



Hertford College News

Issue 14 Summer 2006

Feature: Roger Van Noorden's Retirement

News: Unveiling of the Sun Dial; Boat Naming Ceremony

The coming of autumn signals the beginning of a new academic year and – this, as every year – the imminent arrival of a new intake of Hertford undergraduates and graduate students. This year, however, it also sees the departure of several people who have made an extraordinary contribution to the College over many years of service.

Pride of place must go to Roger Van Noorden (PPE, 1959) who retires after 43 years in Fellowship. For some of this time he has been a much-admired Senior Tutor, for most of it an extraordinarily successful Investments Bursar and for all of it an inspirational teacher. I was able to see for myself the esteem and affection in which he is held when nearly a hundred former pupils attended a dinner in his honour on Saturday 23 September. Roger, as much as anyone, has been the architect of the modern Hertford and it is hard to imagine College without him. We are very pleased that he has agreed to continue his contribution to Hertford by helping with our Development and alumni-relations work.

Set beside Roger's 47-year association with Hertford, Bill Macmillan's 22 years may seem like a watch in the night, but Bill has also made an enormous contribution as Tutorial Fellow in Geography and as Senior Tutor. For the last four years he has served the University as one of the new 'functional' Pro-Vice-Chancellors with responsibility, first, for academic affairs and more recently Planning and Resource Allocation. The University of East Anglia has been extraordinarily fortunate in obtaining Bill's services as its new Vice-Chancellor. We wish him well and hope that his duties will not be too onerous to prevent frequent return visits to Hertford.

Peter Baker, who retires after 15 years as College Bursar, may be a relative new boy, but it would be impossible to overstate his contribution to the College's fortunes. Apart from

all his other duties – and overseeing the College's physical expansion - Peter was especially responsible for promoting our Conference trade by developing links with institutions in Japan. I have just returned from a visit there and I was struck by the deep and positive impression he had made on all those he had met there. Personally speaking, I am enormously grateful to Peter for the unstinting support and encouragement he has given me throughout my first year in office.

We also said au revoir to Godfrey Keller - Fellow and Tutor in Economics since 2000 – who is leaving us to concentrate on his research and departmental duties and to Ying Liu on the expiry of her Junior Research Fellowship. We wish them both well and look forward to seeing them in Common Room.

This summer also saw the retirement of Edith Spencer after 18 years' service to Hertford, which was marked by a farewell party in July. Our Fellows' sterling virtues would go for nothing without the hard work, loyalty and dedication of our staff, and Edith's work as Admissions Secretary has played an essential role in the College's continuing academic success.

This year we celebrated two former Fellows. A memorial gathering held on March 25th enabled Roy Stuart's many friends and former pupils to swap anecdotes and remembrances and to appreciate and enjoy a photographic display in his honour. We mourn Roy's untimely death even as we celebrate his life and achievements, but Neil Tanner could be there in person when the new Men's 1st VIII was named in his honour on April 22nd.

The excellent turn-out for these events is an illustration of the great affection in which Hertford is held by so many of our old members and others associated with the College. This was brought home to me on a number of occasions in recent months, par-



ticularly in the Easter vacation when Rob Lusardi and his family generously put their house on New York's Upper East Side at our disposal for a Hertford reunion. This extremely enjoyable event drew old members from as far afield as Toronto and the Carolinas.

Closer to home, the Hertford Society held its very successful annual lunch in College at the end of June. This event was marked by the unveiling of a wall-mounted sundial at the Graduate Centre, donated by the Society in honour of Alfred Nathan. Finally, I have just had the pleasure of presiding over this year's Gaudy which was attended by 110 members of the matriculation classes 1972-5. This was a particular pleasure for me since I was able to meet many of my old undergraduate contemporaries 'thirty years on'.

Dr John Landers
Principal

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Cover photo: Roger Van Noorden under the Bridge of Sighs

The Hertford College newsletter, is published by the Members and Development Office for Members and friends of the College. The opinions expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily the official views of Hertford College.

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Hertford College is an exempt charity. Inland Revenue Number XN4052

We welcome back Yvonne Rainey, Director of Development, to the Development Office as from 5th September 2006.

Forthcoming events organised by the Oxford University Society:

Friday 1 December 2006 - Christmas Candlelit Opening at Waddesdon Manor

We have arranged an exclusive guided tour of Waddesdon Manor on a candlelit winter's evening. The house will be decorated for Christmas in the theme of the English National Ballet's Nutcracker. The evening will end with a 3 course supper.

Tuesday 12 December 2006 - Varsity Rugby

Join us for our annual gathering at Twickenham to watch the 125th Varsity Rugby Match. We will meet for a picnic before the match and will then watch in comfort from a well-positioned block of seats reserved by OUS for members, family and friends.

Saturday 7 April 2007 - Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race

We will watch the 2007 Boat Race from 'the ultimate riverside venue', the Fulham Football Club at Craven Cottage. Fulham's new conference facilities offer plasma screen televisions for when the boats are out of sight, and an outdoor terrace on the river for when they are in view. The afternoon will start with a champagne reception, followed by a 3 course meal and finally the Boat Race.

For information about any of the above events, please email events@ousoc.ox.ac.uk, phone 01865 288087 or see www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/events

Travel Brochure

The new travel brochure for trips throughout 2007 and early 2008 will be available from October. There is a wide choice of unusual and interesting destinations, from Antarctica to Italy. Travel with like-minded people, accompanied by expert trip scholars. For a copy of the new brochure, please email travel@ousoc.ox.ac.uk or see: www.alumni.ox.ac.uk

Fifty Years On: an appeal for help from those who came up in 1956

As Paul Coones, the College Magazine's longstanding editor, will have his hands even fuller than usual during his year of office as Assessor,

I have undertaken to edit the 2006/7 issue. I would like to present a report on what has happened to those who came up to Hertford fifty years ago. What have you been doing since you left Oxford? Has your career corresponded approximately to your objectives as an undergraduate? Where have you lived? Have you maintained the extracurricular interests which were important to you at Hertford? Anything else you would like to tell us? I subjoin two examples of the sort of answer I would like to get; but I shall summarize and synthesise what comes in, and just a sentence will provide a very useful element in the general picture.

A) After leaving Hertford I found a post as a maths teacher at Market Blandings Grammar School, and stayed there until I retired. My wife and I adopted three young brothers of Pakistani ancestry, and I have been delighted to see them come to share my own enthusiasm for hockey. As an undergraduate I seriously considered training for the priesthood, but thought I needed some other experience first; now in retirement, having for some years served as a Lay Reader, I shall shortly be ordained as a non-stipendiary priest. My contact with the College over the last half-century has been almost entirely via those of my pupils who have been fortunate enough to gain places; having attended one Gaudy, I felt this type of occasion was too grand for me.

B) National Service infected me with Wanderlust, and after going down I spent not so much a Gap Year (though the term was not then familiar) as a Gap Decade, in a wide range of odd jobs (ship's cook, assistant sheep-shearer, hospital orderly, hotel porter, and so on), sometimes in very odd places. While back home for a fortnight in Casterbridge a short piece on my experiences at sea brought an offer of employment as shipping correspondent (with responsibility for horticulture and ecclesiastical affairs) on the Wessex Gazette, and journalism has proved thoroughly congenial, an outcome which might not have surprised my tutor, in view of his tart comments on my too rapidly composed essays on Tudor history. Hertford introduced me to bridge, which has remained a lifelong passion; I was sad to hear of the deaths of two Hertford fellow enthusiasts, Albert C and Emrys D
Stephanie West
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Roger Van Noorden Retires After 43 Years



My Time at Hertford

by Roger Van Noorden

It is not usual nowadays, with fixed retirement ages, to spend 43 years employed by the same academic institution. It is unlikely that there will ever be a real challenge to Dr Henry Boyd, who was Principal of Hertford College from 1877 to 1922. But I can just about claim my association with Hertford is a longer one, because I came up as an undergraduate 47 years ago, in 1959, to read PPE, returning in 1963, after a year in Nuffield College, as a Junior Research Fellow, picking up the Economics teaching load of my former tutor, C.R. (Dick) Ross, who was moving as a Professor to the new University of East Anglia.

I was lucky in my timing. In those days Economists were sought after for academic jobs because of the post- Robbins Report expansion, with new Universities at Sussex, York, East Anglia, Lancaster, Kent and Warwick. There followed thirty years or so when any academic job was hard to find, but for Economists the wheel has come full circle, since they are paid so much more outside the Universities than inside that only the most dedicated apply.

The unwise move that made my subsequent career an unorthodox one, concentrating on teaching and administration, was

to offer to prepare the annual accounts. My offer was part of a successful collective effort to persuade the superbly organized and friendly Geography Fellow, Jim Houston, to be Bursar. Jim, however, left for a Professorship in Canada a year or so later, and I agreed, still in my twenties, to become first Investment Bursar and later take on the full Bursarship on the fallacious argument that “You’re doing half the job already, Roger”.

The Bursarship provided to be demanding. There was, following the Franks Report, a new format of College accounts, one that was to survive from 1966-67 to 2003-04. We were running at an annual loss with very little capital. Although Principal Ferrar had appointed several Fellows young enough for their stipends not to place too much of an immediate strain on College finances, the Fellows were moving up the then age-wage scale and were expanding in number. The 16 of 1965 grew to 26 in 1975 and 36 in 1985.

We were helped out of our financial problems partly by the adoption of the suggestion in the Franks Report of redistribution away from the better endowed Colleges to the less well endowed, partly by some success in riding the equity boom on the stock exchange, partly by some expansion in numbers at a time when the college fee was higher in real terms than it is now and when students lived in subsidized college accommodation often only for one year, or at the most two. We managed also to make ourselves profitable on our annual revenue accounts.

The big event of my first decade was the acquisition from Merton of the Holywell Quadrangle site, Merton also generously advancing us the money to pay for it with repayment over thirty years at a lowly 2% interest rate. The development of that site was the culmination of ten years of systematic modernization of each of the OB and NB staircases, an effort led by Dr Miles Vaughan Williams who incredibly not only did much of the design work himself but also found the local small builders, plumbers and electricians to do the work much cheaper than the larger firms. My summer vacations tended to be spent on these developments and the growing conference activity.

The College was advancing rapidly on the academic front with the effort, inspired by Peter Ganz and maintained over many years by Neil Tanner, to widen the range of schools sending their best students to Oxford. There was continual excitement about the progress of Hertford that lasted through to the end of the Geoffrey Warnock Principalship, by which time we could be said to have arrived as a college. We even became a contributor to the redistribution in 1986.

The photo shows that I have accumulated a lot of paper round my work area. The bursarship led to running the Estates Bursars' Committee, and then to the Proctorship and the accumulation of long-lasting committee memberships which grew in number during my subsequent twelve years on the University Hebdomadal Council. For example I managed 23 years, nearly all as team secretary, negotiating with the Government about College fees, and about 15 running the college accounts committee (finally bringing SORP compliant accounts to the college system in 2003-04). I had more than thirty years on Schools Examination Boards as they evolved from many dedicated small bodies to a small number of national bodies necessarily run for financial survival. Now on retirement the problem is what to do with all the paper. The records are not organized enough for any archive to accept them, but I am loath to throw them on the dump. Will my house, cellars and roof space be enough to hold them while I sort out my life and maybe write up something coherent about some of these things?

In thinking about all this I realize that my central interest has been the members of Hertford and especially my pupils, for whom I feel immense affection. I am therefore particularly pleased to accept John Landers' suggestion that I take a role in the Members and Development Office. I shall therefore clock up a few more years of connection with Hertford. Readers of this note will therefore hear more from me, and I should like to take every opportunity to renew old acquaintances.

Roger as a Tutor

by *Richard Taunt (2002, PPE)*

Roger Van Noorden forced me to go to his Saturday morning maths classes for the whole of my first year. Is that the sign of a good tutor?

Possibly more to the point, could we undergraduates who were torn out of bed for algebra ever come to think of someone who did that as a good tutor? I think the answer's a resounding yes, but I'll come back to that in a bit.

A tutorial with Roger was an experience I'll never come close to again. I had quite a few of them in my three years studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Hertford from 2002 to 2005. Roger interviewed me in November 2001, and was there at my graduation lunch in July 2006.

The tutorial would invariably begin by standing outside Roger's door fretting that the essay submitted the previous evening was a pile of pap. We would knock, be ushered in and enter Roger's study. Awaiting us were officially the world's most over-loaded shelves. As we sat down on equally sagging sofas we'd look to see books, journals, and stacks of papers literally dripping from every wall. A quick game of cat and mouse would follow whereby Roger gently prodded our ignorance with a wry smile. I spent a great amount of time scribbling furiously in my pad, pretending I hadn't noticed the question Roger had asked and his look which indicated I had to answer it. In between long silences I'd stare at the shelves and ponder whether he managed to use both computers sitting on his desk at the same time. The problem was that macroeconomics, neo-endogenous growth theory and all, is hard. Really hard. We were baffled. But then Roger would explain it. Using very few words, each perfectly positioned, he would lay out a textbook chapter in a paragraph. It was awesome. I was once shocked by hearing him say that Charles and Camilla were married (when they weren't, yet) purely because an untruth had fallen out of his mouth. For three years I relied upon his every word; whether I would be in the career I am now without his reassuring words is seriously doubtful. So we would grab frenetically at the wisdom dispelled, jot down next week's essay title, listen to the names of the books Roger would pluck from a nearby suffering shelf for us to read, and off we went - in my mind, always into the cool, relieved, exhilarated dark.

Roger was, is, a fine tutor, and an exceptional man. What we didn't stop to think about, whilst trying to differentiate through bleary eyes, was whether he wanted to be spending his Saturday mornings with hungover 18 year olds. When funding for a college Japanese exchange ran into difficulty, Roger sorted it out. Once, talking to a member of the Hertford staff, I was in all honesty taken aback at the glowing praises attributed to Roger, or the man who treats his staff well, and also made Hertford what it is now. When drawing the obligatory economics graphs, the pad was always turned towards us as Roger drew upside down so we could see what he was doing. To me that is RVN: focused on his students, caring, and wise.



Above: RVN's room - the shelves now empty of a lifetime's collection of papers - is being repainted in preparation for the next occupant.

Hertford Society Lunch, Sunday 25th June 2006

Nearly a hundred people, including former members, partners and friends, attended the Society's Lunch. We were pleased to welcome the Principal, Dr John Landers (1972) to his first Society lunch, as well as Past President, and Honorary Fellow, The Rt Hon Lord Waddington (1947).

Before lunch, the skies were scanned anxiously but, as on most such occasions, we were able to have pre lunch drinks on the grass in the middle of the OB Quad.

The two senior people present were Jim Sayers (1941) and Bernard Roe (1941), whose new wife we were pleased to meet.

The prizes for travelling from afar went to Dr Richard Baker (1994) who spends a great deal of his time in Melbourne and Prof Tom Robinson (1969), who was with some of his family over from Miami. Whilst the prize for determination went to Bill Vale (1945) who arrived in a wheelchair, but then managed to climb the stairs to Hall using his sticks.

We were also pleased to see Mrs Lesley Atkinson the widow of the Society's founding Chairman, Bill Atkinson (1936).

Bob Hart, the Catering Manager, and his staff looked after us as well as usual, and the Principal gave a short speech outlining recent events and successes in College.

After lunch, a number of people went down to the College's Graduate Centre at Folly Bridge to see the unveiling of a

sundial, which the Society had presented to the College to commemorate the life of Alfred Nathan (1941).

We were pleased that a number of Alfred's contemporaries were able to attend the lunch. Apart from those already mentioned these included Tony Page (1943), John Webber (1943), Derek Conran (1944), Tony Fells (1945), Edward Kalafayan (1946), Bill Squire (1946) and David Steen (1947).

Alfred had been a founding member of the Society, and had been on the Committee from its inauguration in 1962 until his death. The sundial was installed near the top of the south facing wall of the Nathan Building.

Lord Waddington was introduced by the Society Chairman, His Honour Judge Charles Gibson (1959), who, in introducing Lord Waddington and referring to his enthusiasm for the College, particularly as President and Past President of the Society, said that in light of recent developments he was likely to go down in history as the most liberal Home Secretary of the last quarter of a century.

Lord Waddington, who was a contemporary of Alfred Nathan, spoke about Alfred and his many interests, but particularly his overriding pride in Hertford. Alfred's generosity will be remembered by the College for generations to come, and it was appropriate that something as original as a sundial was the Society's way of remembering him.

David Brown, who had designed and created the sundial, was asked to say a few words. It turns out that this sundial is unusual in that it is slightly curved to fit on the most appropriate part of the wall at the top of the building. This has



led to correspondence with 'sundialers' in other parts of the world, so the Graduate Centre might receive visitors from different parts of the world to see how David Brown achieved this feat!

Unfortunately the sun did not shine during the 'unveiling', so an initial concern that the sundial was an hour 'out' was not put to the test, although we think that this had already been resolved when it was remembered that one had to consider GMT and BST. However, as David Brown is a former physics teacher, we were sure that his calculations were 100% accurate.

The Society will be holding another Lunch in College on Sunday, 24th June 2007. Make a note in the back of your diaries now, and we look forward to seeing you then.

*Anthony Swing
Chairman Social sub-Committee
Hertford Society*

Chairman of the Hertford Society, His Honour Judge Charles Gibson with sun dial designer David Brown.



Boat Namings Create Special Occasion at Boat Club Society AGM

By Paul Watts
Chairman of the Boat Club Society

This year's Annual General Meeting of the Hertford College Boat Club Society on April 22nd saw an unusual ceremony, as the College Boat Club took the opportunity to name some of the new boats acquired after the boathouse fire of July 2005 destroyed much of the fleet.

Several Society luminaries were there to carry out the namings of the boats named in their honour. It was especially delightful to welcome Professor Neil Tanner to christen the Men's 1st VIII named after him. Neil is, of course, a former Society Chairman, and is not in the best of health, so it was a treat to see him in such good form. Long-time coach Graham Topping then named the new Men's 2nd VIII, replacing the original "Graham Topping".

The founding Chairman of the Society, Derek Conran, was on hand to carry out the ceremony for the Men's 3rd VIII

named after him, and Lesley Atkinson, widow of another former Chairman, Bill Atkinson, was also present to name the Women's 2nd VIII "Bill Atkinson 2".

Prior to the naming ceremony, an unusual crew took to the water in the new Men's 1st VIII. Included in the line-up were current Society Chairman Paul Watts, former Chairman Jon Billowes, Society Committee member Alison Stevens, long-time Society member Neil Sorton, Neil Tanner's son Simon, along with Paul Mattick. Paul is a Hertford post-graduate student and is the Society Secretary as well as an international oarsman, who featured in the Great Britain Lightweight Four which reached the final of the recent World Championships at Dorney Lake.

It was a delightful occasion, with so many long-time supporters of College rowing on hand to christen the magnificent new boats. After the ceremony and the AGM, Society and Boat Club members enjoyed sherry and supper in College.

If you are a former member of the College Boat Club and are interested in supporting College rowing and enjoying our social events by becoming a member of the Boat Club Society, please contact Paul Watts at paulwatts@tiscali.co.uk.



Above: Derek Conran (1944, Modern History), Former Chairman and Secretary of the Hertford Society.

Above: Lesley Atkinson, wife of the late Bill Atkinson (1936, Physics, Captain of the Boat Club 1938-1939).

Below: Professor Neil Tanner, Honorary Fellow.

Below: Professor Neil Tanner and Derek Conran enjoy the afternoon.



R. R. Stuart's Memorial Gathering 25 March 2006

By Nancy Stuart O'Brien

There was no formal structure to the event - in keeping with Roy's wishes of no memorial and the 'sin of sentimentality' he mentioned at the HCLA annual dinner in 2003/ his retirement. Instead, the 'Gathering' allowed everyone to share their favourite Roy 'story' and listen to three short speeches at 3pm. The college provided tea and delicious sweets.

Displayed on High Table in Hall, was Roy's photographic portrait along with emails in the memorial book, a testimonial article and photographs of our house. CD music was Roy's choice, a Beethoven cello piece played at his non-service in Inverness, and music from our blessing in Chapel.

Upstairs, in the Ferrar Room, was the DVD of Roy reading 'Desiderata' at our blessing, along with two framed photographs of Roy painted by a local highland artist.

Hertford Library has Roy's portrait, a CD of our move to Scotland (what happened to Roy), and a DVD of Roy reading 'Desiderata'.

There are photos of the event and our house on these web pages:

<http://uk.geocities.com/nancyostuart@btinternet.com/photopageceltic1.html>

<http://uk.geocities.com/nancyostuart@btinternet.com/photopageceltic2.html>

Roy's children and I thank you.



Photographic portrait of Roy Stuart, mounted in Hertford College library. Donated by Nancy Stuart O'Brien.

Edith Spencer Retires

On 19th July a party was held in the Principal's Lodgings for our Admissions Secretary Edith Spencer who retired after 18 years service which was well attended by Fellows and Staff.

Edith, who joined Hertford College back in 1988, mentioned how much she had enjoyed working for the College as she found it to be a very informal and friendly environment. Edith was presented with flowers and a gift.

The new Admissions Secretary is Mrs Jacqui Chapman.

We wish Edith a very happy and long retirement.



Sue Finch, Academic Administrator, presents Edith with a gift from staff and colleagues.



Staff and Fellows enjoy the retirement party for Edith Spencer in the Principal's Lodgings, with the Principal in the foreground talking to Dr Pat Roche.

North American Reunion in New York

The Hertford reception was held at the home of Rob Lusardi (1975, Engineering Economics & Management) and his wife Sabina Wu, and was attended by the Principal and his wife Diana Parker; Peter Baker and his wife Elaine; and Temporary Director of Development Ellen Brennan.



Geoffrey Warnock Society Lunch

The Geoffrey Warnock Society lunch was held on Sunday 21st May. Although it was a very rainy day our 28 Old Members and their guests enjoyed a wonderful afternoon.

The Principal hosted drinks in the Lodgings, which were followed by lunch in Hall and afterwards our Old Members were invited to a lovely Organ Recital in The Chapel. Among those present were Dr Alan Barlow (Economics, 1971); Mr Roy Burgess (Modern History, 1951); Mr Derek Conran (Modern History, 1944) whose guest was the late Michael Chantry's wife Pat Chantry; Mr Peter Dart (Physics, 1972); Mr Anthony Garner (Law, 1943) and his wife; Mr Michael Harris (Literae Humaniores, 1952); Mr Graham Jones (Chemistry, 1964); Mr George Jupe (Modern History, 1951); Mr Stewart Kennedy (International Relations, 1982) and his wife; Mr David Mander (Chemistry, 1961) with his wife; Mr Christopher Selby (English, 1967); Mr Stuart St John (Modern History, 1960) with his wife; Mr Kenneth Waters

(Chemistry, 1961) and Mr John Wilkinson (Maths, 1955). Our new Members included Mr Stephen Massey (PPE, 1976), Mr Gerald Paterson (Physics, 1957) and Mr and Mrs David Whitehead (Classics, 1955). They were joined by two of the College's Emeritus Fellows – Anthony Cockshut with Mrs Cockshut, Dr Miles Vaughan Williams with his wife Marie, and three current Fellows – Roger Van Noorden (Tutor in Economics), Dr Peter Millican (Tutor in Philosophy) and Dr David Hopkin (Tutor in Modern History). At the end of lunch, the Principal proposed a toast to Sir Geoffrey Warnock, in whose memory the Society was formed.

For further information about making a bequest through the Geoffrey Warnock Society or to request a copy of the Society's brochure, please contact Yvonne Rainey, Director of Development (tel: 01865 279440, fax: 01865 289142, e-mail: yvonne.rainey@hertford.ox.ac.uk).



Mr John Wilkinson (1955, Maths), Mr David Whitehead (1955, Classics) and Mrs Patricia Whitehead



Mrs Marie Vaughan Williams and Mr Michael St John (1960, Modern History)



Mr Eric Doorbar (1953, Geography) and Dr Peter Millican (Tutor in Philosophy)

Eights Week



The College held its annual lunch at Warnock House, which was attended by 15 Old Members and 4 Fellows. Mr Roger Van Noorden attended, and Dr Peter Millican brought along his wife and two children as did Professor Hagan Bayley. Dr Alison Woollard also attended with her husband and young daughter Alice (aged 3). A superb buffet lunch was provided by new chef Nigel Sherwood. The weather was appalling with heavy rain but everyone enjoyed the day nevertheless.

London Drinks

A good crowd of Hertford Old Members met up on Monday 19th June at Skinners Wine Bar next door to London Dungeon. The evening brought together Members who enjoyed exchanging news and views in a convivial setting. There was a business card raffle, won by Graham Jones to whom the Principal presented a bottle of champagne. Invitations to this event are sent out by email to those living and/or working in London. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact the Development Office on 01865 279428 or email development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk.



Summer Reunion For Matric Year 1998



The Summer Reunion was held on Sunday 11th June. Members from matriculation year 1998 joined the Principal and a few of the Fellows for a lunch in the Hall. The weather was beautiful and therefore drinks were held on the lawn beforehand. Fifty one Old Members were delighted to be back at Hertford. The guests included Mr Tom Bennett, Miss Rosie Alexander, Mr James Balment, Mr Russell Cooper, Mr David Croxford, Miss Hermione Eyre, Ms Christine Chaplain,

Mr Richard Fidler, Ms Esther Howe, Dr Theresa Loudon, Mr Richard Paterson, Mr and Mrs Donald Stark, Miss Sarah Webb, and Mr Martin George.

Members of the College included Mr Roger Van Noorden, The Chaplain, Reverend Leanne Roberts and Dr Paul Coones.

The afternoon proved very enjoyable.

Roger Van Noorden's Retirement Dinner

On Saturday 23rd September, Hertford College held a retirement dinner for Roger Van Noorden. The occasion was a very special one and nearly 100 people attended, including Mr Van Noorden's wife Sally, and his former and current students. The evening was extremely enjoyable and began with drinks in the Old Hall, which spread to the Quad as the afternoon turned out to be a glorious one. A four course meal was held in Hall. Speeches were given by the Principal, Mr Van Noorden and Peter Hazell (PPE, 1966). Mr Van Noorden's former students and colleagues contributed to several gifts, including: a year's subscription to Friends

of The Ashmolean; a year's subscription to English Heritage; theatre tokens to last several years; two years' subscription to The Economist; and the Bridge of Sighs Rose.

Mr Van Noorden came to Hertford as an undergraduate 47 years ago, in 1959 to read PPE. He has been with Hertford ever since, apart from one year as a Junior Research Fellow at Nuffield College.

After dinner, three standing ovations indicated the enormity of gratitude to Mr Van Noorden for all his help and teaching excellence over the many years at Hertford College. We wish him a very happy and long retirement.

Peter Hazel has kindly allowed us to reproduce what he called "an appalling but short poem", which was part of his speech at the dinner:

*I knew how to differenti-
ate, and integrate by parts
I wrote quite well, I read a
lot, I was quite good at darts.*

*I thought that this
equipped me for an Oxford
education*

*But essay one for Roger
showed this was without
foundation.*

*A man of daunting intel-
lect and manner quite severe,*

*He listened to my efforts
and opined "your logic's
queer"*

*You've read the stuff, you
know some facts, you've
clearly got some brains,*

*But you won't be an
economist, you're no JOHN
MAYNARD KEYNES!*

*But Roger is, that's clear
to all, in lots more ways than
one,*

*Economist par excellence,
investor next to none,*

*And Hertford's been the
winner, in brainpower and in
wealth,*

*It's up the Norrington
Table, and its Balance Sheet
shows health.*

*I know he has a mind that
works as fast as a machine,*

*He's charm itself, his mar-
ket nous as good as I have
seen,*

*The most important ques-
tion that I'd dearly love to
set him,*

*How come he looks no
older than the day that I first
met him?*



Gaudy

Friday 29th September was the turn of the 1972-1975 matriculation years to return to College for their Gaudy. 110 Old Members returned for this occasion. Tea was served at 4pm and was followed by a tour of the Graduate Centre, capably led by Roger Van Noorden or a talk by Dr David Greaves (Tutor in Cellular Pathology) on new developments in understanding cardiovascular disease. Both these activities were followed by Chapel.

Everyone resurfaced at 7pm resplend-

ent in black tie for drinks in the Quad and then dinner in Hall. The guests were joined by Fellow Roger Van Noorden; Honorary Fellows Helen Alexander, Andrew Goudie, Sir Nicholas Jackson, and Professor Sir Christopher Zeeman; Emeritus Fellows Stephanie West, Anthony Cockshut, Brian Steer, Miles Vaughan Williams and Gerald Stone; His Honour Judge Charles Gibson, Chairman of The Hertford Society, together with the current College Chaplain, Rev. Leanne Roberts (our first female

Chaplain).

After four courses and plenty of wine, it was time for the speeches. The Principal proposed a toast to the guests, Mr Paul Hughes (1975, History) replied and Ms Helen Alexander (1975, Geography) proposed the toast to the College.

Members then retired to the JCR bar for more drinks and reminiscences.

With food, wine and plenty of stimulating conversation the gaudy was a success.



JCR News

It's been a busy few months for the JCR, with sporting ups and downs, balls, socials, motions and maintenance work to keep us busy!

There have been refurbishments in the Bar and additions to the Abingdon annex facilities, with beanbags, a DVD player, free-view box, and a much sought after oven being added to make life by the river more homely. The riverside remained a hub of activity throughout summer, as the college came together to cheer Hertford on to several rowing successes. The Annual Hertford Sports Day was enjoyed by all, if only for the bouncy castle and barbeque! In response to this college-wide interest, a new Sports Bulletin now keeps the JCR up to speed on the weekly happenings. It's also been great to see a continuation of closer workings between MCR and JCR; be it in the sports ground or down the bar!

An extra formal hall on Wednesdays has also been happily incorporated into the weekly routine here, and the Principal's invitation to make the twice termly black tie guest dinners a joint event between Senior, Middle and Junior Common room members, was also hugely popular. The JCR also welcomed the inception of a new Hertford Philosophy Society, which brought all those involved in the discipline together, for dinner, drinks and lively debate.

The JCR launched Trinity term in style with a very successful Annual Ball, held in the Town Hall. The theme of 'A Night In Paris' certainly brought out all the decadence, elegance, dancing and romance that you'd expect of it, and some that you wouldn't expect as well!

It was also a chance for the Finalists to enjoy themselves and relax before they disappeared into the dusty aisles of the Bod. Later, the 'Finalists' Fling' Dinner brought them all together again before they dispersed into the wider world, with some happy memories and impressive results behind them: We wish them all the very best for their futures.

Unfortunately, the JCR was deeply saddened this year at the loss of a brilliant musician, friend and student, John Stublely. The number of people who attended and contributed to his memorial service in the College Chapel was a testament to his charm and his impact on those around him; and although he will certainly be greatly missed, he will be fondly remembered.

*Samina Bhatia
JCR President*

MCR News

Each year, as the days shorten, graduates greet each other and incoming freshers after the summer and discuss what everyone has been engaged in throughout the break. This fall, the creativity implicit in each Hertford graduate seems to be on everyone's mind.

Perhaps few people display such creativity better than Tanzil Rahman, the immediate past President of the MCR. His band has been a fixture at college events for the last year with jazz and big



band tunes that got even the most hardened wallflower out on to the dance floor. The band was even asked to play for the Dr. Landers' Birthday party. In a similar vein, Elizabeth Weinfield, a Hertford graduate student in Musicology, just accepted a job in the Musical Instrument collection at Yale University, a perfect accompaniment to her playing and teaching of the viola.

Similarly, Jason McAllister, a Hertford MBA, is well known inside the MCR as a gifted photographer. However, it was quite a surprise to all when his photograph of rowers on the Isis in the morning entitled "Gorillas in the Mist" won 2nd prize in the all-Oxford photo competition. All the photographs, including quite a few of Jason's, are in the book, "Our Oxford: The Real Student Life".

As the graduate Freshers came this year they were greeted by the creative fresher events of Emily Macmillan, a DPhil in Educational Research. A fixture of the MCR, Emily is well known to all, but her efforts for Freshers' Week exceeded all expectations. The highpoint was the second annual Matriculation Ball, with live music, face painters, sushi, and all the trimmings. Not only was everything done impeccably, but also the variety and combinations ensured that both good times were had, and the freshers became an integral part of the MCR.

Even the calendar seems to be attracting the more creative aspects of the graduates. The MCR seems to repeat a few stalwart events each year, including Waugh Night – a roast of the dead Hertford alumnus, Thanksgiving – where the Americans roast everything in sight, and Burns Night - where graduates attempt to roast themselves with whisky. However, other events are coming creeping in such as the Conversation Dinner spearheaded by Christopher Whalen, where guests picked which conversation they wished to discuss from a menu much like a dinner. Ran Zhao not only encouraged the celebration of more Chinese festivals for the MCR, but also has impressed many with amazing culinary skills. Similar can be said of the MCR Secretary Mike McCabe and MCR Women's Officer Mel Sharp, who through some very spicy cooking transformed the Graduate Centre into Mexico for a Cinco de Mayo celebration.

So many more things exist, so many more graduates' achievements that an entire magazine could be filled with the stories from just one term. With over 70 new graduate freshers entering this year, all of Hertford waits with baited breath to see what contributions will highlight not only the MCR, but also the entire college for the coming year.

*Stephen Forrest
MCR President*

Sports News

Hertford's sports teams have had a very good year, with both team and individual successes across a variety of sports. In addition, we welcomed ex Hertfordian Martin Lipton to talk and present awards at our annual colours dinner. I'm sure that everyone who attended would agree it was an extremely pleasant evening.

Following on from an unfortunate league performance where they were unlucky to miss out on promotion by a couple of points, the rugby team successfully made it to the final of the Cuppers Plate. Unfortunately, bad luck struck again and



despite a valiant performance the team was defeated by a strong St. Catz team.

The Hockey team, which this year was joined with University college, followed on from a successful performance in the league by making it to the final of their coppers competition. The final was closely fought and after normal time the scores were still level. The game, therefore, went down to a golden goal eliminator, in which captain Amy Ruffle scored the winning goal.

One of Hertford's best performances this year came in Cricket. The men's team managed to gain promotion into the first division after winning the second division. It was a closely fought competition, which went all the way down to the final match; the team held their nerves though and were able to win the match and gain the promotion.

Enthusiastic is the best way to describe Hertford's football teams this year, with both the men's and women's teams entering their respective league

and coppers competitions. The men's first team, despite finishing towards the bottom of their division in the league entered two teams into a 5 a side competition where both teams ended up being knocked out on penalties. The women's team put in a fantastic performance to win their 5 a side competition. This is building on their success earlier in the season where they scored their first ever goal and won their first ever league match.

The boat club has had an especially successful year, in both Torpids and Summer eights, and at external regattas. The men have had a good year, with their first and second VIII's maintaining their positions in their respective divisions Torpids and Summer eights. With lots of 1st years in the squad there is a wealth of potential to build upon. The women's boat club built on the success from Christ Church regatta, with both the first and second VIII winning blades in Torpids and Summer eights. The first

VIII also bumped into the top division in Torpids and the second VIII bumped up into fixed divisions in Summer eights.

At external regattas there have been category wins for both the men's and women's squads, the women at Hammersmith head, and the men at both Stratford regatta and the Oxford City Sprint regatta. In addition to this, both squads put in good performances at their respective head of the river races on the Thames.

Finally it should be noted that there has been a fantastic number of Hertford's rowers competing for the University this year. With Tom Woolway making the men's lightweight Nephys boat and six of the women making the university development squad and competing in the BUSA regatta and women's Henley. Between them they won three gold and two bronze medals.

*Zoe Lee
Sports Rep*

Fellows' News

Professor David Thomas (1977, Geography) has been awarded an Honorary Professorship by the University of Cape Town, with effect from 1 October 2006. The award is made in recognition of Professor Thomas's contributions to science in Africa, especially research into environmental change. The award is initially for five years and will be held in

the Department of Geographical and Environmental Science.

Sir Walter Bodmer (former Principal) has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the College.

Christopher Tyerman (lecturer in medieval history since 1979) has been elected a Supernumerary Fellow in History.

Stephanie West has been elected an

Emeritus Fellow from Michaelmas 2005.

We are sorry to announce the deaths of Professor Peter Ganz, an Honorary Fellow of the College since 1977, Fellow and Tutor in German 1963 - 1972, on 17th August 2006; and Emeritus Fellow (since 1993) Professor Sir Philip Randle, former Tutor in Biochemistry, on 29th September 2006.

Weddings



Jo Plummer (1996, Modern History) and Matt Briers (1995, EEM) married on 5th August 2006



On March 25th 2006, Victoria Robinson (1999, Geography) and Jonathan Cook (1999, E&M) married in Dedham



Andy Holding (2001, Chemistry) married Kim Barrett on 29th July 2006



Claire Grover (1998, Physics) married Adam Price (1997, E&M) on 19th August 2006

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY **FORTHCOMING EVENTS** **IN 2006/2007**

London Drinks	Monday 13 November 2006
Freshers' Parents Lunches	Saturday 27th January 2007, Saturday 3rd February 2007, and Saturday 10th February 2007
Gaudy (For matriculation years 1992/1993)	Friday 13 April 2007
London Drinks	Monday 30th April 2007
Geoffrey Warnock Society Lunch	Sunday 20th May 2007
Eights Week Event	Saturday 26th May 2007
Summer Reunion (For matriculation year 1999)	Sunday 10th June 2007
Gaudy (For matriculation years 1976-1979)	Friday 28th September 2007

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