

THE EXETER COLLEGE MAGAZINE ISSUE 13 AUTUMN 2010 WWW.EXETER.OX.AC.UK/ALUMNI

## **STANDING OUT FROM THE CROWD** EXONIANS DESCRIBE THEIR INVOLVEMENT WITH MAJOR EVENTS

FEATURING: MONUMENT OF NATURE ANGELA PALMER'S GHOST FOREST

**BECOMING A DARK BLUE** AN EXONIAN ROWS IN THE BOAT RACE

VANCOUVER'S OLYMPICS A GREEN APPROACH THAT FILLED THE COUNTRY WITH PATRIOTISM

PLUS: EXETER'S 700TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN, SOUTH AFRICA 20 YEARS AFTER APARTHEID, INSIDE THE GENERAL ELECTION, COMMUNICATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN, HOPE FOR BANGLADESH AND MORE...

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# **Editorial**

Welcome to the 2010 edition 4 of Exon. In a year which has 5 seen high-profile events from a general 6 election to the football World Cup, 7 and with our own thoughts turning 8 increasingly to our 700th anniversary, 9 our theme this year is big events. 10 In the following pages, articles by Old Members and students explore their many facets - from the intricacies of 12 planning and preparation to the legacy they leave behind for their host cities and the individuals who take part in them.

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Artist Angela Palmer (2002, Fine Art) tells us about the inspiration for her internationally acclaimed Ghost Forest exhibition, while Exeter student Benjamin Myers (2008, Physics) discusses the experience of competing in the world-famous Boat Race and Matthew Hancock (1996, PPE) gives us an insider's view of his campaign in Britain's general election. Looking to the future, Andy Anson (1983, Mathematics), chief executive of England's bid for the 2018 World Cup, explains what Britain could gain from being the World Cup's host nation.

As ever, you can also catch up on news from College and the University, read regular reports on the exploits of our choir, Travel Scholars and sports teams and find out what other Old Members have been doing in the past year.

Our thanks go to all the Exonians, past and present, who have contributed articles and images for this year's magazine. This year's student intern, Jennifer Hindley (2008, History), gave particularly valuable help. Once again, the Exeter community has proved a flourishing source of experience, expertise and excellence from which to create another year's Exon.

Floreat Exon. 🛡

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## **Rector's Letter**

### **BY FRANCES CAIRNCROSS, RECTOR**

his has been a year when Exeter L College changed forever. 'Forever' is a long time, even for a 700-year-old College, but Exeter will be permanently transformed by the acquisition of the site on Walton Street, finally completed on 17 March this year. We have been, for most of our history, a middling, though friendly, player on the Oxford scene. Now we have an opportunity to move into a different league.

The difference will not be speedily apparent. We have to wait until the end of September 2012 to gain vacant possession of our new property, and beyond that, there will be the delays of construction and refurbishment. But we are in the early stages of choosing an architect who can do justice to the potential of our new quadrangle. We have set out our vision for a development that follows the traditional Oxford model of a modest entrance that opens on to a dazzling inner courtyard, similar to that on Turl Street. We dream of a new kind of study space, where students use their laptops almost as much as their books, working alone or in groups.

This development is the centrepiece of our ambitious Campaign, Exeter *Excelling.* But there are other demands on the College. As you will see in the article from Professor Andrew Hamilton, our new Vice-Chancellor, the University faces a sharp decline in money from the government before - perhaps - higher tuition fees restore our overall income. However, I feel buoyant: even if tuition fees were to be deregulated, we are clear that we would want to offer sufficient financial aid to continue to keep our pledge that no home undergraduate should have to leave Exeter because of financial stringency. We are determined to preserve the tutorial system, which has benefited so many Exonians over the years.

There is something about Exeter that inspires buoyancy, and you will see it in these pages. Our students, who between them have written many of the articles that follow, live life absolutely to the full, whether they are rowing in the Boat Race, singing in the College choir or winning prizes for their engineering or mathematical skills. Our 340 or so undergraduates remain the heart of the College, but two other groups are increasingly



RECTOR RESPLENDENT

important to us: graduates, and students from Williams College.

We now have 200 graduate students, for whom we are just completing a splendid new complex of rooms and flats at Exeter House on the Iffley Road. Our graduates bring diversity to the academic and social mix. Whereas only about 15% of our undergraduates come from outside the UK, some 80% of our graduates are non-British. It was our multi-cultural graduates who organised a Diwali dinner last autumn and a Chinese New Year celebration in February. Our graduates are also increasingly creating an independent academic and social life at Exeter House: earlier this year, they launched a seminar series with a talk by Professor Frank Close, our Fellow in Physics.

'Whereas only about 15% of our undergraduates come from outside the UK, some 80% of our graduates are non-British.

We also benefit enormously from the 26 students from Williams College in northern Massachusetts who visit us each year. They take part in our sport and social life, and are active participants in the seminars that I run during term. They have a confidence, verve and social conscience that are a splendid example



ROB JUDGES

to our own undergraduates. However, as Trinity Term drew to an end, they experienced terrible tragedy: on a hiking trip in the Swiss Alps, one of their students, Henry Lo, was killed in an avalanche, and another, Amy Nolan, badly injured. The large number of Exeter and Williams students and Fellows who gathered in Chapel for an ecumenical memorial service was eloquent testimony to the deep bonds of friendship between the two communities.

Week after week, the College is full of visitors. Some come to talk at my Rector's seminars. One of the most popular this past year was footballer Sol Campbell, whom I accosted in Heathrow and persuaded to come to College. Another was Zeke Emanuel, an alumnus of Exeter, a world-renowned bioethicist and President Obama's adviser on health care reform. Among our innovations in the past year, one of the happiest has been a Parents' Evening, when we encouraged students to invite their families to dine with them in Hall. The event was such a success that we had to repeat it, and hope to do so again next year.

The sense of Exeter as a wide community of students, academics, alumni, parents and friends is an inspiration for all of us. As it expands, and we develop our thrilling new site, we hope you will come to visit us and share the buzz of a College which, in spite of its immense age, is still full of new ideas. and young life. ♥

## **Rector Staying on Until 2014**



The Governing Body has decided that Frances Cairncross will remain at Exeter.

### FARAMERZ DABHOIWALA, FELLOW IN MODERN HISTORY

T n the spring of 2009, the Fellows faced La guandary. The Statutes stipulate that the Rector must retire when aged 67. So the Governing Body formed a small working party to start preparing for a Rectorship election in 2010-11. Every College has to do this regularly, of course, and finding a new head of house is a useful discipline. It forces the Fellowship to consider afresh the College's priorities, to reflect on its current position and to articulate its future aspirations.

Yet in this case the timing was very unwelcome, for the College had just embarked on some of the most exciting and ambitious projects in its history. We had completed a major Strategic Review. We were embarking on our £45m 700th Anniversary Campaign, Exeter Excelling, and we were about to purchase the

Third Quad in Walton Street, the College's largest expansion in hundreds of years and cornerstone of our plans for the future. The current Rector has been the driving force behind each of these major enterprises.

### 'If we could clone her we would. But we have done the next best thing.'

Indeed, when we tried to define her ideal successor it soon became clear that we sought precisely the qualities that we have come to value so highly in Frances Cairncross since her appointment in 2004: her deep commitment to the College and its future; the personal dedication she has to all aspects of

College life; her extraordinary energy; her outstanding leadership.

If we could clone her we would. But we have done the next best thing. For even our Statutes are subject to the law of the land, which now permits some exceptions to compulsory retirement. By a unanimous vote of the Governing Body we therefore offered the Rector the opportunity to continue in post until 2014. We are delighted and grateful, to her and to Hamish, that she has accepted. It is wonderful news for Exeter - for our Fellows, students, staff, friends and alumni alike. We look forward with enthusiasm to her continued leadership of the Campaign, to the exciting development of the Third Quad and to celebrating our 700th anniversary with her.

## **Diverse Celebrations at Exeter**



Exeter has included vibrant festivities from two other cultures this year, along with its traditional celebrations.

### BIRGIT MIKUS (2009, MEDIEVAL AND MODERN LANGUAGES)

The truly international composition of Exeter College is reflected not only in the student body, but also in the way the College celebrates many cultural events. For the Indian Festival of Lights, Diwali, we started the celebrations with sparklers and fireworks in the College's Front Quad. A colourful rangoli surrounded by candles greeted the dinner guests at the bottom of the stairs on their way into Hall. The Diwali Dinner, with an authentic Indian menu and the special atmosphere of a Hall illuminated by candles, was certainly a highlight of Michaelmas.

Exeter's traditional celebration of the American Thanksgiving holiday was another high point of the term, as students from all over the world crowded into Hall to enjoy a wonderful array of American dishes together.

Hilary Term started with another highlight, the traditional Scottish Burns

Supper. After being piped around the Front Quad and into Hall by a bagpiper, diners took part in the address and toast to the haggis. During dinner Exeter Chapel choir performed the (non-Burns) song Flower of Scotland and, in true Burnsian fashion, the evening ended with the address to the lassies, the appropriate response and a great deal of whisky.

This year the College also celebrated Chinese New Year for the first time. again with a special dinner. For this occasion the Hall had been decorated with red lanterns, garlands and banners. Between the courses of an authentic Chinese menu, we were treated to two extraordinary performances: a singer performed the song gan lu si from the Peking Opera, and a guzheng player filled the Hall with the sound of xue shan chun xiao (Spring on Snow Mountain).



RANGOLI WITH LIGHT

### 'The Diwali Dinner was certainly a highlight of Michaelmas.'

Both the Diwali and the Chinese New Year dinners were organised by College students in collaboration with the staff, and the ongoing commitment of both sides contributes to a truly vibrant and diverse College community.

## **Green Exeter**



After two polls and a great deal of debate, the College has a meat-free day in Hall to reduce its collective carbon footprint.

### AKSHAT RATHI (2008, ORGANIC CHEMISTRY)

Tn Hilary Term a JCR student proposed that Exeter should not sell meat in Hall one day a week. Inevitably, this caused a mini-quake in College and will go down as one of the most debated motions that the student body has ever passed.

Tom Hyatt, the proposer of the motion, argued that, whether or not it is morally wrong to kill animals for food, there independently exist arguments that we shouldn't eat as much meat as we do. These are based largely on the UN report, Livestock's Long Shadow [2006], concerning issues such as climate change, environmental damage and animal welfare. After a two-hour debate on the motion, the JCR approved it by 64 votes to 40. However, some students argued that 104 votes did not truly represent the whole College, including the graduate body, and so called a referendum. The outcome was again to pass the motion, with 127 votes for and 86 against.

## Warrior Women

### ANDREW MILES (2008, MODERN LANGUAGES)

The cover said it all. On the front of Professor Helen Watanabe's new book, Beauty or Beast?, was a terrifying woman with sword and flashing eyes. The book, an examination of the woman warrior figure in German culture, was launched in June, at an event in the Rector's Lodgings which was attended by students, staff and family.

At the launch, Professor Watanabe, Exeter's Fellow in German, discussed some of the fantastic images that illustrate her book. She uses these to argue that in no other Western culture has the troubling figure of a woman who takes up arms proved such a pervasive theme in the work of male cultural heavyweights. The authors whose work she discusses range from Cranach to Klimt and Hebbel to Wagner.

Beauty or Beast? is available in all good bookshops.

Those opposed to the motion argued that the JCR should not force such a change on the unwilling. Students for the motion argued that, without making a change to Hall, individual efforts to reduce meat consumption would be futile, as the College would

### 'The debate was one of the most interesting ones I've been to at Exeter.'

questioned the quality of the meat-free option, to which the reply was that the quality would undoubtedly increase with the demand.

All in all, 'Meat-Free Thursday' means that Exeter students are a sixth of the way towards the government target of a 10% reduction of CO2 emissions in 2010. Green Exeter indeed.

## **Christopher Little Literary Prize**

### **KATRINA HANCOCK, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT (1998, EARTH SCIENCES)**

The College was delighted to attract to the University a prize funded by the Christopher Little Literary Agency for creative writing for students of the collegiate University. The Agency, which is famous for representing J.K. Rowling, has offered an annual prize worth £1,500 cash for the best synopsis and opening chapters submitted by undergraduates and graduates of the University, in the hope of finding new talent.

The prize-giving ceremony will be held at Exeter in October 2010. Neil Blair (1986, Jurisprudence) is a partner at CLLA and was instrumental in housing this prize at Oxford University. The prize represents a fantastic opportunity for students at the University to prove their talent to a market that can be tough to break into and proves that Oxford is still a hub of literary talent.



still buy meat on that day. Some students



THE FRONT QUAD GOES GREEN



START WRITING

©ISTOCKPHOTO COM/BLACKREE

## Hot Mountains in a Warm World: **Localised Climate Change in the Himalayas**



The Richard Sandbrook Scholar updates us on the view of climate change from the top of the Himalayas, and the terrible effect it could have on the surrounding region.



s a student of Physics I know s a student of rilysics i know something of the complex science of climate change, but even more difficult are the challenges to technology and international relations.

I was lucky enough to see first-hand some of the problems of tackling these issues when I interned with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), funded by Exeter's annual Richard Sandbrook Scholarship. The IUCN works to conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable resource use, skills they are applying to an emerging problem in the Himalayas.

It is clear that the region is warming much faster than the global average. The Tibetan plateau, for example, has warmed by 1°C in the last decade alone.

Working in the IUCN's Asia regional office, Bangkok, I helped find out why this is. Soot in the lower atmosphere is a key factor in the rising temperatures. When soot is deposited on ice, such as that of the Himalayan glaciers, and it darkens, it absorbs more light from the sun which raises the temperature.

Fortunately, there is very little soot in the atmosphere in most of the world. But in the countries surrounding the Himalayas, soot is emitted from burning crops and inefficient industrial processes, forming the brown haze seen over much of Asia.

This heating has crucial implications. The glaciers in the Himalayas are the



HOT HAZE IN THE HIMALAYAS

sources of most of the rivers in Southern Asia and China, upon which agriculture completely depends. However, the glaciers which provide year-long irrigation to thousands of millions of people are shrinking, and they could be gone by 2030.

To try to stop this, the IUCN hopes to establish regional cooperation between the six countries which share the Himalayas. These are countries with recent histories of conflict, with millions of poor people dependent on the industry which emits soot. However, the IUCN has successfully engaged the countries in preliminary talks, and hopes ©iSTOCKPHOTO.COM/ALEXANDER ZOTOV

### 'The impact on the whole of Asia and indirectly on the world will be profound and possibly disastrous.'

to advance this by collaborating with a United Nations scientific body.

This is a regional version of a problem the global community now faces. Overcoming such difficult barriers will require enhanced communication between scientists, policy-makers and governments. But having been part of the IUCN's success so far in the Himalayas, I have renewed optimism that this can be solved.

## **Turl Street Arts Festival 2010**



LUKE O'LEARY (2007, LITERAE HUMANIORES)

Exeter kept up its usual high standards at this year's Turl Street Arts Festival.

On the Saturday before the official launch, the annual jazz parade down Turl Street finished up in the Exeter quad. The Festival proper began with the traditional launch ball, the Black & White Ball, a stylish and elegant affair held at the Union. Monday saw two of Exeter's biggest events take place: a Valentine's Jazz Soiree

in the Lodgings organised by Lizzie Ellen and Sanaya Kerawala; and a Turl Street Film Night, premiering the film *Playing* With Both Hands, which I directed, starring Harriet Tolkien and funded by the Exeter College MAD committee. Rosalyn Shih, TSAF Secretary, briefly transformed the JCR into a celebration

of Chinese New Year. Lanterns, decorations and calligraphy were the order of the day. Finally, Dave Lee shocked and appalled us with his brand of comedy at an open mic comedy night.

Special thanks go to all those involved in the week. 🛡

## New York, New York



Exeter College choir give some memorable performances on their USA tour.

### **REBECCA REES (2008, ENGLISH)**

A week's CD recording and Evensong in Westminster Abbey were not enough to keep Exeter College Chapel choir occupied in summer 2009 - we also ventured across the pond to tour New York, Williamstown and Boston.

Our first destination was Manhattan, where we sang services at Trinity Wall Street (on the anniversary of 9/11) and St John the Divine, and performed concerts at Barnard College and the University Club (to coincide with the 700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign Launch). We had plenty of play-time, and evening trips to Broadway shows, sunny afternoons cycling around Central Park and wanderings round the Met, the Guggenheim and the Frick will remain happy memories for us for a long time to come.

After these six busy days, reaching guiet Williamstown was a shock to the system. This small town in Massachusetts is owned by students (perhaps more so than Oxford), with whom we were able to stay during our trip. However, we certainly ruffled some feathers in our concert at Williams

College Memorial Chapel when our new choral scholar, Alexei Kalveks, strutted out from the back row to give a dramatic performance of New York, New York. He was clearly destined for Out Of The Blue stardom even then. From our stay in Williamstown, we moved on to Boston for a whirlwind 36 hours. After our first concert in Harvard Memorial Chapel, we looked around this eerily familiar university town and got a good dose of Englishinspired antiquity. We then travelled up to Boston proper and had the rest of the day to explore before meeting for dinner to celebrate the end of the tour. We gave our last concert in Trinity Church, Boston, which contains some stained glass windows designed by Edward Burne-Iones, who was once a student at Exeter College and designed the famous tapestry in our Chapel. We sang our last concert to a full audience, which was a great affirmation and encouragement. This trip certainly set the tone for a brilliant year for the choir, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who supported it so generously.

## **Medal for Scholarship Founder**



College, has been recognised with an Air Force Academy medal.

### IAN HELMS (2008, ENGINEERING SCIENCE)

Just before the start of the 2009 Michaelmas Term, the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) awarded Bart Holaday (1968, PPE) the Distinguished Service Award. This annual honour, founded in 1999, is given in recognition of outstanding support to the institution and Holaday is the first USAFA graduate to receive it. His generous philanthropy to the Academy has had a wonderful effect on our community – he is the Founding Director and Chairman of the Board of the USAFA Endowment, a fundraising organisation that bolsters the Academy's public funding with private

donations. In a fantastically kind gesture, he and his wife Lynn recently donated \$5m towards the construction of a brand new athletic facility on the Academy grounds.

Bart Holaday's influence on the Academy is evident from the institutional to the personal level. He is Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the Falcon Foundation, and manages a programme that awards 100 USAFA candidates annually a scholarship towards preparatory education that will help them gain a place at the Academy. However, his sponsorship of learning is





DREAMING OF EXETER'S CHOIR

# Bart Holaday's generous philanthropy, including a scholarship for US Air Force students to study at Exeter

not limited to USAFA candidates. In 2003 he and his wife established the Holaday Scholarship, a partnering of USAFA and Exeter College that rewards one Academy graduate a year with the opportunity to study at Oxford University for two years. As a recipient of this scholarship, I feel truly thankful for the amazing experience I have gained from studying at Exeter. Bart Holaday is an individual who enhances the Academy experience so richly for current, future, and former cadets, and is absolutely deserving of the Distinguished Service Medal.

## **Celestial Voices**



One choir member describes the process of recording an ambitious new album.

### MICHAEL COOMBES (2005, POLITICS)

**I**hanks for the interesting 📕 opinion...', mused Ali Reid, Organ Scholar and – for one week at the end of Trinity 2009 - CD maestro. Ali never tired of responding to the barrage of unsolicited interjections which accompanied the first rehearsals for One Thing Have I Desired, the latest Exeter choir CD. Lesser men would have crumbled, but Ali's resolve was steely. His was a bold programme of sacred choral music drawn from the last two centuries, featuring several first recordings and a new commission from contemporary composer Jonathan Dove, put together to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Exeter Chapel. It was squeezed between two large end-of-term concerts, master-classes and evensongs, and around choir tours to Paris (at Easter) and the US later that summer. The recording – made possible with the kind support of Peter Thompson, Friend of Exeter – turned out to be a tiring but hugely enjoyable culmination to an outstanding year for the Exeter choir.

The arrival of some rather substantial microphones to the Chapel during our rehearsals certainly focused proceedings. Though recording would not commence



triumphed in the end. With a little help from our sound engineer and his digital technology, the choir was able to put together a recording of fantastic quality.

## **Trans-Atlantic Milestone**



Williams student, Peter Hick, looks back fondly over a year studying at Exeter, which has seen the visiting students uniting with Exeter students through study, play and times of sadness.

### PETER HICK (2009, WILLIAMS)

Every year since its inception in 1985, the Williams-Exeter Programme has given a group of third-year students from Williams College, Massachusetts, the opportunity to spend an academic year at Oxford. In the past 25 years, the Williams-Exeter Programme has become an integral part of the social community at Exeter. Although we live in Ephraim Williams House on Banbury Road, Williams students regularly eat in Hall with their friends at Exeter. When we all

want to venture out, Exeter students can visit us, as they constantly do. During our weekly group dinners on Thursday nights, it seems like there are always Exeter students who have been invited up to eat with us. Since the social whirlwind of Freshers' Week, we have grown to know Exeter students as friends, as tutorial partners and, sadly, in the closing weeks of Trinity Term, as mourners. When Williams student Henry Lo was

killed in an avalanche in Switzerland,

our communities were united in grief. Henry, like so many other Williams and Exeter students, was a member of both communities. In a way, our two communities had become one.

One thing have I desired

HEAVENLY SOUNDS

'Recording can feel

rather like facing an

unflattering mirror.'

Accompanied by Ali Reid's extensive

liner notes and polished front matter,

the CD is a particularly fine offering,

those of us fortunate enough to have

taken part, it is also part of a lasting

as a constant reminder: whether it

featuring an unusual repertoire. But for

memory. Such opportunities can easily

be taken for granted, but the CD stands

brings back memories of the recording,

or of the choir and the friendships that

were formed there, the making of the

CD was an exciting, rare opportunity,

and I am grateful to feature on it

alongside so many friends.

A quarter of a century after its founding, the relationship between Williams College and Exeter is closer than ever. I think I speak for everyone on the Programme when I say thank you for an amazing and meaningful year. I hope we see each other again soon, wherever it is.

# **Exeter College Vacation Project 2010**



maintain their heartfelt efforts.

KATHERINE MATHIESON, EXVAC VICE PRESIDENT 2009-10 (2008, MODERN LANGUAGES)

ike the ExVac Committees of the past 27 years, the Committee of 2009-10 had the challenge and privilege of combining the triumphs of previous years with our own visions for the future. This year's challenge was to take on the charity at a time of great financial strain, convincing donors that we were a worthwhile cause despite tightening budgets. We were lucky enough to have a force of nature in the form of Letticia Banton as our External Fundraiser, and thanks to her efforts and optimism we have raised over £20,000 in the last six months. This is also, of course, a real testament to the generosity of our benefactors. We were particularly pleased to receive support this year from several local schools. While there is not enough space here to thank all of our donors individually, we would like to extend the most heartfelt of thanks to all of you - students, parents, Old Members, Fellows and Friends of the College - who have given so kindly, allowing this year's holiday to go ahead and providing a stable and worry-free financial basis for the next couple of years.

ExVac continues to develop and grow: this year we changed location once again and took 16 children aged eight to 10, and eight Exeter College leaders, to the JCA Activity Centre in Tewkesbury over the Easter Vacation. The children spent a week climbing, practising their circus skills, playing football and going sailing. We went on a day trip to West Midlands Safari Park, where the children pressed their noses against the windows. squealing with delight when a giraffe put its head inside the coach, and sat captivated as they were allowed to hold pythons, tarantulas and pygmy hedgehogs. A day at Drayton Manor Theme Park provided more new experiences, and a beautiful sunny day proved a blessing as children and leaders alike were soaked to the skin by the log flume. Slightly less hair-raising activities included pottery painting, which gave the children a chance to create a lasting memento of the trip, and









EXVAC EXHILARATION

### The Exeter College Vacation Project continues its excellent work for children, as our student volunteers







a campfire talent show. We were all treated to some fantastic performances that really brought out the best of the children's skills.

For many of the children, these were novel experiences, and their responses to them were immensely gratifying. For the leaders there is no greater reward than seeing a shy child make a new friend, or a child with low selfconfidence discover an artistic talent. Seeing the patience, enthusiasm and energy that we've poured into these

### 'For the leaders there is no greater reward than seeing a shy child make a new friend, or a child with low self-confidence discover an artistic talent.'

activities having a positive effect really made it all worthwhile. Most importantly, however, it is gratifying for the children, who proudly take home their pottery painting, the addresses of new friends and happy memories of a fantastic holiday.

Despite all the changes, ExVac has stayed true to its purpose. For children who are often acutely aware of their families' problems, the holidays provide a welcome break from worry and stress. At times our impact feels limited, with the significant progress we make during the holiday seemingly brought to an abrupt halt when they go back home. Yet we are assured that ExVac's significance extends beyond the week-long holiday. The undivided and individual attention allowed by our low child-to-leader ratio means we are able to write comprehensive reports on each child for their social workers. Perhaps most importantly, the children take some of ExVac with them when they leave us. We all remember our most formative and exciting childhood experiences we hope that, for these children, the ExVac holiday will be just such a memory for them.

## Lost in Translation



Some of the most compressed uses of language are also those that safeguard lives. Here, graduate student Hilary Wynne outlines her study of Aviation English and its significance in preventing aircraft disasters.

HILARY WYNNE (2009, LINGUISTICS, PHILOLOGY AND PHONETICS)

n March 1977, 583 people were killed when two Boeing 747s collided on a runway in the Canary Islands. KLM #4805 initiated takeoff while Pan Am #1736 was still taxiing up the runway in thick fog; upon impact, both aircraft burst into flames. The controller's native language was Spanish, the KLM crew spoke Dutch and the Pan Am crew English. Although air traffic control (ATC) instructions were given over the radio in English, the combination of stressful conditions with the thick accents of some of the flight crews and the controller may have hindered communications. This was the consensus at the recent Air France/ KLM presentation of 15 April 2008. 'All of a sudden, ATC demanded the crew steer left heading 270, although the controller actually meant right heading 270 to avoid traffic... ATC was only speaking Spanish to the other two aircraft, so we only found out [from instruments]."

As I am a pilot myself, I have a strong personal interest in finding ways to make sure that language difficulties do not cause any more disasters in the air or on the runway. To try to prevent such disasters, the International Civil Aviation Organisation has been trying to put in place regulations which are intended to ensure that flight crew and air traffic controllers of participating countries are proficient in English. These requirements aim to ensure unambiguous communication and operational efficiency. They were supposed to come into force in March 2008. However, it soon became clear that many nations would be incapable of meeting the deadline, and so it has been pushed back to 2011. But that deadline, too, may be hard to meet. I am studying some of the obstacles to the implementation of the new requirements from a linguistic perspective. Already, I have found concerns about the costly training procedure, the competence of training facilities and the reliability of the proficiency tests. It is clear that private companies, international organisations and public groups will have to work together to develop



SPEAKING SAFELY

training solutions, since there is a worrying lack of learning materials about this type of communication.

Aviation English is a unique, specialised language. It employs a turn-taking system where one person speaks and another promptly acknowledges or responds and is suited to stressful situations that call for speed and decisiveness. Speech is limited to basic messages: instructions, confirmations, requests and acknowledgements. Controllers are instructed to maintain a constant rate of speech and to use standard phraseology.

Departures from these expectations can create confusion and error. Simple conversational fillers such as 'uh, um, ah, yeah' can lead to problems with communication, with fatal consequences. The KLM/Pan Am crash was one of the deadliest commercial air disasters to

MARK BROUWER/CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSE

### 'It is clear that private companies, international organisations and public groups will have to work together to develop training solutions.

date and occurred, in part, because of confused communication.

In my research, I hope to discover the best way to teach and learn a specialised, professional language as a second language, and at what point the economy of a compressed language begins to interfere with the delivery of information. I hope my research will contribute to current studies on both language acquisition and human factors in aviation, preventing terrible disasters like the Canary Islands crash from happening again.

## **Renewable Future**



cost and use of renewable and non-renewable energy.

MATTHIAS FRIPP. NEXTERA RESEARCH FELLOW IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

here is a broad consensus that we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% or more to avert the risk of severe climate change. My research investigates how far we could move in this direction by generating electricity from wind and solar power instead of coal and gas. Rather than give a single statement of how much energy we could obtain from renewable sources, I plot out a 'possibility frontier' showing how far the cost of power would rise if we aim to achieve any particular emission-reduction target.

A number of factors make renewable electricity more expensive than fossil power. The most obvious one is the bulk cost of electricity - wind farms and solar plants cost more to build than conventional power plants, and even though they need no fuel to operate, the cost of repaying these capital investments is higher than the all-in cost of electricity from fossil plants. Fortunately, the cost of wind and solar equipment is falling, and wind power is now competitive with natural gas plants in many locations. However, coal will remain cheaper than either wind or gas for the foreseeable future.

Furthermore, there is only a finite number of good wind locations, and if we want to obtain most of our electricity from renewable sources, we will also need to rely on less productive (and therefore more expensive) wind sites, and/or begin to develop more expensive marine or solar resources.

The timing of renewable energy imposes additional costs that are more subtle. Renewable resources are available only when nature provides them, which is not necessarily when people most want electricity. This problem can be solved in part by developing a larger or more diversified portfolio of renewable resources. However, we will also need to build 'backup' natural gas power plants to ensure that electricity is available whenever it is needed. Fortunately, natural gas plants cost much less to build than to run, so this option is



SWITCH ON THE WIND

### 'Renewable resources are available only when nature provides them, which is not necessarily when people most want electricity.'

surprisingly affordable. Another cost arises if we develop so many wind farms that they sometimes provide more electricity than people want. In this case, surplus renewable electricity would go to waste, and the net amount delivered to customers would decrease, raising the average cost.

This is a bewildering array of tradeoffs. Rather than consider each one individually, I have developed a new computer model to do the job. This model considers the hourly behaviour of wind farms, solar facilities and electricity customers within a large area, and identifies the least expensive set of generators to build over the next 10-20 years, to provide a reliable supply of power while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions. I run the model repeatedly with different policy assumptions and emission-reduction



# The NextEra Research Fellow explains his current research, modelling the impact of various factors on the

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targets, in order to map out how the cost of electricity would change if we used more renewable energy, and to identify policies that could help reduce emissions at a lower cost. My work so far has focused on California, but it will eventually be extended to the UK as well.

Results so far have been encouraging. In a 'base-case' scenario it is possible to reduce emissions by around 70% while raising the cost of electricity by only about 20% (compared to a gas-intensive system). Several options can improve this tradeoff: if people use electric vehicles and charge them during the best possible times each day, it would be possible to reduce emissions in both electricity and transport by about 80%, while raising the cost of electricity by only about 15% (and reducing the cost of driving). If customers also reduce electricity demand, emissions could be reduced by nearly 90% from 1990 levels, while raising the cost of electricity by about 10%. An encouraging result for those of us at Exeter College who worry about climate change. V

## A Day in the Life of Alice Wilby

### Getting Sixth Formers enthusiastic about future study is a tough job, but Alice Wilby, Schools and Colleges Liaison Officer, finds that the more you put in, the more you get out.

IENNIFER HINDLEY (2008, HISTORY) AND IOSIE THADDEUS-IOHNS (2006, LITERAE HUMANIORES)

group of primary school children Agroup or primary server. meander in silence around Exeter College Chapel. One is staring at the intricate wooden carvings on the choir stalls while another is tracing the pattern of the floor mosaic. Alice Wilby, Schools and Colleges Liaison Officer for the College, looks on with pleasure: 'What they're really interested in is everything at waist height, and the tiny details.' The hushed attentiveness of the children is startling. 'In general when they visit College I have to work hard to get them to talk, because they see the buildings and think of museums and libraries, so feel like they should be quiet.' They seem completely in awe of the stunning architecture of Exeter, as if they felt they might have fallen into the pages of a Harry Potter novel.

For Alice, too, this is a relatively new experience. It's only recently that the College has been inviting primary school groups to look around, as it's mostly Sixth Formers who want to visit Oxford colleges.

The role of Exeter's Schools and Colleges Liaison Officer mainly focuses on raising aspirations, encouraging younger students to consider universities further from home and discussing choice of subjects.

She works with teachers just as much as children, to try and encourage a nurturing situation in which students feel able to push themselves to do the best they possibly can. 'The help I give is intended to make their other university applications successful too – only 20% of those who apply to Oxford get a place, so it's important to be realistic and to make sure that they have the best chance at other places too.'

Alice concentrates on the area the College has traditional links with: Devon and Cornwall. In schools in this area she organises mock interviews and workshops that encourage children to expand their curiosity to subjects outside what they have been taught in class. The young people are clearly what she loves about her job, making the early morning travel to reach the South West



ALICE HAS THE ANSWERS

### 'She's able to make studying at a world-class university feel like a reality for the young people she works with.'

worthwhile. Certainly, the ability to enthuse Sixth Formers about their future and to feel appreciated for your efforts is one many of us would envy. 'I've had events where one or two have come up to me at the end to thank me for "the best day we've had all year". It's definitely the children I work with that make my job extraordinary. When you stop to think about it, being paid to travel to some of the nicest bits of the country to talk to some of the most intelligent children on behalf of an institution as great as Oxford, and potentially affecting the future of these children is pretty amazing."

Showing children of all ages around Exeter is another highlight for Alice. Once out in the Fellows' Garden, their inhibitions are lowered and they begin to bombard their patient guide with questions. What happens if you fall out with your friends? Where do you sleep? Do you have to share a room?

As they head up the steps at the back of the garden to look out over Radcliffe Square, Alice is explaining the Bodleian library stacks system that houses thousands of books underground. These youngsters, too young to have siblings at university, and so unlikely ever to have thought about this kind of academic study before, are enthralled by her stories. She is able to make studying at a world-class university feel like a reality for the young people she works with. 'They need to feel like they could belong here. If you can imagine yourself in a place it's much easier to aspire to it.' Suddenly one of her group interrupts with an important question, 'But are you allowed to bring your pets?'. Once again, Alice is ready to answer.

# The 'Solid South': Votes for Roosevelt 1932-40

**KATY MINSHALL (2007, HISTORY)** 

**F**ranklin D. Roosevelt is remembered by historians and non-historians alike as one of the great progressive American presidents. Yet what has been routinely overlooked is that his greatest source of support was the most conservative region of the country – the South.

During every presidential election, Roosevelt won all 11 states in the south-east of the country, the only Democrat to do so from 1924 to the present day. In 1940, when Roosevelt gained 55% of the popular vote nationally, he still obtained from the South an average result of 81%, and he frequently received approval ratings of up to 100% from Deep South states. Yet the region continued to elect legislators who were outspoken opponents of the New Deal. Southern congressmen routinely blocked Roosevelt's legislation, and many compared the President to a communist dictator.

Thus, the problem for historians is to understand both how Roosevelt was able to obtain these enormous majorities from the South during presidential

### 'Southern conservatism was especially advantageous to Roosevelt in the later years of his presidency.'

elections, and why opposition from the region had no effect on them.

Initially, I analysed Roosevelt's policies. Many voters in the South were reassured by his apparent willingness to allow existing racial inequality and brutality to continue, and his New Deal economic policies provided much needed relief to the impoverished South. However, the New Deal also provoked opposition to the President in the South, so it is difficult to contend it was the most significant cause of his popularity.

Secondly, it was important to consider the President's identification as a 'southerner'. Whereas most presidents had seen the South as backward, Roosevelt identified with it as a resident. He frequently journeyed to the South,

owned a farm in Georgia and referred to southerners as friends and neighbours. Yet it is important to concede that Roosevelt's charisma was appreciated on a national scale, and thus again this factor alone does not explain the much greater support for the President in the South compared with the rest of America.

Most significant of all, and most frequently overlooked, is the conservatism of the South as a source of support. In one sense this conservatism posed a challenge: it explains the staunch opposition Roosevelt faced from southern legislators on increased central government intervention. However, since southern voters continued to vote for Roosevelt in the presidential elections, it seems that they were content to support Roosevelt and the state politicians who opposed him at the same time. The reason for this is that Roosevelt was largely recognised as 'conservative' himself. He sold the New Deal as a return to southern traditions, not an innovation; he presented himself as being like these southern politicians, with demagogic appeals and constant references to celebrated southern leaders like Thomas Jefferson, not as a politician who posed a threat.

In fact, the conservative political system of the South provided Roosevelt with an opportunity as well as a challenge. The archaic political system in the region ensured that charm was an especially wellregarded quality. So Roosevelt's commoner appeal thrived, and the deeply embedded religious devotion of the South catalysed popular veneration for Roosevelt. Indeed, southern conservatism was especially advantageous to Roosevelt in the later years of his presidency. When the power of the executive seemed to be growing, the fears about dictatorship that prevailed elsewhere in the country failed to gain ground in a region



### An undergraduate historian discusses reasons for Roosevelt's popularity in the conservative South.

dominated by political oligarchy; when war seemed likely, the South's ingrained enthusiasm for battle ensured that when Roosevelt initiated a more interventionist foreign policy, he solidified southern support.

Both Roosevelt's policies and his 'southern' identity helped to secure support in the South, but the ingrained conservatism of the region was the key. The New Deal is remembered for its innovation but ironically, in the South, Roosevelt was revered for his conservatism.

...AND ROOSEVELT UNITED STATES MINT IMAGE

## Born to be Wild

The wild outdoors makes a mark on our North American Travel Scholar, who got to grips with long-distance transport, surprising weather conditions and dinosaur footprints.

### AMY GILLIGAN (2006, EARTH SCIENCES)

he level to which people of my **L** generation have been exposed to the US in the media is unprecedented. However, during my travels through the North America Travel Scholarship last summer I still found lots to surprise me.

I was lucky enough to have the chance to visit several national parks on my trip. It surprised me how relatively non-commercialised they were, especially when contrasted with the area around Niagara Falls. Admittedly you have to pay to get in to some of them and many are complete with shops and restaurants, but this doesn't detract from the beauty of the surroundings. The Grand Canyon was spectacular, and as a geologist I found that the clarity of the horizontal layering and the magnificent colours made me think I should really be doing some sort of work.

Another surprising feature of the parks was how seriously Americans take 'The Wilderness'. I spent five days in Yosemite

'The trains were some of the best I've ever been on; there just need to be more of them.'

with the intention of climbing Mount Lyell (named after a College alumnus, known as the 'Father of English Geology'), a plan which was unfortunately foiled by rain. In three days of wild camping I wasn't eaten by bears and enjoyed the amazing views and peace of the high country. However, I didn't expect to need to wear six layers or to contend with my bear canister being frozen shut in California in August. I also spent two nights at the campsite at Tuoloumne Meadows operated by the National Parks service, complete with ranger-led campfires each evening. This is somewhere where people can stay for up to a week, but there is no hot water or showers. I was struck again by the separation between 'normal life' and 'the wild' in the American psyche that seemed much more defined than in the UK. When people go to 'the wild' they want it to be totally different from their ordinary lives.

I suppose I was a bit mad trying to do the whole trip by train and bus. Amtrak trains seem to have a bad press worldwide, and Greyhound buses are seen as even worse, but the trains were some of the best I've ever been on; there just need to be more of them. On the trip I covered over 13,000km by bus and train, with journeys in the US lasting up to 23 hours, and in Canada I spent four days on the train travelling from Vancouver to Toronto. Public transport in the cities was impressive; Los Angeles even had buses with video screens offering passengers bits of trivia and guizzes in both Spanish and English.

Once out of the cities, public transport is sparse to say the least. Thanks to the great kindness of my hosts I was able to visit Mount Ranier, see some of the 'Grands' in New Hampshire, and visit Revolutionary War battle sites and the top of Mount Washington where the highest wind speeds in the world have been recorded. My desire to visit the Rocky Mountains while in Colorado meant that I resorted to hiring a car for a day. Having never driven on the right before, this was a slightly terrifying experience, but well worth it to see dinosaur footprints and to drive to the top of one of the 'fourteeners' and ascend to 14,256ft.

Thanks to my hosts I was able to do things that I never expected to do while on this trip. I helped at a homeless shelter, went to a geology lecture at San Francisco State University, and kayaked in the bay in Vancouver as the sun was setting. Even left to my own devices I cycled through New York and swam at the beach in Chicago.

North America bore only a passing resemblance to what I had expected from films and television. It's much bigger, more stunning and a great deal more interesting than could ever be captured on film. A continent full of surprises with plenty left to discover.

Thanks to: Steve and Tami Holsten, Bob Earl, David Schwartz, Richard Wiltison, Frank Nims, Paul Dykstra, Tom and Dee Hay, Annie and Bill Macomber, Julie Kelley, John Laslett, Susan Amussen, Bill Rivers and Rita Rodriguez, John and Pam Melin, David and Maria Harris, Claudia Ross, Chisanga Puta-Chekwe, Shom and Smita Bhattacharya, Roger MacNicol and Stephanie Ashbaugh.

## At Home on the Other Side of the World

cultural kaleidoscope.

JACK MARLEY-PAYNE (2006, MATHEMATICS AND PHILOSOPHY)



LUCKY JACK

he most common response to L hearing of my trip this summer was incredulity – perhaps maturing into full-blown indignation. 'Your college is giving you a scholarship to travel round Asia and Australia?' - to which I could only smile and agree that it was an incredibly good deal: Exeter's East Asia Travel Scholarship awards one student a grant to visit countries in East Asia and Australia, staying with alumni and friends of the College along the way.

So, in July 2009, I set off to spend eight weeks travelling across six countries, in what was to constitute one of the most exciting and exacting periods of my life. First I visited India, then Singapore, Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong and finally Malaysia: my passport had never received so much attention. I had only left Europe once prior to this trip and had not had the means to undertake such an ambitious project. As a philosophy student hoping to upgrade the '-y student' to '-er', the opportunity to observe this range of cultural mindsets and values was priceless.

There were many things I learnt, but one of the most striking was the role that religion plays in India and Thailand. It is often described in mystical tones, and shrouded in the mist of the esoteric. I found it to be, for the most part, a practical and wholly natural force. At a Hindu temple in Mumbai, the devout queued impatiently, gave their offering with a minimum of sentiment and returned to family business; a Thai woman burnt a joss stick to a statue of Buddha whilst still on the phone; locals explained rituals to me in the most literal of terms. These procedures were not viewed in the spiritual, symbolic manner many people view, say, Mass - but as purely causal processes to bring about desired ends. Doubtless there are many who practice Hinduism and Buddhism in a highly spiritual manner; however, I saw an aspect of those religions not evident from what one reads in Britain. My experience was enriched,

moreover, by the help I received from the alumni I met. Visiting a country for the first time, I greatly appreciated being



AMY IN THE WILDERNESS

### From Hindu spirituality to Aussie rules football - our East Asia Travel Scholar takes a journey through a

'Visiting a country for the first time, I greatly appreciated being able to talk with someone who lived there and could explain the cultural background.'

able to talk with someone who lived there and could explain the cultural background, as well as give advice on the places really worth seeing. I was taken to an Australian rules football game and had the otherwise impenetrable rules explained to me by an avid fan (as well as becoming an honorary St. Kildas supporter); a student at Sydney University taught me the troubled issue of Aboriginal culture within Australia, and took me to his charity group where disadvantaged Aboriginal children are given support; in Hong Kong, I had the opportunity to see the offices of a finance company and talk shop with people working there over drinks, seeing the exhilaratingly fast pace at which they work. My appreciation of this privilege was sharpened by meeting travellers in hostels who, as they put it, 'did' countries by visiting the top five sights in the Lonely Planet.

I hope that my anecdotes and descriptions of life in Exeter now entertained those I met enough to return the favour, and I am hugely grateful to College for making the trip possible. Upon graduation, I feel obliged to move somewhere suitably exotic so I can do the same for travel scholars of the future.

Thanks to: Andrew Popham, Carolyn Maree Evans, Chris Drake, Devin Brougham, Edward Tyler, Geoff Lovell, Giles Cattermole, Zeth Hung, Ivan Head, Julie Phua Ng, Mike Coleman, Philip Morgan, Yuhei Okada, Paul Barry, Paul Pheby, Pedro d'Avillez, Simon Lewis, Stuart Partis, Yi Xin Ong, Chris Kiel, John Clark and Mike Chester.

## A Soccer Player in a Footballer's World



The differences between the UK and US are clear when it comes to sport. Here, the Alberta Bart Holaday Scholar, an Exonian with knowledge of both sides of the pitch, describes her love of the beautiful game.

### RONI YADLIN (2009, ENGINEERING SCIENCE)

**/ C** ome people say football is a The second secon you, it's much more serious than that.' Legendary Liverpool manager Bill Shankly expressed this sentiment and, as both a footballer and a Liverpool supporter, I agree wholeheartedly. However, growing up in the United States, where football is a sport played with your hands and a lemon-shaped ball, I was in the minority when it came to my love of the sport that the rest of the world calls football.

This is just one of the many reasons that I was excited to learn that, through the generosity of Bart Holaday (1968, PPE), I would be given the opportunity to study at Exeter College. I couldn't wait to immerse myself in the culture that understands, appreciates and indeed invented the game of football. I played football throughout my undergraduate studies at the US Air Force Academy and am currently a member of the Oxford University Women's Association Football Club's Blues squad. Football has become the lens through which I have viewed British culture and it has provided me with a comparison of American and British ways of life.

Here at Oxford it took some time for me to adjust my sporting vocabulary. Rather than playing a 'game in a uniform and cleats on the soccer field', I was instead participating in a 'match in kit and boots on the football pitch."

Terminology aside, there are many differences between football specifically, and sport in general, in the US and UK. In the United States, sport plays a tremendous role in university life, bringing in significant revenue to the university. College athletes are keenly recruited and competition is fierce between universities as to which one can sign the country's top prep athletes. At Oxford, I have yet to meet a single student who chose the University for its athletics programme. The focus is primarily academic, and athletics are a distant second. Sport at university is about fun and fitness, not about preparing for a career in the professional leagues.



RONI AND FRIENDS CELEBRATE A BIG WIN

One common concept that I have seen in both the United States and the United Kingdom is passion. I have taken part in many rivalry games in my football career including Air Force versus Army in my undergraduate days, and Oxford versus Cambridge here as

### 'Passion, love of the sport, and your team are everything.'

a graduate. In matches such as these, emotion reigns supreme. Whether it is a match in the Merseyside Derby between Everton and Liverpool or a baseball game between the bitter rivals, the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox, success on the field, court, diamond, or pitch is the primary concern; everything else takes a backseat. Passion, love of the sport, and your team are everything.

Coming to Oxford has been everything I dreamt about, and more. I have thoroughly enjoyed my engineering coursework, the speakers I have heard and seminars I have attended. My exposure to, and opportunities to work with, top academics has allowed me to blossom as a student and engineer. Furthermore, the lecturers I have heard in subjects outside my academic discipline have provided me with a wider world view and a better global perspective. And I have been given the chance to continue my football career.

Liverpool legend Ian Rush discussed his difficulty adjusting to life in Italy by saying sarcastically that it was 'like living in a foreign country'. I can relate to this sentiment of living in a foreign country, but the common language of sport and football has helped my assimilation into the British culture and way of life and has enriched my time here at Oxford University.

# **Sport Report**

## Football



ADAM HALEWOOD (2008, JURISPRUDENCE)

Exeter College football has enjoyed a productive and eventful season. Having retained a number of key personnel from last year, the squad was improved with the addition of a number of freshers as a result of the pre-season

Thanks to sponsorship from Alliance Sports, we were able to purchase an excellent new kit, and equipment which well prepared and full of optimism. However, the team got off to a sluggish start in the league, playing three games before we earned a victory. The team eventually began to find some rhythm and consistency. We finished off Michaelmas Term by recording three successive wins, including a stunning 2-1 win against the league champions Worcester, which was achieved despite playing the majority of

### Rugby



**ROBERT COWAN** (2008, EARTH SCIENCES)

for ECRFC and has seen the rugby club become one of the most exciting and enjoyable clubs in College.

We started the season in Division Four but guickly lived up to our potential and

were promoted, playing some exhilarating rugby along the way. There are two seasons each year, allowing us second division. We promptly set about this task, taking on Lincoln and Jesus and easily defeating them both to become undisputed Turl Street champions. Comfortably beating Queens in our third a double promotion decider. Despite one of our best performances and being in the lead for most of the game we lost



KNEES IN FOR ECFC

following term slowly once again. Not helped by the loss of key players to injuries and exams, we managed only one victory in our first five games of the term. However, in the final stretch of the season, the team found some spectacular form, winning our remaining four matches and scoring 15 goals in the process to finish in a respectable fourth place.

narrowly to two late tries, meaning we had to turn our attention to Cuppers. against Trinity, Brasenose and Jesus final held at Iffley Road, the home of Oxford Rugby, to take on Balliol who played in the first division that year and had bolstered their squad with returning Blues and University players. With over



TURL STREET CHAMPIONS



100 members of College watching we



bid farewell to a number of football stalwarts who have served the team well over the past few years, including former captains Dave Lee and Stephen Lang and Blues player Alex Fennell amongst others. The onus will now be on the younger members of the team, and the incoming Freshers, to step up and take the team forward. 🕅

point in it at half time, thanks to superb extra strength showed and they went on

Joe leaves the club this year, along with Ed Moores and Kevin Dickens, having played more than 160 matches between them. Special mentions should go to all the leavers for their service to the club and to Sam Hitchings and Tom Hatfield for their performances for the College and University teams.

This was a great year for the rugby club thanks to the tightness of the team on and off the pitch, with socials and a tour to Cambridge solidifying our tremendous team spirit. ECRFC is club is already looking forward to next season and launching an assault on the top two divisions. 🛛

## **Sport Report**

## Rowing



RHIAN WOOD (2008, CLASSICS AND ENGLISH)

his year began with a good term d of novice rowing in which ECBC entered six boats into the annual Christ Church Regatta. Unfortunately, because of terrible conditions including a lot of just one day of racing. However, some of the novice crews had had a chance to race at Nephthys regatta the previous weekend where there were good as the semi-final.

Persistent snow and icy conditions made it difficult to get on the water during Hilary Term, but nevertheless all crews trained furiously both on and off the water in the build-up to Torpids. Poor weather meant that the river was red-flagged for the first couple of days of not rained off and all crews managed to race with the help of experienced coxes



AIMING FOR BUMPS

Eights dropped a number of places, both ending up at the top of division two.

training camp at Wallingford where four men's and women's crews from the boat club spent a week training at OUBC. The weather was surprisingly good for the time of year, but perhaps came too early as Eights week was relatively overcast and all of Saturday was rainy and cold – I am told it was the worst Eights weather for many years. Five Exeter crews prepared for Summer Eights this year and all trained particularly hard, entering several external events including Abingdon Head and Wallingford Regatta. the rowers were relatively young, bumps did not go as well as hoped. Although both the second and third men's Eights were on for blades on the final day, neither guite managed to bump.

Exeter was also proud to have two Blues rowers, Ben Myers and Ben Snodin, rowing with the men's first Eight this year. Several more members of the boat club are hoping to try out for places in the University crews in September. We are all looking forward to a better year of bumps racing in 2011. ♥

## **SCR Boat**



On a crisp early morning on the Isis, you might spot some unexpected faces weaving their way through the water.

**REBECCA FIELDS, JUNIOR DEAN (2007, MEDIEVAL LITERATURE)** 

Bursar William Jensen, Chaplain Helen Orchard, Director of Williams at Exeter Programme in Oxford Tom Kohut, Development Officer Chris Clements, Tutorial Officer Kate Cramp, Rector Frances Cairncross, Junior Dean Rebecca Fields, Accountant Eleanor Burnett, Director of Development Katrina Hancock – if you think this sounds like the roll call of a College committee meeting, you might be surprised to learn our aliases: Bow, Stroke, Cox.

The Rector organised an SCR VIII coaching of ECBC President Jessica

Houlgrave, the crew joined other novices on the Isis in Michaelmas 2009. With help from students Hilary Wynne, Matthew Conroy and David Donaghy, the SCR VIII competed in the November Nephthys Regatta. Braving choppy waters, the crew finished without anyone catching a crab, falling out of the boat, or passing out. Victory - even if we lost.

The SCR VIII continues to train under Jessica Houlgrave and Old Member Mark Henstridge (1990, Economics). Alumni Relations Officer Ari Romney is back in the boat as stroke, and Staines Porter Paul Heaton have joined the crew for outings.

We now understand what generations of Exonian rowers have found so memorable, and the SCR VIII looks

### 'The crew joined other novices on the Isis in Michaelmas 2009.'

the sunrise on the Isis, hear the crisp cut of blades through the water, and row 'all eight' in (near) perfect time with the cox's call. Look out for the SCR VIII at future regattas - you may 'pull harder'. 🛛

## **Tribute to Henry Lo**

from the memorial tribute read at Exeter Chapel in the service to mourn his loss.

ALEXANDER BAIN, CHRISTOPHER SERNA, MICHAEL GEARY (ALL 2009, WILLIAMS) AND THE WEPO STUDENTS



OUR LOSS

We cannot begin to express how deeply we miss Henry, and it is difficult to imagine our lives without him. We will remember Henry most for his good cheer, his deep curiosity and his great sense of humour.

Our year together at Oxford has been a truly incredible experience and Henry made every day richer. He brought his skills and winning attitude to the many athletic activities he participated in, from football to kickboxing, squash and croquet. His comments in tutorials, at wine tastings and after talks at the Union were always an enlightening, or at least humourous, contribution to any

conversation. He was an excellent cook original in his ideas and meticulous in his execution. As he was in so many other facets of his life, in the kitchen Henry was also selfless - as willing to play sous-chef as to take centre stage. With his generally laid-back nature, he was a person of distinctiveness and many quirks, some funny, some puzzling, all quintessentially and endearingly 'Henry'.

share many of his talents with the world. He had big plans for the future. After graduation, he spoke of joining the Peace Corps, buying an avocado farm, starting a jeans company, or even



# On 6 June 2010, Henry Lo, a Williams student, was killed by an avalanche while hiking in the Swiss Alps. This is an extract

Henry passed away before he could

### 'He had a permanent twinkle in his eye and an incredible ability to laugh at himself, with all of us.'

bringing a kebab van to Williamstown. What was remarkable about all of these ideas, and about hearing Henry speak of the future in general, was how genuinely optimistic he seemed when he looked forward to the rest of his life. What for many would have been far-off ideas, cooked up in an idle moment and quickly forgotten, were for Henry possibilities to be talked about, joked about and dreamt of.

Henry's diverse interests and seemingly limitless passion were also reflected in his current studies, for while Henry was a double major in maths and religion, he spent most of his time here at Oxford studying philosophy. He knew about so many things and was always trying to learn more.

Henry was sincere and earnest about almost everything he did, yet his unique blend of self-assurance and selfdeprecation made his very personality a source of comedy for everyone, including himself - he had a permanent twinkle in his eye and an incredible ability to laugh at himself, with all of us.

Henry spent his last days travelling with some of his closest friends. Although our trip ended in sadness, it also remains a source of many fond memories. Henry was where he wanted to be, doing what he wanted to do, and, as always, fully immersing himself in the experience. He enjoyed the majesty of the Alps, and the fun of spending the weekend with his friends, in a way that only an inquisitive and sensitive mind such as his could have done. He loved to explore the world, physically and mentally. His many friends who were not with him can take comfort knowing that he was truly happy in his last days.

We are so grateful for the short time that we had with Henry, and he lives on in our memories.

## **Universities Challenged**



Professor Andrew Hamilton describes the problems the University faces in an economic downturn and the steps it is taking to safeguard the excellence in education that Oxford represents.

### ANDREW HAMILTON, VICE-CHANCELLOR, OXFORD UNIVERSITY



WHAT OXFORD OFFERS

any alumni of the College will have been intrigued – as was I – by the unfolding outcome of the recent general election. The aftermath of the recession, and the steps that the coalition government is beginning to take to tackle the country's deficit, will inevitably have a significant impact on the UK's higher education sector, as they will on all areas of activity that are funded by the public purse. Although the University has repeatedly done well in funding related to its research quality, it has suffered cuts of some 10% in the last year in its teaching funding. Over the next year a further reduction of some 10% of teaching funding is likely. Overall then, the University and its colleges will face a difficult and uncertain few years, as the new government seeks to make efficiency savings and other cuts across its departments.

In the face of these challenges the University has resolved to do its best

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### 'The sum raised by the University and the colleges combined now stands at around £875m.'

to mitigate the cuts that have taken effect already, as well as to maximise all other sources of funding that are available to us.

The University Council has undertaken a review of how best to reconcile our strategic academic objectives with the funding challenges we face. The Humanities have been hit particularly hard by unexpected funding reductions, despite success in last year's research assessment exercise. For that reason, we have approved a working group's recommendations for a review of teaching provision, the establishment of a ring-fenced endowment fund for joint teaching posts, additional funding for colleges and enhanced support for the Humanities. It has been a remarkable exercise in collegial thinking, by colleagues drawn from across disciplines and all parts of the University.

It is heartening, also, to be able to report that the Campaign for Oxford continues to do well in what are obviously difficult economic circumstances. The sum raised by the University and the colleges combined now stands at around £875m. All parts of the University are playing a full role, in all sorts of ways. I watched some of Exeter's telethon in action, and was most impressed by the enthusiasm of the students and the warm response of the Old Members. Such continuing and sustained fundraising is vital. It shows the confidence that others have in us and it demonstrates that we are not overly focussed on the fluctuations of the public purse. In addition our endowment performance has been much stronger than that of most of our global peers.

But also going on at the same time is the Browne review of higher education funding and student finance. Its outcome will be crucial for the University. Oxford has proposed a new funding system that will allow universities, over a period of time, to set their own fees, as long as three important commitments are made: that no UK student should be required to pay tuition fees 'upfront'; that generous bursaries remain in place to supplement government loans and grants; and that fee repayments should be linked to earnings. In the face of a deficit on the full cost of teaching in the region of £8,000 per undergraduate every year, the ability to set our own fees is vital.

In terms of student support, the Campaign assumes even greater importance. At my last university, Yale, we spent \$100m every year on bursaries and studentships. Not one cent of that came from tuition fees, but was drawn exclusively from gifts and from Yale's endowment income. Oxford's funding gap has to be closed, and we have to establish a firmer foundation for the future. That is the real scale of the challenge.

# Ashmolean Museum Redevelopment

# 25

The Ashmolean, the world's first public museum, had a reputation to uphold in its redevelopment programme. Its renovation has proved that the Museum can build on its excellent tradition in the 21st century.

### JENNIFER HINDLEY (2008, HISTORY)

In November 2009, the Ashmolean Museum reopened after a £61m redevelopment. The world's first public museum, the Ashmolean opened in 1683 and soon became both a treasure trove for visitors and an outstanding resource for scholars. But as its collections grew, so too did its need for space.

The director of the Museum, Christopher Brown, spent 11 years planning the huge changes which have now been completed, the primary aim being to overcome the limitations of space in the existing Cockerell building.

Rick Mather Architects designed the impressive new building. Almost two-thirds of the original building, which dates back to 1845, has been replaced, although the early Victorian street façade has been retained. The redevelopment has given the Ashmolean six floors and 39 new galleries and – crucially – has doubled display space for the many culturally significant objects the Museum holds. The redevelopment has also brought state-of-the-art conservation controls, including improved

The Museum still includes the same impressive array of objects - including the death mask of Oliver Cromwell, paintings by Picasso and Dutch masters and fragments from Minoan excavations - but in a new environment, allowing the visitor to enjoy them better. However, as well as adding more space, the new design provided the opportunity for an innovative display system. The Museum dubs its approach 'Crossing Cultures, Crossing Time'. The aim is to encourage visitors to draw connections and make comparisons between objects, by emphasising cultural similarities rather than differences. The Museum is laid out chronologically, beginning with

'The aim is to encourage visitors to draw connections and make comparisons between objects, by emphasising cultural similarities rather than differences.'



THE ASHMOLEAN CROSSES TIME



environmental controls designed to preserve fragile objects.

the Ancient World on the lowest floor, and concluding with the Making of the Modern World floor at the top of the elegant open staircase. An Education Centre has been added, designed to foster work with schools and the public, along with three new study centres and state-of-the-art conservation studios, to strengthen the Museum's reputation as an international centre of research. And at the top of the building is Oxford's first roof-top restaurant, The Ashmolean Dining Room.

The building and its new displays have been well received by the public and press alike, who have praised the opening up of new space and the preservation of the building's outward elegance. No wonder Rick Mather commented that he hoped that his design would end 'museum fatigue' among visitors.

Nicholas Barber, Chairman of the Ashmolean, commented that the Museum had long been renowned for its collections, but that the redevelopment means that 'the Museum has been transformed into one of the world's great cultural jewels.'

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUN

## **150 Years of History and Counting**



The Natural History Museum in Oxford reaches a landmark anniversary in 2010 and celebrates its fantastic history with a series of special events.

### FLORENCE CHEEK (2008, HISTORY)

C ince opening in 1860, the Museum Thas been at the forefront of scientific research. The seminal debate over Charles Darwin's ideas in Origin of Species took place between Samuel Wilberforce and Thomas Henry Huxley within its neo-Gothic walls. Some of its prime exhibits include the Oxfordshire dinosaurs and the mummified remains of a dodo.

### 'Some of its prime exhibits include the Oxfordshire dinosaurs and the mummified remains of a dodo.'

Special events are running throughout the year, including the 'Wonderland of Natural History 1860-2010' special exhibition that documents the construction of the building through the words and works of contemporaries and the first exhibition in the West of the 525m-year-old Chengjiang fossil collection from China.



**DINOSAURS' DELIGHT** 

## A Dramatic Birthday



The University's Drama Society celebrates its illustrious history with a Gala Night including an Exonian performance as a highlight.

### FARHA QUADRI (2008, MODERN LANGUAGES)

This year marks 125 years of the worldrenowned Oxford University Dramatic Society (OUDS). The society has spawned a long list of successful alumni now prominent in the world of film and theatre, including Richard Burton, Rowan Atkinson and Hugh Grant.

Today, OUDS continues to promote student drama by providing funding for a wide range of productions, from the smallest college plays to Oxford Playhouse extravaganzas. During the course of the year there have been some highly innovative OUDS productions including West Side Story, The Odyssey and Rent. Also, the Cuppers competition for first years allows students all over Oxford to get involved in drama by

producing a short piece to be performed at the Burton Taylor Studio, and the annual New Writing Festival plays a vita role in nurturing script-writing talent.

The past year's celebration of student drama culminated in the OUDS 125th Anniversary Gala Night on 13 June. The evening was hosted by Oxford alumna Diana Quick; highlights of the night included Patrick Marber's Twenty-Four Hour Play, extracts from the 2007 Playhouse show Alice Through the Looking Glass and from the 1980 production of Three Sisters that featured Exeter College's very own Imogen Stubbs (1979, English). The Gala Night was a clear affirmation of the vibrancy that has defined OUDS for the past 125 years. ♥



IMOGEN INCLUDED IN THE GALA POSTER

# A Collection from the Dawn of Science



John Aubrey, one of the founders of the Royal Society, is the subject of the Bodleian Library's summer exhibition.

### TIMOTHY HELE (2007, CHEMISTRY)

he Bodleian's exhibition on the life d John Aubrey (1626-97), which runs until 31 October, is far more than a biographical presentation. Rather, it embodies the 17th-century zeitgeist of 'Experimental Philosophy', the subject we now call science.

Coinciding with the 350th anniversary of the Royal Society, of which John Aubrey was a founder, the exhibition charts the astonishingly wide-ranging interests of the many individuals whose insatiable appetite for knowledge and discovery led to the establishment of biology, chemistry, modern mathematics, botany and many other scientific subjects. Although he only published one work, a miscellany completed the year before his death, Aubrey contributed to biographies, donated to museums, defended science and surveyed megaliths. Amazingly, many of his books, drawings and letters still survive,





ABOVE: A BOOK FROM WHICH AUBREY COPIED ILLUSTRATIONS: ATHANASIUS SUBTERRANEUS (AMSTERDAM 1665). TOP: AUBREY'S HEPTAGONAL STONEHENGE, DRAWN FROM FIRST-HAND SURVEYING ©BODI FIAN LIBRARY

and are currently housed in the Bodleian's collection.

As a bibliophile, his interests ranged from the highly academic (such as Newton's Principia Mathematica) to The Praise of York-shire Ale ... with a Discription [sic] of ... Drunckards. He even created his own artificial language.

With a subject so young, as science then was, there were wildly differing opinions about how it should be pursued, if at all. Samuel Hartlib, a Prussian exile, suggested an 'Office of Addresse', similar to a stock exchange, where ideas could be deposited, traded and retrieved. There was a need for large collections of specimens and apparatus, which eventually led to the creation of the Ashmolean Museum in 1683. Education was as contentious a topic as it is now, and Aubrev was a strong believer in bringing about change in the teaching of mathematics in schools before universities. His passionate desire

### 'With a subject so young, as science then was, there were wildly differing opinions about how it should be pursued, if at all.'

that maths should be taught in an accessible and interesting way is familiar to us now, but strikingly bold for his time.

For me, the most striking aspect of Aubrey's life was the similarity in the difficulties encountered by early scientists to those of modern academics. Their research was publicly denounced as being fanciful and pointless. John Aubrey wrote to the Royal Society on behalf of his colleagues defending their right to be acknowledged for their work, and scientists wrote in defence of universities against parliamentarians who were intent on their radical reform or closure.

This exhibition gives us a rare glimpse into the forefront of scientific community in the 17th century, and how Oxford overcame - and continues to overcome the many challenges that scientists faced, and still face today. ♥

In this section, five Exonians describe their involvement in dramatic events.

# **Ghost Forest**



A challenging commentary on the problems of deforestation around the world, Angela Palmer's work featuring tree stumps required determination to succeed.

ANGELA PALMER (2002, FINE ART)

t was when Antony Gormley said the project Lcouldn't be done that I really got the bit between my teeth. Frances Cairncross had kindly invited me back to Exeter to mark the installation of Gormley's bronze statue on the roof overlooking the Broad. During High Table dinner, he politely inquired about my work. I explained I was planning to bring a series of mighty tree stumps – complete with buttress roots – from a commercially logged primary rainforest and place them in Trafalgar Square. I wanted to create a 'ghost forest' to highlight the alarming depletion of the world's natural resources and in particular the continued rate of deforestation. The absence of their trunks, I explained, was intended as a metaphor for the removal of the world's lungs caused by the loss of our forests.

The concept had sprung from a conversation with the forest canopy expert Andrew Mitchell who told me a rainforest the size of a football pitch is destroyed every four seconds. Mr Gormley, a keen environmentalist, looked perplexed. He liked the idea of the project, but the logistics would be impossible. And who could blame him? It was a crazy idea which demanded an epic amount of planning, sweat, tears and family sacrifice. But I cycled home that night through the streets of Oxford buoyed up with a new determination.

Negotiations opened the following morning at home. Our two boys were in the middle of A-levels and GCSEs and our daughter had internal exams. A cousin and her family were about to come and live with us; she was due to undergo a complicated heart operation. It wouldn't be an easy time. Amazingly, everyone was on board. I then had two issues to crack: permission to secure Trafalgar Square, and a logger (and a country) willing to co-operate and supply the tree stumps. Where in the world was I going to find that?

It took months of negotiations before I secured Trafalgar Square. And what an apposite stage: Nelson's Column stands at 169 feet (about 50 metres), the approximate height the trees would have grown to in the forest. It is also at the epicentre of western industrialisation over the past 200 years - one of the major causes of climate change. Charged with this success, I approached

'It was a crazy idea which demanded an epic amount of planning, sweat, tears and family sacrifice.'

the City of Copenhagen to ask if I could show the Ghost Forest during the United Nations Climate Change conference in December 2009, where more than 11,000 delegates were gathering to discuss the future of the rainforests. Copenhagen offered the magnificent Thorvaldsens Plads, next to the Danish Parliament.

All I needed now were the tree stumps. Contacts led me to rainforests in British Guyana, Northern Argentina and Indonesia but each time the trail went cold. A tropical hardwood importer based in Oxford finally led me to the rainforests of Ghana. The Oxford importer had a contact for John Bitar, one of the country's leading timber companies. At his house in Oxford, Bitar put a sketchy map on the kitchen table and pointed to an area in Western Ghana: I should pick up a car in Accra, drive north to Kumasi, then head several hours south west. He didn't have an address but gave me the mobile number of one Sebastian Houweling. Somewhat daunted by this vague plan, I packed industrial quantities of Deet, a pop-up mosquito net the size of a marguee and a pair of gaiters to repel snakes. I didn't know where I'd end up.

Arriving at the timber mill in darkness, I was greeted by Houweling, nephew of the company's managing director. I explained that the stumps were intended as symbols of all rainforest trees in the world but that if they were Ghanaian, the Ghost Forest would also carry a powerful message of optimism. In the past 50 years, Ghana has lost 90% of its virgin rainforest but now, determined to retain its remaining forests, Ghana operates sustainable logging under strictly controlled regulations.

If the Bitars had shrunk away, it would have been disastrous for the project. To their eternal credit, they were prepared to take the gamble.

In order to demonstrate selective logging within the installation, we agreed I would feature two or three logged stumps; the rest would be naturally fallen trees complete with their root system protruding like the nerve-endings of the planet. They insisted that I should attend a felling. It was an important part of the experience, they said.

I went deep into the forest to witness the promised felling. My gaiters proved a source of



THE FOREST HAS MADE ITS MARK IN OXFORD...



...AND IN LONDON'S TRAFALGAR SQUARE

'Within the first hour. I saw a black cobra and a scorpion ready to strike.'

great mirth to the loggers. 'Have you seen the size of the snakes here! They'd bite through those in a second. But you won't see any, so don't look so worried.' Within the first hour, I saw a black cobra and a scorpion ready to strike. A series of whistles and whoops signalled that the next tree was about to be felled. The tree was hanging, balancing in its cut base like a pole resting upright in a cradle. For a few seconds, I felt the ground tremble and then, with an almighty crack, the tree made its stately descent. Emerging from the forest, I found my driver stuffing vast quantities of mahogany bark into several string bags. 'You soak the bark in gin for three days and it makes a wonderful aphrodisiac,' he explained.

Back in England, the scale of the project began to sink in: yet more planning for the months ahead was required. I had only identified three tree stumps on that first trip; I needed at least two more trips to find another seven. And then there were the logistics: would the Ghanaians allow the export of the tree stumps? Would the British authorities allow them into the UK? Were there shipping containers in the world big enough to transport them? How would I transport the wide loads over 350km, from the forest to a port in Ghana (along dirt tracks in the middle of the rainy season) and, once in the UK, how would I get the tree stumps into Trafalgar Square? And then to Copenhagen?

Somehow it happened. There were adventures and there were dramas, but the trees did make it from the forest to the docks at Tilbury, and then on for their triumphant arrival into Trafalgar Square last November. A few weeks later, they stood



THE TREES' ADVENTURE BEGINS

sentinel outside the Danish Parliament in Copenhagen as the future of rainforests were discussed by the world's leaders nearby. And now they will be outside the Museum of Natural History and the Pitt Rivers in Oxford until July 2011. As I wrestled once again with the seemingly insurmountable problems – raising cash from benevolent sponsors, road closures, the reach of the crane 'boom' et al – the sleepless nights returned and at 3am, I found Antony Gormley's cautionary words ringing in my ears. But then I reminded myself (and my long-suffering husband and children) of the statistic that started it all in the first place: a rainforest the size of a football pitch is being destroyed every four seconds. For information please see: www.ghostforest.org, www.angelaspalmer.com or contact angelaspalmer@gmail.com

'They stood sentinel outside the Danish Parliament as the future of rainforests were discussed.'



END OF THE ROAD

# **Bidding for Glory**



has anything to do with it.

### ANDY ANSON (1983, MATHEMATICS)

Everyone involved with England's bid to bring football's 2018 World Cup tournament to Britain believes that we could bring the benefits to our own country and the rest of the world. If we weren't confident and capable of delivering on our promises, there would be little point in persevering amidst the most competitive bidding process ever seen by FIFA.

In May, David Beckham, England 2018 Vice-President, presented the official Bid Book to FIFA President, Sepp Blatter, at FIFA House. The three volumes outline England's vision for the FIFA World Cup Finals which will build on the country's passion, diversity and technical expertise to deliver the most commercially successful FIFA World Cup in history, providing the inspiration for extensive social, human and environmental development on a global scale.

Passion is the foundation of our bid. There is a passion for English football at home and overseas that runs broad and deep. Each year, 30m people attend games in our country; each week, 10.5m people are involved in our national game.

This passion is shared across our incredibly diverse communities. We have chosen 12 Candidate Host Cities as partners in our bid and within these cities, over 300 languages are spoken and 30% of the population comes from ethnic minorities. Every team that has ever played in World Cup finals has a community in England. That guarantees a 'home-from-home' welcome for all visiting teams, packed stadiums and a great atmosphere. Our passion for the game would provide a springboard for us to produce the most commercially successful FIFA World Cup to date: England 2018's revenue projections estimate minimum ticket revenue of £602m and an in-stadium hospitality profit of £268m.

Alongside the pursuit of commercial success, we aim to create a sustainable global impact involving football and social development programmes in England and around the world, building on existing initiatives. As a nation, we have been focused on global development for some time. The Premier League and clubs up and down the country deliver superb community projects both domestically and abroad, while the Football Association's International Development Programme was established in 2000 to encourage the development of football around the world. In the past decade, the English football family has

'We aim to create a sustainable global impact involving football and social development programmes in England and around the world, building on existing initiatives.'



### The world's greatest football tournament could be a lot closer than South Africa in 2018, that is, if Andy Anson

coached in over 100 countries, reaching around 14m people with a broad range of projects.

England's plans for 2018 include a range of programmes that will reach an estimated one billion people. They include a new global fund for football known as 'Football United' which will engage people all over the world in fundraising activities. These funds will be invested in football and social programmes across the world. England's bid also sets out a number of other football and social development goals. The 12 Candidate Host Cities will inspire a new generation of home grown talent by training 4.5m more young players, 20,000 more referees, 100,000 more coaches and 11,500 young football leaders. There are plans to widen access to football for every girl in England and to create an international centre for disability football. David Beckham has also agreed to play a role through his David Beckham Academy, which will run courses in each FIFA Confederation until 2017. With excellent public transport to each venue, and free local transport in every city on match day for spectators with tickets, it will also be a 'green' World Cup.

Our bid has widespread support across the country. Combined with our passion for football, this means that - if we are successful - we look forward to sold-out stadiums and packed FIFA Fan Fests fused with the vibrancy and colour of one of the most diverse, multi-cultural and welcoming populations.

There are 24 Executive Committee members within FIFA who will decide our fate. It might sound a simple exercise to convince such a tiny number of people. But these two dozen representatives from all over the world hold a responsibility that will shape world football for many years to come. That is why the process is so exhaustive and why England 2018 has sought to exceed FIFA's expectations in so many areas. We believe we have the strongest bid and we will work tirelessly over the coming months to bring the 2018 World Cup to England. ♥

### THE HOST CITIES England 2018's candidate host cities are: Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Milton Keynes, NewcastleGateshead, ottingham, Plymouth, Sheffield and Sunderland.

# **Becoming a Dark Blue**



Taking part in the Boat Race gave Exonian Benjamin Myers the drive to stretch his physical strength to the limit.

### **BENJAMIN MYERS (2008, PHYSICS)**

Having grown up in Kingston upon Thames, on the neighbouring stretch of river to the championship course, I had been aware of the Boat Race for as long as I can remember. However, the thought of ever competing in the event never really crossed my mind until, in 2005, I stood on Chiswick Bridge watching the race with my father. I was awestruck by the power, finesse and confidence of the victorious Oxford crew as they approached the finish line. From then on, I revered the Boat Race as the real pinnacle of my sporting ambition, but never necessarily as an achievable goal. At the time I

'Everv session is one step closer to producing the best crew possible.'

was rowing in the so-called 'B-crew' at school, because my initial ineptitude had made it difficult to persuade the master in charge to allow me to continue the sport. Yet I persevered, and at Exeter I found myself in a good position to trial for the Boat Race crews, following a successful year with the first Eight and a few weeks in the OUBC development squad.

The training process for the 2010 race began in mid-September, a whole month before the start of term. Assembling in the gym for the first time was extremely daunting - I was well aware of everyone sizing each other up, all wondering



THE 2010 OXFORD BOAT GATHERS SPEED

who would be in one of the racing crews on 3 April 2010. I am fairly certain that nobody expected anything special from me. However, the initial tension quickly dissolved as it became clear that, despite hailing from all over the world, the members of the squad found common ground through the sport and a united commitment to OUBC. It was clear early on what was required from the team, and the coaches and president set exacting standards. Technical precision is demanded in every aspect of preparation, from early morning sessions on the rowing machine to the very last stroke of Sunday afternoon outings. Through it all, there is a real sense that every session is one step closer to producing the best crew possible on Boat Race day.

From the New Year until crews were finalised in early March, the intensity of our training increased as everyone tried to draw out every last ounce of physical strength and capacity. It was a tough time: many squad members suffered from illness or injury as they pushed themselves to their limits. Managing this factor can be a serious challenge, as academic commitments put restrictions on the amount of recovery time we can have. Missing out on sleep on account of a study deadline can have a drastic knock-on effect on rowing.

The immediate build-up to the race injected new vigour into the squad; knowing that this exact crew would be racing Cambridge added an intense focus to every session. For the last two weeks both crews moved to London, staying in a hotel in Putney while practising on the championship course. I definitely felt the media presence as the hype began to build. A press launch followed the outings each day, and someone would inevitably disappear between sessions to give an interview. Rowing is generally a low-profile sport, so it was really quite odd to have so much attention directed towards us.

The day itself inspired emotions like nothing I had ever experienced before. Rarely in life do we prepare so extensively and rigorously for a mere 20-minute period, and I was conscious that this was the realisation of the prospect that had dominated my life for so long. I had been given the sublime opportunity to turn dream into reality. Sitting on the starting line, I was well aware of the number of spectators, having been one myself in previous years, and having observed them gathering from the boathouse balcony. But I had not expected the roar of the crowds as their attention shifted from their drinks onto the two crews. Catching a glimpse of my face flashing up on the immense TV screen by the side of the river was truly surreal and sent my pulse soaring. However, I knew what I had gone through to be in this position. It seemed as if every stroke I had ever taken had led me here, and that my brothersin-arms in front of me had done the same. Once the race started, all external factors faded away - I was only aware of us and Cambridge.

On reflection, this year has been undoubtedly the most arduous, challenging and intense period

'Catching a glimpse of my face flashing up on the immense TV screen by the side of the river was truly surreal.'



BEN AND FRIENDS GIVE IT THEIR ALL

in my life so far, yet simultaneously the most rewarding and exhilarating. Preparing for the race was such a complete and detailed process, carefully constructed by the coaches with their years of boat race experience. Going on to lose the race was of course harrowing, but it has definitely encouraged me to evaluate myself, both as an athlete and in a more general sense. It has made me certain of my love for the sport. I know well how honoured I am to have competed at the highest level with incredible rowers and friends, and to have given my all without fear or reservation. A former teacher and rowing coach of mine from school reminded me of the following, from a speech by Theodore Roosevelt: 'The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming... and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

With that at the forefront of my mind, I embark upon next year's campaign. As potentially the only returning member of this year's crew, I, along with some key Isis rowers (including Exeter's Ben Snodin) will use this year's valuable lessons and experience in our attempt to reclaim the prize. ♥

# **Victory for Vancouver**



Doug McArthur, Professor of Public Policy at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, lives in the heart of the Vancouver Olympic area. He describes the atmosphere in the city during and after the Games.





### THE GAMES LIT UP THE TOWN

The vancouver Winter Olympics were over. The smiling young athletes who had won our hearts with their amazing feats had gone. The streets of Vancouver were quiet again. Previously packed venues disappeared. Within hours of the closing ceremony, 1,000 massive transport trucks came into the city in the dark of night, swallowed up what had been sites of joy and pain and drove off, leaving no trace behind. In a way it was a bit eerie. It had the feel of watching a departing army pulling up camp.

But Vancouverites agree on one thing – these were the best Olympics ever. We won more gold medals than any country in history. Record

## 'We wrapped ourselves in the red maple leaf flag and hit the streets.'

crowds came in from the suburbs, from across the country and indeed from all over the world. And we sold more beer than any other Olympics.

©ISTOCKPHOTO.COM/DAVID BUKACH

Frankly, we Canadians were a bit surprised at the way we embraced these Olympics. We wrapped ourselves in the red maple leaf flag and hit the streets in unprecedented numbers. We cried, we laughed and mostly we just celebrated. Never have so many people in Canada celebrated such an event. Of course it helped that we got double gold in hockey. That was more delicious than the famous men's victory over the Soviets in 1972, which itself was a fantastic triumph for us. Somewhat surprisingly, the Olympics inspired vast numbers of Canadians to open up and tell the world how much we love our country. Such patriotic love – there is no other word for it – is so un-Canadian. Where this patriotic fervour came from is anybody's guess. Perhaps all we needed was something to crystallize our deeply held feelings about our country.

I recall that I was slightly taken aback to find tears running down my cheeks when watching. on the big outdoor screen on the side of a large department store in downtown Vancouver, Alex Bilodeau ski to Canada's first gold. At that point our well known restraint pretty much abandoned us all. Normally staid people let go in quite remarkable ways. We shouted, embraced strangers, sang the national anthem at a moment's notice and partied far too much. Flags appeared on homes and flats all over the city – something we had never seen before. Even the Premier of the province seemed to have lost his reserve when, at the closing ceremonies, wildly waving an over-sized flag, he clipped the wife of the Prime Minister and almost brought them both down.

The Paralympics drew smaller crowds, but were followed closely by locals. Many felt that the courage and determination of these highly skilled young athletes provided a comforting transition from the hype of the previous three weeks.

What did we not like about the Olympics? We didn't like government spending so much money on the whole thing. Government and corporations poured unprecedented amounts of money and training time into creating competitive elite athletes – but given the medal count, it appeared to work. Government spending of over \$3 billion on sites and infrastructure, the city's multi-million dollar bail-out of the athletes' village and the \$1 billion security bill also rankled many. A common lament of locals was that event prices were extraordinarily high, merchandise vastly over-priced, and corporate sponsors zealously protected from competition.

On the other hand, the whole world saw something of Vancouver, and that is worth a lot. One government sponsored promotion of the province was viewed by over 2 billion people world-wide. Will that eventually boost house prices and tourism – or set off a downturn in the economy? The truth is, no one knows. So far, little seems to have changed.

If there is one common regret, it is that we Vancouver residents didn't plan ahead enough to enjoy the fun fully. You see, we just didn't expect that we would love the Olympics so much. Most of us were a bit cool to the whole idea in the run-up. If we had known how much fun it was going to be, we would have booked more tickets, had more friends come, and taken more time off work. So no wonder we now wish that we could have those magical three weeks back again, just one more time. ♥



'The whole world saw something of Vancouver, and that is worth a lot.'

## A Green Look at the Winter Olympics

Though not the most obvious proponent of sustainability and environmental issues, the 2010 Winter Olympics in Canada made some encouraging steps towards proving that a carbon-neutral international sporting event is acheivable.

### FAAIZA LALJI (2006, WILLIAMS)

Spurred on to act by Canadian citizens seven years ago, the Vancouver Organising Committee of the 2010 Winter Olympics set a demanding goal: every site, street and stadium presented an opportunity to initiate and inspire solutions for a more environmentally sustainable world. And the spectator would be able to make the difference.

Working with Offsetters Green Technology Inc., a Canadian carbon asset management company and supplier of carbon offsets, the organisers of the Games aimed to produce a carbon-neutral Olympics. Their efforts prevented 300,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. The transport network built by extending the SkyTrain into Vancouver, the pedestrianisation of the city centre and the use of streetcars and hybrid vehicles all showed Vancouverites that a 'carless' urban future can be a reality. They also encouraged the commercialisation and marketing of many conservation technologies such as smart appliances, energy efficient lighting and solar panels.

The Canada Green Building Council successfully sought LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) status, targeting silver or better certification for 31 Olympic venues that demonstrated environmentally conscientious design, construction and operation. The two athletes' villages, which were both recognised as sustainable neighbourhood developments, were partly converted for educational purposes and affordable housing after the Games were over.

Vancouver is blessed; it has visionary people, a progressive perspective on pursuing the promise to better our planet and a desire to share the city's success with all. And though the carefully calculated, citizen-led carbon-neutral Games cannot be recreated, Canada's wish is that individuals, neighbourhoods, cities and hosts of future Winter Olympics around the world will give sustainability a sincere shot. Otherwise, snow will soon seem like the greatest spectacle of all. §

## **Effective, Efficient and Innovative Giving**



Director of Development, Katrina Hancock, gives an overview of the philanthropy that Exeter has received this year, and explains the different ways to give, whoever you are.

KATRINA HANCOCK, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT (1998, EARTH SCIENCES)



WAITING FOR THE PENNIES TO DROP

• Ver the years, Old Members, Parents and Friends have made philanthropic contributions to Exeter to support a variety of projects in a wide range of ways. Most commonly, gifts are given to the Annual Fund an invaluable source of reliable income which is disbursed according to both donor preferences and College needs. Other gifts may be given for restricted or unrestricted purposes, to be spent or kept in the general endowment in perpetuity as each donor requests. Whatever the gift, the College is committed to ensuring that all of it is used for the purpose for which it is given, and

'In this year alone, Exeter has reclaimed over £60,000 in tax relief.'

©ISTOCKPHOTO.COM/CATHERINE LANE

that the donor is able to make the gift in the most appropriate way and as tax efficiently as possible.

Cheques and standing orders are now being augmented by the option to give via credit card, direct debit, through the Charities Aid Foundation or in other online ways. Through the University website, donors anywhere in the world can make their gift online to the College, or to any other part of the University.

The British government's Gift Aid programme means the College can reclaim the income tax already paid on a gift at a rate of 25p (formerly 28p) per £1 donated. Higher-rate taxpayers can

then reclaim tax at higher rates. In this year alone, Exeter has reclaimed over £60,000 in tax relief. Furthermore, this year and for the following two years, the Higher Education Council for Funding in England (HEFCE) has pledged to match all new gifts received by institutions of higher education. For Exeter (and indeed for all Oxford colleges), this relief is capped at £12,925, which we easily achieved this year.

Donors living overseas can often give in their own currency and, where this is not possible, donations received by credit card now have minimal or no handling charges. Increasingly, giving from overseas can also be tax efficient: gifts by donors in the United States made through Americans for Oxford, Inc. are directed towards the specified college and are tax deductible. Donors in Hong Kong now have similar provision, as do donors in continental Europe through Trans-Europe Giving.

Over many years the College has been the beneficiary of legacies (which are exempt from inheritance tax) and planned gifts (from US donors), as well as gifts of shares and property which, when gifted, are exempt from Capital Gains Tax. There has also been an increase in the number of those giving through payroll giving, or GAYE, where donors set up a regular donation from pre-tax income. Some alumni who work for banks and other companies have employers who match their donations to their charity of choice, which adds significantly to the value of the gift.

The College has also noticed a trend in innovative giving by donors. Here are just a few examples:

- David Webb (1983, Mathematics) has linked his giving to the number of Firsts achieved by our finalists.
- Two Old Members have been matching the amount of money raised by the leaving class (this year it was £626).
- Following the deaths of Roy Bickerton (1944, Physics) and Harry James (1941, Literae Humaniores and Oriental Studies), their families and friends took collections at the funerals which were given to Exeter.
- Earlier this year, Karl Hirshman (1958, English) sold his valuable coin collection, transferring a proportion of the proceeds to the College.

People give for different reasons. But, no matter what that reason, we passionately believe that everyone giving to Exeter should be able to do so with confidence and ease, and as tax efficiently as possible.

We are grateful for every gift we receive. At some point over the years, 35% of Old Members have made a gift to Exeter, and we hope that many more will do so - or continue to do so – over the coming years. If you would like further information on any of the opportunities outlined above, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Exeter's telethon is now an established feature in the calendar. As a telethon 'survivor', I was returning to call on my second telethon in January 2010 – my first experience had been so enjoyable that I wanted to do it all over again. Was I a lunatic? I think not. My previous stint had given me the assurance that I would not be picking up the phone to make my first call with a nervous knot in my stomach, wondering if I should really be calling a stranger, because we weren't calling strangers. Each person on the other side had a strong connection to the College and, without exception, received my call with warmth and kindness. The stories older alumni had to tell about the College never ceased to amaze me with regards to how much has changed, not least of which is, as one Old Member described it, 'a women's takeover' with women at the helm in all sections of the College. I was deeply touched when one such Old Member, who had received a telethon call for three consecutive years, confessed that the reason why he did not wish to set up a regular annual gift was that he was keen to receive a call from a current student every year in order to renew

his gift.

carry on. 🛡

# **Telethon 2010**

The annual telephone calls to alumni from students working on the telethon give huge enjoyment to both parties.

### SAHANA GHOSH (2008, MIGRATION STUDIES)

Younger alumni were also enthusiastic about the aims of the telethon, and I was amazed at the extent to which they were willing to extend their support no matter how early in their career they were. One young alumnus starting up in a new job after a few years of adventure generously pledged, 'I promise that when I make a million pounds I'll give it all to Exeter!' This certainly reflected the mentality of our young alumni - their commitment to the future of College was overwhelming. Another interesting feature was the number of recent alumni couples who had got married in the Chapel or were planning to in the near future – it was delightful to learn of the many ways in which Exeter has influenced the future of its students. Once again I enjoyed and was inspired by the telethon. Far from an act of lunacy, it was an act of well-founded confidence. I felt drawn into a tight, warm circle of Exonians of different ages, in vastly different careers, in different parts of the world. It was incredible to see that the hope for support from alumni and parents in times when higher education is in dire straits is not a mere castle in the air. As a current student experiencing first-hand the multiple benefits of such support to College I can only say: thank you and please do

Another interesting feature was the number of recent alumni couples who had got married in the Chapel or were planning to in the near future.'

## **Santander Supports Economics at Exeter**



Economics at Exeter is set to continue to prosper with the aid of Santander.

MARTIN ELLISON, MICHAEL COHEN FELLOW IN ECONOMICS



ANTONIO HORTA-OSORIO, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF SANTANDER, SIGNS THE AGREEMENT

ROB IUDGES

here is no excuse for students not knowing L their John Maynard Keynes from their Milton Friedman after the banking group, Santander, signed an agreement to support Economics at Exeter College. Santander already has a relationship with Oxford as part of its social responsibility programme, and Exeter College was quick off the mark to encourage an increase in support of specific college activities. The agreement was initiated by Rector Frances Cairncross, who had contacts from her previous non-executive directorship at the Alliance & Leicester group, now part of Santander.

Santander has agreed to sponsor two Exeter College MPhil students each year for the next three years, and is funding a series of macroeconomics seminars organised by Exeter's Economics Fellow, Professor Martin Ellison. This collaboration between Santander, Exeter College and the Department of Economics will ensure that Oxford students have a unique opportunity regularly to hear from and meet influential academics, policymakers and commentators involved in global macroeconomics, all in the convivial surroundings of one of the oldest and most beautiful colleges in Oxford.

Exeter College students have already been exposed to new thinking in seminars organised with the support of Santander. In Hilary Term

'The support that Santander provides is especially valuable in the current economic environment.'

2010 Professor David Miles came to explain the Bank of England's policy of quantitative easing, and Professor Lord Layard from the London School of Economics argued that economists have got it wrong with their obsessive focus on money and GDP. Instead they should think about happiness. In Trinity Term happiness was again on the agenda with a visit by Professor Andrew Oswald of Warwick University, and Professor Wendy Carlin talked about how she came to write the set textbook for the undergraduate Finals paper in macro-economics. A previous Exeter Economics Fellow, Dr Mark Williams, also made a welcome return to talk about competition, law and economics.

The support that Santander provides is especially valuable in the current economic environment, with deteriorating public finances inevitably putting pressure on higher education budgets. It has always been important for Exeter College to attract the very best students from across the world, and to offer them the very best in academic resources. The collaboration with Santander will help to ensure that this continues in the future, with Exeter College becoming an even more stimulating and attractive place to think about economics. In Michaelmas 2010, the first students sponsored by Santander arrive at Exeter College, students who might otherwise have struggled financially to come to Oxford. ♥

# **Student Hardship: The Right Kind of Work**



One student describes the positive effect hardship bursaries have had on her academic work throughout her degree, all thanks to the generosity of donors.

### VICTORIA LAZAR GRAHAM (2006, MODERN LANGUAGES)

hroughout my four years at Exeter I L received financial help from College, allowing me to focus on my studies and to stop worrying so much about finances. Like many of my friends, I did not arrive at Oxford with sufficient funds to get me through the full extent of my course. No matter how well we all felt we'd budgeted for the time ahead, it's impossible to imagine living away from home – it's such an alien experience.

My degree in Modern Languages meant that I had a significant amount of reading to get through during each vacation in order to be ready for the next term's work, so finding part-time vacation work would have meant compromising my studies, arriving badly prepared for the term ahead and then desperately trying to catch up on reading instead of being able to concentrate fully on the actual work required of me. It is difficult to describe adequately the stress of feeling behind schedule before the first day of term has even begun. The choice to make is between having enough money but being unprepared

### View from a Donor

An anonymous donor offers reasons for giving to the College's Annual Fund, which enables students suffering financial hardship to continue studying.

Even though I spent proportionately far less time at Exeter than at school beforehand and at work afterwards, my four years at College were tremendously important in enabling me to achieve what I have achieved since and making me who I am now. Exeter gave me access to some wonderful opportunities and I made some extremely good friends with whom I still retain a special bond because of our time there.

I decided to donate to the Annual Fund because the pressures on the university education system in general, and on those institutions with a tutorial system in particular, are significant and increasing, such that the model is under threat. As one of those who was lucky enough to benefit from the system at such a wonderful institution, I feel it's my duty to give something back to help ensure it remains available for others in the future.

'It is difficult to describe adequately the stress of feeling behind schedule before the first day of term has even begun.'



to handle the work-load, or feeling on top of your studies but worrying about finances. Without help from College, I would have been forced to spend my entire time at Oxford juggling the two.

I had particular problems in my final year as I was living out of College, and the rent for my flat was particularly high. Vacation periods became even more stressful as I knew I would have to wait another two months to receive my Student Loan payment, during which time I still had rent to cover using whatever I had managed to save from the previous term. Several times I realised this was going to be impossible and in each case, College was able to help out. This would have been a huge relief at any time during my studies, but particularly so at the end of my final year. It meant I was able to concentrate on what was actually important, rather than worrying about my financial situation. I am incredibly thankful that everyone at Exeter is able to make the most of their Oxford experience, no matter what their parents earn. ♥

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# **Exeter's 700th Anniversary Campaign**



The Exeter Excelling Campaign aims to make sure Exeter will still be going strong until its millennium anniversary. With some hard work, we can make sure the College will have a future as glorious as its past.

### MARK HOUGHTON-BERRY, CHAIRMAN OF THE EXETER EXCELLING CAMPAIGN (1976, LITERAE HUMANIORES)

Unless you live in the proverbial darkened cave, then you will by now have heard about Exeter's 700th Anniversary Campaign. Indeed, you may already have heard quite a lot about it, and perhaps it is as well to warn you now you should expect to hear a great deal more between now and 2014, when the College will be celebrating that birthday.

That is because of two facts - one self-evident, the other perhaps less so. The former is simply that 700 years of history is a remarkable milestone. Even amid the extraordinary longevity and tradition of Oxford University, that puts Exeter close to the very beginning – we are the fourth oldest college in the University, as you probably already know. Reaching that age surely

'Private fundraising is now a fact of life for Oxford and Cambridge.'

entitles one to publicise the fact, and to indulge in a certain amount of self-congratulation and celebration, and in due course there will be plenty of that.

But before we celebrate that birthday we need to address the second fact that Exeter would not have survived even a fraction of its life to date, nor have even been created in the first place, were it not for a tradition of individual philanthropy that stretches back through the centuries to the Middle Ages. It is for this reason we have set up the Exeter Excelling Campaign. Its goals are ambitious, both in terms of the fundraising target and also of the largest expansion of facilities since the redevelopment of the Back Quad in the 1960s that the acquisition of the Walton Street site makes possible.



### WAITING FOR 2014

But why is the Campaign necessary? Private fundraising is now a fact of life for Oxford and Cambridge. Indeed, it would be more accurate to say that 'Private fundraising is now, once again, a fact of life', as it has in fact been for more than 650 of the last 700 years. It is the modern history of the College since the middle of the 20th century that is the aberration, although it seems regrettable to those of us who benefited from that funding in the form of maintenance grants and paid tuition fees. During this time, funding from central government became an increasingly important, though never fully sufficient, part of the equation. Sadly, it will be many years before the public purse is so flush as to render it possible to provide again the level of funding that the University and its colleges require.

So, to the Campaign – how it is organised, what we are raising money for and where we are seeking support. Let me start with that last question, because it also answers the first. Although Exeter casts as wide a net as possible, and has achieved remarkable success in recent years with a wider constituency that we call 'Friends of the College' (both individual and institutional), it is Old Members of College and their families who are the bedrock of our support. The two groups are importantly linked, for it is only by proving that Exeter's own alumni deem the College worthy of support that we can begin to convince those without existing links to decide to help us. This is why we always stress that participation at whatever level you can afford is so important to us. We have achieved much already. Exeter has managed to achieve a level of participation that we believe places us second globally amongst colleges and universities outside the US. However, one of our Campaign goals is to raise that higher still.

It is because we are seeking support first and foremost from our Old Members that they also play such a central role in the Campaign. Sir Ronald Cohen (1964, PPE) serves as its President, and some 20 other alumni of various ages are part of our Executive and Steering Committees, which work with the Rector, representatives of Governing Body and the Development Office. Many other people already lend a hand as year-group volunteers, but we are always looking to recruit more to get involved in whatever capacity they can. If anyone reading this feels they can help, or would merely like the best of excuses to reconnect with some of their contemporaries and other fellow Exonians, then I encourage you to contact the Development Office.

What are we raising money for? The centrepiece of the Campaign is the purchase and redevelopment of the old Ruskin College on Walton Street. What is important about this is not the acquisition of property per se. Rather, this is crucial to address an issue that Exeter has lived with practically since its very foundation: the shortage of space in its central Oxford location. The long list of improvements in teaching,



AT THE HEART OF OXFORD

'The centrepiece of the Campaign is the purchase and redevelopment of the old Ruskin College.'





alleviation of student hardship, and better facilities for all that the new quad will give us can be found in the Campaign brochure, a copy of which you have already received, from which it is clear that the project has the capacity to completely transform Exeter.

Finally, I'd like to address the central question of why the College is worthy of your support. It is a question that everyone will answer in their own way, but for me, the most important points are:

- For the last 30 years it has been very clear to me that an Oxford education conveys a credibility and prestige that are a lasting advantage that you carry through life.
- The experiences I had at College and the friendships made then will always remain dear to me.
- I know that Exeter College cares about me. Gaudies, other Old Member events and the whole host of publications now produced by the College are not just about fundraising - they are about taking seriously the notion that we are all Members of the College for life, and encouraging us to enjoy that relationship.
- Like all my fellow Old Members, I was the direct beneficiary of a world-class education based on nearly 700 years of heritage and history, and this Campaign gives me the opportunity to do my best to help to pass that legacy on to the next generation.

One final thought. None of us will be around to celebrate the College's Millennium, but when our descendants do, we want them to look back on what was achieved in the years around 2014 and recognise that our generation had the vision and ambition to put the College in the best possible shape for the challenge of its next 300 years. I hope as many of you as possible who read this will agree that that is a worthy way to mark this anniversary, and will lend your support accordingly.

## **How I Excel: Campaign Gifts Officer**



The Exeter Excelling Campaign is going from strength to strength. Here, the Campaign Gifts Officer explains her role within the project.

### HEIDI KURTZ, CAMPAIGN GIFTS OFFICER

C ince I joined Exeter in 2009, I have Odiscussed sheep breeds with one Old Member, metaphysics with another and the College's manuscript collection with a third. These conversations have taken place all over the UK and Europe and throughout North America and Canada.

The sole focus of my job has been to spread the message of the Exeter Excelling Campaign across the world. I do this very simply: by talking to Old Members, Parents and Friends about everything and anything. The reason for travelling to so many fascinating locations has been to tell as many Old Members as possible about the goals and objectives of the Campaign, and to ask how they might be able to contribute to *Exeter Excelling*. Without guestion, this is the most pleasant aspect of my work, as, alongside their eclectic variety of interests, our alumni are also keen to hear lots about what we're trying to do with the Campaign and how it's going to help the students now and in future years.

New York was an incredible experience for me, and the wide range of alumni there was astonishing: there are Old Members originally from the UK who have moved to the States, US alumni who went back home, former Rhodes Scholars, some European alumni and, of course, alumni from our Williams College programme. I also especially wanted to visit Canada, not just because it's my home country, but also because we have such a large contingent of Old Members there who all feel very strongly about the College. They all had similar experiences to mine when first coming to the UK – Canadians often feel a little bit caught between North American and English culture, especially when we find ourselves at a university as international as Oxford is. Along with College news, it was great to have a chance to discuss ice hockey, Canadian authors and all of the wonderful things you can do in winter with two feet of snow just outside your back door. However, even though I've been across the world to the US and into Europe, I have to admit that the most beautiful location that I've been lucky enough to visit for work has been Yorkshire.

One of the most important moments in our recent progress has been the completion of the purchase of the Walton Street site. It's a key part of the Campaign's three goals of Student Support, Tutorial Support and the Collegiate

'Our alumni are also keen to hear lots about what we're trying to do with the Campaign.'

Campus, all of which come together to form what we describe as the Collegiate Ideal. We have also already started to see some of the fruits of our labour, and I look forward to the next four years when we can build on these early successes.

None of this would have been possible without the exceptional and continuing efforts of the Development Office team. With the appointment

of a new Development Officer, Emily Watson (2002, Literae Humaniores), an alumna of the College, the team is now at full strength with seven staff working on every aspect of the Campaign. Emily has a real knack for connecting with the alumni, not least because she's one of them. Because our work crosses over a little bit, we've been able to do visits together and I think we work really well as a team. Even though she's the newest member of the team, I can't really imagine what it would be like without her.

Over the next four years I will be widening my net and visiting Asia and Australia also. I'm excited about finding out about Hong Kong and Singapore, and to hearing some unfamiliar accents. I'm certainly going to be looking to our Old Members to guide me through the local cultures and cannot wait to hear more incredible stories.



WALTON STREET SITE: READY FOR REDEVELOPMENT



What does the *Exeter Excelling* Campaign mean to me? Why have I got involved in it and supported it? Why do I urge you to support it, too?

I am an Oxonian as well as an Exonian. I was born and schooled in Oxford. Oxford has made a massive impact on my life – my parents were here; my school is here; and, above all, my College is here. The Campaign is a wonderful opportunity for me, in turn, to make an impact on Oxford and on my College. I am excited at the thought that the Campaign will help the College in turn make a major impact on future generations. I still live in Oxford which means that I have a greater opportunity than most to come back into the College and meet alumni from many generations. The impact the College made on me – friendships formed, the development of critical argument that only a tutorial-based education brings (all those intellectual tussles with Dacre Balsdon), the warmth of College - all add up to the foundation on which much of my life has been based.

Since I left Exeter I have made an intensive My own contribution helps me mark my own After 50 years I have sadly forgotten most of

study of the maps of Oxford from 1560 onwards. Such an interest has shown me that, throughout history, it has been highly unusual for a college in Oxford to make a major acquisition of a site in the heart of the city. The Exeter Excelling Campaign gives all of us Exonians a chance not only to strengthen the tutorial base of the College's education, not only to support the collegiate heart of Exeter but, with the acquisition and development of the Walton Street site, to make a significant and permanent change to the topography of the College and of Oxford. gratitude looking back, and makes me feel the excitement of being part of what we are looking forward to. We are deeply fortunate as a College to have not just the opportunity to do all this but the committed, professional and inspiring leadership to assure us all that we will succeed. the detail of my Greats course at Exeter but I have used a few phrases and quotations all my life; one is appropriate for us today. The success of our Campaign will mean that Exeter is not just a monument celebrating the past as it reaches its 700 years but, to quote those well-known words of Thucydides, between us all we will ensure it will be ktêma es aei- 'a possession for all time'. I want to be part of that.

# How I Excel: Donor

A donor gives some of his reasons for supporting Exeter **Excelling** and encourages others to do the same.

### **IOHN LEIGHFIELD (1958, LITERAE HUMANIORES)**

'It has been highly unusual for a college in Oxford to make a major acquisition of a site in the heart of the city.'

## South Africa After Apartheid



Two decades after Mandela's release from prison, South Africa is a changed country. Sir Sydney Kentridge considers that optimistic moment in the 1990s and how the nation has rebuilt itself since that point.

### SIR SYDNEY KENTRIDGE (1946, JURISPRUDENCE)

he apartheid era officially ended In 1994, when South Africa's new Constitution came into force, a general election was held in which for the first time blacks were entitled to vote, and Nelson Mandela was elected President. But in practical terms the end of apartheid had come four years earlier, when Mandela was released from prison and his organisation, the African National Congress, was unbanned. Now, 20 years on, we can ask ourselves to what extent the great expectations of those heady days have been realised.

To understand the new South Africa we must see what it replaced. What did apartheid mean? The main architect of that system was Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, an ideologue who became prime minister

'In the last all-white election before 1990 the ruling party boasted that the education of a black child cost only one-twelfth of the education of a white child.'

in 1958. In the most nauseatingly hypocritical utterance of even that appalling man, he defined apartheid as meaning 'simply good neighbourliness'.

What apartheid really meant was complete political and economic domination of blacks by whites. From the time that Europeans came to South Africa in 1652 there had always been racial discrimination, but after 1948 racial discrimination was not merely permitted but required. There was compulsory residential segregation which confined vast numbers of the black population to wretched over-crowded, under-resourced townships. Whole black communities were removed to distant and desolate places without consent or compensation. Most skilled occupations were closed to blacks. A deliberately inferior system of education for blacks was introduced. In the last all-white election before 1990 the ruling party boasted that the education of a black child cost only

one-twelfth of the education of a white child. And, of course, no blacks had the vote

As blacks formed about four-fifths of the population of South Africa the enforcement of apartheid required a battery of coercive laws. The ultimate weapon of the apartheid government was the power of the police without judicial warrant to arrest and detain any person incommunicado for an indefinite period. At the same time the power of the courts to grant habeas corpus was drastically curtailed.

The laws and practices of apartheid have, of course, gone. South Africa is a multi-racial democracy. Its Constitution emphasises human dignity and protects individual rights. A new Constitutional Court has the power to strike down any

'There remain millions whom the improvements in housing, education and job opportunities have not yet reached.'

executive or legislative act which does not comply with the Constitution. What is more, when the Court has exercised this power the government has accepted its rulings. What were previously white schools and universities are open to all. New schools have been opened. Millions of houses have been built, millions of people now for the first time have electricity and running water in their homes. Blacks of both sexes are to be found at all levels not only

in government but in business, the professions and the universities.

But South Africa is no Utopia. Although millions are better off, there remain millions whom the improvements in housing, education and job opportunities have not yet reached. For these the expectations of the euphoric 1990s have been disappointed. Sad as this is, it is surely too much to expect the consequences of 40 years of apartheid (and 300 years of discrimination) to be repaired in a mere 20 years of democracy.

What is less easy to explain or justify is the decline from the idealism of the Mandela years. In a recent speech Archbishop Desmond Tutu deplored the 'high level of corruption that has plagued us since we gained our democracy' - and which has displaced the altruism of the anti-apartheid struggle. But he nonetheless rightly points out that South Africa possesses 'amazing stability'. Since Mandela's retirement three presidential elections have been held without disruption, unrest or even voting scandals.

Archbishop Tutu is optimistic that South Africa's present problems - social, political and economic - will be resolved. I know of no better judge. ♥



MANDELA LAID NEW FOUNDATIONS

BEN HANBURY

he global recession seems to be I in retreat, but it has hastened a tectonic shift in the balance of world power. The economies of European countries are struggling, and the United States is growing only slowly. But the big economies of the developing world have been galloping ahead. Most buoyant of all is China, whose giant economy is projected by Goldman Sachs to be as large as America's by 2030.

Of course, projections do not always turn out to be true. And as China's overall economy outpaces that of the United States, its people will still individually be much poorer than Americans, because there are more than four times as many of them. But Americans - and the rest of us - are just beginning to grasp the possible implications of this transformation. For a number of strategically important countries (including Indonesia, Brazil and Turkey), China is now a bigger trading partner than America. Trade brings clout, and these countries have been taking an increasingly independent stance on issues from climate change to nuclear proliferation.

But there are other consequences. China is now the world's hungriest consumer of raw materials and natural resources. It uses almost half the world's cement, and one third of its aluminium and steel. And its output of carbon dioxide has now overtaken that of the United States, although on a per capita basis it is still much lower.

Just as significant is the way China increasingly dominates global education. The country's thirst for useful information means that the country now has the world's biggest demand for international education: there are over 80,000 Chinese students studying in American colleges. It has the world's second biggest output of science and engineering graduates, and the world's second biggest output of articles in learned periodicals.



## America and the **Developing Giants**

### We are seeing a shift in the balance of world power. But will China stumble?

### FRANCES CAIRNCROSS, RECTOR

In time, Chinese influence may come to pervade other areas of our lives.

Economic power tends to drive cultural influence – think how pervasive British values became a century ago, or American values in our lifetimes. Nobody can be sure, of course, how global values will alter: will enthusiasm fade for democracy and a free press, say? Will the China of the future be more like Hong Kong or like Singapore, the world's two outstandingly successful (and very different) Chinese societies?

### 'Nobody can be sure, of course, how global values will alter: will enthusiasm fade for democracy and a free press, say?'

But China also faces restraints that will eventually slow its growth. One may be its dependence on imported resources, and its pressure on its own environment, and especially on its water supply. Another will undoubtedly be China's demographic time bomb. The uniquely rapid transition from a country with families of six children per woman to the world of the only child will store up problems. Around 2015-20, China's working-age population will cease to rise in absolute numbers. From then on, there will be a speedy increase in the ratio of old people to those of working age. While India's working-age population will continue to climb, China will simply start to run out of young people.

However, the sheer scale of China guarantees that it will be a powerful global force throughout the 21st century. That will force an uncomfortable adjustment on the United States. My whole lifetime has been spent watching Britain come to terms with the loss of global power and influence to the United States. Now today's young people will spend their lives watching the United States slowly understand what it means to be Number Two. 🛡

## **Sustaining Development in Bangladesh**



Hannah Matthews reports on her work with the Chars Livelihoods Programme in Bangladesh and the impact it has on the local community.

### HANNAH MATTHEWS, (2003, LITERAE HUMANIORES)

spent last year living in Bogra, a city in northwestern Bangladesh, magnanimously described by the Lonely Planet travel guide as being 'well worth a morning's visit'. I worked for the Department for International Development on its biggest development project in the country, the Chars Livelihoods Programme (CLP), which brings basic livelihood security to the country's poorest.

Bangladesh is a relentlessly stimulating country. The glitzy urban youth of Dhaka may be careening confidently into the 21st century, but other parts of the country, like the chars, remain painfully underdeveloped. Chars are the shifting sandy islands of the countless rivers that feed into the Bay of Bengal. They are created over time by deposits of silt brought down from the Himalayas, and destroyed at whim by the rivers' unpredictable currents. Homes are vulnerable to flooding and erosion, malnutrition is rife, government services are practically non-existent and

inhabitants struggle to simply survive. Few people choose to live here, but in this hugely overpopulated country of 150m people, space and choice are luxury commodities.

'Homes are vulnerable to flooding and erosion, malnutrition is rife, government services are practically non-existent, and inhabitants struggle to simply survive.'

The CLP runs an innovative asset transfer scheme for its beneficiary women. Where entire households live on less than US\$1 a day, and typically spend over 75 percent of their income on food, the relative security that comes with owning an asset – in this case a cow – can be life-changing. In addition to bearing calves which can be sold, drinking milk can significantly improve

a family's health, and dung is burned as fuel. Equally important is the radical change in confidence and self-belief that these cows bring to their owners.

The most challenging part of the job was managing a data collection team of 40 for a nutrition survey of more than 1000 children under the age of five. We spent weeks at a time in the chars of the mighty Brahmaputra River. The work was exhausting, both physically and emotionally, and riddled with frustrations; but the data was recently published by the World Health Organisation in a report that shows empirically that there are cost-effective interventions, such as providing de-worming tablets and micro-nutrient food supplements, which can dramatically reduce a household's level of malnutrition. The hope is that the report's concrete findings will encourage the government of Bangladesh to shape national health policy to benefit the poorest of the poor. I feel proud to have been a part of it. ♥



CHILDREN OF THE CHARS

## **A New Approach to Communications**



projects he has worked on involving the country's national media.

WILLIAM REEVE (1974, ORIENTAL STUDIES)



A TARGET FOR JOURNALISM

y reporting career in Afghanistan began in 1988, with the Soviet withdrawal of the Red Army. I was the only member of the BBC who managed to get a visa to Kabul. This led to many years as Afghanistan Correspondent in the 1990s, while the warlords flattened Kabul and the Taliban emerged to control most of the country. After 9/11, I was the only broadcaster, this time in the whole world, who managed to get back into Kabul. The prize was being blown off my seat by a 2,000 pound American smart bomb as I carried out a live interview on BBC TV the night the Taliban fled Kabul.

I had already wanted to move into work other than broadcasting, so in February 2002 I left the BBC, and the next day began to set up a training course in Kabul for about 250 Afghan journalists, who had never had any

'I am staggered by how little the outside world really understands the complexities of Afghanistan.'

training at all. This soon led to a whole variety of other projects working with the Afghan media.

They included starting the information programme for the introduction of a new currency in Afghanistan - like introducing the Euro, only with warlords all around the country and no infrastructure. In 2004, I was asked to set up the Afghan government's first counter-narcotics information campaign. We managed to cut down the area of planted poppy crop by a third in just six months. In both cases the trick was not to organise and pay for propaganda



# William Reeve was formerly the BBC Correspondent in Afghanistan. He describes the wide variety of

©ISTOCKPHOTO.COM/ANTHONY HAI

films and broadcasts, which are tried so often and never work, but to arrange the information programmes in such a way that the Afghan media wanted to broadcast the story, whether that was the new currency or the attempt to cut down the poppy crop.

I am currently involved in helping to set up a research survey project all around Afghanistan, which will entail many Afghan journalists interviewing respondents in depth to find out what Afghans really want, need and fear. Nearly a decade after 9/11, I am staggered by how little the outside world really understands the complexities of Afghanistan, as Western governments try to achieve their goals in one province or another, so often with fatal results. I hope the results of the survey will start to change that.

## A Very Exonian Opera: Words by Waterfield, Music by Burke



An Exonian partnership is challenging the traditions of opera with a series of adventurous adaptations.

### IAMES WATERFIELD (2001, ENGLISH)

**E**arly in 2008, I was confronted with an unusual offer over tea and biscuits. Timothy Burke, whom I had known since my first few days at Exeter, wanted to write a 15-minute opera, and he wanted me – a mere scribbler – to try my hand at a text he might use for composition. I accepted, concealing my surprise poorly, as I focused on the rescue of half a digestive from my cup.

### 'Our driving force is primarily the enjoyment we derive from the process of creating operas."

The result of my efforts was Spilt Milk, the comic tale of a provincial wide-boy who holds up a dairy to pay for his wife's obsession with prestige consumables. Nothing came of it at the time, but Tim liked my work. Later that year, he asked me to write the libretto for a short accompaniment to Brecht and Weill's Der Jasager to be performed at the

Grimeborn Festival in the Arcola Theatre in London's Dalston. The result was Astyanax, with words by Waterfield and music by Burke, an adaptation of Book VI of Homer's Iliad which draws on Der Jasager's motif of social obligation.

The intervening two years have seen new challenges arise. After Astyanax, we worked on a new English version of the Sibelius cantata, Tulen Synty, conducted by Tim at Opera North last December. The Arch 468 studio theatre in Brixton in south London also allowed us to try out a version of *Spilt Milk*, which was finally let out of the bottle with a two-night run in August 2010, again at Grimeborn.

It seems that what had started as an ad hoc partnership between two old College friends has developed into something of a success. Our driving force is primarily the enjoyment we derive from the process of creating operas. We both draw on a range of influences, trying to transform tradition for new ends: for example, Spilt Milk is kitchen sink drama with a twist of absurdist comedy, all set to music



IN REHEARSAL

inspired, among other things, by Spanish flamenco music and advertising jingles.

Projects for the future include an adaptation of the Dürrenmatt play, The Physicists, which sees Einstein and Newton as patients in a sanatorium where nurses are being murdered with disturbing frequency. We are both looking forward to seeing what we can do with it.

If you might be interested in finding out more about our work or supporting us in any way, please send your details to tim.burke@operanorth.co.uk V

## **Nature or Nurture?**



How important are genetics? Brian Phillips discusses whether the large number of Jewish musicians is down to cultural or biological factors.

### **BRIAN PHILLIPS (1948, PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES)**

Having been brought up in liberal rather than orthodox Judaism, I have developed a fascination with the musical aspects of Jewish liturgy, and as an avid listener to music of all sorts, I have been looking for a connection between liturgical music and the unusually large numbers of Jewish performers and composers of music. Do other alumni think that there might be something here worthy of scientific study?

Are there genetic influences that predispose Jews to musical talent? Or is the influence that of the musical traditions of orthodox synagogues, at least subliminally? Liturgical chanting would have influenced some of the giants among composers of the songs of the early 20th century, in particular those from immigrant families, such as Irving Berlin, George Gershwin and Harold Arlen. On the classical side, there are a number of Jewish composers who are not widely recognised as such, including Paul Dukas (Sorcerer's Apprentice), Gerald Finzi (Clarinet Concerto) and Darius Milhaud (Boeuf sur le Toit). Jacques Offenbach was a cantor's son and, as even the most non-musical will admit, a superlative tunesmith. His name was originally Jacob Eberst and he came from a German town which gave him his family name.

So is Jewish musicality a mark of nature or of nurture? My reason for wondering is that Jews share other genetic characteristics, some of them negative. For instance, a current study is looking at the preponderance among Ashkenazi Jews (of Eastern European origin) of breast, ovarian and prostate cancer. The research, involving 10,000 subjects, aims to prove that total screening is more rewarding than focusing on those with a relevant family history. It could be argued that the affinity with music will ultimately be genetically identifiable.

The Hebrew word 'chutzpah' means effrontery or liberty. I hope that, as a Jewish non-musician, I will not be accused of chutzpah in presenting these few thoughts. ♥

# From the Campaign Trail to the Commons





MATTHEW PULLS THE VOTES

here's nothing better than an L election campaign to find out the mood of the country. Spending hours every day knocking on doors, meeting people in the street, asking them how they feel about the state of the country is an enlightening experience. You meet people from all walks of life, and the whole spectrum of political persuasions. And while people's priorities and policy questions change, it's the mood that matters.

Pounding the streets as a Conservative Party candidate during this year's general election campaign, I found a strong urge

### 'The demand for fresh faces and a new way of doing things was very strong."

for change - and it wasn't just the Labour Government that was the problem, but the political system. As a new candidate, I never expected that being 31 years old would be a card that I'd be playing over and over again, but the demand for fresh faces and a new way of doing things was very strong.

Campaigning as a candidate is great fun, as people are often surprised and



### The new MP for West Suffolk discusses the recent change in government from an insider's perspective.

usually pleased actually to meet the person whose name is on the ballot paper. Not always, though: I recall vividly one man who opened the door and told me he thought the government were useless so he was voting Labour. 'Why vote Labour if you want to change the government?' I said, bemused. 'We've had a Tory round here recently,' he said, 'and the government's been useless - so we need to change.' I don't think I got that vote.

The mood of course fluctuated throughout the campaign. The TV debates between the three main party leaders undoubtedly had the biggest impact. As a constitutional innovation I wholly approve of them, as they undoubtedly helped to enliven interest in politics and remove some of the cynicism that led people to think all politicians are the same. For people who weren't engaged with politics, here was an easy way to pick your candidate. For those of us who are engrossed, they were a focal point for discussion. I watched them with my campaign team, crowded round the TV, cheering on our man, vigorously sending in comments on the BlackBerry to the central team for instant tweeting and rebuttal.

If the mood of the nation was for a new way of doing politics, voters certainly got what they wanted. Books are already being written about the five days between the election and the appointment of the new Prime Minister. For all of us in the Conservative party, they were tense, but as a new MP, I found it a real thrill to be actually in the House of Commons when David Cameron drove to see the Queen. Surrounded by other new MPs, we turned the TV screens that announce what's going on in the Chamber to the Sky news channel to watch history in the making.

Now I'm getting to grips with my work in the constituency, directly helping people often in desperate situations and campaigning hard for my local patch. It's unglamorous work, little reported and highly rewarding: payback for having shamelessly asked thousands to put their cross in my box.

## **Running the** marathon



Nick Campsie details the story of an obsession.

NICK CAMPSIE (1993, PPE)

Seven pairs of trainers; two MRI scans; a physiotherapist I'm pretty sure can now retire and a GP who quakes at my name ... welcome to six months in the life of a first time marathon runner.

I'd always watched in a combination of awe and bemusement as the annual tribe ran past my apartment, but it was meeting the charity Chickenshed - about whom more in a minute – that catalysed me to join their ranks.

Training started as a novelty, and fairly quickly became an obsession. Ever been to dinner with someone who talks about heart performance and split times before leaving early as they have a 6am sprint session? I became that man. Fortunately I was training with two friends (fellow Exonians as it happens) so as our social skills deteriorated we had at least each other for - admittedly dull - company.

### 'Training started as a novelty, and fairly quickly became an obsession."

The day, and the experience generally, was genuinely remarkable. The miles from Canary Wharf would I'm sure be unforgettable if only I could remember them. My dreams of surging down the Mall, one finger pointing skywards as the clock showed 2:59:59, morphed over 26 miles into what must have been the rather amusing sight of a bleeding, seemingly drunk, waif of a thing staggering, sideways, over the finish line. Beautiful. All the more so because of Chickenshed, a unique and extraordinary company that allows children and teenagers without other opportunities to perform, producing breathtaking theatre into the bargain.

In all, it was one of the better things I've done in life and something (to the dismay of all who know me) I'll do again. Nick finished the 2010 Virgin London Marathon in 3 hours, 12 minutes, and 34 seconds. If you would like to find out more about Chickenshed, and the work which motivated Nick to run 26 miles to support them, visit their website at: www.chickenshed.org.uk ♥

## **News from Old Members**

We thank all of our Old Members who continue to update us with their current news. Some of the highlights are listed below.

EDITED BY LUCY SACKVILLE, BOSKEY RESEARCH FELLOW AND TUTOR IN HISTORY

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR The strength of Exeter's community is one of the things that makes living and working in the College so enjoyable, so please do continue to share your news with us by contacting the Development Office via email, post or telephone (your contact details will not be included unless you wish them to be). Marriages, births, deaths, honours and appointments continue to be reported in the Register, so please send any news of those to: The Editor of the Register, Exeter College, Oxford, OX1 3DP.

Michael Seakins (1956, Chemistry), second Commander of the Jamaica Coast Guard Reserve 1974-79, first Commander of the Barbados Coast Guard Reserve 1981-95 and first Archivist of the Barbados Defence Force 1998-2005, has had the Reserve Building on board HMJS Cagway at Port Royal, Jamaica and the Lecture Room in the Operations Building on board HMBS Pelican in Bridgetown, Barbados named after him.

### Congratulations to Richard Wolfenden

(1956, Animal Physiology), who was recently elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, and was also elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His work concerns enzymes, drug design and the genesis of biological molecules on the primitive earth.

Brian Jones (1957, Mathematics) writes that he delivered a paper at the International Congress of Actuaries in Cape Town, South Africa, on The Nature of the Pension 'Promise'.

In 2009, Professor David Faulkner (1962, PPE) set up his own private College in Management Studies in Oxford, named Magna Carta College, after retiring from the University of London and Exeter College.

lan Potts (1962, Mathematics) has retired from regular employment with Kingston & Wimbledon YMCA. Having held his seat on 6 May, he became joint 'father of the Council' after 32 years' service to Ealing Council.

John Whelan (1966, Modern History) has been reappointed as a Peer Member by the government's Improvement and Development Agency. Cllr Whelan has now served for 19 years on Lambeth Council.

Martin Sieff (1969, Modern History) has been helping to set up a new Central Asia business news service in Kazakhstan, and is in the process of trying to find an American publisher for his book Cycles of Change.

Professor Nicholas Royle (1976, English) has had two books published in the past year: In Memory of Jacques Derrida and An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory (with Andrew Bennett).

In 2009, Geoffrey Greatrex (1986, Literae Humaniores) was elected to the Board of Governors of the University of Ottawa. He has also become one of the Directors of the Esperantic Studies Foundation.

Geoff Lovell (1990, PPE) has become Chairman of the Australian indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME), a not-forprofit enterprise that links Australian university students in one-on-one relationships with indigenous high-school students. Geoff would welcome contact with any Exonians visiting Sydney.

Dr Peter Clarke (1993, Geophysics) has been at Newcastle University for 11 years. He was made Professor in 2007, studying earthquakes and climate change/sea level. He met Lynn late in 2000 and they were married in autumn 2002.

Congratulations to former Williams scholars Grace and Joshua Burson. Reverend Grace Burson (1998) was ordained as an Episcopal priest in 2009, and her husband Dr Joshua Burson (1998) received his PhD in the same year. ♥

# **Old Members' Association**



WORTH A VISIT

There are plenty of ways to keep in contact with the College once you've left. Here are all the details you need to stay involved.

### THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Exeter's Development Office provides an active link between the College and all of its Old Members, Parents and Friends. We aim to sustain and strengthen this link by hosting regular events, producing several publications each year and maintaining the alumni website. The Development Office also coordinates the College's fundraising efforts, and we are very grateful for all the support the College receives. In addition, the Careers Office was established within the Development Office to forge links between Old Members and current students.

We are always keen to hear from our Old Members by phone, email or post. We are here to help with any enguiry or request you may have, from returning to Exeter for a visit to getting in touch with another Old Member. Our publications and e-newsletter also aim to continue to share ideas between Exonians, so please do let us know your latest stories. We want to stay in touch with all our Old Members, Parents and Friends, and you are always welcome back. Floreat Exon!

### BENEFITS

All Old Members, Parents and Friends will receive our annual publications (Exon, Donors' Report and the Register) and invitations to our many events - see the events list on the back cover for more details. There is an option to sign up to receive a termly electronic newsletter, Exeter Matters, and it is also possible to make use of the College's conference facilities should you, or your business, be interested. In addition, Old Members are entitled to the following benefits:

### ACCOMMODATION

Old Members benefit from a discount on Bed & Breakfast in College at a rate of £48.50 per person per night in rooms with communal facilities and £66 per person per night for an en-suite room or the Fellows Guest Room (prices inclusive of VAT). Normally, bookings can be taken only out of Full Term, and availability will depend on other residential bookings. Please contact the Assistant Steward on

01865 279654 to check availability and book a room. Old Members are also eligible for a discount at the Tower House Hotel in Oxford. Just tell them that you are an Old Member of the College when you make your booking.

### HIGH TABLE DINING RIGHTS

Please note that Dining Rights have changed this summer: eligibility is no longer determined by possession of an MA, and Old Members can now bring one guest at their own expense. Dining Rights are now granted to all Exeter Old Members in good standing with the College from the term following the completion of their degree. These rights refer to the option to dine on High Table: • Once a year at the College's expense

- (but paying for wine and dessert)
- At two other times in different terms at their own expense

For further information or to sign in for dinner, please contact the Development Office on 01865 279619.Details about dining possibilities can also be found on our website at www.exeter.ox.ac.uk/ alumni/oldmembers/benefits/dining.

### CAREERS SUPPORT AND NETWORKING

We try to offer continuing support to Old Members after they have left and are happy to set up careers advice meetings, particularly for recent leavers who might benefit from some words of wisdom from a more experienced Exonian. If you would like to offer careers advice to current students or recent leavers, or think you might need to receive some, do please get in touch with us.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do I do to graduate? Those who wish to take their degree,

either in person or in absentia, should contact the College Office (preferably by e-mail: graduation@exeter.ox.ac.uk; 01865 279648) for a list of Degree Days and to register. Degree Days take the form of a ceremony in the Sheldonian Theatre or Examination Schools, followed by an address from the Rector or a senior Fellow, presentation of degree certificates and a buffet lunch or drinks reception in College. Candidates are allowed up to three guest tickets for their family and friends to witness the ceremony.

### How do I get my MA?

Those in possession of a BA or BFA may apply for the degree of MA in or after the 21st term after matriculation. Those who read for a 'Master's level' undergraduate degree do not get an MA but gain MA status after the same length of time. To sign up to receive your MA, please contact the College Office (preferably by e-mail: graduation@exeter.ox.ac.uk; 01865 279648) for a list of Degree Days and to register.

## I want to sign up for High Table – whom do I contact?

Contact the Development Office on development@exeter.ox.ac.uk or 01865 279619.

## I want to bring some friends for a dinner in Hall – can I?

Yes, contact the Development Office for more details and to arrange a date.

## I am interested in making a donation to College. What should I do?

Please use the donation form enclosed with the magazine or download one from the website and return it to the Development Office. We are dependent on the support of all our Old Members, Parents and Friends and are hugely grateful for the support we receive.

### I read something about a specific event that I'm interested in, but I have not received an invitation – whom should I contact?

Contact the Alumni Relations Officer (development@exeter.ox.ac.uk; 01865 279619). We often target event invitations at specific interest groups. Also, it is possible that if you haven't been invited, it is because our records for you are incomplete.

### I am interested in getting married in the Chapel/College – whom do I contact? Contact the Conference and Events

Manager, Philip Munday (01865 279653) in the first instance to see what dates are free and then the Chaplain, Rev Dr Helen Orchard (01865 279610).

### How do I update my contact details?

Contact the Information Officer (development@exeter.ox.ac.uk; 01865 279664) or log on to www.exetercollege.net to request your password to the secure area of the website where you can update your details. ♥

**Development Office Contact Details** Write to: The Development Office, Exeter College, Oxford, OX1 3DP Tel: +44 1865 279620 Email: development@exeter.ox.ac.uk

## List of Honorary Fellows

## **Published Exonians**

Ranging from controversial fiction to Byzantine coins, this yea reputation for producing writers is well deserved.

### CATE FIELD, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, AND JENNIFER HINDLEY (2008, HISTORY)

Exeter continues to be strongly represented in the literary sphere this year. These works are just some of those you may spot by Exonians in your local bookshop.

**Philip Pullman** (1965, English) may have generated the greatest amount of publicity with his new book, *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ*. It is a controversial story, compellingly written, reimagining the life and miracles of Jesus Christ and examining the way in which stories are written and recorded.

Moving from religion to the fallout from the sexual revolution, *The Pregnant Widow* by **Martin Amis** (1968, English) is the author's twelfth novel. Set predominantly in 1970, reviews have praised this comedy of manners as a return to Amis at his best.

Turning from Exeter's veteran authors to its newest, *The Still Point* is the literary debut of **Amy Sackville** (2002, English Studies 1880-1960) and tells the story of a vanished Arctic explorer, and the reverberations of his doomed trip for his great-grand-niece 100 years later. This beautiful, eerie novel was nominated for the Orange Prize for Fiction.

If you prefer poetry to fiction, pick up A Scattering by Christopher Reid (1968, English) which won the Costa Book of the Year 2009 award. Written during his wife's final illness and after her death, the poems form an intensely moving and poignant tribute. Or if your taste runs to history, you may be interested in Enduring the Great War by Alex Watson (1997, Modern History). This superbly researched comparative history of how German and British soldiers endured the horror of the First World War has already won the Institute of Contemporary History and Wiener Library's Fraenkel Prize.

Exonians were the subjects – as well as the authors – of books this year.





### Ranging from controversial fiction to Byzantine coins, this year's literary offerings from Exonians prove that the College's

The Itineraries of William Wey is the first translation into modern English of the adventures of a 15th century Fellow of Exeter who made pilgrimages to Compostella, Rome and the Holy Land. His account of his travels offers a rare and fascinating insight into the world of medieval pilgrims, and into the vibrant scenery of 15th century Europe itself.

Also published this year were – among others – *Late Byzantine Coins*, by **Eleni Lianta** (1999, Archaeology), a guide to understanding the Ashmolean's Byzantine coin collection; *Mindworlds*, by **J Andrew Ross** (1969, PPE), an anthology of essays on consciousness; *1947*, a eye-witness's memoir of the turbulent events of Indian Independence by **Muhammad Zahir** (1959, Rhodes Scholar); and an updated edition of *Profit from the Core* by **Chris Zook** (1973, Economics) and James Allen, an international bestseller giving advice on profitable growth.

## **Alumni Benefits: the University Careers Service**

### Careers advice is always at hand in Oxford, even once you have left us.

### JULIET TOMLINSON, CAREERS ADVISER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXETER

Everybody is aware that the last two years in particular have been exceptionally tough for those seeking employment. If you left Exeter College some time ago, you may not realise that the University Careers Service is here to help you. We provide a life-long service to alumni.

The Careers Service, which offers impartial advice, information and guidance, is led by a team of 11 trained advisers (who between them have many years of experience in business, science, international development, finance, consulting, healthcare and education). We welcome Exeter alumni who want to have a short discussion with an adviser to review a CV or ask careerrelated questions. Those with more complex career issues may need a longer discussion.

The Careers Service holds an extensive range of careers-related information in our Resources Centre at 56 Banbury Road and on our website www.careers. ox.ac.uk. CareerConnect (available via

the website) is our database for job and work-experience vacancies, careers events, electronic resources, networking opportunities and much more.

Exeter alumni are very welcome to attend the hundreds of events we run each year, in Oxford and around the world. Events include skills workshops, occupational talks, panel discussions, employer presentations and careers fairs. We also run professional networking events specifically for alumni in conjunction with the University Alumni Office, and this year we will be running a new careers event at the Alumni Weekend. We hope that if you feel in need of careers advice, you will visit our welcoming team, ready to assist you with the first (or next) step in your career.

Of course, if you are in the position of needing to hire an Oxford graduate for your own organisation, perhaps as an intern, or you would just like to help our current students with their career thinking, we would be delighted to hear from you too.

## New to the Exeter Alumni Website: a Careers Section

## The Year in Pictures

New celebrations have played a part alongside traditional College institutions this year.



## An Exeter Legend: Culture Clash

**Rector Farnell addresses the student population of Oxford** in a dramatic confrontation.

### ALEXANDER BUBB (2008, ENGLISH)

In the early 20th century Oxford enjoyed a large annual intake of students from then British South Asia. Famous names from that era associated with Exeter include Liaguat Ali Khan (1921, Jurisprudence), who became the first Prime Minister of Pakistan in 1947. However, Exeter also formed the backdrop to a cultural confrontation, probably unique to this period.

In 1921 Lord Curzon, then Chancellor of Oxford, was anxious about 'disloyal' sentiment spreading among Indian undergraduates, and instructed his Vice-Chancellor, Lewis Richard Farnell, to address the matter. As Rector of Exeter, Farnell convened a meeting

with all South Asian students in the College's Hall. However, when he arrived he found some 200 of his guests waiting outside and the Hall itself dark with acrid smoke. Evidently someone had stoked the fireplaces and blocked the chimneys.

The meeting did eventually take place, and Farnell delivered a sermon on duty and honour. He rather pompously said, 'Anyone who comes here to sow discord and to promote disruption is a traitor to our academic fellowship.' As his audience filed out sullenly, the Rector reckoned they were 'visibly impressed,' as we still are with his glowering portrait which now hangs in Hall. 🛡







## EVENT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2010 – 2011

TUESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER Event with the Rector in Hong Kong

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER Dinner with the Rector in Sydney

THURSDAY 16 SEPTEMBER Dinner with the Rector in Singapore

SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER Gaudy for 1980-83 (Oxford Alumni Weekend)

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER Engineering Dinner

SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER Freshers' Parents' Tea

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER Europe Event (Zürich)

FRIDAY 12 NOVEMBER Medical Society Dinner

SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER Lyell Society Dinner

W/C 21 NOVEMBER City Drinks (New York)

EARLY DECEMBER City Drinks (London)

FRIDAY 4 FEBRUARY Fortescue Society Dinner

FRIDAY 18 FEBRUARY Parents' Night – Dinner in College

LATE FEBRUARY City Lecture (London)

FRIDAY 4 MARCH All Sports Dinner SATURDAY 19 MARCH Gaudy for 1984-87

LATE MARCH Intercollegiate Golf Tournament

LATE MARCH Gifted & Talented Event

MID APRIL Events in New York

SATURDAY 30 APRIL College Ball

FRIDAY 6 MAY PPE Society Dinner

EARLY MAY City Leadership Dinner (London)

FRIDAY 13 MAY ExVac Dinner

SATURDAY 14 MAY College Garden Party / 1314 Society Event

LATE MAY City Lecture (London)

SATURDAY 4 JUNE ECBCA Dinner

THURSDAY 9 JUNE Summer City Drinks (London)

SUNDAY 19 JUNE Commemoration of Benefactors Service / Higgs Night

SUNDAY 26 JUNE Leavers' Parents' Lunch

SATURDAY 2 JULY Gaudy for 1988-1991

For more information or to reserve a place at any of these events, please contact the Alumni Relations Officer, details below.