

# EXON

THE EXETER COLLEGE MAGAZINE ISSUE 15 AUTUMN 2012  
WWW.EXETER.OX.AC.UK/ALUMNI



**What's the Big Idea?**  
Sir Ronald Cohen on Big Society Capital

**Charitable Status**  
Ian McGregor shakes up the third sector

**Thirty Years of ExVac**  
The student-run charity is still full of life



# Best of British

**Nick Hurd MP** on the philanthropic habits of a nation

**PLUS:** Aung San Suu Kyi in the Fellows' Garden, Alison Brooks presents the Third Quad, record breaking philanthropy at Exeter and Oxford, Exonian tops the charts, and more...

## COLLEGE NEWS

## Turn Up for the Books

Joanna Bowring | 4

## Is it All the Fault of the Bankers?

Sang Lee | 5

## What Should We Save? Lucy Sackville | 5

## The Origins of Sex Freya Hadrill | 6

## Great European Commemorated

Daniela Omlor | 7

## Is German Renaissance Literature Misogynistic?

Helen Watanabe-O'Kelly | 8

## Albert Camus: The Outsider

Alexander Walker | 10

## Fishing for Answers Xinyuan Zheng | 11

## Taking the 'A' Train Michael Dunne | 12

## Student Past Times Jennifer Bandi | 13

## Life After Oxford Michael Mayo | 14

## The First 700 Years Hannah Parham | 14

State of the Arts Naomi Charatan,  
Jessica Palmarozza | 15Sports Ben Abdoo, Chris Bennett,  
Nick Fletcher, Rory Antcliff | 16

## UNIVERSITY NEWS

## Aung San Suu Kyi Honoured

at Encaenia Matthew Baldwin | 18

## Tomorrow's World Adam Ward | 19

## Ertegun's Legacy Matthew Stokes | 20

## £75m for Oxford's Poorest Students

Gitanjali Joseph | 20

## The Language of the Heart

Eleanor Franzen | 21

## FEATURES

## Think BIG Sir Ronald Cohen | 22

## The Best of Britain? Nick Hurd | 24

## Charitable Status Ian McGregor | 26

## Back to the Future

Frances Cairncross | 28

## Charity not Aid

Chisanga Puta-Chekwe | 30

## A Social Medium

Hannah Lownsbrough | 31

## Giving What We Can

Christopher Arnold | 32

## Faith, Hope and Charity

Hugh Shilson-Thomas | 33

Editors: Matthew Baldwin &amp; Frances Cairncross | Editorial Intern: Gitanjali Joseph

Produced by Matter&amp;Co

Designer: Sarah Blick | Assistant Designers: Syd Hausmann, Sarah Gill

Production Intern: James Misson

**MATTER&CO**

www.matterandco.com

## FUNDRAISING

## On the Money Tessa Stanley Price | 34

## Call Me, Maybe Lara Bryan | 35

## Top of the Class Emily Watson | 36

## All's Well that Ends Well Tim Ashley | 37

## Thirty Years of ExVac

Kate Mathieson | 38

## CAMPAIGN

## Campaign Update

Mark Houghton-Berry | 39

## Building the Future Alison Brooks | 40

## ALUMNI

## A Prize for John Kufuor

Timothy Davies | 42

## Aftershocks Jamee Elder

and Chris Simpson | 43

## Good Karma Peter Mann | 44

## Touching Bass Michael Lisanti | 44

## Mad Dogs and Englishmen

Spencer Crawley | 45

## Olympic Torch in Exonian Hands

Charlie Howell | 46

## Pilot Perils Brian Phillips | 46

## BACK SECTION

## #Oxfordtrending Alison Edwards | 47

## Old Members' Association

Kinsey Forsdyke | 48

## Published Exonians | 49

## The Year in Pictures | 50

## Editorial

MATTHEW BALDWIN,  
COMMUNICATIONS  
OFFICER

Historians might look back on this as the Age of Austerity. It is certainly a term that is used often in the media, parliament and, one might imagine, a good many accounts departments.

We hear all too much about sustained economic stagnation and public spending cuts, and the third sector strains to cover the inevitable gaps.

What a relief and a pleasure then to be able to bring such a bounty of good news to you. This edition of *Exon* is on the theme of philanthropy. Such is the goodwill and endeavour of so many Exonians that this year's magazine could have made a book. From Westminster Palace to the Kingdom of Bhutan, we find Exonians hoping to make a difference.

There are record-breaking gifts to the University to celebrate, and Exeter can be proud of its own progress as the Walton Street development takes large strides forward and the Annual Fund sets new benchmarks for success.

Sir Ronald Cohen discusses the value of social investment, while Chris Arnold espouses the merits of Giving What We Can. Hannah Lownsbrough considers the power of online campaigning and Jamee Elder describes how the welcome she received at Exeter at a time of need made an indelible impression on her.

There is much to celebrate besides Exonians' charity. It was a difficult year on the water for Exeter's rowers, but the hockey, football and rugby clubs enjoyed success on dry land. Xinyuan Zheng shows how the research of Exeter's students can have far-reaching ramifications, contributing to our understanding of the world's past and future. And the feature on Published Exonians includes new books from Martin Amis, Philip Pullman, Will Self, Tariq Ali and Stanley Johnson, and could have included many, many more.

I hope you will find much to hearten you in these pages. Times may be austere, but at Exeter enterprise, dedication and compassion abound. ♥

development@exeter.ox.ac.uk

## Rector's Letter

FRANCES CAIRNCROSS, RECTOR



Philanthropy is the theme of this issue of *Exon*. It is, of course, the theme of much that happens in College – and of the past 698 years. But in the following pages, we are ranging more broadly. With good reason: philanthropy is ever more important for the survival of many institutions that once depended on taxpayers' cash.

Exonians are involved with philanthropy at many levels. Right at the top, Nick Hurd MP (1981, Literae Humaniores) is Minister for Civil Society, after spending 19 months in the role of Shadow Minister for Charities, Social Enterprises and Volunteering. At similarly dizzying heights is Sir Ronald Cohen (1964, PPE), already regarded as the father of venture capital in Britain, and now also widely seen as the father of social investment. Both write in this issue, as do several Exonians who are trying to harness philanthropy in more modest but equally important ways to change the world for the better.

For this college, philanthropy has always been essential to our continued existence. Indeed, as I have worked on *Exeter College: The First 700 Years*, the

I have marvelled at the extent to which the College has been built on the generosity of individuals for nearly seven centuries

received a royal charter or bought a building. It is the date – 4 April 1314 – when we received our first gift. For it is the date of the document under which Bishop Walter de Stapeldon secured for us the tithes of the parish of Gwinear in Cornwall. Without the stream of income that this gift provided, the College could not have come into existence.

collection of history, anecdotes and recollections of Exeter that we will publish in October 2013, I have marvelled at the extent to which the College has been built on the generosity of individuals for nearly seven centuries.

If we look for a precise foundation date for the College, it is not one on which we

To give us the taxes levied on a few poor peasants may hardly count as philanthropy, but Stapeldon also gave us properties in Oxford which secured additional income and accommodation, with the specific and relatively novel intention of supporting a group of impecunious young men through their studies. Moreover, each of the subsequent centuries brought additional gifts that helped Exeter to survive. Perhaps the most remarkable story is that of the building of the Chapel, that soaring work of Gilbert Scott, in the late 1850s. The whole College community took part in the fundraising, with many small donations from Old Members, roughly a year's income from each of the Fellows, £1,000 bequeathed by the Rector, Joseph Richards, and a gift of the ante-chapel screen from the JCR.

Today, our continued existence and the welfare of our students are more dependent on the generosity of Old Members and friends than at any time since those difficult mediaeval years. But we also live at a time when our Old Members and friends are more generous than ever before in our history. Therefore the debates on philanthropy, on the best ways to harness it and the constraints that society should put on it, are of great importance to our future. Indeed, this is true not just of Exeter but of many other British institutions, as we continue to pay down our huge public debt but also face more calls on government spending from an ageing population.

So we also hope that our students learn, during their time at Exeter, the importance of giving back to society even more than they receive during their time here at College. One of Exeter's marvels is ExVac, run entirely by our students and in existence for 30 years, helping many generations of Oxfordshire children and teaching Exonians much about the needy and what they can do for others. The articles in this issue show the astonishingly wide variety of ways in which Exonians have practised philanthropy, with their time, ideas and money.

Our founder, Walter de Stapeldon, would have enjoyed reading this issue of *Exon*. I hope that you will too. ♥



# Turn Up for the Books



**JOANNA BOWRING** reveals that Exeter's library holds more than just books as she looks back on her first year as the College's librarian

Having previously managed the library service at the British Museum, I became Exeter's college librarian in September 2011. This was a particularly exciting time to join, as Exeter is planning an extensive refurbishment of its library.

At Exeter I found a beautiful Victorian library in the Fellows' Garden. The library holds amazing special collections including the 14th century Bohun Psalter (the prayer book of two English queens), 30,000 rare books and over 100 medieval manuscripts. I also discovered that Exeter possesses William Morris's spectacles, Sir Hubert Parry's robes and, curiously, three quarters of a skeleton in a box helpfully marked 'Skeleton'.

The librarian is also responsible for the College archive, which lies behind a door so heavy it is opened with its own custom-made wooden lever. Highlights of the archive include medieval account rolls, tally sticks, buttery books and lots of photographs of hearty chaps drinking, dining, and beagling as well as enjoying a lot of other sporting activities. If you have been a student of Exeter College the archive will bear a trace of you.

I discovered that Exeter possesses William Morris's spectacles, Sir Hubert Parry's robes and, curiously, three quarters of a skeleton in a box helpfully marked 'Skeleton'

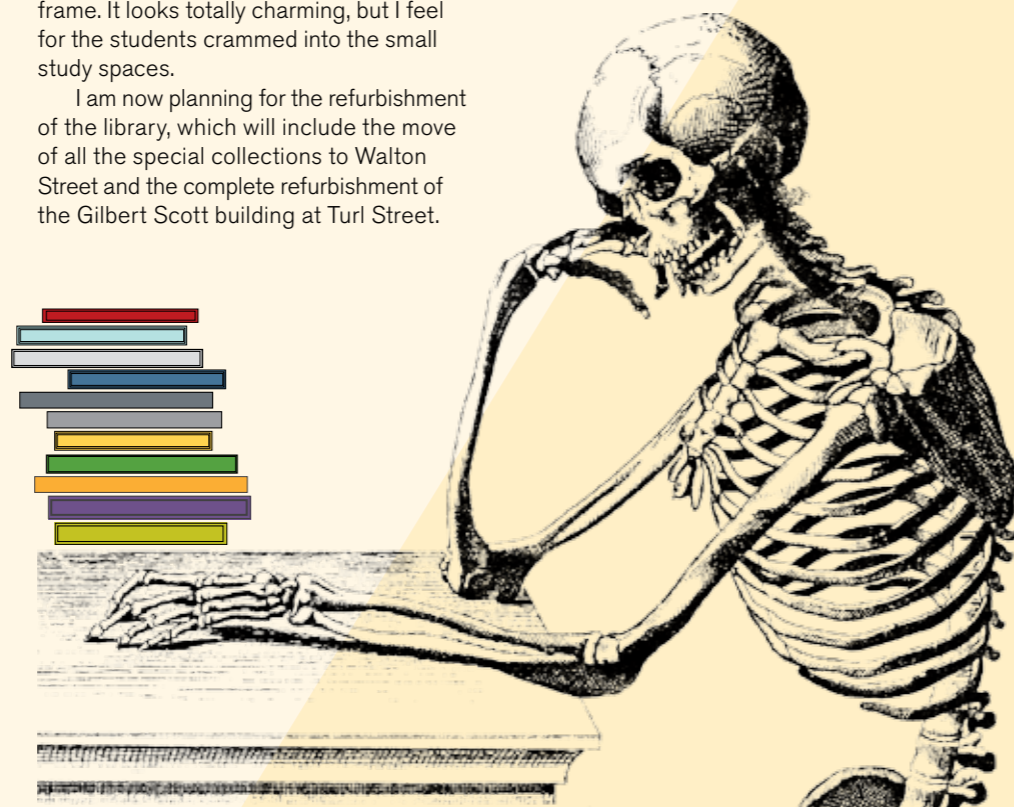
In addition to being a repository of rare treasures, the library is a working library for undergraduates and contains over 40,000 books in all subjects studied at Exeter. It is open 24 hours a day (which poses its own challenges for the librarian) and is constantly busy. In Trinity Term reader spaces are in high demand, especially the individual desks looking out over the College gardens.

There are plenty of challenges. The library is bursting at the seams, and hardly has room for one more book. The infrastructure is sadly crumbling as the stonework occasionally falls into the garden and rats make their homes under the floor. The 19th century heating is either on (boiling) or off (freezing) and at least one of the windows cannot be touched lest it falls entirely out of its frame. It looks totally charming, but I feel for the students crammed into the small study spaces.

I am now planning for the refurbishment of the library, which will include the move of all the special collections to Walton Street and the complete refurbishment of the Gilbert Scott building at Turl Street.

The library will have more reader places, better study spaces, and improved IT facilities. We will have revitalised stock, a more efficient way of arranging the books, and exhibition areas so that we can show College members, alumni and the public what we have.

I am of course also involved in all the usual librarian tasks – buying books, cataloguing, helping readers – and sometimes the unusual – phoning the rat man when our uninvited guests get a bit troublesome under the floor. ♥



## Is it All the Fault of the Bankers?



Exeter's lecturer in economics welcomes Lord Burns's frank discussion of the financial crisis from a banker's perspective **SANG LEE, LECTURER IN ECONOMICS**

On 26 October 2011, Lord Burns, Chairman of Santander UK, delivered a speech entitled 'Is it all the fault of the Bankers?' for the Exeter College Seminar for Macroeconomics, which is generously sponsored by Santander.

Lord Burns brought a banker's perspective on the causes of the recent crisis. He argued that the widespread use of financial innovations was rooted in a belief that better financial engineering can redistribute risk and make the system safer in a way not previously possible. The behaviour of rating agencies also played a role.

Lord Burns described how the combination of competitive pressures and a lack of financial regulation pushed traditional banks into off balance-sheet activities in new financial products.

Eventually, banks ran into problems and their exposure to these products made their positions highly correlated. This accelerated the pace and magnitude of the downfall.

Lord Burns described how bank shareholders and senior bankers had lost huge sums as a consequence of the crisis, a fact not always widely appreciated by the general public. He expressed support for the recommendations contained in the report of the Vickers Commission, but was concerned that the reform of the banking sector may be proceeding too quickly, arguing that there will inevitably be knock-on effects on the economy if banks have to adjust and adapt too quickly.

The talk was well received, with the candour of Lord Burns appreciated by all. ♥



## What Should We Save?



Preserving Britain's heritage means facing up to some challenging questions **LUCY SACKVILLE, RESEARCH FELLOW IN MEDIEVAL HISTORY**

Membership of the National Trust has reached unprecedented levels under Dame Fiona Reynolds, the Trust's outgoing Director-General and Master elect of Emmanuel College, Exeter's sister college in Cambridge. As she spoke to the title 'What should we save?' as part of the Rector's seminar series in May, it was easy to see why. The well-attended talk engaged the audience not only with the history of the Trust, but also its future direction and developing mission.

She began with the Trust's origins in the 19th century, when it was concerned

mostly with the preservation of natural and historical sites that were under threat. She then traced its development through the middle of the 20th century, when it took on the challenge of containing the suburban spread of new towns, while also preserving the large family houses that could no longer be maintained in the changing economic and social climate. Dame Fiona demonstrated the ways in which the Trust is sensitive to the changing expectations of the public and its members as to what can and should be saved. It was particularly interesting to

note how difficult it is to preserve heritage sites in London because the cost of property there is outside the Trust's scope of what they can sensibly spend.

At the same time, Dame Fiona was clear about the importance of maintaining a balance between the local and the national, and between accessibility and historical integrity. In all this she made it clear that the Trust's continuing commitment to the preservation of the natural and human past, and its recent engagement with government policy, are rooted in the charity's traditions. ♥

# The Origins of Sex



A new book by Fellow in History Dr Dabhoiwala examines sexual attitudes throughout history and suggests our current sensibilities may be rooted in the Enlightenment **FREYA HADRILL (2010, HISTORY)**



Dr Dabhoiwala introduces his book as part of the anniversary lecture series

This February saw the publication of *The Origins of Sex* by Dr Faramerz Dabhoiwala, Exeter's Fellow in Modern History. It traces the shifts in sexual behaviour and attitudes in the Western world and demonstrates how these changes shaped society today and the principles of sexual freedom and privacy which underpin it.

*The Origins of Sex* illustrates how, in pre-modern society, the Church established and reinforced the notion that sex outside marriage was immoral, illicit and criminal. The result was a system of vigorous sexual policing, censorship and punishment. Undertaken both by orthodox authorities and self-regulating grass-roots communities, sexual discipline in the public sphere served to uphold the social order and was viewed as a guarantor of salvation. At the turn of the 18th century this system crumbled, giving way to notions of sexual liberty and privacy and a greater public acceptance of sexual pleasure. Investigating the genesis of

modern sexual attitudes, Dr Dabhoiwala posits that modern sexual mores are the product of a 'sexual revolution' which took place during the Enlightenment, in which the ongoing revisions of social and religious norms undermined the notion of an absolute source of morality, which had previously upheld the adherence to a fixed code of sexual practice.

However, *The Origins of Sex* deviates from much related historiography, which tends to explore singular issues or focus upon more isolated cases of study. Dr Dabhoiwala also identifies a fundamental transition in the Western outlook on sex as the product of more tangible changes. In his view, the explosive bursts of urbanisation and the modifications to the structures of social organisation and power made the regulation of vice and illicit sex both more difficult and less desirable. Rapidly expanding London was the epicentre of change, the reverberations of which were felt as far afield as Western Europe and North America.

*The Origins of Sex* also draws on issues of sex and gender, focusing the reader's attention on a crucial reversal in depictions of the sexes and a reformulation of gender identities. Dr Dabhoiwala argues that, whereas prior to the 18th century women had commonly been presented as the more lustful and lascivious sex, they were increasingly portrayed as chaste and even asexual. Meanwhile men assumed the mantle of lust and promiscuity. In considering the construction of gender identity and sexuality within a social framework, *The Origins of Sex* is a vital study in the growing field of historical work which examines discourse surrounding the body and its role in the construction of gender identities and experience.

Talking with great lucidity and enthusiasm at the Sheldonian Theatre on 13 May, as part of a series of talks to mark Exeter College's 700th anniversary, Dr Dabhoiwala stipulated that what was new and most crucial was the distinction between the public and the private with regards to sexual behaviour and attitudes. Sexual behaviour, from being the responsibility of the community and the subject of public policy, became a private matter. Despite this change, sexual attitudes and an interest in sex have remained in the public sphere – a reality illustrated by the interest in this very book. Similarly, public fascination with the private lives and sexual exploits of celebrities – dissected in magazines and autobiographies – exposes our continuing curiosity about the sexual activities of others. In this respect, our culture is not far removed from Dr Dabhoiwala's description of the contemporary interest in the sexual exploits of Kitty Fisher, the 18th century courtesan. Regardless of the debate over where the division between public and private ought to lie, *The Origins of Sex* presents a forceful argument for sexual freedom as a fundamental pillar of modern society and a key assumption of the modern mind. ♥

# Great European Commemorated



As a blue plaque is unveiled to commemorate author, scholar and ambassador Salvador de Madariaga, **DANIELA OMLOR, QUEEN SOFIA RESEARCH FELLOW**, explores his link to Exeter College

In October 2011 a blue plaque was unveiled at Box Tree House, 3 St Andrew's Road, Old Headington commemorating Salvador de Madariaga. A writer and diplomat, Madariaga was also intimately connected to Exeter College, having been its first King Alfonso XIII Professor of Spanish.

Born in A Coruña in 1886, Madariaga graduated from the prestigious École Supérieure des Mines in Paris as a mining engineer in 1911. Upon his return to Spain he was in charge of the electric signalling on a line between Orense and Alicante. However, engineering was not his vocation. In his spare time, he would mingle with the leading intellectuals of his day, such as the philosopher Ortega y Gasset and the future Republican Prime Minister Manuel Azaña. Madariaga also met the novelist Pérez Galdós and the playwright and writer Valle-Inclán, amongst others. Desiring a literary career for himself, Madariaga took charge of the pro-British war propaganda during the First World War (in which Spain was neutral). From 1916 to 1921 Madariaga was the London correspondent for several Spanish newspapers until he moved to the press office of the League of Nations in Geneva and New York.

Becoming weary of his duties, Don Salvador was approached by an elector for the newly founded King Alfonso chair at Oxford University and accepted the election in 1928. Madariaga lectured on Cervantes during his tenure but only remained in post for a brief period.

When Spain became a Republic on 14 April 1931, Madariaga learned during a lecture tour of the Americas that he was to be the Spanish ambassador to Washington. He swiftly returned to Oxford to give a lecture on the Second Spanish Republic and to tender his resignation.

Soon after, he became the Spanish ambassador in Paris and a member of the Spanish Delegation to the League of Nations in Geneva, of which he was later elected president. During the Spanish Civil War his family resided in Locarno, but returned to Oxford during the Second World War. Although he no longer held an official post, Madariaga's influence in Oxford in the post-war years was considerable. A great believer in Europe, he founded the College of Europe in Bruges in 1949 and was one of the principal authors of the 1947 *Oxford Manifesto*, setting out the political ideals of the Liberal International.

In 1942 he was elected an Honorary Fellow of Exeter College, followed by the award of a DCL *honoris causa* in 1966. Following Franco's death, Madariaga was finally admitted to the Seat M in the Royal Spanish Academy to which he had been elected in 1936. He died in Locarno on 14 December 1978.

At Exeter the Don Salvador de Madariaga Fund continues to enable students to travel both to and from Spain, Portugal and Latin America

SALVADOR  
de  
MADARIAGA  
1886-1978

Statesman  
Scholar and Writer

lived here  
1929-1931; 1940-1974

At Exeter the Don Salvador de Madariaga Fund continues to enable students to travel both to and from Spain, Portugal and Latin America.

Madariaga is not only remembered as the author of *Englishmen, Frenchmen, Spaniards* (1928), an influential analysis of *Don Quixote* and biographies of Columbus, Hernán Cortés and Simón Bolívar; his memory is still alive among the Fellows of Exeter College. Emeritus Fellow Dr Brian Stewart is still haunted by the Sunday High Table interaction between Madariaga and Sir Alister Hardy, 'conducting two parallel monologues, syntactically a conversation, but semantically completely independent. No doubt this had gone down well at the League of Nations, but I am not surprised that the Republic fell!' ♥



OPEN TUTORIAL

# Is German Renaissance Literature Misogynistic?



Exeter's Fellow in German reveals the Renaissance temptresses, witches and bare-chested women warriors that writers revered and reviled

HELEN WATANABE-O'KELLY, FELLOW IN GERMAN



Peter Aubry III, *Der Kampf um die Hosen*



Albrecht Dürer's *Die Hexe*

Some of the commonest depictions of women in the 16th and 17th centuries show them in a very negative light. They were often portrayed as out to gain power over men, going, of course, against the God-given social order. Adam, after all, was created first. Women were also often represented as temptresses who led men astray, as Eve and Delilah did. Moreover, we should not forget that this is the period in which witch burnings were at their height.

There is, however, another body of writing in the same period that presents exceptional women who are strong and powerful. One example is the Amazons – a mythical group of women warriors made known to us by ancient writers such as Homer, Aeschylus, Thucydides, Hippocrates, and Pliny. The Amazons were said to live without men for most of the year, to burn off one breast in order to use a bow and to ride with the other breast bare. They fought, captured prisoners, took booty and were fearless. By definition, the Amazons challenged standard notions of femininity and masculinity. Once a year they would go



A woodcut depicting Penthesilea from *Von den sinnrychen erluchten wyben*

out to capture a man who would sleep with them and father a child in order to maintain the Amazon race. The most famous Amazon is Penthesilea, who appears in Giovanni Boccaccio's catalogue of notable women, *De claris mulieribus*,

written between 1361 and 1375. This was translated into German by Heinrich Steinhöwel and published in 1474 as *Von den sinnrychen erluchten wyben*.

Penthesilea appears in the text as a transgressive figure: the implication is that, if you allow a woman to go to war, all sorts of perversion will ensue and the social order will break down.

**ff** The Amazons were said to live without men for most of the year, to burn off one breast in order to use a bow and to ride with the other breast bare

However, some Renaissance writers found a lot to praise in the Amazons, as women who, in spite of their sex, exhibit manly virtues. One writer who does this is Cyriacus Spangenberg (1528-1604). He wrote a huge work on the subject of

nobility called *Adels Spiegel* (Mirror for Nobles, 1591), in which the last section is devoted to female nobility. After 12 chapters listing virtuous and learned women from all periods including his mother (!), he comes, in the 13th section, to the warriors.

He justifies their existence by means of an argument which, at first sight, appears to plead for equality of opportunity for men and women. He says, for instance, that Socrates claimed that you only had to teach women skills and they would be able to do anything that a man does. If they were taught to fight, they could defend their country just as well as men. Given that martial activity is noble, why should women be denied the chance to take part in this noble pursuit? He goes on to give a detailed account of all the warrior women he can think of – including Asian and Eastern, Biblical, African, English, Scottish, Swabian, Swiss, Italian, Greek, Slav and those from the New World. He considers virtually all these women to be good rulers who wage war well, keep order and build cities. But the praise he heaps on them is because they are so manly; they are exceptional women who are practically men. This, of course, undermines the idea that women are men's equals. On the contrary: when they are at their most feminine, they are dangerous temptresses and witches; when they are their most admirable – noble, strong, rational and steadfast – why, then of course they are exhibiting so-called 'masculine' traits! The early modern period had its own terms for such a manly woman – *Männin* or *Virago*. ♡



Albert Camus:

# The Outsider



As part of his undergraduate research, **ALEXANDER WALKER (2008, MODERN LANGUAGES)** investigates echoes of Judeo-Christian scripture in the works of novelist Albert Camus

In my final year of Modern Languages I wrote an extended essay on the work of Albert Camus, the French-Algerian author and philosopher. My research began by looking at some of Camus's later works, which are less typically studied for the undergraduate course. I was struck by how frequently Judeo-Christian scripture was brought into the work *L'exil et le royaume*, with the title alone referencing Adam and Eve's removal from the Garden of Eden, and the future kingdom of God. The short stories themselves provide vignettes of Camus's *étranger*, the human who exists as 'other'. I focused in particular upon Janine of *La Femme Adultère* and Daru in *L'Hôte*. Having considered these protagonists, I presented Exile at the outset of my essay as the constant condition of Camus's contemporary Algeria. In the stories of *L'exil et le royaume*, Camus describes his French characters as feeling opposed by the barren and desolate Algerian landscape, compounded by the cultural divide between the coloniser and the colonised. Daru feels especially helpless as he refuses to side with either, finding himself placed on a mountain top: a parallel with Camus's own intellectual position. From such heights, he sees all yet can do nothing.

Further Judeo-Christian resonances arose in *Le premier homme*. An unfinished work, many of his notes are appended, one of which echoes the Sermon on

the Mount. Camus appears to take on a prophetic voice as he calls for the land to be given back to the people – a statement at odds with his public stance, which held that the French colonisers were valuable to the Algerian community.

Frequently associated with Sartre's existentialism, Camus comments in *Le mythe de Sisyphe* that the practice of religion is a form of philosophical suicide. Yet it appears that in his later works, Camus looks to redefine Judeo-Christian terms in light of Algerian politics. The second half of my essay introduced the idea of 'kingdom' and its relation to Camus's vision of Algeria's future. It is a contrast of the state of exile, representing a chance for unity. I introduced Camus's experiences of Algeria as seen through the eyes of *Le premier homme*'s Jacques Cormery. Jacques's story is the fictional biography of Camus's childhood in Algeria, and as such presents the idealistic childhood that would help foster his own vision of a shared kingdom in Algeria.

I went on to compare Camus's political and literary views through analysis of *Actuelles III: chroniques algériennes*, which identifies the need for justice and a sense of community. This provided ethical imperatives whose source could

be traced to the Bible, yet Camus adjusts them so that they might resonate with both French and Arab citizens of a future Algeria. In *Actuelles III* he attempts to resolve differences between France and Algeria. I decided that the terms of any such resolution would form the conclusion of my essay.

Many of Camus's critics argued that his ideas were belittled by the fact that he spoke from a French-Algerian perspective. Each of these two sides shouted louder than the few who fought the same battles as Camus. Moreover, his opinion seems to have been undermined by an optimism which ignores the political reality of his time. Yet despite such political idealism, it remains surprising that Camus incorporates Judeo-Christian ideas in hoping to create a kingdom that represents the Algerian people. ♡

**FF** Camus describes his French characters as feeling opposed by the barren and desolate Algerian landscape, compounded by the cultural divide between the coloniser and the colonised

# Fishing for Answers



Graduate researcher **XINYUAN ZHENG (2009, EARTH SCIENCES)** sinks his teeth into paleoclimatology



Xinyuan Zheng prepares samples in the clean lab

Much of our current knowledge about climate change comes from the study of paleoclimatology – the investigation of changes in climate which have taken place in the geological past. Paleoclimatology attempts to understand the underlying mechanisms which result in these changes. Research into past climates provides records of long-term variations in climate, covering nearly the entire history of the earth, laying down a baseline from which we can tell whether a change occurs within the natural variability. Therefore, research into past climates can contribute to our understanding of future climate change and, more specifically, global warming.

As a DPhil student in the field of paleoclimatology, my research concerns reconstructing ocean circulation in the Cretaceous Period (the final stages of the 'Age of Dinosaurs'), which dates

back to between 65m and 145m years ago. The Cretaceous Period was one of the warmest periods in Earth's history, because the atmosphere contained a CO<sub>2</sub> concentration which was four to eight times higher than the present level. The study of this period can therefore potentially provide an insight into future warm climates.

Ocean circulation – the large-scale movement of seawater – is important in regulating global temperature as it delivers heat from the tropics to higher latitudes. A notable example is that of Northern Europe, which today is much warmer than its latitude ought to suggest. This is largely due to the heat transported by the Gulf Stream. Reconstructing ocean circulation is therefore always a relevant, and indeed essential, part of understanding past climates.

In the absence of a time machine, paleoclimatic research traces ancient climates by examining 'paleoclimate proxies' preserved in various geological records. A good proxy can tell us about some aspects of the past climate, such as temperature, humidity, ocean salinity, and, in my case, patterns of ocean circulation. The combination of these different aspects gives us a complete picture of what a climate looks like. Most importantly, a good proxy can survive the prolonged geological processes that tend to blur pristine climatic information over time, such as decomposition and diffusion.

The proxies I am using to reconstruct ocean circulation in the Cretaceous Period are Neodymium isotopes preserved in fossilised fish teeth. Neodymium (Nd) isotopes have been proven to be powerful proxies for ocean circulation, because different water masses have characteristic Nd isotopic values, which serve as fingerprints in the identification process. Seawater Nd was incorporated into fish teeth very quickly when their corpses settled on the seabed, and has remained inert in their teeth for millions of years, buried under sediments.

**FF** The study of the Cretaceous Period can potentially provide an insight into future warm climates

My colleagues, including researchers both from Oxford and from other institutions, and I performed field work in southern coastal areas of England to collect Cretaceous fish teeth which are now locked in chalk. The white cliffs of Dover, one of our sampling sites, is a perfect example of Cretaceous Chalk. We then picked out fish teeth from rocks with the aid of microscopes, often finding only a few milligrams of fish teeth in several kilograms of rocks! I separated and purified the Nd from the fish teeth, and finally measured the isotopes on a mass spectrometer. Some results have already shown interesting features of ocean circulation during the warmth of the Cretaceous Period. Our results have revealed that circulation around Europe evolved throughout the period and its evolution drove and responded to climate change. In time, they will be submitted to journals such as *Geology* and *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*. ♡



# Taking the 'A' Train



From the bars of New York City to the streets of New Orleans, the North American Travel Scholar goes coast to coast in search of the meaning of jazz **MICHAEL DUNNE (2008, MATHEMATICS)**

Last year I was lucky enough to receive the 2011 North America Travel Scholarship, supported by the generosity of Exeter alumni. My intentions were to explore the music that made North America – jazz – and the strong relationship that has developed between the two. Over the course of six weeks, I wove a path from coast to coast, beginning in Boston and, 15 cities, 6,000 miles, and countless trains and buses later ending in San Francisco.

Along the way I witnessed incredible sights: the power of Niagara Falls and the cinematic scenery of the Grand Canyon and Monument Valley. I experienced classic Americana, attending a baseball game in St Louis and getting a true taste of Texas during my time in Austin. I was also never far from the Great American Weather, narrowly missing tropical storms, floods, droughts and fires.

My first stop was Boston, and after finding my feet and heading south to the stunning Newport Jazz Festival, I made my way to New York, where jazz went from infancy to adolescence, standing on its own feet after being imported from New Orleans. The vibrancy and pace of New York, which has remained consistent throughout the 20th century, makes it easy to see how the East Coast innovators – Miles Davis, Duke Ellington et al. – flourished.

Following brief stops in Syracuse and Niagara, and a visit to Toronto, I headed to Chicago, New York's spiritual sister, at least in terms of its role in American music. Heading south-west, things got bigger, hotter, and progressively less familiar. I also drew closer to the birthplace of jazz, and via St Louis (the origin of Miles Davis, amongst others) I reached New Orleans, the pinnacle of my trip.

New Orleans is almost universally credited as the place where jazz first emerged from murky musical waters. Upon setting foot in the city, that jazz music should

have developed here instantly made sense: there was a beautifully relaxed and optimistic attitude everywhere I looked, exemplified when I was whisked straight off to the Midsummer Mardi Gras parade on arrival. Having arrived trumpetless, I was soon handed pieces of brass and getting involved on stages, bars and living rooms all over the place. Jazz here is a part of people's vocabulary: to play music is to have a conversation, rather than simply display one's musical plumage. To me that is exactly what jazz is and should be about. I found in New Orleans that at the root of jazz music is an attitude, rather than a history.

Having arrived trumpetless, I was soon handed pieces of brass and getting involved on stages, bars, and living rooms all over the place

After leaving Louisiana, I went on to Texas and the parks of Arizona, finally concluding my tour of North America on the West Coast. I received very warm welcomes in Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco, before bidding a fond farewell and heading back across the Atlantic in time for breakfast. I was so touched by the number of people, alumni or otherwise, who went out of their way to help me out, and I thank every one of them for making my trip what it was. In America, through encounters, conversations, and an awful lot of getting lost, I became much more in tune with the world that nurtured the music I play, and discovered an invaluable depth and appreciation that I couldn't possibly have found in history books. ♥

Photo: Michael surveys the Grand Canyon in Arizona



# Student Past Times



The Holaday Scholar's Oxford experience is enhanced by an unexpected return to a past life

**JENNIFER BANDI (2011, CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE)**



Jennifer takes a shot against the London South Bank University team

Before even setting foot in this city, I had received enough advice regarding what I 'must do' to ensure a complete Oxford experience to overwhelm even the most ambitious of graduate students. I was told to become heavily involved with my college, go to classy dinners and balls, develop ties within my academic programme and take advantage of England's position as a gateway to Europe by travelling as much as possible. As a tall athlete, I was also advised to join a rowing team as soon as possible, whilst others cautioned me to establish a permanent residency in the library. While much of this advice has influenced my first year at Oxford, my time with the Oxford University Basketball Team has demonstrated that sometimes the most meaningful experiences are unexpected and do not appear on a centuries-old 'to-do' list.

I was extremely grateful for the opportunities I had to play basketball in the United States but, for a variety of reasons, I came to view the sport that I had passionately pursued for 17 years as a closed chapter of my life. I had no intention of playing basketball at Oxford, but it didn't take me long to realise that this team was remarkably different from anything I had ever been a part of. Team bonding events were characterised by everyone laughing to the point of exhaustion; conditioning took the form of ultimate frisbee in the park on Saturday mornings; and the term 'student athlete' wasn't just a cliché used to ensure that players were achieving the minimum standard to be academically eligible to step onto the court.

Any sports team composed of students from a variety of backgrounds and studying neuroscience, education, diplomacy, theology and law (to name a few) is bound to be interesting. However, what distinctly set this team apart from the rest of my athletic experiences was

The combination of strong personalities and sound life perspectives that overflowed from my teammates not only helped me adapt to life in Oxford, but challenged me to grow as a person

the way in which the concepts of role model, teammate, and friend were not mutually exclusive. The combination of strong personalities and sound life perspectives that overflowed from my teammates not only helped me adapt to life in Oxford, but challenged me to grow as a person.

It is not that this team trivialised winning. To a certain extent, many of us are so naturally competitive that properly representing each other and the University were the only incentives we needed to train and play the best that we could. I look back on our win against the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff as one of the most exciting moments of the season. In addition, qualifying for the British Universities and Colleges Sport Championships and winning the National Founders Cup are testament to the dedication and hard work of this team. However, it is the friendships, the experiences that we have shared both on and off the court, and the rejuvenation of my love for basketball that have made the past season with the Women's Blues stand out as the most unanticipated blessing of my first year in Oxford. There is no template for making one's time here 'complete', but for me, my Oxford experience would have been lacking without basketball. ♥



## Life After Oxford



Unique in Oxford, Exeter's dedicated Careers Office continues to ensure that students get off to a flying start when entering the world of work

**MICHAEL MAYO (2010, ENGLISH), CAREERS OFFICER**

One of Exeter's most salient advantages over other colleges is the Careers Office – the only such college-based service in the University of Oxford. For many students, leaving Oxford is a daunting prospect, and the Careers Office aims to provide as much support as it can to ensure that Exeter's graduates have the best chance of finding fulfilling employment.

Initially established as a way to get Exeter students to think early and carefully about life after Oxford, the Careers Office now offers more than 20 internship programmes with partners around the world, including museums, environmental NGOs and major law firms. These partner organisations offer these internships exclusively to Exeter students, confident that they are getting some of the strongest and most carefully

selected young people in the country.

The Careers Office encourages students to broaden their horizons and consider the benefits of working abroad, as well as in Britain, when they graduate. It is for that reason that last year we started internship programmes with Essar, a multinational corporation based in Mumbai. Imogen Pierce, a second-year Engineering student said of her time there, 'the experience was incredible. I was reporting to top management and exposed to a level of business that I perhaps would not have been had I applied to a more conventional internship.'

Hands-on experience and significant responsibility are common among internships awarded through the Careers Office. Joel Richardson, a third-year reading English, described his role at a

leading literary agency as 'really intense – people would have spent months working on books which I had the power to accept or reject in 15 minutes.' He concluded, 'I loved it; it gave me a really clear idea of what I would like to do in life.'

This summer a number of Exeter's students have been welcomed onto internships with Jaguar Land Rover, where they have joined the company's engineering and design teams, whilst others are gaining valuable experience with Report International, a media and communications analysis group.

None of the work that the Careers Office does would be possible without the wonderful support of Exeter's internship partners and the generosity of Old Members, Parents and Friends of the College. We are truly grateful to them. ♥

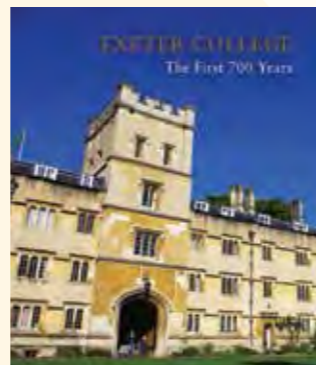
## The First 700 Years



In preparation for a book celebrating Exeter's 700th anniversary, **HANNAH PARHAM (2001, MODERN HISTORY)** delves deep into the College archives

Old copies of the *Stapeldon Magazine*, first published in 1901, allow the historian to become deeply absorbed in the world that was Edwardian Exeter. The moustachioed, upper class undergraduates, bachelor dons, and deferential servants. The dining clubs, boat club, rugger, hunting and punting. At the turn of the 20th century there were only eight Fellows of Exeter College, and around 50 freshmen came up each year. Study played a peripheral role in their lives: undergraduates were allowed in the library for just three hours on weekdays. Around a fifth of Oxford finalists were 'passmen' (candidates for degrees without honours); another fifth took no examination at all.

The *Stapeldon* back-issues are housed in the College library, which I visited on the first properly warm Sunday of this year. It was first thing in the morning, but every desk was taken by diligent undergraduates who were 'in for the Schools' (a phrase of the 1920s, when students began to take exams seriously again). The Edwardian Exonians would be more at home in Restoration Exeter: a diary of 1692 records how two Exeter undergraduates 'at one in the morning ... came up the Bocherew, [and] broke windows there'. Or in the 1970s, when Adelphi Club dinners were banned in College after the Sub-Rector's windows were smashed in. In the seven centuries since Exeter was founded, everything has changed, and nothing has changed.



My research is for a new book on Exeter to be published in 2014 as part of the College's 700th anniversary celebrations. Co-authored by Frances Cairncross, with contributions from many Exonians, the book will include chapters on each phase of the College's history; its founder, benefactors, dons, undergraduates and staff; and a 'guided tour' of the College's historic buildings told through rare, early photographs from the College archives. ♥



The jazz parade makes its way down Turl Street



Exeter's Music, Arts and Drama Officer conducts a dynamic week as President of the Turl Street Arts Festival **NAOMI CHARATAN (2010, MUSIC)**

This year it was Exeter's turn to put forward a president to oversee the planning and running of the Turl Street Arts Festival. I put myself forward for the job, and with the help of a strong committee with representatives from all three colleges, we produced one of the most successful Turl Street festivals in recent years. The festival started with a dedicated launch weekend, including a jazz parade, jazz workshop and jazz evening (hosted by ExVac) led by the Ken Colyner Legacy New Orleans Jazz Band.

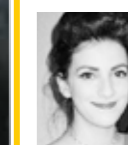
The week featured sell-out performances, both of *The Players*, a new play by Jesus student Matt Parvin, and Bernstein's *West Side Story*

The rest of the week was jam-packed with events, including lunchtime recitals, art exhibitions, workshops, a fashion show and the launch of the Turl Street Anthology, which included pieces of new writing by Turl Street students. The week featured sell-out performances, both of *The Players*, a new play by Jesus student Matt Parvin, and Bernstein's *West Side Story*. The casts of both productions were drawn entirely from Turl Street students.

The festival culminated in a concert of Mozart's Symphony no. 40 in G Minor and his Mass in C Minor in the beautiful surroundings of Exeter chapel and conducted by Exeter's senior organ scholar, Joshua Hales. The traditional joint evensong on the last Sunday featured a choir amassed from the three colleges, and we welcomed the Reverend Richard Coles (musician, broadcaster, journalist and priest), whose sermon provided a fitting end to the week. This year we were delighted that the festival made a small profit, and the committee has decided to donate some of the proceeds to our own Turl Street charity, ExVac: a very worthwhile cause. ♥



Chris Morgan and Imogen West-Knights share a moment in *The Importance of Being Earnest*



The JCR-funded Exon Productions receives rave reviews for its

Wilde maiden voyage

**JESSICA PALMAROZZA**

(2010, ENGLISH)

Earlier this year, Exon Productions was founded by three students in their second year in order to encourage and support dramatic talent at Exeter College. The first show was Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, performed in sixth week of Hilary Term at the Corpus Christi Auditorium. We adapted it slightly, setting it in 1940s Oxford rather than 1890s London, and the victory rolls, lipstick and loafers created an aesthetic coinciding with the general trend for vintage in lieu of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

The auditorium at Corpus provided a fantastic, malleable space for the performance and suited aristocratic interiors as much as it did the garden scenes. The show was a great success, receiving a four-star preview and five-star review from *The Oxford Student* and *Cherwell* respectively. Chris Morgan and Imogen West-Knights excelled as Algernon and Cecily and created a dynamic that was as touching as it was hilariously surreal, whilst Abigail Rees enthralled the audience with her subtle portrayal of Lady Bracknell, which never failed to generate laughs.

We are extremely grateful to the JCR for their continued support of drama. Thanks to its very generous grant the show turned over a profit, some of which is being invested into another Exeter-based production due to run in Michaelmas of next year. ♥





Exeter College Hockey Club



## Hockey

**BEN ABDOO**  
(2010, HISTORY)

Last year, under the guidance of James Hunter, the hockey club

scored huge successes, including winning both League One and Mixed Cuppers and playing in College Varsity against St Catz, Cambridge. So the 2011-12 incoming Captain, Dan Bailey, had much to live up to. However, I'm pleased to report that the season has been a success. This year has seen a

particularly strong intake of freshers, including Alex Bleasdale, Ralph Eliot, Robert Fox and James West.

The League in Michaelmas was a hard-fought contest and, following a 5-0 demolition of Oriel, the race for the title came down to an Exeter-Trinity local derby. Exeter unfortunately lost 2-1, and was forced to settle for second place. Hilary Term saw a similar story in our league performance, but the main focus of the term was Cuppers. After securing a place in the semi-finals, we were drawn against a strong St Catz outfit. Despite a good performance from the team, we were unlucky to go down 2-4, with a special mention to Dan Bailey for his two goals. Mixed Cuppers was the team's final competition of the season and everything seemed to be going to plan as Exeter stormed through the first few rounds. However, an administrative error saw Exeter turn up to our quarter final game on the wrong day!

Many thanks to all those who represented ECHC at any level this season, and a special mention goes to the fantastic stalwarts of the team leaving us this year – Arthur Sawbridge, Dan Sellars, Robbie Strachan, Rupert Thurlow and Tom Vining. ♥



Exeter College Association Football Club



## Football

**CHRIS BENNETT**  
(2010, PHYSICS)

This year has been incredibly successful for ECAFC. Not only did we finish the season in second place in

the top tier of college football, but we also scored more goals than any other division side. This was largely thanks to Austin Platt, the League's joint top goal scorer, who had an impressive 10 goals to his name at the end of the season.

Thanks to our sponsor for the second season running, Origin, we had a fantastic new kit in time for our first

game. Michaelmas Term began well, with victories against St Catherine's and Merton/Mansfield placing us amongst the frontrunners of the division. However, in a thrilling match against Worcester we allowed a three-goal lead to slip away and were dealt a blow in the form of an injury to centre-back, Sandy Clark.

Although by Christmas we were mid-table in the League, we managed to remain in Cuppers until the quarter final. With three games of the season remaining, the League was incredibly close, and we were a point off bottom. However, a fantastic turn of form saw us beat fellow strugglers Teddy Hall 3-0 and secure a well-overdue clean sheet. We then went on to win our two final matches, beating the eventual League winners. We finished second in the table, only three points from the top.

Unfortunately we have to say goodbye to a number of players in the final year of their degrees, including Austin Platt, Rupert Thurlow and former captains Joshua Brocklesby and Alex Walker. Those leaving will be sorely missed, and we hope to find some talented freshers to continue the high standard set by the team this year. ♥



## Rugby

**NICK FLETCHER**  
(2010, PPE)

After an enormously successful 2010-11 season, ECRFC began the year in the first division for the first time in nearly a decade.

The 2011-12 season has proved to be both successful and rewarding. The two proudest moments for the club came in the first round of the league in Michaelmas. Our second game pitted us against Teddy Hall. ECRFC was 20-12 up at half time. However, in the second half Teddy Hall brought on some bigger forward subs which proved too much for ECRFC to handle. Considering that Teddy Hall went on to win this year's cuppers, ECRFC's sterling performance should be seen as evidence of the team's potential. We were able to convert this potential into success with a win against last year's cuppers champions, Keble. After a very strong first season, ECRFC finished third in the first division, our strongest league finish for at least 10 years.



The rugby team poses for a naked calendar to raise funds for ExVac (see page 38)

In the second round of the league, ECRFC found itself with no returning Blues players in a division awash with them. With some of our more winnable fixtures cancelled because of snow, the season ended with relegation to the second division. Whilst this is a shame after what has otherwise been a successful season,

the team looks forward to recovering from the loss of key players who are graduating and working back up into the first division, which we know is within our capability.

ECRFC will sorely miss Robert Cowan, Toby Griffiths, Tom Blight, Mark Westwood, James Reynoldson, Will Merrett, James Elish and Tom Vining. ♥



## Rowing

**RORY ANTCLIFF**  
(2010, PPE)

We welcomed new Men's and Women's team coaches this year, David Border and Jonny Smith-Williams respectively. It was soon clear that they had a big task ahead of them, and we are grateful for their help.

In Michaelmas Term four novice crews raced competitively in the Christ Church and Nephthys regattas, with both the Men's and the Women's A crews knocked out by the overall winners. The Women's B boat brought a memorable spirit to the river by dressing as pirates on the final day.

Hilary Term saw the novices forming the senior squads that went on to enter Torpids. Regrettably 'spoons' were handed out to all crews except the Men's 2nd VIII, which secured a bump on the second day. Despite the initially painful results, this was an invaluable experience for the novice majority in the boat club. With the memory of Torpids to spur them on, the Men's crews set out over the Easter vacation to endure



The Exeter College Boat Club Women's Firsts

a gruelling week of pain in Reading, resulting in significant technical and fitness gains. Unfortunately heavy rain closed the river in the weeks preceding Summer Vllls, a frustrating time that left everybody well acquainted with the beloved ergs!

Nevertheless, Summer Vllls presented itself as an opportunity to

show how much the club had moved on. The Men's 1st VIII slipped two places before holding their place in a valiant race against rivals Jesus, and the Women's 1st VIII bumped Linacre on the first day despite crashing out of the blocks! The hard work of all the crews paid off, leaving them hungrily looking back up the charts for next year. ♥



# Aung San Suu Kyi Honoured at Encaenia



The democracy campaigner's courage in adversity is championed as she returns to her alma mater after years under house arrest

MATTHEW BALDWIN, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER



Daw Suu chats to students Ben Clayton and Sophia Nayak in the Fellows' Garden

The University of Oxford welcomed Burmese politician and democracy campaigner Aung San Suu Kyi in June, as she was awarded an honorary doctorate in civil law. It was her first visit to Europe since 1988, having spent 15 of the previous 23 years held under house arrest by the Burmese military junta.

Daw Suu arrived in Oxford on 19 June, her 67th birthday, and stayed at St Hugh's College, where she read PPE from 1964 to 1967. She celebrated her birthday there with a private party for friends and family.

On 20 June the world's gaze focussed on her, on Oxford and on Exeter College, where Daw Suu and her fellow honorands gathered before formally processing into the Sheldonian Theatre for the Encaenia ceremony. In a break with tradition, Daw Suu was invited to address the congregation during a live broadcast.

She told the captivated audience: 'Today, many strands of my life have come together. The years that I spent as a student at St Hugh's; the years that I spent in Park Town as a wife and mother; the years I spent under house arrest – when my university, the University of Oxford, stood up and spoke up for me.'

'During the most difficult years I was upheld by memories of Oxford. These were among the most important inner resources that helped me to cope with all the challenges I had to face.'

She reflected that happy memories of Oxford not only helped her endure the isolation and entrapment of house arrest, but also enabled her to identify with young people in

Burma who, she said, 'wanted to live a happy life and who had never been given an opportunity to lead one.'

Presenting Daw Suu for her award, the Public Orator Professor Richard Jenkyns described the painful decision to leave family in Oxford to campaign for democracy in Burma as 'a kind of exile.' He declared 'your silence has sounded louder than the jabber of politics and the clang of military power; out of deep darkness your little lamp has shone across the planet; your stillness has moved the world.'

The Chancellor of the University, Lord Patten of Barnes, described Daw Suu as an 'unbowed champion of liberty' and praised the example of courage and endurance she had shown.

Daw Suu spoke of the need to invest responsibly in Burma, to be practical and patient. She concluded, 'The road ahead [for Burma] is not going to be easy. But Oxford, I know, expects the best of its own. And today, because it has recognised me as its very own, I am strengthened to go forward to give of my very best in meeting the new challenges that lie ahead.'

Among the other leading figures honoured during Encaenia was David Cornwell, better known under his penname John le Carré. Daw Suu paid tribute to his books for the journey into other worlds and ideas that they had provided during her detention. 'These were the journeys that made me feel that I was not really cut off from the rest of humankind,' she said. 'I was never alone, because there were many, many avenues to places far away from where I was.' ♥

# Tomorrow's World



The Blavatnik School of Government opens its doors for the first time to potential world leaders of tomorrow

ADAM WARD (2011, PPE)

In September 2012 the Blavatnik School of Government will welcome its first students. For Oxford, this is a tremendous opportunity to groom future policy makers and the leaders of tomorrow.

Initially, the School will offer just one course: the Master of Public Policy, which encompasses fields of study from politics, economics and law, to history, philosophy and ethics, to the natural sciences and medicine.

The School of Government has attracted leading academics and policy makers. The Dean of the School, Professor Ngaire Woods, is founder and director of the Global Economic Governance Programme, which researches how global institutions could better respond to the needs of developing countries. She has held advisory roles in the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations, the World Economic Forum, the Commonwealth, the European Parliament, the African Development Bank, and the British government. Dr Philipp Hildebrand will be joining the School as a Senior Visiting Fellow, having previously served as Chairman of the Governing Board of the Swiss National Bank, Director of the Bank for International Settlements in Basel and Vice-Chairman of the Financial Stability Board.

The aim of the Masters course is to enable students to find more innovative solutions to policy challenges at local, regional and global levels. 'We aim to be a global school from Day One,' says Professor Woods. 'Our student body will be international, and students will be learning from Brazil, from Kenya, from Thailand, from China – as well as from Europe and the United States. It will be good to train students to understand other countries, and also study with people in other countries; to have global thinking, global understanding, and global networking.'

The Blavatnik School of Government will join a league of influential schools of government, including the Kennedy School of Government, which boasts among its alumni Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and the British Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls.

Interestingly both schools were set up at times of financial uncertainty. The Kennedy School (then called the Harvard Graduate School of Public Administration)

was founded during the Great Depression by philanthropist Lucius Littauer. He hoped it would create a new professional governing class to come to terms with the historic policy challenges the USA was facing at home and abroad. Exeter's own Old Member, Professor Joseph Nye, has been one of its past directors.

The finance for the Blavatnik School of Government has come through a record-breaking gift of £75m from philanthropist Leonard Blavatnik at a time of political unrest across large parts of the world and economic stagnation in the UK and beyond. The School aims to lead rigorous policy discussion to provide effective global cooperation and solutions to the problems of the 21st century.

**££**  
The finance for the Blavatnik School of Government has come through a record-breaking gift of £75m from philanthropist Leonard Blavatnik

Professor Woods describes the School's approach: 'We sat down and said, with 21st century policy problems, what does a public policy maker need to understand about them? We've got an analytical part of the curriculum and a practical part. We're not trying to train scientists and medics, but we'll be teaching how to be an informed user of scientific advice.'

The founding of the Blavatnik School of Government is an exciting opportunity for Oxford, a university which has taught 26 of Britain's 53 prime ministers. According to Professor Woods, the Blavatnik School of Government wants to recruit the policy makers of tomorrow. 'We are looking for outstanding academic ability and a demonstrated commitment to public service,' she says, 'but we are also looking for impact – people who are ready to lead and can deliver.' ♥



## Ertegun's Legacy



The University announces an extraordinary £26m donation to fund graduate scholarships

**MATTHEW STOKES (2010, MODERN LANGUAGES)**

It was with fear and excitement that I got up at an ungodly hour on a rare day – 29 February – to go to a similarly rare event at the British Academy, where the University was holding a press conference.

As the panel of speakers entered, I was taken aback to see the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor accompanied by Lord Melvyn Bragg, Harvey Goldsmith (the UK's foremost concert promoter), John Paul Jones of Led Zeppelin fame, and a shy-looking lady.

It soon became clear that the shy-looking lady was the cause of this odd assembly. She was Mica Ertegun, the widow of Ahmet Ertegun, the founder of Atlantic Records. Mrs Ertegun, the Vice-Chancellor announced, had donated £26m to fund

graduate scholarships in the field of humanities – the most generous gift for the humanities in Oxford's history.

The scholarships will eventually cover tuition and living costs for 35 graduate students from around the world. The first cohort will start in Michaelmas 2012, with an initial intake of 15 students.

Competition is fierce, with over 1,000 applications already submitted by the time of the press conference. Students will have to gain a place through the normal postgraduate entry system before applying for an Ertegun Scholarship.

The Vice-Chancellor said postgraduate funding was a 'crisis down the road' and added that the Ertegun Programme 'allows us to ensure that the very best minds are supporting the University's research endeavour.'

Mrs Ertegun said: 'In these times, when there is so much strife in the world, I believe it is tremendously important to support those things that endure across time. My dream is that, one day, Ertegun Scholars will be leaders in every field.' Certainly worth getting out of bed for. ♥

Mrs Ertegun said: 'In these times, when there is so much strife in the world, I believe it is tremendously important to support those things that endure across time'

## £75m for Oxford's Poorest Students



An unprecedented donation from Michael Moritz will alleviate the financial burden of university for disadvantaged students

**GITANJALI JOSEPH (2010, HISTORY)**

The Oxford Thinking campaign passed £1.25bn in March 2012, and received a major boost in July when the biggest philanthropic gift for undergraduate financial support in European history was announced.

Winning praise from the Prime Minister, David Cameron, a £75m commitment from venture capitalist Michael Moritz and his wife, Harriet Heyman, will provide students from low income backgrounds with £11,000 a year in financial support. That is enough to cover their living costs and to support them during vacations, ensuring that economic hardship should not compromise studies. The scheme will start right away: students who have won a place at Oxford for 2012 are eligible for a Moritz-Heyman bursary.

Around one in 10 Oxford undergraduates comes from a family with an income below £16,000 a year. Within three years of the launch of the scholarship,

over half of these students will be benefiting from the scheme's funding. All Oxford undergraduates from low-income homes will benefit from the most generous financial aid packages in the country from this year onwards. But beneficiaries of the Moritz-Heyman awards will receive an additional sum, intended to reflect extra participation in access programmes for future students from poor families.

Michael Moritz, an alumnus of Christ Church College, said: 'Real talent is housed everywhere. Our new scholarship programme means that a gifted student – irrespective of financial circumstances – will always be 100% confident they can study at Oxford.'

Mr Moritz and Ms Heyman hope that their generous gift will eventually attract matched giving to bring the total value of the scheme to £300m. ♥



Pages from the *Romance of Alexander* (1338-44) by Flemish illuminator Jehan de Grise

## The Language of the Heart



The Bodleian displays its finest Romantic manuscripts, from *Le Roman de la Rose* to *The Lord of the Rings*

**ELEANOR FRANZEN (2010, ENGLISH)**

One of the hidden treasures of Oxford must surely be the Bodleian Library's exhibition room in the Old Schools Quad. There, under low lighting and for the rather reasonable price of nothing at all, lurks a selection of the Library's greatest treasures. In Hilary term a collection of beautifully illuminated romance manuscripts lightened the winter gloom, and provided the perfect excuse for a lunchtime excursion.

The exhibition traced the development of romance from its origins in Germany, France and England during the Dark Ages, through the ornate French manuscripts of romance stories of the High Middle Ages, the resurgence of interest in all things medieval, and romantic, during the Pre-Raphaelite period, and eventually finished up in the 20th century, with the romance-inspired work of JRR Tolkien, CS Lewis and Philip Pullman. On display were some of the earliest manuscripts

of romances ever discovered – and, remarkably enough, many of them were easily legible. Assuming that you could understand Middle English (which isn't too far from Modern English, albeit with very idiosyncratic spelling), a casual observer could bend over the glass case containing the manuscript of

*Havelok the Dane* and be drawn into the tale of deceit, valour and destiny. *Sir Eglamour of Artois*, meanwhile, was open at a page with an illustration of the poem's climactic moment. The hero kills an enormous boar belonging to a giant, who rather poignantly mourns the loss of his pet, which he calls 'myn lytel spotted hogelynne': my little spotted hogling.

The French manuscripts are by far the most lavishly illustrated in the Bod's collection. A copy of *Le Roman de la Rose*, one of the most scandalous texts of its time, contained a half page illustration of the siege of the Castle of Love. These illustrations are so masterfully composed that it is impossible to tell brushstrokes apart; they look almost like a plastic transfer sticker, vivid and whole, not like something that was created bit by bit and coloured in by monastic scribes. The gold tracing on the horses' saddles, the blue of the sky that differs from the blue of the river, the scarlet of a knight's tunic: it is as though the picture simply grew and blossomed on the page.

Western culture remains enamoured with romance narrative. Some of its most characteristic elements – heroes and kings, monsters and beautiful, dangerous ladies – can be traced in the adventures of 20th century fictional characters: Frodo and Sam, Aslan and the Pevensie siblings, and even Lyra and Will of *His Dark Materials* fame. It is heartening to realise, faced with the proof of hundreds of years' worth of literary imagination, that romance is far from dead. ♥

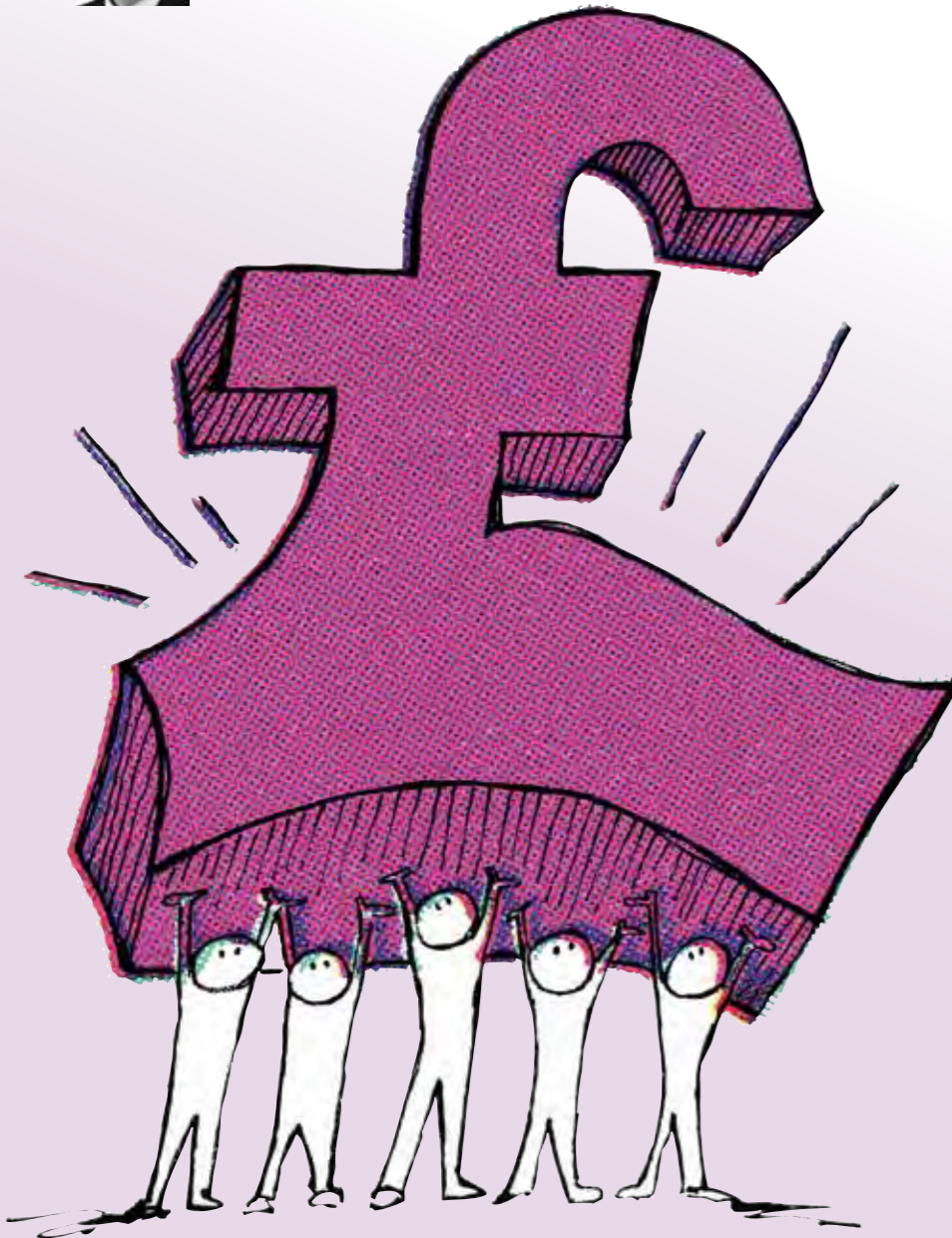




# Think BIG



The Chairman of Big Society Capital argues that some investments can profit capitalists and society alike **SIR RONALD COHEN (1964, PPE)**



**E**xeter College was founded in 1314 with capital from Walter de Stapeldon, Bishop of Exeter. Stapeldon's contribution could be characterised as a social investment rather than a charitable donation. He gave the College two parishes, one in Cornwall and one in Oxfordshire, the tithes on which amounted to £52 a year. In exchange, scholars were drawn from Exeter, Barnstaple, Totnes and Cornwall and they returned to contribute to life in the South West upon completion of their studies.

The College, which has never been the beneficiary of grand patronage, has balanced its books, while the social contribution of its graduates, Fellows and faculty has been incalculable. The College's exceptional roster of distinguished alumni includes not just bishops, peers and parliamentary politicians, but radical thinkers such as William Morris and, in our own time, socially-engaged writers such as Alan Bennett and Philip Pullman.

Stapeldon's initial philanthropy, supplemented by his subsequent endowments to support poor but gifted students, has clearly paid handsome social dividends.

There is now emerging a difference between social investment and simple philanthropy. Both are important. Until the mid-20th century, charitable organisations were responsible for most hospitals, schools and many of the forms of poor relief in Britain. It was expected that the Welfare State would eliminate the need for this work, but the charity sector – also known as the voluntary, third or social sector – continues to make a significant contribution to the alleviation of suffering and the consequences of social disadvantage.

**ff** Few charities have the resources to see them through more than a few months of operation and they lack the ability to grow into major organisations capable of making a serious impact on social issues

However, the social sector faces serious challenges. Charitable service providers are largely reliant on philanthropic donations and grants from government. These sources of finance are unreliable and just 2.4% of the registered charities in the UK have annual incomes of more than £1m. Few have the resources to see them through more than a few months of operation and they lack the ability to grow into major organisations capable of making a serious impact on social issues.

At the same time, the charitable foundations that are the essential supporters of the social sector, donating about £3bn a year, hold about £100bn of assets. They have been inhibited in using their capital for social purposes by the widespread practice of investing it for purely financial return, with no connection to their mission.

For its part, the Welfare State has not been capable of addressing all areas of social need. Nor, despite every expectation, has it successfully redressed inequality. In fact, inequality has actually grown over the last 40 years. Governments across the world are out of cash and out of breath in dealing with social issues. Given the challenges facing the social sector and the shortcomings of government action, another pathway to the alleviation of social disadvantage needs to be found.

My own background is in entrepreneurship, venture capital and private equity. Together with my partners, I built Apax into a major firm by backing entrepreneurs who had a flair for innovation and who could run their businesses effectively to achieve considerable scale. I discovered that entrepreneurial drive is a key force for change. Entrepreneurs are ambitious and have an obsessive dedication to their goals.

But to achieve anything at all, entrepreneurship must be allied to capital. Capital is the fuel that drives any enterprise, regardless of sector. Exeter College began life with a gift of capital: two small parishes. These parishes generated the income that sustained the College for more than 200 years. But where capital is available only in the form either of philanthropic donations, which are generally unreliable over time, or of government fees or grants, which have reduced some charities to the status of dependent client organisations, the situation is not conducive to entrepreneurship, innovation and long-term, sustainable growth.

Today's challenge, as I see it, is to harness entrepreneurship and capital to deal with social issues. Social enterprise and investment – the deployment of capital to fund social organisations that deliver financial returns as well as measurable social benefits – offers a way forward.

Let me give you one example of the innovation that is possible when you approach social issues in this way. Social Impact Bonds were devised by Social Finance, an innovative investment company of which I was a founder-director. The target population for the first Social Impact Bond (SiB) comprises 3,000 prisoners due to leave Peterborough prison over six years. The SiB funds a programme of intervention delivered by not-for-profit organisations. A reduction in re-offending of 7.5% over the life of the programme – measured against a representative control group – will trigger a recoupment of capital and a 2.5% return to investors paid by government. A sustained 10% reduction over the life of the programme will result in an annualised return of 7.5% per year. Higher reductions still in the rate of re-offending will deliver yet higher returns to investors, subject to a maximum payment equivalent to a return of 13.3% per year. If the measured improvement is less than 7.5%, then investors lose their capital.

**ff** Capital is the fuel that drives any enterprise, regardless of sector. Exeter college began life with a gift of capital: two small parishes

The forecast payments to investors represent significantly less than half the expected cost-savings to the criminal justice system. The SiB not only rewards social entrepreneurs and investors for their success in delivering beneficial social outcomes, it also eliminates the state's risk: the government only pays out if the targeted level of desired objectives has been achieved.

SiBs are just one example of the kind of innovation that could attract capital to the social sector. Over time, I believe that the proliferation of such products will turn social organisations' need for capital into expressed demand. A new asset class will be created for investors eager to help improve society

as well as achieve an acceptable financial return.

In the process, parts of the social sector will raise their game: they will offer a blend of measurable social and financial returns; they will embrace financial innovation, including performance-based funding; and they will be more ambitious, seeking scale and efficiency. Importantly, enterprising charitable foundations and trusts will make balance-sheet investments, in addition to grants out of revenue, to achieve their social purposes. The sector will attract and nurture dynamic, innovative social entrepreneurs.

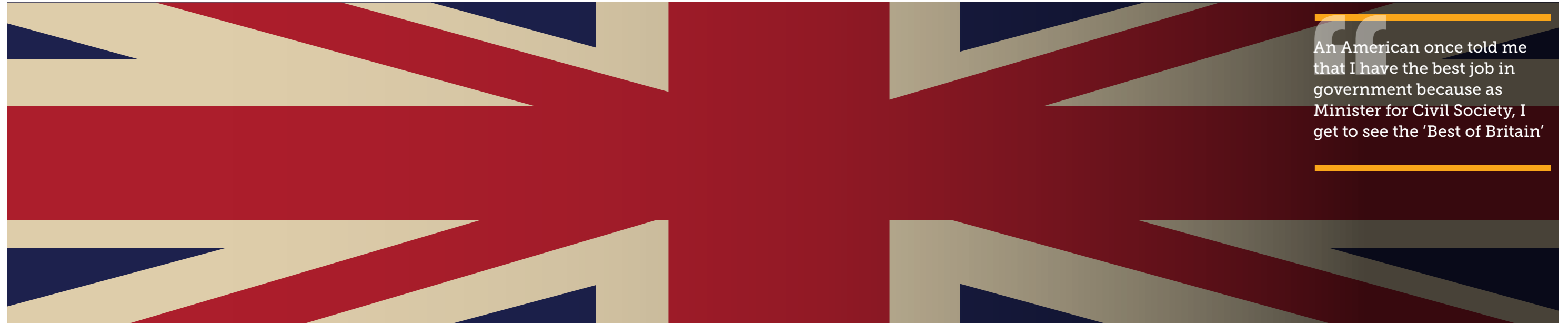
Capitalism does not have an automatic mechanism for looking after its social consequences, but the key drivers of the system – entrepreneurship, innovation and capital – have been deliberately harnessed to address social issues in the past. One thinks of Quaker enterprises and the work of 19th century manufacturer and social reformer Robert Owen. It is time that we harnessed those key drivers again, on a larger scale than before, to turn the social sector – and the 700,000 people working in it – into the powerful force required to help those whom the system leaves stuck in disadvantage.

I have been associated with a succession of initiatives devoted to the realisation of this vision. The Social Investment Task Force, set up in 2000, which I chaired, enjoyed cross-party support and had a major influence on government policy. The Task Force led me to help set up Bridges Ventures, a venture capital firm dedicated to investment in deprived communities. I also chaired the Commission on Unclaimed Assets, which recommended that dormant accounts in banks and building societies in the UK be used to fund a social investment bank to be a wholesaler of capital for the social sector. The recommendations of the Task Force and the Commission on Unclaimed Assets led to the founding earlier this year of Big Society Capital, a social investment bank with £600m of capital, £400m of which will come from dormant accounts.

Big Society Capital is a milestone on the road to creating a sustainable market for social enterprise and investment.

Three of us involved in these initiatives – the Minister for Civil Society, Nick Hurd, Big Society Capital's Alastair Ballantyne, and I, as Big Society Capital's Non-Executive Chairman – happen to be graduates of Exeter College. It is pleasing to reflect that we are continuing the Exeter tradition of enlightened social engagement. ♥





An American once told me that I have the best job in government because as Minister for Civil Society, I get to see the 'Best of Britain'

# The Best of Britain?



Nick Hurd MP, Minister for Civil Society, admires Britain's charity but asks whether the country could and should be doing more

NICK HURD (1981, LITERAE HUMANIORES)

As we celebrate 60 years of dedicated service from one extraordinary individual, a recent report from the OECD confirms that the Queen reigns over one of the most generous countries in the world. Between us, we give almost £11bn a year in charity, and that has remained quite steady in difficult times. We are not just generous with our money. Every day in communities across the country, millions of people give time to help others and keep things going. I dread to think what would happen in my constituency of Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner if the volunteers did not turn up to the police stations, churches, schools, libraries, local charities and sports clubs. Clever people

Much of what we perhaps take for granted in Oxford is only there because of generous benefactors

have tried to measure the economic value of this time given but, in truth, it is priceless. It is so often the glue that keeps communities together and gives them a strong sense of identity. These are the ties that bind us together, forge social trust and build the social

capital that underpins our national sense of wellbeing. An American once told me that I have the best job in government because, as Minister for Civil Society, I get to see the 'Best of Britain'. I know what he meant because every week I get the chance to meet extraordinary people who are doing or supporting invaluable work to improve lives, bring people together and give people a voice.

Without philanthropy so much of what we value as a country would just not be there. The impact and importance of charitable giving is abundantly clear in Oxford. Much of what we perhaps take for granted in that magnificent, world class centre of learning is only there because of generous benefactors. Exeter College itself was founded through the philanthropy of benefactors such as Walter de Stapeldon and William Petre in the 14th and 16th centuries respectively. Today it continues to be supported by the generosity of previous students as well as their parents and other Friends of the College. I am delighted to read on the website that over 2,000 Old Members give regularly to the Annual Fund, which is more than one in three.

Others make provision for the College in their will or make a gift in their lifetime to help achieve a specific project. This generosity is what sets Exeter apart from other colleges. No Oxford college has a higher participation rate.

However, such generosity is not restricted to the colleges and their networks of alumni looking to give something back. On a recent ministerial visit, I was very impressed by the energy of the Oxford Hub, which bills itself as the focal point for charitable activity at Oxford University. It is run by students and staff, and is the go-to place for students interested in social and environmental issues locally. They support student-run community volunteering, help students find careers in the third sector, provide training to increase impact, and run conferences and speaker series. One of the projects I visited was a food bank which collects surplus food from local supermarkets and distributes it to those in need through local charities. This virtuous circle is only made possible by the generosity of students who give their time. As you talk to them, you recognise a fundamental truth. Giving is a two-way street because the givers get so much out of the chance to make a positive difference.

So, we have much to be grateful for and much that we can congratulate ourselves on. However, there are reasons for guarding against complacency and asking ourselves whether we could and should do more. As you drill down into the numbers, there are reasons for concern. First of all giving has flat-lined for a long time, both in terms of time and money – despite lots of government interventions to try and stimulate it. Second, giving

is a minority sport in this country with something like 8% of the country doing almost half of the giving. The poor give proportionately more of their income away than the rich. According to the Charities Aid Foundation, as a country we spend about as much on charitable giving as we do on cheese. All this at a time when our charities face twin pressures of rising demand for their services when there is less public and private money around. Likewise our universities face well publicised funding challenges. The truth is that we cannot take the givers in society for granted.

According to the Charities Aid Foundation, as a country we spend about as much on charitable giving as we do on cheese

Of course there is a big role for government in encouraging more giving. However, history should have taught us that government cannot act in isolation here. We also need to be sensitive to the fact that many people feel they have less time or money. If we want to connect more people with their power to make a difference, then we need government, business and charities to work together to find new ways of inspiring giving and making this easier. This is exactly what has happened over the last two years, which have seen a huge amount of entrepreneurial energy thrown at creating

new opportunities for people to give in modern ways, such as using mobile phones and the internet. We are doing what we can to support this movement through new tax incentives for legacies, targeted matched funding and over £20m of investment made through our Social Action and Innovation in giving funds. Through the National Citizen Service, we are also connecting today's teenagers with the chance to make a positive difference in their communities. At the same time, we are building a whole new market of social investment – encouraging money that is not 'free' but prepared to blend social impact with financial return. This is an embryonic but real market and we have the ambition to grow it substantially, as Sir Ronald Cohen explains elsewhere in this edition (page 22). Key to that is the establishment of the world's first social investment institution – Big Society Capital. It is a nice coincidence that these parallel drives to encourage more giving and social investment are being led by two old Exonians, and I am delighted to be working so closely with Sir Ronald in this ground-breaking area.

Ultimately it is down to us all to recognise that we have responsibilities beyond paying taxes. Back to Exeter College. It is incredibly encouraging to see that 95% of the graduating year of 2008-09 made a gift before they left. Most of these students don't yet have a job and have benefited personally from the support of those who went before them. That statistic is not just encouraging, it is also rather shaming for this particular Exonian who to date has not made a gift. That changes now, and I hope that others will follow the lead shown by these young graduates. ♥





The Chief Executive of Poppyscotland calls for a radical

shake up of the third sector **IAN MCGREGOR** (1974, MODERN HISTORY)



# Charitable Status

I took a while to join the Third Sector. Unwittingly pioneering the portfolio career, after leaving Exeter in 1977 I toiled variously in the law, industry and educational management, and served in the RAF. Easily bored, I formed no compelling vocation, but did come to wonder if my skills, experience and character might fit well with charity work. In 2009 the chance to become Chief Executive of Poppyscotland came unexpectedly. It has proved a very fortuitous case of right time, right place, right fit.

Happily, I do find it much easier now to greet each working day. I have an immensely varied role. I work with highly motivated and professional people. I feel my job is well worth doing. Lucky old me, eh? Yet read on and beware: a career in charity work is as full of moral dilemmas as many another.

There are currently more than 190,000 charities in the UK, around one per 321 people in the country. That's far too many, an absurd and unacceptable state of affairs. Many compete to do the same work. Others

are moribund or obsolescent. Charitable work appeals both to the heart and the head, so many charity trustees and managers understandably persuade themselves that their charity alone can achieve a particular charitable aim, or operate efficiently in parallel with others with the same purpose. In some cases they may be right. However, a lot of charities need to take a long, dispassionate look at themselves and consider whether they can and should merge or dissolve, eliminating wasteful competition, unnecessary costs and presenting a clearer proposition to the public.

**ff** There are currently over 190,000 charities in the UK, around one per 321 people in the country. That's far too many, an absurd and unacceptable state of affairs

The oft-cited alternative of collaboration between charities undeniably has merits and I know from personal experience that close cooperation between Armed Forces charities has achieved much. There are limits nonetheless to what it can accomplish. A more courageous approach would in many cases generate greater benefit still. (Incidentally, I practise what I preach. Last year, after 90 years of separate operation, Poppyscotland merged with its sister charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the Royal British Legion. For legal and commercial reasons we retain our separate brand and legal status, but now sit within the RBL Group, having already achieved follow-on synergies and efficiencies.)

Though not normally an advocate of state intervention, I think there is a clear need to empower, and require, the Charity Commission to compel charities to address this issue. It should also become much harder to register a charity. 'Ah,' I hear you ask, 'should I not be free to set up a charity to commemorate a loved one or support some hitherto unidentified need?' I would say no, you should not. Set up a fund if you wish, but don't expect charitable status and its associated tax breaks unless you can conclusively establish you will address unmet need and will not duplicate sound, existing provision.

A more fundamental, and vexed, question is 'What should constitute a charity?' In redefining what a charity is the 2006 Charities Act came up with pretty woolly criteria. Charities must have one or more of 13 stated charitable purposes. Some, such as 'the prevention or relief of poverty' or 'the advancement of health or saving of lives' are uncontroversial. Others are definitely not. Faith groups might consider 'the advancement of religion' a kosher charitable purpose, but most atheists would think that unbelievable. 'The advancement of education' is another category open to widely varying interpretation and, frankly, abuse.

Another area which leaves me uneasy is that of campaigning charities. Many charities campaign to greater or lesser degrees, but to my mind charities that do little or nothing else are simply pressure groups pushing one set of views. Should they get tax breaks? I don't believe they should, even if I share their opinions. Tax concessions are tax foregone. People should not pay more in tax to subsidise the promotion of views they might or might not subscribe to. Overall, there is a need for much tighter legal definition of

what constitutes a charity. This requires subjective judgement; far from easy in an age in which moral and cultural relativism inhibits clarity of thought and action. That should, however, be no deterrent to hazarding that judgement.

Consider too this question: do some charities' actions actually do damage or perpetuate injustice? I work for a charity supporting Armed Forces veterans in need. Do charities like mine simply subsidise the cost of prosecuting wars that many think should never have been fought? Does intervention by overseas aid charities simply shore up corrupt, Third World governments? Do charities addressing homelessness let national and local government off the hook? In all three instances I see an overwhelming moral imperative to intervene when governments can't or won't, but I readily accept my view is not beyond dispute.

**ff** A surprising number of charities do not make their statutory accounts available on their websites

What about transparency? It allows the public to see if a charity is efficient or inefficient, *non*? Not the way it is practised by some. One very large UK charity, doubtless considering itself a paragon of transparency, declares it will use your donation where the need is greatest. So it may indeed. However, as we say in Scotland, I hae ma doots. A year or two ago it declared its fundraising costs were 18% of its overall expenditure for the year. That's a respectable figure for a charity largely reliant on public donations, but it didn't include expenditure on what was termed 'strengthening the movement'. Did that notably, but not untypically, opaque example of charityspeak include supporter cultivation? Magazines, newsletters, advertising and the like? My hunch is that it may have and I would class much of that as a fundraising cost. Also not included was expenditure on trading activities – surely another fundraising cost? Taking these into account, their fundraising expenditure could have been as much as 36% of the whole. A fully accurate picture calls for deep interrogation of their accounts. Even then, great subjectivity would apply in any assessment, and a



surprising number of charities do not make their statutory accounts available on their websites, or only present, to their best advantage, basic summaries of their income, costs and expenditure. Yet fuller transparency does present drawbacks. For example, charities funded largely from government grants have lower cost-to-income ratios than those dependent on public donations, which have much higher fundraising costs. Comparing their ratios gives no valid indication of either party's efficiency, a point perhaps not immediately apparent to the uninitiated.

These are just some of the issues. So, I am a troubled soul, but for welcome reasons. My misgivings arise from my constantly mulling over how the sector could do more and better, how to do the Right Thing (a bit of a cliché, but it is rather the point of charity work) and how to adapt to changing circumstances, mores and events. People shouldn't get rich working for charity but that, along with the need for reform and the inevitable moral conundrums, shouldn't deter anyone from involvement in charity work, whether paid or voluntary. I experience great rewards in other ways, not least in seeing what can be achieved in helping people who need and deserve material and moral support. The fact is that rising each morning with a clear conscience doesn't mean one never has the odd sleepless night. ♥

Ian McGregor is Chief Executive of Poppyscotland, which operates the Scottish Poppy Appeal and delivers welfare support to Forces veterans in Scotland.

Increasing competition requires charities to work hard to stand out. This page: a Scottish poppy adorns a sculpture by Andy Scott. Right: a paratrooper helps capture the public's attention.



# Back to the Future



As austerity measures hit home, does the nation's future depend on a return to the philanthropic principles of yesteryear?

FRANCES CAIRNCROSS, RECTOR

That Scottish patron saint of American philanthropy, Andrew Carnegie, believed that 'the man who dies rich dies disgraced.' True to his principles, he gave away nine-tenths of his vast fortune during his lifetime. Carnegie was one of the giants of what now appears to have been a golden age of philanthropy: the final years of the 19th century and the dawn of the 20th.

Today, we may perhaps be at the dawn of another golden age, and for a similar reason: inequality is a friend to philanthropy, and large fortunes encourage individual generosity. Successful entrepreneurs, particularly from Silicon Valley, have been following the example of Bill Gates and building parallel careers as imaginative philanthropists.

Over the centuries, the gifts of wealthy families not only built many of the world's loveliest buildings but paid for many of its great paintings, sculptures and musical compositions. Sometimes they were for private benefit; sometimes, to save the donor's soul; sometimes for public admiration. Right up until Victorian times, generous individuals filled the gaps in nascent state provision by endowing hospitals, almshouses, schools and Oxford colleges.

Of course, philanthropy is not necessarily the same as altruism. Many donors wanted to leave a mark, make a statement or ensure a safe passage to paradise.

Some of those whose gifts through the ages have made them famous would be obscure if they had not donated their wealth – obscure or perhaps reviled. Who would now remember Rhodes or Nobel – let alone Walter de Stapeldon – were it not for their benefactions? All three made their wealth in ways that would be hard to get past the average Donor Scrutiny Committee – yet look at the obvious good that their benefactions have achieved. Is it really wrong to accept ill-gotten gains for a good cause? We think so now, but may one day think otherwise.

The advent of the welfare state, especially in Europe, pushed philanthropy aside in the 20th century. In some respects, state provision certainly had advantages over individual philanthropy: it left fewer gaps, and it removed the obligation of gratitude on the part of the recipient. But in much of continental Europe, many areas of philanthropy have virtually disappeared. When I recently tried to raise funds in Germany to pay for a Fellowship in German, I was told that most Germans would assume that the government should pay rather than donors.

In much of continental Europe, many areas of philanthropy have virtually disappeared. When I recently tried to raise funds in Germany to pay for a Fellowship in German, I was told that most Germans would assume that the government should pay rather than donors

We need philanthropy today more than we did a century ago. The squeeze on public spending in many countries of the rich world suggests that we may have reached – and indeed passed – the limits to society's willingness to pay for public services through tax revenues. We need to pay down public debt, and we need to care for a rising proportion of elderly people. Philanthropy will have to fill the gaps.

That will be tricky. In the United States, according to an annual survey by Giving USA and the Centre on Philanthropy at Indiana University, overall giving tends to run at around 2% of GDP. It perked up slightly in the boom years of the mid-2000s, but has now reverted to its long-run trend. American generosity outstrips that of any other

The World Giving Index 2011 puts Britain in fifth place globally in terms of money and time that people devote to supporting good causes

financed the most distinguished artists of the Renaissance. Today Italians give one-tenth as much of their wealth as the British do, and Italy's arts largely survive on the (dwindling) budget of the state.

In the wealthy world, philanthropy will have to provide a larger share of health, welfare, education and culture than it has done in the past. In many of the areas where state provision has taken over from benefactors in the past century, the state will recede. There will simply not be sufficient tax revenue to meet any but the most urgent obligations.

One of the main ideas behind the British government's concept of the Big Society has been greater charitable and not-for-profit provision. Exeter College's own Sir Ronald Cohen, one of the pioneers of social investment, has helped to set up Big Society Capital, and previously helped to pioneer Social Impact Bonds, to build a bridge between philanthropy and investment (see p22 for more information).

As this sector increases, it will spark debates. Some charities – such as the National Trust or the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds – have become immensely successful lobbying groups, empowered by their enormous memberships. An institution financed by the donations of thousands of individuals acquires a clout that no political party can emulate. Indeed, the supporters of both the National Trust and the RSPB far outnumber the members of any political party.

But what about the philanthropy of the wealthiest individuals, whose numbers have grown as the distribution of income has widened? This year's Budget attempted to curb the amount of tax relief that an individual could claim for donations. It produced a furious debate: given that the counterpart of the relief would be a higher tax burden on

major country, according to the World Giving Index 2011, compiled by the Charities Aid Foundation. This measure puts Britain in fifth place globally in terms of money and time that people devote to supporting good causes. America's giving differs from that of most other countries in that roughly a third of all philanthropy goes to religious causes. But it is still vastly ahead of many European countries, such as Italy, where wealthy families once

everyone else, why should a rich person decide, in effect, how that money should be spent?

This debate is not new. As *The Economist* magazine pointed out, in 1863 William Ewart Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer, tried and failed to reduce the tax relief on charitable giving, arguing that the wealthy man's relief was the additional tax burden on the poor man. *The Economist* of the day agreed, though *The* (pre-Murdoch) *Times* did not. Then, as now, the Chancellor backed down.

The debate will doubtless revive. Governments are rarely very keen on charities, which are in some ways their competitors and which lack the accountability of a government minister. But charities have advantages.

These include an ability to implement the priorities of groups that governments cannot handle, whether it be medical research into rare diseases or the protection of landscape and buildings that have no economic use. Philanthropy gives a flexibility that no other form of social organisation enjoys. The Gates Foundation, the creation of one fabulously wealthy individual and his wife, has had a significant impact on childhood deaths from malaria in Africa, succeeding where both Western and African governments have largely failed and helping to bring about a real decline in childhood mortality.

It is understandable that many people resent the idea that an individual who makes a lot of money can then use it, with taxpayer support, to save works of art, or elderly donkeys, or the lives of children in Sub-Saharan Africa. But philanthropy enriches societies, and allows activities and experiments that governments cannot undertake and companies will not risk. It is something to encourage, not to constrain.

If we are to enjoy a new golden age of philanthropy, we must nurture and encourage those who want to give away their wealth. A culture that admires giving, by the rich and the not-so-rich, will be one where new ideas are more likely to flourish – and where the pain of tax cuts is mitigated for us all. ♥

An institution financed by the donations of thousands of individuals acquires a clout that no political party can emulate. Indeed, the supporters of both the National Trust and the RSPB far outnumber the members of any political party



# Charity Not Aid



The author of *Getting Zambia to Work* warns that international aid can do more harm than good  
**CHISANGA PUTA-CHEKWE (1977, PPE)**



The once proud and prosperous Republic of Zambia has been addicted to international aid since the late 1970s. Almost half a century after independence, Zambia is less sovereign, less independent and virtually without international influence. With the economy improving, this is a good time for the country to wean itself off international aid and to take the opportunity to be more charitable towards others.

In 2010, 14.5% of the national budget was raised from grants given by donor countries, with 13.1% through domestic borrowing. The percentage of the budget financed by foreigners may appear high but is in fact relatively low for Zambia where donors had previously funded between 20 and 30% of the country's public expenditure.

But aid is not necessarily charity. As John Perkins illustrates in *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, donors sometimes deliberately lend money to countries knowing full well the recipients' inability to pay back the loans. The purpose of this lending is to bankrupt the 'beneficiary' country and make it beholden to the donor country. Even when donors genuinely want a country to develop, systemic aid often achieves the opposite of what was intended. One of the reasons for this is that aid routinely disbursed by rich countries to poor countries kills local enterprise, eventually creating a nation of beggars.

An entire generation of Zambians has known nothing but dependency on aid. The monuments of development most visible to this generation were erected either by foreigners or by Zambians with foreign money or technical assistance. The impressive Sion Lumpa church, built in the Northern Province entirely by Zambians (most of them women) a half century ago, would probably not be built today without a battery of foreign advisers. Even then, it would almost certainly take longer to build and cost more as some of the money would be misappropriated, as aid money often is. That is not to say tax dollars are never stolen or misused. The point here is simply that systemic aid encourages a sense of entitlement and provides an opportunity for embezzlement without accountability to taxpayers.

In June 2010, when the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria suspended more than \$300m

of health funding to Zambia's government, the Zambian authorities glossed over their own complicity in the misappropriation of funds that led to the suspension and condemned the Fund for endangering the lives of nationals. Sadly this was not the first time that public money had been stolen. A year earlier, the Netherlands and Sweden halted \$30m of direct aid for the Zambian health ministry because money was disappearing into the pockets of officials.

To question the value of systemic aid however is not to denounce charity. There is a place for voluntary assistance, but in these instances the assistance must be ad hoc and flow both ways. There can be no permanent givers or receivers, as is the case with systemic aid.

Recipients of charity do not routinely rely on aid as a significant source of income. On the contrary, they use the money they receive to make themselves more self-reliant and thus place themselves in a position to be charitable to others, including those who might have helped them in the past.

For this reason recipients of charity need not be looked upon with the kind of patronising pity demonstrated by a Canadian International Development Agency documentary in the late 1980s.

Featured in that documentary was a CIDA worker who admitted to treating Zambians like children because 'they are children', dependent on aid provided by his country. We must look forward to an end to this abuse as countries like Zambia become more prosperous and self-reliant, and hope that home grown charity will increase as international aid is kept at bay. ♥

Systemic aid encourages a sense of entitlement and provides an opportunity for embezzlement without accountability to taxpayers

# A Social Medium



As the number of people accessing social media sites soars, the Campaigns Director of activist group 38 Degrees aims to harness this force for the good of society  
**HANNAH LOWNSBROUGH (1998, PPE)**

Recent years have provided some compelling examples of people outside the corridors of power coordinating to shape the decisions made by those within them. From the Arab Spring to the Occupy movement, all over the world people have been working together to try and change society. One cause of this spate of activity is the internet and the way social media are transforming how people affect politics. The organisation for which I am Campaigns Director, 38 Degrees, is showing how it can work in Britain.

Despite interest in the role played by Facebook, for instance, during the Egyptian uprising or by Twitter in Iran, using modern technologies to impact on politics is, of course, well established. The much-discussed effect of the internet on the electoral success of Barack Obama was itself partly the product of 10 years of online progressive activism, drawing heavily on experiences of grassroots groups, such as MoveOn. Founded in 1998, MoveOn drew together progressive activists across the USA and encouraged them to take action to influence decisions on a broad spectrum of issues. By the time the 2008 presidential election drew close, they were one of a number of existing resources upon which the Obama campaign could draw.

Online activism took longer to build up momentum in Britain. However in 2009, 38 Degrees was set up. We hoped to apply lessons learned from MoveOn and its sister organisations, while adapting them to establish a group that would be effective in the UK. In the three years following our launch, we have had some major successes on campaigns chosen by our members. Using online petitions we persuaded the government to cancel plans to sell off public forests, and earlier this year we motivated big gas and electricity suppliers to offer consumers a much improved deal on their energy bills through a huge collective switching campaign. Along the way, we have grown to over 1m members.

These success stories don't mean that online campaigns will always be the most effective way to bring people together to create change. They are an increasingly



Activists of all ages join to protect Grizedale Forest

important part of the picture, but work best alongside other forms of activism. In Australia in early 2011, for instance, online campaign group GetUp facilitated the provision by its members of emergency accommodation to people made homeless by the Queensland floods. For many members of 38 Degrees, getting together to hand in petitions to MPs or to discuss ideas for new campaigns is just as important as the actions they take through the organisation's website.

The internet, particularly social media, is already altering the way in which we participate in society. The potential for a power-shift in our relationships with politicians and major companies is clear; we are now able to communicate with them quickly and directly, and to coordinate efforts when we do so. The internet makes keeping secrets harder too, as

information is shared at a rate that was unthinkable even a decade ago.

But beyond these examples lie new opportunities that may play a far more significant role in shaping society in the future. Social media ensure that relationships that might once have ended through distance or changing circumstances are now frequently lasting longer, albeit online. Finding ways to convert these more sustained ties into purposeful action offline could be one of the most important factors shaping how our society works for decades to come. ♥

The potential for a power-shift in our relationships with politicians and major companies is clear; we are now able to communicate with them quickly and directly



# Giving What We Can



From Balliol College to executive boardrooms, saving the world is about each person doing their bit, writes **CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD (2003, PHYSICS)**

Over the past few years our economy has tottered from 'credit-crunch' to 'debt crisis', and the current economic stagnation feels almost interminable. Charities have struggled to attract donations as we have tightened our purse strings. While ultra-rich philanthropists can perhaps still dream of making a difference in the developing world, for the rest of us charity will have to begin at home.

Not according to Giving What We Can, an international society set up in Oxford that encourages people to donate 10% of their income to whichever causes will do the most to relieve suffering. The society argues that we can all play a role in the fight against extreme poverty, even in the current economic climate.

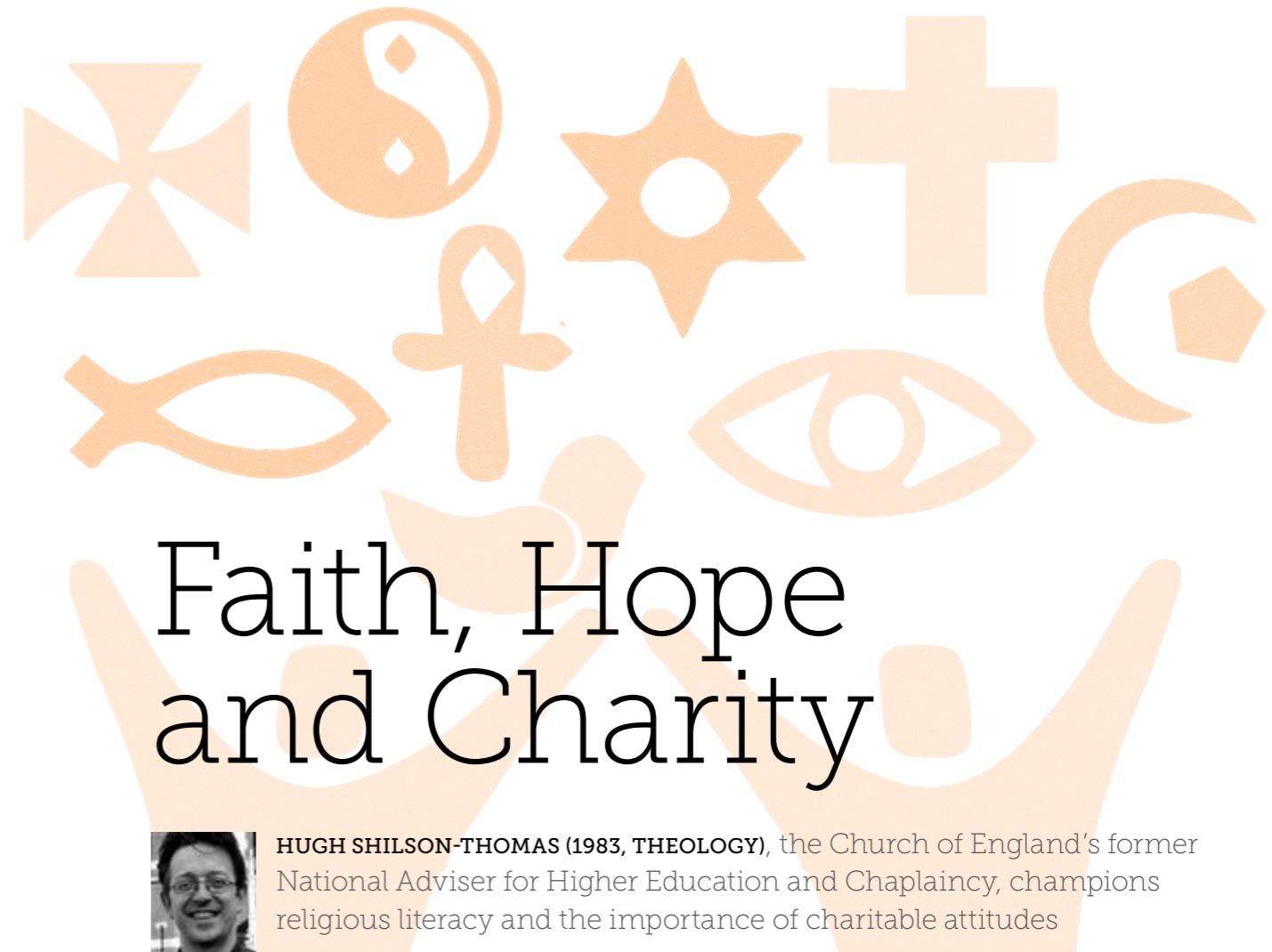
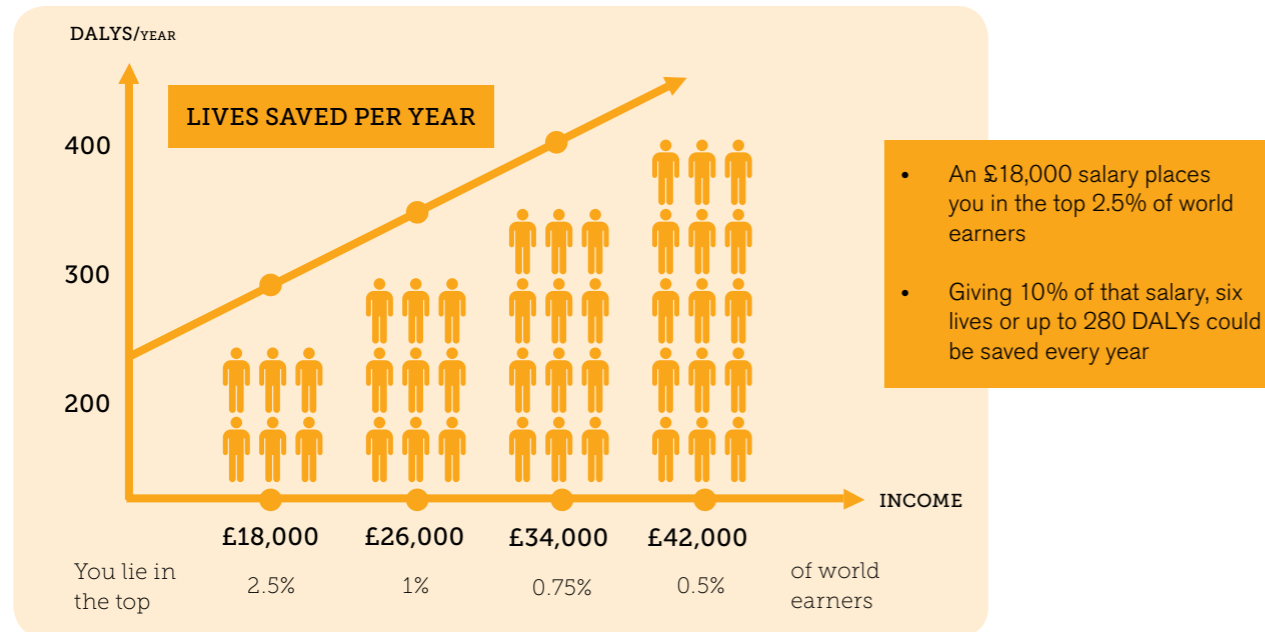
The premise is straightforward: even the most modest UK wage places us amongst the world's very highest earners. We can all afford to give a percentage of our salary to charity and, by choosing to donate to the most cost-effective charities, can help to prolong hundreds of lives during the course of our own. The founder of Giving What We Can, Dr Toby Ord of Balliol College, puts it more strongly: 'We are all millionaires compared with those living on a dollar a day and we can prevent untold suffering if only we choose to.' To date, more than 200 people have taken the Giving What We Can pledge, ranging from students to management consultants. The total pledged to date stands at \$82m (a sum worthy of those ultra-rich philanthropists mentioned earlier).

The aim of Giving What We Can is not just to encourage people to give, but specifically to give to

whichever organisations will use the money most effectively to fight poverty. When considering the effectiveness of organisations it is tempting to leap to the charity with the lowest overheads – woe betide the charity with the city-centre office building or the suite of new 4x4s – but that is to miss the point. Giving What We Can aims to support the charity that, for some fixed donation, can help the greatest number of people to enjoy prolonged healthy lives.

Using research conducted by the World Health Organisation and the Disease Control Priorities Project, Giving What We Can applies a metric known as the 'Disability Adjusted Life Year' (DALY) to assess effectiveness. One DALY is equivalent to one additional year of life lived at full health, or to multiple years lived with disability or disease. Comparing charity interventions is difficult and the research is by no means immune to controversy (as a scientist, I find it hard not to shudder at the sight of some of the error bars). However, even when this uncertainty is taken into account, some interventions are found to be hundreds of times more cost-effective than others. The most effective interventions, such as treated mosquito nets, can save in the order of 50-100 DALYs per \$1,000.

Using a tool on the Giving What We Can website, it is possible to find out what you could achieve. However modest your salary, the chances are that it has the potential to save hundreds of lives. I cannot help but think that the principle behind Giving What We Can is right – you do not have to be Bill Gates to be an effective philanthropist. ♥



**HUGH SHILSON-THOMAS (1983, THEOLOGY)**, the Church of England's former National Adviser for Higher Education and Chaplaincy, champions religious literacy and the importance of charitable attitudes

Charity is often defined in terms of almsgiving – providing relief to the poor. But there are other definitions. There is a religious understanding of charity as a theological virtue: love directed towards God, but also towards oneself and one's neighbours as objects of God's love. But charity can also be defined in terms of benevolence and generosity, or forbearance in judging others.

There is much talk nowadays about equality and diversity policies. But there is a huge difference between tolerating diversity and celebrating difference. If we are going to get along with each other in this world of ours, we need to find better ways of communicating with people who are different from us. We may then understand more and have a chance of moderating our prejudices.

When I was responsible for advising on higher education issues for the Church of England, the emergence of multi-faith chaplaincies needed some serious consideration. The government at the time was saying controversial things about

potential extremism on university campuses post 9/11, and yet here were some positive examples of people from different faiths and backgrounds working together. A study found that literacy about religion among students and staff in higher education institutions assisted in promoting good relationships. This idea was taken up, and the Religious Literacy Leadership Project now trains and resources vice-chancellors, senior managers and others in the higher education sector.

**A study found that literacy about religion among students and staff in higher education institutions assisted in promoting good relationships**

If we are going to communicate across cultures and faiths, we need to have the language with which to converse. In a more diverse and globalised society, the common language may no longer be there. Rather than lamenting that, let's embrace the challenge, and do something to educate ourselves. The idea that young people might become more religiously literate at university, and have a charitable attitude to diverse, including religiously diverse, groups is surely something to feel hopeful about. ♥



## On the Money



Exeter and Oxford are reliant on the support of philanthropists at every level – but are they worth it?  
**TESSA STANLEY PRICE, CAMPAIGN GIFTS MANAGER**

**W**hy should I give money to Oxford when elsewhere in the world there are people struggling to survive? It's the objection that student callers on the Telethon campaign learn to dread. How can this college, with millions in the bank, possibly be asking for money when there are far 'needier' causes in the UK and overseas?

At Exeter we think carefully about how to answer this in a way that does justice to both sides. If the concern comes from a financial angle, it is simpler to put straight. Yes, Exeter has £49m in its endowment. But the government didn't found or finance this college; generous individuals did, over 700 years of philanthropy. Our 'spend rule' of 3.25% generates £1.6m in revenue annually. In 2010-11, our total outgoings were £7.7m and we simply do not recoup that in fees, accommodation and catering charges. It is the income from philanthropic gifts and vacation conferences that keeps the College in the black. Without the support of its Old Members, Exeter would not be able to sustain its tutorial system or the excellent standards of student support that we are so proud of.

So what of the more ideological arguments for not supporting Exeter or the University? Why do images of boater-wearing students playing croquet and out-of-touch academics in ivory towers persist? In reality, Oxford today couldn't be further from these perceptions.

The University is renowned for the quality and range of its research. Its findings have international impact every year, changing millions of lives for the better. For example, in 2012 Oxford researchers developed a method for analysing the DNA of malarial parasites,

Without the support of its Old Members, Exeter would not be able to sustain its tutorial system or the excellent standards of student support that we are so proud of

enabling them to pinpoint the areas where the parasites evolve fastest and track resistance to anti-malarial drugs more efficiently. With the World Health Organisation estimating that a child dies of malaria every 30 seconds, breakthroughs of this kind have an obvious impact.

The Oxford Water Futures Programme uses mobile communications technologies to improve water quality and reduce poverty in the developing world. The 'smart pumps' that the Programme has developed in Kenya send automatic text messages to local engineers when they break down or run dry. The pumps are then swiftly fixed. In Africa 280m people do not have access to clean water. This innovative project could have a transformational effect across the entire continent.

What about Exeter's students? How do they go on to change the world for the better? In 1961 a young Ghanaian named John Kufuor arrived at Exeter to read PPE. Forty years later, he became the President of Ghana. During his eight years in office, the country's gross domestic product increased four times from £2.6bn to almost £11bn. At the same time, poverty levels were halved and almost a quarter more children attended primary school.

In 2002 former Exeter DPhil student Sydney Brenner (1952) won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in recognition of his work in genetics and molecular biology. The Molecular Sciences Institute that he founded in California carries out leading research in improving human health around the world.

It is not all about science and politics. Oxford's influence can also be felt through ideology. The University is proud to have once been Aung San Suu Kyi's home and place of study, and in her recent speech at Encaenia she told the audience that 'the years when I was struggling for human rights in Burma, I felt I was doing something of which my old university would have approved.'

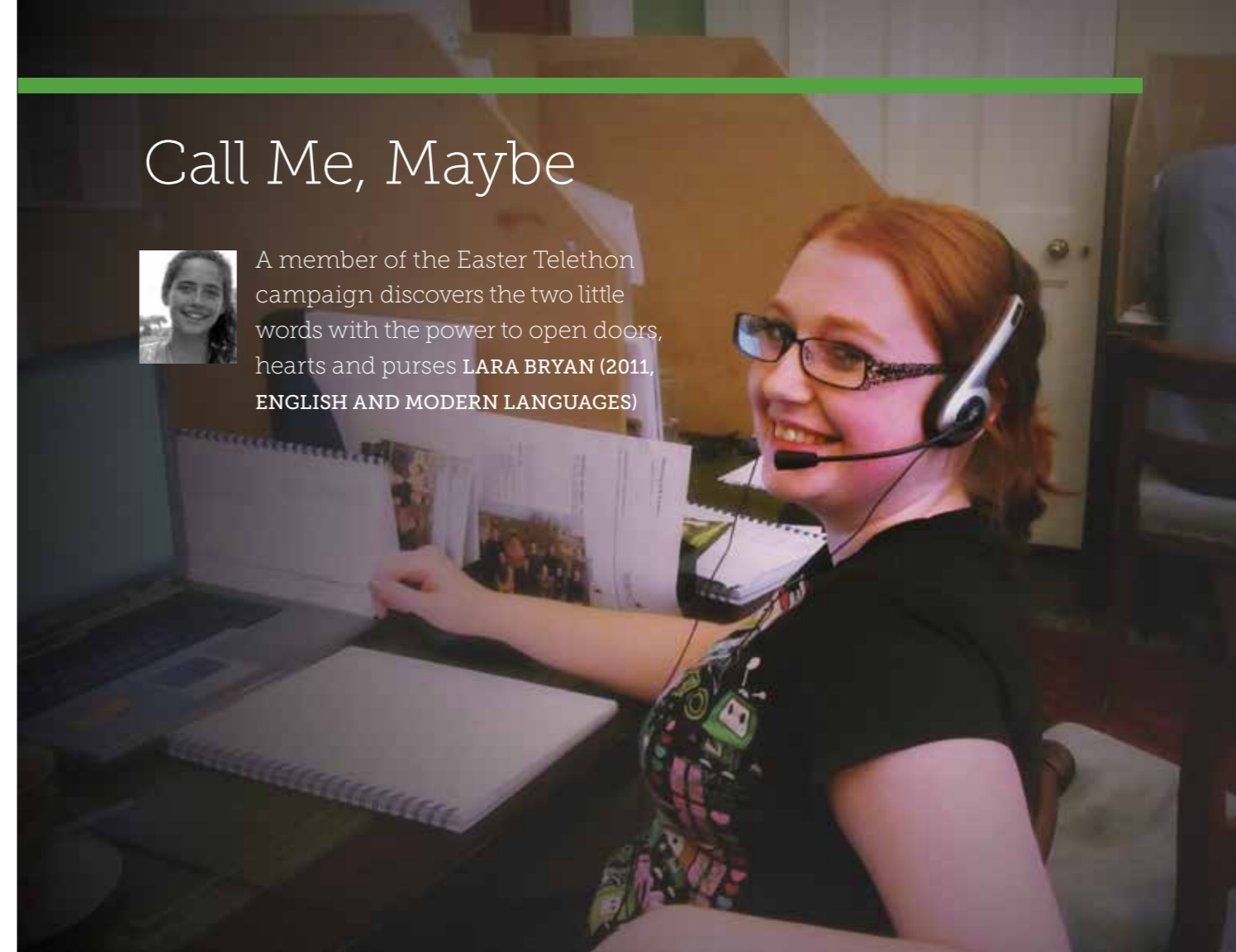
Would these individuals have accomplished such things if they hadn't been to Oxford? We will never know, but what is clear is that the gap between this 'elitist' university and the developing world isn't nearly as wide as some might imagine.

Would Exeter expect to be the sole beneficiary of your philanthropy? No. We hope, however, that Old Members recognise the College's influence and choose to give back accordingly. Support Exeter and you support future developments in global medicine and poverty reduction. The College simply would not exist without the support of people who want Exeter – and Oxford – to maintain their global impact. ♥

## Call Me, Maybe



A member of the Easter Telethon campaign discovers the two little words with the power to open doors, hearts and purses **LARA BRYAN (2011, ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES)**



**Y**ou were just getting up to make a cup of tea or perhaps you were on your way back from work when you heard the phone ring. 'Hello my name is Lara Bryan and I am a current student calling from Exeter College.'

During the three-week Easter Telethon campaign I spoke to 200 alumni. Taking into account answer phones this number shoots up to around 600.

At first it seemed difficult to imagine it would be possible to connect with so many strangers over the phone, but I soon discovered that I had two small, powerful words to help me. Say 'Exeter College' and for a brief moment my fellow callers and I were allowed into your homes, your offices, your lives.

I discovered the intimacy of a telephone call that cannot be replaced with an email. Through a telephone I could hear the sounds of a CD playing in the background, of dinner being made, the bustle of an office, the hooting of cars in the street.

**“**We heard about strange times when there were only boys at Exeter, when bops were called sweaties and when Duran Duran came to play in the Front Quad

I could hear the laughter in the other's voice as they recounted a prank on Jesus College, and the chuckle when they recalled how they were still in awe of their tutor, meeting them 30 years after graduation at a gaudy. It was easy to get lulled into a false sense of security. After 60 answering machines in a row, the sound of a live human voice would jolt me out of the warm buzz of surrounding voices.

All of a sudden I was whisked away from the Rector's dining room to Ecuador where one Old Member was going to make a documentary on indigenous tribes. A 'hello' could plunge me into the office of a lawyer fighting to change government policy on legal aid. The gentle tones of one alumnus made me feel like I was sitting down at home eating my breakfast. I then realised that he was a former radio presenter for the BBC World Service.

We heard about strange times when there were only boys at Exeter, when bops were called sweaties and when Duran Duran came to play in the Front Quad.

More often than not we were given some form of advice or encouragement. 'Good luck,' some said, whilst others told us 'don't worry too much, make the most of it.'

These stories, over and above the knowledge that we were doing something worthwhile for Exeter, made those three weeks special.

One day I will pick up the phone and a student will tell me about the College's current fundraising efforts. I will already be convinced. ♥



# Top of the Class



Exeter is now the best supported college in Oxford, with over 36% of Old Members giving. Exeter's Development Officer explains why every gift, large or small, is important **EMILY WATSON (2002, LITERAE HUMANIORES)**

**D**oes the 2012 participation challenge ring any bells? Probably – the message has been hammered home via brochures, telethon conversations, emails, videos and talks at events. Exeter has been attempting to increase the proportion of donors significantly over the past year, and I am delighted to report that 59% more people gave to the College in 2011-12 than in 2010-11 – a truly exceptional result. The total participation rate for 2011-12 was over 36%, compared with 22% the previous year. This means that Exeter is the Oxford college with the highest alumni participation. Now that Exeter has attained these heights, 10 members of our Campaign Committee will release a wonderful gift of £131,400. This gift will fund 69% of hardship bursaries offered by Exeter College in 2013.

So how did we achieve such momentous results? Primarily, telephone campaigns. Where we have managed to contact Old Members on telethons, nearly 70% have responded positively. Knowing that your gift, even if it is only £5, could release £131,400 is rather motivating!

However, among the 30% who prefer not to donate, the following objections have been voiced:

- My £5 isn't going to make a difference
- I'm too poor – wealthier alumni should give
- You shouldn't approach Old Members for donations so soon after graduation
- Participation is just a statistic that makes fundraisers look good

First, even £5 will most certainly have an impact. Together these individual gifts have released a massive gift of £131,400. More than that, participation helps establish a culture of giving. Universities in the USA such as Princeton, Harvard, Yale and Exeter's sister college, Williams, have phenomenally high participation rates. Alumni regularly support their alma mater, and appearing on the list of donors is seen as an important testament of one's allegiance. Success talks: the more donors there are, the more people want to give!

This is why we unblushingly approach our youngest Old Members – and even departing students are asked to contribute. The proportions donating are exemplary – from the graduating class of 2008-09, 95% made a gift,

and over 50% of undergraduate Old Members from 2006 and 2007 have also given in the last year. The gifts were often modest, but our youngest Exonians are showing that they understand the significance of participation.

This leads to the objection that wealthier alumni should give. They should indeed! But Exeter's Campaign Gifts Manager, Tessa Stanley Price, can present a more convincing argument to Exonians who are considering a six or even seven-figure gift when she can show them that large numbers of the wider Exeter family are playing their part, at the level they can afford. The nature of the participation challenge is a good illustration of this, with 10 Exonians donating £13,140 each when Exeter reached its participation target.

Finally, whilst it is true that participation rates are competitive and potentially something for a fundraiser to be proud of, a fundraiser who loses sight of their core objective in their frenzy to reach a participation target is doing a real disservice to the institution which he or she works for.

Participation will always be important because it is one of the main criteria by which trusts and foundations

judge whether or not an institution deserves support. Furthermore, small gifts add up: if all our Old Members gave £10, we would raise over £60,000! And it is worth noting that a gift of £32.50 a year to our Annual Fund is worth as much to us as a one-off endowment gift of £1,000. Crucially even small donations, from a wide distribution base, allow us to be confident for the future. Knowing that a large number of supporters count Exeter as a priority lends gravitas to ambitions such as redeveloping

the Walton Street site, which might otherwise remain pipedreams. However, the push to increase donor numbers should never detract from the fundraiser's main aim: in my case to ensure that our beloved college consistently receives sufficient funds from its supporters to preserve its tradition of excellence. ♡

# All's Well that Ends Well



**TIM ASHLEY (1980, PPE)** wants to provide both for his future and the country's, and he may have the answer

**'N**o legacy is so rich as honesty.' So says Mariana in *All's Well that Ends Well* and I will take her counsel by being honest here: I don't want to give the College a great deal of money – at least, not right at this moment. I have other priorities, including provision for my own old age, which I intend to enjoy raucously.

I read the other day, however, that the greatest strain on the future finances of the National Health Service will come not from the obese or the smokers and drinkers: they are expensive for a short while only, before vacating the wards forever. No, it is the sprightly that will sap the blood of the nation, hanging on with a series of minor health issues. With future government policy likely to veer further towards 'Can Pay Must Pay', most of us are aware of the need to keep something in reserve to finance an uncertain future.

Then there are all the Other Good Causes demanding a slice: the hungry, ill, oppressed or uneducated. Children facing horrors, seniors facing loneliness, citizens facing death squads: an endless parade of hands and mouths far more needy than those of the Pimms-quaffing, gown-wearing, soon-to-be-highly-paid people we once were and are now being asked to subsidise.

But hang on. Didn't we get all that more or less for free?

With that privilege (yes, we added our own talents and efforts to the mix but we were also most certainly privileged) comes responsibility. Not the responsibility to fund the perpetuation of an elite, some might say. And that might be a reasonable response, were it not for the fact that in a country where so few people want to do the dirty work, our future as a nation depends more than ever on the brains of that academic – rather than social

– elite. Aside from the heritage trail, top-flight education is our one significant competitive advantage.

So this is my thinking: I don't want Oxford to become a Brideshead Theme Park. I want it to remain amongst the very best seats of learning in the world. Not in order to massage my own alumnus ego, but because I truly believe that every penny put into achieving this goal

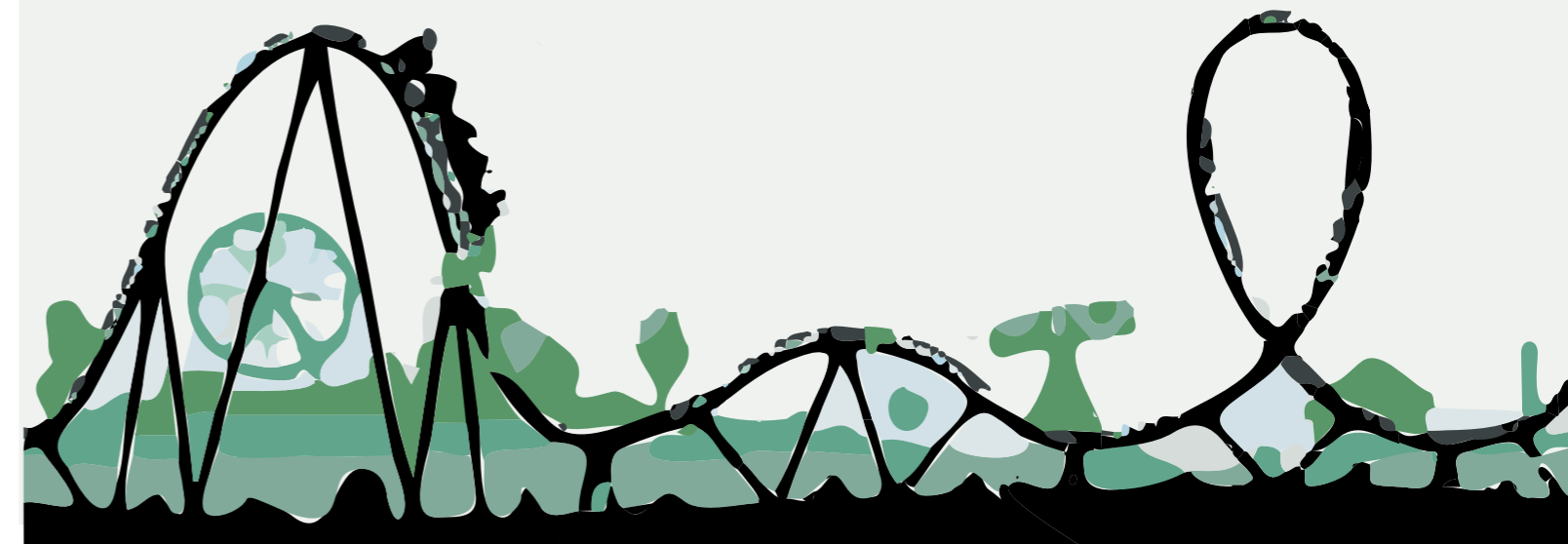
comes back to the nation, many fold, and that the nation badly needs it.

**I don't want Oxford to become a Brideshead Theme Park**

My past and present owe a debt to the future and if I am too concerned with providing for my own old age to discharge that debt now, the best I can do is to ensure that it is paid on my demise. So I am going to leave Coll Exon a high proportion of what is left when I snuff it. And if you, like me, are not a generous current

giver, I hope you will consider doing the same.

If you are thinking carefully about your will, the chances are you were born and raised in a Golden Age. Property prices rose magically every time you made a purchase. You have had the best healthcare the world has ever seen. Many of you will have pensions that few could now dream of. And despite the odd skirmish, it has been a peaceful time so you have never been conscripted. But the chips are now down, and Your Country – and Your College – Need You. ♡





## Thirty Years of ExVac



As it reaches its 30th anniversary, Exeter's student-run charity, ExVac, is as enthusiastic as ever in its work with Oxford's disadvantaged children  
**KATE MATHIESON (2008, MODERN LANGUAGES)**

Oxford is a tale of two cities. As students, we come to the city to fulfil opportunity, pursuing study at one of the world's best universities. But there are many in Oxford who are not afforded such privilege. Oxford City Council estimates that there are 5,800 Oxford children living in poverty, and it is some of these children that ExVac (Exeter College Vacation Project) strives to help.

ExVac was founded 30 years ago by Carol Amos and James Riddiough. Its mission was to provide holidays for local children who need reprieve from difficult home situations, and its ethos remains the same today. Working with Oxfordshire Social Services, we receive applications from children aged seven to 11 with a wide range of backgrounds: those who are being neglected or abused; whose parents struggle with mental health problems or alcoholism; who are sole carers for parents or siblings. Our aim is to give them a break from this and allow them to be children again.

Every Easter, 32 children, many of whom have never left Oxford, and 16 Exeter College volunteers set off on two week-long residential holidays, meticulously planned to include a variety of activities, from rushing down rollercoasters to concentrating intensely at pottery painting.

Superficially, the holidays may appear frivolous and their long-term benefit limited, but this could not be further from the truth. Behind the theme park and zoo visits, ExVac has a more profound influence. The two-to-one child-leader ratio allows us to get to know the children within a safe, caring environment. It inspires trust and confidence in the children, who often confide in us. We are granted a privileged position not always accessible to social workers or teachers, and are thus able to report back to Social Services anything of concern, as part of the comprehensive reports we write on each child at the end of the holiday.

We do not profess to move mountains, and we know our impact is limited. We get to know the children for one week, but sever all contact afterwards. While this attitude may appear contradictory to our commitment to the children, it is in itself a vitally important part of ExVac: we teach the children the value of a positive goodbye, inspiring in them



Two children proudly wear their ExVac t-shirts

independence as opposed to dependence.

We hope that ExVac acts as a bridge between town and university, and in addition to this, we see its cohesive influence in Exeter College itself. Bringing together volunteers from every year as committee members and leaders, almost every member of College – staff and student – has contributed to ExVac in some way, be it posing for or purchasing the ever-popular Naked Calendar, buying a cake from a bake sale in the Lodge, or attending fundraising events from the ExMas Revue to the Alternative Valentine's Day formal hall. We thank the Fellows of College for their generous response to our Christmas appeal, and we are also indebted to the College alumni, who support us so generously and consistently.

As ExVac looks forward to the next 30 successful years, the 31st committee take up their positions at a time of financial and social instability. While it is increasingly difficult to raise the funds required for the holidays – approximately £18,000 in total – we believe our presence is needed more than ever by families struggling to cope.

Though class division looms large in Oxford, for those involved with ExVac it almost ceases to exist. To the children, we are grown-up friends letting them have fun. And to us they are bright, funny, loving and lively – just as children should be, regardless of social or financial circumstance. ♥

**Paul Heaton**, Lodge Porter, will be cycling from Land's End to John o' Groats to raise funds for ExVac this September. To donate visit [www.charitygiving.co.uk/paulheaton](http://www.charitygiving.co.uk/paulheaton).

## Campaign Update



As the 700th anniversary fundraising campaign, Exeter *Excelling*, goes from strength to strength, one of Exeter's generous benefactors looks at the progress so far  
**MARK HOUGHTON-BERRY (1976, LITERAE HUMANIORES)**

As Exeter's 700th Anniversary draws ever closer, both the Development Office and indeed the whole of Governing Body have been busy with the centrepiece of the Campaign – the development of the new Walton Street site.

The most important news has been the selection (via a competition which drew innovative and exciting entries from a number of prominent firms) of Alison Brooks Architects (ABA) to produce the design for the new building. Founded in 1996, ABA has already won the UK's three most prestigious awards for architecture. Their initial thoughts for the site have been enthusiastically received by the College and by the Campaign Committee. You can see the initial design concepts overleaf.

The focus of the Development Office remains on raising the funds to allow us to make ABA's exciting designs a reality. I am therefore very pleased to report that the total gifts and pledges raised towards the redevelopment of Walton Street now stand at £11m. (Total numbers for the Campaign thus far, as reported elsewhere, are higher than this, but they include significant sums raised for the superb new graduate accommodation at Exeter House and for the support of various teaching posts, *inter alia*.)

An additional focus this year has been on increasing the rate of participation amongst our Old Members. When the Government's tax incentives for charitable giving (now, thankfully, confirmed to be continuing unchanged for future years) are taken into account, even the smallest regular contributions can accumulate to amounts that can make a significant difference to the College. Additionally, the overall level of support from Old Members is always one of the most persuasive arguments we can make in pursuit of major donations, be they from fellow alumni or the wider community of Friends of the College. The level of support that Exeter is starting to receive is an example to the broader University of what can be achieved.

I also take this opportunity to highlight a further means available to support Exeter: legacy giving. Changes in the most recent Finance Act mean that, in cases where Inheritance Tax is payable, up to 10% of such estates can be gifted to charity in return for a reduction in the rate of IHT. What this means in practice is that a legacy can be left to the College without any reduction in the sums payable to one's heirs. In effect, you can choose to direct money to Exeter that would otherwise go to the government. Please do contact the Development Office for further details.

The level of support that Exeter is starting to receive is an example to the broader University of what can be achieved

Despite the achievements detailed above, which are particularly gratifying given the current economic climate, we are not yet where we will need to be by the end of the Campaign. I therefore take this opportunity to encourage all of you to continue to make every effort to support Exeter to the limit of your financial abilities. We have the opportunity to help Exeter take a giant leap forward at a time when university education in the UK is facing significant challenges, and to do so would be a superb legacy to leave to succeeding generations. We all have much to be grateful to Exeter College for, and ongoing support of the Campaign, whatever your individual financial position, is a fitting way of acknowledging that debt. ♥



The Walton Street premises



# Building the Future



Last year, *Exon* described work from five architectural practices shortlisted to design Exeter's new quad. Now, the architect behind the winning design presents her vision of Walton Street **ALISON BROOKS**

Exeter's new residential and academic quad project at Walton Street is an extraordinary opportunity to expand dramatically the College's facilities and to reinterpret the Oxford quadrangle tradition for the 21st century. After winning the design competition for the new quad last November, Alison Brooks Architects has been intensively developing its design with Fellows, students, the wider College community and our consultant team to ensure the architecture responds precisely to the College's requirements, technically to the demands of the brief and responsibly to its sensitive Walton Street context.

Our primary concept for the scheme is an S-shaped building embracing two garden quads; one an amphitheatre-like courtyard oriented to the south towards Worcester College, and the other a more intimately scaled walled garden facing north towards Jericho. The two quads set up a spatial narrative connected at its heart by a multi-level social space, the Learning Commons. This space will offer a range of places where students and staff can informally gather, find a calm private space to work, stage major events, or use the café that spills out onto one of the two courtyards. It can be adapted to a huge range of uses.

As a counterpoint to the open-plan Learning Commons, our scheme provides a new multi-purpose hall overlooking the north quad. This is an acoustically separated pavilion that can be used for

lectures, parties, performances and other noisy activities. The geometry of the curved and dormered roof will make a distinctive contribution to the roofscape of Oxford, and will also create unique vaulted student and Fellows' rooms on the top floor, with spectacular views.

In response to ABA's design workshops and consultations, we have made advances in the quad's design over the past months which include expanding the lower ground floor level to provide student games and IT rooms, future College archive space and a fully equipped kitchen with the capacity to provide meals for up to 100 people.

We have been working closely with our structural and environmental engineering team to integrate sustainable technologies such as solar thermal hot water, air source heat pumps and rainwater recycling. 'Participatory' smart control systems are being integrated within the designs to encourage students and staff to reduce the building's energy consumption as a collective environmental project.

The next few months will involve consultations with key local interest groups and statutory bodies, often the biggest challenge of any big architectural project in Oxford. The consultation will feed into ABA's further refinement and testing of the design, leading up to a fully co-ordinated planning submission for Exeter's new Walton Street quad by November 2012. ♥



1



2



3



4



5



6

1 The Learning Commons 2 Entrance Hall 3 View from South Quad 4 Auditorium 5 View from Worcester Place 6 Student room



# World Food Prize Awarded to John Kufuor



The Exonian former President of Ghana is commended for his achievements in alleviating hunger and implementing agricultural growth

TIMOTHY DAVIES (2010, PPE)



Former presidents Kufuor (right) and Lula (left) receiving the prize

In 2011 one of Exeter's most famous alumni, John Kufuor (1961, PPE), was awarded the World Food Prize together with former Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. John Kufuor served as President of Ghana from 2001 to 2009. The Prize, which is the foremost international award for individual achievements in improving the quality, quantity, or availability of food in the world, recognised their 'personal commitment and visionary leadership' during their presidencies in alleviating hunger and poverty in their respective countries.

During his time as president Mr Kufuor strove to secure and improve food security in Ghana. Through economic and educational reforms, Ghana became the first Sub-Saharan African country to cut in half the proportion of its population suffering from hunger and living on less than a dollar a day. This

was accomplished in 2008, seven years ahead of the Millennium Development Goal schedule.

When Mr Kufuor was elected President in 2000, he inherited a country facing difficult policy choices with an unfavourable economic environment impacting on human development. The economic deterioration of Ghana was most pronounced in the agricultural sector which employs more than 55% of the country's labour force, accounting for three quarters of its export earnings and 35% of its GDP. Programmes initiated in 2001 saw agricultural growth

of 5.1% per annum between 2001 and 2008. There were improvements in nearly all basic indicators, but especially in food security and poverty. Farmers' incomes rose and a nationwide feeding programme in schools saw child nutrition and school attendance improve.

ff  
Mr Kufuor oversaw improvements in nearly all basic indicators, but especially in food security and poverty

The political stability of Ghana since 2000 has been crucial in bringing about positive changes. After being the first Sub-Saharan African country to receive independence in 1957, Ghana had an infamous trend of political instability and economic decline. The end of the 'revolving door syndrome' of military coups and civilian rule in 1993, and the return to multi-party politics, indicated the start of a transition towards democracy. In the 2000 elections, for the first time since Ghana's independence, power changed hands by peaceful means. The consolidation of democracy continued with the peaceful transition to President Mills following the 2008 elections.

Mr Kufuor left behind him a more prosperous and stable country that must be sustained if Ghana's economy and middle class are to continue to grow. ♥

# Aftershocks



After the devastation of the Christchurch earthquakes in 2011, Oxford University opened its doors to more than 30 displaced students. JAMEE ELDER (2011, PPE) tells her story

My memories of the violent earthquake that struck Christchurch on 22 February 2011 remain vivid. Even as I braced myself in the door frame, I knew that, this time, it was really bad. It is neither the shaking nor the deafening roar that stand out now – it is the struggle afterwards to contact family and friends. I still have nightmares in which I cannot find my family.

With traffic at a standstill and phone networks overwhelmed, we had to walk into the central city to collect my brother from school. We saw people crying and bleeding, some clearly in shock, huddled beneath emergency blankets. The stories emerging were grim – falling masonry and collapsed buildings with people trapped inside.

After the immediate tragedy came the reality of continued life in the devastated city. As a fourth year philosophy student at the University of Canterbury, this meant lectures held in tents, courses taught online, and most buildings, including libraries, being closed.

Oxford's response included welcoming more than 30 Canterbury students to study for Trinity Term. I was lucky enough to be placed at Exeter. I roomed with a lovely student named Gessica Howarth, who immediately made me feel at home. My tutorials were with Dr Eagle, to whom I am grateful for his generosity in taking me on and for encouraging and challenging me in equal measure. While initially quite

an adjustment, these were some of the most rewarding academic experiences of my studies to date.

When I arrived at Exeter, I was immediately drawn into the festivity and excitement of attending the ball – a sharp contrast with the environment I had left behind. The value of social occasions – formal dinners, punting, playing croquet – should not be underestimated. The friends made and fun times shared during my stay played a key part, in tandem with the incredible academic opportunities, to make it a time of recovery, rejuvenation, and renewed inspiration both personally and academically.

Christchurch remains a broken city on the slow path to recovery. The aftershocks are on-going (as I sat down to write this we had another 5.2 on the Richter scale), the central business district remains cordoned off, and rebuilding will be slow.

However, there are also pockets of hope. Someone said to me recently that the response to the earthquake, both locally and internationally, has forever restored her faith in the inherent goodness of humanity. I think this is true for many in Christchurch, because examples of such goodness are ubiquitous. The generosity of those who made it possible for me to study at Exeter is an exemplary case of this, and one for which I am incredibly grateful. ♥



CHRIS SIMPSON (1959, CHEMISTRY)

On 22 February 2011 we were watching *The King's Speech* in a Christchurch cinema. Suddenly we were bouncing half a metre in every direction. The film stopped, the emergency lighting came on. We were alive and unhurt. Outside the magnitude of the damage to the building was revealed. Grey muddy water was spurting up from the joins between the tarmac and curb and was almost across the road. We drove through places where the water was up to the car door, witnessing cars that had nose-dived into holes or sunk in the liquefied silt. That was the 6.3 magnitude quake, which killed 185 people and injured over 6,000. Three entire suburbs were destroyed by liquefaction. They will probably never be rebuilt. ♥





## Good Karma



Peter Mann meditates on the building of a Milarepa Tower in the serene kingdom of Bhutan

**PETER MANN (1971, ENGLISH)**



I have been fascinated by Buddhism ever since coming to the Far East nearly 40 years ago. Given my past experience as a district officer in Hong Kong, I was invited to help with the management of an ambitious project in the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan. The Ven. Lama Kelzang, a Bhutanese lama based in Hong Kong, is building the very first Milarepa Tower in Bhutan.

Milarepa (b.1052) is a famous Tibetan saint and yogi who was asked by his master, Marpa the Translator, to build a nine-storey tower. Marpa treated Mila very harshly, asking him to move the tower a number of times in order to purify Mila's bad karma, caused by an early career in black magic. Despite this frustration and hardship, Mila never lost faith in his guru. The original tower, which still stands in Tibet, is a symbol of the absolute faith of a disciple in his master and a reminder that one should

The original tower is a symbol of the absolute faith of a disciple in his master and a reminder that one should sacrifice comfort and safety in this life for the dharma

sacrifice comfort and safety in this life for the dharma.

On 2 November 2011, His Holiness the Je Khenpo (spiritual leader of Bhutan and second only to the king) officiated at the ground-breaking ceremony, watched by a crowd of thousands. The tower and accompanying monastery will be a religious, cultural and tourist landmark in the area, built and maintained using charitable donations. The tower is dedicated to the benefit of all sentient beings, and it is hoped that the monastery will produce some great future masters. My job is to co-ordinate the project and liaise with the architect, engineer and the Royal Bhutan Government.

Situated close to the Indian border in south Bhutan, the tower is expected to attract many visitors from the Darjeeling area. Entering the little-known kingdom of Bhutan is said to be like entering heaven. Bhutan has a small, intensely Buddhist population. It is clean and unspoilt, with a spectacular landscape and unpolluted environment. The country manages to preserve its rich cultural heritage thanks largely to its relative isolation.

Rather than employ the widely accepted western measure of economic success, gross domestic product, Bhutan considers all government policies with regard to GNH: gross national happiness. Now that a constitutional monarchy and a democratic government have been introduced, it is hoped that everyone will be able to share in the kingdom's good fortune. ♥

## Touching Bass



Exeter alumnus and half of dubstep duo Nero reaches number one in the UK music charts

**MICHAEL LISANTI, DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT**

In August 2011 former Exeter student Joseph Ray (2002, Philosophy and Modern Languages) reached number one in the UK music charts with his band Nero and their debut album *Welcome Reality*.

Nero's music is rooted in the sound of dubstep, a bass orientated genre that originated in the UK and is influenced by a wide range of styles, notably reggae, garage, 2-step and drum and bass. Nero have gone further than many proponents of the genre, incorporating elements of RnB, classical and pop music. The result is euphoric music that is ambitious and challenging, designed to fill stadia and nightclubs.

It is euphoric music that is ambitious and challenging, designed to fill stadia and nightclubs

Joseph Ray is a classically trained guitarist, while his band-mate Daniel Stephens attended a specialist music school. Their experimental music is exemplified by their recent collaboration with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. This 15-minute movement blends dubstep rhythms and melody with the power and variety that an orchestra provides.

Nero have had a UK number one single with their track *Promises*, and also produced the chart-topping hit *Stay Awake* by Example. They are touring North America, Australia and Europe this autumn. ♥

## Mad Dogs and Englishmen



The first foreign cricket team to tour Pakistan since March 2009 receives a warm welcome, unbeatable hospitality and an armed guard

**SPENCER CRAWLEY (2006, HISTORY)**



On 1 April 2012 a squad of 15 students and graduates of UK universities travelled to Pakistan to play cricket and raise money for charity. We had four matches, and lost every one of them. Our opposition goes some way to explaining the steady flow of defeats: two matches against the Pakistan under-19s, one against the famous Aitchison College (which has produced six captains of the Pakistan national side) and, less explicable, one against a local village side playing on a farm one hour south of Lahore.

The 35 degrees heat was in itself a challenge, so much so that our second

match against the Pakistan under-19 side was reduced to a Day/Night Twenty20 match, out of pity towards the reddening tourists. That our humiliation was covered live on national television was both exciting and somewhat embarrassing.

The tour was sponsored by Sir General David Richards, British Chief of Defence Staff, as well as the Pakistan Cricket Board. The aim was to raise money for the Afghan Appeal Fund, set up by family members of British servicemen to build schools in the region. At the time of writing £10,000 has been raised, with further fund-raising events scheduled this year.

No foreign team had toured Pakistan since the Sri Lanka National Cricket Team's bus was attacked in March 2009. The Pakistan Cricket Board latched onto our tour in their strained attempts to prove that it is safe to play cricket in Pakistan. This was great

The 35 degrees heat was in itself a challenge, so much so that our second match against the Pakistan under-19 side was reduced to a Day/Night Twenty20 match

news for us – it meant a degree of media attention and professional facilities entirely disproportionate to our collective talents. The national captain, the national coach and various Pakistani cricket legends came to give us advice (not heeded, clearly), while we were generously housed in the National Cricket Academy, next to their Test Ground where we played two matches. Similarly, we were escorted on all journeys by two armoured Punjab police jeeps and solemn guards with heavy AK-47s. Add to that a series of excited press conferences and, for a moment, we could imagine the life of a professional cricketer. Until, of course, we stepped onto the cricket field... ♥

TEAM BATTING		TEAM BOWLING	
PCB U-19 XI		BRITISH UNI. CHARITY XI	
1 BATS MAN	43	OVERS	14
3 BATS MAN	22	WICKETS	1
TOTAL TARGET	69	FORMING	36
		LASTING	



# Olympic Torch in Exonian Hands



Sir Roger Bannister returns to the site of the first ever four-minute mile to carry the Olympic torch on its way to a new generation of athletes

**CHARLIE HOWELL (2008, LITERAE HUMANIORES)**

The Olympic Torch was helped on its way through Oxford in July by Alan Chen (2010, Financial Economics) and Sir Roger Bannister (1946, Physiological Sciences).

Sir Roger's record-breaking run on a windy day 58 years ago will be familiar to all, although Exeter also remembers him for qualifying as a doctor in the same month, for his later contributions to medicine as a prominent neurologist, and for introducing steroids tests to British athletics as the UK Sports Council's first Chairman.

The 7am start on 10 July brought a smaller crowd but similar conditions as Sir Roger carried the torch over the finish line at the Iffley Road running track. The track was renamed after him in 2007 to commemorate the latest of many refurbishments, the first of which Sir Roger organised while still at Exeter in 1948, as President of the University's Athletics Club.

On 9 July Alan Chen carried the torch in recognition of his commitment to the community. A long-term hospital volunteer and teacher of science and Chinese at local schools, the University knows Mr Chen better for his work with enterprising students as Chair of the Finance Oxford Business Network. ♥



A safe pair of hands for the flame (Photo: John Cairns)

## Pilot Perils



**BRIAN PHILLIPS (1948, PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES)** reveals how holding a private pilot's license can bring thrills and risks in equal measure

When I was five years old my father took me for a five shilling (20 pence) flight around Croydon aerodrome. Since then I have had a passion for aircraft and flying. I was able to indulge this through an association with the Civil Service flying club in the 1960s. However, it was not long before aptitude proved no match for enthusiasm so my private pilot's licence was achieved with no mean effort.

A few hours of training culminated in my first solo flight. My apprehension when the instructor vacated his seat was offset by the surge of intense concentration. There can only be one first solo and I savoured it in retrospect. I have flown a number of different aircraft, each with its own challenges. The famous Tiger Moth, an early biplane, was hard work in contrast to more modern aeroplanes, requiring a

special technique to land the aircraft's three wheels on the ground simultaneously.

I have indelible recollections of a cross-channel flight to Le Touquet, because night was falling rapidly on the return journey and I did not possess the necessary qualification for night flying. Fortunately I landed in twilight but with severely depleted adrenalin.

During a trip from High Wycombe to Bournemouth, a wall of fog descended with nil visibility. I was 'talked down' with unsurpassed relief and enhanced gratitude for radar.

Flying requires a therapeutic degree of concentration, because it excludes irrelevant thoughts. However, alongside the instrument panel in the first light aircraft I flew was a small notice with the sobering caveat 'All aircraft bite fools'. Not being inclined to be bitten, I decided to quit. ♥

# #Oxfordtrending



Oxford's Head of Alumni Communications, **ALISON EDWARDS**, welcomes the social media revolution and its applications in University life



'Phenomenon!' 'Revolution!' We know that the press has a propensity to apply sensationalist labels. However, is social media just a fad, or is it symptomatic of major changes in the way we interact with one another?

According to the 2011 figures from the Oxford Internet Institute, 60% of British internet users use social networking sites, up from 49% in 2009. Most of this growth has been among employed people aged 25-55, and age, education, occupation and income continue to divide users; the young, the wealthy and the well-educated remain the most engaged online.

The use of social media appears to be more than just a passing trend. It provides us with the means to pull together into a single place topics and news which interest us. Moreover, with mobile internet devices we can now access this information any time, anywhere.

Those of us responsible for communicating with Oxford's 200,000+ alumni – of whom almost two thirds fall into the 25-55 age bracket – are waking up to the power of social media. Our alumni are already using these platforms (129,000 and growing on LinkedIn, and over 150,000 on Facebook). With the advent of Twitter, alumni offices

throughout the University have become adept in the art of saying what they need to in 140 characters or less.

The real power of social media lies in the stimulus it provides to share and engage with content.

I can now find out in real time if an Old Member is enjoying my careers event by following their live tweets. I can poll Facebook users on everything from their favourite G&D's ice cream flavour to their thoughts on who the next Vice-Chancellor should be. In turn, alumni can share memories of Oxford, give feedback on our alumni activities, or ask a question and receive answers within minutes from both the institution and other alumni. *Vive la revolution!* ♥

## Top Five Oxford Twitter Picks

- 1 **@THE\_ZOONIVERSE**  
A collection of citizen science project websites
- 2 **@DH\_oxford**  
Oxford digital humanities projects
- 3 **@TEDXOXBRIDGE**  
An independently organised TEDx event
- 4 **@MARCUSDUSAUTOY**  
Simonyi Professor for the Public Understanding of Science and Professor of Mathematics
- 5 **@OXFORDUNISPORT**  
Updates and news from the Sports Federation

@oxfordalumni  
 oxfordalumni  
 University of Oxford Alumni

@ExeterCollegeOx  
 developmentoffice.exetercollege  
 Exeter College Association

I can poll Facebook users on everything from their favourite G&D's ice cream flavour to their thoughts on who the next Vice-Chancellor should be





The sun makes a welcome appearance for the inaugural Young Alumni Garden Party

## Old Members' Association



As Exeter approaches its 700th year, it's all hands on deck to make sure that 2014 brings an unforgettable anniversary

**KINSEY FORSDYKE, ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICER**

Exeter has had another marvellous year of events, including a lecture at the Sheldonian Theatre by our Fellow in History, Dr Dabhoiwala, on his debut book *The Origins of Sex*; and the inaugural Young Alumni Garden Party, which coincided with Summer Eights. Now our thoughts are turning to the big 700th, in 2014, which I know many of you are looking forward to.

The 700th Anniversary Lecture series will continue, and in Michaelmas Term we will welcome Philip Pullman (1965, English), author of the *His Dark Materials* trilogy, who will be speaking on the folk tales of the Brothers Grimm. In Hilary Term our guest speaker will be Sir Paul Nurse, President of the Royal Society and Nobel Prize winner. The informative, varied, and celebrative lectures will continue for at least the next two years.

As for 2014 itself, we will have all of the celebrations for this major anniversary inked in the diary by the end of 2012. There will be 'decade days' throughout the year, where a generation of Exonians at a time is invited to relive their student days and catch up with old friends. We hope to welcome all Old Members back to College at some stage in the year. We will be organising events around the world as well, to share this happy occasion with our overseas Old Members and Friends.

Exeter's organ scholars and Choir are carefully considering composers for a special commemorative piece of music for the College's 700th birthday. Of course, with a new score there must be a concert! In fact it is intended that the Choir will perform the piece to many eager audiences during an extensive tour.

A CD will also be released so that no one need miss out.

We expect a visit from Honorary Fellow Queen Sofia of Spain in autumn 2013. Naturally such an auspicious anniversary should also receive approval from the British royal family, and we hope to be honoured with the company of a member of the Windsor family at some point in 2014. We are also enthusiastically planning a grand celebration around the time of the College's foundation date – 4 April. (Incidentally, you may be interested to know that Exeter is the oldest Oxford college with solid evidence of its foundation date: tithes of the parish of Gwinear, Cornwall, made over to the College by Walter de Stapeldon, Bishop of Exeter and Treasurer of England.)

Watch this space! Further details will be published soon. ♥

## Published Exonians

With an unprecedented number of published Exonians over the last year, writing on topics as diverse as sexual attitudes and economic theory, the College continues to produce outstanding writers, both academic and non-academic



### On History

Tariq Ali (1963, PPE)  
Author and filmmaker  
Tariq Ali and filmmaker  
Oliver Stone discuss the politics of history, drawing upon long-buried episodes such as the US intervention against the Russian Revolution and the links between US presidents and the Saudi royal family.



### Masters of Nothing: How the crash will happen again unless we understand human nature

Matthew Hancock MP  
(1996, PPE)

Matthew Hancock and Nadhim Zahawi investigate the 2007 financial crash and the role played by human nature. Seeking to understand the herd instincts of the boom years and the responses to financial downturns, the book examines both what went wrong and what needs to change.



### All Business is Local: Why place matters more than ever in a global, virtual world

John Quelch  
(1969, Modern History)

John Quelch and Katherine Jocz argue that the key to success in business is not to neglect the power of locality in an increasingly globalised world, and to understand the value which consumers attach to place.



### Getting Zambia to Work

Chisanga Puta-Chekwe  
(1977, PPE)  
Mr Puta-Chekwe examines critical issues in Zambia's recent history, including

the country's unhealthy dependency on foreign largess and their implications for national self-assertion, social self-reliance and sustainable development. He also suggests simple ways in which Zambia could lift itself out of its current underdevelopment trap.



### Is That a Fish in Your Ear?: Translation and the meaning of everything

David Bellos  
(1963, Modern Languages)  
Aiming to show that

translation is at the heart of how humans understand each other, *Is That a Fish in Your Ear?* uses a range of human experience, from film to philosophy, to demonstrate that without translation, we would not be able to communicate.



### Where the Wild Things Were

Stanley Johnson  
(1959, English)  
Stanley Johnson documents his travels from Exmoor

to Ecuador, revealing the incredible experiences and infectious humour of a man committed to the defence of the wilderness. Featuring encounters with pandas and blue whales, Jane Goodall and blue-footed boobies, Mr Johnson's passion is abundant.



### Immortal Bird

Doron Weber (1978, English)  
This memoir focuses on the fight for life of Mr Weber's eldest son, Damon, who was born with a congenital heart defect and later developed protein-losing enteropathy (PLE). *Immortal Bird* provides a touching account of a father's struggle to save his remarkable son, and a young boy's appetite for life.



### John Thomas Serres (1759-1825): The tireless enterprise of a marine artist

Alan Russett (1949, History)  
Alan Russett celebrates the work of John Thomas

Serres, an English artist who served as Maritime Painter to King George III. Mr Russett shows how, despite the challenges posed by the profligacy of his wife, John Thomas Serres captured his admiration for the sea on canvas.



### The Origins of Sex

Faramerz Dabhoiwala  
(Fellow in History)  
Dr Dabhoiwala's debut book explores the changes in sexual attitudes which

occurred during the period he calls 'the first sexual revolution'. Having received critical acclaim from major newspapers in Britain and abroad, *The Origins of Sex* demonstrates that this revolution shaped the world we live in today.



### Lionel Asbo: State of England

Martin Amis (1968, English)  
In this modern fairy-tale a violent, albeit unsuccessful, criminal learns he has won £139m on the National Lottery. However the implications for his ward and nephew, Des Pepperdine, are not straightforward as Des has reason to fear his uncle's vengeance.



### Grimm Tales: For young and old

Philip Pullman (1965, English)  
Philip Pullman takes his 50 favourite fairy-tales by the Brothers Grimm and

retells them with his characteristic clarity of expression. *Grimm Tales* explores the longevity of these stories, as well as providing commentaries on the background of each fairy-tale.



### Umbrella

Will Self (1979, PPE)  
In his latest book, Will Self explores mental health in a bleak envisaging of 20th-century London.

*Umbrella* follows the encounter between Zack Busner, a maverick psychiatrist, and Audrey Dearth, a former munitions worker sectioned decades earlier and comatose since the end of the First World War. Dearth's awakening invites Busner to consider the impact of modernity upon the psyche. ♥



# The Year in Pictures

From snow on the quad to drama in the garden, Exeter's year is as vibrant and varied as ever



**1** Trashing **2** Scottish dancing on Burns Night **3** Champagne for the rowers after Summer Eights **4** Charity fundraising day with sumo suits **5** Max Mulvany's (2009, Fine Art) Snow Rector **6** Maggie Pinsent, Bedel of Arts, with John le Carré in the Fellows' Garden before Encaenia **7** Exeter College RFC v Exeter Old Boys



**1** Adam Ward (2011, PPE) at the Rector's music evening **2** The Choir performs in Santa Maria de Montserrat during its tour of Barcelona **3** The cast of *The Importance of Being Earnest* rehearses in the Fellows' Garden **4** Daily life on Turl Street **5** The Turl Street Arts Festival jazz parade **6** Christening of Jack Bush, with his mother Marielle and his father Robert Bush (2011, Applied Statistics) **7** Students on their way to the Examination Schools





## EVENT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2012 – 2013

---

SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Association Lunch (Oxford Alumni Weekend)

---

TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

Hong Kong Reception

---

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

Singapore Dinner

---

SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

Gaudy 1998 – 2000

---

SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

Freshers' Parents' Tea

---

TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER

Gifted and Talented Event

---

FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER

Engineering and Physics Dinner

---

FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Medical Society Dinner

---

SUNDAY 4 NOVEMBER

700th Anniversary Lecture by Philip Pullman

---

SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

Charles Lyell Dinner

---

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER

Varsity Rugby Match (Twickenham)

---

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER

Exeter in the City – Winter Drinks (London)

---

JANUARY (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)

European Event (Zürich)

---

FRIDAY 8 FEBRUARY

Parents' Night – Dinner in College

---

SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY

700th Anniversary Lecture by Sir Paul Nurse

---

FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY

Fortescue Society Dinner (Oxford)

---

SATURDAY 16 MARCH

Gaudy 2001 – 2003

---

FRIDAY 26 APRIL

PPE Society Dinner

---

FRIDAY 3 MAY

ExVac Dinner

---

SATURDAY 11 MAY

1314 Society Garden Party

---

SATURDAY 25 MAY

Young Alumni Garden Party and ECBCA Dinner

---

JUNE (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)

Exeter in the City – Summer Drinks (London)

---

SUNDAY 9 JUNE

Commemoration of Benefactors

---

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

Leavers' Parents' Lunch

---

SATURDAY 22 JUNE

Gaudy for 2004 onwards

---

SATURDAY 13 JULY

Graduation for 'historic graduands'

---

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

THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD, OX1 3DP. TEL: +44 (0) 1865 279620  
WWW.EXETER.OX.AC.UK/ALUMNI EMAIL: DEVELOPMENT@EXETER.OX.AC.UK