

Jesus College Newsletter



issue

4

Michaelmas Term 2005

The Principal's Garden Party

Paul Shreder (Mathematics 1951) looks back on a special day.

At around three o'clock on the overcast but warm and rain-free afternoon of Saturday, July 2nd, figures were seen converging on an inconspicuous gateway off the upper reaches of the Woodstock Road. This was unfamiliar territory to those, like myself, hitherto unacquainted with Stevens Close, the College's northern outpost and the venue for that afternoon's garden party for Old Members to mark the retirement of Sir Peter North as Principal.

There was a sense of occasion in the air, and thoughts were by now beginning to turn with pleasant anticipation to wondering how many friends and contemporaries would also be present.

After joining those queuing quietly along the entrance pathway, we were soon signing in and collecting our name labels from the secretaries at one of two tables (A-M or N-Z according to surname, a wise arrangement which nicely speeded up the formalities - other queue-prone locations please note!) in the glazed conservatory of the main block.

From there the route lay via the adjacent patio area,



Photographs: Paul Shreder

where a College brass ensemble were providing some agreeable tunes, and up a few steps to the lawned and bosky garden where tents and marquees had been set up and waiters armed with tempting trays of buffet snacks weaved their way amongst the guests, most standing in groups but some preferring to sit at the outdoor tables provided.

This whole garden



area was impressively large and more extensive than I'd envisioned, the first main lawn extending via a brick archway to a second area beyond, and all now humming with the lively buzz of conversation as members of all ages met contemporaries and caught up with each others' news. (It should be mentioned here that, despite the garden being so large, its capacity was still not sufficient to accommodate all of the almost five hundred members who had in fact applied to attend, thus necessitating a separate 'coffee morning' event on the same day to cater for the 'overflow'.)

Then, after ninety minutes or so, the appearance of waitresses serving flutes of cool champagne heralded the approach of the main business of the afternoon - the presentations. A low wooden dais with microphone had been set up beneath a pair of towering *prunus* trees (cleverly chosen, no



INSIDE: A Day in the Life - Claire Paye gives an insight into her work * Ghana Cocoa Farming - a graduate student's research * Email Redirection Service - upgraded * A Few Moments with Lucia Silver * Your Starter for Ten - experiences of appearing on University Challenge twice * Worms - from the Kalahari to space * **Plus:** From The Archives, Postcard From Ghana, After Reading English and more....

doubt, to provide a natural shelter from any possible precipitation) at the northern edge of the garden. Peter Beer, the Home Bursar, announced that proceedings were about to begin, and when everyone had gathered around, Belinda Wargent, the outgoing President of the Old Members' Association, made the presentation of gifts bought with donations received from members.

Sir Peter, whose interests include photography, ornithology and horticulture, was given a state-of-the-art Canon digital camera, some gardening books, including two specialist RHS encyclopaedias, a selection of plants, and book tokens; Lady North, also a keen gardener, received a limited edition botanical print and a set of gardening vouchers. Expressing his appreciation and warm thanks for these gifts, Sir Peter spoke of his happy memories of twenty-one years as Head of the College, four of them as the University's Vice-Chancellor (1993-1997). He also recalled some of the major changes and developments he'd seen implemented during his Principalship, these often being assisted to completion by valuable advice and generous financial support from the community of Old Members, for which he and the College were most grateful.

That concluded the main business of the afternoon, but many stayed on for a while to continue conversations or take a final perambulation around the garden before leaving what had been a most memorable occasion, much enjoyed by all.

From Sir Peter North:

"Stephanie and I were overwhelmed by the kindness shown to us by so very many Old Members as I approached retirement at the end of the academic year. The most striking illustration of this was the Garden Parties early in July. We were, of course delighted that so many Old Members were able to come back to Oxford for these events – and that we could meet their spouses and partners. However, what touched us was the number of you who were unable to join us and who either wrote directly to us or sent good wishes through the Old Members Liaison Officer. There were so many good wishes sent that Alison made them up into a splendid booklet for us. Last, but by no means least, we must thank everyone who contributed to our retirements gifts. It was an unbelievable cornucopia of generosity which we shall never forget and which we shall enjoy in so many ways. Thank you all very much indeed.

It has been a great honour to be able to serve the College for over two decades and to benefit from the support and friendship of the Old Members of the College."

Internet Service Update

Mike Parin, appointed as Information Systems Officer in July, describes recent upgrades to the Old Members' internet service, including the email redirection service.

The first internet service offering to College alumni - an email redirection service - was made in June 2000 and just over 3,000 College members are now subscribed. Many of you will have visited the alumni web site, which was added when our Old Members Liaison Officer started work. Notwithstanding a few power cuts and updates, these services have been running 24 hours a day, every day for five years. That's a long time in the world of internet servers!

Our own plans to develop the services were tailored to match comments and suggestions from Old Members who had used the web site, and began to take real shape about 12 months ago. Over the long vacation, traditionally the one time of year when larger IT projects can be tackled, we prepared new hardware and software that would be capable of providing more of what is wanted.

The most significant changes have taken place in online registration – this is where you set up your alumni email address and password for future use. Through the web site you can now benefit from:

- A choice of lifetime email address: something@alumni.jesus.ox.ac.uk
- The ability to change your alumni email address e.g. you have married, you use your middle name etc.
- Facilities to select a password that you can remember and change the address your email is forwarded to.

These facilities are, of course, also available to everyone who

has already registered - your details have been carried over and you can take advantage of the new features immediately.

If you are interested in IT then you might like to know that we are now running the service on a Shuttle PC with a 2.8GHz Intel processor and 1GB of system memory. This runs the Debian Linux distribution with the Exim (mail), Apache (web) and PostgreSQL (database) packages driving the service. Using Open Source software has made it possible, even easy, to configure and integrate this system into the rest of our network. It also means that we can expect the current hardware to perform respectably over its service life.

Looking to the future we expect to introduce further facilities over the coming months. Plans currently include viewing your entry in the College database of members, sending in updated contact details, and getting in touch with other College members. The upgraded Old Members' internet service opens the door to many additions such as these, and we would welcome your comments and suggestions as to what would be useful.

Members' Registration

Please enter your details and click REGISTER below.

Surname at matriculation:

Year of matriculation:

Date of birth: January

A Day in the Life...

Claire Paye is Head of the World Trade team at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. She has particular responsibility for the Asia region.



Monday 5th September 2005

Say goodbye to my husband who is off to the Far East for ten days on an export sales trip. Leave home 7.15am, in work by 8am. Look at a few things on the internet then get stuck into emails. Consider whether to circulate details of an inward delegation from Singapore, decide to feature the participants in our new e-newsletter. Update speaker biography information for Thursday's event, 'Four emerging investment locations: a global perspective'.

At 9.30 I meet with Ania, our new Polish intern who is starting today. She has won funding to work at the London Chamber of Commerce through the Leonardo da Vinci European programme and will be with us for six months. She has a full programme of induction this week and then will be responsible for helping with our database management, customer relations and doing any projects which seem of particular interest to her. Julie, a previous intern, who now works full time at the Chamber, is responsible for training her, particularly as she is on holiday next week and Ania will have to take over.

After this I chase mission members from our DesignUK trade mission to Tokyo, taking place in November, to establish whether they are coming to the UK briefing later this month or not. They are all top class designers and are very pleasant and interesting to talk to, so I'm looking forward to meeting them in London, and spending time with them in Tokyo.

I email the companies who showed an interest in my emerging investment locations seminar on Thursday. Most are just back from holiday today so I hope they won't be too busy to attend. It's frustrating when I have a good programme of top quality speakers lined up and then can't get a good level of interest from our database. We've got Atradius sponsoring this seminar, so I'm hoping for a good turnout (at least 20

companies, at the moment we've got ten).

I chase arrangements for our South Africa trade mission in January. We are currently receiving funding from the London international trade team, but they have some budgetary issues, which affect whether we charge management fees for the mission or not, so this needs to be resolved before we can launch the trade mission.

I take a break from the emailing to edit and effectively rewrite an article for London Business Matters, our newsletter for London Chamber members, to highlight a number of the developments the World Trade team has been working on over the summer. These include the launch of a World Trade Club, the organisation of a black tie International Trade dinner, the relaunch of our overseas membership offering, and the revamp of our international pages on our website.

At lunchtime the seven of us in the team go out for a drink to welcome Ania. On my return I have a brief chat with our policy team about a potential Olympics-focused trade mission to Sydney next year, to enable London companies to learn about bidding for Olympics contracts. We agree to include some research questions in our next polling of members to help determine the focus of the mission. I have a quick look at the launch flyer for our new overseas membership offering.

During the day I field calls from random individuals asking about our export documents, whether we do import and export training, selling training in marketing to Chinese companies, an incomprehensible man who I think is looking for a job (and calls twice) and our estate agent informing me that no one wants to buy our flat yet but booking in another viewing. I also talk to speakers for the investment seminar.

I spend some time sifting through my emails to try to reduce them. I receive and send about 60 a day and usually run an average of about 150 in my inbox at any one time. As the London Chamber of Commerce is a well known organisation, I get a lot of approaches from companies in the UK and overseas who want some sort of assistance with their business, most of whom I can't help much, but I try to reply.

I review our first World Trade Club e-newsletter and highlight some points for amendment, but on the whole I'm really pleased with it.

I have a quick break to try to book into an NCT antenatal class (baby due in February). As we're hoping to move from Streatham to Reading, I'm between two camps but I'm told to travel to Reading for the classes even if we haven't moved yet.

The end of the day is spent answering a plethora of emails on trade shows in China, our trade mission to India, Sri Lankan jewellery, business development visits by British Embassy officials, government plans on the funding of trade missions and so on. I leave on time at 5pm and head home for a quiet evening of food shopping, calling my sister and watching a bit of television.

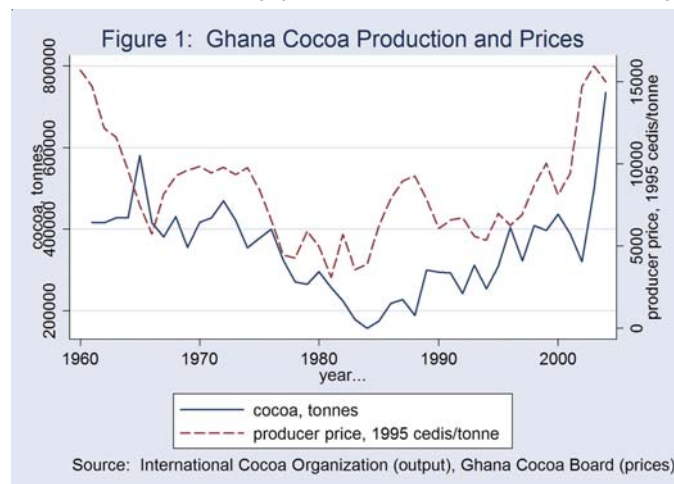
CLAIRE PAYE (née Pover) (Modern Languages, 1989)

Ghana Cocoa Farming: Agricultural Productivity Growth and the Rural Sector

Andrew Zeitlin, a current postgraduate student and recipient of an Old Members Group scholarship, talks about his research.

The recent dramatic increase in Ghana's cocoa production provides a rare example of rapid agricultural growth in Africa. From the 2001/02 growing season to 2003/04, output in the sector has responded to improved prices by more than doubling, from 341 to 736 thousand tonnes (see Figure 1). Since cocoa has long been among Ghana's most important exports in terms of revenue, and since more than 60 per cent of Ghana's population is involved in agriculture, this is certainly an important expansion.

This experience contradicts conventional wisdom about means to economic growth in developing countries. Indeed, the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper claims that a principal cause of failure in previous development efforts has been the preponderance of 'intractable' structural rigidities in the rural sector, propagated by the dominance of subsistence farming. By contrast, recent history provides clear evidence that among



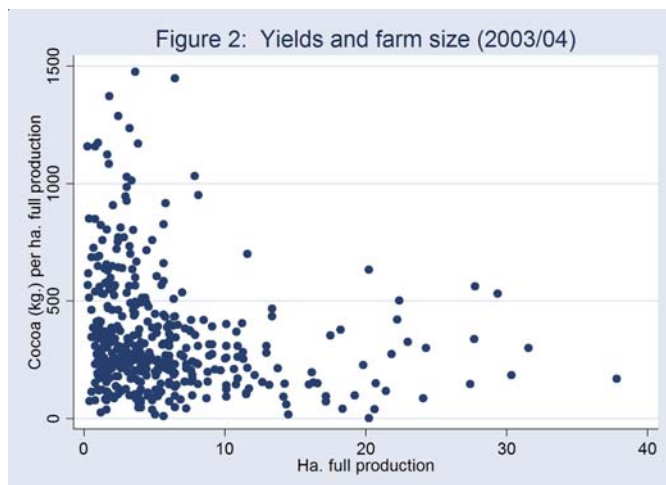
commercial crop farmers, rapid growth is possible.

My research investigates the sources and future implications of this growth. This project, funded by the Global Poverty Research Group, extends a 2002 survey of approximately 500 farmers. Over the course of a two month stay in Ghana last autumn, a longitudinal panel was constructed by seeking out the farmers previously interviewed, and a further level of detail was added to the previous survey in order to measure cocoa production at both the farm and the farmer

level.

Currently, three dimensions of growth in the sector are being investigated using these data. First, to what extent can the recent output trend be explained by either increases in land devoted to cocoa or improvements in productivity at the plot level among existing farmers of 2002, and what are the sources of their increased yields? Second, how have decisions about household labour allocation and investment in human capital changed during this time? And third, what has been the role of economic institutions in fostering this development? In July, I had an opportunity to present findings and discuss each of these issues with, respectively, the Ghana Cocoa Board, the Ghana office of the World Bank, and a conference on 'Shared Growth in Africa', jointly held by Cornell University, the World Bank, and the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research at the University of Ghana.

The first goal of the analysis is to explain the increase in aggregate production with microeconomic data. It has often been found that small farmers implementing intensive cultivation techniques have higher yields than larger landholders, but small-scale Ghanaian cocoa farmers have historically performed poorly relative to experimental yields. The data collected for 2003/04 display a great diversity of yields, suggesting scope for further intensive growth (see Figure 2). On the other hand, the strong correlation observed between fertilizer use and yields, juxtaposed against the fact that more than half of all farmers interviewed did not use fertilizer in 2003/04,



is consistent with the notion that failures in input markets may constrain progress.

Secondly, an intriguing finding of the research carried out last autumn is that, among cocoa farming households interviewed in both rounds of the sample, the number of people working on the farms has actually declined, while the total days worked on these same farms has increased (as has output). This finding suggests a degree of rural underemployment, such that there is excess labour capacity that can take up the slack as family members use the windfall of a good price to seek employment or education elsewhere. The evidence that people have left cocoa farming households – and, further, that this exodus has been most pronounced in the very areas where output is expanding most rapidly – is certainly counterintuitive at first glance. Explaining this phenomenon in terms of rural-urban labour market linkages may help improve our understanding of how the recent dynamism of the rural sector is related to prospects for

“By contrast, recent history provides clear evidence that among commercial crop farmers, rapid growth is possible.”

growth in the country as a whole.

The third dimension of my recent work has taken a more abstract perspective on the drivers of agricultural productivity. In a paper entitled ‘Market Structure and Growth in the Cocoa Sector of Ghana’, I have examined the role played by Licensed Buying Companies (LBCs), which are authorised by the government to purchase cocoa from farmers at a pre-specified price. Most of this cocoa is then sold to the Cocoa Board for external marketing, although there is some direct marketing by LBCs. At the village level, LBCs – to which farmers had access to an average of 3.3 in their village in 2003/04 – engage in non-price competition, providing inputs, credit, and even scholarships, telephone poles, or other prizes to farmers in order to attract producers’ business. This paper examined the hypothesis that village-level competition among LBCs promotes higher productivity on cocoa farms. The evidence supports an economically significant and statistically robust relationship between this market structure and both the level and growth rate of cocoa productivity over the two seasons of the study (2001/02 and 2003/04).

In the preferred specification of the paper, it was found that an improvement in the ‘competitiveness’ of the local market for cocoa by one standard deviation was associated with a remarkable increase in producer productivity, exceeding 20%.

The decisions of rural households and the resources available to them – partially determined by the institutional context – seem to be crucial determinants of whether even dramatic short-run gains can be used to foster long-run development. In seeking to shed light on that process, my work on productivity growth and household responses in Ghanaian cocoa production has benefited greatly from discussions both in College and farther afield.

“Your Starter for Ten...”



It was a case of déjà-vu for me when, as the Clerk of the Privy Council, I captained the Privy Council Office team to victory in this year’s *University Challenge: The Professionals*. 31 years earlier I had appeared on the student version of the programme as captain of the Jesus College team.

On that occasion the team made it through to the quarter finals, but were knocked out by the eventual winners, Trinity College Cambridge. This time the team made sure of victory



by beating the Romantic Novelists’ Association in the final, broadcast on 12th September. You would probably think that romantic novelists shouldn’t be too difficult to beat; but they were an excellent team who had registered phenomenally high scores in the preceding rounds.

Thankfully we were a bit luckier with the questions on the night. It’s nice to have laid the ghost of 1974 at last!

ALEX GALLOWAY (Classics, 1970)

A Few Moments With: Lucia Silver



After graduating in English and Modern Languages from Jesus in 1995, Lucia Silver joined top London advertising agency, J.Walter Thompson. In less than three years she rose to European Account Director working with diverse clients including the Office of Telecommunications, Rimmel, Rowntrees and 20th Century Fox.

After a period of marketing, new media and business development consultancy, Lucia realised her calling was far more creative and at the end of 2001 she opened The L Boutique, located at the heart of London's Notting Hill. A year later The L Boutique was offering a unique concept - a design team, a personal stylist and a shop - under one roof.

Her exclusive designs have already won some enviable accolades: The Financial Times voted The L Boutique,

'Cult shop of the Year'; 'One of four top European boutiques' trumpeted American fashion bible, Women's Wear Daily; London's Evening Standard dubbed it 'one of the fashionistas 10 favourite shops for London Fashion Week'. Find out more at www.theLboutique.com.

Can you remember why you chose Jesus College?

Not because it's Welsh! Because it was intimate, unpretentious and I loved the wisteria (flowers) in first and second quad.

What are your most cherished memories from your time at Jesus?

Playing Mrs Birling in 'An Inspector Calls' as my boyfriend directed; playing mixed hockey for the College; the best apple crumble and custard; working in the oldest part of the Bodleian Library with the Dickensian lighting and musty smell of old books...

...And what are your least?

Juggling a joint honours degree that was really more like two thirds of one and two thirds of the other (instead of half and half). Nineteen year old men discovering too much freedom, booze and women than they could cope with.

Did any staff members make a lasting impression on you?

Iris Murdoch's husband, John Bayley. The most charming, natural and passionate lecturer I have had the privilege to listen to. I had a term of Hardy's Gothic Short Stories with him and was

so lost in the lectures that I used to finish his sentences! (He had a bad stutter). I would be mortified when I realised what I'd done, but each time he would smile at me, wink and say thank you. At the end of the lectures he gave me his personal copy of Hardy's short stories.

What clubs, societies etc. were you involved in outside of studying?

Acting...

Do you think you were a conscientious student?

Never could be bothered to answer that question.

What did you do immediately after leaving College?

I was recruited by J.Walter Thompson as an account manager and was fortunate enough to be put on Rowntrees as my first account.

What does your current work involve?

I own, run and design for a fashion business in Notting Hill. We are presently looking to expand our unique retail concept with a first high profile location before rolling out.

Have you found the experiences and education you received at Jesus College to be useful in your working life?

Certainly, other than the academic interests which have remained with me, it enhanced my ability to communicate clearly and coherently, know what I mean?

What advice would you give to recent graduates?

I believe that academic theory is just one part of what Jesus College gives you, it's important to remember the human and communication skills you learned at college are great foundations for your relationship with future work colleagues. Good relationships are key to business success. And good relationships come through mutual respect.

What is the most important lesson life has taught you?

Challenges and unseen difficulties will always happen, it's vital to learn and grow from them. Don't let the b**ers get you down and as much as possible live in the present moment. In the superficial world of fashion, I've learned that real beauty is authenticity.

What, if anything would you have done differently?

Nothing – all the mistakes serve a purpose IF you're willing to learn from them.

Who, if anyone has been your role model and why?

I increasingly look to be inspired by everyone I meet. If I don't like someone it's usually my problem. If you don't forgive what you don't like then all that's left is judgement and disappointment.

Sum up your experience at Jesus College 'in a nutshell'.

Privileged. Mind-broadening. Liberating.

L-BOUTIQUE

10% off

Not only does the L-Boutique have a **SALE** starting on 27th October 2005, with up to 80% off, but Lucia has kindly offered a 10% discount on any purchase, to any Jesus College Old Member who presents this voucher in person, at her shop. Usual terms & conditions apply.

Offer ends 24th December 2005.



JCA Dinner

For 2006 only, the Jesus College Association Dinner is in January. Therefore all the details and the booking form are available in THIS edition of the College Newsletter.

If you are interested in attending this event, turn to PAGE 15 for more information.



The closing date for returning booking forms is 16th December 2005.

From the Worms of the Kalahari to Worms in Space



Standing on steps of KC-135 after successful flight out over Gulf of Mexico with the experimental team from Cleveland Clinic, Ohio. Craig Wilson is on the left, waving.

been a presenter at numerous educational conferences around the United States and, in November, I shall be the guest speaker at the science teacher luncheon during the Annual Arkansas Teacher Conference.

This past March, I decided to bring an educational project that I direct for the United States Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service/Southern Plains Area (USDA/ARS/SPA) across the Atlantic to Walwayne Court School in Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

The project, known as 'FUTURE SCIENTISTS - Student Outreach Initiative' is co-sponsored by the USDA/ARS/SPA and TAMU. It is designed to assist USDA/ARS/SPA scientists and laboratory sites to reach out to communities and schools with hands-on, inquiry-based activities linked to current agricultural science research. All too often, the world-class research being undertaken at research labs and the benefits to local communities and society in general go unnoticed. This project will get information out into the local

In 1976 I started my teaching career at Bayswater Middle School in Oxford where I remained until 1980. In 1977 I married Catherine Anne (née MacInerney) and in 1980 we moved to the remote tribal village of Serowe on the edge of the Kalahari Desert in Botswana, Africa. For the following six years I was a lecturer in Primary Science at the Serowe Teacher Training College. I also served on the National Science Curriculum Development Panel developing a national curriculum for Botswana. Our three children were all born in Serowe. Jessica Louise in 1981. David Mark in 1983. Laura Kim in 1986*. When college was not in session, I would hold teacher training workshops in remote locations throughout Botswana and my whole family would accompany me, heading out cross-country in our reliable Toyota 4x4, which had been converted into a camping vehicle. In 1986 we moved to East Texas where I obtained my PhD from Texas A&M University in 2001. I have been employed by this University since 1993 working mostly in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service (USDA/ARS) and also with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). I have conducted in-service teaching workshops with these agencies and this work has allowed me to teach in 27 states including Alaska and Hawaii and also in Puerto Rico and England. I have also

communities by inviting teachers, students and their parents to become directly involved in the research.

The goal is to target middle level teachers and students, as this is the age when students traditionally lose interest in science. My goal in taking the project to the UK on a limited scale was to link a Texas school with one in England. I chose Snook school in Texas as it serves a small rural community that is at the centre of a cotton growing region and the science teacher, Pamela Donald, is a participant in my project. Walwayne Court School was a good match because it too lies in a rural area but with sheep farming as its focus and the head teacher, Richard Brown, was an enthusiastic collaborator. This pairing had the secondary possibility that the students at the respective schools could exchange information on and share their knowledge about sheep and cotton via the internet.

But, the main focus was on the study of a common insect, the corn earworm/bollworm, tomato fruitworm, or sorghum headworm, *Helicoverpa zea* (Boddie) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) that is a pest of field corn in the United States. I obtained permission to take some larvae of the species into the UK for educational purposes for students to study the insect's life cycle and characteristics with the understanding that they cannot successfully over-winter in those latitudes. I

"As a sequel to this preliminary experience, an experiment has been accepted to fly the corn earworm into space in low Earth orbit."



spent a day teaching in Walwayne Court School and explained the project to the science teacher, Steve Glumm. (Information can be accessed at: <http://firststep.coe.tamu.edu>.) Snook and Walwayne Court school students studied the insects at the same time and hoped to exchange data so that their findings could be presented during the Student Presentation Day back at the USDA/ARS Research Laboratory later in the year.

I have also flown with the caterpillars to Alaska where I presented a professional development workshop for the Anchorage school district and used the insect as a model for hands-on, inquiry-based teaching and learning. I am just about to send

off a shipment of caterpillars to Puerto Rico with all necessary permits, where I have a science teacher interested in using the caterpillar as an investigative model in her classes. Eventually, the hope is that the project will be adopted nationwide since there are over 100 USDA/ARS research labs scattered throughout the United States.

Last year, I had the opportunity to fly as a test subject on NASA's KC-135, commonly known as the 'Vomit Comet', used for experimental purposes and to give astronauts their first taste of 'weightlessness'. This was in conjunction with my role as coordinator of the National Space Biomedical Research

Institute -Teacher Academy Project (NSBRI-TAP) a project funded by NASA looking at ways to counteract the adverse effects of long-duration space flight on the human body. Naturally, I managed to fly some of the corn earworms with me in both the larval and pupa stages. As a sequel to this preliminary experience, an experiment has been accepted to fly the corn earworm into space in low Earth orbit. In collaboration with a project participant, Connie Holcomb who teaches at Vista Middle School in Las Cruces, we have been assigned a Technical Manager (TM) from NASA who will assist us in fine tuning an experiment to fit into the Space Experiment Module (SEM) Satchel Carrier System. The hypothesis is that low-Earth orbit will adversely affect development and/or survival rates of the caterpillars. The flight is set for the June 2006 Orbit Schedule, launching on a Russian rocket. Students in the Future Scientists-Student Outreach initiative will grow a control group of insects in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

* Our children were each given Setswana names when they were born in Botswana. My tutorial groups chose these names for them. Jessica was named Mpho Modimo, which means Gift of God since she arrived on my wife's 28th birthday. David was named Tebogo, which means Thanks.....for a boy! Laura was named Naledi, which means star. Her arrival coincided with that of Halley's comet, clearly visible in the desert sky when she was born. There wasn't a Setswana word for comet so star was substituted.

CRAIG WILSON (Geography 1970)

Postcard from Overseas: Tony Naden in Ghana



'Mr. Naden', said Denys Whiteley disparagingly, 'is going to Africa ... converting camels!' It was strange that such a polymath – the last person in Oxford to be College Chaplain and tutor his Theologs in Old Testament, New Testament, and Christian doctrine should have an attitude to Christian work overseas so condi-

tioned by the Victorian word 'missionary' and its connotations. He feared that I would be wasting my university education. In fact in the last forty years helping to develop literacy and Bible

translation in Ghana I have had to take a PhD in linguistics and have published an average of one academic item per year (everything from potboiler reviews to major monographs), in association with the University of Ghana and the Ghana Institute of Linguistics, Literacy and Bible Translation.

The major project was helping the Mamprusi people of northern Ghana develop the written form of their language, agree an orthography, establish a network of locally-staffed classes to teach illiterate adults to read and write, and help the churches in translating the New Testament into the Mampruli language (published 2001).

Along the way I was Curate in Anglican parishes in Gosport, East Ham and Salisbury; married Di and had three children, one of whom died at birth, and taught courses and at various educational establishments from small town motivational sessions in Ghana to MA courses at the London Bible College and University of Texas at Arlington.

We continue in Ghana training and mentoring Ghanaian Bible translators and checking colleagues' scriptural and academic works before publication.

From the Archives

Welcome to a New Principal?

As we awaited our new Principal's arrival with eager anticipation I was amused to come across a crumpled and undated paper headed 'Memorandum for the Fellows of Jesus College', indicating that views on the value of this post were not always positive.

Principal Sir John Rhys, had died in 1915 and the Governing Body unanimously agreed that the election to the Principalship be postponed until the end of the wartime emergency period. They further resolved that money saved should be applied to the Pension Fund, or any other purpose relative to the College and not inconsistent with the statutes. Evidently the financing of pensions was an issue then as now!

The memorandum probably dates to the end of 1919, and was drawn up by the Senior and Junior Bursar. It urged that the 1916 resolution to postpone the election of the Principal should not be rescinded. Five reasons were cited. First, and perhaps most devastating: 'The lack of a Principal has not so far been detrimental to the interests of the College; its numbers were never so great, its all-round efficiency never greater.' The Principal's Lodgings were occupied by undergraduates, and to prepare them for a new principal would be time-consuming and costly, 'probably anything up to £1000'. The Pension Fund, boosted by the money saved, 'is even now inadequate and much below that of many other Colleges'; and even if it was considered adequate, the College had many other financial needs.

There follows a calculation of the costs of the Principalship, in stipend and accommodation, estimated at over £2000 a year, concluding: 'The Headship of a small College of poor men ought not to absorb one-eighth of its total external corporate revenue... The Governing Body are Charitable Trustees, the object of the trust is education and the interests of the undergraduates and the teachers should be their first concern. It is therefore suggested that this is a suitable time to change the Statutes so as to increase the work and lessen the stipend of the Principal.'

In April 1920 the Governing Body agreed 'after prolonged discussion' a timetable for reinstating the position of Principal, provided that steps be taken in the meantime 'to modify the duties and emoluments of the Principalship so as to lessen the burden which falls on the College under the existing statutes'. It would be interesting to know whether the 'prolonged discussion' centred on whether or not the duties and emoluments should be changed or whether or not the College needed a Principal!

The following June amendments to the statutes were agreed, and in January 1921, the Governing Body elected one of its own, Ernest George Hardy, as the next Principal. And if his colleagues had agonised over the value of the role, the editor of the Jesus College Magazine was euphoric about the improvements to College life that term, for which he considered 'the residence in College of the Principal and his family' to have been 'responsible in no small way'.

ROSEMARY DUNHILL, College Archivist



Photograph of the Elizabethan Society at their annual dinner, 1903, at a time when the Society still listened to serious papers at their meetings. It comes from an album compiled by Frederick Bruce Wilkins (1901-5), given to College by his daughters Judy, Lady Mackerras and Josephine Wilkins. FBW, second from the right on the back row, read a paper on Scott and Wordsworth the previous year, and 'did right cunningly compare these two men of letters'.

The London Branch

The London Branch of the College Association, flourished for several years in the 1950s, with regular meetings and all the formal apparatus of officers and a committee. The honorary President was Goronwy Edwards; the much loved former Senior Tutor and then Vice President at Jesus, who had moved to London to become head of the Institute of Historical Research. I was branch secretary in the first years, although most of the executive work was done by Goronwy's efficient secretary, Cynthia Hawker. The membership was of course all male, as the College had not yet become coeducational and this probably influenced the choice of activities and venues.

Incomes in general were not very high, and we did not manage places like the Carlton Club. Our regular venue was the Old Father Thames, a pub on the river near the south end of Albert Bridge, where we would meet early in the evening, for beer and sandwiches and general talk about college memories and present prospects. We had no organised visits or excursions and few structured events, though we did on at least one occasion hold a dinner at the Waldorf. We also had an evening at the House of Commons, hosted by Old Member, Harold Wilson, and I recall that Vivian Jenkins, the Welsh Rugby International, was with us on this occasion. I do not think that the Branch ever formally disbanded, but rather gradually and amicably fell apart. We thought then that we were working hard enough at our various jobs, but pressure of work in London increased, with longer hours and less inclination to linger in the evenings. For a few years we had the pleasure of coming together, remembering the good College days and meeting new friends across the College generations. I know that there are period and special interest Old Member groups but I wonder if there are any similar local branch activities today?

RAYMOND CHAPMAN (English, 1942)

After reading English...



I applied successfully for a post with the British Council, an organisation I have stayed with – in a wide range of different positions around the world – to this day. It has proved a fascinating and varied career, enabling me to live in half a dozen different countries on four continents.

In those better-funded days my induction into the Overseas Career Service began with a series of attachments to departments in Britain: I was lucky enough to look after official visitors to Edinburgh during the Festival. Then five weeks in Ealing Tech learning Spanish, and a couple of months in Madrid, teaching English in local schools and helping out in the office. Back to London, to help look after overseas scholars, before my first real posting, which turned out to be a dream one – Rio de Janeiro! The job was looking after volunteers across the country (I'd been a VSO myself, before university), and running our programmes of inward visits, the arts, and scholarships. One cannot post a young bachelor to Rio and expect him to return a bachelor, of course, and so at the end of my three years there I married Ana, who is still my wife.

I spent the next three years in Recife, in NE Brazil, where I opened our small office. Then back to the Oxford office for a little over a year; Cairo; Lima; New Delhi, where we saw the consequences of Mrs Gandhi's assassination; and back to HQ, though travelling widely, inspecting our offices around the world. After three years in London came my first posting as a Country Director, in Chile, shortly after the return to democracy – an opportunity to build up a sub-

stantial DfID-funded bilateral technical cooperation programme. I was there for over five and a half years, the longest I've ever spent anywhere as an adult, but then moved on to Croatia, not long after the end of hostilities there. Things weren't easy to start with, but it is a very beautiful country, and we frequently made weekend trips to Italy or Austria.

After four and a half years there, the time came to return to London. This was shortly after 9/11, and the British Council hadn't prepared contingency plans for a terrorist attack or other disaster – an omission which I was asked to rectify, across the globe. This Business Continuity role has subsequently expanded, with the Gulf War and increasing terrorist threat. I hope, though, for a final overseas posting before my retirement – which will be in Rio, where the story started.

ROBIN EVANS 1966



After reading English I escaped the ivory towers with three years teaching for Voluntary Service Overseas, first in Rwanda, ironically a source of ivory and whence racial violence expelled us, and second in Thailand where, more happily I met my future wife—one of my students (see above).

Back in the UK I taught in a comprehensive for a while and then resumed my studies, supported by my wife, a philanthropic landlord and the DES, for a PhD supervised by Randolph Quirk at UCL. As Thatcher was closing university departments and building prisons, I worked for a while in a 6th form college

in Luton and then returned to Thailand, Chiang-Mai University.

After a break in London for an MA in TESOL, more marketable than a PhD in metaphor, I started a serious academic career at the National University of Singapore, where I published two books with Routledge: 'The Language of Metaphors' and 'Critical Reading and Writing'. Now at a new liberal arts university in Hong Kong - Lingnan, I have been researching on the metaphorical structure of the English (Chinese) lexicon(s), and the results can be found on the 'Metalude' website, with the snappy address: http://www.ln.edu.hk/ile/cwd03/lnproject_chi/home.html.

Since our children are studying at Sheffield and Imperial we hope to return from twenty years exile, though I was recently unsuccessful at interview for the English Language Chair at Leeds. Another book 'Washing the Brain: the hidden ideology of metaphor' is on the way.

ANDREW GOATLY (1969)



I matriculated in 1971 and read English. After becoming what C.S. Lewis described as 'a mediocrity with a good Second' I spent a miserable year in the City with a life assurance company. I was studying singing privately at the Royal College of Music (I had sung at Oxford: Schola Cantorum, the Opera Club, Jesus-St Anne's Music Society etc.) and my teacher, Frederick Sharp, suggested I audition for a full time place.

This I duly achieved (as a Foundation Scholar no less!) and embarked on

an idyllic three year postgraduate singing course. On completion of my studies I enjoyed a varied career as an opera and concert baritone (later tenor). I sang as a soloist for every major British opera company and had the privilege of working with conductors such as Sir George Solti, Sir Colin Davies, Sir Roger Norrington, Sir Charles Mackerras and Vernon Handley.

In the early 1990s my career began to founder and I retrained as a teacher. I am now Head of Third Form, Director of Drama and teacher of English at Whitgift School in South Croydon (another Jesus man, John Lee, used to be Head of Classics there).

I am married to Natalie and have two sons, Hugo (11) and Sam (9), brothers to Holly (25) my daughter by my previous marriage. I look back over the last 35 years and consider myself wonderfully fortunate in the directions my life has taken.

PAUL WILSON (1971)



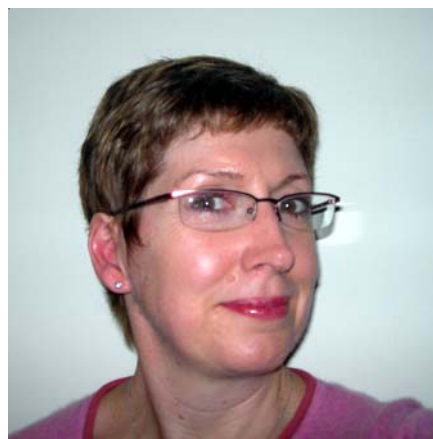
...I thought I would be a teacher until a term's teaching practice in Blackbird Leys firmly dispelled the ambition. Mildly amazed that I had achieved quite a good degree despite spending more of my time backstage at the Playhouse than reading the canon of Eng Lit, I applied for jobs in theatres. The Sherman Theatre in Cardiff eventually appointed me as House Manager and Publicity Officer, a position from which I later moved to return to Oxford as Regional Marketing Officer for Arts Council Touring, working from an (unadapted) dressing room in the New Theatre.

Working in the city was markedly different from studying (and playing) there. Rapidly assimilating the disciplines of marketing into the art of theatre, I went back down the M4 and founded Cardiff Arts Marketing, the first

collaborative agency in the UK.

Since 1988, I have been managing my own consultancy - Matthews Millman Limited - advising organisations ranging from the RSC and National Theatre to the Natural History Museum and National Maritime Museum on their audiences and business development. I spend a great deal of my time working with numbers these days, to the point that I almost wish I'd read Maths at Jesus - almost but not quite, for who can deny the formative power of reading Beowulf, even if done so on the flyfloor?

JOHN MATTHEWS (1972)



I graduated with a BA in English from Jesus in 1982. Having started my career as a graduate trainee in retail where I discovered the principle of 'dead mens' shoes, I was seconded, along with another graduate trainee, to the retailer's systems department.

After the secondment, my friend returned to the shop floor but I remained in IT, having taken a liking to the world of technology (which I had assumed from careers advice was a closed shop to those with arts degrees).

That was 23 years ago and I continued in IT, working in three market sectors (retailing, telecoms and financial services) and managing a number of project assignments over the years. Since 1996 I have been appointed Chief Information Officer within UK and European organisations. I am now the CIO of Marsh (the largest insurance brokers in the world) for Europe and Middle East.

My peers from Jesus ask me how anyone with an English degree could end up in IT, to which I consistently reply that it was 'serendipity'. I believe that English positions you well for a role that requires methodical thinking, analytical judgement and a strong ability to mix in-

tellectual capability with emotional intelligence. I have never regretted a career in technology and would recommend it to anyone graduating with a degree in English.

CHRIS BROWN née Hill (1979)

After graduating I stayed on in Oxford for a year to do my PGCE at OUDES in Norham Gardens. It was the first year of the school-based course which is still in existence, and it was extremely stimulating - and challenging - to spend a large proportion of the time in school in front of real children. Looking back it's still hard to fully explain my reasons for doing the PGCE in the first place, but on reflection they were probably a combination of knowing that the 'milk round' jobs on offer weren't for me, plus a fear of making a hasty career decision I might come to regret. To my surprise I found that I liked being in the classroom, and by the end of the year (after some notable mishaps: I have never again tried to read aloud to a class while suffering a mega-hangover) I was good at it, too.

In my first post at the Cherwell School I had many memorable experiences including co-directing a production of Romeo and Juliet and appearing on an extremely cheesy ITV teatime gameshow with two students (we cleaned up!!). Teaching the wide range of students at Cherwell consolidated my strongly-held belief in the principle of comprehensive education, but it was always a challenge, particularly in the early years of my career under John Major's government whose education ministers differed only in the strength of their distrust of and antipathy towards teachers, and the extent of their insanity.

In 1995 I moved from Cherwell to be Head of English at Wheatley Park School, a large comprehensive just outside Oxford. I was suddenly managing a team of eleven teachers (most of whom were older and more experienced than I was) and I was accountable for everything that happened in English, the subject about which everyone has an opinion. It was an enormous challenge but it has been and remains wonderfully rewarding, especially working with fantastically committed, hard-working, talented staff and today's sparky, feisty, demanding students. Since 1997 there's been an improvement in resources, guidance and morale, and the teaching students now receive is better than it has ever been. I

love my job: it's a unique mix of teamwork and intense individual focus and best of all, no two days are the same. Children are endlessly entertaining, surprising and awe-inspiring, and I consider it a privilege to have a part to play in their education.

CLARE MIDDLETON (1984)



The first miserable autumn after I read English at Jesus (1993–96) was wasted unpacking books in the basement of the Festival Hall. In the evenings I wrote reviews of paperbacks for *The Observer*. Finals behind me, still eye-deep in books...

In January, I took my bookshop pallor off to Nepal, where I'd spent my gap year. I taught, travelled, and saw Everest again. A round-the-world trip took me through to a second autumn, and more misery: lodging in a Ship Street garret and making early-morning coffee at a political consultancy firm. I wrote a desperate letter to a man I'd known as a teenager, who wrote for *Rough Guides*. 'Do you know Spain?', he replied. 'And how fast can you leave your job?'

Two weeks later I was on the night train to Madrid, with last year's *Rough Guide* in my bag and a modest cheque in my account. Joy. Next came Italy, Venice, Florence. I was travelling, writing and learning languages. And still deep in books: between trips I did research for the historian Theodore Zeldin.

I've now written my own *Rough Guides* – Nepal, Paris, the Loire and, most recently, *Conspiracy Theories* – and I'm working on a literary biography of the *Kama Sutra*, for Atlantic Books. Almost ten years after graduation, I'm finally doing what I always wanted to do – write.

JAMES MCCONNACHIE (1993)



English is the kind of subject where you qualify for everything generally and nothing specifically! I loved my English degree but interestingly, the things that have shaped my career choices and future, have been the extra curricula activities I got involved in whilst at university.

During Freshers Week I was dragged into College rowing trials and by the following week, I was hooked! It became one of the things I enjoyed most about my first year and I was made women's captain in my second year. I also got involved in a church as soon as I got here. In my third year, got stuck into the student work there, reaching out to the many students who don't ever feel like they find a home when they come to university or who struggle to relax into being who they are made to be.

So, what do I do now, I hear you ask? Well, I work part-time for the same church, caring for new students as they arrive. I also plan bigger events which speak to a culture of drinking and messed up relationships and suggest that there is another and better way to live. With the other half of my time I work as a fitness instructor, teaching classes all over the city of Oxford.

I do hope to use my English degree in a more strategic way in the future and have just completed a TESOL course to that end. I got married in 2003 to a guy who was at Oriel in my year, he works as a translator and we are hoping to move to France within the next few years.

NAOMI BILSON née Elliott (1998)

Bulletin Board



TE Lawrence Exhibition

From 14th October 2005 - 17th April 2006, the Imperial War Museum in London is holding a major biographical exhibition exploring the life of TE Lawrence. Marking the 70th anniversary of his death, it will cover his early years; his wartime experiences in the Middle East and the role he played in the Arab Revolt; his growing fame after the war; the writing of *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*; his 'disappearance' into the services and his untimely death following a motorcycle accident on 19th May 1935.

The College has lent TE Lawrence's illustrated undergraduate thesis to the exhibition, usually kept in the Fellows' Library. For further information please go to: <http://london.iwm.org.uk/upload/package/54/Lawrence/index.htm>

BBC World Book Club at Jesus College

In November, the Harper Room in Jesus College is being used as a venue to record the BBC World Service monthly programme 'World Book Club'. The guest is Philip Pullman and he and the audience will be discussing his trilogy of books, 'His Dark Materials'. For further information on this edition and the programme in general, please go to www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/programmes/world_book_club.shtml

Oxford Society Branch Update

Branches are forming or reforming in the following cities:

Dublin. Contact: Lisa Weston

l.weston@brightwater.ie

Frankfurt. Contact: Mechthild Vahl,

mechthildvahl@hotmail.com

www.oxford-society.de

Moscow. Contact: Ilya Zaslavsky,

ilyazaslavsky@russianoxford.ru

www.russianoxford.ru

Sydney. Contact: Delia Rothny-Jones

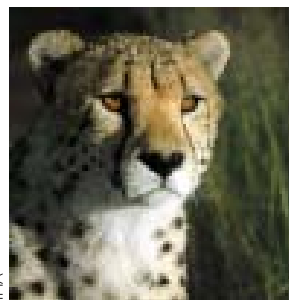
deliarj@inet.net.au

www.users.bigpond.com/davepat/

OUSNSW/ous_in_nsw.htm

All of the above welcome visitors at their events, as indeed, do all Oxford University Society branches. See www.alumni.ox.ac.uk for details of worldwide branches and the events and activities they are holding.

University Society Travel Brochure



The new Oxford University Society Travel Brochure is now available. New trips for 2006

include an exclusive Oxford cruise to the Galapagos on a private expedition ship. There is a unique chance to visit Peru and Bolivia or to explore the Himalayas. There are also some old favourites, including the 11th Oxford alumni cruise to Turkey.

If you are interested in further information please go to www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/services/travel/index.shtml. If you have any queries or would like to obtain a copy of the brochure and not have access to the internet, please contact Cathy Tennant on Tel: 01865 288087.

Jesus Old Members Group (Years to 1969)

The Group runs a number of social events each year and stays in touch with a newsletter published each term. Membership costs just £10 per annum, which covers not only running costs but goes towards the Group's Awards Fund which supports undergraduates and postgraduates by way of bursaries and scholarships.

The Group currently has over 170 members but there are many more Old Members who were admitted to College in the years prior to 1970 who are invited to become members.

If you would like to join, please contact the Treasurer: George Reah, Sycamore Cottage, 4 The Grange, Flax Bourton, Bristol BS48 3QH; Email: george.reah@tiscali.co.uk; Tel: 01275 464106 for more details. The Group's next AGM is on Saturday 7th January 2006 at 9.30am, the morning after the JCA Dinner and all are welcome.

Dates for your Diary

6th January 2006 - JCA Dinner

7th January 2006 - Pre 1970 AGM

24th March 2006 - Gaudy: 1946, 1950, 1959-1960, 1970, 1992

30th June 2006 - Gaudy: Pre 1936, 1956, 1965-66, 1998

Contacting the OMLO



Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have an enquiry, would like to notify the College of an update or have an interesting idea or project that would be suitable for an article in one of the publications.

Alison Proffitt-White (née James)
Old Members Liaison Officer
Jesus College,
Turl Street
Oxford
OX1 3DW
omlo@jesus.ox.ac.uk
+44 (0)1865 279740

Jesus College Association

Currently all Old Members are deemed to be members of the Jesus College Association without payment and are eligible to receive copies of various publications, including the Record and partake in events throughout the year. In order to ensure you receive regular communication from the College, please notify the Old Members Liaison Officer of any changes to contact details: omlo@jesus.ox.ac.uk

Annual Dinner

David Morgan, the President of the JCA, will preside at the Annual Dinner of the Jesus College Association to be held in the College Hall at 7.15pm on **Friday 6th January 2006**. The customary service in the College Chapel, at 6.40pm, will precede the Dinner.*

This year's inclusive charge for dinner (with wine and sherry), bed and breakfast will be £44.00. For dinner alone (with wine and sherry) the charge will be £26.00. The prices include VAT. Sherry will be available in the Harold Wilson Room (Staircase VIII) from 6.55pm.

Dinner jackets will be worn.

Booking arrangements:

1. Members wishing to attend the Dinner are requested to cut out, complete and return the booking form below by Friday 16th December 2005.
2. The Fellows' Secretary will confirm all bookings by the end of Friday 16th December 2005.
3. Cheques will not be paid in until after the Dinner has taken place and will be destroyed for any cancellation received by Tuesday 20th December 2005.
4. Rooms for Old Members requiring accommodation will be available from 2pm onwards.
5. It is much regretted that pressure of numbers makes it impossible to accommodate spouses or partners in College or to extend to spouses or partners an invitation to the Dinner.

*NB: This change in date only applies to 2006. From 2007 onwards the dinner will return to its usual time of year.



Booking form:

Please return the form with a cheque to: Fellows' Secretary, Jesus College, Turl Street, Oxford, OX1 3DW

I will be attending the Jesus College Association Dinner and enclose a cheque made payable to 'Jesus College, Oxford' for: (tick as appropriate)

Dinner only £26.00 ☐

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast £44.00 ☐

Title:..... Name:..... Year:.....

Address:.....

..... Subject:.....

Tel:..... Email:.....

I have the following dietary requirements:.....

I have the following special requirements (ground floor room etc.):.....

.....

CLOSING DATE: 16th December 2005

College publications & merchandise: an update

I thought I would take the opportunity on the back of this edition of the Newsletter to review the current publications and merchandise available to you all. I would also like to inform you of new developments. Not only do I hope you find this interesting and useful, but I would also appreciate your feedback and suggestions regarding College publications and merchandise.



Currently, as an Old Member you should be receiving two editions of this Newsletter a year, sent out in Trinity Term and Michaelmas Term, an annual College Record, sent out in February and six email bulletins per year (the latter goes out to all those for whom I have an email address). In addition you have access to a regularly updated alumni website. We have no immediate plans to expand on the above, but do you feel there is not enough communication, too much or is it just

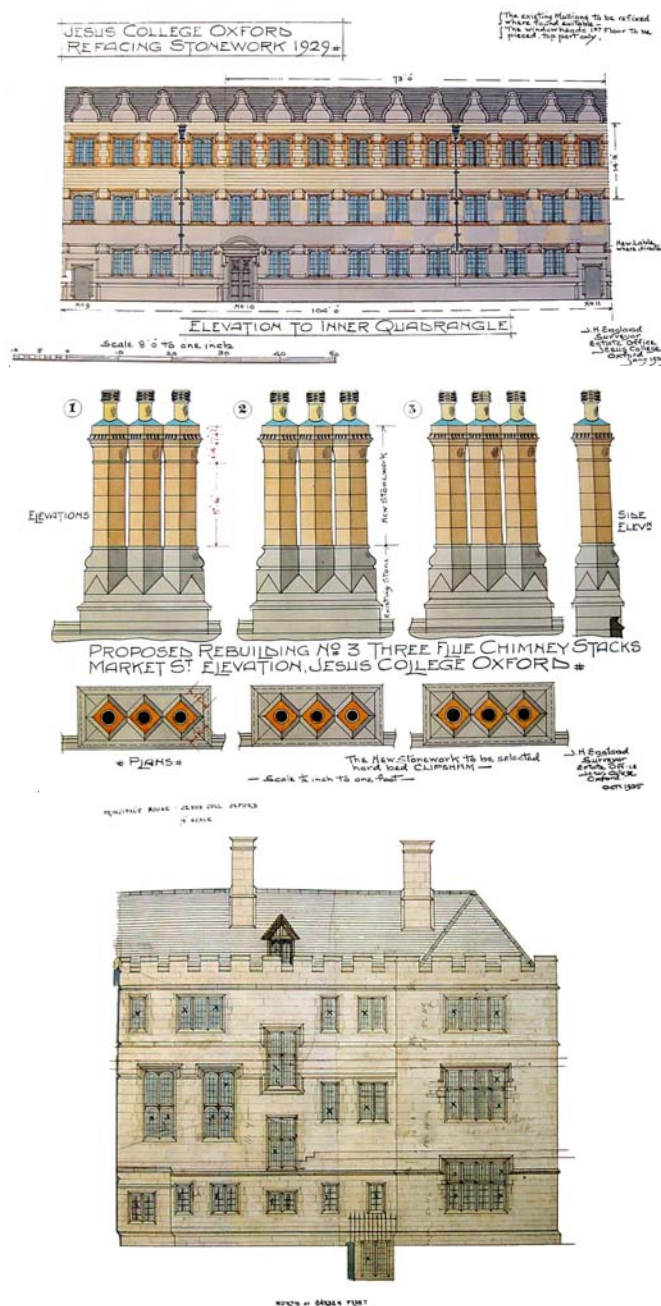
right? Do you have any ideas for improvement? Let me know!

On the student side of things, the Tutorial Office have been very busy over the past year producing a brand new College prospectus and together with the Webmaster, fully updating the College website, which now has a comprehensive admissions section and better information about the academic staff and much more. This can be found at www.jesus.ox.ac.uk.

Other than the College branded clothing we are attempting to update the selection of College themed items that can be purchased from the Lodge or by request through the OMLO. Firstly we are producing a tour guide leaflet, which will be given to visitors, enabling them to take a guided tour of the College, pointing out specific features of interest around the Quads. At the same time we will also be producing a high quality, glossy pictorial history of the College, which will be available to buy. We expect both of these to be available in the Spring of 2006.

The other area we are hoping to improve on are the prints and postcards available. We will still offer the Paul Draper drawing of the College in two sizes, but we are updating the prints on offer by collaborating with a company called Virtual Archive who produce an extremely attractive and contemporary product. This will be available very soon and more information is available at www.virtual-archive.co.uk

Postcards with much more modern photographs are planned for early next year as is the possible production of a set of cards featuring three beautiful 1920's elevation drawings. Left blank for your own message we hope that you think



they are a bit different from the usual run of the mill Oxford cards. Would you buy a set of the above? Do you have any other ideas?

I do hope you feel that all the above will be a marked improvement on what has been offered in the past and of course I will keep you informed as these items are made available. As I have highlighted I would really appreciate any feedback, opinions or ideas you may have on College publications and merchandise, so please get in touch in the normal way (see page 14 for contact details).

Alison Proffitt-White, OMLO