



OPTIMA

ISSUE 13 • AUTUMN 2007

CONTENTS

2 & 3 Celebrations for a new Boathouse
Opening of the new Fitzwilliam boathouse
Competition winners visit Fairview

4 & 5 A Chaplaincy for our times

A last plea for funds to keep a Chaplain at Fitzwilliam and what it means to those here to continue to have one.

Competition news

6 Ambassadors for Fitzwilliam

Ciarán Jenkins pleasure in representing Fitzwilliam in Japan.

7 & 8 Linguists rise to the challenge

How the MML Fund has benefited students
New Development Director appointed

9 Art and the ordinand

Adam Boulter is an affiliated Theology student with a special talent

10 Memories kept alive by legacies

In tribute to Dr Stephen G Fleet, Professor Norman J G Pounds and Mr J William Skillington

11 The Dusty Tripos Notes

Aubrey Waddy (1966) recalls the essential critical skills he learned at Cambridge

12 The career network works, it really works

Report on a successful placement via the Career Networking Scheme.
Keeping up the sporting tradition

13 All the world's a stage

First class honours student, James Norton follows his ambition and wins a place at RADA.

14 & 15 "All honor to him who shall win the prize."

Some students in receipt of newly endowed prizes thank the donors

Letters and Advertisements

16 News and events at Fitzwilliam

News of events in 2007 and those planned for 2008 from Emma Smith

Dr Sarah Coppendale
The Editor

Development Office
Fitzwilliam College
Cambridge CB3 0DG

TELEPHONE: + 44 (0) 1223 332075
EMAIL: development@fitz.cam.ac.uk

The Master's message



The photo needs no caption. It is testimony to a triumph of collective support for one aspect of College life, celebrated in the recent opening of the new Boathouse. Without the personal generosity of over 180 former students of Fitzwilliam, this simply would not have happened. Or not yet. However necessary it was to replace the boathouse, purchased in 1958, much loved (we are assured) even in its decrepitude, it is not difficult to guess that the competing claims on the College's limited resources might have made this less of a priority than ensuring we are able to provide teaching in key subjects!

The particular honours boards pictured here, and now permanently affixed to walls finished in the College colours, also generate wider reflections. While many are understandably pleased to see their names in gilded lettering, some donors do not actually want such visible 'recognition', even to the point of requesting anonymity. The other side to this potential ambivalence is that the College itself has a duty to recognise publicly its debt to those who have contributed, in large ways and small, to Fitzwilliam's remarkable development over the decades. There is another honours board, for example, in the Law Library. Named prizes, scholarships, travel and music awards, bursaries and student support funds commemorate former students or members

of their families. Public rooms bear other names, whether of individuals, a charitable medical trust or the Fitzwilliam Society. There are plaques on buildings, affixed to New Court, at the entrance to the auditorium and outside the Chapel. There is a tiny and discreet one on the footbridge overlooking the sunken garden, reminding us by extension that various trees in our marvellous grounds did not appear there by chance. The Roll of Benefactors read aloud each year at the Chapel service before the aptly-named Commemoration Dinner is now a very long one. The College's need to recognise such tangible support is as much to do with self-interest as courtesy or gratitude.

Current students do need reminding, and at every opportunity, of how much they owe to their predecessors. Taxpayer financing of the core collegiate experience is becoming a thing of the past. Various modes of recognition are thus integral to the College's own duty to foster, amongst each generation of students, the sense of a willingness, in due course and within their means, to 'do their bit'. For the future of Fitzwilliam depends on sustaining this tradition.

Celebrations for a new Boathouse

On Reunion Saturday, 22 September 2007, the opening ceremony for the new Fitzwilliam Boathouse took place. Although not fully complete, racks, boats and oars were in place, the Billygoat mascot firmly fixed to the wall, the new flag (courtesy of John Jenner, 1954) flying and the building resplendent in Fitzwilliam colours of burgundy and grey.

The donors (see list) had all been invited to attend the ceremony and some had travelled from as far away as Australia, Canada and the United States to be present at the occasion. Donor boards, recognising gifts from nearly 180 individual benefactors and four associated societies, were on display prior to being permanently mounted upstairs.



President's crew returns



Veteran rowers attend opening

About 150 people attended the ceremony, including donors and their partners, veteran rowers in traditional rowing regalia, Billygoats, Boat Club Captains, College Fellows and both the present and former Masters of the College. There were probably also some passers-by! Professor Brian Johnson, Master of Fitzwilliam College between 1999 and 2005, unveiled a plaque and gave a short speech of thanks. The College Chaplain, the Reverend Jutta Brueck offered a prayer for the well-being of those who row from the Boathouse and blessed the building.

Five veteran social crews and a single scull took to the water in quick succession, and light refreshments were enjoyed while alumni renewed friendships in the late autumn sunshine.

Races followed in the afternoon with a (younger) veteran crew taking on crews from Selwyn College and current Fitzwilliam students.

Anthony Northey (1966) summed up the feelings of many, when he wrote after attending the event, "The new Boathouse opening went extremely well and it was an exceptionally enjoyable occasion. The Gods smiled on us and we were extremely lucky with the weather as a bonus.

For me and, I am sure, all Fitzwilliam students and graduates, who attended the event, it was an unique Reunion. It was incredible how many people, who had scattered to the far sides of the world, made the effort to attend the event.

I don't think any other Cambridge college can rival the spirit and the camaraderie of the Billygoats and Fitzwilliam generally. My experience has

always been that we may not have the historic buildings and the wealth of other Colleges, but there has always been, and hopefully there always will be, that special Fitzwilliam spirit."

A second celebration, organised by the Billygoats Society, took place on Sunday 14 October to involve current Boat Club members. Once again, the sun shone and attendees resplendent in Boat Club blazers from across the eras, enjoyed wine, speeches and refreshments. The building had progressed further with the balcony and upper floor accessible for inspection and the donor boards standing proud against a burgundy wall.

Jonathan Price (President of the Billygoats) welcomed guests and first called on Bob Winckless (1966) to deliver a message from Sarah (1993), his daughter and Olympic medallist, who began her rowing career at Fitzwilliam. The Master then said a few words of thanks. Andy Watson, Captain of Boats (2007) followed and updated guests about the rowing progress being made by current Boat Club members and called upon those present to raise their glasses to the new Boathouse. Graham Nutter (1966) ended the proceedings by coming forward to present an "eat my hat" award in the form of a cake, to the Bursar, Chris Pratt, who had originally voiced his doubts whether sufficient funds would be raised to build a new Boathouse.



Brian Johnson with John Adams



Blessing the Boathouse



Andy Watson and Jon Price



'Eat my hat' award

Donors to the Boathouse Appeal

D E Adair (1991)	W R Clarke (1953)	C M T Gleave (1955)	R Kelly	D B W Ouseley (1968)	L H Thomas (1961)
J V Adams (1958)	C S Clephan (1977)	K J M Godlewski (1945)	S G Kerruish (1969)	A F G Page (1954)	M S Thompson (1955)
B J Allen (1962)	I C Codrington (1956)	E S Goss (1964)	N M Killey (1960)	J M H Parke (1962)	M J Thomsett (1958)
D C Allen (1965)	N Collis-George (1946)	W Gray (1953)	D A Knowles (1960)	J N Pilling (1954)	M E Townsend (1947)
T H Andrew (1977)	J R Cooper (1959)	A G Greenhough (1949)	A W Larsson (1986)	C G G Platts (1974)	C J van Brummen (1980)
R N Barltrop (1973)	R G H Crofts (1961)	A J Grundy (1988)	D J Latchford (1961)	C T S Pollock (1977)	T J Vincent (1960)
C P Baron (1967)	D B Crosby (1967)	I K Hall (1964)	M J Le Fluffy (1966)	J E Porter (1995)	A J Wakeling (1962)
I M Barrett (1954)	P J Cullens (1958)	M H Handford (1963)	J R Lear (1961)	A J Price (1967)	R W Ward (1962)
J D Bass (1957)	S J Cutler (1970)	R St J Harold (1964)	J L Lee (1964)	L G Pride (1954)	D J F Warrington (1953)
E M Bates (1960)	S R Davies (1947)	M D Harper (1966)	J Lewis (1954)	C I Pritchard (1986)	D J P Weaver (1932)
F Beavington (1954)	C L Dawson (1948)	R J Harper (1966)	P A Little (1962)	G M A Proffitt (1966)	D R Webb (1979)
R G Bell (1965)	R Dean (1971)	G Harrison (1955)	R J Lorimer (1952)	J J Ramsden (1974)	J H E Wells (1977)
R G Bellis (1957)	C W Dickson (1966)	C M Hartley (2002)	C M Lowe (1968)	W P Rankin (1968)	M R Whitworth (1946)
C C Bemrose (1974)	G W Dixon (1948)	J S W Harvey (1953)	G A C Luddington (1965)	D J Read (1952)	B C Wicks (1954)
C R Bennion (1968)	I K Drake (1953)	R J Henning (1956)	P G Major (1965)	D N Reddaway (1972)	D G Willatts (1961)
R Blackburn (1961)	M H Duffett (1952)	B R Hogben (1957)	C S Marriott (1996)	A C Rogers (1964)	G E D Wilson (1960)
M J Blogg (1971)	J S Duncan (1948)	A T Holmes (1983)	G Marsden (1946)	C F Rolf (1962)	J Wilson (1957)
B K W Booth ((1976)	J Durrans (1980)	C J Hughes (1967)	C G Martin (1976)	P E Sanderson (1958)	K L Wilson (1946)
C Bosman (1957)	D W Evans (1959)	C E Hughes (1962)	B E Mayes (1986)	P A Sansome (1982)	R N Winckless (1966)
P J Breedyk (1962)	L S Ferguson (1997)	R M Humphry (1967)	J J Maynes (1966)	J E Saveson (1951)	S K Winckless (1993)
R G Brooks (1975)	R T N Ferguson (1973)	P S Hygate (1985)	I R McCallum (1959)	P Sexton (1952)	R S Wood (1960)
A F P Brown (1953)	C A Fordyce (1961)	J A D Innes (1958)	C H McCarthy (1948)	M A Seymour (1952)	D J Woodfield (2000)
R F Brumby (1966)	G R Fox (1950)	S R D Insanally (1977)	D G McFarlane (1948)	A L M Shepherd (1953)	C A Wright (1984)
M J Bucher (1961)	N H Francis (1977)	R G Jackson (1970)	D A McMurtrie (1954)	I T Smith (1968)	D W Wright (1982)
P B Byles (1957)	J F Gamlin (1958)	P M James (1951)	J P Merrett (1957)	J D Stevenson (1955)	
M D Carter (1969)	L P Gandolfo (1946)	A N D M Jelfs (1977)	I G Mortimer (1948)	D N Stanley (1973)	
C J D Catto (1965)	M C Gardiner (1996)	J O Jenner (1954)	P W Munro-Faure (1974)	J A Stanley (1956)	Billygoats Society
M H A Chandler (1952)	D C M Gardner (1956)	L C Jones (2000)	M A Murray (1974)	D I Stewart (1967)	Fitzwilliam Society
R S Chapman (1976)	O M Gelsen (1989)	S Jones (1980)	A W Northey (1966)	J R Swain (1952)	Fitzwilliam Society
R A Charrington (1981)	D P George (1979)	R J Keen (1985)	G F Nutter (1966)	J M Tasker (1981)	Trust Ltd
S D Cheshire (1962)	C J Gill (1965)	F Keighley (1948)		C I Teague (1976)	Junior Members
R T Clarke (1958)	J Glasson (1956)			C Thomas (1980)	Association

Competition winners visit Fairview

Winners of the 'Goats Do Roam' wine in Optima XI, Jane Duckworth (Law 1997) and Nick Bunch (Mathematics 1997) liked the wine so much that while travelling in South Africa, they visited the vineyard where 'Goats Do Roam' wine is produced for some wine tasting.

Charles Back, the proprietor of Fairview (www.fairview.co.za) kindly supplied several cases of 'Goats do Roam' for the Boathouse opening in September after an approach from Billygoat, Brian Wicks (Law 1954).



A Chaplaincy for our times

“The time for action is now. It’s never too late to do something”, wrote Carl Sandburg, American poet and historian. With this we make a further plea for donations towards the Chaplaincy Fund. The full amount of £450,000 MUST be realised by 2008 when the endowment has to cover the full cost of the three-quarter’s time post. The College has transferred money. Trusts have been approached. Members have been more than generous, many responding to a recent request have given yet again and recently £50,000 was received from RAB Capital of which Lord Lamont (Economics 1961) is a director. We have raised the grand total of £388,594 and have so nearly reached our goal - to ensure a Chaplain will be always there for our students.

Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop of Rochester and Honorary Fellow of Fitzwilliam College writes: “Fitzwilliam College Chapel is truly an iconic building. Standing, as it does, in the middle of the College, it draws us beyond the everyday and the mundane towards the inward and the enduring. It reminds us of the beliefs and values, of order, seeking after truth and creativity, which underlie the very being and purpose of the university. For such a Chapel as this, a Chaplain is necessary. Not only to lead the community in worship and to organize the life of the Chapel, but also to remind the College of the values on which it is based and which it needs constantly for the business of daily communal living.

Apart from the liturgical and catechetical role, the Chaplain is also a pastor in a community where pastoral care and advice are needed quite often. As people cope with examinations, relationships in the intense world of Cambridge and with being far away from home, such care and advice can prove invaluable. Study and work also, sometimes, raise moral or spiritual questions and the Chaplain can be a resource in helping to address them.

The Chapel and the Chaplain stand, of course, in the Christian tradition (fully ecumenically) but the Chaplain can also make sure that people of the other faiths have access to places and leaders of their own faith. In a community, such as Fitzwilliam, it would also be highly desirable for the Chaplain to encourage dialogue among people of different faiths and, from time to time, joint action to address some need locally or in other parts of the world.

There is no lack of work for a Chaplain. Let us make sure that proper financial and other resources are available for this important work.”

The current Chaplain, **The Reverend Jutta Brueck** has been in post since September 2006. Her first year is behind her, and she says, “When I arrived at Fitzwilliam College from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, I was looking forward to being Chaplain to a similar sized

community, albeit in a very different context, and this time with a beautiful College Chapel at the heart of it. My highest priority has been getting to know people in the College – students, staff and Fellows alike. I see my role very much as someone who is available to the whole community, providing an empathetic presence and a listening ear in an environment that, though friendly and supportive, is nevertheless pressurised and highly competitive. Although new to the College, both undergraduates and graduates have come to see me with their worries about work, relationships and other difficulties, and, at a time of bereavement for the College community, I was able to be alongside people in their loss and grief.

It has been a great pleasure to discover the quality of the musical talent around the Chapel and to use their creativity in our Chapel worship. To my mind, the Chapel is a great resource as a space for reflection and recreation, as well as worship, and it is my aim to encourage Members of the College to make good use of it and the possibilities it holds.

I have been struck by the number of students in College who practise their faith. During the last year I have mainly worked with Christian students from



Bishop Michael

different denominations to encourage them to develop a sense of unity and to learn from one another, and thus grow in their understanding of their faith and the Christian tradition. Initiatives like the Friday evening café and the three-day prayer vigil are still going strong and provide an opportunity to meet others, to relax, to be quiet and prayerful – open to anyone, no matter what their level of commitment or faith. I am hoping to explore the desire and scope for conversation between people from different faiths in the College in the years to come as well continuing to build on the relationships and programmes that have been well received this year.

It has been a joy as well as a challenge to be Chaplain at Fitz during this last year, and I hope that I have made an important contribution in helping to develop the sort of environment where people can grow and flourish in all aspects of their lives.”



The Reverend Jutta Brueck



Sarah Shucksmith

Both the undergraduate and graduate students have valued her presence and worry about a future in which the support of a College Chaplain might not be available.

Sarah Shucksmith (Geography 2006) writes, “The College Chaplain has played an integral role in my first year at Fitz. Jutta’s warm personality and eagerness to help and support people has helped me to find my feet and embrace the Christian side of College life. Her presence in College as a spiritual leader is fundamental in maintaining the unity of a Christian community in Fitz and, to this end, it is worrying to think of the future of the College without a Chaplain.”

Sang Cha is a graduate studying Theology and had a wonderful discovery on coming to Fitz, “The Chaplaincy creates ways of encountering the ‘other’ otherwise not discoverable. For the Chapel, since its introduction in 1991, has embodied a remarkable capacity to ‘tell’ us; for being part of the landscape we already find ourselves implicated in the incredible story that is Fitzwilliam. In the process, other Fitzbillies may be surprised as much as I have been by the joy of such space and the adventure that is presently embodied in Revd Jutta Brueck.”



Sang Cha



Trixie Whittell

While **Trixie Whittell** (Economy 2005) enjoys being able to worship in her own College and the help afforded to her and her colleagues during exams, “I really believe the College does need a Chaplain, as both someone to lead worship and as a friend to whom students can come in times of need. I really appreciate being able to attend services in College, with friends and a leader of worship who I know well. Jutta has held several “Going Deeper” sessions, in which a group of students discuss amongst each other and with her, different aspects of Christianity. I found these to be a useful way of exploring my faith.

It’s also just really nice to have someone there who you know you can talk to when you’re feeling down, or when you have a problem and you’re looking for advice. I know for sure that the Chaplain’s help was definitely appreciated in exam term.”

It isn’t only the students who value the presence of a Chaplain. **Graham Davies**, Professor of Old Testament Studies, Fellow and Director of Studies in Theology at Fitzwilliam, recalls the past quarter of a century, “In my time at the College, Fitzwilliam has had a series of very fine Chaplains. Each has brought his or her special gifts, each has done the job in his or her own special way, but there are

some constants. I have valued the fact that there is someone in the College specifically to remind us of God’s presence here. More than that, I have valued the experience, insight and knowledge, which have enabled them to be spiritual guides in an academic context, through their sermons and in other ways. I value their availability to everyone, the time they are able to spend with young and old members of the College, whatever their need. I value their friendship and support, and the knowledge which they have brought of the wider life of the Church outside the University, and the visiting preachers whom they have invited in for our Sunday worship. And I value their sensitive contributions to special occasions in the life of the College, both the happy ones like Reunions and the Commemoration of Benefactors and the sad ones, where they have helped individuals and sometimes the College as a whole to find their way through the grief that the loss of a loved one brings. Without them the College would have been a much poorer place to be.”



Professor Graham Davies

There is no more to say except please give generously to this most urgent of College appeals and turn to the central giving pages. For a copy of the Appeal leaflet, please contact the Development Office.

Competition news

The competition to guess the number of bricks Marriott Construction expected to use in the new Fitzwilliam Boathouse was won by Dave Evans (Natural Sciences 1965), all the way from South Africa where he is a Senior Strategic Planner for the Development Bank of South Africa. He admits to not even having been a rower (is this allowed?) but to have been a basketball playing Blue who also took a Fitzbilly team to victory in cuppers in 1968. He didn’t think that much of the wine (his prize, courtesy of Graham Nutter, 1966) would

make it back to South Africa as he was visiting his twin sons and meeting his first grandson in Cambridge in September, so it would get consumed quite quickly. In his defence, he did say, “I did spend many afternoons galloping up and down the towpath during Bumps, back in those days”

Dave guessed 12,209 and the Quantity Surveyor from Marriotts gave 11,500 bricks as the total used.



Ambassadors for Fitzwilliam

Each year, five students from Fitzwilliam are chosen for the Daiichi International Scholarship Programme. In January 2007, all the past Daiichi students enjoyed a Reunion in the House of Commons, hosted by Julia Goldsworthy MP (1997), who was a Daiichi scholar between 2000 and 2001. Each September, the scholars fly out to Fukuoka, Japan, where they are welcomed into the Daiichi University of Economics. It's a year of testing Japanese classes and English teaching shifts, but, as Ciarán Jenkins (Music 2005) writes, it is also a great opportunity to travel, get stuck into a wonderful culture and even do a spot of hitchhiking.



Shinto gate

After two hours walking along a coastal road, hand outstretched with a piece of card optimistically labelled 'north', a small blue car pulled over. I bundled in with my backpack. The driver was a young man, no more than nineteen years old. He had the giggles; the sight of a six foot westerner crammed in to the back of his Nissan along with the stationary supplies he was taking to local convenience stores was obviously too much for him. In the passenger seat was a girl, not a great deal older. Neither could speak much English. Great, I thought; finally a chance to practice some Japanese.

Five minutes and a couple of stilted conversations later we stopped at an intersection. There was a thump, the bumper fell off and smoke began rising from the bonnet. I clambered back out and began to trek along the cliff-top road.

So far I wasn't having much luck on my Japanese hitch-hiking adventure. Already on the journey I had narrowly avoided being run over as I dashed across a ten lane sliproad, I had been picked-up by police as I poked out my thumb near an expressway toll point and I had been propositioned by the most sinister looking gay guy in Japan as I tried to find a room in a backwater spa town after dark.

I ploughed on by foot however, buoyed by

the brilliant craggy views out across the Western coast of Honshu. They call this part of the country, 'Chugoku', meaning middle earth. But as time wore on and the dearth of passing cars became a real cause for concern, it began to feel more like the end of earth. I looked around for hovels or caves where I might spend the night but saw nothing. Nervous anxiety began to creep in. I'd have to wave someone down in desperation if nobody stopped soon.

Eventually, though, an old man pulled over. Yamamoto-san was a retired teacher, out for a leisurely drive; he said he'd take me wherever I wanted to go. About fifteen years ago, there had been a language assistant at his school who was originally from Wales. This was fate, he insisted. For the next three hours we talked mostly about Britain. Despite speaking perfect English, Yamamoto-san had never been abroad, so the views of his one-time assistant featured prominently. Before we parted company I told him he should visit Cambridge, London and the mountains of South Wales, though I doubt he ever will. While my perceptions of Japan are based on a year of wonderful contrasts and great experiences, his ideas of Britain will be forever formed by a few snatched conversations with a former colleague

and a frustrated hitch-hiker he came across by chance.

And Yamamoto-san is not alone. Despite the apparent hordes of camera-clutching tourists all over the world, the percentage of Japanese people travelling abroad is actually rather low. During my time in Japan I also flew up to the snowy peaks of Hokkaido, but most Japanese would even consider that an exotic adventure too far. This little episode made me realise that for many in Japan, encounters with Britain come only through meetings with people like me. That's why it's such an honour to represent Fitzwilliam on the Daiichi International Scholarship Programme. It's a tremendous opportunity to live in Japan for free and to learn Japanese. But it's also a privilege to be a window on the world for so many people, even if they do now think that all westerners would rather hitch a lift than pay for a train.



Pagoda at Rurikoji temple, Yamaguchi

Linguists rise to the challenge

Modern Languages at Fitzwilliam faces a challenge which goes beyond the national decline in the discipline. Students run up increasingly large personal debt during their time at University, and the four-year MML Tripos is a potentially additional disincentive to studying languages to degree level. The cost of the compulsory year abroad is additional to the visits that the students are encouraged to make in order to achieve top class results. To increase participation rates and raise its profile, the MML Fund, originally started in 2003, was re-launched this year by a steering group comprising four MML Fellows, including the Master, and four former MML students.

Their aim was to make it the best-supported Fund in the College and reach the original target of £100,000. The interest from this sum (£4,000 pa) will ensure that funds are available every year to support current students with travel, books, dictionaries and grants and other necessary expenses. The £34,437 in the Fund at the start of year has been magnificently boosted to £54,825. (It has reached over 50% of the total sought!) An excellent case for support was made and sent to all former linguists in the spring. To show how useful the Fund is, here are some reports by current students who have been in receipt of MML Funds this year and are pleased to relate their experience and reiterate their thanks.



Rachel with some orphanage children

Rachael Foster (MML 2005) already had a strong interest in Eastern Europe as a result of having a Hungarian grandfather. She received a grant to work and live in a Romanian Orphanage this summer. She went to teach English language and culture to children up to sixteen years of age. She communicated through games with younger children and practiced conversation with the older ones using photographs, maps and pictures as tools. The placement was set up by British-Romanian Connections, an organisation started by the parents of Romanian-born Adrian Pascu-Tulbure (English 2006) who have been involved in charity work in Romania since the '89 Revolution. Rachael went to the orphanage at Piatra Neamt in the Carpathian Mountains. The level of spoken English was poor so making contact with the children was important and provided quite a challenge, as many are not actual 'orphans' but abandoned by their parents as a sad legacy of the Ceaucescu era. Rachael found the experience very rewarding and wrote: "I would like to thank the MML Fund for enabling me to have the opportunity to help the children to learn English and to have made a positive contribution to their daily lives. The experience was challenging and enjoyable, and I am sure that the children benefited from our active involvement in the orphanage."

Ed Posnett (MML 2004) had a year in Bologna, attending a variety of courses at its university but also teaching English at two centres. He wrote about the student dimension of his Year Abroad:



Ed in the Piazza Maggiore, Bologna

"Like most smug foreign students in Bologna, I was an unfairly privileged observer. I wasn't really affected by all the bureaucratic problems that plague students, because I didn't have to sit exams that year and could pick and choose courses as I wished. My choices normally depended on the lecturer rather than the subject. Over the year, I dabbled in a variety of subjects like Chinese, Philosophy, Italian Literature, History of Science, and Anthropology. Studying was occasionally a case of the survival of the fittest. Within a few weeks, my Chinese class was about half its original size. Similar principles applied to History of Science. There was something odd about being lectured on Darwin, and then witnessing natural selection applied in the classroom as some of my contemporaries gradually renounced the academic struggle. I honestly found it a pleasure to study what I wanted when I wanted, a relatively stress-free opportunity that I doubt will ever repeat itself."

And about his teaching experiences: "The first was as a 'lettore', or English conversation teacher, in one of the city's largest secondary schools, Istituto Salesiano. I was free to choose the syllabus as I wished; Elton John proved more popular than Wilfred Owen. It was tough to keep control of large classes (sometimes up to thirty students), especially as some of those I taught were only a few years younger than me, but this made it all the more rewarding when they did take heed, or at least pretend to take heed, of what I was saying. The second place where I taught was a centre for immigrants, 'Centro Poggeschi', which provided free English and Italian language courses for those who had recently arrived in Bologna from abroad. Immigration is a relatively recent phenomenon in Italy, and, in general, immigrants still remain fixed at the lower end of the social scale. It was an enlightening experience to teach so many students from diverse backgrounds: Angolans, Nigerians, Chinese, Koreans, Russians, and Philipinos. Really I think they taught me a lot more than I could teach them. I am very grateful for what I learnt about both their own culture and their perception of Italians."

Finally, **Alexandra Lazou (MML 2004)**, who is from Crete and studying German as her main fourth year language, met an MEP by chance, while he was in Crete on holiday, which led to an interview and to her joining him as an intern at the European Parliament for a year. Her MEP was a member of the German Liberal Party FDP and relied on Alex for all aspects of written and translated Greek. She found it a fantastic experience, with extremely long working hours, and became very involved with the cultural aspects of her MEP's work.

Alex wrote, "I spent my Year Abroad in Brussels,

from September 2006 to June 2007, as an intern in the office of a German MEP. Brussels is perhaps not the best place to learn and improve German which is the language in which I'm taking the oral exam in September but it was a very good opportunity to do exactly this in the European Parliament. I was speaking German on a daily basis with all my colleagues, the other interns and the MEPs. My work included translating briefings, press releases and drafts reports from German into English and Greek and vice versa. I had the opportunity to travel to Germany often, accompanying my MEP on his visits to his constituency office where I also occasionally worked (the distances in central Europe

are minimal, one minute you're in Belgium then Luxembourg then Germany!).

I was having some financial difficulty in April when I wanted to accompany my MEP to the Plenary Session in Strasbourg. I applied for a travel award and I'm very grateful to Fitz for granting me funds to go Strasbourg for a week to attend both this and associated meetings. I would not have been able to go had there not been support available from the MML Fund.

Every part of being in the Parliament was an eye-opening experience for me and the best part of it was that I got an introduction to the field of politics in a language I enjoyed."



Alex with Jorgo Chatzimarkakis (German MEP)



Plenary session, Strasbourg

Listed are all those who have helped give these students the opportunities which make MML such a great subject to study at Fitzwilliam, thus enabling our students to enjoy experiences which will remain with them all their lives and may shape their careers. Please – former linguists add your name to the list and donate to the MML Fund via the centre pages of Optima.

J F Adamson (1946)

Donors to the MML Fund

R G Bellis (1957)	P G French (1955)	(Master)	T E J Smith (1973)
R J Booth (1988)	C E Garley (1960)	R A Lodge (1953)	J A Stanley (1956)
A P Burrows (1976)	D J Gibson (1976)	R J Lyddon (1976)	R I Stansbury (1973)
R M Burton (1956)	J Goulondris (1974)	W R MacMillan (1946)	J J Stevens (1970)
E T Butler (1976)	C S Hall (1989)	G D Morris (1962)	C N Strong (1975)
M G Butler (1954)	R St J Harold (1964)	M A Murray (1974)	R D Thomas (1952)
B L A Callen (1992)	I A Harrington (1981)	C Nagavajara (1958)	S R Trevor (1977)
A A Cartwright (1946)	N H Hawker (1964)	M G Nix (1974)	R J Vincent (1969)
D R Chalk (1977)	P S Holdsworth (1977)	J J Oliver (1979)	A C & G J Walker (1955, Life Fellow)
J D Chrisp (1956)	R H Holm (1990)	A L I Pocock (1965)	D J P Weaver (1932)
M J Colthorpe (1979)	S D Image (1959)	G Powell (1958)	R W Webster (1974)
G A Cronin (1997)	J F Ireland (1957)	P S Richards (1973)	N J White (1986)
M C Dickins (1954)	S A Jackson (1975)	A C Rogers (1964)	P Wilson (1994)
R G Edrich (Visiting Fellow, 1977)	R Kelly (Life Fellow)	M C Rowson (1980)	C T Wood (1977)
P G Elkan (1957)	J A Latham (1975)	H C Ryder (1958)	
S C Fleming (1993)	B H Lee (1954)	N G Sheffield (1975)	
	R D Lethbridge	V G Shoukry (1979)	

New Development Director appointed

Iain Reid (History 1978) has been appointed as the new Development Director of Fitzwilliam College. He will spearhead a Campaign to be formally launched in September 2008 to raise £20M to assure the College's future.

He has had extensive experience in a number of professional areas: in the Grenadier Guards before Cambridge; and worked subsequently in advertising and marketing, film production and as a lecturer in Industrial Relations. He has been a director and CEO of several companies. He is currently completing a PhD at the London School of Economics which investigates worker control of demarcation and employment practices. While at Fitzwilliam he was a vice-president of the JMA, a winner of the Stratton Prize and post-Fitzwilliam he has stayed in touch with many alumni as a regular attendee of London



Dinners and a member of the Billygoats Society. He took up his appointment on 1 October 2007 and his first task is to write a fundraising strategy for the Campaign.

He says, "I am delighted to return to the College in such challenging role which is to ensure that the Fitzwilliam experience that we enjoyed is available to future generations of students."

Art and the ordinand



Fitzwilliam has a long and precious history of providing for its 'attached houses' (Margaret Beaufort Institute for Theology, Ridley Hall, Wesley House, Westcott House and Westminster College) the opportunity for their students to matriculate for degrees of the University. Although today's ordinands can be attached to any college, many affiliated students elect to come to Fitzwilliam, being a college with a strong Theology tradition and three Theology Fellows of considerable seniority within the University. Adam Boulter, an affiliated student from

Westcott House and undergraduate of Fitzwilliam, possesses a special ability. He is an artist of repute with a prodigious talent.



Garden of Eden



Cornish coast



The Western Ghats

He has a degree in Fine art and an MA in Drawing and has lived in ecclesiastical communities which have recognised and nurtured his artistic ability. He is currently sponsored by Southwark Cathedral for his training and will ultimately go into the church using painting as a form of ministry. His devotional work is inspirational and he believes it will help to imaginatively engage people with religion by raising questions. Much of his painting has religious significance such as the series of 'The Stations of the Cross' depicting the death and resurrection of Christ, 'Creation' and 'The Garden of Eden'.

Commissions of his religious artwork by various churches, coupled with a calling, led him to seek a more academic understanding of religion and come to read Theology at Fitzwilliam. His work is displayed in a number of urban churches, mainly in the multicultural South London community.

His work is not restricted to that with a religious content. There are paintings using a variety of media based on travel, landscapes and book illustrations. There are life drawings



"Freedom" illustration: despair



"Freedom" illustrations: rocks

and photographs of objects, landscapes and people taken during his travels. Most striking in his painting is the bold use of vibrant colour throughout his pieces.

One series named 'Namibia' was painted when he was artist in residence, tracking across the Nauchluft Mountains on an expedition organised by Raleigh International, a charity committed to the personal growth and development of young people from all nationalities and backgrounds, including disadvantaged and "at risk". Others depict trips to Lebanon and Syria, Sri Lanka and Southern India.

He has illustrated a book of short stories written by Neil James, 'The Freedom Tree' with a variety of images ranging from conceptual to realistic.

A further series, 'Lord of the Dance' was painted while staying in a Quaker College in Birmingham and was felt to be appropriate as this song is set to music from an old Quaker foot dance. He has a strong love of nature with vivid landscapes, paintings of the Cornish Coast, Pembrokeshire and the Ridgeway.

He feels Art and Theology have a natural affinity in symbolism and each will aid the other as he pursues his following to eventually become a priest. He is surely one of our most talented students.

<http://www.adamboulter.co.uk>



Stations: resurrection

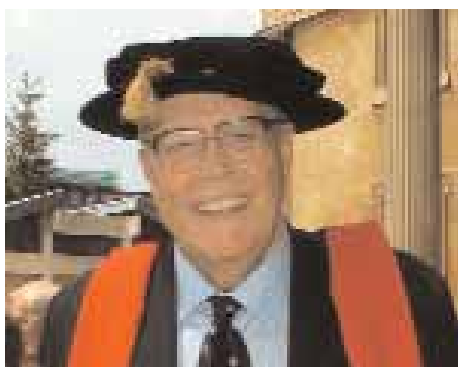
Memories kept alive by legacies

*“When a good man dies, for years beyond his ken,
The light he leaves behind him shines along the path of men”.*

From ‘Life of A M Maston’ by G P Pittman, 1909

Full obituaries
were printed in
Fitzwilliam Journal,
March 2007

The College was saddened last year by the loss of some much-loved Members, but gratified that they have chosen to remember the College with significant legacies. This source of revenue is invaluable to the College and can be directed to the area most favoured by the legatee. The three substantial gifts which collectively total over £1million, have been bequeathed by Dr Stephen G Fleet, Professor Norman J G Pounds and Mr J William Skillington. Their attachment to the College stemmed from different origins, their paths through life have been diverse, but all distinguished themselves in their chosen careers and all shared a wish to help Fitzwilliam and see others benefit as a result of their legacies.



The late Stephen Fleet

Dr Stephen George Fleet, 1936–2006 was an undergraduate at St John’s and was elected to the Fellowship of Fitzwilliam House in 1963, playing an active role in its transition to full collegiate status in 1966. He was Junior Bursar in 1967 and the first Secretary of the College Governing Body, moving on to Downing College in 1973 as Fellow and Bursar. He held the post of University Registry from 1987 to 1997 and went on to become Master of Downing in 2001. In 1997 he was made an Honorary Fellow of Fitzwilliam and was President of the Fitzwilliam Society twice, first from 1976 to 1977 and again from 1998 to 1999. He kept in contact with the College throughout, attending guest nights, entertaining and being entertained by the Master and Fellows and on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the election of the first Fitzwilliam Fellows, he presented the wine to those dining. He was a regular donor to College during his lifetime, supporting student hardship and general purposes as well as a substantial legatee.

Professor Norman John Greville Pounds, 1912–2006 was an undergraduate at Fitzwilliam House between 1931 and 1934 and returned, after the war, as Director of Studies in Geography and the sole Tutor for several hundred undergraduates. He moved to a Professorship at the University of Indiana at Bloomington, returning to Cambridge in retirement and elected to an Honorary Fellowship in 1999. He was also a President of the Fitzwilliam Society between 1971 and 1972. He played the violin and loved Bach and Beethoven, making music at Fitzwilliam the main recipient of his generosity during his lifetime and attending many concerts and events during his retirement. He also loved writing and published widely. He left an amazing personal book collection which, after the University Library had selected a number of specialist items, was left to Fitzwilliam. His love of music, as well as his loyalty and generosity to the College have been recognised by the Governing Body’s decision to hold an annual Norman Pounds Memorial Concert. The inaugural



The late Norman Pounds



The late Norman Pounds

concert will be held on 17 February 2008 and will feature the Fitzwilliam String Quartet, whose music he so much enjoyed.

Mr John William Skillington, 1907–2006 read History at Fitzwilliam, matriculating in 1926 and during the war served in the RAF in West Africa. After it ended, he taught abroad for a number of years, returning eventually to Head of Department posts in several schools in England. He retired to Kettering and was a regular attendee of Fitzwilliam Reunions, enjoying choral music in addition to his interest in archaeology, the countryside and antiques. He was President of the Fitzwilliam Society between 1979 and 1980. He owned a number of houses in Colsterworth, south of Grantham and bequeathed his entire estate to the College. He spent his final years in a nursing home in Kettering and in the address at his funeral he was remembered as “a real gentleman, one of the old school, for whom we give thanks for the opportunity of knowing”.

The College is indebted to the generosity of these Members. Each will receive permanent recognition by the College. If you are minded to leave a bequest in your Will to the College, please turn to the centre pages for more information or contact us for confidential advice if you wish to know more.

The Dusty Tripos Notes

Aubrey Waddy (1966) read Natural Sciences, played cricket and captained a successful squash team in 1969 that won not only Cuppers but both the Michaelmas and Lent leagues in the year that Fitzwilliam went 'Head of the River' in both the Lents and Mays and won Cuppers cricket, football, hockey and rugby. After a conventional job in scientific research, he turned his hand to writing and has produced forty-five children's stories and a novel, *The Progressive Supper*. He is currently writing *Caught off Court*, a thriller set in the world of professional squash. Three years at Cambridge taught him essential critical skills

One of those stages in life. Way back there were the post-Billy (pre-Fitz) relationships, then the mortgage, then luck in having kids, the agony of finding the right schools, the taxi years, the hormone years; in the other direction, the dependent-parent years. Then the first of friends' retirement parties... and hip replacements. Now? Downsizing the house. For future family gatherings we will rent places that can be hosed clean when the grandchildren have left.

The down side of a decision to downsize is the loft. In a quarter of a century an average family, if the parents haven't endured periods of redundancy or prison, acquires more stuff than it has space for. Chuck it out? No, sneak it up to the loft. Once it was a void; now it's an oxymoronic occupied space. And now it must be dealt with, inverse decimation, ninety percent will have to go.

The problem is, most of the stuff is so interesting. At a rough estimate this process is going to take thirty years. What are these files? My nine terms of university lecture notes, covering science almost forty years out of date. The notes resulted from my uninformed decision to read Natural Sciences and not Land Economy or Law. As I recall, neither of these 'disciplines' involved going to lectures or writing essays, nor indeed anything as pedestrian as work. Students of these subjects attended supervisions simply to learn about fine sherry.



File labels

But, oh dear, it's hard not to dip in to the files. I see I couldn't spell in those days, 'staphylococci'. What are they, me old bacteriological Cock? Comments in red biro suggest that I actually reviewed what I'd written. 'This seems to be an extraordinarily thick piece of note taking,' I wrote. A detailed two-page spread carries the remark, 'This is pretty useless.' Elsewhere, 'Is this useful? Probably not.' In those days science students' critical faculties were clearly nurtured. A 'ha ha' appears beside a note in a pharmacology essay, 'Organophosphorus compounds have been much studied for the amusement of the military.' Ha ha indeed, Saddam. And look at this, a graph of blood alcohol concentration against time. I'm impressed that I was on the academic case even during rare recreational interludes. And further, evidence of intellectual honesty, the plaintive comment, 'I don't understand,' beside an obscure diagram. How much of the entire Tripos did that apply to?

Until recently, after the unfortunate experience of my middle son at a leading red brick university, I felt that three years' further education was an end in itself. You made your life's friends, you had your intellect stretched by leading academics, you worked hard and did lots of other stuff - you finished growing up in ideal circumstances. Returning to my notes I see however that a rose tint suffuses some of my Cambridge memories. Here's a page with just a date, 11.5.1969, and a subject, 'Radiobiology', but no notes. There's just a comment in pencil, 'My last lecture at Cambridge; amongst the five all time bad ones!' Given that I didn't hold back from self-criticism, this may have been fair comment.

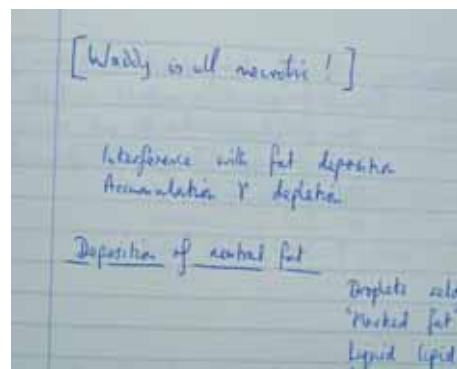
Fitzwilliam excelled at sport in the late 1960s. Bob Winckless, triple rowing Blue, was my regular partner for physiology practicals. I recall being proud of my result in an experiment to measure total lung volume, only to be humbled when Bob's mighty exhalation actually exceeded the capacity of the apparatus. Bob's academic intensity seems to have matched my own, viz his contributions to my notes. In a lecture on cell death he wrote, 'Waddy is all necrotic!'



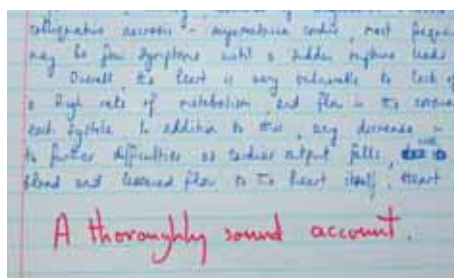
Another ha ha. And here, in a section about lipids, 'Waddy's legs are fatty deposits.' Thank you, Bob.

These memories contrast with my sons' experiences. Dan, in a self-deprecating text message on getting his Philosophy degree, wrote, 'Once again the system fails to separate wheat from chaff - got a 2:1.' Ben was unable to obtain any constructive criticism at all while he was writing his crucial third year dissertation - a single weekly one hour supervision for ten students simply didn't allow it. Josh isn't going to university at all, probably just as well.

But for me, with Fitzwilliam, I was lucky. My abiding memories are of how fascinating much of it was and how, at times, I had to work very hard, and of my friends. The Gershwins captured it well, 'No, no, they can't take that away from me.' Time to bin the lecture notes, though.



Comment from Bob Winckless (1966)



Evidence of diligence with handwriting of the late Dr Tony Edwards

The career network works, it really works!

In 2006, the Career Networking Scheme was launched as an on-line service via the Fitzwilliam website (www.fitz.cam.ac.uk/alumni/index and select 'Career network'). Current students can access career profiles of alumni in wide-ranging professions to obtain information about work experience, job information and application procedures. It continues to grow at a steady pace with ideas for its improvement being implemented regularly. It is another way Members can "give back" and help those who follow them through Fitzwilliam College.

This reports on a student who has benefited from the scheme and shows that it works; it really works!

Lewis Burnett (Geography 1997) studied and practised law after graduating and then moved to Credit Suisse as an investment banker. The HR team there is keen for bankers to foster ties with target universities such as Cambridge, involving graduate recruitment programmes for internships and full time placements. Lewis became involved in the recruitment process, choosing the Career Network at Fitz due to his links with the College, along with four other institutions, to publicise a summer intern position that became available at very short notice. The ten-week position comprised a

training week and a placement in the UK Corporate Broking group as an integral member of the team, building market reports, doing research into pitches for new business and assisting in the execution of transactions involving financing and merger & acquisitions. They were looking for a strong academic with a numerate degree, a demonstrable interest in the industry and an acute attention to detail and about twenty-five students applied, nine of which were from Fitz.

Michael Wharton (History 2005) was given the position and Lewis said, "At interview, he demonstrated far more awareness for what the precise job entailed and the workings of an investment bank and the industry. This came through in his answers to some detailed lines of questioning, and indeed his questions for us at the end of the interview. In addition, and particularly impressively, when the interviewers played devil's advocate to certain views of the industry, he confidently presented reasoned and credible counter-arguments."

Michael had attended the talk on Finance at the Careers Event at Fitz in the spring and found it both informative and candid, so signed up to the Career Network. He had tried previously to get an internship with an investment bank without success but had learned a valuable lesson, that he needed to do some research and to gain knowledge about the field in order to succeed. He read www.FT.com for the latest news on the financial markets paying special attention



Lewis Burnett



Michael Wharton

to Lex which provides authoritative statements on corporate and financial matters. He signed on the internet site, www.Bullbearings.co.uk which is a virtual on-line trading website and built a virtual portfolio to give himself the feel of stock market trading and learned about short and long sell companies and emerging markets. His preparation paid off, he was awarded the internship.

He was given £1,000 to help with London accommodation by Credit Suisse and he earned in the region of £6,000 for the ten-week placement, as well as gaining valuable experience and finding out if investment banking was really for him. Michael said, "I arrived in Canary Wharf not really knowing much about the capital, nor the markets. Talk of the City brought to mind the FT, Harry Enfield and Nick Leeson; suffice to say, at least two thirds of my perception was somewhat out of date. As the only Brit in a summer intern class of 37, I was placed with UK Corporate Broking, a group which deals more or less exclusively with UK Corporates, where I learnt relatively quickly that what defines the world of high finance at the present time more than anything else is hard work. The experience failed to put me off completely however; all being well I should be returning to Credit Suisse when I graduate next year.

Through the Careers Network, I gained a foothold into the world of market trading and am grateful to all those who sign up to help current students with their careers."



Credit Suisse, Canary Wharf

Keeping up the sporting tradition

The Fitzwilliam College team that competed in the Chariots of Fire fun run in Cambridge in September came a valiant third this year, beaten by Gonville and Caius and Addenbrooke's. They are shown here in Fitz strip and adorned with their medals. From left to right are: Richard Benwell, Kiran Singh, Andras Zsak, Laura Frost, James Adams and Murray Brown.



All the world's a stage

photo: Damian Robertson



As Konstantin (*The Seagull*)



Backpack



photo: Jamie Marland

In *Circus*, the 2006 Footlights Spring Review

James Norton (Theology 2004) steeped himself in drama in his three years at Fitzwilliam, acting, directing and taking a group of six actors (*Backpack*) to India in the summer of 2006 to perform to and instruct children in sixteen schools. He has played many parts and he admits to feeling depressed when he had a term away from the theatre and exhausted when, in the following term, he was in three plays in one month (*Another Country*, *The Drowned World* and *Circus: 2006 Footlights Spring Review*). He is very good and his roles are extensive, from classical (*Don Pedro* in *Much Ado About Nothing*; *Konstantin* in *The Seagull*), modern (*Volpone* in *Volpone: Sex, Lies and Videotape*), as a director (*The Crucible*), comedy (*Circus*) and his ability to enthuse others (forming *Backpack* and taking drama to children in Nepal and North India).

He came to Fitz from Ampleforth where he converted to Catholicism and was inspired to read *Theology*. His able memory (evidenced by his ability to learn huge scripts) has served him well as he kept up with academic work apart from the odd extension to hand in an essay when he was involved in a production. He did a lot of acting before coming and immersed himself in to the ADC once here, taking leading parts in eleven plays. In his first year, he acted in *A Small Family Business*, *Noises Off*, *Dr Faustus*, *Some Explicit Polaroids* and *Volpone: Sex, Lies and Videotape* and went with the ADC Theatre Company to perform the latter two productions at the Edinburgh Festival. In *Volpone* he played twice a day for a month, a dying AIDS patient. He found this experience profoundly emotional and it pushed his acting ability to its limits as he sought to play the part differently each time.

In his second year, he took a foray into Footlights and loved it but found it too defining. His acting wasn't just about comedy

or the clique of the Footlights fraternity and he looked to his next challenge.

He decided to try his hand at directing and chose Arthur Miller's *Crucible*, a play about the God-fearing Puritan community of Salem imploding under accusations of witchcraft and its parallels with McCarthyism in the US in the fifties. One day, walking in Cambridge, he saw the Round Church and had an epiphany; here was a venue whose claustrophobic space could bring an audience into a state of paranoia and hysteria. It was ideal but never before used for plays. His rhetoric and enthusiasm convinced the administrator and the tiny isolated capsule of Christian Heritage provided an ideal setting for such an intense play. The play was a total sell-out and attracted brilliant reviews for acting, direction and inspired choice of venue, "The audience is close enough to see the actors' eyeballs glitter; between the arches above the actors you can spy church decorations of carved faces, peering down on every move below" said the reviewer in *Varsity*.

Of *Backpack*, James said, "It was exhausting and yet the days spent in those schools were some of the most rewarding of my life". The group began in Delhi and travelled to Nepal where they visited twelve schools in yellow T-shirts and black trousers armed only with two blue and one green sheets and a few juggling balls, then on to Northern India and four more schools.

They used theatre as a medium for dialogue, giving a taste of Western theatre and then stimulating groups of children to put on their own plays, based on their own ideas, religion and culture. They witnessed transformations in quiet and shy children, wary to start, who were totally won over by the end of the day. They felt they had made a difference and perhaps sown a vital seed.

James also learned from this different culture about religious harmony, the strong gender divide and the fact that older generations remain valued and respected by their families.

In his final year James decided to give professional acting a go. He took part in the Marlowe showcase, attended by those who are serious about drama. Each actor puts on a five-minute sketch in front of agents and casting directors and he found himself an agent. He applied to four major drama schools, landing offers both from RADA and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He accepted the place at RADA, a three-year course, with the first two spent training with no public exposure (although he was allowed to return to the Arts Theatre in October to play *Posthumus* in Sir Trevor Nunn's landmark production of *Cymbeline*) and the third with intensive productions. James' ambition is to train first, act next and then direct. In directing he felt totally involved. It was like "doing the whole canvas, not just a brush stroke". He has no blind confidence he will succeed and is realistic, but he wants to give it his best shot. Incidentally, he was awarded first class honours in *Theology* and won a prize for the Buddhism and Hinduism paper, aided no doubt, by knowledge he had gained in India.

James received a Fitzwilliam Travel Grant to go to Northern India. The College are able to help enthusiastic and committed students like James realise their ambitions. Please give generously to College Travel Funds by turning to the central giving pages.

“All honor to him who shall win the prize...”

(Joaquin Miller)

In Optima XI, a plea to fund more College prizes was made. This was followed (Optima XII) by a list of those who had come forward in response to the request and generously donated money to endow prizes. Peter Wyllie (History 1982) has since added his name to the list and provided funds for a History/Classics prize. With your help, next year there may be more.

This summer, some of the first named prizes were awarded to deserving recipients and to show how much they are valued, some have come forward to voice their appreciation:

Newton Prize

I have been at Fitz for four years; three years taken up with an undergraduate degree in Medical Science and the other spent qualifying for and competing at the Commonwealth Games in squash. My time at Fitz has fostered a keen interest in science and I hope to continue to combine basic research with medicine – first by completing the MB/PhD course at the Clinical School and, hopefully beyond in my medical career. The combination of great supervisors, really good students and a strong medical community has established the perfect balance between high academic standards and a relaxed, down-to-earth atmosphere which typifies Fitz as a whole. Trying to combine life as a science geek with a fairly rigorous training schedule has been a challenge and as a result I perhaps have missed out on some aspects of the College experience but I do thank my peers for making Fitz a great place to be.

It is indicative of the strong influence Fitz exerts on its Members that so many choose to endow prizes, one of which – the Newton Prize – I am extremely honoured to be a recipient. With Fitz' growing reputation as



one of the top medical colleges and its proud sporting history it has provided me with the perfect environment to follow my two passions and I hope my efforts in these two fields constitutes a contribution to the College worthy of receiving this prize.

Harry Leitch (MVST 2004)

QinetiQ Prize



Before I came to the UK, I imagined that Fitzwilliam College must be a great place. But I should say it's actually even greater than I imagined. People here are so friendly and care for each other a lot, which is really important in helping international students, like me, get used to living here. The other engineers are helpful too. Fellows, supervisors and my fellow students work together well and we achieved good results this year. I spent an amazing year here at Fitz and feel really happy the year ended like this.

It's such a great thing people who are successful in their careers paying back something to Fitz and helping more Fitz people. I really appreciate it that some of the former Fitzbillies have set up this prize fund and I feel so honoured to have been awarded it. It means a lot to students who are studying Science or Engineering and certainly encourages them to achieve better academic results.

**Chris Xiaoyang Xie
(Engineering 2006)**



Newton Prize

I was delighted to discover that I had been awarded a Newton prize for my final year result in Computer Science. I have enjoyed the last three years, and feel I have made the most of the academic opportunities which Cambridge offers. Within College I was a Student Computer Officer for two years, helping to look after the computer rooms and providing assistance to other students. I also became involved in

operating the stage sound and lighting for events in the auditorium.

The prize money is certainly a bonus after the inevitable hard work required, and I am very grateful to Rus Newton for his donation which, by being invested, will allow these prizes to continue in perpetuity.

**Jonathan Senior
(Computer Science 2004)**



Heather Butcher prize

I was so pleased to be awarded the Heather Butcher Prize for SPS in its first year. SPS is a brilliantly broad discipline that allows its students to study everything from Hobbes to Freud, Psyches to Politics, Neurons to Native Americans, all in the space of three years, specialising en route as we so choose. Choosing Psychology for my Part II allowed me to cover the foundations of various topics with a huge degree of freedom, while also leaving the space for me to really get my teeth into my dissertation. The same goes for the other possible streams within SPS - Politics, Sociology and Anthropology – and although we all start out with the same

lectures, by the end of three years everyone has truly had the time to pursue their more specific strengths and interests within the discipline as a whole.

I am so grateful to the Butcher family for their extremely kind donation; being awarded the Heather Butcher Prize really topped off an excellent three years!

Charlotte Bevan (Social and Political Sciences 2004)

Pat Higginbottom Prize

I was delighted with my Part II results in Land Economy and quite surprised that I managed to do so well. I have thoroughly enjoyed the three years I spent at Fitzwilliam College and am proud to leave University with a great degree. Many people have asked me “What is Land Economy?” It is difficult to describe a course that covers so many topics but I try to briefly explain how it is a multidisciplinary subject that combines Law and Economics and the Environment. The course is extremely diverse and with accomplished lecturers and supervisors. Learning is intensive but also interesting. The course has fuelled my enthusiasm to learn about topical environmental issues and I hope to pursue a career that will utilise the knowledge and various skills I have acquired.

It was a great honour to receive the Pat Higginbottom prize and I would like to thank the donor [Ron Higginbottom] who established the Fund. I hope that I can give something back to Fitzwilliam in the future too and help contribute to the success of the College and well being of its students.

Neal Mehta (Land Economy 2004)



QinetiQ Prize

I was delighted to hear that I had obtained a First in my Engineering Tripos examinations this year and was even more so when I was notified that I'd been awarded a QinetiQ Prize. I've thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Fitzwilliam College. It has such a friendly atmosphere and I'm very much looking forward to spending the next 3 years studying there. I've particularly enjoyed the Engineering Tripos as it covers such a broad range of topics and enables me to be familiar with all types of engineering.

I'd like to thank those at QinetiQ who contributed to my prize and ensure them that their generous support will be put to good use.

Tim Gossage (Engineering 2006)



Letters

Dave Crosby (Agriculture 1967), who, like Peter Phillips (Optima XI) feels that sport is accorded lesser importance at Fitzwilliam than it was in his day, added his name to the list of supporters of the Boathouse Appeal in July 2007 and wrote the following:

“What impressed me when I came to Fitz in 1967 was the camaraderie and fierce loyalty to the College amongst the undergraduates and the depth of talent and commitment to the College which was still very new. We all wanted to “kick the backsides” of the established colleges, some very academic, some loaded with Blues, in whatever way we could.

I was pleased to support the Boathouse Appeal because my final May race in the Fitz third boat in 1970 summed up what the College was all about. We (a collection of mediocre rugby/soccer/others) had rowed early morning for three years with limited success. Early mornings fitted in well with lectures and exam revision. Our coaches were both Blues and this did impress me, that so much time was put in by Blues and half-Blues to coach and encourage us lesser mortals. They astounded us by saying that we would get our “oars”. We did, along with three other boats which was probably the greatest achievement in Fitz rowing, and it included the Head of the River. We had a great Bumps supper!

We had achieved much on the rugby field but I think, along with many others, that day indicated that Fitzwilliam had made it and dented the pride of other more traditional and historic colleges”.

Advertisements

Books bought and sold

YESTERDAY'S BOOKS
(David Weir 1965) of Bournemouth
Travel books (especially AFRICA)
literature & general antiquarian
Free valuations.
Regular AFRICA catalogues issued.
Contact us on 01202 522442
djl.weir@btinternet.com

News and Events at Fitzwilliam

by Emma
Smith

Emma Smith

Events and Alumni
Relations

Development Office
Fitzwilliam College
Cambridge CB3 0DG

TELEPHONE:

+ 44 (0) 1223 332034

EMAIL:

events@fitz.cam.ac.uk

Memorabilia

Enclosed is the latest memorabilia catalogue. An order form can be printed from the Fitz alumni website (www.fitz.cam.ac.uk/alumni) or requested from the Development Office (number opposite).

With winter approaching, perhaps you'd like to augment your wardrobe with a woollen scarf or fleece, both adorned with the Fitz crest. Nearly 40 other items are available, most under £20, and there are lots of stocking filler ideas. If you are ordering for Christmas, please return the form and payment by early December to avoid disappointment.

Arrol Adam Lecture Series

This year for the first time the college will be hosting the Arrol Adam Lectures. This is a themed series of general lectures, open to the public but mainly intended for members of the College and University, to be held on Thursdays at 6pm in the Auditorium. This year the theme is "Risk". If you have been meaning to visit the College some time and use your dining entitlement, these lectures provide an ideal opportunity to do so: come to one of the lectures and join Fellows in entertaining the speaker at High Table afterwards.

William Arrol Adam graduated in Chemistry from Fitzwilliam House in 1905. We know that he was wounded in action during the First World War, but have no information about what happened to him thereafter. The Arrol Adam Fund, which pays the cost of arranging the lectures, was left to the College by his widow, who stated that its purpose was to promote "the use of plain and simple English". If you know more about Arrol Adam's life, the President (Dr Michael Potter) would be delighted to hear from you.

Billygoat Breeder wanted

Some of you will know that the toy company Merrythought Toys Ltd went into administration in November 2006 and they now have a very limited catalogue – which does not include our beloved Billy. Our desperate search for a new supplier has so far been fruitless. If anybody knows a company who can supply us with good quality Billys in small quantities, we would be so pleased to hear from you.

Fitzwilliam Chamber Opera

Two performances of Handel's operatic comedy, *Xerxes*, will take place on 16 and 18 November in the Fitzwilliam Auditorium. This is the inaugural production by Fitzwilliam Chamber Opera, the only College-based opera company in Cambridge. Its aim is to give outstanding student singers and instrumentalists the chance to gain experience of working in opera under the guidance of professional practitioners. The distinguished broadcaster and musical biographer Humphrey Burton CBE (Music 1951) has agreed to become the Patron of Fitzwilliam Chamber Opera.

Alumni and others interested in supporting this exciting venture are encouraged to become Friends of Fitzwilliam Chamber Opera: for a subscription of £50, you will be entitled to two tickets and invited to a special pre-performance reception, as well as giving invaluable support to our musicians. If you are interested in becoming a Friend, please contact Dr Michael Downes.

Choir perform at eightieth birthday celebrations

In September, members of the Chapel Choir performed both choral and instrumental sets at the invitation of Dr Frank Beavington (1954) at his home in Kent. Eighty guests came from far and wide to attend a party in his garden to celebrate his eightieth birthday. The photo shows Ryan Mark (Music 2005), Alex West (Senior organ scholar) and Michael Downes (Music Director) performing.

The choir are happy to consider invitations to sing or play at Members functions (e-mail music@fitz.cam.ac.uk).



Dates for your Diary

16 Nov 2007	Fitz Chamber Opera, Handel, <i>Xerxes</i> *
18 Nov 2007	Fitz Chamber Opera, Handel, <i>Xerxes</i> *
22 Nov 2007	Arrol Adam Lecture ^
24 Nov 2007	Mathematics Reunion
1 Dec 2007	Fairbairns Dinner
20 Jan 2008	Fitzwilliam Chamber Series, <i>Die Winterreise</i> *
24 Jan 2008	Arrol Adam Lecture ^
3 Feb 2008	Fitzwilliam Chamber Series, Ruth Ehrlich/Nancy Cooley *
7 Feb 2008	Arrol Adam Lecture ^
17 Feb 2008	Fitzwilliam Chamber Series, Norman Pounds Memorial Concert *
19 Feb 2008	Master's London Reception
21 Feb 2008	Arrol Adam Lecture ^
1 Mar 2008	Lent Bumps Supper
2 Mar 2008	Fitzwilliam Chamber Series Andrea Coen (fortepiano) TBC *
6 Mar 2008	Arrol Adam Lecture ^

* For any queries about the Chamber Music Series or the Chamber Opera, please contact Dr Michael Downes (01223 332044) or e-mail: music@fitz.cam.ac.uk

^ For further details of upcoming lectures, visit the News section of the Fitz website.