floors. The sizeable annexe at the back is currently four offices on two floors. Structural repairs are needed and any conversion will, of course, require funds of up to a million pounds.
Among the many ideas for the future of 37 St Giles are a Christ Church Research Institute, an American Centre for Visiting Students (and the American Friends of Christ Church during the summer vacation), or a joint project with the University. All these ideas have specific attractions, particularly as re-developing the building in this area of Oxford would give Christ Church an academic presence close to the University’s main science area and to the multi-million pound University redevelopment of the Radcliffe Infirmary as the central Humanities Site. But, as always, financing any of these schemes will require flair. Perhaps there is an old member who would like to re-invent a fine late eighteenth-century building while at the same time giving the house a more individual and distinguished name than ‘37 St Giles’? Ideas, enquiries and advice from old members keen on blue-sky thinking are, as always, most welcome.

The report in the Daily Telegraph on 27 July this year about Oxford undergraduate admissions is seriously misleading. Oxford’s recently-published Common Framework for undergraduate admissions states clearly (clause i) that “Final decisions on who should be interviewed and who should be offered a place should rest with individual colleges, giving due consideration to the guidance of the relevant subject faculty.”

Colleges will not lose their right to determine admissions. The central aim of the Framework is to address concerns that variations in numbers applying to colleges may result in unfairness between applicants for the same subject across different colleges. It is clearly undesirable that a better candidate should miss out on a place at one college, while a less good candidate gets in elsewhere, simply in virtue of different numbers of applications.

Hence, given rapidly rising numbers of applications, the need to set out more clearly a range of measures many of which already apply and have done for some time. They include: interviews at second and subsequent colleges; pre-interview testing and comparison across college lists of applicants to ensure fairness in the “summoning process”; a review at the offer stage according to standardised criteria of the overall performance of marginal candidates at different colleges; and in a limited number of cases reallocation of candidates at the application stage to ensure reasonably even numbers of applicants per college.

The Framework certainly does not hand power over admissions to “administrators and heads of department.” As a popular college with a high ratio of applications to places, Christ Church welcomes procedures that ensure that all its deserving first-choice candidates get places at Oxford, even if not all can be offered places at Christ Church itself. Such procedures benefit all candidates, irrespective of school type or social background. The college remains committed to rigorous procedures that gather a broad range of academic evidence: examination performance, school report, submitted written work, pre-interview tests where these are in place, and interviews. Its admissions principles are driven by merit, achievement and potential. Christ Church does not practice any form of social engineering.
Making sense of modern music...

that I’m concerned with issues in the history, reception, aesthetics and analysis of contemporary Western music in the classical tradition, I don’t think the conversation would continue a great deal longer. Mention the name Harrison Birtwistle to most people and watch the colour rapidly drain from their faces.

Words about music are as old as music itself. Long before the invention of music history, Pythagoras was relating theories of consonance to cosmic harmony, and Plato was writing about the structure of the music of his day and its effects on the emotions. I too am fascinated not only by the many and varied ways in which the music of my own time has been put together, but also by the effects it has on us, what it can tell us about our culture and its priorities, and the ways it can shape us. In my books on, inter alia, Stravinsky and Birtwistle, and during my editorship of the journal Music Analysis, I’ve attempted to do just these things. But I also see an important aspect of what I do as evangelising – that is, bringing a wider audience to new music by relating listeners’ (physical, emotional) experiences of music to an intellectual contemplation of those experiences.

So, in answer to the question, yes, I play, though – professionally at least – I’ve exchanged the piano keyboard for the computer keyboard. In so doing, however, I never forget how I fell in love with music in the first place: not by reading books about it, but by making it.

Oval House theatre

Deborah Bestwick
Director

Oval House Theatre is a living, thriving developmental arts organisation: a testament to its foundations as a philanthropic mission, founded and run by Christ Church men in 1882. How did we evolve from a social welfare organisation to an arts education centre on the borders of Brixton?

John Arkell was inspired to move what was essentially a soup kitchen and to re-invent it as a centre of empowerment and education for young men. Christ Church (Oxford) United clubs, based at Oval House. Activities included debating, chess, boxing, and trips to Oxford for camping and rowing – all run by Christ Church men living in London. As the centre became more ambitious, the Red Hat Ball, run by William and Peggy Rathbone and attended by over a thousand Christ Church men each year for a legendary degree of revelry, sustained it. In the 1960s activities for young women were introduced, and in the 1960s a new warden introduced theatre and the arts as a route to the self-determination and empowerment that had lain at the heart of the original principles.

Alongside cutting-edge performance we research new methodologies for education: our rigorous drama-based “back on track” course engages with young people who have been referred by the Youth Offending Team – and 86% return long-term to full-time education or training. We train young people to be leaders and facilitators, and work with communities such as refugees and young people living in care. Our link and relationship with Christ Church remains strong – the Dean is our President, and following generations of his family’s support, Bill Rathbone is our Vice President. Although grant funding is now our mainstay, donations from Christ Church supporters remain vital to our ability to meet a need in the inner-city that is every bit as pressing as it was when we were founded.
Editorial

In September the Association held its AGM followed by its annual dinner in college. In the run up to the event, one old member wrote in to say that he would like to come to the dinner, but how could he join the Christ Church Association? Just in case anyone else is confused, all old members are automatically members of the Association. There is no escape!

We try to capture the essence of the Association activities in Association News along with some stories about old members. Everything done by the Association is aimed at “friend raising”. We are constantly looking for ways to help members meet and keep in touch with their contemporaries, from organising events, to careers/networking support, to the development of the Year Reps scheme.

During the past year I have been in contact with many of you in my role as Managing Editor for the book launched on 21st November – Christ Church, Oxford: A Portrait of the House. The response from old members to the call for materials for the book was wonderful. I only wish that we could have included more of the fascinating memorabilia sent to us. So that we can keep these materials and memoirs for future reference, we have set up a special archive that includes everything we have received. One old member, John Abecasis-Philips (1955) was so inspired by writing for the book, that he has just written and published his own memories and reflections of the House.

In our Portrait, old member articles have been added to commissioned pieces by Christ Church experts in specific areas and brought alive by fascinating illustrations, including specially commissioned photography by Cambridge Jones (1985), to make a book that we hope you will treasure. To order your copy, please see page 9.

We like to receive news of old members. So why not drop me a line with your thoughts or comments and I will try to include as many of them as I can in the next edition due out at the end of Trinity term. You can contact me by e-mail or via the Development and Alumni Office. ■

Fiona Holdsworth (1981), Editor
Fiona.holdsworth@btopenworld.com

At the Garrick Club in London

Reg Clark (1976)

30th Anniversary of 1976 Freshers

An informal 30th Anniversary reunion of a group of 1976 matriculates took place recently at the Garrick Club in London.

The reunion was the idea of a small number of old members of that vintage who get together annually for a pre-Christmas lunch and, slightly more unusually, dinner on St David’s Day – there being a strong Welsh element to the group. The idea for a wider reunion on this particular anniversary having been hatched at such a gathering, it was “viral networking” by the group, with the help in some cases of the Development and Alumni Office in tracing particular individuals.

Vince O’Brien, Harry Wyndham and Reg Clark were the event organisers, and twenty-two participants in the 1976 Matriculation ceremony finally sat down to fine food and wine in the splendid setting of the Garrick’s Milne Room on October 5th, one day earlier than the exact 30th anniversary of the event.

A very lively evening ensued involving... an attempt to assess how successful or otherwise the attendees had been as a sample group...

1976 freshers at the Garrick Club in London

A very lively evening ensued involving... an attempt to assess how successful or otherwise the attendees had been as a sample group...

1976 freshers at the Garrick Club in London

1976 freshers at the Garrick Club in London
The Role of a Year Representative

Year Reps are important sources of help for undergraduates and old members alike.

The Year Representative Scheme was set up by the college, and Christ Church Association, to improve the channels of communication between old members, and the House. The main task of Year Reps is ‘friendraising’. Their role is to nurture links with the college.

The Year Rep should act as a conduit for information and ideas between the Association and their year group, for example, helping to find ‘lost’ members. Year Reps can also help to promote events and to encourage attendance. They are encouraged to have innovative ideas for events and occasionally to help organise them. For example, they might arrange small dinners in college to celebrate special anniversaries or the Young Person’s event described in this issue by Annabel Charnock.

Year Reps can be important sources of help for undergraduates and old members alike. This may take the form of careers advice, or just help in networking for business contacts. In any case they can help to build strong networks for the future.

Year Reps attend one or two meetings a year, including a special dinner in college, so they are in regular contact with the House. Ideally there is more than one Rep per year so that a broad section of each year group is contacted and the work for the year group can be shared. And of course, with enthusiasm in the Year Rep team, there may occasionally be ad hoc projects for which Year Reps volunteer.

We are now looking to extend the scheme to include Area Reps for relevant areas such as countries, regions or cities. They would organise events such as those in Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore which are described on page 19. And as to how long you can be a Year or an Area Rep, well, they are appointed for an indefinite period, but of course may retire at any time!

“During the 15 or 10 years since the Association was started we have been told many times that old members’ main desire when attending events is to meet and stay in touch with their contemporaries. It was with this in mind that the Year Reps scheme was conceived. It is a system long and successfully used in business schools and American universities and is now being introduced to several Oxbridge colleges.”

Nick Alexander (1973)

If you would like to become a Year Rep or an Area Rep, or you would just like to find out a little more, please contact me on Simon.Offen@nationaltrust.org.uk or tel: 01869 343 920.

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ON TUESDAY 28th MARCH 30 old members and their spouses enjoyed a pre-season opening preview of Waddesdon Manor, followed by a wine tasting and supper in the Old Kitchens, now the Manor restaurant. This is the first of what we hope will become a series of behind the scenes tours for old members, organised by old members with connections at interesting venues.

The tour around the house was splendid, with the Collection looking wonderful following the winter clean. I then took the assembled group through an informal tasting of four Rothschild wines in the Waddesdon Cellars. These cellars are based on the private cellars at Lafite, and hold over 15,000 bottles. The supper was delicious, and with everyone seated around a large U shaped table, it was a wonderful end to an evening of fun, friendship and the best of 18th and 19th century culture.

Nineties and Noughties Cocktail Party 9th February 2006, Lab Bar, Soho, London

THE RETRO THEME of Lab Bar in Soho made it a fitting choice for a reunion of old members, albeit relatively young ones. It was the second decade-specific event organised by the Year Reps, following on from the success of the 1980s boat trip and dinner in June 2004. There were over sixty alumni packed into the downstairs bar for the ‘Young Person’s Event’ with people who had started at Christ Church in 1990 right up to those who had only left last year. The cocktail included with the ticket ensured that the evening got off to a good start, with friendships renewed and new contacts made over martinis and mojitos. The event went on until the bar closed at midnight, and the feedback was so positive that it was suggested it should be an annual event. Thank you to everyone who came along! The next ‘Young Person’s Event’ will be in the same place next year, on 31 May. For more information and to buy your ticket (£10 including a cocktail), please email: a_charnock@yahoo.co.uk
Over the last few years Christ Church has been keen to build up a better relationship with our old members, but we have concentrated our efforts largely on those in the UK and in the USA. This summer for the first time I travelled with the Dean, Christopher Lewis, and his wife Rhona, to Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore to visit old members of the House. There are approximately 90 old members in each city and we received an extremely warm welcome. In Tokyo, a dinner was held at a delightful French restaurant called La Niege. The evening was organised by the Oxford University Office in Tokyo and was attended by a number of old members, one of whom had matriculated in 1948. In Singapore there was a splendid gathering at Flutes on the Fort organised by David Walter (1983), where the Dean was presented with a beautiful illustrated book on Oxford, signed by all the old members present. Perhaps the highlight of the trip was the small, but perfectly arranged event in Hong Kong. Marc Harvey (1987) took the party across Hong Kong harbour on the Linklaters boat, to Lamma Island where an extremely enjoyable and very informal dinner was held at an outdoor seafood restaurant. The Dean and Mrs Lewis went on to Christchurch, New Zealand where they were joined for lunch by a number of old members and enjoyed the hospitality of Haydn Rawstrom (1968) at his Rossendale Winery. As well as the warm welcome received in each city, it was clear to us that old members were keen to have more contact with one another and to have more frequent Christ Church events. I hope that the dinners and meetings that took place in July will mark the beginning of a more vibrant Christ Church community in South East Asia.

All in a good cause...

We hear from three old members who have been involved in charity work

Michael Powell (1968) on the birth and rise of Champagne Opera

Like lots of professional and semi-professional musicians, I started singing at a young age – seven – and sang as a treble (I was a fairy in Britten’s Midsummer Night’s Dream at Covent Garden in 1961), becoming a tenor then a baritone at school (I now sing tenor again). I was a Choral Exhibitioner at Christ Church. When I left, my only ambition was to be a professional singer. I was too young and realised I had to do something else to make ends meet, so went into the fledgling IT business. My singing career has run alongside a business career ever since and I have been able to preserve a freelance lifestyle most of the time. In 1990 I met a man called John Nuding who had recently started First Act Opera. I had been singing in the UK and abroad on the semi-professional fringe. John’s background was not in music, so nobody had told him that you can’t make money running an opera company. I joined him and did many performances before moving up to Oxfordshire in 1994. A number of those performances were for charity and I was surprised to find that not only did this help the charity, but also it paid fees to the singers. When I left London, my wife and I decided to start a new opera company here and Champagne Opera was born. We performed at many dinners and events, to help companies with corporate hospitality and for ourselves. A few years ago, we held a concert for Cancer Relief in the garden of our farmhouse just outside Witney. That was a success and has led to three more such concerts.

The good thing about this is that the giver gets to enjoy the experience for his money, the performers are paid a fee and useful money is raised for the charity. This year, on September 3rd, we did our third such concert for Cancer Relief and recruited a local ladies choir to sing with us. I hope that the small amount we do for charity at least in part compensates for my own good fortune.

For more information on Champagne Opera:
Tel: Michael or Kerstin Powell on 01993 708294
E-mail: Powell.michael@operatics.co.uk
Web: www.operatics.co.uk.
so far they have already sold into Hamleys, various independents and of course from the website.

So, did my time at Christ Church and subsequent legal career prepare me for what I am doing now? Perhaps. Having worked in Asia certainly helped me understand the business realities when sourcing a manufacturer in China; and I suppose the vertical learning curve of the last two years in bringing an idea to reality in a cut throat market is comparable to the blind confusion experienced in one’s first tutorial or first meeting as an articled clerk. I’m certainly not afraid to ask questions any more. But perhaps more to the point: living with “Women should be in the home and not in the House” for 3 years probably prepares you for anything.

For more information on Angel Stars:
Email: fionarice@angelstars.co.uk
Web: www.angelstars.co.uk

FIONA RICE (1980) on living and working with Angel Stars

Just over 25 years ago, I joined the other first female matriculands who came up to start our university career at Christ Church. I read law and went on to become a finance lawyer for about 18 years.

It was more ‘life begins at’, rather than ‘mid-life crisis at’, 40 that made me leave the City. I had very much enjoyed my legal career; having worked in London and Asia and been a partner at a ‘magic circle’ firm for some years, but felt it was time for something else, including time with my 4 children.

I also had an idea growing in my head that would not go away. So, after taking some time off ‘just to be with the children’, I started researching the idea and the Angel Stars were born.

PR/marketing types will say that: ‘Angel Stars are a beautiful range of play dolls and action figures with Angel accessories, wonderful outfits and beautifully illustrated accompanying hard backed story books.’ Which they are. However, their overriding raison d’etre is that for each Angel Star purchased, a soft bodied Cherub Star doll is donated to a child in need, thereby raising Angel Stars into a completely different realm from other toys and gifts.

The obvious question is why donate a doll rather than food or water? With many respected charities providing money and food relief, Angel Stars seeks to address a different need. With the vision of delivering an Angel into the hands of every child, each donated Cherub Star represents an anonymous gift of love, showing that someone, somewhere cares.

Our website encourages children to follow Cherub Stars on their journeys to children in need and we are working with numerous wonderful charities to ensure that our Cherub Stars reach the right children, including Shelter and NSPCC.

It’s early days for Angel Stars, but charity, Oval House Theatre. I confess to knowing nothing about it until I met its Head of Fundraising, Valerie Boulet, at one of the receptions for people working in the city. What I heard impressed me. I visited the charity at the Oval and saw its amazing work among deprived children in South London. My wife and I went to see a couple of plays it put on. We thought it would be a good idea to raise a bit of money for this hugely worthwhile cause so we put on a lunch at our house. About 20 people came, including a number from Christ Church. 15 youngsters, who had all benefited from Oval House’s training, put on a mini-production of Peter Pan. It was very enjoyable and we raised about £3,000 for the charity.

STEPHEN FIELDING (1970) on working with Oval House and the Buttle Trust

When you go to the Oval cricket ground, you are within a stone’s throw of the Christ Church-connected Oval House Theatre. I confess to knowing nothing about it until I met its Head of Fundraising, Valerie Boulet, at one of the receptions for people working in the city. What I heard impressed me. I visited the charity at the Oval and saw its amazing work among deprived children in South London. My wife and I went to see a couple of plays it put on. We thought it would be a good idea to raise a bit of money for this hugely worthwhile cause so we put on a lunch at our house. About 20 people came, including a number from Christ Church. 15 youngsters, who had all benefitted from Oval House’s training, put on a mini-production of Peter Pan. It was very enjoyable and we raised about £3,000 for the charity.

The Buttle Trust is a charity operating throughout the UK. It gives away about £2m a year to children and families in need. I have been involved with it since the 1990s, and chair its investment committee. Grant giving is its main activity. Lately it has been influential in researching and highlighting the plight of care leavers. These are youngsters who have been in care. If you are a care leaver your chance of going to university is 10% of those who haven’t been in care. I rate the Buttle Trust’s work incredibly highly, just as I acknowledge what Oval House is doing for youngsters in real need. It’s wonderful to be connected with both charities.
DECEMBER 2006

15 December
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR: Christmas at St John's Smith Square London

Christmas concerts, including a new piece by Howard Goodall. Winter lullabies, specially composed for the choristers of Christ Church Cathedral.

Contact: Box Office 01225 221001 www.jss.co.uk

15 December and 20 December
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR: Carols from Christ Church
8pm Christ Church Cathedral

Christmas carols, performed by the choristers of Christ Church for a second year.

Contact: Box Office 01225 221001

19 December
CHRIST CHURCH PICTURE GALLERY: Picture Gallery 01865 276172

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 10:30am – 5pm; Sunday 2pm – 5pm.

Contact: Picture Gallery 01865 276172

22 December
CHRIST CHURCH PICTURE GALLERY: Picture Gallery 01865 276172

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 10:30am – 5pm; Sunday 2pm – 5pm.

Contact: Picture Gallery 01865 276172

FEBRUARY

17 February
CHRIST CHURCH FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA: Christ Church Cathedral

Silvestrov, Finlandia; Mendelssohn, Violin Concerto; Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 6; 'Pathétique' – R. Rihm, violin soloist; James Ross, conductor.

Tickets: Oxford Playhouse, onlinesales99@chch.ox.ac.uk www.chchplay.org.uk

Contact: Dr James Ross conductor@paso.org.uk

MARCH

3 March
CHRIST CHURCH PICTURE GALLERY: Study Day

To coincide with the Multiple Masters exhibition, the Picture Gallery will be holding a Study Day.

Contact: Picture Gallery 01865 276172

10 March
FAMILY PROGRAMME LUNCH: Christ Church

Lunch in Christ Church for parents of current undergraduates.

Contact: Sarah Thomas, Alumni Relations Officer onlinesales99@chch.ox.ac.uk sarah.thomas@chch.ox.ac.uk

13 March (Sat)
GEOGRAPHY DINNER: Christ Church

A dinner for all those who have studied Geography at the House.

Contact: Sarah Thomas, Alumni Relations Officer onlinesales99@chch.ox.ac.uk sarah.thomas@chch.ox.ac.uk

20-24 March
SUNDAY TIMES OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL: Christ Church

The Literary Festival will take place at Christ Church for a second year.

Contact: The Steward's Office onlinesales99@chch.ox.ac.uk www.sundaytimes-oxfordliteraryfestival.co.uk

MAY

5 May
COLLEGE SPECIFIC DEGREE DAY:

Contact: Margaret Hefton, Stewards Secretary onlinesales99@chch.ox.ac.uk

31 May
Cocktail Party: 6pm onwards at 99 Beaumont St, London W1G 4TQ

Contact: Alesidet Charnock acharnock@yahoo.co.uk
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