Features: Boat Club and Hertford Society
New Honorary Fellows
Music Festival 2005
This is the beginning of my ninth and last year as Principal at Hertford. Though the age rule would have allowed me to stay on one more year, I have decided to retire at the end of this academic year. I am fortunate in that I will be able to continue my cancer and human genetics research laboratory here in Oxford with increased opportunities in my research, having recently been awarded a £2.3 million grant from the Wellcome Trust, together with colleagues in Statistics and Human genetics. This grant is for studies of the British population which will help in the search for inherited susceptibilities to common chronic diseases. In addition, my personal commitments take me increasingly abroad.

The university now has a new Vice Chancellor, Dr John Hood from New Zealand. He is the first “outside” Vice Chancellor in Oxford’s nearly 800 year history, though he has done graduate work here as a Rhodes scholar. We wish him well in his challenging task of taking over from Sir Colin Lucas, who has set the scene for the 21st century with extensive changes to the University’s governance structure, which I have mentioned in previous newsletters.

At the end of the last academic year, our senior history fellow, Geoffrey Ellis retired. He has served the college academically with great distinction, loyalty and good humour, and in addition has been an excellent Cellar Master.

We also lost our biology fellow, Professor Karen Day, to a senior position in New York University where she will have enhanced opportunities to pursue her excellent research into Malaria and other infectious diseases. She has had a major impact on the teaching of biology both within the college and in the university as a whole. We welcome as her replacement Professor Martin Maiden, who also has a research programme in infectious diseases.

Simon Oliver, our relatively new chaplain, was featured in an article on college chaplains in “Oxford Today”. He has established himself as a key figure in the college, providing service not only through the chapel, but through his wise counsel to all that are in need of any help or seek his advice. Sadly he has decided to leave in January 2005 for an academic position in the excellent Theology department at the University of Wales Lampeter, where he will be able to pursue his academic interests in a more focused way.

This year we have elected three new Honorary Fellows: David Pannick, a noted QC and columnist, joins his colleague Honorary Fellow Ian Brownlie QC, also a Fellow of All Souls. We maintain our connection with Paul Muldoon, the distinguished poet, whom we elected following the end of his five year term as Oxford’s Professor of Poetry. Our third new Honorary Fellow is Bishop Tom McMahon. His identical twin brother, who sadly died at an early age, was an outstanding law fellow at Hertford. Bishop Tom has become a much valued friend of the college since that time.

Hertford students excelled themselves in their final examinations this year. With a record number of firsts (35), we came 4th equal in the league of firsts amongst the colleges, and eighth in the Norrington table, though only 0.2 percentage points separated us from the sixth position.

The biennial North American Reunion in New York this April was, as mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, a great success. It always serves to remind us of the pleasure and the importance of keeping in touch with our alumni wherever they are. We look forward to seeing you here in college whenever you have an opportunity to visit.
Message from Head of the Members & Development Office

After three very happy and stimulating years at Hertford College, I am moving on to a new and fascinating challenge. This autumn I will be taking up the newly established post of Head of Development at The Ditchley Foundation at Ditchley Park, near Woodstock in Oxfordshire.

My time at Hertford has been made particularly enjoyable through the contacts made with Old Members, members of the Hertford Society, and especially those on the Society’s Committee, as well as current students, Fellows and staff at the College. I would like to thank everyone for their friendship and support over the past three years.

The Members and Development Office will be in the capable hands of Yvonne Rainey, Development Officer, until my replacement is appointed.

Thank you all, and au revoir.  

Carol McCall

Private support has been vital to the development of Oxford University and its colleges for centuries. No college or department of the University would exist today in its present form if individuals had not supported the educational programmes, research enterprise and facilities of the collegiate university. Thirty colleges and the University have teamed up to enable donors in the USA to carry on this tradition through planned giving. Planned giving is a sound way to make a lasting contribution while taking advantage of favourable federal and state tax laws.

To enable our donors to meet their personal needs and maximise the impact of their gifts, a Consortium – OXFORD PLANNED GIVING – has been created.

If you would like further information about OXFORD PLANNED GIVING, please contact the Members and Development Office at Hertford, or Mrs Kim Erskine, Associate Director Major Gifts in the University’s North American Office, tel: (212) 726 6400; email: kim.erskine@oxford.oudna.org.

BEQUESTS TO HERTFORD

The College has recently been the beneficiary of a number of valuable legacies from Old Members.

- Basil Eckersley (1937 Modern History, 1946 Jurisprudence), a founder member of the Hertford Society, died on 14 December 2003. He was a loyal supporter of the College during his lifetime, and in his Will he left a generous share of his estate to Hertford.  

- Alfred Nathan (1940 Law), who died on 8 September 2003, left the residue of his estate to Hertford with instructions that it be used for such purposes as the College thinks fit, provided that his name be associated with the object of the bequest.

- David Weatherall (1947 English), who died on 10 January 2004, left a share of his estate as an addition to the permanent endowment of the College.

- Anthony Woodcock (1946 Physics), who died on 28 August 2003, bequeathed a share of his residuary estate to Hertford.

Such gifts are immensely helpful to the College. If you would like to help Hertford by leaving a bequest, please contact the Members and Development Office. The Geoffrey Warnock Society is the College’s own legacy society which recognises those who intend to make provision for a gift in their will.
In Third Week of Michaelmas Term the Chapel was full to overflowing as students gathered to listen to Professor Lord Robert Winston speak after Choral Evensong about his Jewish faith and his work as a scientist. Lord Winston is Professor of Fertility Studies at Imperial College, London. He will be familiar to many as the presenter of such popular and acclaimed documentary series as ‘The Human Body’ and ‘The Human Mind’. Throughout the academic year many other inspiring and eminent speakers visited the Chapel. Amongst them were the Bishops of Oxford, Leicester and Stepney and Canon Dr Nick Sagovsky, Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey, who spoke about the intricate design of creation and the wonder this provoked in the devout life of Jeremiah Horrocks, the first observer of the transit of Venus in 1639. We also welcomed visiting preachers from further afield, including the Revd Richard Morgan, father of our MCR President, who ministers in Coventry, Rhode Island in the US. In Trinity Term the Revd Dr Janet Hardt, Chaplain of Glossop and Tameside Acute NHS Trust, delivered a memorable and moving sermon on the relationship between her studies in medieval mysticism and her work as a hospital chaplain.

In September 2003, six Hertford students joined the Chaplain and twenty students from other Colleges for a University trip to Taizé in Burgundy. Taizé is a tiny village which gives its name to an ecumenical community of over one hundred brothers who welcome many thousands of young people each year (up to five thousand a week in summer) from all over the world. The community was founded in the 1940s by Brother Roger who, along with his companions, offered shelter to those in danger during the Nazi occupation. Today, during week long stays, visitors discuss the Christian journey and share their many and various experiences. Despite the plethora of languages, conversation and the sharing of life gain a remarkable fluency based on discussion groups and the thrice daily round of prayer in the community church.

The academic year began with the sad and sudden news of the death of the Revd Michael Chantry, Chaplain from 1961 to 2001. On Saturday 14 February over two hundred people gathered in College for a Memorial Service. The addresses were given by Dr Alan Day, Fellow in Mathematics, and Dr Ken Farrimond (Hertford, 1984), Tutor at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield. Some rousing hymns and music contributed to the celebration of Michael’s life. Former students were able to reminisce over tea after the service.

Throughout the year, the Chapel Choir, under the impeccable guidance of the Organ Scholars, Matthew O’Malley and Matthew Lilley (pictured right), continues to flourish. Perhaps the highlight of the year was the Choir’s visit to St. Paul’s Cathedral, London on 8 December to sing Choral Evensong. The canticles were sung to the setting by C. V. Stanford in C and the responses to a setting by Timothy Good, former Organ Scholar at Hertford. The visit fell on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, so Benjamin Britten’s ‘Hymn to the Virgin’ was an apt choice as an anthem. In the great acoustic of the Cathedral, the performance was stunning. As is now traditional, the Choir were accompanied by members of the College staff and the day ended with a party at the Chaplain’s house.

The lifeblood of the Chapel’s life continues to be Morning and Evening Prayer. Small groups of students gather to begin and end each day in quiet contemplation. The Film Group and Theological Discussion Group provide a more lively forum for discussion and the exchange of ideas.

During the year, six couples were married in Chapel, six students were confirmed, and several students and the children of members of staff were baptised. The Chapel continues to be the venue for the celebration of significant moments in the lives of many associated with the College.

This has been another lively and successful year in the life of the Chapel. Its services, activities and creative spirit continue to attract a very broad range of staff and students with varying attitudes to religious faith. We hope that many will continue to find in the Chapel a place of friendship, celebration, solace, serious enquiry and peaceful contemplation.

Revd Dr Simon Oliver
Chaplain

LONG SERVICE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR COLLEGE STAFF

A reception was held in the Old Hall on 14 June 2004 for four members of staff rewarded for their long service to the College.

Edith Spencer, the Admissions Secretary, has been at Hertford for 15 years. Kenny Lewis, SCR Butler, and Clive Shorter, the caretaker of Warnock House, have been at the College for 25 years. The longest serving, however, is Maria Rinaldi who has been a scout at Hertford for an incredible 30 years!
HERTFORD WEDDINGS


Kelly Evans (1992, Chemistry) and Nathan Evans (1992, Law) were married at Brighton Town Hall on Thursday 12 February 2004.

Kelly and Nathan met for the first time in ten years at the Hertford College Garden Party on 13 July 2003!


BARONESS WARNock TO GIVE ETHICS LECTURE

Hertford College is to promote an Ethics Lecture, which might initiate a series of such lectures to be delivered by prominent academics or public figures. Questions of morality and good practice impinge upon, or are reflected within, all academic disciplines and professions. It is hoped, therefore, that the lectures will appeal to Fellows, students and alumni in their various fields of work and study. The lectures will take place in the College Chapel. Not only is this a beautiful setting for such occasions, it also serves as a reminder that so many of our moral categories were formed – positively or negatively – through the Judeo-Christian tradition.

The College is delighted that Lady Mary Warnock, a cross-bench life peer and one of Britain’s most celebrated moral philosophers, will deliver the first lecture. Amongst other government committees concerning medical ethics and education, Lady Warnock chaired the Committee of Inquiry into Human Fertilization and Embryology, established in 1982. The Warnock report led to the Human Fertilization and Embryology Act of 1990. Lady Warnock has published numerous books in the fields of philosophy and ethics, including An Intelligent Person’s Guide to Ethics (Duckworth, 2001), Nature and Morality (Continuum, 2002) and, most recently, Making Babies: is there a right to have children? (Oxford University Press, 2003). She has been Senior Research Fellow in Philosophy at St. Hugh’s College, Oxford, Headmistress of Oxford High School and Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge. Many former students of Hertford will remember Lady Warnock’s late husband, Geoffrey Warnock, Principal from 1971 to 1988.

The lecture will take place on Friday 4th February 2005 at 6pm. The lecture will be followed by dinner at 7.30pm. Tickets for the lecture and dinner, priced £15, are available to alumni and their guests by sending a cheque payable to ‘Hertford College’ to the Members and Development Office, Hertford College, Catte Street, Oxford, OX1 3BW. Further details are available from the Members and Development Office (tel: 01865 279428; email: yvonne.rainey@hertford.ox.ac.uk).
In Hilary Term 2005 Hertford College will be hosting a week of piano and violin masterclasses from January 8th to 16th, given by Italian Maestri Bruno and Franco Mezzena, to initiate a heavily publicised three month international concert series. Participants in the masterclasses will receive three one-hour lessons, and take part in a concert in the Holywell Music Room. The concert series will commence with a performance of the Debussy, Ravel and Bartok violin and piano sonatas, given by the Mezzenas in Christ Church Cathedral at 8.00pm on 8th January, and will go on to include over twenty piano, violin, cello, chamber, orchestral, and choral concerts, performing everything from early English madrigals and standard Beethoven classics to the challenging modern music of Webern, and the world-premiere of a composition by Hertford Music Tutor and composer, Hugh Collins Rice, and even a 4-hand performance of Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring. The performers will come from Italy, Belgium, Germany, England, Japan, and of course from within Hertford itself. The series will also include a concert given by the early music ensemble, the Concertante of London, under the direction of Hertford Music Society Patron, Sir Nicholas Jackson, performing his own reconstruction of the 1634 Masque, “The Triumph of Peace” by William Lawes, as well as the Bach Coffee Cantata and Brandenburg 5.

Maestro Bruno Mezzena studied with Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Marguerite Long and Tito Aprea, and has taught at music festivals around the world. He is Director and Professor at the Music Academy in Pescara, Italy. He is honoured with the “Distinguished Leadership Award” by ABI-American Biographical Institute, and is a Commendatore of the Italian Republic for his artistic merit. Franco Mezzena studied violin with Salvatore Accardo, and, like his father, has given concerts and masterclasses all over the world. He has recently gained great notoriety for recording the complete violin concerti of G. B. Viotti.

The Festival is being organized through Hertford College Music Society to offer the chance for Oxford musicians to study with these masters, and to help promote emerging artists of an already professional standard alongside the student musicians in Hertford orchestras and choirs, both to raise the profile of Hertford’s music-making and to bring a series of innovative and unique programmes to Oxford.

For more information regarding the Festival and a concert programme, please see the Music Society website: http://hcms.hertford.ox.ac.uk/main or write to the Hertford Music Society to receive a festival programme. The Music Society is currently looking for sponsors for this event, and would greatly appreciate any help provided. For more information regarding possible sponsorship, or advertising in the Festival pamphlets and programmes, please contact John Anderson at email: musicfestival@hertfordcollege.co.uk or tel: +44 (0)7876 596551

John Anderson

PROFESSOR DAVID THOMAS

New Fellow of Hertford College

Professor David Thomas, BA, CertEd, DPhil, previously Professor of Geography at Sheffield University, has been appointed to the Chair of Geography at the School of Geography and the Environment at Oxford. He has been elected a Fellow of Hertford College.

David Thomas is an Old Member of Hertford. He read Geography from 1977 to 1980, took a Cert Ed in 1981, and in 1984 was awarded his DPhil. In 1984 he took up a lectureship in Geography at the University of Sheffield. In 1994 he was promoted to Senior Lecturer and in 1995 to a personal chair, and the Directorship of the Sheffield Centre for International Dryland Research, an interdisciplinary centre that he was instrumental in establishing. From 1997 to 2000 he was chair of the Geography Department.

As well as being a former Chair of the British Geomorphological Research Group and recipient of the British Association’s Dorothy Hodgkin award for scientific communication, David Thomas is a Vice President of the Royal Geographical Society until 2005.
The Rt Revd Thomas McMahon, Bishop of Brentwood

Bishop McMahon was born on 17 June 1936 in Dorking, Surrey and grew up in Harlow. He was educated at St. Bede’s Grammar School, Manchester, before training for the priesthood at St. Sulpice, Paris. He was ordained on 28 November 1959 at Wonersh, Surrey.

He was appointed an assistant priest in Colchester, where he served for five years. From 1964-1969 he was appointed to Westcliff-on-Sea, and then became parish priest of Stock (where he continues to live as parish priest). From 1972-1980 he served as Chaplain to Essex University. He was a member of the National Ecumenical Commission.


Bishop McMahon is a Patron of a number of groups and organisations, notably Vice-President of Pax Christi since 1987. He was a founder member of the Movement for Christian Democracy and together with Lord Alton visited refugee camps and homes in Albania in September 1999.

His twin brother, John, was Dean and Tutor in Law at Hertford College for six years prior to his death in 1969.

Professor Paul Muldoon


A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Paul Muldoon was given an American Academy of Arts and Letters award in literature for 1996. Other recent awards are the 1994 T. S. Eliot Prize, the 1997 Irish Times Poetry Prize, the 2003 Griffin International Prize for Excellence in Poetry, the 2004 American Ireland Fund Literary Award, and the 2004 Shakespeare Prize. He has been described by *The Times* Literary Supplement as “the most significant English-language poet born since the second World War.”

David Pannick QC

David Pannick read Law at Hertford, gaining the top first in 1977. He went on to do a BCL and was called to the Bar in 1979. He is known as one of the leading silks in the areas of Administrative and Public Law, Human Rights, Immigration and Sports Law.

He has acted in many of the leading public law cases in the past 20 years, such as Spycatcher, Brind, and ex parte Iris Bentley, representing a wide range of clients, from the Revd Moon to the Chief Rabbi, from Red Hot Dutch Television to the Lord Chancellor, from Mohammed Al-Fayed to Lord Rees-Mogg, from Diana Princess of Wales to the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority in the case brought by Diane Blood who wished to be impregnated with the sperm of her dead husband.

David Pannick has argued over 50 cases in the House of Lords, more than 25 cases in the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, and over 20 cases in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Amongst important cases in the Strasbourg Court, David acted for servicemen dismissed from the armed forces because they are homosexual; for the United Kingdom in relation to the sentence imposed on Robert Thompson and Jon Venables, the youths who killed James Bulger; for Greece in resisting the claim by former King Constantine for the return of property; and for Cyprus in relation to human rights abuses by Turkey in Northern Cyprus. He has been a Fellow of All Souls College since 1978.

NEW HONORARY FELLOWS

The College has recently elected three new Honorary Fellows:

**The Rt Revd Thomas McMahon, Bishop of Brentwood**

**Professor Paul Muldoon**

**David Pannick QC**
The years after the refoundation of the College were among the golden years of the Hertford College Boat Club. We are indebted to Robin Arthur for providing this transcription of part of the Introduction written in the second Secretary’s book by E. Buck. The first Secretary’s book (1875-?), referred to as the Old Book, was lost some time ago:

Having to begin a new Secretary’s Book, at a time when we have reached the highest possible point of success I have thought it best to begin from the foundation of the Club – rewriting the facts from the Old Book – and giving a short history of the College Boat Club.

‘Hertford College was in 1874 re-founded as the new embodiment of Magdalen Hall, which was absorbed by it – (all its members being incorporated, and its buildings occupied, by Hertford College). The ‘Blue-Black’ of the Hall had, as far as O.U.B.C. races are concerned, disappeared from the River in 1873 when their Eight was bumped over two places by Worcester College. The new Boat Club was really properly started in October 1875, when the first Secretary (A. F. Thornhill) was elected – and the new colours (crimson and white) of the College made their appearance on the River in the following term when the first Torpid was put on. The debut gave some promise but was not very successful, as having to change a man in the middle of the races the boat lost the two places it had gained – and here one may remark that one is at a loss to account for the want of success which has always attended our Torpids, only one of them ever having risen, while the Eight has gone steadily from 20th to Head of the River in 1881. In this last Eight there were first hands recruited from the Torpid. The first Eight made its appearance in May 1876, and rose four places. In 1877 the material was too raw and the boat (though it must be allowed it had very bad luck) fell three places. After this we have only to chronicle success. The Eight starting nineteenth in 1878, rose in that year six places to thirteenth – in 1879 five places to eighth – in 1880 three places to fifth – and in 1881 with five new hands when everything looked worst we rose the remaining four places ‘Head of the River’…

‘Through the energy of the Principal (Dr. Boyd) the College in November, 1878, became possessed of a Barge, which no doubt has been very conducive to our success. As to financial matters one cannot speak with so much pleasure and satisfaction for up till quite a recent date the College has not really been large enough to support its success which has entailed a somewhat heavy expenditure. But as the College has grown considerably and as efforts have been and are being made to clear off the debt that remains, it is to be hoped that we shall soon be able to speak of the Club as a financial success.

‘What has been done in the past is certainly due in a great measure to the hearty and practical interest which has been taken in the welfare of the College and its Boat Club. We shall hope to see this interest and enthusiasm increase with the success it has created, and if it does we are satisfied that the College will maintain a high position in the University.’

One consequence of being Head of the River in 1881 was that Hertford burnt its boats. The following letter was sent to T. G. Jackson, of whom more anon, whilst he was engaged on the restoration of the Bodleian Library. It was sent by Mr. Madden, sub-librarian.

Bodleian Library, Oxford
26 May 1881

Dear Mr. Jackson,

Last night at about 10.45 I saw out of my window a blaze of light near the Bodleian, which at once reminded me of Hertford being head of the river and of concomitant festivities, so I went out and saw that not only were rockets, bombs, and every form of fireworks being let off in all directions (chiefly upward) in the front quad of Hertford, but also a huge bonfire was blazing just within the great gates of the College, fed with tables and chairs by a mad set of undergraduates who were chiefly occupied in dancing insanely round it. The sparks were flying straight up to about the level of the Schools tower, which, as you know, is swathed in wood-work and tarpaulins. Had there been any touch of east wind there would certainly have been showers of sparks all over the tower…

No notice had been given to any of us of the obvious danger if the wind had blown towards the Library and the Senior Proctor (one of the curators) had, I am told, specially sanctioned the fires… We stayed on the scaffolding until 2 a.m. when the men seemed to have gone to bed but it is so striking an instance of danger in a quiet summer term that you will pardon my telling you of it…

Very truly yours
F. MADDEN
On Monday, 5 January 1987, the Hertford Society celebrated its Silver Jubilee with a Champagne Party at Lincoln’s Inn. The following is an account of how the Society came into being.

‘On 6 January 1961 Alfred Nathan, Gerald Darling, Ronnie Ellen, John Cowen, David Hunter, and Bill Atkinson met some members of the Governing Body in the S.C.R. at the invitation of the Principal (Dr. Ferrar) to discuss a proposal put to him by Bill Atkinson after the 1960 Gaudy that College should form a Society which all former members could join with a view to forging stronger links between the College and those who had gone down. Up to this time only MA’s were ‘kept on the books’ and the sole communication with them was when they were invited to a Gaudy every ten years or so. The upshot was that Bill Atkinson wrote a letter which was sent by College in April to the 1600 names for whom addresses existed and he received 500 replies, all in favour; 250 of these indicated that the recipient would like to attend a dinner in College at his own expense. This took place in September 1961 and those present agreed that a temporary Committee should proceed to work on some positive proposals to be put to a General Meeting early in the New Year.

‘On 5 January 1962 there was a Reception at Lincoln’s Inn at which a formal resolution was passed inaugurating the Society, confirming the continuance in office of the Temporary Committee, Bill Atkinson (Chairman), Henry Mitchell (Secretary), Tony Ryder (Treasurer), Basil Eckersley, Ronnie Ellen, Brian Galpin, and Alfred Nathan until the first General Meeting. This was held on 20 June 1962 when the Rules were adopted, Dr Robert Stopford (Bishop of London) was elected President and Derek Conran, Gerard Goodhart, and Bob Jackson added to the existing committee. Seven very distinguished past members of the College who had joined the Society at the start were elected Vice-Presidents. They were Professor Bernard Ashmole, Sir Harry Batterbee, Dr T.S.R. Boase (President of Magdalen and previously a Fellow, not an undergraduate of Hertford), Emory Niles (Chief Judge of Baltimore City), The Hon. Roland Michener (Speaker of the Canadian House of Commons, later Governor-General), Sir Christopher Steel (British Ambassador in Bonn), and Sir Robert Tredgold (a member of the Privy Council, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and many times acting as Governor-General of that Federation). On 29 June the Society held another dinner in College, giving preference to those who couldn’t be accommodated the previous September.

‘Twenty-five years later the Society flourishes with over 1600 members, maintaining its original purpose of providing a link between the College and those who have gone down, for a nominal annual subscription – despite paying the full cost of producing the College Magazine, which is circulated to all its members as well as the J.C.R., M.C.R., and S.C.R. Whether or not the Society has fulfilled the wish expressed in Bill’s original letter, ‘that in due course it would prove to be of some benefit to the College’, is a matter for others to decide, but it was good to hear Sir Geoffrey Warnock say publicly on 5 January 1987 that the College is not just those in Oxford and that it is the Hertford Society which provides the link. A tribute must be paid to the Committee and particularly the Officers who have given a lot of their time and effort to this end, some of them for the whole twenty-five years of its existence. Very special thanks are due to Derek Conran whose service as Secretary and Chairman has covered twenty years and who throughout this time has also freely continued much of the work in College which he started when he spent two years in residence as Appeal Secretary.’

[The articles on pages 8 & 9 are taken from Seven Hundred Years of an Oxford College, revised 1999, available from the Development Office price £8.00.]

If you would like to become a member of the Hertford Society or renew a lapsed subscription, please contact the Membership Secretary, Shawn Manning at tel: 020 8788 3110 or email: hertfordsociety@hotmail.com.

To become a member of the Hertford College Boat Club Society, please contact the Chairman, Paul Watts at: paulwatts@tiscali.co.uk.
The Hertford College Lawyers’ Association is a resource at the disposal of Hertford undergraduates and graduates looking to establish careers in law. We are a loose, informal network of people bound together by the common threads of both law and Hertford: those who read law at Hertford, regardless of their current activities, and those engaged in any form of legal career, regardless of subject read at Hertford.

Building on the work of the outgoing committee, Alison and I put together a newsletter and questionnaire which was distributed to the 532 alumni connected to law. If we missed you, please let us know!

A typically positive Hertford response to the questionnaire means that we look forward to hosting more informal drinks events in London as well a formal dinner in Oxford once every two years, alongside working hard to put students and recent graduates in touch with lawyers in practice who can act as career “sounding boards”. We were greatly encouraged by the number of members interested in helping with informal advice and mentoring and hope that members will come along to drinks in November (see below), to meet and chat with current undergraduates in an informal setting.

Additionally, our mooting programme for undergraduates continues to be run with aplomb by Peter Linstead, with plans for mooting training and a moot against Merton College to take place in Michaelmas Term 2004. Rivalry is intense, as Hertford aims to avenge Merton’s higher number of Distinctions in Mods and equal number of Firsts in Finals!

We will continue to produce an annual newsletter for members, focusing on the activities of students, fellows and alumni – so please send us news of your promotions, moves, qualifications etc. Do contact either of us for further details or check out our website by following the links from the Hertford alumni page.

Nick Jefferson
Dates for your diary:-
Monday 1 November 2004 – Informal Drinks in London
Friday 18 March 2005 – Black Tie Dinner in College

Old Members of Hertford might like to see the version of the Norrington Table 2004 published by The Times in June 2004, since it attributes to Hertford a record 36 firsts out of 104 candidates. (The Principal in his introductory column has evidently seen another version. The Sunday Times of 12 September puts us 4th in the same table.)

In the early 1990s Oxford decided to discourage the publication of such league tables by removing the names of colleges from the published lists. Undergraduates employed by national newspapers still managed to look up college membership name by name and compile the tables. College names were restored in 1998, but it is now considered politically correct to allow students, in advance of their final examinations, to opt out of having their names on the published class lists. On the assumption that opting out is more prevalent among those expecting to get poor results than among those expecting good results it follows that the results in the paper are for all colleges better than they would be if all students’ results were included. With a caution, therefore, that the table is student-compiled and inaccurate, and that inter-collegiate league tables are discouraged anyway, the results are reproduced below.

The rules are that a 1st scores 5 points, a 2.1 3 points, a 2.2 2 points and a 3rd 1 point. The total for a college is its actual score expressed as a percentage of the maximum it would score if all its candidates secured 1sts. With a caution, therefore, that the table is student-compiled and inaccurate, and that inter-collegiate league tables are discouraged anyway, the results are reproduced below.

The Principal in his introductory column has evidently seen another version. The Sunday Times of 12 September puts us 4th in the same table.)

Roger Van Noorden
Senior Fellow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>2003 Rank</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>1sts</th>
<th>2.1s</th>
<th>2.2s</th>
<th>3rds</th>
<th>Total %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>(01)</td>
<td>Merton</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>77.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>(06)</td>
<td>St John's</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>73.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>(16)</td>
<td>St Catz</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>73.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>(05)</td>
<td>Balliol</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>72.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>(19)</td>
<td>Hertford</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>71.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>(03)</td>
<td>Magdalen</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>71.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>Jesus</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>70.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>(02)</td>
<td>Wadham</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>(20)</td>
<td>Teddy Hall</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>69.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>(18)</td>
<td>St Peter's</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>69.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Over a hundred former members of the College from the 1930s to the 1990s, and their guests, enjoyed the Hertford Society buffet lunch in College at the end of June. Once again the sun shone at the appropriate time, and the heavens only opened later in the afternoon. Everybody was particularly pleased to see Richard Houlder, the former SCR Butler, again, who looks unchanged.

The Society’s new President, General Sir Roger Wheeler, presided at his first AGM, and after nine years as Chairman Anthony Eady stood down, and His Honour Judge Charles Gibson was elected Chairman in his place. Anthony Eady was thanked for all his work for the Society over these years. He has however agreed to remain on the Committee. Cicely Brown was elected as a new Committee member.

Before lunch the Society presented the College with a pair of candelabra to be used on formal occasions in Hall to add to the existing ones. Since the design of these particular candelabra is called William Atkinson it was appropriate that the Society’s founding father, and first Chairman, Bill Atkinson, should present them to the Principal. The candelabra have been inscribed with a suitable Latin inscription thanks to Dr Stephanie West. [We are sad to report that Bill Atkinson died on 25 August 2004.]

Over lunch in Hall the Principal gave an update on College news, and after lunch Dr David Greaves, Reader in Molecular Pathology and Fellow of Hertford, kindly gave a talk about his work entitled ‘Cellular postcodes - how cells migrate around the body in health and disease’, which was of interest to scientists and non-scientists alike.

Please make a note now at the back of your diaries that the Society will be holding a formal dinner in Hall on Saturday 25 June 2005. The Chancellor of the University and Visitor of Hertford, the Rt Hon Chris Patten, has accepted the Society’s invitation to attend.

Anthony Swing
Entertainment Secretary, Hertford Society

The College is immensely grateful to the Hertford Society for its generous donation to the Library towards the purchase of the new Dictionary of National Biography.

Dr Stephanie West
Fellow Librarian

The Master, Mr James Devereux, and officers of the Drapers’ Company made their annual visit to Hertford on 15 June 2004. The College’s link with the Drapers’ goes back over 100 years when Principal Boyd was also Master of the Drapers’ Company. The Drapers’ have given valuable support to the College, currently in the form of Drapers’ Company Fellowships and support for student hardship. During the afternoon the Drapers’ Barge was rowed along a stretch of the Isis, ably crewed by Richard Norton (Liveryman) and other members of the Drapers’ Company. Drinks were then served in the Principal’s Lodgings prior to a special celebratory dinner in Hall.
A good crowd of Hertford Old Members met up on Monday 29 March at the Heeltap and Bumper wine bar opposite St Paul’s Cathedral. Elizabeth Milner, 1994 (pictured below right) was the lucky winner of a bottle of College Champagne.

Invitations to this event are sent out (by email only) to those living and/or working in London. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact Yvonne Rainey at development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk.

NORTH AMERICAN REUNION - APRIL 2004

Every two years the University of Oxford holds a major reunion for its alumni in North America. The event in 2004 took place on 16th and 17th April at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York, commencing with a welcome reception in the Grand Ballroom on Friday evening for over 700 alumni and guests. On Saturday an interesting programme of talks provided an opportunity for those present to hear about recent University activities.

At lunch, Sir Colin Lucas, the Vice Chancellor, gave an overview of the major building projects undertaken by the University over recent years, illustrated by slides of aerial photographs showing these new areas of development.

Hertford College hosted a drinks reception on Saturday evening in the Lexington Suite at the Waldorf Astoria. The Principal welcomed over 40 Old Members and their guests to the event, including a great number of the College’s loyal supporters.

It was particularly good to see, among others, Stephen DeBerry, Adam Freedman (whose recent book was featured in the last Newsletter), John Harrison and his daughter Alice, Rob Lusardi and his wife Sabina Wu, Eric Martin, Jerry Owen and Ed Pomeroy.

We were pleased that a number of former Visiting Students were present, including Jonathan Keidan and Arunima Niogi. The College is keen to keep in touch with all those who spent time in Oxford – whether as undergraduates, postgraduates or Visiting Students.

Also present were Professor Richard Andrews, Head of Educational Studies at the University of York, who was on a visit to the US; Professor Karen Day, a former Fellow of Hertford, now at New York University Medical School; Professor Tony Wilson, Fellow in Engineering at Hertford; and Carol McCall, Head of the Members and Development Office.
THE GEOFFREY WARNOCK SOCIETY LUNCH

The fourth annual lunch of the College’s Legacy Society took place on a beautiful May day. Around 20 Old Members and their guests gathered for drinks in the Principal’s Lodgings followed by lunch in the Old Hall. They were joined by Senior Fellow, Roger Van Noorden, Emeritus Fellows Professor Sir Philip Randle and Miles Vaughan Williams, Honorary Fellow Professor Neil Tanner and the Chaplain Revd Dr Simon Oliver.

In his speech, the Principal thanked the Society’s members for helping the College in this valuable way, and acknowledged the extremely generous legacy left in his Will by Alfred Nathan, who died in September 2003.

EIGHTS WEEK LUNCH

Despite the disappointing weather, nearly fifty Old Members and their guests attended the Eights Week buffet lunch at Warnock House. Lunch was served early, enabling guests to walk along the towpath to see the races from the College boat house. Long Bridges was packed as usual with those eager for a good view of the rowers. A good supply of Pimms kept spirits up as the men’s first VIII rowed to success against Christ Church.

SUMMER REUNION LUNCH

The Summer Reunion, held on 13 June, was for those who matriculated in 1996. It was a beautiful day and Members gathered for drinks in the quad, as current students played croquet to relax after their finals.

Emeritus Professor Martin Biddle attended, along with current Fellows Pat Roche, Tutor in Physics (pictured right with Lavanya Rajamani and her husband), and Roger Van Noorden, Tutor in Economics.
2004 has so far seen continued success for the JCR across a range of important aspects of student life. The treasurer and food and housing officers have been hard at work on issues of rents and funding, securing Hertford’s favourable position for another year, whilst complex debates within the Student Union have been well interpreted and communicated so that the JCR has maintained a strong voice where top up fees and OUSU policy is concerned. The Exec has worked very hard over these two terms to aid JCR members, and their efforts are not unnoticed.

Away from the more sordid world of student politics, the JCR has seen a number of useful improvements. The creation of a fifty-five DVD collection for members use is a great asset to those that want a night in, skipping lectures or do English and have no work to do. We hope that it will be well used in the next few terms. A new croquet set and the building of a croquet pitch at the sports ground is also a great achievement for the JCR, with over a third of people playing this game. We are still looking for a new pavilion though!

The summer has been full of frenzied revision and hard work, but there has been lots of time for fun. A mightily successful Summer Ball (held on 4 May in Oxford Town Hall) saw over 200 people indulge all their senses in Venetian splendour, and of course Pimms and punting has been rife. A touch of difference was achieved, however, by some members of the Sir Henry Pelham Sporting Society, who managed to sink a punt on the Trinity term outing! Despite over five years of memory, no one present could remember this ever happening before. It certainly gives the first year something to aim for as they get used to the flow of the river and the difficulties of mastering the pole without losing balance!

The JCR has enjoyed a fruitful time this year, and looks to more success across the non-academic activities that we have excelled at this year. In between the hectic social and sporting lives of members, there may be some time for reading and essay writing. Yet with finals a year or two away for all now that the third year have moved on, this may still be relegated to the Easter rush!

As a final word, we wish all the best to the finalists leaving us this summer. They have been a great year to know and have been friends to many of the second and first years, and I know that they will be sorely missed. The college will feel a different place, but I know that all are eager to meet the new collection of freshers and induct them into the unique life of the Hertford undergraduate. But first, many delightful and enjoyable adventures will be had this summer. I’m sure that they will be vigorously pursued, as we have come to expect JCR members to do with every challenge that they set themselves.

Tom Wipperman
JCR President 2004
Despite meagre resources relative to our rivals, Hertford has this year continued to beat the odds and compete successfully with other Oxford colleges.

With the limitations of both players and facilities, the success of all the teams represents a great achievement, for which all this years sports captains can be proud.

Undoubtedly the team of the year is the Rugby team. The sport has spent the past few years in the shadow of the excellent football team, but emerged this year to do a double: winning the fourth division of the league, and also winning the cuppers plate competition. After a slow pre-Christmas campaign in which immediate promotion ambitions were frustrated, the return of University players such as Will Lynn, Ben Dunnet, Andrew Clements and Chris Whalen provided the basis for a strong challenge in the New Year, and promotion – and the championship – were confirmed with victory over Christ Church at the very end of the season.

Before that, the undoubted highlight of the season was the Cuppers run. A respectable defeat to a strong Exeter side in the second round of the main draw qualified Hertford for the subsidiary competition, and after wins against Christ Church and St Hugh’s, a narrow win on tries scored after a 22-22 draw against St Annes/St Johns was sufficient to qualify the lads for the final. In front of a large crowd, Hertford prevailed 22-5, ably lead by Chris Fitzgerald.

The Cricket team enjoyed a respectable record during a season truncated by inclement weather, comfortably retaining a top flight position. The highlight was probably a spectacular 8 wicket win at Worcester, traditionally about the strongest cricket college, with Amit Upadhyay hitting an unbeaten half-century. The final record of 4 wins, 3 draws (due to rain) and 2 defeats was most respectable, and one wonders what might have been had the side not capitulated to a disappointing nine wicket defeat at eventual champions Balliol, where the side were bowled out for just 88. The cuppers campaign failed to get off the ground, with a first round defeat to St Catherine’s.

The footballers also retained their top-flight status, at one point threatening to challenge for league honours; but the challenge fell away disappointingly after Christmas, and the cuppers challenge was ended at the quarter-final stage by Somerville, losing 3-2.

On the river, the men’s first VIII did enough during the summer VIII’s to ensure they will compete in the top division again next year.

The men’s hockey team achieved promotion back to the top flight, whilst the mixed lacrosse teams reached the quarter finals of cuppers. Cuppers wins were achieved in Swimming, Korfball and Trampolining. The Pool players came close in a number of disciplines to emulating these achievements – making this a highly successful year for Hertford across a stunning range of sports.

There have been many individual successes to report this year – particularly on the Rugby pitch. At the Varsity match, Andrew Clements, Joe Clarke and Ben Dunnet played in the Under-21 team, whilst Chris Whalen and Will Lynn played at that level during the season. To switch codes for a second, a remarkable four Hertford undergraduates – Clarke, Clements, Dunnet and Fitzgerald – played in the full Rugby League varsity match, with Clarke claiming the man of the match champagne. Mark Salter and Nabeel Alsindi played Pool for the University, whilst we were represented in the University Boat Race by graduate Andrew Stubbs.

Individual achievements and contributions at all levels were recognised at the annual leavers Colours Dinner, which was held in Hall in 2nd week of Trinity term. This year, we were delighted to welcome back Martin Lipton (1985 English) and now Chief Football Writer of the Daily Mirror, as guest speaker, to do the presentations. Martin kept everyone entertained and I must thank him for attending, and hope he is able come again sometime.

Hertford retains a ‘sport for all’ philosophy: we remain one of the few colleges able to put out three football teams and two cricket teams, and once more Hertford entered more teams into Croquet cuppers than any other college. Events such as the college sports day and an inaugural exchange with Clare College, Cambridge endorse the suggestion that sport is at the core of the lives of a large majority of Hertford students.

Yet there is no question that Hertford’s achievements on the sports field remain out of proportion to the size of the college, and are certainly in stark contrast to the quality of the facilities. Amongst the projects the JCR dreams of undertaking in the near future (subject, as ever, to resources!) are an overhaul of both the college gym facilities and the sports pavilion, the latter of which is in particularly chronic need of an overhaul. Hopefully, in the near future, those facilities can reflect the vibrancy and success of sport within Hertford.

Richard Oldroyd
JCR Sports Officer 2004
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
FORTHCOMING EVENTS
IN 2004-5

Medics Reunion Dinner
Friday 24 September 2004

College Gaudy
(for matriculation years 1960-1966)
Friday 1 October 2004

Hertford College Lawyers’ Association,
London Drinks Party
Monday 1 November 2004

Tyndale Lecture:
The Revd Dr Simon Oliver
Thursday 4 November 2004

Hertford College International
Music Festival
8–16 January 2005

Freshers’ Parents Lunches
Saturday 22 January 2005 &
Saturday 12 February 2005

McBride Sermon
Sunday 23 January 2005

Ethics Lecture:
Baroness Mary Warnock
Friday 4 February 2005

Julia Bodmer Memorial Lecture:
Lord Oxburgh
Thursday 10 February 2005

Hertford College Lawyers’
Association Dinner
Friday 18 March 2005

London Drinks Party
Monday 25 April 2005

Summer Reunion
(S for matriculation year 1997)
Sunday 21 May 2005

The Geoffrey Warnock Society Lunch
Sunday 22 May 2005

Eights Week Event
Saturday 28 May 2005

Drapers’ Company Dinner
Tuesday 14 June 2005
(provisional)

Hertford Society Dinner
Saturday 25 June 2005

Tyndale Conference, Hertford College
15-18 September 2005

Hertford Choir at St Paul’s Cathedral
Date to be announced
(see College website)

For further information, please contact the
Members & Development Office (tel: 01865 279428)

CONTACT DETAILS

The Lodge
Tel: 01865 279400
Fax: 01865 279437
Mrs Judy Mullee, Head Porter

Principal’s Office
Tel: 01865 279405
Fax: 01865 279437
Mrs Lihua Li, Principal’s Secretary

College Office
Tel: 01865 279423
Fax: 01865 279466
Mrs Jane Webber, Academic Administrator

Admissions
Tel: 01865 279404
Fax: 01865 279466
Mrs Edith Spencer, Admissions Secretary

Conferences
Tel: 01865 279456
Fax: 01865 279466
Mrs Julie Dearden, Director, International
Programmes and Conferences

Members and Development Office
Tel: 01865 279440
Fax: 01865 289142
Ms Carol McCall, Head of Development

Simpkins says: “Uses
for a cat in the office include
shredding paper, licking stamps
and staring out of the win-
dow for you.”