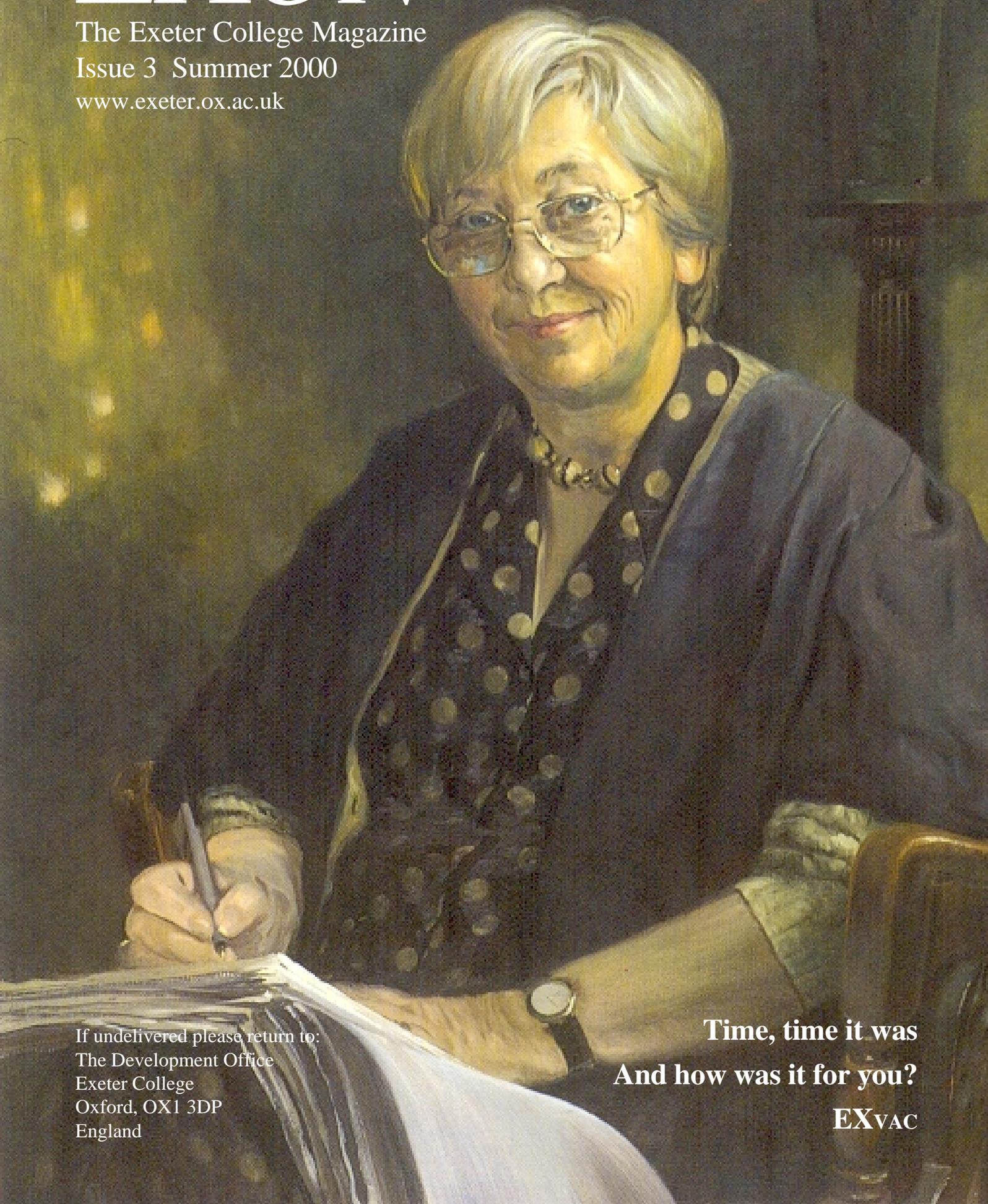


EXON

The Exeter College Magazine

Issue 3 Summer 2000

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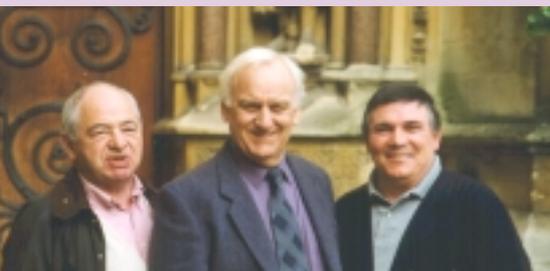


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The final episode of Morse was filmed at Exeter College earlier this year. From left: Colin Dexter, John Thaw and colleague

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by David Cobley

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The Rector's

The Rector casts her eye back on the previous year

This is an enlarged Special Issue of *Exon*, to mark a promise kept. We are rounding off our three-year programme of getting in touch with all old members on our new enlarged database. We have of course kept up the traditional Gaudies that every few years bring each generation together. But we have also held a variety of other social events - lunches or dinners outside Oxford (and Britain), summer garden parties linked to sporting events, and the opening up at least once a year of the Rector's Musical Evenings to Old Members as both performers and audience. So it seems appropriate to centre this issue on two notable social gatherings of the year just ending.

Our summer Gaudy in the year 2000 was for the years from 1950. Near the start of the academic year we held a one-off event, a Symposium for the pioneer generations of women at the College. We hope you will enjoy two extended pieces which bring the experience of these generations vividly to life. Philip French has long been Britain's most admired film critic not just for his wit but as a social observer in his own right, who expertly uses character and anecdote in film to identify a moment or a locality. His speech proposing the College toast is an essay on this generation which bears comparison with the remarkable Fifties series of Suggestions Books.

The Symposium origi-

nated as a discussion on a general issue, as important for young men as women. We think it speaks eloquently about the lives of professionals today, through pooling experiences first of the College years, then of the world of work. Listening to the tapes fully nine months later, I was struck by how open and reasonable the different voices

Our Schools results are good; we are fifth in the Norrington Table...

sound, and how cordially they respond to one another. There is no backbiting or personal resentment, and only one anecdote in which an individual male might be identified to his disadvantage. (In keeping with the general spirit of fair play, I have a pseudonym for the speaker.) One after another the voices try to make sense of the shared experiences at the College; they move towards consensus, that they were of value. The first woman President of the JCR, Jean Kitson, speaks for others when she observes that there is now a history of women and of a mixed community at Exeter, on which the pioneers' successors draw. We hope that you will enjoy these very different self-portraits. If anyone from either group has anything to correct or add, such as a point not covered, a succinct letter to the Editor would be most welcome. If

Letter



collectively you create an on-going discussion, there will be room for it in a later number. If one of the unidentified voices in the Symposium is yours, please let us know so that the record can be put straight before the tape goes into the archive.

By tradition, the Rector's letter gives College news in *The Register*, which should reach you in the later part of Michaelmas Term. Because we are going a little late to press, I can give you important recent news in brief. Our Schools results are good; we are fifth in the Norrington Table, back to the high standards of the mid-1990s. We have twenty-two firsts, three out of the three candidates in Mathematics Part II, four modern historians out of eight candidates, three in Chemistry Part II and three in English. Kate Baker (Physiological Sciences) and Roger Dodd (Biochemistry) both won the Prize for the best first in their University generation. In sport nothing truly heroic happened. But the first men's eight is still third on the river, behind Oriel and Pembroke, the 2nd men's Eight won blades, and the women's first Eight went up a division.

There is sad news to report of two Fellows. Richard Barrow, Emeritus Fellow in Chemistry, died on 2 June aged 84 after more than 50 years as a member of the College. A memorial service has been arranged in the Chapel for Saturday 21 October at 2.30 pm. WJH Butterfield (Medicine, 1939) died on 22 July, aged 80. His career took him from a professor in Medicine at London to Master of Downing College Cambridge and Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University (1983-5). As Lord Butterfield he was an Honorary Fellow of the College, and though latterly in ill health took an interest in us, for example by writing a long, thoughtful letter in response to my article about the government's dealings with Oxford and Cambridge in the first number of *Exon*.

Richard Barrow

Born 29 April 1916, died 2 June 2000
Fellow of Exeter (Chemistry) 1948 to 1983
Reader in Physical Chemistry 1966 to 1983
Emeritus Fellow 1983 to 2000

A memorial service will be held in the Chapel on
Saturday 21 October 2000 at 2.30 pm.
Tea in Hall afterwards

From the editor ...

This is the third of our annual magazines and it is my privilege to present it to you. The articles that follow provide an interesting snapshot of what Exeter College has been about in this and in previous generations. We have received a surfeit of material for publication and some excellent articles have necessarily been omitted for reasons of space. At this rate a bumper issue will have to be published again next year. Producing this issue has had its ups and downs especially since I know next to nothing about DTP; so the thought of next year's undertaking brings a wry and somewhat nervous smile to my lips.

I am grateful to my predecessors, Matthew Preston and Marguerite Harrington, for their advice and support during my first five months as development officer. Exeter is not a new institution for me; I was politics lecturer here for two years. On the other hand in coming to this new role I have seen another intriguing side of College life.

May I take this opportunity to introduce David Whitaker, the new development assistant, who began at the development office in June and is also the assistant editor of EXON. We have received a great deal of support from Fellows, staff and current students. Thanks too must be extended to the excellent network of volunteers, the development board and our generous donors for their loyalty and commitment to this institution. Without them Exeter College would be much the poorer in every sense.

If you have access to the internet, please take a look at the new website:

<http://www.exeter.ox.ac.uk>

It is now possible to download an old members' questionnaire and see on-line versions of various forms you might find useful. You will also find a donation form on page 24 of this magazine. Whether you are in a position to give or not, I hope you wish your College well as it strives to maintain and develop academic excellence and to support the next generation of Exonians.

Jonathan Snicker

Time, time it was...

The College played host to the early 50s matriculants on July 7. In his address Philip French gave a strong evocation of the character of that generation.

We have all, I'm sure, in anticipation of this evening, been casting our minds back some 40 to 50 years.

Looking at my own past, I find for better or worse, that it's divided into two parts - the twenty one years before I came up to Exeter and the 43 years since I left, leaving three years in-between in which something, I'm not sure exactly what, happened to me. You've probably wondered what difference it would have made to your lives had you spent those years in a monastery or a Prisoner-of-War camp, both of them available career options in the early 50s. So have I. In fact Exeter at that time had something in common with both those institutions. It was like a monastery whose monks had taken a vow of non-chastity which they desperately attempted to live up to - the majority of us in vain. It resembled

a prison camp but of a rather unusual sort, one into which every night most of the prisoners - with a cunning worthy of the heroes of *The Great Escape* - conspired to get back undiscovered. As it happened the accommodating commandant of this particular Stalag placed a ladder on the inside wall of the Fellows Garden so that returning inmates might not come to any harm.

The other famous entrance, the worst kept secret in Oxford, was through a ground floor window facing onto the Broad. In my first year its occupant Jonathan Stockland became as celebrated as Jack Lemmon in Billy Wilder's *The Apartment* for facilitating the nocturnal entries and exits of those involved in unseemly activities. During inclement weather Jonathan would lay down a pathway of newspapers from his bedroom window through his study to the door.

My notion of what constitutes being old changes year by year, but my central image of what 'old' means has always been associated with Exeter College and an event that occurred most evenings a few minutes before dinner during my first two years here. This was the ritual appearance of R. M. Dawkins, emeritus Professor of Greek and a Fellow of Exeter, being led from the foot of his

The other famous entrance, the worst kept secret in Oxford

staircase around the quad to dine in hall. Stooped and white-whiskered he moved at a snail's pace with the help of a cane and a scout. He was well into his eighties and looked as old as Methuselah. But what made him special, almost awesome, was not that he was one of the university's legendary scholars, which he was, but that he was a link to another age - and to colourful Edwardian scandals. Nearly 50 years earlier, this frail old man had been a friend and benefactor of the outrageous Frederick Rolfe, the self-styled Baron Corvo. Their sojourn together in Venice in 1907 was discreetly dealt with in a book we'd all read, A.J.A. Symons' *The Quest for Corvo*, where Rolfe obscurely complains that Dawkins was insufficiently generous to gondoliers.

Dawkins was one of the Oxford figures whom the fastidi-



ous Cyril Connolly revered when he was up at Balliol in the early 1920s, and Connolly was thinking of the idea of being old in a poem he wrote five years after going down. The poem, which he never published, was called 'Oxford' -

When days are long and sunny

The flower of youth is blown

We waste our parents' money

And time that is our own

The days grow dark and colder

Beyond the summer's prime

We, before time is older

Are old before our time.

A contemporary of Connolly's, Stephen Spender, has a paragraph about Oxford in the 20s in his autobiography *World within World*:

"(S)ome colleges were considered by most undergraduates as superior and more characteristic of 'being at Oxford'... We thought of the University as consisting pre-eminently of New College, Balliol, Magdalen, Christ Church, and a few respected smaller colleges such as Wadham, Corpus Christi and Oriel. Then there were the middling colleges, such as Worcester, Hertford, Queen's, St. John's and Univ.-, and, last, the colleges which did not count".

The sort of attitude expressed in Spender's book was the kind of red rag that the no-bullshit people of our generation thrived on. Around 1950, I suppose, the favoured Oxford fictional text was Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited* and there was an attempt briefly to re-create that romantic world of the 1920s. Everyone wanted to be a yearning Charles Ryder, a doomed Sebastian Flyte or a decadent Anthony Blanche. But in the Spring before I went up in

1954, Kingsley Amis's *Lucky Jim* was published and two years later John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger* was staged, expressing the mood of ill-defined discontent we shared, and Jim Dixon and Jimmy Porter became what people today might call our 'role models', though that term didn't exist then outside of sociological textbooks and doesn't really fit in with the feeling of that time. It's appropriate that Kingsley Amis's son, Martin, didn't go up to his father's college, St John's, but came here to Exeter.

The first thing probably that struck me about Exeter when I arrived was its geo-

... a lawyer called Roper, who for some Hispanic connection was always addressed as 'Señor' Roper

graphic centrality. It was right in the middle of the college map. As I'd spent my first year outside college in lodgings, I had the choice of rooms and immediately opted for Exeter 1:1, the set immediately above the porter's lodge, which seemed to me the very epi-centre of the University.

From the bow windows I could look both ways down the Turl and the study had the original 18th Century panelling. I thought it, still think it, one of the most beautiful rooms I've ever occupied. The previous incumbent, a lawyer called Roper, who for some Hispanic connection was always addressed as 'Señor' Roper and who rowed for the college, asked if he could leave his elegantly painted oar above the fireplace. I readily agreed, and for a year this object greatly impressed girls and visiting relatives. There were disadvantages to the room, how-

ever. One was that the nearest lavatory was down the street in Oxford market. The other was the cold. The room was exposed to the elements on two sides and beneath. In winter the hot water that my scout brought up at 7.30 in the morning would often have a thin coating of ice by the time I got up to shave.

My first act on arriving in Oxford was to leave my case in the Junior Common Room and go to the movies, a pattern that was to persist for the next three years. I discovered that there were passionate fellow cinephiles in the college (among them John Houlton, who directed a movie in 1955 of which I was a co-author). And I was delighted to find out that Joel Sayre, co-screenwriter on one of my favourite Hollywood movies, *Gunga Din*, had been a Rhodes Scholar at Exeter in the 1920s, and that the son of the great French director, Julien Duvivier, had occupied Exeter 1:1 ten years before I moved in.

My first truly memorable encounter with my contemporaries came at the first JCR meeting. The Exeter JCR was something special, something quite extraordinary. I can see the place in my mind's eye now. There were paintings in the neo-romantic style over the mantelpieces at either end - one was Michael Ayrton's apocalyptic *On the Beach*, the other was John Minton's *The Herring Fishermen*, known in the college as 'Kippers' for the way it was discoloured by smoke from the grate underneath. There was also an exquisite if slightly sentimental drawing of his son by Augustus John and a newly acquired still-life by Duncan Grant that was said to be a good investment.

There were, still are, some remarkable pictures in this hall where we're now gathered,



two of them associated with our generation. The highly fashionable Pietro Annigoni was commissioned (shortly before his best-selling portrait of the Queen) to paint our Rector, E.A. Barber, a cool, laid-back figure as we'd say now, who tactfully observed that it was a very fine likeness - 'of the way I shall look in 30 years time' (he was 60 when it was painted). A second picture there was the portrait of the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, who came up to Exeter in 1906. The Archbishop had intervened in the mid-50s to stop the love-match

... turned Fisher's face to the wall as an act of protest, then rushed off to sell the story to the Daily Mail

between Princess Margaret and her divorcé swain Group-Captain Peter Townsend. One of my contemporaries slipped into the Hall and turned Fisher's face to the wall as an act of protest, then rushed off to sell the story to the *Daily Mail*.

But to get back to the JCR. For all the talk of pictures, it was nothing like a Gentlemen's club in the West End. It was more like an officers' mess composed entirely of unruly subalterns, which indeed most of us were, still itching after two years of wearing battle-dress. To preserve a certain appearance of dignity Brian Brindley presided over the place like a combination of Doctor Johnson, Oscar Wilde and the Reverend Sydney Smith. He stayed on two years after graduation to dabble in law, and was unanimously elected President of the JCR. The Sug-

gestions Book, several pages of which were filled every day in a variety of hands, was like a collaboration between P.G. Wodehouse, Virginia Woolf at her most waspish, and Bernard Levin, and in memory seems funnier, better written and better illustrated than *Private Eye*.

And the JCR meetings were 'a riot', a word of approval in those days. They were conducted in a spirit of calculated lewdness that Aristophanes and Max Miller would have envied, and I've often thought that affronted theology students in attendance could have justified their continuing presence by convincing themselves that it would be good preparation for their serving as chaplains in the armed forces or Her Majesty's prisons. We then lacked the civilising presence of woman and conducted ourselves in the spirit of sex-starved miners in the Californian goldfields or U.S. marines on a World War Two Pacific atoll.

You may recall that women at the time were not allowed into most colleges before noon, and had to leave before 7 pm unless their hosts got special permission for them to stay until 10. My first encounter with a woman at Oxford occurred during a visit I made to a friend at another college the summer before I came up and a couple of days after returning from army service in the Canal Zone, where I'd scarcely spoken to a woman for 14 months. My friend was much involved in university theatre and suddenly there swept into his room a thin, extremely attractive woman with close-cut red hair, a short jacket and tight-fitting velvet trousers, bright lipstick and oddly painted fingernails. She looked as if she was auditioning for the role of Sally Bowles, and began to regale my friend with an experience she'd

had that morning. Taking a short cut through Balliol, she'd been stopped by a porter and asked where she'd been. 'So I looked him straight in the face and I said - "I've been giving my man sex"'. That was my first, and indeed my only, encounter with the future Dame Maggie Smith.

It's also true that you wouldn't have gone into the JCR with the certain assurance of finding someone to discuss Wittgenstein's *Tractatus* or to accompany you to a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. But if you wanted a companion to go with you to the cinema or to have a drink in the Turl Tavern or if you wanted a tip for the 2.30 at

... had the bearing of a Roman senator in a Hollywood movie

Goodwood, you'd be unlikely to emerge from the JCR disappointed.

But what of academic work? Well, a lot of it went on, more than you'd have guessed, though there was a certain - how shall I put it? - enlightened attitude to such matters. The best scholars among Exeter's fellows didn't exactly exert themselves in producing vast tomes. The ebullient Nevill Coghill, a marvellously Chaucerian figure, was best known for, and best pleased with, his modernised version of *The Canterbury Tales*, and devoted much time to holding court in his rooms (well supplied with liquor) and to directing undergraduate plays. The acerbic, witty Dacre Balsdon, who was my moral tutor and had the bearing of a Roman senator in a Hollywood movie, preferred to produce elegant editions of somewhat obscure, and generally



brief, Latin texts, to write satirical novels and produce books with titles like *Roman Women: Their History and Habits*. Dacre lives on, I believe, through the influence his style of speech, humour and general demeanour had on Ned Sherrin, Alan Bennett, Russell Harty and their various imitators.

My tutor, the much missed Derek Hall, who went on to be Master of Corpus Christi, took an amused and occasionally exasperated attitude towards my legal studies. I'd worked extremely hard throughout my second year, but largely on journalism and cinematic matters. At the end of my second summer vacation I sought Derek's help

Friendly, I think is the word for Exeter.

in getting a small grant from my county authorities to return early to use the Oxford law libraries, and I happened to mention that I'd been having some eye trouble, which my optician attributed to 'overwork'. Derek got me the grant, and he dropped me a note that I cherish. 'I was sorry to hear about the trouble with your eyesight', he wrote, 'but if there is a commensurate strain from the amount of work you will need to do to obtain any degree whatsoever, I can see you going up the steps of the Schools with a white stick'.

Friendly, I think, is the word for Exeter. I don't want to get sentimental at this late stage, but let me give you two examples of the friendliness to which I refer. First, in March 1952, I came to Exeter to sit the college entrance examination and was lodged in a Spartan first-floor room overlooking the Broad. Nervously examining its every

recess I found hanging in an otherwise empty wardrobe a scholar's gown. Tempted to try it on, I removed the gown from the hanger only to discover a note pinned inside. It read, 'I didn't think you'd be able to resist trying it on! But I hope it brings you luck. Best wishes, Giles Rooke'.

The other example occurred in 1956 when I was editing *The Isis* and was invited to provide advice on current University life for an ABC television programme called *Paper Talk* that was presented by Douglas Warth and produced by Ned Sherrin, who'd gone down from Exeter two years before. I gave them a glass of sherry in my room and a few tips and contacts, and they went their way. Three days later I received a kind letter from Ned and a cheque for five guineas. I was delighted by this, and astonished when three years later I became a BBC producer and was instructed by certain colleagues that one should take advantage of the easily flattered and pay them little or nothing. This has more-or-less become standard in the BBC post Birt. But during my 30 years as a producer with the Corporation I tried to live up to Ned Sherrin's practice in 1956 - to reward those who work for you irrespective of their station or clout.

As an undergraduate I became a great fan of the cartoonist Charles Addams, and I've still got a couple of vintage 1950s editions of *The New Yorker* containing his work that I nostalgically treasure for the stamp they bear, 'Exeter College JCR - Do Not Remove'. In the 1970s Addams drew a classic cartoon that depicts a collection of ageing winos, tramps and assorted der-

elicts, standing and sitting around the steps of a classical building on an idyllic college campus. Each of them is wearing a badge with '54' on it and suspended from the pillars is a banner bearing the words "WELCOME BACK CLASS OF '54". One of these sorry social outcasts is saying to another, 'I thought it was me, but maybe the school's no damn good'. My wife tried to buy the original of the cartoon for me through Addams' dealer but it had already been sold. There had apparently been an unprecedented demand for it. Which goes to show - and this is really my point - that a lot of people like us who

I didn't think you would be able to resist trying it on!

graduated in the 1950s can afford to subscribe to the *New Yorker* and to collect cartoons.

So now I'd like you to join me in the toast that it is my honour to propose tonight. Ladies and gentlemen, the toast is 'Floreat Exon'.

Copyright Philip French



Drinks in the Rector's Garden



Exeter, like all but one of the Oxford colleges, is a mixed institution. On 30 October 1999 the pioneering women of 1979 interacted with more recent graduates and Fellows.

AND HOW WAS IT FOR YOU?

In 1999 we held an all-day Symposium for one of the old century's greatest innovations, the opening of Exeter's doors to women. Invitations went out to every former woman undergraduate for whom we had an address and every woman tutorial Fellow or former Fellow. Sixty Exeter women gathered to celebrate twenty years of women students and Fellows. There were no outside speakers, and those who came spoke, in small groups or in full session, mostly from the floor.

We began in the morning with two very different personal reminiscences, from Sarah Adams (89) and Katy Taylor (93), before dividing into workshops. What follows is a near-complete transcript of the experiences women Exonians exchanged when they returned to the Saskatchewan Lecture Theatre (pictured opposite). The groups reported in the order they had come up, giving an outline history in their own words through five sets of shared memories.

Group A 1979 (reporter Karen Ward): Even if we didn't realise it at the time, be-

ing a woman in a male College really was an issue. We have all thought about it. We had no sense anyone was looking out for us women. It was fantastic to be here, but we just had to get on with it. We had no role-model in the Faculty. We were confronted with a phalanx of maleness. One of the ways we coped – we rowed: I hated it. It's very different now, there's a different culture. It wasn't so much men v. women

***We had no sense
anyone was looking
out for us women***

as state schools v. public schools. I came from a northern girls' grammar school - I'd never seen so many public schoolboys. That was my main criticism then and still – the number of state school pupils was much too low.

Group B 1982 (reporter Sanchia Berg): A lot of that sounds very familiar. But it was changing by the time we came up. I still remember the Rugby Club, which took out

our loo and put it in the Front Quad, and a particularly silly institution, the Millenarian Professor. He went through all the gossip, and women were singled out. We felt more mature than a lot of the boys, and founded our own Millenarian Society. A lot of the men were intrigued, and felt it was right, it was a bit different. In male-dominated professions since then, we felt we hadn't been directly discriminated against here.

Group C 1985 (reporter Sarah Colvin): Something strange happened at Exeter about the autumn of '86. There was a complete division of opinion about what College was like from those coming up before and after that time. And also about whether there was a problem of discrimination. There were other divisions, between those who had been at girls' schools, and those who had been at mixed schools, and your subject made a difference too. We have tried to follow instructions: we were asked to agree on a representative episode or quotation – one of us was so uncomfortable in the JCR that she ate her sand-



wiches outside in the rain.

Group D 1989 (reporter Farrhat Arshad): We found a difference within our group, between those who came up in 89 and those in 93. It changed for women. But on the academic side your view was still affected by which sort of school you came from. Those from all women's schools had often worked hard, and they stopped, wound down when they got here. This might explain why in Schools women don't do as well as men. Those from mixed schools didn't see men v. women, they saw individuals. It matters that Exeter is a certain kind of College in the University: it doesn't have

In male-dominated professions since then, we felt we hadn't been directly discriminated against here

a colour – a strength in Exeter – we all do our own thing. The trouble was, when a real issue came in, you couldn't always deal with it. Lawyers were set an exercise, whether allowance should be made in law for PMT, and the men said they couldn't possibly write on this. There's no record what women said. An attitude needed to filter down from the SCR – what was and what wasn't acceptable, more particularly from men.

Group E 1994 (reporter Ceri Lawrence): We dis-

cussed academic matters and welfare matters as well. Our generation produced a woman President of the JCR [Helen Turnbull] and the first Boat Club President [Elizabeth Elmhirst, Biochemistry, 1995]. This felt good. Male senior members couldn't believe it. Sometimes Helen found in the JCR that it was difficult for a woman President to command respect. Academically it might be difficult, depending on your subject. There was no discrimination in Law tutes – we were lucky to be taught by Sandy [Sandra] Fredman. We were encouraged to speak up. But I remember one discussion in a Law class about freedom of expression and pornography, that led to a great division within the group, never as much before or after. Though not necessarily discriminating against you, men feel more at home, and some of the male tutors felt uncomfortable with women, much more at home with boys. There was a pack mentality in many of the men at Exeter that was intimidating. I thought my first year was baddish, in the second things calmed down and you saw your own friends, but in the third year the tension rose again be-

cause the men were competitive and the women concentrated on supporting each other. Lots of our group mentioned the great speech in Freshers' week from the SCR – Jeri Johnson – that there was a rule that certain kinds of behaviour were not acceptable and would not be tolerated. It made a great deal of difference to our experience here. We summed up that though gender was an issue here, it was certainly a lot less than in the real world.

The discussion

A symposium with some undergraduate observers, chaired by Professor Watanabe-O'Kelly: Are there points that didn't emerge in your group, that you want to add?

Helen Turnbull: Ceri said there was a pack mentality; what didn't come out is that there were friendships with men as well. There was a real mentality of looking after the girls. Certainly away from the College there was male protectiveness.

Sarah Colvin: I couldn't agree more strongly that having women Fellows makes an enormous difference.



Jean Kitson [first woman President of JCR]: It's something to do with the way this discussion is being constructed that is giving me an idea of laying down a history. When women first came into the College the structures weren't there. From what Helen was saying, in recent years a pattern was being laid down, of women learning from the time women had been here. The first President of this and that, it's exciting. But it's even better when the pattern is there, you're not unusual.

Elizabeth Elmhirst: I didn't know there'd been no woman (ECBC President) before; I wanted to do the job. But even-

Certainly away from the College there was male protectiveness

ryone who comes to Boat Club meetings is male-orientated, a man, the present students and the Old Members, and they talk about the men's eights.

Farrhat Arshad: Once you've taken up a role, you need to pass it on to another woman. It does encourage women, if you've done it, to say 'You could too'. I knew a woman who was Law Society President, I thought 'Hmm. I'd like to do that'. I spoke to her, she encouraged me, I was the next President. Then I talked to Ceri. She said, 'Hmm, I'd like to do that'. She was next. [Laughter]

Rachel Griffin (President of Oxford University Student Union, ML, 1995): What came up in our discussion was that you had to be careful what issues to take up. When I came up I was militant, and shouted at everybody. I learnt at Exeter

to be careful. What men do best is network. We should be a bit bigger to each other, look out for other women.

Clare Spring[?]: I don't believe in women for the sake of it. I believe in choosing people who are best for the job.

Helen Watanabe: It has been interesting historically that we are the first [men's] Oxbridge College to have a woman Head of House. She does it differently.

Unidentified voice: Lots of people stood up and said they didn't think they were discriminated against. But once you have women Fellows you have a chance of talking to an older woman or being taught by one.

'Viola Nash', 1986: Some people have said they weren't discriminated against in tutorials. But I did think I had to compete against male expectations. I had a very nice tutor, a clever person. But he called the others by their first name. Me he called Petal, [laughter] and let me off essays because I seemed delicate. I wanted an academic job - had I continued petalesque, I wouldn't have stood a chance.

[Another voice from floor]: Men made endless comments about women, their appearance and relationships. Their problem was being men in an institution with too few women.

Rector: In the 1970s, as a Fellow of St Hugh's, I dined in different men's colleges, and was repeatedly told by my hosts 'they're fine, we don't know they're here'.

Reeta Chakrabarti (1984, pictured page 12): I wonder whether this isn't just what a nice liberal man thinks it's right to say. Of course it's deeply insulting. But it's a nice uncomplicated thing to say.

Voice from floor: Yes. They

had no comprehension of the sophisticated multi-layered issues that face women coming into an all-male environment. As long as they could do all right academically and get into an Eight, they were doing all right. In reality, there were probably lots of women facing issues that were appalling, and there were no older women to talk to.

Another voice: One thing I now appreciate is that it wasn't just an issue for us, to be 1 in 14 or whatever, which some of us liked. It was an issue for men. Many of them came up to a place with far too few women - unobtainable, inaccessible

...having women Fellows makes an enormous difference

for some, while others had the pick of the bunch.

At this point the discussion was adjourned, to be continued informally over lunch. We reconvened for a short session with most of Exeter's senior women in teaching posts. The first, Dr Clare Stanford (Medicine, 1979-82) could not make it. Helen Spencer (English, 1992) sent her apologies. The others briefly described their impressions of the College, again in order of their arrival: Christine Gerrard, English lecturer 1982, Jane Mellor, Staines Research Fellow, Biochemistry 1986, Sandra Fredman, Law 1988, Helen Watanabe-O'Kelly, German 1989, Jeri Johnson, English 1991, the Rector, 1994, Maureen Taylor, Biochemistry 1995, Nuria Capdevila Arguelles, Junior Research Fellow in Spanish 1999. This



session is omitted for reasons of space.

Women in the real world

The main afternoon session was a discussion based on women Exonians' professional experience, led by a short review of the current scene by Sandra Fredman (pictured below).

Sandra Fredman: How do women stand at the moment in the working world? There is a striking pay gap: worldwide, a woman gets only 80% of a man's wage. The gap widens greatly in part-time work. Why? Employment is highly segregated, horizontally and vertically. 'Women's jobs' are by definition low paid; and women cluster in the bottom grades of men's jobs. The Civil Service and other professions show the same pattern, of women worse-paid and underpromoted; women managers in catering are paid below the national average.

In their twenties, men and women are paid the same. It's in the thirties that men move ahead. This turns into an enduring disadvantage, since a pension depends on earnings. The poorest section of the population is that of pensioned women. But this doesn't make sense. We hear talk of a part-time restructured workforce, of the shift towards service-industries, and of a woman-friendly Government. But the two things don't coincide, they jar. Employers want women to be there when *they* want

them. Their hours don't coincide with the kids' day: they aren't family-friendly. We still need to look at the structure of the workforce from both the supply side and the family side. There needs to be change on the other side – recognition of what kind of work childcare is. And it will be important for both men and women to participate.

Voice 1: I'm a partner in one of the largest city law-firms. Of the 3000 people in my firm, 10% of the partners are women. At lunch I see mostly men, and hear sexist jokes. I have no time to be bothered. I get on with it. I earn four times more than my husband, but am bringing up small children. I worked 101 hours last week. The clients are men: they expect women to be there.

Ceri Lawrence (Law, 1994): Farrhat and I have spent the last year at the Bar. It has been a shock. The highest percentage anywhere of aggressive males must be at the Bar. My chambers have 45 people, of whom four are women. We're automatically less comfortable than

the men. You feel you're fighting a battle every day. I don't know how the Bar is going to change. It isn't recruiting more women.

Farrhat Arshad (Law, 93): More women are applying, but not getting there. In some branches of the law there are women coming in. Then you're winnowed out in the early 30s, when you have to work like Hell.

Another voice: The Corporate sector and Acquisitions are nearly all men. The Property department is actually quite strong, but they're nearly all women, who can leave at 5.30.

In their twenties, men and women are paid the same. It's in the thirties that men move ahead.

Property is seen as second-rate, less prestigious; the money is being brought in by men.

Another voice: I take it you



don't mean to say you'd do this rather than have children. The problem is that you don't *want* to work those hours.

Jeri J: Yes, and that they pay less for the women's work. If women take time out, you'll lose in the long term, with your living capacity reduced.

Sarah Ibbotson (Modern History, 1990): I think what people are saying about the second-rate is interesting. Women in the police gravitate towards work in the control room or borough services where they're glorified telephonists. It's very obvious within the profession that these jobs are seen as second-rate compared with career detectives ... I'm in the child

***...we are the first
[men's] Oxbridge
College to have a
woman Head of House***

protection unit ... that's seen as women's work. Despite the fact we see horrific cases, it's not seen as serious work.

Another voice, of the law: My case is predictable. I started at the Bar, then went in-House. Then you find you're having to marginalise yourself even more. You can't be there at 6.30 when they start meetings.

[A series of interventions, unidentified]: 'I'm a full-time mother, it's my choice. I wanted to be at home with my very young children. Women do want this. Maternity leave in

most companies is disastrous: three months. We need sensible career-breaks, of 2-3 years. But the loss of status when not working is terrible'.

'I am doing a very good flexi job, it really is enjoyable, easy for the family, 25 hours a week – perfect, but not earning much money.'

'Not earning very much part-time is the key. Why not go for a participatory partnership? Get the men in to say, "I'm not going to hack twelve grand. Let's push it up".'

'Yes, there's always an assumption there's a well-paid man in the background.'

'I work in local government. I and my husband are planning to go three days a week. We'll be role-models for the rest of you.'

'Everything is set up against the parent. Even a nanny comes out of taxed income. The government should address this.'

'It's an issue not just about children, but about anyone who wants to have relationships. Days are lost through stress, tiredness, illness ...'

Sarah Colvin: Wherever

women are it's the same. There are four women in my department at Edinburgh University. All four are being paid less than men colleagues. Women are just starting to take over when there isn't the money to pay them. You can't earn much in a profession where women are taking over.

'I'm a patent agent, working long hours. I don't believe there's a glass ceiling, it's an excuse.'

Farrhat Arshad: Of course there's a glass ceiling, statistics show it.

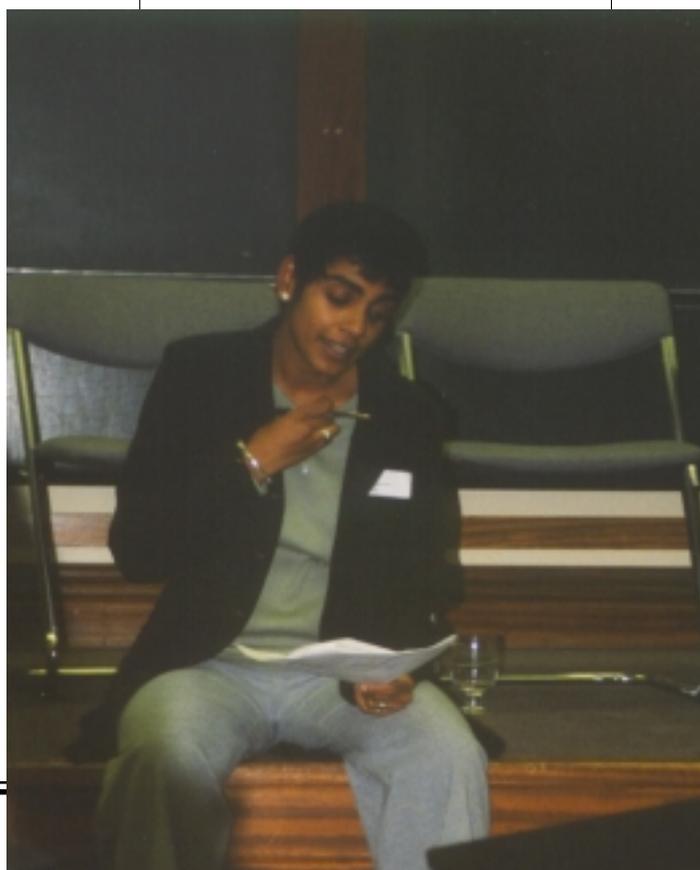
Unidentified: I did work experience in a human resources department. It looked as if investment banking would be a more

***It's a man's problem
as well... and one that
this generation has to
address***

stable profession if more women went into it. So I had to do more research into why women don't go into investment banking. The answer: too much sense. On the other hand, Buzz (Elizabeth Bury, Economics and Management, 1994) is in McKinsey.

Unidentified: We should demand shorter hours. It's stupid... we continue to judge success by male standards. I have worked in teaching... look at alternative careers, I want to urge women into higher education.

Another voice: I work in the NHS. As an observation, nursing is a fe-



male-dominated profession. But, despite this fact... there isn't the flexibility even in their shift pattern... If a female-dominated profession such as nursing can't get it right, why are we expecting male professions to get it right? NHS creche facilities are appalling. The people who get to the top of the nursing profession are single women and men. Very few married women get into the managerial grade.

Unidentified: Someone said she wasn't sure it mattered that people can't tell the difference between a woman doctor and a nurse. Well it does matter. If people can't tell the difference, they don't bring up their

To have been in this College was great fun... We were sassy

daughters to be doctors.

Rector: We have to call a halt. I'm struck by the way Sandy's initial point has been confirmed – the thirties are the crucial time when the gap opens. But they must be as bad for thirty-something men, those who care about being fathers. It's a man's problem as well as a woman's, and one that this generation has to address.

Helen Watanabe-O'Kelly: Before we stop, I want to look on the optimistic side. I used to look at my male colleagues, stoned out of their minds with overwork. I loved coming home and reading *Postman Pat*. Several of us Fellows have done both things and loved having children. Never utter the word guilt. Enjoy it. [Applause]

Respondent: Reeta Chakrabarti

(English, 1984). I think I have the hardest part of the day. I'm glad that Helen has struck a positive note at the end. To have been in this College was great fun. I did English and French, mostly with women. It was fun. We were sassy. Someone talked of men in herds, we were in herds too. I remember it as a wonderful liberation – we were women when we came here, they were boys. I enjoyed that... We were very idealistic, political, not party political. It was exciting to listen to the Fellows' session – it was the other side, part of it was troubling. Why does the University have so few women in permanent teaching jobs, why only 18%? I rang up BBC Personnel, to find out what our figures are like. 30% of those in senior management are women; 40% overall. Why is the Oxford figure so much lower? The discussion about work and children affects most of us. It's my impression that men colleagues and bosses in the BBC aren't unfriendly. All they care about is output - they want us to deliver our stories. For what's beyond that we have to make our case to them, ask for part-time work. I've got another on the way, I'll have to do it. They'll have to attend.* The last thing I have to say is – how enjoyable it has all been and what a great idea it was.

*Reeta Chakrabarti and her husband Paul Hamilton (Fellow in English 1981-1991) had twins on 6 April. She has been on leave. He is a Professor at Queen Mary College, London, and has temporarily given up the departmental chairmanship.

Fidelio

Anne and Ian Gatenby (Law, 1961) are doing something many of us dream about - sailing around the world. Here is their latest report from the ocean...

Mon St George's day 1998 for a voyage provisionally timed for nine years. The idea, subject to health lasting and disasters being avoided, is to circumnavigate the globe, keeping to the tropics as much as is practical. Why nine years? Like the route for the voyage, the timescale grew naturally from looking at reference works on cruising routes and selecting the easiest route from one area

Our supply is principally solar panels and a wind generator

to another and the best time of year for it. Add the natural rhythm which requires one to leave the tropics in hurricane/cyclone months, and you have the broad scheme for the voyage.

We have a 37 foot Swedish built yacht, 12 years old, called "Fidelio". Our cruising pattern is typical: for every one day at sea, we spend at least five at anchor. Some-





EXVAC

Last Easter some Exonians and other student volunteers gave a group of under-privileged local children a decent holiday. JCR president Jane Anderson (Lit. Hum. 1998) sent us this account

During the last Easter Vacation a group of volunteers from the university set out on EXVAC, a week-long holiday for local Oxford children from under-privileged backgrounds or those with difficult family circumstances. The children are

One of the girls this year asked me as we arrived "This big house just for us?"

put in touch with the project through a recommendation from Social Services as those who would benefit from a week away. In many cases the holiday provides a break for both the children and the parents. Many of the children come from large families with a number of siblings where time and funds to spend with the children are

limited. Some even come as a break away from an unpleasant neighbourhood, some to take time away from family circumstances, both emotional and financial, some to meet children of their own age and some to experience their first ever holiday away from home.

The age range of the children is usually 8-12 and the popularity of the holiday has meant that we now run two separate weeks which sit end-to-end, with around 15 children on each week. We were very lucky to have a large number of student volunteers from various colleges (not just Exeter these days although the name still remains EXVAC) so that we were able to provide 6 leaders on each week. It is extremely important for a holiday with very energetic children with a huge demand for adult attention that we have a good ratio of children to leaders.

The aim of the holiday is to give the children the chance to do all the things that time and means might not necessarily allow at home. The trips are designed specifically with the children's tastes in mind - no dusty museums and no worksheets to fill in. This year EXVAC included trips to Thorpe Park, Lego Land, 2 water parks, an ice-rink, Slough Fire Station (where we

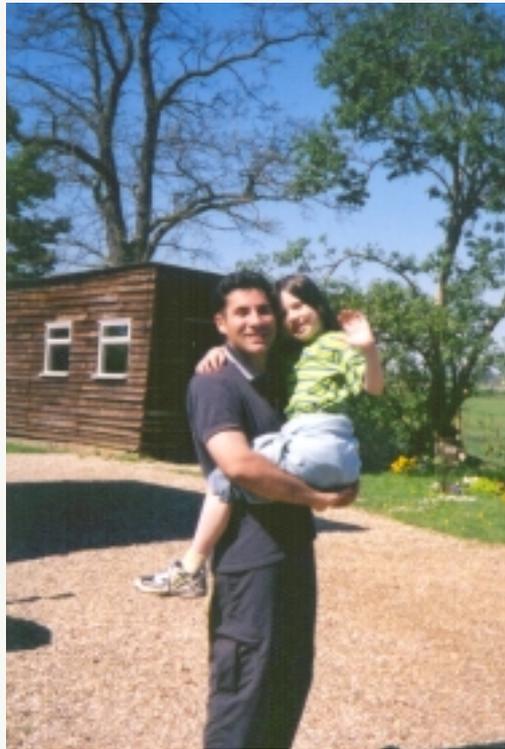
got to try on fire-fighting kits and sit in the fire-engine!), a trip to a pottery where we glazed our own tiles to take home, as well as other trips to adventure playgrounds and the like. The schedule is extremely busy to make the week as fun as possible and leaves us with tired children (and exhausted leaders) at the end of the day.

Our base-camp this year was a vicarage/hostel near Windsor called the Eton-Dorney Centre, a purpose-equipped, grade two listed house which caters for groups of children like ours. The couple in charge of the centre, Jed and Sue, ensure beautifully kept bedrooms and spotless bathrooms. Eton-Dorney is no ordinary youth centre - no long dormitories and dripping



showers. It has the feeling of a house rather than a youth centre which the children really appreciated. One of the girls this year asked me as we arrived “This big house just for us?”. Sue keeps us fed and watered with breakfast, a packed-lunch to take on our trips and evening dinner. After dinner, we pray for calm with the help of a video, then bedtime. It was poignant for the leaders who were in charge of getting the children to sleep that some had never been read a bedtime story and thought it was wonderful. Even the boys who insisted they didn’t need our help in anything and were old enough to look after themselves loved to be read to. On the week I went one of the girls’ rooms insisted on a story every night and the other room of girls wanted to be sung to (and were rather bemused by songs in French and Welsh which they’d never heard before!).

It is essential that we have a mixed group of leaders. The children can be very sensitive to particular situations. The bedtime routine is a perfect example, where both boys and girls preferred female leaders to tuck them in. On the other hand, the boys preferred playing football in the garden with the male leaders and some would only take advice seriously if it came from the male leaders. Some of the boys were extremely suspicious of the male leaders at the beginning of the week but by the end they were totally comfortable. The sad fact is that many of the children are under-confident (though this manifested itself as both shyness and attention-seeking) and very wary of adults. Being students placed us in a slightly unusual bracket where the children didn’t see us as “grown-ups” (because we rolled around and



got just as muddy as they did) but we were old enough for them to feel that we were able to look after them and be in charge. The leaders are not there to order the children around but to keep an eye on them and be interested in what they are doing. Before going away on the trip, Social Services told us that some children would become very clingy be-

All of us noticed that you couldn't be in the room long before a little hand began to hold yours

cause we were always going to be there to give the attention they were after. All of us noticed that you couldn’t be in the room long before a little hand began to hold yours. If you sat down, someone would come and sit with you. If you were carrying something, they would ask if they could take it.

All this sounds ideal. The truth is that the two weeks had

their share of episodes. Some of the children have very limited attention spans, some have no concept of what is dangerous, some are destructive, some violent, some prone to tantrums and nearly all have an astonishingly fruity vocabulary for their age. One of the biggest surprises for the leaders was the age at which a few of the children were familiar with certain “adult” matters. The mixture of precociousness and naivety is a worrying combination. One of the results of the holiday is that the leaders are able to write a report on the individual children, having spent a whole week with them and having seen them in a variety of situations. This information we pass on to the Social Services. This kind of information which would be difficult to gather from an hour’s visit from a social worker could be indispensable in indicating the needs of the child.

One of the most difficult things to come to terms with as a leader is that at the end of the week things will go back to how they were before. At times like this we had to tell each other that we are not social workers. What useful information we have we pass on. Our aim in EXVAC is to give the children a great holiday and if one child leaves with one happy memory of the things we did then the whole holiday was worth it.

The demand for places on EXVAC grows every year. If you are interested in learning more about EXVAC please contact:

Jane Anderson, EXVAC Fund Raising Director, c/o The Development Office, Exeter College, Oxford, OX1 3DP. Email:

Jane.Anderson@exeter.ox.ac.uk

times, this involves a long trip and then a week or so somewhere, and sometimes half a day's sailing followed by a day or two somewhere. On long trips we reckon on 100 miles per day, and often achieve more. In the Mediterranean, because of the awful winds, the daily range is 15 - 45 miles. Wind-vane self-steering does much of the hard work, but it has to be adjusted from time to time as the wind changes in strength and direction. At sea, we take alternate watches: three four hour watches in daytime and four three hour watches at night. Reading becomes a major activity on long voyages.

Life is pared down to essentials...

It is profoundly impressive to be thrown in quick succession from one culture to another. You learn the importance of an open mind which can observe things as they are. We began with Brittany and the Atlantic coast of France, and then spent a good while in northern Spain. A relatively quick move from there enabled us to spend a month in the Balearics before moving to Tunisia where we cruised for some weeks before over-wintering. The second year has taken us anti-clockwise around the Western Mediterranean and then to Madeira and the Canaries in preparation for crossing to the Caribbean. We aim to continue westwards via

Panama after a Summer and early Autumn on the east coast of USA.

Long term cruising certainly changes priorities. Life is pared down to essentials: safety, shelter and a source of fresh water. This is closely followed by monitoring power consumption to match it to supply. Our supply is principally solar panels and a wind generator, which is enough in most conditions, if necessary we use the engine to charge the batteries. While we have a sea view all round and a constantly changing vista, we cannot count on our bed being still for the night; nor can we be sure of our home being in the morning where it was on the previous evening - we hope that our anchor has held so that our home has moved no further than the scope of the anchor chain, one can never be sure.

It is often said, and it is absolutely right, that the best thing about cruising is the people that you meet. You leave the land community (although with email and a mobile phone it is easy to keep in touch), but you are a full member of the seagoing community. This is multi-national, generous, and in most cases very hospitable. Any request for advice or help is met with a generous response and, indeed, help will be offered if there is the slightest suspicion that it might be needed. There is never any sense of isolation. As mentioned, the seagoing community is sociable and very supportive. Short wave radio provides a ready means of communication. There are many networks, including for exam-

ple the UK Maritime Mobile Network, the Transatlantic Net based in Barbados, many less formal nets, and the wonderful Herb, based in Canada, who will on request provide a personal weather forecast for each boat on his net. If you need to contact another yacht, it is amazing how quickly word spread on one or two nets will provide information.

So, one does not need to join a formal relay for support, since the extent to which seafarers can and do help each other is very impressive - and a great comfort. All in all, long term cruising teaches the need to see things as they are,

the low points are indescribably awful and the high points are sublime.

without putting labels on them, and to take each situation for what it is. Cruising extends the spectrum of life: the low points are indescribably awful and the high points are sublime. One has to be very aware of the forces of changes all around because one can only work with them. The art of making the best of a situation is rapidly learned.

I hope that this may encourage others to try cruising on a timescale of months or years rather than weeks. I would be pleased to hear from Exonians, my email address is:

gatenby@easynet.fr

Brock Holden (D.Phil. History, 1996) offers his thoughts on leaving his alma mater

Goodbye to all that

Preparing to leave Oxford after four long years, it's natural to look back on my time here. Specifically, I have been asked to write a short piece about Exeter MCR. By training I am a historian, taught to pursue the truth, so I shall not tell you a story of honey-coloured stone, Pimms and *jeunesse doré*. The reality is more mundane.

I was informed before I came to Oxford that it would help if one were a bit of a romantic, and I suppose that was true of me in my first year. Mostly the architecture, I think, and a sense of *possibility* brought this about. For that reason, it could be said that those here on one year courses have it best – there's not enough time for the long hard slog of post-graduate work to blow the scales from their eyes.

Despite living in Exeter House - a trying experience - that romantic feeling stayed with me a while. The MCR seemed a much more formidable place back then; it was more English, there was greater sharpness and wit (though I was not aware of any Celts). It was intimidating. Only towards the end of that first year were most

of us able to feel a part of the place.

Over time, the Middle



The JCR having what appears to be fun

Common Room has become less English/British, somewhat more American (both in numbers and in that it has come increasingly to remind me of High School). In time, one's world

“It is suspected that much more fun is being had over in the JCR”

shrinks. The smart ones establish a life outside the confines of the MCR; those that do not eventually pay a price. Historians are of course a special case, as we are forced to disap-

pear down our little holes. It is suspected that much more fun is being had over in the JCR.

I am supposing that the idea of an MCR is that people from different disciplines mix. None of us, of course, really care to discuss work. So what do we share? Drinking, which some do with a fair amount of talent, and a few with flair. Love? It's curious that it rarely happens.

A lot of us come here with burgeoning but fragile egos and are very defensive. I have learnt that true friendships are few and far between. A hard lesson only learnt in losing a few of them *en route*.

There comes a point when it is time to move on, a point that I have now reached. What do I take away from the MCR? A few good friendships; some grey hair; a modicum more wit than I came with, I hope; an understanding of court intrigue and politics and a D.Phil. We always tend to turn the past into a Golden Age, eventually.

Brock was recently awarded his D.Phil.

ALUMNI Athletics

Exeter College Athletics Club celebrates its 150th Anniversary this year. In commemoration of this an event was held on May 19th to coincide with the Varsity Match. Sir Roger Bannister was the guest of honour

On Saturday, 20th May, 2000, we marked the 150th Anniversary of the Exeter College Athletics Club with a champagne reception at the Athletics Varsity Match at the Iffley Road sports ground. Sir Roger Bannister was the guest of honour. Every generation of Exeter athletics was represented. From the most recent generation, Simon Hollingsworth, PPE finalist, Rhodes Scholar and double Olym-



Roger Thorn (1958, Modern Languages), co-chaired (with the President of Trinity) the dinner. A number of other Exonians were in attendance including Martin Starkie (1945), Jerry Rhodes (1950), John Powell (1954), Ian Potts (1962), and David Jeacock (1964). Roger gave a marvellous speech capturing the spirit of athletics at Exeter and at the university in his era.

pian ran in the 400m and 400m relay. At the reception he fulfilled a lifetime ambition by meeting Sir Roger and getting his autograph.

That evening a special Achilles dinner was held at Trinity. One of our volunteers,



Pictured clockwise from top left: Sir Roger and the Rector; SJQ Robinson and guests; JT Stubbs and GM Welch; JD Rhodes and friends



& Music

Former development officer Marguerite Harrington (1993, English) organised the Rector's musical evening on 5 February. She assesses the state of play amongst those with rhythm

The second Old Members' Rector's Musical Evening was held this year in both the Chapel and the Lodgings – a scene only vaguely reminiscent of a rock festival with two stages, one venue perfect for exquisite musicianship (the Chapel), the other better for less formal performances with a drink in hand (the Lodgings). But there the resemblance ends.

As in the previous Musical Evening, the programme was a mingling of Old Members' and current students' performances and a great variety was heard. At the highbrow end of the programme we were lucky enough to have Peter Walls (Music, 1971), visiting from New Zealand where he is a Music Professor, with his baroque violin. His accompanist for the evening, and a soloist in his own right, was Julian Larkin, (Music, 1965) now a professional harpsichordist. You would never have guessed they had only just met, as their innate musicianship shone through and provided the listeners with a sparkling performance of Pandolfi Mealli's "Sonata: La Bernabea".

One visitor for the evening who deserves special praise was Alison Wilson (1979, Mathematics)

who was brave enough to carry along her concert harp and then begin the mammoth task of tuning it! Looking towards the altar, with the grand piano on one side, harpsichord on the other and harp in the centre, it felt like entering a visual as well as musical feast.

Music in Chapel was not let down by performances from current students either, with songs by Handel and Dvorak and jazz on clarinet and piano (Nick Mumby 1999, Lit. Hum., pictured above). I mustered a quartet, myself, Katie Steel (1993, English), Giles Hutchinson (1991, Lit Hum) and Giles Lewin (I must own up to breaking my own rules and bringing along a Tab to sing with us - shame on me) to add to the variety. First a medieval madrigal, then a Scottish folksong, and finishing with a Thomas Hardy-esque psalm setting from the West gallery music tradition of the 18th Century.

Not to be outdone, yet more variety was provided by the irrepressible Ben Merrick (1993, French and Latin), once the audience and performers had wine glasses safely in hand in the Lodgings. He began with Flanders and Swann's "I'm a Gnu", closely followed by a Victoria Wood number and ending with Tom Lehrer's "Periodic Table".

Once again the tone was raised by a duo of Old Members, John Alpass (pictured below with Michael just visible in the background) and Michael Preston (both 1964, Lit Hum). They had requested the comedy slot in the Lodgings, thinking that their piano duet of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony might go awry, as their 1965 performance of it in the same place had



done. They needn't have worried, as they performed without a slip. The years must have matured their musical instincts more than they had anticipated.

My personal favourite of the evening however featured the current College Organ Scholar, Richard Hills (1999, Music). He was offered, Cilla Black style, a selection of envelopes containing musical themes. He chose Abba's "Lay all your love on me" (the musical equivalent of a weekend in Blackpool on Blind Date). He managed to turn it into a set of variations drawing on influences from Bach right through to '70s Disco.

The evening was rounded off with a buffet in Hall, with everyone retiring safe in the knowledge that music in College is in safe, if esoteric, hands.

*The Music Society would like to develop contacts with old members. For details, and news of forthcoming concerts, please contact: Richard Hills or Nicholas Mumby, Exeter College, Oxford, OX1 3DP
Nicholas.Mumby@exeter.ox.ac.uk*



Times Past

A REVIEW

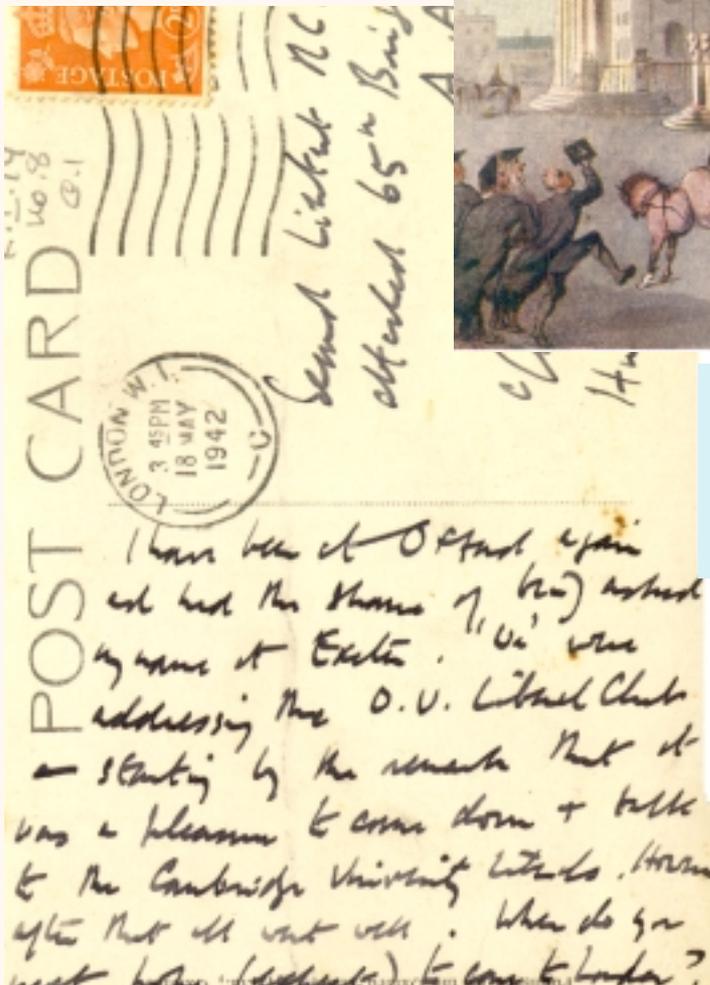
IN PICTURES

One of our old members, David Serpell (1931, Modern History), collects old postcards. For many years he has been sending the fruit of his labour in antiquarian bookshops to the Fellow Librarian and the sub-Librarian (the recently retired Lorise Topliffe).

The post card at the bottom of the page refers to a visit in 1942 by a very elderly David Lloyd-



The old Gatehouse on Broad Street in 1809



George to the Oxford University Liberal Club. It appears that he gave exactly the same speech at a previous meeting in the other place. The correspondent notes that he mistakenly expressed his gratitude to the Cambridge University Liberal Club rather than to its Oxford counterpart.

SPECIAL OFFERS...

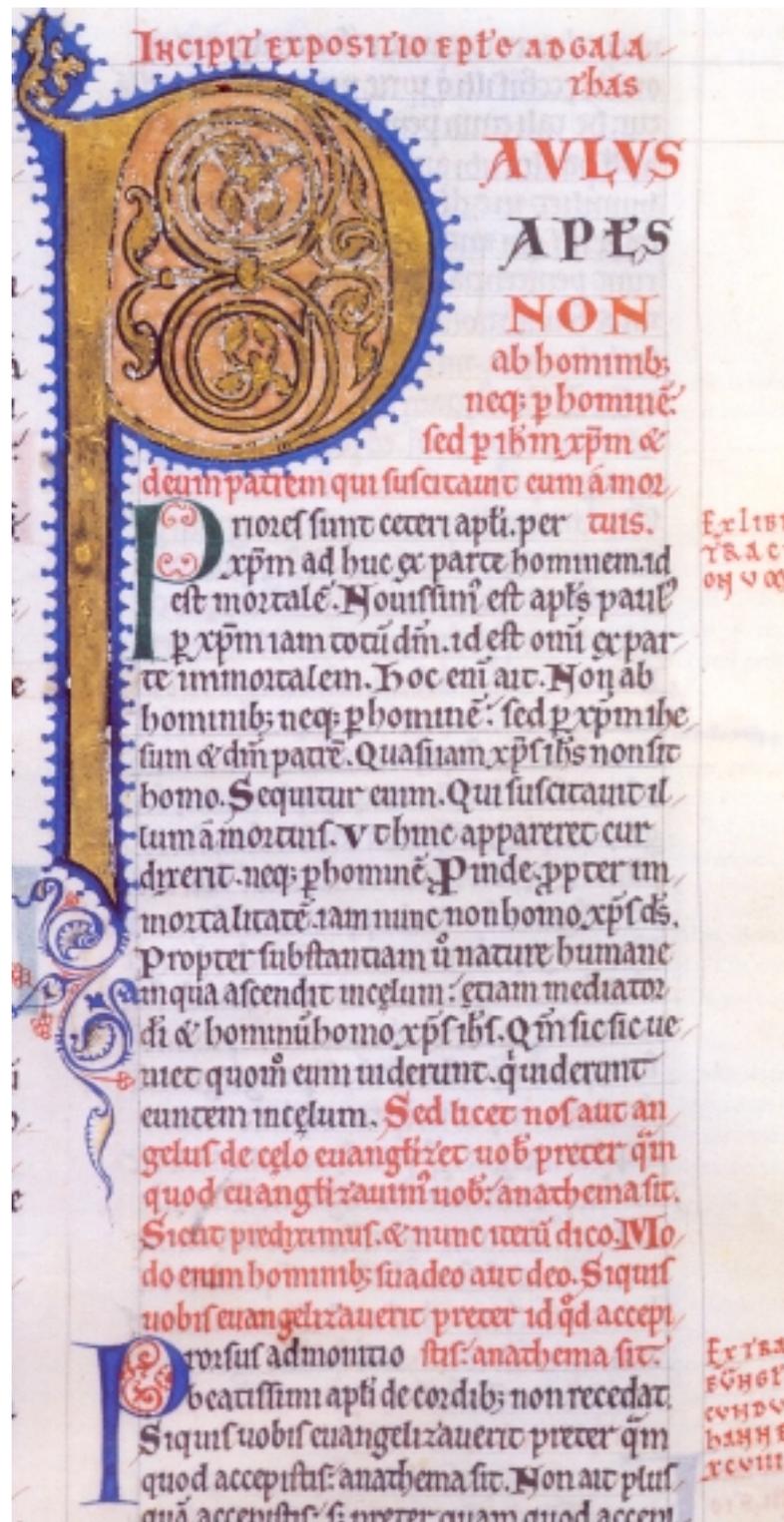
The Medieval Manuscripts of Exeter College



The Oxford University Press has recently published, on the College's behalf, *A Catalogue of the Medieval Manuscripts of Exeter College, Oxford*. The catalogue has been prepared by Professor Andrew Watson, one of the world's leading manuscript specialists, and is a handsome volume, 150 pages in length and with five colour plates and four black- and-white plates. It is prefaced by a history of the College's manuscript collection and contains full descriptions of the collection's two most famous items, the Bohun Psalter, formerly in the possession of the Tudor family, and Petrarch's copy of Suetonius's *Twelve Caesars*, as well as the seventy or so other medieval manuscripts housed in the College vaults. The catalogue is priced at £60 but old members may obtain copies at the special price of £40 (+£2.50 p&p) by application to the Fellow-Librarian, Dr John Maddicott. (Cheques payable to the Bursar, Exeter College)

...two most famous items, the Bohun Psalter, formerly in the possession of the Tudor Family, and Petrarch's copy of Suetonius's Twelve Caesars

Professor Watson has kindly offered to give a lecture on the medieval manuscripts to a small group of old members. This may be offered as the inaugural meeting of a new society of Exonians wishing to leave a legacy to the College.



II. MS 18, fol. 25^v

Exeter College

Clothing

Social etc.

Official Exeter College clothing is available via mail order from College Clothing Supplies. The College receives 25% of all profits from the sale of these items.

- * All items carry a 100% money back guarantee
- * 24 hour information line 01222 279 129

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Crested (Keys)	£19

P&P per item: UK: Sweatshirts £1.50; T's £1; ties 50p
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 World: Sweatshirts £4; T's £2; ties £1.50

Total: £ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Daytime Telephone: _____

Payment: Please circle your size and indicate quantity. Send completed order form and payment to College Clothing, 12 Harrismith Road, Cardiff CF23 5DG. Please make cheques payable to COLLEGE CLOTHING SUPPLIES.

VISA/MASTERCARD (please delete as appropriate):

Card number: _____ Expiry date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Top: Christopher Kirwan accepts a retirement gift

Middle: A dread moment

Bottom: From left Richard Fine, unknown interloper, Kate Treleaven and Dr. Michael Hart at the Greats and PPE Schools Dinner



Left: Milling around in Front Quad
 Right: Richard Hills, Organ Scholar
 Overleaf: An Economics class in the

Morris Room

Donation form..

Please complete Gift Aid Declaration.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Full name in CAPITALS

I,

Address in CAPITALS

of

Please complete this Gift Aid form if you are a UK taxpayer. This enables the College to reclaim tax on your donation

want The Rector and Scholars of Exeter College in the University of Oxford (commonly known as Exeter College) to treat

* all donations I make from the date of this declaration until further notice

as Gift Aid donations.

Date/...../.....

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Please complete Banker's Order OR Cheque Declaration

BANKER'S ORDER

Name and full address of your Bank in CAPITALS

To the Manager,

Account Number

Branch Number

Please pay from the above account to: Barclays Bank plc, Oxford Corporate Centre, PO Box 858, Oxford (sort code 20 65 18), account number 90375799

Delete as appropriate

the monthly/quarterly/annual sum of £ for a period of years,

Total number of payments
Signature of account holder

until a total of payments have been made, commencing on

Signed

Date

Name (in CAPITALS)

Address

CHEQUE DECLARATION

I enclose a cheque (payable to The Bursar, Exeter College), for £



Please return this form to The Development Office, Exeter College, FREEPOST SCE5094, Oxford OX1 3YZ. You may send a photocopy of this form if you wish. The form is also available on the alumni section of the website at www.exeter.ox.ac.uk. North American donors should not use this form. A North American donation form is available on the website or by application to the Development Office.

THE BOAT CLUB

Blades for the Second Eight, the Women's Boat went up a division, the First Eight rowed over, a Summer party and a very pleasant ECBCA Summer Eights dinner. More on this last from Jackson Collins (1988, PPE)

On the Saturday of Eights (3rd June for those of us now living away from the hurly-burly of the Oxford social calendar), the Exeter College Boat Club Association Dinner was held in Hall. The dinner marked two memorable events in the history of the Boat Club. The Men's First VIII which

Tolkein's record has been exceptional

has risen continually for over a decade from the 3rd Division to being 3rd on the River, was now within striking distance of the Headship. Although this ultimate prize was not to be (this year), the crew rowed over 3rd on the river – a feat not achieved in living memory, and testimony to the continued high standard at which the Boat Club now races. The dinner also marked the retirement of *J.R.R Tolkein*, which had been the men's first boat between 1992 and 1998. *Tolkein's* record has been exceptional and per-

haps unprecedented for any College first boat: she began at 27th place in both Torpids and Eights in 1992, and retired as the College's first boat at 7th place in both competitions in 1998.



In her long career, *Tolkein* was never bumped, and she bumped in 40 of her 51 races. She accumulated 5 sets of blades and appeared at Henley five times.

The evening was judged by all to be a great success, and was a vibrant testimony to the level of interest in rowing at Exeter. Every decade was represented from the 1930s onwards. It was interesting to see how the style and colour of Boat Club blazers has changed over the years, and how somehow the tailors seemed to cut the cloth a little more tightly in years gone by. In all, nearly 100 members of the current Boat Club, parents, 'Old Boaties', and their friends attended the dinner. Many

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thanks must go to the kitchen, who were able to deal with more than one last minute plea: ‘Can you fit another two people in?’ - *Plus ça change*.

One other fact that has also changed over the years is the financial burden placed on today’s rowers. The current men’s First VIII has been paying over £350 per year per rower, and the women over £250. These figures include coaching, training, and racing costs, but do not include individual training (university gym membership), training kit, nor of course Boat Club Dinners. The cost would be even higher were it not for the generous sponsorship from Kenan Systems, the Software Products Group of Lucent



Technologies / Bell Labs Innovations. Also, over the last year, there has been increasing support from Old Members, and with this support it is the Boat Club Association’s express aim to reduce the termly rowing fees, whilst increasing the amount of professional coaching.

Those at the Dinner were, as usual, quick to contribute to the Boat Club. Auctions were held for a blade especially illuminated to commemorate *Tolkein’s* retirement. Here, thanks must go to Bill Bentley and John Roper not just for their generous bids, but also their very kind act of returning the blade to the Boat Club. Thanks also to everyone else who has contributed to the Boat Club; our only regret is that such donations are becoming more of a necessity than a benefit.



The next Association event will be held in London close to Christmas. As with all ECBC

Association events all those with an interest in rowing at Exeter are invited. Details of this and next year’s Summer Eights Dinner will be sent out at a later date. In the meantime, keep up to date on College rowing by visiting our website:

<http://www.exeter.ox.ac.uk/ecbc>



CAREERS

Thank you to the Old Members who have offered to give careers advice to current students. At the moment we are registering interest and considering the best way of utilizing this fantastic resource. Fellows are generally happy to write references for former pupils. Please be aware, however, that other demands on Fellows' time may entail delays; especially at the beginning and at the end of each term. Your former tutor can be contacted by letter or by email using the address Firstname.Lastname@exeter.ox.ac.uk.

CHAPEL

If you are planning to dine on a Sunday you are welcome to attend Sunday evensong in the Chapel. Please be seated by 6 pm.

CONTACTING OLD MEMBERS

Part of the purpose of the Development Office is to revive contacts between old College friends. We will happily forward letters and, if permission has been granted, pass on contact details. If you are relocating we can inform you about Exonians living in your area. We would like to re-establish contact with a number of old members; please take a look at the list of these on the website and let us know if you can help. If you wish your email details to appear on a password protected area of the website planned for this year please email [OM Details] [<development@exeter.ox.ac.uk>](mailto:development@exeter.ox.ac.uk). The subject line should read - Please publish contact details. Do not write any message. Your email will be used for data entry purposes only.

DATABASE

The College maintains a database of old members in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act. If you wish to update your record please email or write to the Development Office; it would be of considerable benefit to us if you could provide your email address.

EXON AND THE REGISTER

Submissions for either of these publications are most welcome. Ideally they should be sent as email attachments (in RTF or Word format); but we do accept printed copy.

GIFTS AND LEGACIES

More information on the various and tax-efficient opportunities for giving to Exeter College is available on the website or by writing to the Development Office. If you wish to make a large donation or a gift in kind then please write to the Rector. Gifts in kind or gifts such as paintings and antiques can present unforeseen complications in relation to administration, storage, insurance arrangements etc. The Development Officer would be happy to discuss these matters.

GUEST ROOMS

Exeter is not over-supplied with guest rooms. In order to avoid disappointment please book early by sending a letter or an email to: David.Whitaker@exeter.ox.ac.uk. A list of local hotels is available upon request.

HIGH TABLE

Old Members of the College who at least three years previously have passed all the examinations for any degree of the University are entitled to dine at High Table once a term free of charge (wines must be paid for, however). Guest nights are Wednesdays (lounge suit) and Sundays (black tie). If you would like to dine with us, please email or write to the Development Office.

LECTURES

As well as being lifelong members of College, all Old Members also continue to be members of Oxford University. As such, they are all entitled and welcome to attend lectures in Oxford. There is a massive range of lectures offered, many given by world-renowned figures. The best place to find out details of lectures is in the University Gazette. The easiest way to get hold of this is on the internet (<http://info.ox.ac.uk/gazette>). If you do not have internet access, please make enquiries about subscribing to Ms M. Clements, Oxford University Press, Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP.

LIBRARY

Old Members are welcome to read in the Library; please phone the Sub-Librarian (01865 279600) to arrange to be let in. Degree holders are entitled to apply for a Bodleian reader's card at nominal rates. Applications should be made to the Admissions Office, Bodleian Library, Broad Street, Oxford OX1 3BG.

LIFETIME EMAIL ADDRESSES

The university is exploring the possibility of allocating lifetime emails to all current and former members. If this does not go ahead then Exeter College may provide this service.

RECEPTIONS

If you are willing to host an Old Member event do let us know.

VISITING

Old Members and their guests are welcome to visit the College - please identify yourself as such to the Porter. If the Porters are not too busy, they will be happy to let you in to see the renovations that have taken place in the Hall. You are welcome to pop in for a cup of tea at the Development Office.

VOLUNTEERS

The College is extremely grateful for the commitment and generosity of the volunteer network. If you are interested in learning more about the volunteer programme please email or write to Dr Snicker at the Development Office.

WEBSITE

As you might have gathered, the College has a website. The Development Office is particularly keen on using this medium for communication with Old Members. Feedback on this new facility would be much appreciated. The website, which has been wholly redesigned and has a number of new features, can be found at <http://www.exeter.ox.ac.uk>.

EXINFO

Development Office
Exeter College
Oxford, OX1 3DP

Tel: 01865 279619

Fax: 01865 279630

Email: [Subject matter]

[<development@exeter.ox.ac.uk>](mailto:development@exeter.ox.ac.uk)

Exeter College



Old Member Events



GAUDIES

FOR MATRICULATION YEARS
1978-1980 INCLUSIVE
Saturday 30th September, 2000

FOR MATRICULATION YEARS
1955-1959 INCLUSIVE
Saturday 6th January, 2001

CHRISTOPHER KIRWAN RETIREMENT DINNER

Saturday 14th October, 2000
*All former pupils invited. Tickets
£45*

FOOTBALL

OLD MEMBERS V STUDENTS
Saturday 25th November, 2000
*If you matriculated before 1988 and
would like to play, please drop us a
line. All younger ex-footballers will
be mailed separately.*

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE
Friday 1st December, 2000
Chapel 5.30 pm

THE RECTOR'S MUSICAL EVENING
Saturday 3rd February, 2001
6pm - 9pm

*Tickets £10 (£5 concessions), includ-
ing buffet supper. Informal perform-
ances by current and Old Members of
College. Performers, families and
guests welcome*

GARDEN PARTY AND ECBCA DINNER
Saturday 3rd June, 2001



A number of Exeter choir members
feature in the final episode of Morse

DINNERS

New York, Thursday 7th September,
2000
Rain, Upper West Side.
*A chance to meet the Steamer Capital
Scholar, Ben Moxham*

*Response rates have varied from re-
gion to region. In order to maintain
regular interest, most dinners are held
every two years.*

*Some dates are provisional. Please register your
interest by emailing Events
<development.exeter.ox.ac.uk> or writing to us at
the address on page 27. Further information will
be sent out with The Register. All cheques are
payable to The Bursar, Exeter College.*

All dinners 7.30 for 8pm