

Christ Church Matters

M I C H A E L M A S T E R M 2 0 0 7 ISSUE 20



Editorial

Emma Sinden
Alumni
Relations
Officer

"There were a few intoxicating moments when we could feel real power on the oars and speed through the water and remember..." Mark Baker (1961), organiser of the 'Rowers' Reunion,' (see p14).

Participation in Christ Church's sporting clubs has played an important role in the university lives of every generation of old members. The sports' theme in this edition of Christ Church Matters has been chosen to reflect and celebrate the enthusiasm they continue to have for their old sports' teams and the lifelong friendships that were formed during frosty winter mornings on the Isis, muddy battles on the rugby pitch and in dozens of other sporting arenas around Oxford.

The forthcoming Rugby Gaudy (p6) is just the start of what we hope will become a continuing tradition of old members coming together to celebrate the highs and lows of sporting life at Christ Church. The fruitful links between the current Boat Club and members of the Boat Club Society are an example of what we hope to establish for a range of different sports. Association News has more details about a new Sports Rep scheme being introduced in early 2008 (p23).

I hope you enjoy reading about the sporting exploits of both former and current members of the House. If you have sporting stories of your own that you would like to share with us then please get in touch!

Development and Alumni Office news

Over the summer the Development Office said farewell to three fine members of staff. Sarah Thomas, Luke Purser and Chris Clements have all moved on to new roles in and around Oxford and we wish them well in their new posts. The current team (see photo below) consists of Sandra Harrison as Development Secretary, Emma Sinden as Alumni Relations Officer, Shaun Melvin as Records and Research Manager and Marek Kwiatkowski as Development Director.

The latest addition to the Development Office is Chris Rocker, who joins us this autumn as Deputy Director for Overseas, having retired from a career in finance in March 2005. After coming down from Christ Church in 1970 he initially joined the Bank of America in London as a graduate trainee, moving to Chase Manhattan Bank two years later. He transferred with Chase to New York where he spent the next 6 years with the Ship Financing Group. This was followed by various assignments in the UK, Canada and the US, culminating in a position as a Managing Director in New York responsible for Global Commodities and Natural Resources clients. In 1998 Chris returned to the UK as Chief Financial Officer of the Vitol Group of Companies, a Swiss-based private company involved in oil trading. His current activities include charitable work in India and Sri Lanka, as well as an abiding passion for international travel and fly fishing for trout and salmon.

Chris will be a much-valued member of the Development team, further strengthening our connections in the US and many other parts of the world.

BELOW: Chris Rocker



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Cardinal Sins

Notes from the archives

Judith Curthoys Archivist

RIGHT: Photo of Archive being emptied by Cristina Neagu

BELOW: Judith Curthoys



PHOTO: KT Bruce

The Christ Church archive has been sent to the mines. The archivist herself has been reprieved such a sentence but, while the work is continuing on Blue Boar Quad, the historic records of the House are being stored off-site for about a year.

The archive dates right back to Wolsey's foundation of Cardinal College in 1525 and, in his statutes, he set down precisely how all the muniments, monies, and treasures of the college were to be kept. Chapel goods and vestments were to be stored in the sacristy, but college items such as the seal and the foundation documents, money chests of all sorts, and all records were to be kept locked in the muniment tower behind a secure and strong door with three keys. Estate and account records were to be kept in a specially constructed cupboard, and were not to be displayed too often. Inventories and registers of everything were to be kept.

The tower was never built, of course – Wolsey's fall put paid to the completion of the college - but somewhere safe must have been found; the University's charter of privileges, drawn up in 1523 and read to congregation in 1528, were delivered to Cardinal College, rather than the University Archives, for safe-keeping.

Nothing changed for many years. Henry VIII had no time to make plans to complete Wolsey's buildings, and although much building work took place to make Christ Church habitable, no major works took place until after the Civil War. Things must have settled into a routine, and even John Fell, with his enthusiasm and energy, made no effort to include a Muniment Room in his designs.

For most of our history, papers were kept in the offices from which they originated: Cathedral records in the Chapter House, or one of those tiny attic rooms in the east cloister, and Treasury in the offices under the Hall. In the 1730s these rooms were specially strengthened with bars and strong locks, and a new chest purchased to keep the college cash. Many papers were kept by the officers themselves, and on several occasions, the Dean and Chapter found it necessary to recall all the records held by individuals to double-check that they were intact and safe.

In 1772, when the Old Library was converted into rooms, the northern side of the cathedral cloister was set aside and adapted for the storage of records. New windows were installed, and every effort made to ensure that the muniments would be safe and secure. It can't have been a satisfactory solution, and Gilbert Scott, charged with the restoration and beautification of the cathedral, evidently thought it distinctly unappealing and evicted the archive from its century-old home. Records were returned to the offices.

Archivists, it is frequently said, always want more space. But archives rarely get smaller; their very nature is to grow. By the 1920s, something had to be done, and a decision was made to send all the medieval deeds relating to the properties with which Christ Church had been endowed to the Bodleian Library. They remain there today on long-term deposit. Thirty years on, the Treasurer decided that the archive needed still more expert attention. A young graduate student, Geoffrey Bill, was recommended by J.N.L. Myres to sort out and catalogue the older deeds. A room was set aside in Peck 6, and all the older Treasury material – deeds, maps, correspondence - was gradually catalogued, calendared and reboxed.

It was when Blue Boar Quad was first proposed that the possibility of a 'proper' Muniment Room was raised. The archive, though, was destined for Blue Boar 4 – in the basement. Dr Bill complained vociferously; a basement was not the right place for the archive, especially under residential rooms with all the problems that might ensue. His predictions came true; the room was constantly damp, too cold in winter, too hot in summer. Space, too, became a major issue as papers began to accumulate. By the beginning of the twenty-first century, there was not an inch of space left.

Now, though, Blue Boar is undergoing a major refurbishment. The archive has been moved out to make way for a lecture theatre, and will return, not to its dungeon, but to an environmentally-controlled, above-ground repository in the old Brewhouse. For the first time in 500 years, the college and cathedral records will have a 'proper' home which should do them justice and keep them in good condition for the benefit of our administrators and researchers for many decades to come.

SCR Research

Divine Qualities

One of the questions that struck me most in history at school was 'What makes a Frenchman French or a German German?' As identity became very much one of the buzzwords of the 1990s I became increasingly conscious of how often the values of a particular community are spoken of as though they were somehow innate and predetermined. This kind of thinking, with different degrees of nuance, is found in the media ('an onslaught on the national identity and bedrock values of this country...'); in government initiatives ('national values' in education); and in scholarship. But statements of this kind are not simply arguments about an unchanging set of values. They have an effect of their own. I set out to think through these kinds of questions as they apply to the ancient world, and specifically to Romans of the Republican period. One of the justifications used by people who make such statements about given Roman values is that such values received public cult in Rome. Qualities like 'good faith', 'harmony', 'honour', 'freedom', 'welfare', 'good luck', 'hope', and 'victory' had temples and received sacrifice in the City. But can we simply conclude from this that all we need to do in order to understand important 'Roman values' is to identify qualities that received worship? *Virtus* ('courage or 'virtue'), for example, which received cult in the Republic, is claimed as a particularly Roman quality by some ancients—but it is a short yet dangerous step to allow this to lead us to the conclusion that this was

Anna Clark
Tutor in Roman History

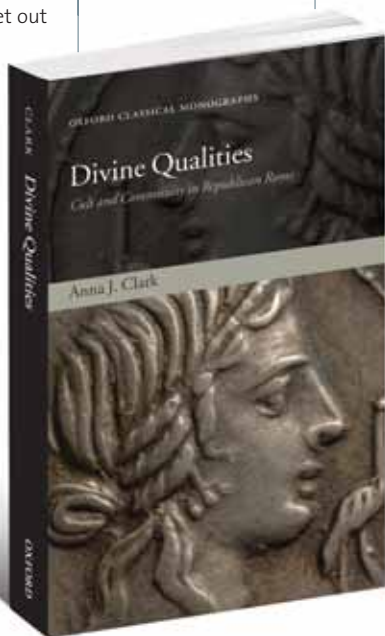


PHOTO: KT Bruce

a particularly Roman quality because it received cult, or, worse still, that 'Romans were particularly brave'. I chose to focus rather on the various ways in which such qualities were made accessible to members of a community, through the decision to make them objects of cult and especially through the social consequences of such decisions. Qualities that became 'divine' were mediated through oral, visual and written symbols and attributes—temples, altars, rituals, appearances in processions, plays and coin images. They were found in contexts ranging from speeches to graffiti, festivals to passwords, plays to prodigies, temples to tombs, and board games to brothels. The range of interactions by individuals and groups with these qualities was, I concluded, what made these qualities 'Roman' as much as, if not more than, the initial decision to install them in the physical City and its ritual calendar.

By examining surviving evidence for such interactions in the broadest range of contexts possible, I also saw that the language of divine qualities was far from confined to élites, as is often assumed. These qualities were familiar to, and could make meaning for a very wide social spectrum, from slaves to emperors. What made a Roman 'Roman' was not some essence of 'Roman-ness' but a set of practices in which divine qualities had an important part to play.

Anna Clark came to Oxford after studying at St Andrews, and read for a DPhil at Merton College. She has been Tutor in Roman History at Christ Church since 2003. Her book ***Divine Qualities: Cult and Communities in Ancient Rome*** was published by Oxford University Press in October 2007 and is available at www.oup.com





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South African Theatre in London

Valerie Boulet
Fundraiser, Oval House

A young girl loses family and home, and is forced on a journey fraught with danger and uncertainty. How does she rebuild her life in her strange new home?

At Oval House Theatre, these are issues faced by many of the young refugees and asylum seekers who attend our project. On this occasion, however, the girl in question is a character in an award-winning South African play that we hope to bring to London in June 2008.

Every year, every day, I am walking traces the story of a girl and her mother as they flee from central Africa to the urban jungle of Johannesburg. A piece about dislocation and the meaning of home, it celebrates the human ability to regain a sense of dignity and identity through the power of the imagination.

Oval House Theatre has always supported the powerful, imaginative and politically astute theatrical work of South Africa. In fact, last year we presented eight months of exciting work from the region. Thanks to the British Council,



our head of programming Ben Evans saw this new play in its original context earlier this year during a tour of South African arts festivals and venues.

Every year, every day, I am walking reveals why international dialogue is important in the arts. South Africa is facing challenges of asylum and immigration that mirror our own: as

the most prosperous of Africa's nations, it is the destination for many of those fleeing Somalia, Angola, Burundi, Ethiopia and Eritrea. This production, developed by Magnet Theatre, one of South Africa's leading theatre companies, illuminates these challenges with imagination, beauty, mischief and uncompromising rigour.

Oval House Theatre is currently raising funds to support this co-presentation. To find out more about the production, or to learn about Oval House Theatre's work with refugees and asylum seekers, please contact Valerie Boulet on (020) 7735 2869 or valerie.boulet@ovalhouse.com





OGGY, OGGY, OGGY... House, House, House!

ABOVE: *The House Rugby XV 1902-3*

Rugby at Christ Church

At its best a Christ Church education should be rounded and complete, involving not only grappling with the finer points of the iambic pentameter, the political thought of Aristotle or the double helix, but also pulling an oar in an icy cold early morning river, rolling around in the mud contesting possession of an oval shaped ball and, most important of all, being able to bob up and down whilst balancing a pint of beer on your head and singing loudly in the Buttery. I am personally grateful to the rugby club at the House for providing me with some of those experiences, in addition to some very happy memories and lasting friendships.

Christ Church is not necessarily a renowned sporting college within the University and lacks the reputation that some colleges have achieved in that respect from time to time over the years. It has, however, had its moments; largely provided by the boat club in the Summer Eights, and on occasion other sporting clubs have emulated those achievements. In one "annus mirabilis", 1974, the college achieved what is probably a unique treble of Head of the River and winners of both Rugby and Cricket Cuppers. The rugby club in particular enjoyed a purple patch

Reg Clark
1976

around this time, going on to win three times in six years.

Despite the fact that the 1974

Rugby Cuppers winning side were the first to achieve this since 1923, rugby does have a tradition at the college going back to the codification and establishment of the game at the University. A glance at the composition of the Oxford side contesting the first Varsity Match in 1872 shows no less than four House players and the college is well represented in subsequent years, with many of those players not surprisingly being old boys of Rugby School. Not having studied the archives I have no background to the first Cuppers victory achieved by the House in 1923 and it is fair to say that from this period until the 1970s notable players at the House were few and far between. Peter Cranmer the prominent Oxford and England centre in the early 1930s and Chris Saunders, an outstanding South African full back in the 1951 Oxford side are some examples which spring to mind.

Quite why the college became such a force to be reckoned with on the rugby field in the late 1970's is difficult to know. Prior to this St Edmund Hall, who were very much always the team to beat in this era, had won the inter-college competition for the best part of a decade and featured a large number of Blues in

their sides each year. Remarkably, each of the three Christ Church winning sides of this time featured only one Blue, and relied very much on team spirit and extraordinary performances by individual players without, initially, any university wide reputation. This certainly points to the absence of any policy on the part of the admissions tutors of the time to achieve such a result, and that can be contrasted with the way in which other colleges have achieved similar results since. It was probably a happy accident, and these successes all seem to have been achieved very much against the odds and reasonable expectation, rather like those of the England XV in the recent World Cup. This of course is what makes them all the more enjoyable for those taking part and why they have a tendency to live long in the memory. The 1974 and 1979 Cuppers finals are described in detail here - the 1975 victory over Keble was a hard fought 4-0 victory in dreadful conditions, remembered as a dour encounter by those who played in it. The college went on to appear twice more in the final of cuppers, in 1981 and 1982 and since then the fortunes of the rugby club have somewhat waned. Nonetheless, the House has continued to produce occasional representatives in the Varsity Match. South African Rhodes Scholar Fanie du Toit (1991) was an outstanding scrum half in three



ABOVE: The 1979 Coppers winning side celebrate outside the Ifley Road pavilion

successive Varsity Matches in the 1990s and our last Blue was Matthew Parker (1994) at hooker in 1999.

I sincerely hope that those currently playing rugby at the House are enjoying it as much as their predecessors and that “bobbing up and down” in the Buttery is not yet a thing of the past.

Reg Clark was at the House from 1976 to 1980 and in addition to playing for the college throughout that time, won rugby Blues in 1978 and 1979 at centre and fly half. After a varied career in the City and in industry he is now Chief Executive of Rhino Rugby, manufacturers and suppliers of sports equipment, based in Chiswick. He was a trustee of Oxford University RFC for over 20 years and was Treasurer of the Liberal Democrat Party from 2000 to 2005. He is married with two children and lives in Kew.

Christ Church 18 St Edmund Hall 4

Cuppers Final, March 12 1974

Against a Teddy Hall side stacked with Blues and Greyhounds, which was defending a run of eight straight successes in the competition, a largely unfancied House XV brought off a stunning victory that was described by Ron Grimshaw of the Oxford Mail with a mixture of alliteration and bathos as “complete, comprehensive and competent”. The Christ

Church team had been moulded by the redoubtable Jock Lee, a Junior All Black flanker who was the side’s only Blue and it was very much a case of team spirit and desire to win overcoming a XV which thought it only had to turn up in order to triumph. In a fast and exciting game both to play in and watch, the victory was secured by 4 tries to 1 (a try in those days being worth 4 points) and if our normally reliable kicker, trainee vicar Chris Turner, had not left his kicking boots in the vestry, the margin of victory would have been even more decisive. Christ Church reached half time leading 10-0 following tries from wing John Harvey and centre Rob Derry-Evans (one converted) and a second try by John Harvey and a final touch down by lock Rob McCurragh put the result well out of Teddy Hall’s reach before they scored a late consolation effort.

All in all a great day and well worth waiting for after a gap of 51 years since the only previous

House appearance and success in the Cuppers final. It was rumoured that there was a small celebration in the Buttery that evening and that the statue of Cyrillo Jackson did not go unscathed!

Team: *Hugh Dias; John Harvey, Rob Derry-Evans, Chris Turner, Tom Dowie; John Tenconi, Martin Elliot; Dave Denby, Jonny Cameron, Gwyn Davies, Rob McCurragh, Chris Kinch, Jock Lee (Capt.), Dickie Warner, Mark Perfect.*

**Jonathan
Derry-Evans**
1976

Christ Church 9 Oriel 6

Cuppers Final, March 5 1979

There was more than an element

of “after the Lord Mayors Show” about this game as the key event in the winning of Cuppers in 1979 was a spectacular and widely unexpected 12-11 semi-final victory over a St Edmund Hall side containing seven Blues and who were strong favourites to win the competition. Whilst on that occasion, the House XV played to the very limits of their ability and beyond, the final was a dull, attritional affair against a limited Oriel side, in which we let a number of chances go begging. Having turned round at 3 all, we looked set to record what would have been in the circumstances a very frustrating and avoidable 6-3 defeat as the minutes ticked down. The winning score has to be credited to No 8 Angus Macpherson who capped another lively performance, following a spectacular one in the semi final, with a penalty try in which he was impeded from scoring a certain touchdown. Reg Clark converted to add to his earlier drop goal, and we eked out the final minutes for a 9-6 victory – a most forgettable game, notable only for a victory which the epic semi final success merited.

Team: *Mark White; Frank Camilleri, Simon Morrison, Tim Harlow, Andrew Roger; Reg Clark (capt), Jon Derry-Evans; Bob Marsden, Andy Moss, Philip Schofield, Geoffrey Picton-Turbervill, Vince O'Brien, Peter Huxford, Paul Baker, Angus Macpherson.*

Robert Derry-Evans
1970

Rugby Gaudy

30 September 2008

If you remember fondly the highs and lows of House rugby then make sure you put the 30 September 2008 in your diary when Christ Church will be holding the first ever Rugby Gaudy in Hall. Old members from every generation of Christ Church rugby players are invited, including the current team. A booking form for this event will be included in the next edition of Christ Church Matters.

Christ Church RFC in the present day

Christopher Perfect

2007-2008 President, Christ Church RFC (2006)

a strong group of Freshers in Michaelmas 2006 brought some solidity into the pack, as well as a modicum of strength in depth

It is no exaggeration to say that Christ Church Rugby Football Club has experienced a renaissance in the last year. From finishing bottom of the bottom division, in a winless Hilary 2006, the club is, at the time of writing in October 2007, one win away from achieving a third consecutive promotion, which, if achieved, would take us into the first division for the first time in more than 15 years.

The reasons for the dramatic transformation are many. Firstly, a strong group of Freshers in Michaelmas 2006 brought some solidity into the pack, as well as a modicum of strength in depth, before additions in Michaelmas 2007 injected some pace and much-needed creativity into the backline. But the credit for what has been an enjoyable, while highly creditable turn-around must really go in two different directions. Firstly, men such as Stephen Brett (2003), Jack Tarrell (2003) and Jack May (2003) (who have now graduated) and Gareth Davies (2004) (the son of a Cuppers-winning Christ Church captain, and still with us), who kept the club going at a time when finding 15 players was a challenge that we were not always able to meet, and when we virtually never won, are owed a good deal of gratitude. Secondly, the leadership of inside centre Duncan Chiah (2005) in the 06/07 season provided the side with the necessary ambition and focus to achieve last year's double promotion success. As well as routinely striking terror into his opposite numbers, Duncan was able to instil the club with the discipline to follow a simple, but effective game-plan which led to our success.

So, what does the future hold? In the next fortnight, we have to win one game for the third consecutive promotion mentioned earlier. Then,

after dusting ourselves down from the celebrations, the club has to focus on establishing itself in the top division of Oxford rugby and, especially, prepare for a serious attempt at Cuppers, the first in many years in which we can consider ourselves serious contenders. Then, perhaps, we will have some stories of our own to tell at the Rugby players' Gaudy!



RIGHT: Christ Church RFC in action last year against St John's/St Anne's.



ABOVE: Organist and Music Tutor Stephen Darlington in a tutorial PHOTO: Bi Scott

Notes from the Deanery

When people return here, they tell stories: exploits along with memories of the sports field or the cathedral, the meadow or Peckwater Quad. Yet there is no doubt that the most frequent and telling of the reminiscences concern tutors. There is a preference for the somewhat off-beam 'original': talented and with time, knowing his (and later, her) protégées one by one. Some tutors, who were no doubt a nuisance to their peers, are referred to with special praise by those who sat at their feet. '...s tutorials were wonderfully irrelevant'. But then: 'Insofar as I think of myself as a rational, sensible and balanced man it is because of'. Or: 'The Oxford tutorial system in those days, with one-on-one hour-long sessions, was at its best unsurpassable, so much so that I felt it not worthwhile wasting time on lectures...' (Quotations from 'A Portrait of the House').

Tutors take part in what Oxford calls (and defends as) a tutorial system, but perhaps that is to get it wrong, for it is not experienced as particularly systematic. Tutorials approach with speed, allowing the recipient too little time. Yet that is the point: to have the dexterity to assimilate information in limited time, order it, defend it and then learn from the experience. That is the best preparation for what many of us do for the rest of our lives. What could be better than to be taught to think?

The House has just come third in the

Christopher Lewis
Dean

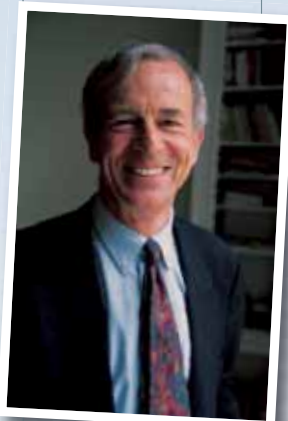


PHOTO: Bi Scott

What could be better than to be taught to think?

Norrington table – it was not ever so – which is a credit to tutors and to tutored. That is evidence that tutorials, backed up by other methods of teaching, are working here. Without them, the House would slide towards being a mere hall of residence, whereas the reality is that it provides all kinds of dimensions of life for its members.

On the world scene, Oxford maintains its standing and that reputation owes as much or more to teaching as it does to research. It would be a tragedy to do less of what we are best at, in order to do more of what many other universities do just as well as us.

I think that the tutorial 'system' is in good shape, but there are threats. First that the university (in league with government methods of finance) me, by one means or another, devalue teaching in order to promote more research. Secondly, that we me not be able to attract the best tutors: the downside of all the wonderful things said about tutors is that if you get a bad one, you are often trapped. Thirdly, the whole thing is expensive.

The memories of Charles Stuart are much as described in my first paragraph above, so we hope that the current work to endow a Studentship in his name will at least make history teaching more secure. Many thanks to those who support the tutorial system in word and deed.



PHOTO: KT Bruce

Nicholas Coulton
Sub-Dean

ABOVE LEFT: *The new Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Revd. John Pritchard.*

ABOVE RIGHT: *Bell ringing and fancy dress competition entrants.*

Two events have involved many people in much preparation this summer. The Inauguration of the new Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Revd. John Pritchard, took place in June. It began with processions through the streets: the Vice-Chancellors' processions from Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University came along the High Street from St. Mary's and at Carfax met the Lord Mayor's and Recorder's procession from the Town Hall. There they welcomed the Bishop with the Area Bishops and Archdeacons processing from St. Michael at the Northgate, escorted along Cornmarket by Northumbrian pipers since John Pritchard was previously Bishop of Jarrow. The Bishop said a prayer for the City and the Universities, and then the whole procession moved to Tom Gate where the Lord Lieutenants and High Sheriffs for the three counties (Berks, Bucks and Oxon) which make up the Oxford diocese, were waiting together with the Chief Constable for Thames Valley. They all went on ahead into the cathedral, while the Bishop was led across Tom Quad by a specially-formed choir of children from the Cathedral School and from St. Ebbe's Church of England Primary School who attended the Bishop while he knocked at the west doors. The children sang an anthem, as did the Cathedral Choir, during a complex service in which in different parts of the cathedral the Bishop was anointed, enthroned and welcomed. The service itself was only one of three: since it was impossible



PHOTO: KT Bruce



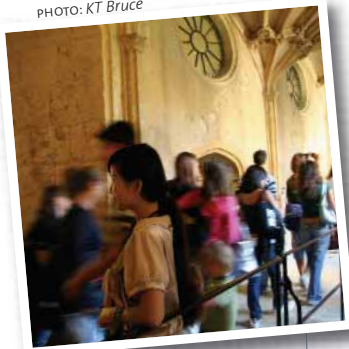
PHOTO: G Sinden

Cathedral News

to get into the cathedral the full range of representation from all the various civic, community and church constituencies which needed to be covered, the Bishop came again two days later for a Eucharist with all the licensed clergy and lay ministers, and two days later again for a Eucharist for members of religious communities together with retired clergy. Amazingly, the sun shone on all three days, and each service was followed by a party in the Masters' garden.

The Masters' garden also played a part in the Cathedral and College Open Day in September. A large ring of bells was set up on the lawn for visitors to "have a go". All the gardens were open for picnics, and a café in the JCR overflowed onto the Tom Quad terraces with tea-tables and an ice-cream point. Inside the cathedral were concerts, flower-arranging and embroidery demonstrations, stalls of all sorts, and Third World discussions. Tours of the Upper Library, the Picture Gallery, the Hall, the Bell-ringing Chamber and the Gardens attracted many visitors. A fancy dress competition for Alice and Harry Potter costumes was judged by Mrs. Rhona Lewis. The first Open Day two years ago drew about 2,700 people; to this one came some 6,000 people. Many stayed for the whole day, happy to enjoy the various attractions and remaining for Choral Evensong, and some for the dinner in Hall which was fully subscribed weeks before the event. Again the sun shone brilliantly.

PHOTO: KT Bruce



Telephone Campaign

Telephone Campaign 2007

Although still comparatively new, the annual Christ Church Telephone Campaign is clearly becoming one of the traditions of the House. For the seventh time, fifteen enthusiastic undergraduates gathered again in the Liddell Building this September, ready to engage in conversations with nearly 2,500 members of the Christ Church community and to raise money for the House. Russell Clarke, who took part in this year's Campaign, reports:

The Telephone Campaign seemed like the perfect job in which to display my most prominent weakness; the opportunity to yoke garrulity to a useful cause proved too tempting for me to resist. But, quite seriously, it was a splendid chance not only to talk about Christ Church, but also the rather pressing issue of future employment which, as a finalist, interested me strangely. Obviously the fundraising element had to be stressed from time to time but there was no shortage of openings to discuss subjects of mutual interest - and the superlative team in the Development Office did all they could to ensure that the interests of callers and those they called coincided.

Having never regularly asked for money over the phone before (the honourable exception being my parents), it was, to begin with, a daunting prospect. However, Christ Church is an institution which seems to inspire enough affection as to obviate the



Russell Clarke
2005

embarrassment I expected; the vast majority of those we called were quick to realise the necessity of such a step. The responsibilities of the House are commensurate with its privileges and they exist in a symbiotic relationship - without one, the other could not survive. This being understood, the response from alumni was fantastic, with around sixty percent offering financial help to the Annual Fund. This

money is ploughed directly into such causes as student support and the maintenance of the tutorial system. Occasionally, early on a Monday morning, discussing the intricacies of Milton's verse à deux may seem like something of a mixed blessing but it would be disastrous to lose the system which allows such rigorous examination of ideas.

Working on the Campaign itself was terrific fun. A game of Risk based on the amount of money raised by improvised teams was something of a peculiar highlight. I, personally, received many offers of help from Old Members and other members of the Christ Church community with regards to employment - and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them publicly for their kind assistance. The atmosphere in the call room was one of light-hearted camaraderie - the success of which approach is testified to by the sum of nearly £300,000, raised in just two weeks, attributable entirely to the generosity of members of the Christ Church community and the affection the House continues to excite in them.

The Norrington Table was the idea of Sir Arthur Norrington who first ranked the Oxford Colleges on the basis of results in the Final Honour School in 1962. It is calculated by attributing points: 5 for a student who receives a 1st Class degree, 3 points for a 2:1, 2 for a 2:2 and 1 for a 3rd, divided by the maximum possible score (i.e. the total number of finalists) in that college multiplied by 5, and then expressed as a percentage, rounded to two decimal places, per college.

The University has, from time to time, refused to endorse the table because of alleged inaccuracies, but in 2005 it produced its own official Norrington Score.

Some critics point out that the table excludes all postgraduate examinations; several colleges which regularly appear low on the Norrington Table achieve impressive graduate student results. The table is also biased towards colleges which have larger than average numbers of students in science subjects where a higher proportion of students achieve 1st Class degrees in comparison with arts degrees. Cambridge University's equivalent, the Tomkins Table, uses an algorithm which takes this

Finals' Results

2007

Belinda Jack
Senior Censor

Christ Church achieves a higher percentage of firsts than any other Oxford College

PHOTO: Ralph Williamson



into consideration.

Whatever its shortcomings, Christ Church can take it seriously and with pleasure, since we have been ranked third in the University, ahead of Balliol, New, and St John's Colleges which have come top once or more since 2000. More encouraging still, Christ Church undergraduates achieved the highest percentage of Firsts — 48% — of any college in the University, a first for the college. Does this mean that Christ Church attracts both the most able and committed students, whilst allowing a small number of less able, or less hard-working students to remain at the House? Rumour has it that some of our Oxford competitors take the Norrington table too seriously, allowing it to encourage less humane academic disciplinary procedures; and Cambridge's complex algorithms may speak for themselves. The bronze medal shines brightly in this context. In the end what matters is not competition, but the existence of Oxford and other excellent universities. As George Bernard Shaw said, 'A fool's brain digests philosophy into folly, science into superstition, and art into pedantry. Hence University education.'

A Day in the Life of the College Chaplain



After ten years as College Chaplain at Christ Church, I am pleased to say that I have enjoyed this year's Freshers' Week as much as ever. One of the reasons for the satisfaction I get from my work is its variety. There is no typical day, but a great assortment of pastoral work, conversations with staff, meetings, and a good deal of email and website activity. Most days contain some of each, punctuated with many encounters with individuals around the college.

I get into work around 8.30am, after our children have gone to school and the cat has been fed, although I am sometimes tempted to look at my email in the quiet of an empty house first. In college I try to begin the day with morning prayer, making other things wait, as a reminder of right priorities. First thing this morning there were tasks to see to including emails about weddings, the College Choir, new

members of the Catholic Society, and the latest mailing from the Development Office to Old Members. At ten o'clock I left my room in the rain to meet the Treasurer and the Chair of the College Computing Committee to talk about our increasing IT activity, and the way in which our excellent staff are managing their ever increasing workload. I came back to the office afterwards and wrote a long description of the importance of the University Counselling Service for Christ Church, to be submitted to a University review committee. A knock at the door brought a member of the cathedral staff to discuss a suggestion for a new piece of art by a Junior Member to be placed where we hold our college services in the cathedral. We talked about where it might go, how other people in the cathedral might feel about it, and how to make it happen. While we were talking a graduate student came to the door and waited a few minutes until we had finished. She came to say hello on returning to Christ Church after a year away, to bring me up to date with her academic plans and to ask about getting involved in our Home Learning Scheme with Oxford children. A new Cathedral Canon was coming to talk to me at 12 noon, and we talked until lunch about moving into Christ Church and settling into its unique life.

Ralph Williamson
College Chaplain,
Website Editor

BELOW: Ralph officiating at a wedding in the Cathedral.

TOP RIGHT: Table football in the JCR. Photo: Sophie Biddell

PHOTO: Stefan Willitsch





Often I eat lunch in the Hall and sit with someone I know, or someone I have not had the chance to speak to before. On other days I might meet an old student or another chaplain in town for a sandwich. But today I went across Tom Quad in the heavy rain to the SCR and chatted to tutors in maths, medicine and classics about the 'freshers' they are starting to teach this week, and about the new activities of some who have finished. Prawn curry and fruit salad. Very nice.

At 2pm I was visited by a second year student who had spent her summer in Botswana, working for a small orphanage which is caring for the children orphaned by HIV and Aids. She was so moved by her experience that she is determined to use some of her time here to raise awareness of the problem and money to pay for food, gasoline, blankets and new toilet facilities for the orphaned children of Serowe. I suggested that old members might be keen to support a special event, and that students might enjoy something outdoors in the Summer, with music and entertainment for this excellent cause. For my part, I can offer the chance to dedicate to these children's precarious lives the collection from our Advent Carol Service at the end of term. Our student went away pleased, and with a lot of people to see about her plans. You may hear more about this.

With an hour or so to spare, I had a couple of things to adjust and add to the Oxford Chaplains' website, and to the Christ Church website, an invitation to a workshop on student depression to circulate, a phonecall or two, and then a 'day in the life of a College Chaplain' to write. A text from my daughter tells me she's at after school sculpture club. One more letter to write, about the college choir, then I must go home, but I'll be back at 6.15pm for drinks with new graduates. It's been a good day in a life I am privileged to enjoy very much.



City Investment Forum

Marek Kwiatkowski
Development Director

Around 70 old members came to the City of London Club on Thursday 25 October 2007 for a Christ Church Investment Forum.

Arranged for us by Sir David Scholey, the purpose of the evening was to explain the House's finances and investment management strategy and to share the challenges facing our investment committee.

James Lawrie, the Treasurer, drew attention to the fact that the endowment, now worth about £250m, provided around 40% of the House's income in 2006/07. Despite tight cost control and innovative attempts to boost revenue, the House finds it difficult to break even. No more could be taken without imperilling the endowment's long term purchasing power.

The current asset allocation is about one-third each in long only equity, a diversity portfolio including unlisted investments, and direct property. The intention is to reduce our property exposure to around 25%.

OXIP represents the bulk of the House's diversity portfolio. Karl Sternberg (1988) described the highly diversified investment portfolio, which the fund has built up over the last 18 months. OXIP invests in everything from traditional equities to distressed private equity, and from small cap activist managers to private finance initiative contracts. Owned by four other colleges as well as Christ Church, OXIP now has £200m under management. The fund has returned 12.2% over the last twelve months, with less than half the volatility of equities. Since inception, the number is 9.4%, before taking account of any increase in value of some 15% of the fund which is not marked to market.

After the presentation, a number of interesting suggestions were made for future investment ideas, which are being followed up by the Treasurer and OXIP.

One of the keys to the investment success of US academic endowments has been their ability to tap into the knowledge and networks of their alumni. Clearly not all House members in the financial services sector could sit on the Investment Group, but the Treasurer encouraged old members to come forward with any investment ideas relevant to our strategy. Access to capacity constrained funds, for example, might be of great value.

An enjoyable and informative evening concluded with a reception in the Upper Smoking Room.

Vignettes from a (Brooklyn) Yank at Christ Church 1960-1962



Mitch Gitin
(1960)

The Cold

It wasn't that it was absolutely cold my first winter in Oxford (New York could get much colder), but that one could never get warm! I had two huge rooms to myself in Meadows, each heated by a single, feeble electrical coil, and I woke up every morning to find ice crystals in my wash basin. Central heating had not yet been invented (at least in the UK). During one between-terms interval, I visited a classmate from the House whose family resided in northern England and we spent most of the day in front of a coal fire, alternately freezing and being scorched as we turned from front to back before the fire. When the family (and I and some other guests) went upstairs to the bedrooms at night, I fancied that my classmate's mother silently took a headcount so that in the morning she could tell if someone had frozen to death overnight and not made it down for breakfast. One day, passing a shop in the Cornmarket, I saw, wonder-of-wonders, a sign advertising cashmere bed socks. Needless to say, I bought several pairs, and to this day, 45 years later, I am unable to fall asleep without some sort of socks on my feet.

Think Nothing of It, My Boy.

I read Modern History and the House had an incredibly strong set of tutors in this subject. One term, I enjoyed tutorials with Dr. Theodore Zeldin. In February, during



term time, the weather suddenly turned incredibly warm and the trees blossomed.

I showed up for one tutorial early one evening and told Dr. Zeldin: "Sir, I didn't do my paper this week, the weather was too nice and there were too many parties." Not batting an eyelid, he replied: "Think nothing of it, my boy, come have a glass of sherry." When years later I repeated this story to fellow students in Harvard Law School, with its factory-line assembly (but hugely high-quality) approach to legal education, they reacted with utter incredulity, as if I had come from another planet.

UK Astronauts

Those were the years of the space-race, triggered by the launch of Sputnik by the Russians. President Kennedy announced that the US would be happy to entertain applications from UK citizens to become astronauts. When I read this in the newspaper, brimful with excitement, I asked a classmate in the House what he thought of that. Not dead-panning it I believe, but rather deadly serious, he responded "What sort of pensions do you think those chaps will get?"

Food

As a current resident (nearly 10 years now) of London who hugely enjoys the London restaurant scene, I remember by contrast . . . brussel sprouts (alas, sometimes served in Hall) overcooked to the point where when you touched them with the tines of a fork they dissolved into a grey, absolutely tasteless puddle (I now adore



PHOTO: Ian Brown

steamed brussel sprouts grown in England) . . . peas eaten in north Wales in a nondescript cafe near Caernarfon Castle which were not friendly and "mushy" but rather green balls of chalk which glowed as if they had somehow come out of a Chernobyl-equivalent.

I Tackle Professor Isaiah Berlin

Possibly the greatest resident intellect in the University at that time, a Senior Fellow of All Souls, was Professor Isaiah Berlin. He was presenting a series of lectures which in the States we would have called a "survey course" in political theory. I avidly attended all his brilliant lectures. One day, his subject was the political philosopher and Dutch jurist, Hugo Grotius. Somehow that lecture didn't hang together. Accordingly, at its end, I approached Professor Berlin and said "Professor Berlin, at the beginning of today's lecture you said [such and such] about Grotius and at the end of the lecture you said [such and such]. Aren't those two points mutually contradictory?" We were having this conversation while walking towards the entrance of Examination Schools where the lecture room was located. Another gowned don passed by and, to my mortification, Professor Berlin called out to him: "Professor [so and so] - I have just given a lecture on Grotius; Professor [so and so] - I will never again give a lecture on Grotius."

Spend a Spring Weekend in Heaven!

27 - 30 March 2008

John Harris
Steward

Christ Church is reaching for the stars! Themes for our 2008 spring Special Interest weekend are taking a new direction with the introduction of a programme on astronomy together with a historical look at what is still known to many as the Boer War.

Professor Roger Davies, Professor of Astrophysics at Oxford University and a Student of Christ Church, is leading the astronomy option and has attracted an array of speakers who must qualify as the very finest experts in their particular fields.

Arabic, Chinese and ancient European civilisations are amongst those who have practised astronomy across the millennia. Now contemporary astronomy has reached remarkable insights into our origins in fate. Not only have we sent probes to planets, moons, asteroids and comets but we have discovered over 200 planets beyond our solar system.

It is less than a hundred years since mankind discovered the universe of billions of galaxies like our own Milky Way, each one containing many billions of stars. Modern ground and space-based observatories revealed how massive galaxies grow and evolve over cosmic time.

Without the need for any background knowledge, weekend guests will be guided through this dramatic stellar story by a team of eminent scientists including Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Dr Bob Lambourne and Dr Chris Lintott, co-presenter of the BBC's *Sky at Night*.

Our popular spring format involves a choice of two subject options. The 2008 history alternative is entitled *Zulus and Boers: the British in Southern Africa*. Speakers (up to eight on each option) include Professor Jeff Guy of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Dr Colin White, Director of the Royal Naval Museum, and John Pinfold, archivist at Rhodes House. They will address the ebb and flow of these famous African wars, Zulu and Afrikaner nationalism and the careers of individuals such as Rhodes and Jamieson, and the South African experiences of Winston Churchill and Robert Baden Powell. The political consequences of these events of over a century ago for South African history and politics, which resonated well into the late 20th century, will also be examined.

Numbers attending the Special Interest weekends are limited, to preserve the friendly and convivial atmosphere which participants enjoy. Bookings are already open and a discount of £50 is again available to members of the House. A copy of the event brochure is on the Christ Church website and may be obtained from the Steward's Office (telephone +44 (0)1865 286 848) or e-mail specialinterest@chch.ox.ac.uk.



The Choir's recent recording of John Taverner's *Missa Gloria tibi Trinitas* has had outstanding reviews in the national press and was "Editor's Choice" in the October 2007 edition of the prestigious Gramophone magazine. All reviewers have commented on the uniqueness of the recording and the precision, warmth and vitality of the singing and it is proving popular all over the world. Almost all the proceeds of sales support the choir's next recording venture, so buying this disc not only solves your Christmas present dilemma but also helps music at Christ Church!



The Taverner CD is available from the Development Office, Christ Church, OXFORD OX1 1DP. Please send a cheque made payable to 'The Dean and Canons of Christ Church' for £12 plus p&p (UK £1.50, Europe £2.50, Worldwide £3.50. Don't forget to include your name and address.

News from the River



PHOTOS: KT Bruce

Mark Baker
Boat Club Secretary
1962-3 (1961)



'We Never had it so Good' Rowers' Reunion at the June Gaudy

Visitors to the House have been avidly photographing graffiti around the doorway to Peck 3 (I know this because I was shown the image on the digital camera of a friend from Africa). The doorway has been adorned with more bravado than calligraphic skill, and boasts a roughly chalked Cardinal's hat and various boastful inscriptions including the Latin tag, if it deserves the name, 'Nunquam habuimus tam bonum'.

My Zimbabwean friend was appalled that the young of today are allowed to commit such sacrilege on the ancient walls. I had to explain that the young of today played only a supporting – though hugely valued – part in the events surrounding the inscriptions and that the vandals who had defaced the doorway were old age pensioners who should have known better. I also had to admit that the badly drawn hat was my work – though I was able to disclaim the dog Latin as that of my colleague Will Watson (Boat Club Secretary 1961-62).

In the months leading up to this summer's Gaudy for the 1959-62 entry Will and I had rounded up sixteen stout fellows and two stout coxes from the crews of that vintage to row over the Isis and commemorate a golden age of House rowing.

Curiously enough, the stouter the fellow, the tougher the job of persuading him to turn out seemed to be. We had to promise that there would be no

question of racing and that nobody would even get out of breath.

But row – or paddle – we did. And thanks to KT Bruce, commissioned by the House to record the event, we have dozens of photographs to prove it.

First, however, we met for lunch and a pint or two at the Bear. There we achieved a first for most of us by getting thrown out – not for riotous behaviour but for importing our own sandwiches after being told that they couldn't manage a simultaneous order of 18 rounds in less than 45 minutes.

A good moment to pay tribute to the young of today. Anthony Doolittle (Boat Club President 2006-7) had mustered a posse of current House rowers to support our foolish ways. He and his friends were terrific. They never let us catch them laughing at us, took the weight of the boats off our ageing shoulders down at the boathouse, and not least rushed off happily to buy the offending sandwiches. The House can be proud of them. And while I am in thanking mode, let me acknowledge the kindness of the Archdeacon, Julian Hubbard, who used his influence as senior member of the Boat Club to let us borrow the boats.

So on to Peckwater 3 and a graffiti-backed photo call before ambling down through Christ Church Meadow to the boathouse where John Wade was awaiting us. I had suggested that he put out the two most battered clinker built Torpid eights he could lay his hands on

but instead two immaculate shells awaited us. I swear I saw them trembling when they saw us coming and I am sure they have never lain as low in the water as they were with us embarked. The 'Jeunesse Doree' (1961 and 1962), coxed by a curiously polite

version of the Charles Tucker we all knew and – er - loved, and stroked by the svelte Maurice Robson, set off first as befits impetuous youth. We had to wait a surprising time below the Gut before the 'Old Fogey's' (1959 and 1960) coxed by a sleek and well-liking Richard Meades and stroked anachronistically by Anthony Saunders (1961 and still sporting his duster shorts - ram dressed as lamb?) finally staggered down to join us. Then the non-race was on and to the total bemusement of bystanders the two eights (combined weight one and three quarter tons and combined age 1200 years) processed in stately style together up to Folly Bridge.

There was of course no race, but had there been one I fear the Old Fogey's would have won. Observers reckoned they looked leaner, meaner, and cleaner through the water than the Jeunesse Doree – and our balance was never too impressive. Even so, there were a few intoxicating moments when we could feel real power on the oars and speed through the water and remember.....

Plus ça change...Watching John Wade moving calmly about, quietly adjusting this and tightening that, never losing his good humour or showing the slightest nervousness about the fate of his precious boats, I realised that George Harris of golden memory would salute him as a worthy successor. There is no higher praise.

And so back to the dog Latin. Who was the scribe thinking of when he claimed 'We never had it so good'? I rather fear he may have been bragging that the House was fortunate to have such fine crews in the early 60s. And they were undeniably good. But I prefer to think that it is we, the oarsmen of the time, who know that life was never better than when we rowed for the House almost half a century ago.

The next outing will begin with a lunchtime drink at the Bear before the Gaudy of 2014 (provided that we are not still barred)... ■

The Boat Club in 2007

Last season saw men's rowing at Christ Church dealt a blow: it was a sad story of unfulfilled potential, both in Torpids and in Eights. The year ahead presents some grave challenges, but also a chance for redemption: a chance to learn from our mistakes and summon the will to overturn the setbacks suffered.

This year, however, we look well set to confront the tests ahead. The senior squad is large, very committed, and enjoys decades of rowing experience; we also have a large pool of around forty freshers from which to draw new talent. Christ Church Boat Club has fully seven oarsmen trialling for OUBC.

We are extremely grateful to the Boat Club Society for its staunch and unflinching support in years past. As we face the task of reversing the Club's fortunes, we ask old members once more to summon that same indefatigability and generosity, and to rally behind the Men's squad and its coach, Karl Offord. Over the summer a boat of current and former members of the House raced in Belgium, to commemorate the centenary of Ghent's victory over Christ Church in the Grand Challenge at Henley Royal Regatta in 1907. A full report will be published in Boat House magazine, produced for Society members.

The Women's Boat Club also approaches the year with great anticipation. There have been many changes: new coaches, new captains, new equipment and plenty of novice rowers taking their first outings on the Isis; the Club is a mine of potential. We rank high in Summer Eights – second on the river – with a strong senior squad and many novices ready to move up through the ranks.

We have the Boat Club Society to credit for much of our potential for the year ahead. Not least, it has provided the funding for a dedicated coach for the Senior Squad, Nick Kenworthy-Browne, who comes to us with many years of experience and plenty of ideas. Thanks to the Society we will soon have new 1st VIII blades, and of course have already been provided with a top-of-the-range Stampfli, the Ila Burdett. The generosity of the Society was evident in the

extremely favourable reaction of the newest members of our Senior Squad to their boat!

Our intake of Freshers has been excellent; around forty girls signed up to join the Boat Club, including four already rowing at an impressive level. Thanks also to a generous donation from one of last year's coaches we are in the unprecedented position of being able to offer our novices a professional coach, Zoe de Toledo, who comes from a Great Britain background. With this level of coaching we confidently expect a great deal from our novices, who will move up to the senior squad after Christ Church Regatta.

With such potential on offer we have been able to form a developmental squad even at this early stage. Furthermore, two members of the House are currently trialling with OUWBC and one with OUWLRC, which will undoubtedly benefit the club as a whole when they return after April. Last year four novices had to be trained quickly to fill seats in the 1st VIII, which managed to maintain its position at second. This was an achievement, especially as a cancelled Torpids allowed no bumps racing before Eights. With improved training, new coaching, and a powerful squad, we sincerely believe that the determination of our girls will bring the best chance of Headship for Christ Church Women.

A minibus donated by the Boat Club Society will allow us to travel further afield, with House crews looking to race in external regattas through the year, in order to face stronger competition than the Isis can offer – competition which both squads intend to match!

For more information about the Boat Club Society please visit the Alumni pages on the Christ Church website www.chch.ox.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1865 286 325.

Johan Kjellgren, Jenny Vass & Katherine Hindley (2006)



PHOTO: Victoria Dare



PHOTO: Victoria Dare



PHOTO: KT Bruce



OK Croquet

Jim Godfrey
Canons' Verger & Visitors' Officer

The re-founding of the College on Thursday 4th November 1546, the first telling of 'Alice' on Saturday 4th July 1862, the filming of Harry Potter on the Hall stairs on Monday 8th April 2002: to these key dates in the history of the College must now surely be added one more: Monday 25th June 2007 - the third annual Croquet Match between the Cathedral Staff and Choir - a contest that would, in so many ways, redefine the meaning of sporting excellence at Christ Church.

Things, however, did not start well. House Manager Philip Tootill, an outstanding umpire for the two previous encounters, had declared that he was unavailable to adjudicate due to wicket-keeping duties in the staff v emeritii match that same afternoon.

Nor was it looking good on the weather-front. Rain had been forecast for the whole day and by lunchtime, with dark clouds and persistent rain over Oxford, things were looking decidedly gloomy. This, however, did not deter the Dean. Showing the kind of unquenchable spirit that would later stand him in such good stead he braved the elements and pegged out the course

on his lawn. One can only speculate as to exactly what kind of 'inside information' he was acting on, but just minutes before the match was due to start the rain ceased, the sun shone and the contest began.

Five matches were to be played in all, each so hotly contested that those observing would be grateful for the unending supply of refreshments thoughtfully provided by Kim, the Dean's Housekeeper. By five o'clock, with four down and one to play, the scores stood at two matches a piece. And so it was, with things so delicately posed, that the weather played a final, and some would say decisive, part in the proceedings. For as the penultimate match ended the heavens opened and the rain once more began.

Even this though was not enough to stop play. Back inside the Deanery KT Bruce from the Cathedral School had had the foresight to set up her own miniature indoor croquet set, thus allowing the deciding match to go ahead; the Dean and Bob Adams for the staff going head-to-head (or should that be knee-to-knee) with Henry Parkes and Henry Jones from the choir. It was a truly epic encounter, and few present that day will forget the sight of the Dean, emerging from under a drawing room table having brilliantly roqueted both Henrys into the skirting board, to win the tournament for the staff. Yes, it certainly was a day to remember!



PHOTOS: KT Bruce

Editorial

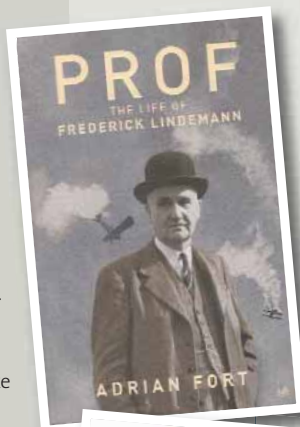
We have extended the recreational theme of Christ Church Matters into Association News this edition, with several of the features being sports-related. Once again, whatever the activity, old members can be relied upon to conquer it from a dazzling variety of directions. Featured in this edition are: Tony Pastor (1990) who produces sports programmes for ITV; Lucy Bullard (1985) who writes about what it was like to be a scuba diving instructor; Rowland Jack (1993) who has recently led the international media relations for PyeongChang's bid to host the 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games; and Nick Thomas (1957) who founded the Varsity Channel relay. If you do not know who the Warrigals are, what they play or why they are having a re-union lunch, turn over a few pages. We hope that some of you will sign up to the newly created sports' rep roles and help bring old members with similar sporting interests together.

The Association's AGM and dinner was held on Saturday 15th September, the same date as the college open day. Hall was packed that evening and the Association took up our full allocation of places. Then to the senior common room where Christopher Butler took us on a personal and lively tour of the House, based on the many beautiful images of the college to be found in the book *Christ Church, Oxford; a Portrait of the House*. There are still a few copies of the Portrait available from the Alumni and Development Office should you want one.

As always, if you have any news or views that you would like to be included in Association News, please send me an email or write to me c/o The Development and Alumni Office. ■

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

PHOTO: *Juliane Kaden* (2001)



PROF: The life of Frederick Lindemann

Professor Frederick Lindemann, later Viscount Cherwell, and usually known as 'the Prof', was for over a quarter of a century Churchill's greatest friend and closest adviser, and served both in his wartime and post-war Cabinets. Adrian Fort's prize-winning biography of Lindemann tells the extraordinary story of the German who reached the pinnacle of Britain's political, scientific and social worlds.

Educated in the Fatherland, even as a young man Lindemann was admired by Einstein and other world-renowned scientists, and in time his political aspirations led to his achieving enormous influence at Churchill's right hand throughout the Second World War, where he played a very great part in promoting the scientific developments which helped England survive, and in ensuring that this country played a major part in the development of the atom bomb.

Besides having astonishing intellectual ability, Lindemann was an international tennis star, winning many European championships and, while a Christ Church don, playing both in the doubles and the singles competitions at Wimbledon. He first achieved fame in England for acts of suicidal courage by which he discovered the secret of how to rescue aircraft from the grip of a spin. Between the wars he moved into upper-class society, which partly enabled him to raise the money for his almost single-handed achievement of putting Oxford science on the world map. That was also due in part to his enabling a number of brilliant German Jewish physicists to escape from the shadow of the Gestapo and come to Oxford.

Kind and amusing when with his friends, Prof often demolished others with a crushing impression of arrogance and disdain – especially anyone who did not admire his great friend, Churchill. When a gallant soldier and senior politician from Australia, a guest in the Christ Church Common Room, disparaged the great man, Lindemann at once turned his back, commenting in a loud voice, "You can always hear the chains clanking, with those people". It was a typical remark from a man who so often courted personal animosity but who won the nation's grudging respect for his immense contribution to victory in the darkest hour.

Prof: The Life of Frederick Lindemann, by Adrian Fort (1966), published by Jonathan Cape, and available from Christ Church at the discounted price of £10 to members.

Please send cheques (including £2 for p&p) made payable to 'Christ Church, Oxford' to: Development Office, Christ Church, OXFORD OX1 1DP.



This issue we hear from four old members involved in sport as they reflect on their time at the House and their subsequent careers.

TONY PASTOR (1990)

Sport is hugely democratic, in the sense that every fan has a view on how his team should play, and feels entitled to express it. And since most fans see most of their sport through the medium of television, they feel equally justified in pronouncing judgement on the programmes they watch.

After ten years of having my work analysed by everyone who knows what I do, I've finally given up explaining and justifying and generally arguing over the merits of presenters and pundits and post match interviews. These days I nod and smile and shrug, and wonder what my interrogator would think if I started questioning their work at the bank or law firm.

I played sport with great enthusiasm but no talent during my time at Oxford. More important to my career were the hours spent at the offices of Cherwell, the university newspaper to which I contributed during my second year. In fact, none of my three employers since I left Oxford has ever asked me if I even passed my degree, but those yellowing cuttings from my time in student journalism played an important role in getting me my first job as a cub reporter on the Liverpool Daily Post.

During my student days it was considered decidedly un-cool to worry about what we might do post-Oxford, and students who spent time accumulating CV points were treated rather contemptuously. I'm baffled by this now. On the rare occasion an undergraduate asks my advice about getting into my line of work, I stress the significance of showing enthusiasm for the profession by seeking work experience and volunteering to help out at a newspaper or local radio station.

After two years as a news reporter on a regional paper, I made the jump to sport after realising that I wasn't tough enough to cope with people's tragedies on a daily basis. The key thing with sport is that it's fun. Yes it's exciting and yes it's sometimes annoying,

Television sport is not as glamorous as you might imagine. I spend most of my time sat in a truck in a car park next door to a stadium full of people.



Then...



...now



Then...



...now

but it doesn't really matter. An overpaid manager getting sacked is about as extreme a situation as I usually have to cope with.

Television sport is not as glamorous as you might imagine. I spend most of my time sat in a truck in a car park next door to a stadium full of people. In fact I've spent time in most of the great car parks of the world. And by definition sport takes place when most people are off, which means I work a lot of evenings and weekends.

But don't get me wrong. There are some lovely perks. I'm writing this piece in Paris, ahead of the final of the Rugby World Cup. One of my more rugby literate colleagues is producing the final, while I get to worry about the decidedly insignificant 3rd place play off. But tomorrow night while he's sat snugly in the outside broadcast van deep in the bowls of the Stade de France, for once I'll be heading for a turnstile with a match ticket in my hand.

Tony Pastor produces a variety of sports programming for ITV, including Champions League football, boxing, the Rugby World Cup and the Boat Race. He read English at Christ Church from 1990 to 1993.

LUCY BULLARD (1985)

An Oxford University education and a job as a Scuba Diving Instructor are not immediately obvious bedfellows. In fact, the man who was to be my employer for 6 years initially found it highly amusing that he had an Oxford graduate sweeping the floor in his dive shop. Ah well.

To be honest, it wasn't something I initially thought I would ever do. Breathing off rather primitive-looking apparatus underwater can be a scary prospect. But, as a Zoology graduate I do have a love of the natural world which until 2000 had only been realised on numerous holidays. I had learnt to scuba dive in the UK back in 1994 before a trip to Costa Rica with a couple of other Zoology graduates. I didn't immediately love it (what's to love about a quarry in Leicestershire in March?) but I didn't hate it either and a couple of dive trips to the Red Sea later I came to think it was quite good fun.

So much so that, after 10 years working in London for a marketing agency, I decided to take a couple of months off during which time I'd do my Divemaster qualification. One thing led to another and here I am 7 years later still living in the Turks & Caicos Islands and only recently having left my job as a Dive Instructor.

Being a Scuba Instructor is a lot harder work than you might think! The dive shop I worked for is 'full service' and caters primarily for the US market, so you do everything for the guests. You have to set up the equipment, change the tanks, fill the tanks, help people in and out of the water, guide people on the dive, rinse the equipment, wash down the boat, make sure you end the day with the same number of guests as you started and so on. And all this for six days a week 7.30am – 5.30pm.

Yes, you have the idyllic turquoise waters, tropical sun and gentle breeze, but you also have the responsibility of making sure nobody does anything stupid above or below water. After a few months here I started to drive the boats and then went to Fort Lauderdale to get my Yachtmaster Offshore captain's ticket. Being a boat captain brings with it an even greater amount of responsibility – ultimately for everyone on board which in rough seas, or trickier conditions can be mentally and physically exhausting. Think 'Perfect Storm' meets 'Open Water'.

That being said, I've been lucky enough to see some great things underwater – humpback whales, plenty of sharks, rays and turtles as well as the little critters such as seahorses and frogfish. There's always something new to keep you coming back and the TCI offers some of the best wall diving in the world. At a conservative estimate

I've probably spent over 2 months underwater in the last 6 years and it's still one of the best experiences in the world.

As well as getting to do what you enjoy every day, teaching people to dive or improving their skills as a diver is very rewarding. I got particular pleasure watching initially nervous people get more confident ultimately finding a hobby for life.

I certainly don't regret my stint as a Dive Instructor, but for now I'm happy just to dive for fun.



The sports industry has become truly global and the possibilities are endless.

I got particular pleasure watching initially nervous people get more confident ultimately finding a hobby for life.

ROWLAND JACK (1993)

Sport has always fascinated me. In addition to participating, I have also always been curious about what goes on behind the scenes. Half-way through my Classics degree at Christ Church I began to think sport could be a career rather than just an interest. After graduating I took on a Masters at Loughborough University, which helped me land my first job at Sport England, a public body that distributes Lottery money. There I witnessed the Wembley saga unfold, together with preparations for the Commonwealth Games in Manchester.

Later I had the good fortune to work in Lausanne, Switzerland, handling communications for the international federation that governs figure and speed skating. Despite its low profile in the UK, figure skating is a wealthy sport with a large following. I learned to admire the discipline and talent of the leading skaters, who are often put under great pressure by coaches and governments desperate for medals.

Subsequently it was an honour to play a role in organising the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, where a once-faded industrial city revealed its bright new face to the world.

For the last year or so I have worked at the London office of a public relations company called Hill & Knowlton. I led the international media relations effort for the bid by PyeongChang in South Korea to host the 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Unfortunately we lost out by 4 votes to the Russian city of Sochi, who counted President Putin among their supporters.

I have been lucky enough to be involved with the last three editions of the Olympic Games and I have to say that each one is a unique and remarkable experience. I honestly believe that sport can bring people together like nothing else.

I am often asked if my Classical education has been relevant. It most certainly has. The 2004 Olympic Games took place in Athens and the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino. With London to look forward to in 2012 (thanks to the efforts of several members of the House - Christ Church Matters, Trinity 2006), I could scarcely have asked for more.

The sports industry has become truly global and the possibilities are endless. It will never be a "safe" career option but for drama and excitement sport is hard to beat.

Old members involved in sport

NICK THOMAS (1957)

Despite being half a century since I matriculated, it does not seem so long ago that I was at the House. I recall active membership of at least five sports clubs, and swimming for Oxford University Swimming Club (O.U.S.C.) at Temple Cowley Baths. I suppose I am a sports fanatic and have sustained interest throughout my life. After an International Marketing career with Unilever and Reckitt and Coleman (New Zealand, South Africa, Caribbean area) and then twenty years in the Financial Services industry, I retired to Midhurst in 2000.

I always kept my contacts with the House and university in good repair, and not least with O.U.S.C. In 1998 I was on the fundraising committee for the new pool and in that year founded the Varsity Channel relay with the brilliant Aussie President of O.U.S.C., Martin Davies (Balliol). The format of the race is teams of six (three boys, three girls) swimming one hour stints until France is reached. The first race was an amazing draw with the Tabs (C.U.S.C.) winning the biennial event in 2004 and 2006. The Oxford team of 2000 set a world mixed relay record. The team included Joanne Harris (1998) a reserve, and excellent Team Manager in 2002 when Oxford won. Good luck to the 2008 team who will have Clare Kane (2006) as their captain.

Foundation of the Poseidon Club (Oxbridge Channel swimmers) in 2006 has proved very rewarding and vital for ever needed sponsorship funds. I am busy now as Portfolio Holder for Sport and Culture with Chichester District Council.

My message to all is to maximise sports activity at Oxford, and keep it going throughout life. The rewards of good health, great friendships, and giving something back are incalculable.

Nick Thomas is Co. Chair O.U.S.W.P.A. (Oxford University Swimming and Waterpolo Association)



RIGHT: Mike Abbott (1972) and Mark Baker (1961) receive the winner's trophy for the 2007 Intercollegiate golf tournament.



Then...



...now

My message to all is to maximise sports activity at Oxford, and keep it going throughout life. The rewards of good health, great friendships, and giving something back are incalculable.

RIGHT: Christ Church Alumni Golf Team members from left to right: James Philpott (1990), Philip Hunt (1979), Robert Seward (1965), Mike Abbott (1972), Hamish Ritchie (1961) and Jamie Summers (1973).

LEFT: Relay team 2006



OU Intercollegiate Alumni Golf Tournament Frilford Heath Golf Club, 23rd March 2007

The Christ Church team, captained by Robert Seward (1965), was triumphant at this year's intercollegiate golf tournament. The team won by a comfortable margin (7 points) in only the second year that Housemen have entered the competition. The trophy was presented to representatives of the team at a prize giving dinner hosted by St Peter's College, who organised this year's tournament. The top performance of the day came from James Philpott (1990), who scored 41 points on the Red Course. On 26 October the Dean hosted a celebratory dinner for the team.

PHOTO: Christopher Lewis



Christ Church Warrigals Cricket Club Re-union Lunch 2007



LEFT TO RIGHT, BACK ROW FIRST: Jim Woodford (1955); John Myring (1956); Richard Dougal (1955); Colin A.White (1957); Peter Brockman (1955); David Rogers (1955); Tom Winniffrith (1956); Alan Foster (1955); Jim Boot (1954); David Worth; Charles Winniffrith (1954); Stephen Burbridge (1955); Michael Wilkinson (1954); Front Row: Jonathan Chalton (1955); Tony Harris(1954); Seated: Hugh Gregor(1955); John Perkins(2004); Robin Aird(1955); David Gilkes(1956).



1957 Kent Tour

LEFT TO RIGHT: Jim Boot; Richard Dougal; Hugh Gregor; Michael Wilkinson; Jonathan Chalton; Colin R.White; Peter Brockman; Robin Aird; Charles Winniffrith; Victor Clube; Richard Barkley.

In the 1950s the Warrigals played what the Media would now no doubt call Alternative Cricket. College cricketers would join up with a number of less gifted amateurs and occasionally the odd blue to play afternoon or evening cricket at such magical sounding villages as Garsington, Middleton Stony, Kidlington and Minster Lovell. At the end of term, a Warrigal nucleus moved on for a brief tour based on Tenterden, Kent. While the talents varied, all Warrigals loved cricket and the bucolic delights of a village cricket ground.

The late Richard Moore was Hon Secretary in 1956, Jonathan Chalton in 1957 and David Gilkes in 1958 and these three years were the target for a nostalgic “demi-centenary” Warrigals Re-union Lunch on Tuesday, 12th June 2007. The House, ever hospitable, offered the McKenna Room and provided an excellent lunch and first Sarah Thomas and then Emma Sinden performed miracles in tracking down some 50 Old Warrigals from those years. Regrets, and acceptable excuses, came in from various parts of the world but eventually 19 ageing players attended a most enjoyable occasion.

Any idea of an Old Warrigals Cricket match was speedily, and rightly, abandoned but by good fortune, the current Warrigals were playing a 20-20 Match on the House Ground that afternoon against the Oxford Emeriti, a match which 50 years earlier took place a week later on Tuesday, 18 June 1957. Senior Censor Edwin Simpson was playing for the Emeriti and John Perkins, current Captain of the College XI, played for

Jonathan Chalton
(1955)

While the talents varied, all Warrigals loved cricket and the bucolic delights of a village cricket ground.

the Warrigals and also attended the lunch, thereby materially reducing the average age. The sun shone, as of course it always did in the 1950s, past feats were recalled and nostalgia thrived.

The occasion triggered some long overdue research into the history of the Warrigals. Assistance came from Archivist Judith Curthoys who amazingly produced photos of the “Warrigals” in 1895, 1905 and 1906 - some 40 fine period figures, many in boaters, grouped outside the Library in Peck. So where did the name come from? Today there is a road outside Melbourne called Warrigal Road and the 1930s Shorter Oxford gives: 1 – Dingo; 2 – A wild Australian aboriginal (1890). Best guess to date is that a “wild” young Australian cricketer was up at the House around 1890 and, in the days before political correctness, his friends called him the Warrigal. More research is needed but, whatever the original rationale, the Warrigals clearly have a long and interesting history to be explored and continued.

More recently the Warrigals certainly flourished in 1948 with a tour in Tenterden, a photo of an Appledore match in 1950 and a similar 50 anniversary reunion dinner in 1999. Since 1960, it seems the Warrigals have been more likely to play other colleges but John Perkins for one would like to see some village fixtures revived. Any records, memories or photos of Warrigal events would be welcomed and Emma Sinden has kindly agreed to field them on emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk or by post to her at Christ Church.



INSTANT ARTS DAY

Saturday 21st June 2008 Midsummer Day

ABOVE: An image of Christ Church by Bi Scott, one of the professional photographers leading a workshop on 21 June

Would you like to take an active part in creating a play in a day? Produce a poem, work of art or close harmony singing? Return to the House and rediscover your dormant talents or show your contemporaries what you are capable of! Even if you don't want to contribute, come back anyway to relax and soak up the atmosphere engendered by others' performances.

Midsummer Day 2008 is a day not to miss; join in with other old members, undergraduates and their families in Christ Church's first ever Instant Arts Day

Midsummer Day 2008 is a day not to miss; join in with other old members, undergraduates and their families in Christ Church's first ever Instant Arts Day – a day of creative artistic talent for all.

Timetable for Instant Arts Day:

- 10.30AM – 11.00AM** Registration in the JCR with coffee and pastries
- 11.00AM – 12.30PM** Professional workshops
- 12.45PM-1.30PM** Hot buffet lunch in Hall
- 1.45PM – 3.30PM** Professional workshops
- 3.45PM – 4.30PM** Tea and cakes in Hall
- 4.45PM** On to the Master's Garden for the performances to begin. Sit back and enjoy these with a glass of wine and finger buffet nibbles. (An indoor venue will be available if the weather is inclement)
- 7.00PM** Close

Overnight accommodation is available at the House. Why not arrange a supper in Oxford with friends and stay over?

TICKET PRICES:

Adult: £25.00 **Child:(5-14)** £15 **Under fives:** FREE
Family ticket (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN): £75
(A SAVING OF £5)

The ticket price includes all refreshments and the following free activities:-

Singing Workshop

Christ Church Cathedral's Sub-Organist and world famous concert organist Clive Driskill-Smith (www.organist.org.uk) will be running a workshop to accommodate all levels of vocal ability, and will have you singing in close harmony by the end of the day! This workshop runs during the afternoon session.

Calligraphy Workshop

Hilary Frisby from Oxford Scribes will guide you in the art of calligraphy and – hopefully - produce work you can display later in the day. This workshop is available as a drop-in throughout the morning and afternoon sessions.

Poetry Workshop

Help local wordsmiths produce House- themed poetry to be revealed at the end of the day. This workshop will be available during the morning and afternoon sessions.

Display of Old Members' Artworks

If you would like to contribute to a display of works of Art by Christ Church members please contact us. We hope to have a wonderful selection of pieces, some just on display, others for purchase, as a celebration of what the House has to offer.

Garden Tours

Picture Gallery

Caricaturist

Children's face painting

An ice cream seller and the Buttery Bar will also be available during the course of the day.

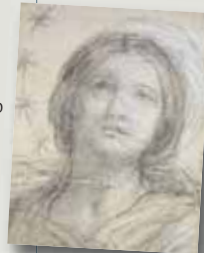
WORKSHOPS

You are invited to participate in the following professionally-run workshops at the additional charges listed below:-

Drama and Dance Workshop

Christ Church's longstanding relationship with Oval House Theatre (www.ovalhouse.com) continues as their professional Drama and Dance tutors guide you in planning and executing a 'Play in a Day'. There will be three groups:

- a) adults group
- b) mixed ages group
- c) children's group



ABOVE: *Head of the Virgin with a halo of stars* by Elisabetta Sirani of Bologna (1638-65), the only female Old Master in the Christ Church collection: alumnae will aim to alter this state of affairs during the graphic arts workshop on 21 June.

Harry Potter and Philip Pullman's 'The Golden Compass' are two options available for the children's workshop. Our tutors would be happy to hear your own suggestions for all three groups. Please state on the booking form which group you would like to join, any previous experience and your suggestions for a theme! This workshop runs in both the morning and afternoon sessions. The chosen themes for b) and c) will be advertised on the website prior to the event. The adults group may decide on the day!

Drama workshop fee for adults and children: £10

Graphic Art Workshop

The Christ Church Art Tutor, Peter Rhoades, will be on hand to assist adults and children to produce a piece of House-themed artwork in a variety of media. The finished products will be on display at the end of the day. When filling in the booking form don't forget to let us know your previous experience. This workshop is available as a drop-in throughout both the morning and afternoon sessions.

Graphic materials fee: £5

Photography Workshop

Professional photographer and old member Bi Scott will be on hand during the morning session to brief old members on how to take that perfect shot before sending you out with your digital camera on a photographic assignment around the House. In the afternoon, Bi Scott and resident House photographer, KT Bruce, will help you assess your work and choose which shots to print out for the evening exhibition. This workshop involves a hour briefing in the morning session and a drop-in during the afternoon session.

Photography materials fee: £5.00



Sports' Representatives

The Association is seeking members who would like to organise events relating to specific sports. Similar in vein to the Year Rep. Programme it is envisaged that Sports' Representatives will be active in keeping in touch with those who are interested in a given sport, will help find "lost" members and sign up new ones, and will be creative in coming up with events for their particular players and supporters. It may well be that some serious sport is entered into, for example there are many sports which have competitions for Old Members' clubs. But just as important will be the planning of social matches and events whether at the House, in London, or elsewhere.

I have already approached some old members to become Sports' Representatives, and if you are interested, or have a good idea for us, please contact me. Of course some sports, such as the Boat Club, are already well organised. It would be great if anyone who is already organising such events would be in touch as we may be able to help with future organisation, and the Office would like to compile a list of sports which are represented, along with contact details.

As an example of the sort of thing we want to do, with the impetus supplied by Reg Clark, we are planning a Rugby Gaudy in September. Look out for information on page 6. It is intended to have a supper at the House on Friday 8th Feb. for those who are keen to become a Sports' Representative. So please, e-mail Emma Sinden at emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1865 286598 now so 2008 sees the start of something great for Christ Church sport.

Simon Offen
Christ Church Association Chairman



Cambridge Event

The evening was a great success; alumni of all ages turned up, undeterred by the pouring rain and notorious lack of parking in Cambridge.

On the 16th June, around twenty Oxford alumni currently living in Cambridgeshire and the surrounding regions met at Pizza Express for an informal evening of wine and dining. This was a joint venture organised by the Christ Church alumni representative and the Oxford University Society alumni representative, meaning that a mixture of all colleges were represented.

The evening was a great success; alumni of all ages turned up, undeterred by the pouring rain and notorious lack of parking in Cambridge. The wine flowed and chatting and networking went on until late. Not only did we have a broad representation of ages and colleges but also occupations, meaning some fascinating and diverse conversation.

A personal thank you to all of those alumni who did make it to this event; I hope you found it as enjoyable as I did. Another thank you must go to Anil Balan (1996), the Oxford University Society rep, whose help and assistance was invaluable. I look forward to similar future events.

Rebecca Clarey
(2001)

Nineties and Noughties Cocktail Party



Following the success of last year's event, another Nineties and Noughties Cocktail Party was held on Thursday 31 May, at Lab Bar, Old Compton St, Soho, London. About 50 people who matriculated after 1990 attended. There is no photographic evidence of the event, but we have it on good authority that a good time was had by all.

Email address for life

All Oxford alumni can apply for an Oxford email address for life. Any messages sent to this address will be automatically forwarded to an email address of your choice. For more information and to register, for which you will need your Alumni Card, go to: www.oxon.org/alumnus/signup.

2008 GAUDIES

19 June
GAUDY (1963 - 1966 MATRICULATES)
 Christ Church

Contact: Margaret Heffron,
 Steward's Secretary
 +44 (0)1865 286580

3 October
GAUDY (1991 - 1993 MATRICULATES)
 Christ Church

Contact: Margaret Heffron,
 Steward's Secretary
 +44 (0)1865 286580

NOVEMBER 2007

23 November - 16 December
**CHRIST CHURCH PICTURE GALLERY:
 RACHEL WILLIAMSON'S PAPER
 MUSEUM**
 Christ Church

Rachel Williamson's interest in the interplay between the narrative and the visual is expressed in her delicate assemblages in this exhibition. By combining original documents with ephemera collected on her travels she creates a kaleidoscope of images and texts that leads into a playful and charming world with just a hint of the surreal.

Opening times:

Monday to Saturday 10:30am - 1pm and 2pm - 4:30pm; Sunday 2pm - 4:30pm.

Contact: Picture Gallery
 +44 (0)1865 276172
picturegallery@chch.ox.ac.uk

27 November - 23 March
**CHRIST CHURCH PICTURE GALLERY:
 HOLBEIN, DÜRER AND BEYOND -
 GERMAN DRAWINGS AND PRINTS**
 Christ Church

The Christ Church collection of drawings is famous for its Italian Old Masters drawings, but there is also a small group of important German drawings which, when combined with a group of well-known Dürer prints, will give a glimpse into the art production north of the Alps.

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 10:30am - 1pm and 2pm - 4:30pm; Sunday 2pm - 4:30pm.

Contact: Picture Gallery
 +44 (0)1865 276172
picturegallery@chch.ox.ac.uk

DECEMBER 2008

14 December
**SOS SAHEL - AFRICAN CHRISTMAS
 CHARITY CONCERT**
 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral will be hosting an 'untraditional' Christmas Concert with African performers in aid of the charity SOS Sahel UK, which supports the rural dryland dwellers of Mali, Niger, Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya - some of the poorest countries in the world. Margaret Sentamu, wife of the Archbishop of York, will be overseeing the celebrations. Pula will be selling a range of beautiful

artefacts at the concert, all produced under environmentally friendly and ethical conditions. 15% will go to SOS Sahel UK.
www.sahel.org.uk
Contact: Tickets Oxford
 +44 (0)1865 305305
www.oxfordplayhouse.com/ticketsoxford

17 December and 21 December
**CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR:
 CAROL CONCERTS**
 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral

Two concerts offering the opportunity to hear choral gems performed by the Christ Church Cathedral Choir and a beautiful selection of selective and amusing Christmas readings.

Contact: Music at Oxford
 +44 (0)870 7500659
www.musicatoxford.com

19 December
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR
 7:30pm Christmas Festival: St. John's,
 Smith Square

The choir will be performing a celebratory Christmas programme introduced by composer Howard Goodall.

Contact: Box Office
 +44 (0)20 7222 1061
www.sjss.org.uk

FEBRUARY 2008

8 February
SPORTS REP SUPPER
 Christ Church

To celebrate the launch of the Association's new Sports Rep scheme there will be an informal supper for the new reps and anyone who is interested in representing their own sport/s.
Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer
 +44 (0)1865 286598
emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

MARCH 2008

8 March
FAMILY PROGRAMME LUNCHEON
 Christ Church

Parents of current undergraduates are invited to attend lunch in Hall.

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer
 +44 (0)1865 286598
emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

29 March
BOAT RACE

Once again the Alumni Office will be offering an exclusive package for the annual Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race. More details to follow.

Contact: Oxford University Society
 +44 (0)1865 61610
caroline.cain@ousoc.ox.ac.uk

27 - 30 March
**SPECIAL INTEREST WEEKEND: HISTORY
 AND ASTRONOMY**
 Christ Church

The residential Special Interest Weekend is open to all. Guests can choose from two options: Zulus and

Boers: The British in Southern Africa or A Weekend in Heaven: Planets, Stars and Galaxies.

Contact:
specialinterest@chch.ox.ac.uk +44 (0)1865 286848/286877

APRIL 2008

2 - 6 April
**SUNDAY TIMES OXFORD LITERARY
 FESTIVAL**
 Christ Church

The House will be hosting this popular Literary Festival for the third year.

Contact: The Steward's Office
 +44 (0)1865 286848

4 - 5 April
NORTH AMERICAN REUNION
 Waldorf Astoria, New York

Oxford's North American alumni are invited to gather and celebrate their Oxford experience at a reunion weekend held every other year. The weekend includes drinks parties, academic sessions featuring prominent Oxford academics and alumni and, of course, college gatherings. Online registration will be available in early 2008.

Contact: Jo Ann Barbieri, University of Oxford North American Office
 212-377-4900 www.oxfordna.org

11 April
**OXFORD UNIVERSITY INTER-
 COLLEGIATE GOLF TOURNAMENT 2008**
 Frilford Heath Golf Club

Following on from this year's emphatic victory, Christ Church will be looking to retain their title in 2008. Old members with a recognised club handicap (with an upper limit of 24) are welcome to take part. Please contact Robert Seward as soon as possible if you would like to be considered for the team of 10.

Contact: Robert Seward, Team Captain
Rcseward@blueyonder.co.uk

MAY 2008

21 - 24 May
EIGHTS WEEK
 Christ Church Boat Club

More details of a drinks party on the Saturday of Eights Week will follow in eMatters.

Contact:
www.chch.ox.ac.uk/ematters

JUNE 2008

13 June
BOAT CLUB SOCIETY DINNER
 Christ Church

Members of the Boat Club Society are warmly invited to their annual dinner.

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

14 June
**CHRIST CHURCH COMMEMORATION
 BALL**
 Christ Church

This promises to be a spectacular and elegant event to which all old members are warmly invited. Details of ticket sales will follow shortly.

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

21 June
**CHRIST CHURCH ASSOCIATION
 INSTANT ARTS DAY**
 Christ Church

The first ever Association Instant Arts Day for all the family. Please see p24 for more details. A booking form for this event is enclosed with the magazine.

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

JULY 2008

5 July
**BOAT CLUB SOCIETY HENLEY DRINKS
 PARTY**
 Henley Royal Regatta (2 - 6 July)

A Drinks Party for all Christ Church old members and their families at the close of racing. More details to follow.

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

SEPTEMBER 2008

10 - 14 September
**CATHEDRAL VOICES ACROSS HALF A
 MILLENNIUM: A CELEBRATION OF
 ENGLISH CHORAL MUSIC**
 Christ Church

Featuring the world famous Cathedral Choir, this five day residential event celebrates the cherished and vibrant musical heritage of the House - through talks, visits, recitals and a Gala Concert.

Contact: The Steward's Office
cathedralvoices@chch.ox.ac.uk
 +44 (0)1865 286848/286877

19 - 21 September
2008 ALUMNI WEEKEND
 Christ Church

Following on from the success of the first Oxford Alumni Weekend in 2007, the University is delighted to invite you back once again for the 2008

Weekend from 19-21 September. The Oxford Alumni Weekend 2008 will be on the theme of Global Oxford. Join us for three days of talks, lectures, walks, tours and many more activities.

Contact: Oxford University Society
events@ousoc.ox.ac.uk +44 (0)1865 61610

30 September
RUGBY GAUDY
 Christ Church

All old members who played rugby at the House are invited to attend a Rugby Gaudy in Hall. More information and a booking form will be available in the Trinity 2008 edition of Christ Church Matters.

Contact: Emma Sinden, Alumni Relations Officer +44 (0)1865 286598
emma.sinden@chch.ox.ac.uk

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