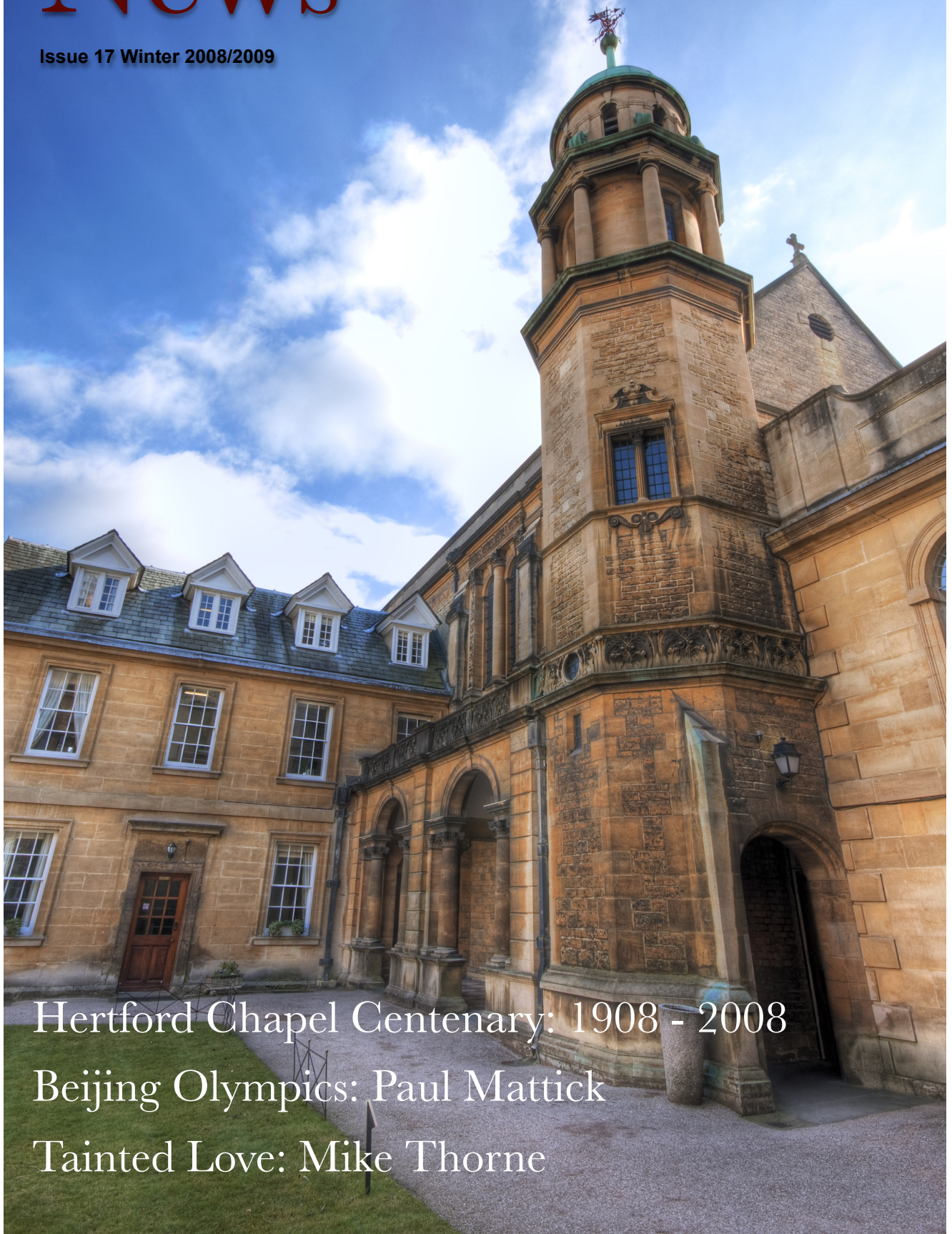


Hertford College News

Issue 17 Winter 2008/2009



Hertford Chapel Centenary: 1908 - 2008

Beijing Olympics: Paul Mattick

Tainted Love: Mike Thorne

Principal's Column

April was the cruellest month according to T.S. Elliot. This year it's been February that's treated us most harshly bringing snow and freezing temperatures to Catte Street as to the rest of the country, but it has at least brought a lengthening of the days and it is now light at the seminar hour of 5pm. The light is particularly welcome this year since the scaffolding and window protection which shrouded the Lodgings since September have now come down and we once again have the magnificent view over Radcliffe Square and points west. The months of gloom have been well worth it, however, since the refurbished stonework on the building's Catte Street frontage facing the square is stunning and we look forward to seeing its north range similarly transformed over the coming months.

The Lodgings were constructed to designs by William Garbett when Magdalen Hall migrated to the Catte Street site in the early nineteenth century whilst half a century later, the Baring re-foundation of Hertford College saw a new building campaign under the aegis of Sir Thomas Jackson. This second wave of construction was rounded off with the construction of the present chapel whose centennial we celebrate this academic year. It is fitting that the centennial year should also see the refurbishment of the long-ailing Chapel organ which will be carried out over the Easter vacation thanks to the generosity of a number of former organ scholars and other friends of music at Hertford. The opening of the centennial year was marked by the re-dedication of the Chapel in an evensong presided over by the Bishop of Oxford. This was followed up by a very successful concert in which the Hertford choir and orchestra were joined by 17 old members in a performance that demonstrated the building's magnificent acoustic to great effect. So popular was this event that we were obliged to turn away some would-be attenders who had not reserved their places in advance. We look forward to a lecture from Sir Nicholas Jackson, the architect's grandson who writes on the building's construction in this issue of the newsletter on the 25th April, whilst the centennial year will be rounded off on 31st May with a service of renewal of marriage vows.

It is a great – if sometimes expensive – privilege to live and work among these beautiful buildings, but we should never forget that, however magnificent they may be, it is not its buildings but its people that really go to make up a College. This issue well illustrates the range of activities engaged in by Hertford members past and present from rowing to record production - and now presenting the *Antiques Roadshow*. Our central mission remains the pursuit of excellence in teaching and research, but realising this poses greater financial and administrative challenges with each passing month, and so it is a particular pleasure to be able to introduce two new members of Hertford's Governing Body. Mr. Simon Lloyd joined us as Fellow Bursar in September having graduated from Hertford with a First in Geography in 1980 and is hard at work formulating a five-year plan for the College. Two weeks after Simon's arrival we

welcomed Mr. Paul Dryden as Development Director. Paul is pursuing an energetic programme of visits to old members and will be very pleased to welcome you should you visit the College, as will we all.



Dr John Landers

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Landers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Development News

Hertford has witnessed plenty of activity over the last few months, from the filming of the *Antiques Roadshow* to celebrations for the centenary of the Chapel. Another work of T G Jackson's receiving attention is the Catte Street façade: this time from Wells Cathedral Stonemasons. The Principal's Lodgings now look magnificent but the rest will not be completed until April and at a cost of over £300,000. Meanwhile, the 2008 Annual Appeal raised over £70,000 and £20,000 was secured towards the restoration of the Organ. Very warm thanks to all our donors! On a sadder note, 2008 ended with the news of the death of Professor Neil Tanner, a profound influence on Hertford. His intelligence and humanity touched all who knew him and he will be greatly missed.

New Director of Development

In September **Paul Dryden** joined us as a Fellow and Director of Development. Paul was a History undergraduate at Exeter College, matriculating in 1985. Before joining Hertford, Paul was Appeal Director for Prior's Court Foundation, a charity for severely autistic children; before that he was Head of Development at Southampton University, following six years in the Oxford University Development Office and prior to that, he worked in the City.

Paul says: "I am very glad to be back in Oxford and am looking forward to building up the College's income. This is essential if Hertford is to retain its autonomy and financial security. Compared to other colleges, fundraising has been slow to take off, and both our income and participation rate are a fraction of those in comparable colleges. Our aim is to ensure that Hertford continues to play a full academic role as a first rate College in an outstanding University. We need support both to help our students and to afford the cost of educating them".

Paul's appointment comes after Oxford University launched its £1.25 billion campaign for the future of the collegiate University, *Oxford Thinking*. The Chancellor, Lord Patten, will be leading the North American launch from the end of April, and the Development Team are looking forward to meeting many of our Old Members at a series of related events in the U.S.

Queen's Birthday Honours

We are proud to report that **Helen Ghosh** (DPhil History 1977) Permanent Secretary, Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs was awarded a DCB (Dame Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath) in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Looking Ahead

This year, the **Oxford Alumni Weekend** will be held from Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September. At Hertford, there will be morning coffee and a recital in the Chapel on Saturday 26 September. Paul and the team look forward to seeing many of you there and over the coming months.

Sarah Salter
Senior Development Officer

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Editor: Sarah Salter

Layout: Cristopher Ballinas Valdes

Cover Photo: edsalter.com

Additional help: Greg Jennings

Produced by:

The Members and Development Office

Hertford College Oxford OX1 3BW

Tel: +44 (0)1865 279428

Email: development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk>

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OLYMPIAN HEIGHTS AND LOWS PAUL MATTICK

In August 2008, Paul Mattick, (1999, Pharmacology) was a finalist in Team GB's lightweight men's four at the Beijing Olympics. His team finished 5th, but Paul still found the experience both exhilarating and uplifting. He came in to the Development Office in October to describe the build-up to race, the Olympics themselves and his future plans.

Preparations for Beijing effectively started the day after the previous Olympics, but the first half of 2008 was a relentless sequence of preparation camps, mostly abroad, ensuring that the team could focus completely. However, not all ran smoothly. Despite doing well in early trials, the Lightweight Men's Coxless Four (which also included Richard Chambers, James Lindsay-Fynn and James Clarke) did not win during the World Cup Series (although they came a close silver in Munich). There were other uncertainties, including strong selection challenges to members of the crew and injuries. Nevertheless, by the final training camp, the crew were in excellent shape and were competitive against the Heavyweight Four, who went on to become Olympic Champions.



Once in China, the team were treated like thoroughbred race horses. When not training, they were mostly confined to their hotel beside the course - probably a minor advantage over those based 20 miles away in the Olympic Village. During the first week, however, while acclimatising, they attended a reception at the British Embassy and visited the Bird's Nest Stadium. Surprisingly, though they were not allowed to attend the Opening Ceremony, Paul acknowledged that it had probably been the right decision. Those that went returned at 3.00 am, tired and chilled. Many of the athletes in the Olympic

Village subsequently suffered from colds and chest infections, possibly as a result.

Three weeks later, the strenuous preparations finally ended. With the success of Team GB increasing every day and Paul's team achieving excellent results in their heats, Paul felt intensely nervous as he got into the boat for the Final but he also felt pretty confident that a medal was a possibility. Even as they finished, he was only aware of two boats ahead of them. It was not until afterwards that, dazed and exhausted, he learnt the truth: Denmark had got off to a flying start and by halfway, were leading by a length. Meanwhile, the British held on to third place behind Canada. Sadly though, in the last 500 metres, the Brits could not match the pace and Poland, moving rapidly up the field, managed to take the silver from Canada. France slipped in behind the Canadians and Paul's team was pushed back into fifth.

It was obvious that the shock and disappointment that Paul felt at that moment, after the intensity of the last months, and especially in the midst of so much British success, was extraordinarily acute. However, Paul said that going to the Olympics for the first time was an almost unimaginable experience. It was far more than just taking part in a race - even a world championship- and it was very difficult to understand

this unless you had been there. He pointed out that the triumphant Danish team had had two Olympic medallists in their team and he and his team mates felt that the Danes' previous experience together with their maturity had given them a stability and calmness which the British team envied.

However, despite the disappointment, Paul was sure that they could not have improved their preparation in the last month before the big race and believes it was previous injury and mis-management/direction during the previous year that ultimately underlay the slip from 1st to 5th. Paul wondered if his crew may have suffered from "over-training syndrome", a relatively common experience amongst endurance athletes, in which fatigue, stress, muscle damage and diet all play their part. The result is that, despite of

FEATURE

or in fact because of, training as hard as possible, performance can dip. Paul also commented that though the feeling of having achieved all you possibly could on the day was surprisingly gratifying, it's nothing like winning!

Once the final race was over though, there were definite compensations. For a start, there was no more training and there were wonderful opportunities in Beijing to sight-see, to party and to eat... (Paul was particularly struck by the vast Food Hall in the Olympic Village, the largest restaurant in the world.)

There was more excitement to follow. Back in the UK, Paul was astonished by the attention that he and his crew received - medals, or no medals. On arriving

at Heathrow, they found themselves conducted to the Royal suite and Paul met Princess Anne, and Gordon Brown. Receptions and interviews followed and of course, in October, there was the victory parade on floats through London, tea at Buckingham Palace and drinks at No. 10.

Back in Oxford, Paul is continuing to work on research into the physiology of the heart, but having come so close to a medal once, the temptation to try again is very strong. If Paul does decide to row in 2012, he will definitely be one to



watch!

Sarah Salter

Events



Girls' Choir at Bruges Cathedral



Georgina & Daniel Domberger and guests



Summer 8's



Gaudy 1980- 82



Rick Percival & Kate Sinclair



Summer Reunion 2000



London Drinks at Corney & Barrow



EMBA Summer Drinks



Gaudy 1994 -95

Alternative Applications of an Oxford Degree

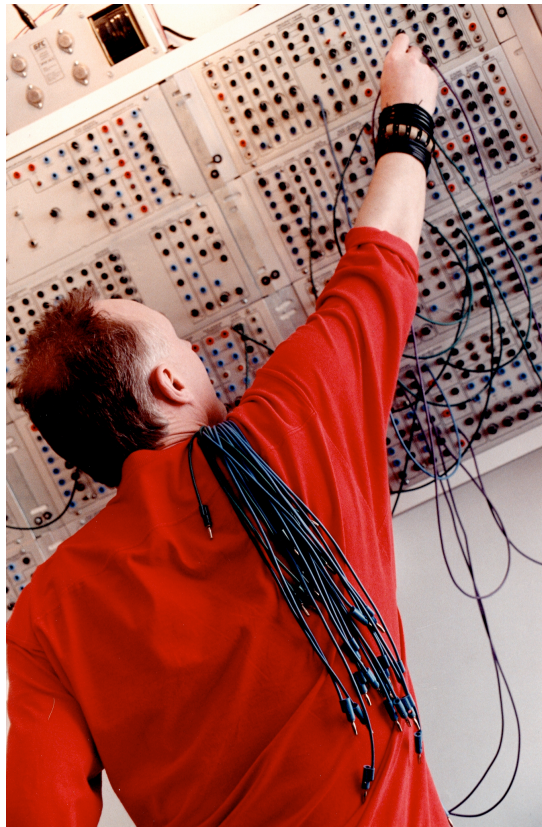
Tensors to Tainted Love

Music was an interest initiated by my parents, a tribute to their innocence and bad judgment. They bludgeoned me to the piano at age eleven, sighed when my teacher reported that I hadn't practiced and bought a Bush tape recorder (3 ¾ ips, quarter track) so that I could record from the wireless and acquire a taste for serious music. Come age 15 (mine) they may have regretted it. That year, all Bruckner's symphonies were serially broadcast (on the Third Programme) for the first time. I was there but, unfortunately, so were they. The clangor of the piano downstairs at 8am (even after bedroom delivery of a nice cup of tea) and my recording obsession gave them an alternative viewpoint, something we were all looking for in the sixties...

Physics was my subject, thanks to Neil Tanner's inspired raiding of northern grammar schools in the 60s for bright sparks who hadn't dreamed of dreaming spires, although my choice was thoughtlessly passive: I was good at it. But I did love it, along with the Sunderland religion of football (playing for Hertford's second team and occasionally for the first when fellow centre-forward Paul Watts had an essay crisis). But music was a primary drive. Arriving at College in summer '66, I didn't know the names of the Beatles. That changed quickly, leaving me with scattered attractions to highbrow, pop and science that would serve me very well. We get lucky.

Mathematician Michael Gerzon became one of the audio industry's foremost thinkers and writers and we met through the OU Tape Recording Society when I was part of *Pandora*, a ballet/mime presented (controversially) in the Chapel during my finals term (when else?). A good friend and facilitator, he's gone now, victim of asthma. Our paths crossed again when I was editing *Studio Sound*, then the world's leading

professional audio magazine. Over a curry in the city, after he sang part of a Charlie Parker solo and opined on serial techniques of Webern and Barraqué, I raised the music/physics/math connection. He said: 'Don't be so naïve – it's just pattern recognition.' Thanks. I wasn't being ironic. You may wonder where this is going - Bruckner, deceased theorists, the Third Programme? I cared about it all, being young, and absorptive: apparently directionless. Whatever next? Whatever might be trouble.



Mike Thorne (Physics, 1966)

When I sent off my naïve 1969 job application letter to recording studios and record companies, some were tender enough to educate me beyond Oxford. However, my first studio job ended with the sack (partly because I was enjoying the boss' secretary's company, on whom he had a crush). Gerry Bron, creative brother of star Eleanor, at his progressive studio next to the Camden Roundhouse, was encouraging but had no next job for me. "Mike: most people look for the bandwagon coming around the bend, to jump on board. I think that when it comes around, you'll be riding it." It took me years to realize the depth of his compliment. We all need such perceptive support.

Being fired rattled me badly, and I spent four years as a journalist and writer until a fracturing disagreement with the publisher of *Studio Sound*. Time to go back to practical music. New York was just about to lift off, but I didn't know it, so looked for an Artists and Repertoire position in London and Los Angeles. Eventually, one blissful weekend was spent choosing between offers from Chrysalis and EMI. EMI offered a wider range of music, which I would augment after five months with the Sex Pistols. It was a stimulating, enormously creative time, and I also worked (among

with Kate Bush: a big stylistic stretch. Most assignments required recording demos for in-company enlightenment. The itch was scratched.

Entering the big league, my first production for EMI was 120 saxophones playing *White Cliffs Of Dover* in 1976. Seemed like a good idea (long story) and it achieved Single-Of-The-Week on Radio London. Early album efforts included *Live at the Roxy*, an unlikely Top 20 hit of live recordings of players and punters at the only London establishment to tolerate (exclusively) punk rock. Another three productions followed in 1977: Wire's first album *Pink Flag*; a live Soft Machine from Paris and the first (gold) album for Téléphone, who would become one of the biggest French rock groups of all time. A nice start.

Work became overwhelmingly hectic, by the early eighties split evenly between London and my New York home. My sole criterion, (to make music I liked with people I liked), led to playing midwife at the births of some decidedly left-of-centre recordings without regard to



fee. Business was brisk, but the 1981 offer to write and record a film score, *Memoirs Of A Survivor*, after Doris Lessing's book and starring Julie Christie, couldn't be refused. Production involved hauling many of my exotic noise machines back to London, including my Synclavier: the first digital synthesizer, serial number 6. It's part of the reason that *Tainted Love* still sounds fresh and different.

Conveniently in town, I was asked to produce a couple of offbeat singles for the progressive, independent label Some Bizzare, funded by Phonogram. For budget reasons, I interleaved recording schedules, which provided perspective for the groups but long days for me. B-Movie's and Soft Cell's singles both made the charts, one more notably. Each was managed by Steve O, the entrepreneurial

operator who had earlier attended a festival of new electronica and signed up participating ingénues for a flagship compilation record. For the foundation of *Tainted Love*, I borrowed Kit Hain's drum machine, since the group's was broken. Star quality sprinkled star dust: Kit's singular voice had fronted the beautiful worldwide hit *Dancing In The City*. Since *Tainted Love* hit Number 1, Kit hasn't held a grudge despite my subsequently producing two solo albums for her which went nowhere, and we continue close friends. (I would achieve that distinction just once more, in 1986 with the Communards' *Don't Leave Me This Way*).

As I sweated to corral B-Movie's *Marilyn Dreams* into coherent radio and extended dance versions, two distinctive people in raincoats and pork-pie hats

materialized at the back of the studio control room: Soft Cell. Steve O clearly thought it cool to wheel them through the sessions of his other hit-potential protégés. Not a sympathetic, personal move, I thought.

Having finished the rock-lineup tracks with B-

Movie, who wrapped their stylish scarves in that New-Romantic way, I transferred downstairs to my Synclavier installation to prepare *Tainted Love*. I forget the eventual hours, but those sessions delivered two hit singles and a distinctive movie soundtrack, shuffling between two expensive recording rooms in the West End of London. How casual was that? I'm being economical with the truth. The sessions were so tight, proscribed and rigorous that it's surprising popular music escaped. Each single was granted a full studio day for 'definition', then another half day (extending in practice into the early morning). Then a full day for developed recording ideas and a day for mixing. Doesn't sound short until you try to provide for two sets of over-intense newcomers, with Soft Cell's extended club mix lasting just short of ten minutes. Nevertheless, those exhausting days persist

among favorite memories of warm, creative times.

We didn't fret about limitations. We made a record within the conditions, with available resources. Mixing at 2am, we didn't initially notice our unconscious movements: we literally danced. Out danced *Tainted Love*. Relaxing afterwards, we agreed that it surely stood a good chance of infiltrating the lower end of the singles chart. We didn't see it coming. It knocked me, and millions of others, for a creative loop. I was that naïve. The single was the



Record sleeve for *Tainted Love*

biggest seller of the year in the UK, was number one in 17 territories and broke the record for the longest stay in the US Billboard singles chart.

There's a pattern to recognize in there somewhere. I wish I could identify it. But the next record would always be different again. Could have used some good advice....

*Mike Thorne
Physics 1966*

*More of Mike Thorne's activity is at
<http://www.stereosociety.com/thorne.html>*

Fellows' News

We have cause to congratulate a number of Fellows in this issue.

The University authorities recognised the contribution of five Hertford Fellows to teaching and research with the award of titles of distinction: Charlotte Brewer, Rob Davies, and Bjarke Frellesvig became Professors in the fields of English, Respiratory Medicine and Oriental Studies respectively, and Peter Millican and Tomo Suzuki Readers in Early-Modern Philosophy and in Accounting.

Professor Robin Devenish, Physics tutor and Dean of Hertford has received the Max Born Prize, awarded to British and German physicists in alternate years by the Institute of Physics in collaboration with the *Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft*. The award recognises Robin's work on the structure of nucleons, and particularly the proton, which has led to major advances in the understanding of quantum chromodynamics.

Professor Nick Barton has received a Leverhulme award for a project on the origins of sedentism in the pre-farming societies of late Pleistocene North Africa. Valued at a quarter of a million pounds the grant will run for 36 months and support multi-disciplinary collaboratuion with Oxford's Natural History Museum, the University of Reading and the *Institut National des Sciences de l'Archéologie et du Patrimoine* in Rabat.

Professor Charlotte Brewer is holding a Leverhulme Research Fellowship, over the course of 2009, to investigate the Oxford English Dictionary's treatment of 18th-century vocabulary.

On a domestic note, two of our Fellows became parents in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We congratulate Dr. Jieun Kiaer, Fellow and Tutor in Oriental Studies, on the birth of Sarah and our Junior Research Fellow Dr. Mark Leake on the birth of Christian.

This year we were sorry to say goodbye to our Fellows in Politics and Earth Sciences, Drs. Andreas Busch and Ros Rickaby. Andreas has been appointed to a Chair in Politics at the University of Göttingen, whilst Ros leaves us for a research-orientated post elsewhere in the University; we wish them both well in their new surroundings. We were also sorry to lose our Drapers' Company Junior Research Fellow, Dr. Charles West, but delighted at his appointment to a permanent Lectureship in the History Department at the University of Sheffield. The Draper's Company's continuing generosity has enabled us to make a new election to the Fellowship, and we look forward to welcoming Dr. Sallie Burrough, an outstanding young Geographer, to Hertford in the autumn.

The Principal

The Antiques Roadshow Comes to Oxford

In September 2007, we learnt that Fiona Bruce, (Modern Languages, 1982) had proposed Hertford as a venue for the Antiques Roadshow. The College, though faintly alarmed at the prospect, bravely decided that its alumna should be supported.

After a preliminary meeting, ground troops from the BBC arrived two days before the recording and laid huge cables in the quad, covered with wooden trip guards. Smart parasols and matching garden furniture gave the quad garden - party chic and an enormous banner was tied to the outside railings. Vans filled with high tech equipment purred away in Catte Street whilst shrouded objects disappeared into the Chapel. On Friday afternoon, 20 volunteers from students, staff and alumni were assembled for training. The emphasis was to be on enjoyment: "like a garden party"... Some were to look after the experts; others were to act as gofers for the BBC team. I was to be outside the Lodge Gates at 8.00am, ready to meet and greet. We were drilled and dismissed!

The big day dawned bright, if breezy. I found myself alongside the BBC's kindly antique weapons' expert facing a queue which snaked down to St Mary's.



Most of the experts were at tables in the quad so only limited numbers could be let in and the queue moved slowly. Inside, the race to sort the interesting objects from the treasured but less viewer-grabbing ones was on. There were startling objects, such a grotesque ivory mirror and a solid silver microscope. Then there was the man with a framed racing print and we watched with horror as he shattered the glass against his leg whilst walking

towards us... Luckily, this made it easier to decide that it was partly hand painted and therefore, surprisingly valuable. The whole atmosphere was, as promised, very party-like and Fiona Bruce's elegant composure added further excitement to the mix.

The lodge gates closed at 4.00pm and the clearing up was done with the same military precision. Even the grass, after 2 weeks of intensive care, recovered to look better than ever.

It was a very memorable day, not just because of

the BBC, but also seeing so many people enjoying themselves in the surrounds of our familiar quad.

Sarah Salter

NB: The BBC made two programmes from the day. The first was shown in December. The second will be shown next Autumn.

The Building of Hertford Chapel 1906 - 1908

An attack of gout prevented T G Jackson from attending a ceremony for the laying of the foundation stone for his Chapel in 1907, but in 1908 he wrote in his Recollections, “my chapel at Hertford College, Oxford was finished and I am told that it is generally liked”, alongside which he pasted in the following letter from Dr Edmund Warre, the retired Headmaster of Eton:

Nov 3 1908

My dear Jackson,

To use with a slight variation, the language of the fat boy in Pickwick, “I wants to make you purr!” And so I write a line on my return from All Souls, to say that I took the opportunity yesterday of going to see your new Chapel at Hertford, and was quite struck with its beauty and good proportion & excellent detail. ‘Paucis contingit’ (few occur) nowadays, and your friends have a right to congratulate you on a lovely piece of work which can have but few rivals in theses our days... (There follows a Greek quotation which may be translated as- ‘I bless you for your art.’)

Yours ever sincerely
Edmund Warre

Hertford Chapel is known to have been a personal favourite of his chapels, which also included an imposing one at Radley and an extraordinary but highly effective half-Gothic, half-Byzantine one with a dome at Giggleswick in Yorkshire. He had also designed several churches, including two in Wimbledon, his most generally admired one at Northington in Hampshire, and ones as far away as Norfolk Island in the South Pacific and Edmonton in Canada, as well as designing a Campanile for the cathedral at Zada in Croatia.



In 1906, his being asked to design Hertford College Chapel coincided with his being selected by

Butterfield to complete his chapel at Rugby, a compliment which might have been something of an embarrassment had not then a strange commission, for him to pull down and re-build Butterfield’s ‘streaky bacon’ chapel at Balliol, been abandoned. ‘It was rather awkward’ he said ‘and I began to wonder

how long my new chapel at Hertford would be allowed to stand!’ 1906 was also the year that he was called in to save Winchester Cathedral from collapse, an operation that occupied much of his time for the next six years.



T G Jackson had begun designing buildings in Hertford in 1884 and work was still being carried out

on them at the

time of his death forty years later. His initial decision to follow the style of William Garbett’s two side pieces for his facade in Cattes Street cannot have been an easy one for someone who was not a great admirer of Palladian architecture. However this was then the style employed by him for his ‘fill-in’ operation in the quad, including the Blois inspired stair-tower with its Jacobean doorway and Palladian parapet, which together with the ‘Bridge’, resulted in his two most delightful creations.

The Chapel was a difficult building to fit into the available space and a small piece of land even had to be acquired from All Souls. As a result, only a fraction of the building is visible from the College and goes some way to explain why the Chapel is not better known. The craftsmanship was of the highest order with carving by Farmer & Brindley, who worked on most of Jackson’s buildings. ‘No two capitals in the stalls are alike’, Andrew Goudie points out in *Seven Hundred Years of an Oxford College*. Only the best materials were used, including a dozen types of marble for the pavement in the sanctuary: Irish stone from Cork and Connemara; Verde Antico from the ancient quarries of Cassambali; Rosso Antico cut from the residue of a statue of Byron etc. The old Chapel became the Library. The reredos was designed by George Frampton, (the designer of the Peter Pan statue in Kensington Gardens) but Jackson’s design for a stained glass window above it was not realised. His design now hangs in the Chaplain’s office.

In *The British Organ* (Batsford 1963), Cecil Clutton and Austin Nilland describe T G Jackson as being 'certainly the most outstanding designer of Renaissance organ cases of the last quarter of the 19th century.' Good examples of his Oxford organ cases can be seen at Brasenose, Wadham and at the Sheldonian. He also designed a case for the organ in the chapel at Blenheim palace that was never carried out.

The instruments at Wadham and in the Sheldonian were built by Henry Willis, or 'Father Willis' as he was known. Jackson described him as being the best of organ builders but the most aggravating of men.' However, had Willis not died in 1901, Hertford might also to this day be, like Wadham College, the proud possessor of a 'Father Willis' organ. As it was, an enthusiastic amateur called Captain Lindsay Garrett was



misguidedly employed, whose work had later to be radically rebuilt by the firm of Alfred Hunter, a good example of whose work can still be heard at St James's, Spanish Place in London. But sadly the result was still rather disappointing.

T G Jackson's last involvements with his chapel were a war memorial and, in 1922, a memorial tablet for Henry Boyd who had commissioned so many of his buildings both as Principal of Hertford and as a Master of the Drapers' Company.

In his catalogues for the 1983 centenary exhibition in the Examination Schools, James Bettley says that 'Hertford is in many ways a microcosm of Jackson's work' and refers to the Chapel as being 'a typically perplexing, richly decorated and eclectic building.' In his book, *Hugh Casson's Oxford*, Sir Hugh quotes *Alden's Oxford Guide* (1913) which says 'Mr Jackson has created a very beautiful work, quite unlike anything else in Oxford'. 'Well not quite,' Sir Hugh adds 'thinking of Jacksonia at Brasenose, Corpus, Trinity and Wadham.....'.

*Sir Nicholas Jackson
Honorary Fellow*

*See *Reason in Architecture* by T G Jackson p160 (John Murray)

Oxford Thinking in Japan

The Japanese launch of the University's £1.25 billion campaign, *Oxford Thinking* took place in Tokyo on 23 October 2008 and Julie Dearden, Director of International Programmes at Hertford was there. Together with the Oxford University Office in Japan, the Ashmolean organised a dinner and an exhibition at the Daimaru Museum, Tokyo, entitled *Camille Pissarro, Family and Friends*. The Vice-Chancellor Dr. John Hood and Ashmolean Museum Director Dr. Christopher Brown both attended.



From left to right: Mr Toshiaki Tasaki, (husband of a Hertford graduate student), Julie Dearden, and Mr Minoru Aihara, (a Hertford alumnus).

College News

Library Past and Present

Since my first article in 2004 about our team of volunteers from NADFAS (the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies), I am pleased to report an increase from six to ten members. Friday mornings during term find them hard at work, restoring the college's older collections, and the team is tackling books in the Old Library, many of which were first dealt with in the early 1990s. As a result of regular training, the team's skills now include repairs to alarming-sounding conditions such as dangling end-bands. In addition, some of the volunteers have embraced new technology (a laptop) and are compiling a database of all our antiquarian collections. This will provide us with a very useful shelf-list, to complement the author catalogue compiled using old technology (a typewriter) many years ago.

In Trinity Term 2008, the team held an open morning in college. Visitors enjoyed seeing demonstrations of practical skills and talking to the volunteers about the work in progress. The books undergoing treatment this year are part of the College's geographical collections and offered striking and varied examples of maps, charts and engravings of lands and peoples all over the globe. Training in November included further work on

mending maps, which suffer greatly from repeated and inexpert folding inside the books over the years.

We also continue to send books away for professional conservation. One of the latest items was the *Benefactors' Book*, first begun under the Principalship of Henry Wilkinson in 1656. This is an attractive volume bound in brushed calf, but in a state of disrepair, and it needed expert restoration before taking its place in the Bodleian's summer exhibition *Beyond the Work of One: Oxford Colleges and their Benefactors*. Our second exhibition item was the copy of *Opera Philosophica* by Thomas Hobbes, which he presented to the college in 1673, the gift being recorded in the *Benefactors' Book*, open at that page in the exhibition. At the back of the *Benefactors' Book* there is a manuscript memorandum recording what appear to be 'library committee' minutes. It refers to the cost of purchasing chains for the books. Our present Library Committee is considering installing an electronic security system for the working library. Books are ever in danger.

*Susan Griffin,
College Librarian*

International Office News

January 2008 saw a new development in EFL (English as a Foreign Language) programmes at Hertford College. The International Programmes team delivered our first TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) teachers training programme. This was for a group of Korean teachers.

The idea for the programme originally came from Ms Sun Kim, a Hertford alumna who works for the *Chosun Ilbo* (Korean Daily News) a major Korean newspaper. The *Chosun Ilbo* has created TESOL teachers' training courses in Korea and Sun Kim asked Hertford to follow these up with short training courses in Oxford. Following discussions, the first group of 13 Korean teachers arrived at Hertford on January 4th for a 2 week programme.

The TESOL training course included study of SLA (Second Language Acquisition) themes such as learner styles, differences, motivation and autonomy and its application in the classroom. The Korean teachers also gained new teaching skills including insight into classroom management, teaching vocabulary, phonology and listening and speaking skills. The group were welcomed to Hertford with a traditional English tea in Hall and finished their course with a gala dinner

with the Principal and the International Programmes team.

*Julie Dearden
Director of International Programmes*



If you wish to develop an English Language training programme with Hertford College, please contact Julie Dearden by E Mail: Julie.dearden@hertford.ox.ac.uk or +44 1865 279456.

Chapel News

Chapel life continues busy as ever, with innovations as well as much-loved traditions.

The Choir's travels took an ambitious turn in the summer when money generously donated by the Shirayama Shokusan Co. Ltd. enabled a ten day concert tour of Japan. We were particularly pleased to visit Aoyama Gakuin University, Otsuma Women's University and Keio University, thus strengthening alliances made through the College's Language School programmes. We have since been on a Christmas tour to Bruges, giving two beautiful and professional concerts in The Church of Our Lady and the City Cathedral, both well-attended.

Michaelmas was an eventful term. The Service of Rededication, led by the Bishop of Oxford for the Chapel's Centenary in October, initiated a whole year of celebrations to mark the anniversary (see back page for more information on Centenary Events). Later in the term, the choir and orchestra excelled in performing Saint-Saëns' Requiem at the College's All Souls Eucharist. We were delighted to welcome our new Organ Scholar, Grace Newcombe (music), who joins Tom Hammond-Davies in organizing Chapel music, and we are grateful for their significant contribution to the life of the Chapel and wider College.

The Chapel Community is supported by our team of Chapel Wardens, Vicky Arnold, Tom Brodie, Alistair Fletcher, Rebecca Hutchinson, and Teresa King. They play a full role in all Chapel events, and their work is greatly appreciated. During Trinity Term they provided 'exam carnations' in the Chapel for those students facing Mods and Finals: many appreciated the few moments of calm before the rigours of Schools. Being a Chapel Warden provides a particular kind of atmosphere for spiritual growth, and in Hilary Term, Rebecca Hutchinson (2nd Year Modern Languages) was baptised during Evensong. The Chapel community is built too on fellowship -

be it a fundraising bake sale before the Bruges tour or the Chapel Dinner at the end of Trinity, this year concluding with *Compline* - sung and candlelit - a perfect conclusion to the academic year.

We are always delighted to welcome alumni to the Chapel, and pleased that many feel that Hertford is the natural place for their wedding ceremony. We have had six marriage ceremonies in the Chapel since May 2008: Alumna Judith Toms married Keith Parry on 24th May; alumnus Richard Percival married Kate Sinclair on 12th July, and current graduate student Ian Gray married his fiancée Anne Lysak there in September. Similarly, we're always particularly pleased when the families of staff and fellows make use of the Chapel, cementing as it does the full round of the College community. In September, Dr Tom Cunnane's son, Andrew, married Laura Tarry; and three months earlier the Chapel saw Hayley Cullimore given away by her father Dave, the College's Head Chef, to Steven Masih. December does not usually see weddings in the Chapel, but alumna Penelope Leech married Nicholas Freestone on 6th December and thoughtfully provided blankets for all the guests for the ceremony!

The 2008/09 year has already been filled with a celebratory spirit. The Centenary Alumni Concert and Dinner was a remarkable evening, and we look forward to the

lecture on Sir Thomas Jackson that his grandson, Sir Nicholas, will be delivering on April 25th, as well as the re-affirmation of Wedding Vows that will take place in at Pentecost in May.

Please get in touch if you would like more details or to receive our Chapel Card and Centenary itinerary.

Leanne Roberts
Chaplain

<http://chapelweb.hertford.ox.ac.uk>



Alumni Concert 2009

Students' News

JCR

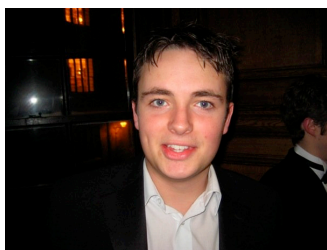
Whilst the new academic year has inevitably heralded a whole set of new challenges and surprises, I hope that 2008 has been a good year for the JCR. There have been the age-old topics of rent negotiations and the independence of the bar as well as new campaigns for a living wage and a possible re-working of the access scheme. The JCR itself still maintains its almost palatial atmosphere, and with the acquisition of a new games console we continue to push the boundaries of intellectualism within a social setting. Although we considered turning it into a gastro pub, the bar still retains its, er, unique qualities and, with the asbestos removed, it no longer threatens impending death for its nightly occupants.

It was sad to say goodbye to the Finalists, most of whom departed in the usual manner: 2 months intense revision in the library followed by quasi-narcolepsy and a propensity to sleep through all the celebrations.

Meanwhile, the JCR continues to provide important support to the undergraduate body: for example, welfare provision such as free contraception; trained 'peer supporters'; informal social events for the less extroverted within the college community and subsidised taxi services. We have purchased benches for college and the annexes, produced four versions of the JCR magazine (Simpkins), written a brand new alternative prospectus, organised a College ball, a matriculation ball and supported those who represent the University at sports.

This only covers a tiny fraction of what the JCR does, but it has been a privilege, as well as a thoroughly enjoyable experience, being President. The worrying thing is that I now have to start thinking about getting a job, with the spectre of finals looming on the horizon!

*Jonathan Colclough,
JCR President 2007/8*



JCR Sport

Michaelmas saw the influx of freshers into all the College teams. The main beneficiary was the rugby club, who managed to win four out of five games and gain promotion to the 4th division. Captained by Fred Snowball, they have produced some convincing victories, most notably the thrashing of a Keble 2nd

team and the 2nd half comeback to beat a strong Trinity side. Alex Whitehead has been selected for the U21s and played in the whippets Varsity Match and Chris Whalen played for the victorious College's XV.

In the Christ Church Regatta, the Women's Novice As got through to the semis, and put in an incredibly strong performance against a very tough field. The Men's Novice As reached the quarter finals, only to lose to the winners. Men's Novice B and Women's Novice B both produced solid rows to finish in the repechage and 4th round respectively. All involved trained throughout the term in freezing conditions and deserve congratulations for their efforts. The boat club is now in training for a successful Torpids.

The football team has started slowly and are at the bottom end of the league; however they are finding their form and have seen performances and results improve of late. Leon Farr has continued to represent the Blues football team, playing an integral part in their rise to the top of BUSA Southern League. Women's netball and football continue to well represented. The hockey team joint with St Peter's were relegated from the 2nd division on goal difference and will be looking to bounce back. Amy Lafferty, Olivia Pierce and James Soane have swum for the Blues, and Fred Snowball has been playing Blue's Lacrosse. The social sports side has been as vibrant as ever. There have been sports nights, boatie nights, and countless crew dates. All of this ensuring that sport at Hertford is on the up.

Ben Brash,

JCR Sports Officer 2007/8



MCR

Last year finished with the glorious tradition of the Boat Party and 2008/9 kicked off during Freshers' Fortnight with two fantastic weeks of socialising before the reality of academic work set in. The new group of students has revitalised the MCR, many even choosing to take on unfilled Committee positions.

Michaelmas saw the celebration of the annual Waugh Night, a fantastic Christmas dinner and numerous exchange dinners with other colleges, all of which showed why Hertford is the most enjoyable of the lot. Michaelmas also saw the beginning of closer MCR-SCR relations.

In Trinity Term, the MCR passed a Special Motion to create the post of MCR Steward, a position which includes the facilitation of MCR-SCR interaction whilst working closely with the MCR Sommelier (previously Wine Steward). Consequently, the MCR held its first wine and cheese evening to which the SCR were invited. By all accounts, SCR members much enjoyed it and we are eagerly anticipating a repeat performance in Hilary term.

The introduction of the extra Committee post has also allowed us to increase our social events. For example, since September, we have been running regular afternoon teas in the Octagon with scones, jam and clotted cream much to the graduate students' delight at the end of long, cold days.

This year has also been a big one for capital works. In particular, the tea-room and Octagon in NB7 were

renovated over the Christmas break. This included new leather furniture and lighting for the tea-room, now arguably the most comfy space in College. Other improvements included the thrilling purchase of a Nintendo Wii for the Graduate Centre. Much of the graduate housing has also been renovated.

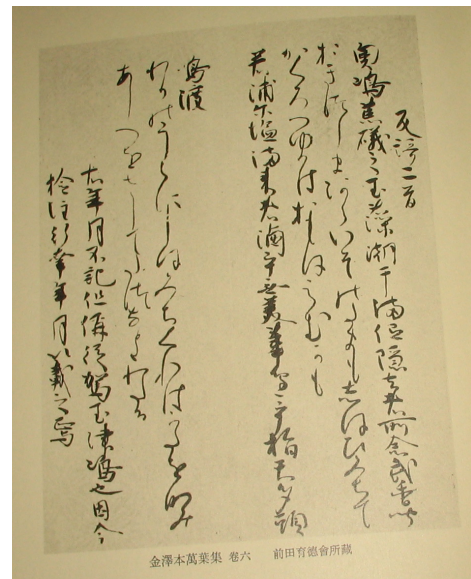
None of the NB7 work undertaken this year would have been possible without last year's committee, and I would like to thank them all. May the coming year continue to be prosperous for the MCR.

*Toby Murray,
MCR President 2008/9*



A Major Linguistics Project

In 2008, the University of Oxford received a nearly a £1,000,000 from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), to set up a research group investigating the basic syntax of the Japanese language from the first written sources in the 8th century until around 1600. Bjarke Frellesvig, Professor of Japanese Linguistics and Fellow of Hertford College, will direct the project which brings together a number of prominent scholars and will run for nearly 5 years. The grant funding also includes a full doctoral studentship. Professor Frellesvig says: "Japanese is interesting to linguists because it is structurally quite different from many other major languages... Because of the amount of material and the time-depth, a project such as this is far too big for individual researchers. This grant provides an unprecedented opportunity for collaborative, detailed work on core aspects of pre-modern Japanese language, enabling us to set up a large research group of both Japanese and foreign scholars".



An annotated early manuscript of the Man'yōshū, a Japanese poetry anthology from the eighth century

EMBA Events at Hertford

The Oxford Executive MBA is a 21-month part-time programme designed to help senior professionals realise their potential whilst continuing to work for their organisations. Last May, Krishna Pathiyal, Director of Intellectual Property at Research in Motion, Canada and a 2nd year Executive MBA student, suggested to the Development Office that there was much to be gained from the College forging closer links with its EMBA's. Since then, there have

been Drinks in the Lodgings with the Principal and the former editor of the Economist, Helen Alexander (1975). We have also held Christmas Drinks and introduced inductions for new EMBA's. In April Hertford is hosting a dinner for all the colleges' EMBA's. Hertford EMBA's are members of the MCR and we hope they will make as much use of the College as their packed timetable allows.

Future Events

- EMBA Inter -Collegiate Dinner** **Thursday 16 April**
- Inter - Collegiate Golf Tournament** **Friday 17 April**
For details of Hertford College Golf Society, see Hertford College website
- Gaudy** **Friday 17 April**
Matriculation years 1996 & 1997
- Chapel Centenary Celebration** **Saturday 25 April**
Sir Nicholas Jackson Lecture
If you would like to come, please contact the Development Office
- Evensong** **Sunday 10 May**
Preacher: The University Chancellor, Lord Patten of Barnes
Specially commissioned music, composed by Hugh Collins Rice
- Geoffrey Warnock Society Lunch** **Sunday 17 May**
- Eights Week Event** **Saturday 30 May**
Hertford Boat Club
- Evensong: Renewal of marriage vows** **Sunday 31 May**
The service will be followed by drinks and dinner. Please contact the Chaplain for further details
- Evensong** **Sunday 7 June**
Preacher: Very Reverend Doctor John Hall, Dean of Westminster
- Summer Reunion** **Sunday 14 June**
Matriculation year 2001
- Hertford Society Summer Event** **Friday 26 June**
Early evening reception in the House of Lords
If you are not already a member of the Hertford Society and would like to join, please contact Graham Jones, the Secretary, jonesgf@hotmail.com or c/o The Members & Development Office
- 1965 Reunion Dinner** **Saturday 19 September**
- Gaudy** **Friday 25 September**
Matriculation years 1983 - 85
- Alumni Weekend** **Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September**
www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk
Recital in Hertford Chapel & morning coffee

**If you would like to hold a conference
or other event at Hertford College,
please contact Julie Dearden at the
International Programmes**

Contacts

The Lodge

Tel: 01865 279400
christopher.maskell@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Chris Maskell, Head Porter

Principal's Office

Tel: 01865 279405
principal@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Dr John Landers, Principal
Jill Symons, Principal's P.A.

College Office

Tel: 01865 279423
sue.finch@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Sue Finch,
Academic Administrator

Admissions

Tel: 01865 279404
jacquie.chapman@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Jacquie Chapman,
Admissions Secretary

Conferences

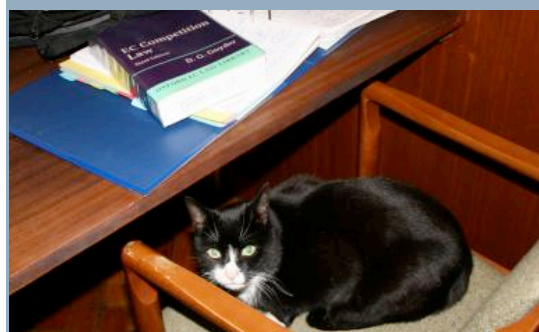
Tel: 01865 279456
julie.dearden@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Julie Dearden,
International Programmes and
Conferences Director

The Chaplain

Tel: 01865 279411
leanne.roberts@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Reverend Leanne Roberts

Members and Development Office

Tel: 01865 279428
development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk
Paul Dryden,
Director of Development
Sarah Salter,
Senior Development Officer
Anna Baskerville
Events Officer



Simpkin disturbed whilst preparing for his Law Collections