

Jesus College Newsletter



issue

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Trinity Term 2004

Reflections on a Golden Gaudy



to each year. These were displayed in The Principal's Lodgings so that our wives could see them at tea time. They were then on display in Hall at breakfast the following morning. The College kindly arranged for a 50th anniversary photograph to be taken in Hall just before dinner. One forgets how magnificent Hall looks at such a time, with every table fully laid and with much of the College silver on display.

The dinner itself graced the occasion. The food was excellent as were the wines, with the white being outstanding. The service was superb throughout. Conversation covered the past, present and the future, although as the evening progressed we dug deeper into our memories. We honoured the memory of Sir John Habakkuk and warmly applauded the very significant achievements of Sir Peter North. Since we went down in 1957 or 1958 they have been the only two new Principals of the College, both of whom spent four years as Vice Chancellor of the University. Their contribution to the College and the University has been immense and as a College we have been very fortunate indeed to have had their services. We honoured as well the memory of Dr David Rees. We also welcomed very much indeed the creation of the post of Old Members Liaison Officer, the appointment of Alison James to hold it and her presence at our table in Hall.

We are most grateful to The Principal and Fellows for their kind invitation and gracious hospitality. Our deepest gratitude is extended to Viv Bowyer for all her organisational arrangements and to Peter Beer and all the College Domestic Staff for looking after us superbly.

We were joyful and we rejoiced in what was a very special occasion.

GARTH AP REES (1954)

The invited years for the Gaudy on 26th March 2004 were 1954, 1984, 1990 and 1996. Whilst the 128 participants from those years thoroughly enjoyed the whole occasion, there was a particular significance to it for the 21 of us who had matriculated in October 1954. Amongst our ranks were three Professors and two in Holy Orders; from the former, Tom Blackburn travelled from Pennsylvania and David Minton from Japan, while from the latter, Maris Slokenbergs journeyed from Latvia. Our year was comprised of regular, infrequent and rare Gaudy attendees. We were all drawn by the thought of celebrating the 50th anniversary of our matriculation, wondering who would attend and how we would appear to each other, recognisable or unrecognisable, especially as some of us had not met since 1957. Nevertheless, all of us shared an abiding and deeply held affection for the College and its impact on our lives thereafter.

Together with our wives, four of us, Blackburn, Cox, Drake and ap Rees, had a head start by having lunch at the White Hart, Wytham, where we were joined

by Pat Cripps and Fred Pargeter, both of 1953, and their wives to celebrate Fred's 70th birthday which fell on that day. An interesting observation was made that each of us had met our wives whilst at Oxford and still remained married to the same person!

We were uncertain as to how our accommodation had been allocated. It was considered that our senior citizen had pulled rank, as well as using a direct line to the College organisers, to have a ground floor room on Staircase XII. However, bringing a pair of crutches with him to prove his point was deemed to be over-acting. By contrast, Bernard Pearce and the writer were regarded as Welsh red kites and billeted at the very top of Staircase XIII. However, despite the altitude, a most welcome note of nostalgia was evident here. John Hale's rooms were at the end of the top landing where both of us attended his tutorials. These were always stimulating and fun, irrespective of the degree of preparation (in my case) which preceded them.

An excellent and innovative initiative was the montage of photographs relevant

A New Venture on the Old Side of Life? - The Oxford Peace Research Trust



Antony Ives came up to Jesus College in 1960 to read Geography. He subsequently spent most of his career with the Royal Berkshire County Council and its successor authority the Vale of White Horse, where he became Chief Planning Officer responsible for policy and conservation. In 1970 he won the George and Amy Pepler Prize awarded by the Royal Town Planning Institute and in 1985, wrote 'The Geography of Arms Dispersal' in *The Geography of Peace and War*. eds Pepper and Jenkins, Blackwell, Oxford.

'We must use our minds as rigorously to plan for peace as we have used them to plan for war'. Martin Luther King Jr

In 2003 I was co-founder of a new charitable trust, the Oxford Peace Research Trust, set up to promote interdisciplinary teaching and research in peace-building and conflict resolution at Oxford. The aim is to secure the endowment of a Centre for Peace Research and we are working now to find the right home for the centre.

I'm one of Ernest (Paul) Paget's generation of Jesus Geographers from the early 1960s. Maybe the atmosphere at Oxford then was not as heady as later in the decade, but you could still generally look to the future with some hope. President Kennedy was in the White House. Vietnam and Northern Ireland had not yet scored themselves on our consciousness. True, the shadows of nuclear weapons, of the Cold War and of Apartheid were ever-present but, set against that, one had a sense of release of energy and goodwill from the birth around that time of so many new nations in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

Forty years on, the world seems more troubled than ever. Over the years, one learned with puzzlement that countries like Nigeria were spending more on arms than on education and health combined. Internal conflicts held up peaceful progress from Sierra Leone to Sri Lanka. For me, it was the horrific story of East Timor (in which the UK was a main arms supplier) which proved the turning point, and since 1980 I have been specially concerned with the study of the geopolitics of the arms trade.

Today at Oxford you can find a good many people who

are doing academic work which touches in some way on the building and maintenance of peace with justice, in a range of disciplines from International Relations, Geography and the Environment and Modern History to Theology and even Architecture (the Centre for Development and Emergency Practice at Oxford Brookes looks at post-conflict action). Yet, there is at present no programme of study, no focal point, no academic centre at Oxford, which contains the word *peace* or the concept of *conflict resolution* in its title.

Can 'peace' be taught? Starting in Scandinavia and the USA in the 1950s, the new field of Peace Research emerged. There are now centres or programmes in a great number of the world's leading universities and more are being added all the time. We have heard just recently that Joan Kroc, the late widow of the founder of McDonalds, has left a huge sum for the endowment of a Peace Research Department at Notre Dame University in Chicago. These programmes are producing a new generation of researchers and practitioners in peace building, peace maintenance and conflict resolution. We think the time is right for Oxford, with its great international connections, to explore this new field.



A seminar of the new OPRT - The speaker (seated) is Prof. Paul Rogers

We are already running a series of seminars. One of our recent speakers, Paul Rogers, Professor of Peace Studies at the highly regarded Department at Bradford University, has been generous in encouraging our project in Oxford. In his seminar he reminded us that academics have a vital role in our society: to think new thoughts, push boundaries, explore new ways of transforming conflict.

Perhaps in the context of this Jesus newsletter, it is only right to leave the last word to the Welsh poets. I'm not here thinking so much of the powerful words of Alun Lewis who lost his life in Burma, 'the quiet dead, the loud celebrities exhorting us to slaughter, and the herded refugees', though I understand his pain perhaps more clearly after 11th September 2001. I turn to the quiet voice of R.S. Thomas who sees a Welsh hill farmer looking up at wartime bombers in the sky and says about him 'You were on the old side of life...quietly repairing the rents of history with your hands.'

I hope that, rigorous and purposeful as it will be in its teaching and research, the proposed Oxford Centre for Peace Research will be seen as 'on the old side of life'.

If any old member would like to know more about this project, OPRT can be reached c/o 43 St Giles, Oxford OX1 3LW (Registered charity no. 1098298)

Postcard from Overseas: Akira Futami in Vietnam



After reading European Studies in 2000, I returned to the Japanese Parliament. The precise name of the office is the Secretariat of the House of Representatives of Japan (HR). About 1800

Previously, the Japanese government was not allowed to send self-defence force units overseas, except in the case of peace-keeping operations approved by the UN and emergency evacuation missions for Japanese citizens. I felt lucky that I was assigned to the position, which allowed the Japanese government to assist Britain, so soon after my days at Oxford.

Secretariat staff work there on such things as plenary sessions or committee activities, as advisors or staff directly under the speaker or committee chairperson. I was assigned as a researcher for the research bureau of the Secretariat of the HR and was responsible for national defence. This committee has roles in scrutinizing the Defence Agency and Self Defence Force.

Although I was satisfied with my research work on defence, I was suddenly requested to become a diplomat, working at the Embassy of Japan in Vietnam for three years. Working in different ministries is getting common nowadays, as we are encouraged to participate in short term exchange programmes which let staff acquire a wide range of skills and experiences. I am currently working as a second secretary in the political section of the Embassy of Japan in Vietnam. The work consists of typical diplomatic work, such as liaison work between high authorities in Tokyo and Hanoi and the close observation and analysis of political issues.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the US, one of my colleagues and I worked very hard as researchers in charge of 'the law bill on anti-terrorism measures' - which was top of the political agenda in Japan at that time. I drafted a report, which became the text of the speech that the chairman delivered at the plenary session. After the bill was passed, the law enabled the Japan Self Defence Forces to conduct non-combat logistic work on vessels (mainly UK and US vessels) operating against Al Qaida around the Arabian Sea.

Although the posting in the Japanese Embassy in Asia was the first one for the parliament, I am enjoying this rare opportunity to see the diplomatic world and this country in particular. I have come to the conclusion that Vietnam, which has a hint of both Europe and Asia, is a good place to live as a foreigner.

However, I hope to be sent to Britain again some day, as the first parliament secretariat staff member who studied at Oxford.

Welsh Themes



The ancient link between Jesus College and Wales isn't so apparent these days, but those of us who live in Wales do our best to keep it alive. Two years ago a group from the 1959-64 Old Members' Association descended on Caerleon, near Newport (at my suggestion) and we toured the Roman remains, accompanied by local guides. It was a memorable day, spent within a stone's throw

of one of Jesus College's many tracts of Welsh farmland.

At the time there were plans afoot locally for an annual international arts festival. We wanted to show the world that there was more to Caerleon than Roman remains, fascinating though they are. A strong visual arts tradition

built up by local artists and by the University of Wales, Newport, was the starting point, and our second festival will be held between June 25th and July 10th 2004. Painting, pottery and music will play a major part but the main attraction, once again, will be the Sculpture Symposium. The sculptors, working in wood, will commemorate Romano-Celtic Britain, and their work will become part of a permanent sculpture trail.

Last year we attracted international sculptors from Europe and China. This year eight European artists will be joined by two Argentinians. They'll be toiling for two weeks, hopefully under a hot sun. (We do provide shade!) At the end I'm sure we'll be left with an exotic and fascinating range of work - inspired mainly by Arthurian legend or the Second Augustan Legion, although Brain's beer might come into it occasionally! Visit our website, www.caerleon-arts.org, or even better- come and see us.

MAX PERKINS (1964) *Chair, Caerleon Arts Festival*
MPerk88983@aol.com

The Archive Page

Gaps in The Record

All of you will be familiar with *The Jesus College Record*, which has come out (more or less) annually since 1962, though with a gap in production in the years 1972-7. *The Record* was always intended primarily for Old Members. Its predecessor, *The Jesus College Magazine*, was primarily an undergraduate publication. From 1952 it bore the additional title *Dragon*. For a brief period *Dragon* continued as an entirely literary magazine side by side with *The Record*.

There is a good run in the Archive, but we do have some gaps. The two most certain gaps are Vol 6 no 81 of the *Magazine*, probably dated March 1946; and Vol 7 no 112, Trinity 1956. There was a two-year gap in production after 1957, and we then have issues of *Dragon* in a new format for Michaelmas 1959, Trinity 1961, Hilary and Trinity 1962, Hilary 1963, Hilary 1964, and an undated issue from 1965.

If anyone can help we would of course be glad to copy your items and return the originals to you.

Grandfather Eustace again!



For anyone who does not receive the email bulletin here is the photograph of Grandfather Eustace (GFE) taken at Ye Feaste of the Elizabethane Society in 1958, together with a short-antlered, skeletal head found in the attic of Staircase XIV and believed to be masquerading as GFE until unmasked by a former High Master. The last recorded sighting of the real GFE was around 1964. Soon after this he appears to have gone underground, along with the minute book (the last copy in the Archive finishes in January 1960), 'ye goade', and no doubt other items of symbolic significance.

We have received some excellent memories of 'Lizzie' activities, including a description of 'ye goade' - an iron rod about a foot long with a short T-piece attached to the top, one end of which was sharpened to a point, and the problems faced by the 'keeper of ye goade' in the early 1940s when it needed to be repaired. We hope that an article on the Society will eventually appear in *The Record*, so please keep the information flowing in on this and other College activities you remember. Best of all, can we get nearer to locating the missing items?

An excerpt from the Archives

This is part of a College Gaudy Speech delivered by The Principal, reported in the Jesus College Record 1970:

'...In other spheres too members of the College have shown enterprise. In Hilary Term, for the first time (so far as is known) in the history of the College, the JCR elected a goldfish as President. It was a particularly apposite choice, in a year during which the College so greatly distinguished itself on the river. Those among you who were in your time President of the JCR may rest assured that you have had a worthy successor. It was sometimes alleged that he was a 'red'. But this was a libel:

*'His scaly armour's Tyrian hue
Thro' richest purple to the view
Betrayed a golden gleam.'*

My own belief is that he was just a floating voter. His movements were somewhat constricted. He could not attend the Bump Supper - he would have found his dinner jacket something of an encumbrance - and he was not able to attend committee meetings. But, as everyone knows, the best way to influence committee meetings is to stay away from them and there is no doubt that he was a very influential President. In the end, so the rumour goes, he was impeached for right-fin deviation. But while he was President he was a godsend to a Principal hardpressed for material to lighten his speeches. And as this is probably the last occasion on which I shall be able to exploit him (or her), I hope I shall be forgiven for having done so...'

Do you recognise this event?



For all archive matters, please contact Rosemary Dunhill at archivist@jesus.ox.ac.uk or 01865 279761

A few moments with: James Burke



James Burke came up to Jesus College in 1957 to read English. His work over 40 years, includes co-writing an Italian-English dictionary, editing an encyclopedia of world art, and interpreting at Vatican II.

In 1965 he moved into television with the BBC, where among many other things he was chief reporter on the Apollo missions, and made a large number of award-winning documentaries and documentary series, including:- The Burke Special, Connections (which achieved the highest ever American audience for a PBS documentary series), The Day the Universe Changed, and then made (for PBS): After the Warming, The Neuron Suite, and a study of Renaissance

art for the National Gallery entitled: Masters of Illusion. Most recently, for Discovery, he produced the series Connections Two and Connections Three. His television audience is global and counted in the tens of millions. Among many prizes, he has been awarded the Royal Television Society Gold and Silver medals, he was the 1998 US Cable documentary host of the year, and in 1999 was nominated for an Emmy. He has written eleven books (three of them bestsellers), and for six years recently wrote a regular monthly column in Scientific American. He now writes for Time Magazine.

Can you remember why you chose Jesus College?

As I recall it was part of a package of three colleges for which I sat entrance exams. I was only too grateful that Jesus took me.

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

The 24-hr bridge game in the JCR. Judith (who's certainly forgotten). EJ Dobson's Old English tutorials. Curries at the Taj. Acting. The smell of the Bodley. Elizabethan Society meetings in College (This was a literary-turned-carousing group which I think went under, in the 1963 reforms. For the record, the society song went (to the tune of 'Drink to me only'): 'Fill up and let us merry make And drink while yet we may. Fill up, for aught that we can tell This may be our last day. Fill up, for death may all things take Save thirst - how can we tell? Fill up! We may no taverns find In heaven or in hell.')

...And what are your least?

Leaving. Sherry party hangovers. Collections. Dinner in Hall (we often went out for a meal afterwards. No doubt the cuisine has radically improved in the intervening decades. Back then there was only one way for it to go).

Did any Fellows make a lasting impression on you?

Johnny G., Latin tutor nonpareil, who saved my bacon more than once by turning a blind eye to what, in my case, passed for work.

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

Caroline Soc. (Jesus Drama). Elizabethan Soc. (High Master). University Folksong Society (Pres.). OUDS (bit parts). ETC (very bit parts).

Do you think you were a conscientious student?

Not at the start. I'd been in National Service for two years since leaving school, and had lost the habit. In my last year I took things more seriously. And just before Schools (in common with all) very more seriously.

What did you do immediately after leaving College?


I ran away. I went to live and work in Italy (Bologna, Rome) for what ended up being five years, so as to put off the decision about what do with life. It was in Italy that I fell backwards into my eventual career in the media.

What does your current work involve?

I make TV documentaries few watch, write books few read and give talks (on the US university and corporate circuit)

few listen to. At the moment I'm preparing another set of insomnia-cure TV programmes. I'm also building an online web for use (free) in schools and consisting of a network of 1000-word biographies of 2,500 major figures from Western culture, split about equally between science and the humanities and ranging back to the Middle Ages. All these figures are (through connections in their work and life) interlinked about 20,000 ways. The name of the game is to travel through this web and get a feel for the interdisciplinary nature of it all. I fear it may be too inter-disciplinary for the more traditional teachers. I've finished the research and writing, leaving only the Spielberg-quality interface I've designed for it (hint: 'Minority Report'), which will cost an arm and a leg. So (given that this is a pro bono, all-volunteer, non-profit effort) if there's anyone reading this who has a philanthropic half-million to spare: www.k-web.org

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

Of course. When I was up, the education at Jesus was unequalled anywhere. Because I read English I was qualified to do nothing except perhaps teach. So the world was an oyster. The greatest gain from the years at 

cont'd...

Jesus was to have learned to work very intensively and only when *absolutely* necessary. This stood me in great stead later on because it was perfect preparation for work in the media, both written and broadcast, where the production process generally consists of brief periods of intense pressure and frighteningly-short deadlines, followed by long periods of wondering if you're ever going to work again and trying not to lose your nerve.

Regarding the value of my experiences during that time... most of them were too personal to recount! As for the more mundane, I suppose there were two. I learned a) that most times other people have better ideas than you, and b) be nice to people on the way up, since you

will need them on the way down.

What advice would you give to recent graduates?

The world today is richer, more diverse, more available and more rewarding than it has ever been. Experience it. Don't rush to find a job. If possible live for at least two years in a foreign country (preferably where you have to learn the language from scratch). Travel. Decide as late as possible what it is you think you want to be and then don't let anybody discourage you.

What is the most important lesson life has taught you?

Work very hard at whatever it is you want to do, because the harder you work, the luckier you get.

What, if anything would you have done differently?

Nothing.

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

Nobody.

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

A whole mixture of things:— growing up; sharpening your wits on all the (more) intelligent people around you; learning your limitations and your strengths; constant and extraordinary stimulus; and at the end, the never-to-be-repeated exhilaration of jumping off into the real world. Ready or not.

Flying high, fast and far! (with help from Old Members)



My postgraduate studies at Oxford University didn't seem to be getting off to a good start when I was informed that the D.Phil engineering places at Jesus College had been filled before

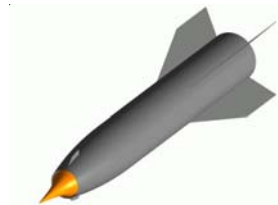
my application was received. However to my delight, a week later another e-mail dropped into my inbox with the news that an additional place had become available, funded by a scholarship from the 1959 - 1969 Old Members Group. I therefore started my degree in September 2002 with a great deal of enthusiasm as not only was I joining a very exciting aerospace project, but I had become a member of my first choice of college.

The project I was so excited about is called the Sustained Hypersonic Flight Experiment (SHyFE). This is a QinetiQ venture aimed at designing, manufacturing and flying two ramjet powered vehicles by the end of 2006. This may not sound difficult as there are already missiles and aircraft powered by ramjets flying around our skies, such as the SR71 Blackbird aircraft and the Sea Dart air defence missile. The technology improvement that the SHyFE project aims to achieve however is to develop a ramjet that is capable of cruising at six times

the speed of sound (Mach 6) for 100 seconds. This is faster than any ramjet has ever flown and 100 seconds will be the longest flight achieved by any hypersonic (greater than Mach 5) air-breathing vehicle.

Air-breathing refers to the ramjet engine used in the SHyFE vehicle. Ramjets use air from the atmosphere as the oxidant during combustion and are therefore much lighter than rocket engines, which carry their oxidant on board the vehicle they are propelling. This reduction in weight will allow missiles, spacecraft launchers and potentially commercial aircraft to carry more payloads in addition to an increased number of safety features. Therefore if the SHyFE mission is successful we will be one step closer to hypersonic passenger flights, which could mean flight times between London and Sydney reducing to less than 3 hours.

There are however many engineering challenges that must be overcome before SHyFE can complete the Mach 6, 100 seconds mission. One of these challenges is to ensure that the air and fuel are sufficiently mixed for full combustion to occur, without too much heat entering the fuel tank. My D.Phil is based



The SHyFE vehicle configuration

on this requirement, as a simple flameholder has been introduced into the combustion



Experiment configuration showing flameholder

chamber to promote fuel/air mixing. This design creates vortices in the gas downstream of the flameholder spokes, which trap the fuel and increase the time for combustion to occur. Although this greatly improves the combustion efficiency, ground tests of the SHyFE vehicle have shown that the flameholder also increases the heat transfer into the combustion chamber walls. As the SHyFE fuel tank is located in the centre of the vehicle and is surrounded by the annular combustion chamber, there is a requirement for the heat transfer induced by the flameholder to be reduced. Currently my research is centred on experiments to improve the flameholder design, so that the air/fuel mixing is maintained, whilst minimising the heat transfer into the combustor walls.

I am pleased to say that I am still finding my D.Phil at Oxford University both interesting and stimulating and my time at Jesus College has to date been as friendly and enjoyable as the prospectus promised.

JENNIFER GOODMAN (2002)

Old Members' Reunions

Class of '67 reunites in Ullswater

Photograph: Brad Wilson



It took some time to get organised, but a weekend reunion of some of the members of the class of '67 took place in the Lake District in August 2003. Activities included some lakeside walking, a theatre trip to Keswick, some wonderful dinners and ample sessions of storytelling lubricated by appropriate amounts of beer and wine! It turned out to be the hottest weekend of the year...we all recall the blistering heat of August 9th/10th..but the group was not to be dissuaded from

the long Saturday morning hike along the banks of Ullswater which Geraint Howell had planned so well for the team. From our base at Glenridding we set off for Howtown, armed with copious amounts of water and other goodies and enjoyed some spectacular views, great conversation and healthy exercise!

Wives/partners were included and added to the enjoyment of the weekend! As well as Geraint, participants included Alan Simkin, Bill Bodycombe, Nic Holladay and Brad Wilson. It was so enjoyable that we have decided to repeat the event in August 2005. Mark your diaries for the weekend of August 6th/7th. The probable location is Dorset, but this is being confirmed. John Reid, David Keysell, Patrick Griffiths, Roland Morley and Ian Ross have all expressed interest in joining the 2005 reunion and if there are others from the year of 1967 (or proximate years) who would wish to be involved, they should contact Nic Holladay, who is the convenor of the next event.

BRAD WILSON (1967)

Nic Holladay can be contacted on 01494 735000 or via email on nic.holladay@onmedica.com

1959-69 Members Group visit to Ewelme

Photograph: George Reah



The village of Ewelme is undoubtedly 'off the beaten track'. The present-day track is the M40 motorway; the village lies to the south of Junction 6, at the end of several miles of twisty and increasingly unclassified lanes. In a previous era the old coach road from London to Oxford also gave the village a miss. Thus in the words of the local guidebook, Ewelme has for centuries 'been condemned to obscurity'. However, in 1430, Ewelme was the place chosen by the recently married Earl of Suffolk to set up house. He was a member of the upwardly mobile de la Pole family, and his wife was Alice Chaucer, grand-daughter of a certain well-known poet. Five hundred and seventy four years later, on a damp Saturday in May, a group of Old Members gathered in the Shepherd's Hut - the curiously named village inn - to rediscover the treasures hidden within this small and apparently modest village.

We were not disappointed. After an excellent, and predictably prolonged, social luncheon at the inn, the party proceeded in leisurely fashion through the drizzle, back through the village

- until we arrived at the veritable jewel at its centre. Grouped around the ancient church of St. Mary is an extraordinary collection of medieval buildings, built of dark red brick, flint, stone and ancient timbers: a village school, a series of almshouses surrounding a courtyard and cloister, and other ecclesiastical buildings. The first impression was one of unity - a set of buildings diverse in function but sharing an overriding sense of purpose and inter-connection.

Urged on by the prospect of our tea, we moved to the calm of the cloister, surrounded by its neat almshouses, still fulfilling their function as originally envisaged, though the regulations controlling the conduct of the inhabitants have apparently been somewhat relaxed. As we were introduced to some of those who live there, it was difficult initially not to feel like intruders; but those whom we met put us at our ease in a relaxed and welcoming manner, and caused us to reflect on the extraordinary nature of the tradition that they embody.

The little village guidebook promises that 'delicious teas are served in the primary school in term-time in the clement months' - and this is where our tour concluded, seated on some very low benches for tea and home-made cakes.

So we dispersed, to recover our beaten tracks homeward. We owe thanks to George and to Martin our guides, for revealing the treasures to us with such infectious enthusiasm; and to Chris Butterfield for devising and arranging the visit with such calm efficiency. To conclude on a personal note, I have to admit that this is the very first of such Old Members visits that I have attended. I am now kicking myself for having missed so many previous opportunities, both social and cultural; Rosie and I are looking forward to making up for lost time in the future.

NIGEL TURNER (1962)

Experiencing China and Tibet - three and a half years with the VSO



Tibetan woman (family breadwinner) ploughing with yaks

I spent three and a half years in China with the VSO. Two years in the south of the Gobi Desert in a little dustbowl town un-aptly named 'Poplar Forest', then a year on the high Tibetan plateau in another dusty rather wild-west outpost called 'Jade Tree'. Both barren places with incongruous names, both 24 hours on unsurfaced road to the nearest big town, but with less in common than the Orkneys have with Oxford. Though, to be fair, what else would one expect in a country which takes up a fifth of the world's land mass?

Places so vast, so different, so unfathomable are impossible to convey through words, so I won't try. I'll just give you a few images to create in your head (they would look different in any two heads). Imagine yourself



Lamb's feet, to be served with vinegar

standing up on a bus in minus 40°C. The handrail is covered with cloth so that any unwary extremities foolish enough to emerge from your thermal cocoon don't freeze to it. You are on your way to

Harbin's Ice Lantern Festival, to see huge buildings in ice (including famous sites such as a replica of the Great Wall and a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant, reproduced right down to its ice cash register). Watch the football soar through the air as the monks gather below it, spreading their pink robes out like giant nappies in their lacrosse-style approach to football, laughing in the thin high air. Or see yourself in a tiny minibus, rattling with doors akimbo along a dust track, pressed up close to someone else's goat. Think of a language that has no non-stigmatic word for 'privacy', and no word for 'gentle'. Imagine a town of sand and dust storms, where you are the fifth foreigner in the last 65 years, and you

draw a big crowd always, and the main delicacies are feet (chicken's, pig's, goat's). Or a town of gambling monks, where you gasp for oxygen just walking on the flat, your partner catches bubonic plague (sub-clinical: not serious), butter's normal state is rancid and your home, food, drink, clothing, social status, transport, and entertainment (especially for foreigners) come from one hyper-versatile creature (the yak). No wonder you hang its head over your door to ward off evil.



The Great Wall in ice

This is a place where your camera is bereft when you leave. You cannot open your eyes without being dazzled. In the words of Clive James, who went in 1982, 'the whole place soaks the optic nerve like a long shot of morphine into a fresh vein.'

I taught in a teacher training college for two years, then set up an English Department in a Tibetan minorities college for one year, training a Tibetan colleague to take over as Head of Department. I then spent six months in the VSO office in Beijing, writing a beginner's Chinese manual and doing some research into the impact of VSO's work in China. That's the official history, my 'achievements'. But it is an insult to the real experience, where I floundered in a new culture, gradually found my feet, learnt one of the world's great languages, understood the tenuousness of my own world view, learnt to distrust the Western broadsheet interpretation of news, and engaged with the present in a way I had never done before. I now work with volunteers in the UK. The organisation's motto is irrepressibly cheesy: 'Change



Children in Xian, end of the Old Silk Road

someone's life: it might be your own'. But I can't deny the truth of it. Development work is transformational.

SARAH ROGERS (1991)

Current Student Activities

Somerville Jesus Ball 2004



After eight months of planning, Friday April 30th 2004 saw the Somerville Jesus Ball come to life in an evening that embodied the splendour, decadence and prohibition of the 1920s. The invitation read:

“All you bright, young things, will be pampered and encouraged to experience the highs and lows of the 1920s, from underground, anti-prohibition jazz clubs where gangsters and liquor are the order of the day, to high-society socials and parties of the time, greatly inspired by the works of Oxonian Evelyn Waugh and PG Wodehouse.”

The Committee comprised members from both Colleges who came together with the aim of providing one thousand guests with an evening to remember for all the right reasons. With a budget of £70,000, kindly aided by loans from the Somerville and Jesus JCRs and a donation from Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Committee was able to deck out the quadrangle and buildings of Somerville College in such a way as to remove guests from the contemporary world of Oxford and place them into a different era. The main priority was to create a sense of unity within the Ball, greatly aided by the addition of a covered walkway running the length of Somerville's main quadrangle, providing the Ball with a central spine, from which were adjoined the two main marquees and an entertainment zone, full of the traditional inflatable fun found at balls such as a bouncy castle and sumo wrestling.

The larger of the marquees, known as the Pink Tent, was decked out with around twenty-five silk wall hangings upon which were painted images from the 1920s, such as girls in flapper dresses. The alternative marquee, described as ‘the best decorated marquee ever seen at an Oxbridge ball’ was entirely black with a starlit ceiling and gold silk wall hangings upon which were marked further images of the decade, thus providing a suitable prohibitive atmosphere to suit the occasion. In addition, there was a room adorned in red velvet resembling a period jazz club to provide a relaxing location away from the main action of the Ball.

The music was chosen so as to provide a constant balance throughout the evening, with performers ranging from Radio One's Trevor Nelson to jazz bands, and from acappella singers to ‘old skool’! Mixed in with musical sets were alternative entertainers such as breakdancers and comedians, therefore enabling every guest to have a choice of entertainment throughout the night.

The food and drink for the evening was planned in an attempt to suit all tastes and desires. The food ranged from a BBQ to ice cream and from ‘bacon butties’ to cookies. All patrons were greeted with a champagne and strawberry reception thus creating an ambience of exuberance and class from the outset. Within the marquees bars a wide range of alcohol was served with the highlight being cocktails fashionable in the

1920s, while at the same time still serving the traditional favourites of beer and wine.

The Somerville Jesus Ball 2004 was a huge success greatly aided by a well-timed break in the rain for the duration of the evening, providing the guests with a truly memorable experience. On behalf of the whole Committee I would like to thank all those that made the evening possible in particular the JCRs and the Senior Members of the two Colleges who provided invaluable support and advice.

ADAM HOGG (2001), *Vice-President and Treasurer*

Turl Street Arts Festival

The annual festival this year (colloquially rechristened tsaf04) was once again the artistic focus of Hilary Term life. The majority of the organising pro-committee were Jesus members and, as usual, the involvement of musicians, dramatists, poets, writers, graphic artists and event managers from Jesus College was exemplary. The JCR offered us an encouraging and substantial subsidy and, as a result of some clever budgeting by junior members from all three Colleges, the total monies harvested were divided more or less equally among events at Jesus, Exeter and Lincoln. 2004 was commended as the best year for the Arts Festival yet.

Many of the highlights of this year's festival were to be found on Jesus soil. The Chapel saw a series of solo and chamber music recitals and formed the backbone of the Festival's musical output. George Walker opened the week's events with an exhilarating performance of Schumann's notoriously virtuosic *Kreisleriana* and works by Tanaka, followed on the Tuesday by a performance of Poulenc's *Sextet* and in the evening by the Chapel Choir, singing Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Further solo recitals included an exposition of Romantic trumpet works (Rhydian Griffiths) and some ‘lighter’ music for brass quintet.

This year, The Principal and Lady North invited the Festival to ‘come for jazz’ over one lunchtime, and throughout the latter part of the week, Jesus members exhibited artworks in the Old JCR. T S Elliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* was staged to enthusiastic reviews in Chapel, and junior members were involved in the production of the first *Turl Street Literary Review*.

Events in the other Colleges included a semi-staged production of Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* in Lincoln Library (in the former All Saint's Church, the first time that this venue has been used for the performing arts since its deconsecration) and a series of Mystery Plays in Exeter's Fellows' Garden. Numerous other artistic events, including acoustic and mic nights and evening recitals took place in various venues across the Colleges.

Events culminated in a spectacular multi-College evensong in Exeter Chapel (tsaf's take on the Three Choirs Festival...) where Matthew Acheson, our Organ Scholar, directed the majority of the music. A quiet dinner in Exeter Hall as guests of the SCR rounded off a highly successful week of artistic events, though Old Members will be glad to hear that the food was no rival to that offered last year at High Table in Jesus Hall!

PATRICK GILDAY (2002), *Chairman, tsaf04*

I read Physics at Jesus College

Professor Emlyn Rhoderick read Physics from 1938



I came up in 1938 to read Physics, but on the advice of my tutor Claude Hurst I read Maths in my first year for Maths Mods. This was an excellent piece of advice for which I have been eternally grateful. I reverted to Physics in my second year. The lectures tended to be a bit disorganised due to wartime conditions because lecturers were always liable to disappear to join the forces or to work in some military research establishment. In spite of this, and thanks to Claude's excellent tutorials, I managed to get a First. During my second year we did our practical work in the Old Clarendon Lab, which I believe now belongs to the Dept of Geology. It was a curious building, with a central atrium and a gallery running round it, from which we gazed with awe at collections of mysterious looking equipment. In 1940 we moved to the 'New' Clarendon Lab, opposite Keble, and were able to do our practical work in relative luxury. A good deal of the research going on was on microwaves, aimed at radar applications.

In 1941 I joined the Royal Signals & Radar Establishment as a Junior Scientific Officer, first at Christchurch and subsequently at Malvern, where I worked on radar for coastal defence. These were exciting times, and I was able to use my basic knowledge of Physics and especially electronic circuits to good advantage.

After the war I was offered the

opportunity of going to the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge to work on the Cavendish cyclotron, which was something that had captured my imagination while an undergraduate. I found the Cavendish a very stimulating and demanding environment to work in, but I found the basic knowledge of Physics that I had acquired from Claude Hurst stood me in good stead and I finished up with a Ph.D. in Nuclear Physics.

From Cambridge I went to Glasgow as a lecturer in Natural Philosophy (which is what the Scots call Physics). I quite rapidly adjusted myself to the Scottish environment and got used to the Scottish university system. After a couple of years I got married and also obtained a sabbatical year to take up a Fulbright Fellowship at Columbia University, New York, so my wife and I spent the first year of our married lives in New York, which was something of a contrast with Glasgow and quite a stimulating experience.

During my time at Glasgow and Columbia, my interest veered from pure Nuclear Physics towards Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. ('NMR', the basis of 'MRI Imaging', which is increasingly used in medicine for body scans, but was then a bit of pure Physics). I left Glasgow in 1954, with some tinges of regret and became Principal Scientific Officer, later Senior P.S.O., at the Services Experimental Research Laboratory at Baldock, where I applied NMR to the study of semiconductors. I later changed to research on superconductors, with a view to making computer elements from superconducting metals.

In 1962 I was invited to take up a newly established chair in Solid-State Electronics at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST), then the Faculty of Technology of the University of Manchester. The objective was to set up a small group within the Dept of Electrical Engineering and Electronics working on the application of solid-state devices in

electronics. This involved work associated with the early days of silicon microchips and was a good example of the very hazy boundary between applied Physics and Engineering. While at UMIST I also spent spells as Head of Department, Vice-Principal and Dean of the Faculty. I retired in 1983.

To sum up, I have done a wide variety of things in my career, and in all these phases I found the basic grounding in Physics that I received at Oxford, and especially my tutorials with Claude Hurst, stood me in very good stead.

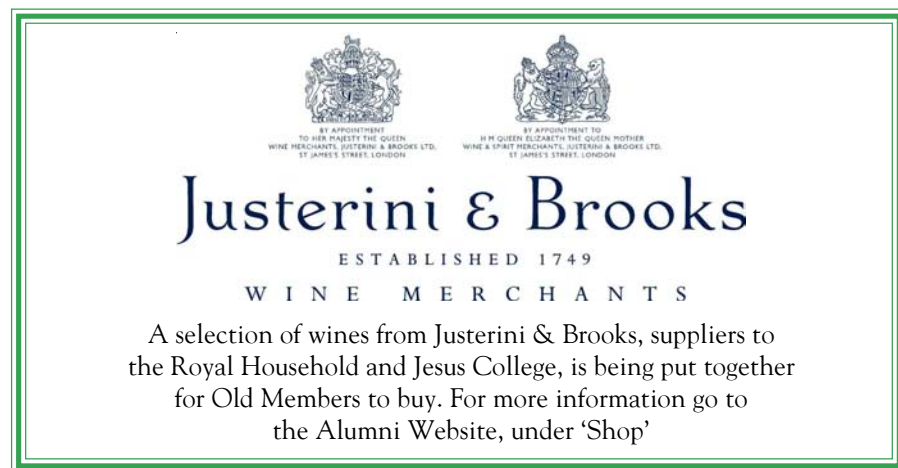
Dr. Tony Hughes read Physics from 1960



I went up to Jesus to read Physics in 1960, as a Meyricke Scholar. At that time the Meyricke awards could be made on the basis of A levels, so I was able to avoid the need to sit college entrance exams and consequently had an easy third year in the sixth form at Newport High School.

At the end of the first year we sat Moderations and then, apart from College 'collections' at the beginning of each term, had no exams until the blockbuster four days of Finals. So the second year in College was the one that could be enjoyed more than the average.

I was lucky enough to get a 'Double First' and went on to work at the UKAEA's Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, where I worked towards my D.Phil., which I took in 1966. This was the last time



that I ever donned academic dress! My particular field of research was defects in solids, and one way or another all my research was connected with this field, in various guises, for the next 25 years or so.

Also in 1966 I successfully applied for a Harkness Fellowship to spend time working in the USA, and in 1967 my wife and I, with our then young family, set out for two unforgettable years based at Cornell University. We had to spend three months travelling and visited almost every sector of the USA, but ironically not the South, the origin of my addiction to New Orleans jazz. I did visit there many years later, but that's another story.

We returned in 1969 and I resumed my career at Harwell, which was undergoing the start of many changes, which culminated in the 1990s with the privatisation of a large part of the UKAEA as AEA Technology. I had though left the UKAEA by then. I had gradually acquired more managerial responsibility (and consequently phased out of front-line research) and in 1986 had become the Director of what was known as the 'Underlying Programme' - basically the longer-term research, plus some other responsibilities. Then in 1988 I moved to become a Director of the Science and Engineering Research Council, becoming what many in academic life would call a 'research bureaucrat', but which in reality was an extremely interesting and challenging combination of science, engineering, organisation and interaction with government, universities and the international scientific community.

I became involved in many projects; one example was leading the UK team negotiating with international partnerships to build two large astronomical telescopes.

Life changed again in 1993 when a government White Paper triggered the break up of SERC into various parts, the two largest of which became the EPSRC and PPARC. I was the one at the pointed end of the SERC pyramid who had to manage the transitions, and correspondingly my job was the one that most obviously did not fall one way or the other. However, when the dust settled on 1st April 1994 (these changes always happen on April Fools day!) I moved into the nearest equivalent job as Director of Science and Engineering for EPSRC, and spent two years helping to get EPSRC established with changed systems and cultures before I retired early in 1996.

I had during my time with SERC and EPSRC acquired various other involvements, most notably, in view of what I went on to do, as a member of the Northern Ireland Higher Education Council. As I became a 'free agent' and part-time consultant, much of my professional work over the last eight years has been connected with the Northern Ireland universities, but I have also consulted elsewhere and, gradually, become more and more drawn into voluntary activities locally. Also, I have been able to indulge my passion for playing music much more than I would have done had I still been hard at it every day of the week.

What about my Physics? Very little of what I do now is 'real Physics',

apart from an interest in the acoustics of brass musical instruments. However, in a lot of what I do I am drawing on my experiences and mental processes learned through practising Physics, research and management, and I am sure that I would be less useful without all this. Perhaps more importantly, reading Physics at Jesus under the inspired tutorships of Claude Hurst and John Houghton gave me opportunities that I would very happily live through again. I suppose one cannot ask much more than that.

Katrina Hann awarded the 2004 Alfred Steers' Undergraduate Dissertation Award

Katrina Hann, a recent undergraduate in the School of Geography and the Environment and Jesus College, Oxford, has been awarded the 2004 Alfred Steers' Undergraduate Dissertation Award by the Royal Geographic Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) for her thesis entitled 'The production of Broughton Park: Contextualising Lefebvre in an Orthodox Jewish community'.

The assessor, Professor Mark Blacksell, commented: 'The dissertation is a quite brilliant critique of Lefebvre's well-known and widely-cited theory of space. It piercingly exposes the lack of attention to the impact of race and religion in the original theory, which has been identified previously as a major limitation. The study also demonstrates more generally the significance of the exclusion of geography of religion in recent geographical analysis. Using the example of the Broughton Park area of Salford, Hann explains how Orthodox Judaism defines a distinct cultural landscape in the overall urban mosaic of the city. She leaves one in no doubt that such a perspective ought to be integral to urban analysis generally.'

Katrina will be presented with the award at this year's Annual General Meeting of the RGS-IBG in June.

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Bulletin Board

Welcome...



...to the first edition of the Jesus College Old Members' Newsletter. There will be two editions a year, filling the 'publication gap' between the annual College Records. I do hope that you find it interesting reading and that you feel it is a worthwhile addition to the recent increase in communication from the College.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the writers and contributors to this first issue, especially those who submitted articles under such tight deadlines.

To those of you who already receive the regular email bulletin, many of the news items on this page may already be familiar, but I hope that they will act as a reminder to some of you of things you are wanting to get involved with.

Since I have started in this role I have been amazed at the level of enthusiasm and encouragement I have received from many of you and have very much enjoyed meeting many of you at various functions and events.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have an enquiry, idea or need help with anything 'alumni-related' and I'll be happy to help!

Best wishes,

Alison James
Old Members Liaison Officer (OMLO)
Tel: 01865 279740
Email: omlo@jesus.ox.ac.uk

The Old Members' Website

The website is now live and fully functioning. You can reach it at alumni.jesus.ox.ac.uk (no 'www' required) or click through from the holding page on the main College website. It includes all the features of the previous pages - email redirection, update forms etc, but now has lots of new, (hopefully) useful and interesting sections too. Happy browsing!

Questionnaires

I would like to thank everyone who has sent their questionnaire back to me over the past couple of months. At the time of writing this I have had just under 1100 returned either by post or via the website, but if you are yet to send in your form, please do so, as I am extending the closing date indefinitely! The online questionnaire is at: alumni.jesus.ox.ac.uk/questionnaire.php

Old Members' Day

Taking place on Saturday 3rd July and organised by the 1959-69 Members' Group, this informal day of activities is open to all Old Members and their respective partners. For £22 per person, participants this year can enjoy a guided tour around the Christ Church Picture Gallery, an interesting talk from Sanne Abeln (one of the College's DPhil students) on her research in the field of Bioinformatics and an enlightening musical session in the College chapel. Plenty of refreshments and lunch will be provided and it will certainly be a great opportunity to meet up with friends and fellow Old Members. For more information: alumni.jesus.ox.ac.uk/Events/OMDay.php or contact Malcolm McIvor. Tel: 07808 921730; Email: malcolm.mcivor@btinternet.com

College Barge Event

A buffet lunch is being proposed on a convenient Saturday or Sunday during the summer on the H₂O floating restaurant, moored at Richmond Bridge, which was once the College Barge. As well as being

an enjoyable event, there is a possibility of a short row for ex-oarsmen, in the replica of the original Oxford boat, which is being specially built to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race. For more information please go to alumni.jesus.ox.ac.uk/events/bargebuffet.html or contact the OMLO for further details. Rowers and non-rowers are welcome.

Hotel Offer

The Randolph and the Eastgate hotels in Oxford are offering special rates to Jesus College Old Members until 31st December 2004. You can book the Randolph for £120 per room on a bed and breakfast basis or the Eastgate for £90 bed and breakfast. This applies to any day of the week, for single or double occupancy but is subject to availability. Just quote 'JESUS COLLEGE' when booking.

600 Years of College Silver

From the 16th June - 19th September 2004, the Ashmolean Museum is having an exhibition entitled 'A Treasured Inheritance: 600 years of Oxford College Silver.' Not only will there be exhibits of outstanding historical significance, but some have never been displayed in public before. The exhibition will include three pieces from the silver of Jesus College. For more information please go to: www.ashmol.ox.ac.uk/ash/exhibitions/exh064.html

Dates for the Diary

Summer 2004 - Proposed Golf Day.
If you are interested in taking part, please contact the OMLO asap
2nd July - Gaudy for 1929 and earlier, 1937-1939, 1944, 1975-77
3rd July - Old Members' Day
24th September - Cadwallader Club Annual Dinner - 30th Anniversary
25th September - 25th Reunion for 1979
1st April 2005 - Gaudy for 1958, 1985-1986, 1991
1st July 2005 - Gaudy for 1935 and earlier, 1945, 1949, 1955, 1963-64, 1997