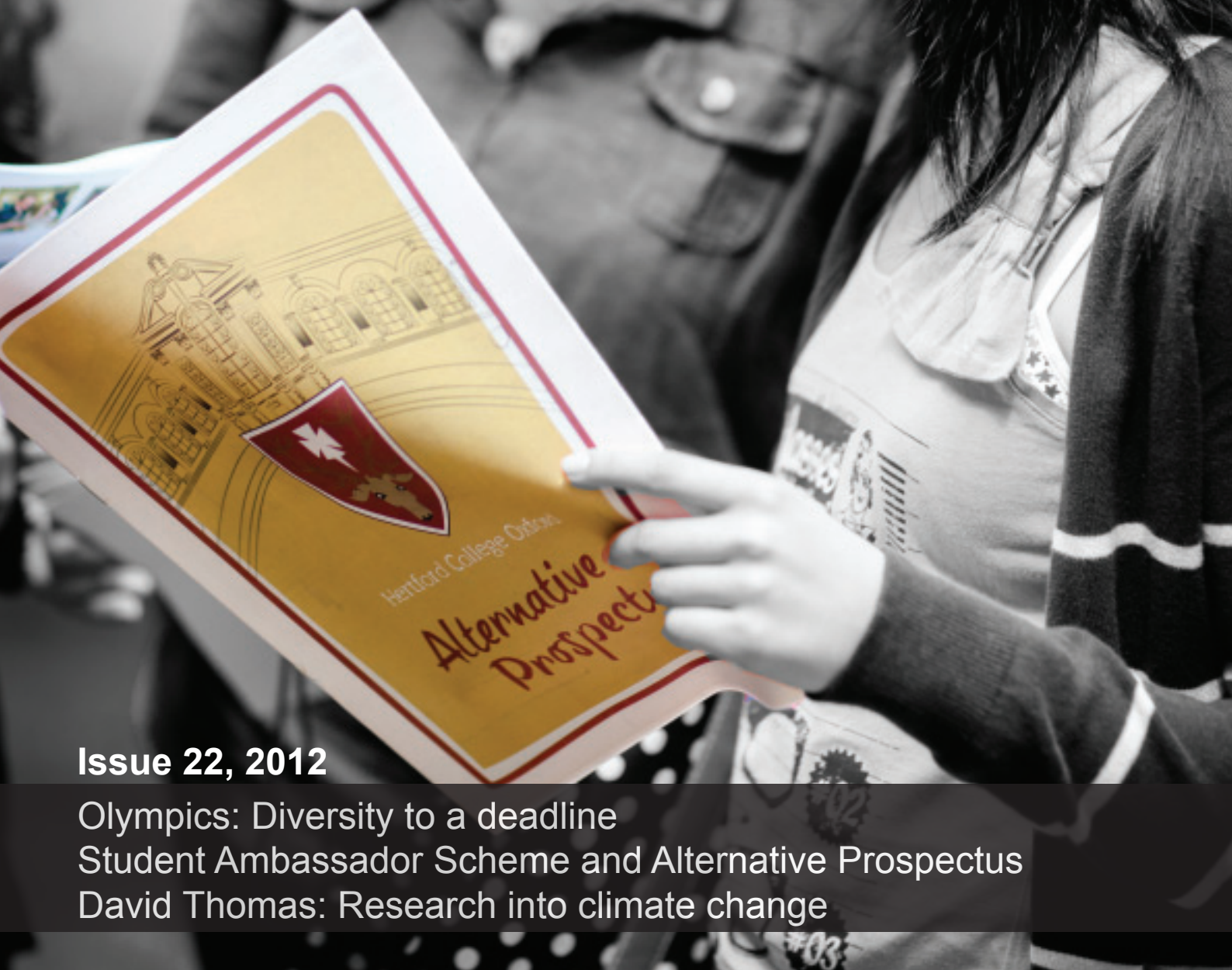




# Hertford College News



**Issue 22, 2012**

Olympics: Diversity to a deadline  
Student Ambassador Scheme and Alternative Prospectus  
David Thomas: Research into climate change

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We have a number of exciting events coming up and, due to the high cost of postage, we can only send invitations for the majority of these by email. Unfortunately we only have email addresses for half of our Old Members. If you do not receive emails from us and would like to, please...

## Update us with your email address!

**Ways to update us:** Tel: 01865 279428 Email: [development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk) Web: [www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/alumni)  
You can also find us on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/hertfordcollegealumni](http://www.facebook.com/hertfordcollegealumni), and on LinkedIn, 'Hertford College Alumni, University of Oxford'.



Three terms under my belt! The time has rocketed by – and the first Saturday in October, when I meet my second group of Hertford freshers, will arrive with bewildering speed. But time goes fast when you are engrossed, and I have certainly been that.

Being Principal is as much a lifestyle as a job. One of the ways that manifested itself this year was the launch of the Hertford Conversations. My aim is to get a wide range of people from the political, business, financial, scientific and arts worlds to address the state we're in from their own perspective – and what could and should be done to address it. One of the satisfying aspects of Oxford is that, despite the deterrent of sometimes erratic trains, people are prepared to make the journey to enjoy College life and food.

So I gently began inviting what has proved to be an eclectic but engaging bunch. Mark Thompson, the outgoing Director General of the BBC, and Alan Rusbridger, Editor of *the Guardian*, discussed the Murdochs, phone hacking, and regulation of the press. Mark paid tribute to *the Guardian's* dogged pursuit of the story, and both he and Alan agreed that any new system of press regulation would have to give some statutory right of investigation to establish the rights and wrongs of complaints if it was to award fines with any certainty. Alan gave a riveting account of how *the Guardian* investigation into phone hacking had developed: the only story, he said, where every new twist was worse than you could have expected.

Lord Glasman, the father of Blue Labour, set out how he felt national renewal would be based first on a capacity to re-engage at a family and civic level. He is a great fan of democracy as a means to create deliberative and creative discussion, and argued that one of the reasons Oxford and Cambridge colleges had survived and prospered over the centuries was that they were and are governed by a democracy of fellows. He wanted to see the same principles extended into as many companies, universities and institutions as possible.

Antony Jenkins, the CEO of Barclays Retail and Commercial Banking, gave a clear-eyed appraisal of the chances of the Euro surviving, why short termism was at the root of the banking crisis and the importance of business, finance and politics trying to create a more long term strategic environment. Margaret Hodge, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, was extremely critical about how outsourcing had become compromised by outrageous profiteering – and set out how her Committee works. Tessa Jowell, MP who won the Olympics for Britain in 2006, explained how careful both she and the Coalition government had been to try and leave a strong Olympic legacy, that unlike the Chinese there had been no deaths in any of the construction work and that what was planned would energise the country!

There is more. The playwright David Edgar talked about William Tyndale, while Geoff Mulgan, the current CEO of the National Endowment for Science and the Arts and former head of the Number 10 Policy Unit, argued that if openness was the key to innovation almost every British institution fell down. We needed an Innovation revolution. Furthermore, the John Donne Lecture provided a platform for a call-to-arms speech about the global inequities thrown up by climate change given by the former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson. There was a response by Lord (Adair) Turner clearly setting out the scientific evidence that climate change was man-made, and could be arrested by timely action now.

Next term Lord Layard is going to talk about his Happiness movement on November 9th and Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, Paul Tucker, is addressing us on October 26th. The talks are in either the Baring Room or Hall before dinner, top and tailed by drinks in the lodgings. The hope is to bed down the Conversations as a permanent feature in Hertford life – and if they can strengthen the Hertford community, better still. **Everyone is welcome; do come!**

If you are interested in attending Hertford Conversations, please contact the Members' and Development Office.

# Three terms under my belt...

Will Hutton  
Principal



# Undergraduate Bursaries: maintaining Hertford's finest tradition

At the start of Michaelmas Term, Hertford will admit its first cohort of students who are liable to pay a £9,000 annual student fee. Even though this does not have to be paid back until they are earning over £21,000 the prospect of this additional debt on top of c£20,000 of student and other loans already seems to be affecting University applications.

The University has noted that applications from potential students from lower income families, where neither parent went to University, are particularly down. Hertford's bursary programme was especially designed to help address such problems and provide maintenance support for all home-students with family income of under £50,020. This is combined with the University's own Oxford Opportunity Bursaries and system of fee waivers. Being a student at Oxford is arguably more affordable than at any other University and being competitive in this way is also important as undergraduates are not allowed to take on paid employment during term time.

Some of these figures might look like we're feather-bedding students from already cosseted backgrounds but the reality is that the threshold for eligibility is at twice the national average income (both parents working). Most of our eligible students come from a lower income bracket, and issues around debt are very serious in many of their communities. To someone earning £70,000 pa, a mortgage is often a natural part of their financial planning; to many people in social housing, debt aversion is second nature as they see the affects of high interest and unregulated loans every day. £50,000 of debt can be unthinkable to those who do, and do not, see the benefits of a University education. The prospect of repaying it when considering studying any non-vocational subject can seem almost impossible.

The above figures do not take into account the interest that accumulates on the loan each year. Without making significant personal sacrifices to exceed the Student Loans Company's minimum repayment rate, your debt can continue to accumulate.

Many Hertfordians share our concerns about this level of debt and have contributed over £300,000 to date, for which we are extremely grateful. However, each year we need to raise £120,000 in order to maintain the programme and ensure that we can maintain our tradition of access to all on academic merit rather than economic well-being.

To fund a single bursary costs £1,000 each year. To a UK tax payer claiming Gift Aid this is £70 per month. Please join us in ensuring the future of the bursaries programme by funding a bursary. Your generosity will help to maintain one of Hertford's finest traditions.

# From the Members' and Development Office



As the last issue of *Hertford College News* left the printers Oxford was bathed in unseasonal sunshine and students were seeking decanal permission to sit on the grass in OB Quad. Two weeks later the heavens opened and it seems to have done nothing but rain since. We are hoping that the weather eases up a little bit (by September at least!) as we have several events which will be much enhanced by the sort of sunshine that gives Oxford its magical quality.

This academic year has seen more events for Old Members than any other in recorded history. Over 1,000 alumni and friends have come back into College, or met us in London, Singapore, Hong Kong, New York and Manchester. We believe that we have one of the fullest events programmes of any Oxford college even though our Members' and Development Office is one of the smallest. We now need to crystallise this enthusiasm and we hope you will carry on supporting the College's vital projects, which are designed to underpin the tutorial system, maintain our tradition of admission on academic merit alone and secure Hertford's place at the forefront of academic excellence.

Our new Development Committee includes Julie Bradshaw (Law, 1979), Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles (Literae Humaniores, 1973), Terry Hughes (Physics, 1982), Stephen Massey (PPE, 1976), Carol Sennett (History, 1982), Rob Seymour (Geography, 1985), Sam Tomlinson (PPE, 1994) and General Sir Roger Wheeler (Geography, 1961), plus a number of Hertford Fellows. The Committee has already demonstrated the worth of focused volunteer leadership by helping us to secure funds for

our two fellowship campaigns. It is particularly heartening that all of the alumni members see their role as helping to implement the College's vision and ambitions for the future rather than set the agenda.

The Ellis Barnard History Fellowship Fund continues to attract support not least an extremely generous gift of \$50,000 from SAGE Publishing and its founder Sara Miller McCune. Although Sara was not a student here she has a strong affinity with Oxford, which is where she spent the early years of her career, and she has a deep commitment to maintaining our strength in the Humanities. We are very grateful to Brian Belchers (PPE, 1970) for making the introduction. Hertfordians continue to contribute as well and with the College's decision to allocate this year's unrestricted donations to the fund we are now over halfway towards our target of £1.2m. Please help us raise the rest by the deadline of September 2013.

History events have neatly opened and closed this year. The next academic year will begin with events which are squarely aimed at raising support for our student bursaries programme and the Roger Van Noorden Fellowship in Economics. The Bursaries are entirely funded by the generous gifts of you, our readers, and we need to raise £120,000 each year to maintain the programme. One thing that has attracted so many people to support the bursaries is that they know that a regular monthly contribution of £70 (plus Gift Aid) will help to maintain a student from a similar background to themselves, but who did not have the advantage of being given a student grant whilst paying no fees. As part

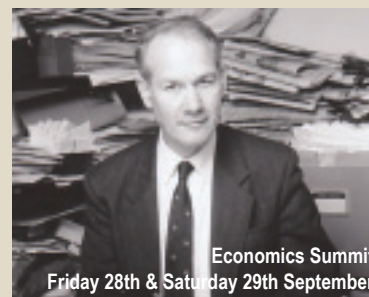
of the University's Alumni Weekend on the 15th September and to help raise money for the Bursaries programme, the renowned saxophonist Soweto Kinch (History, 1996) will be performing in OB Quad. Please see our website for further details.

September will see two other events open to all of our alumni and friends. Both are aimed at securing the remaining monies required to endow the Economics Fellowship in memory of Roger Van Noorden. The first, Hertford in Heidelberg on the 7th September, will be a great opportunity to explore Germany's oldest university city and meet other Hertfordians. The Principal will also be talking about the current economic situation. We very much hope that wherever you live you will consider joining us in this beautiful part of Germany at what is usually one of the nicest times of year.

Finally, we are holding Hertford's first Economics Summit on the 28th September. Full details are on the enclosed flyer and on the website. It is a fantastic programme. We have now secured over £270,000 toward the £800,000 needed to endow the College's share of this post, including a magnificent pledge of £100,000 from one of Roger's former students.

Looking ahead we will be running an even fuller events programme in the next year; an outline is printed on the back cover. We will also be running our fourth Telethon split between September and June and there are already three Gaudies in the calendar. We very much hope to see you at one of our events soon.

## Forthcoming September events:





## Gaudy (Pre-1961, 1961-70, 1989-91)



**John Duncan** (Physiology, 1958): Inevitable shots of Hertford in episodes of *Inspector Morse* had long stimulated nostalgia, so the invitation to the Gaudy last September had been most welcome. Apart from being generously wined, here also was the opportunity to meet friends who, having recognised me with difficulty neatly carried off the 'you haven't changed a bit routine!' And one accomplished flatterer recalled my playing Beethoven's arguably most difficult piano sonata rather than one of his considerably less demanding efforts. At dinner, I was delighted to be seated next to Miles Vaughan-Williams who, whilst surely remembering I was not one of his star pupils, suggested that I had probably done a lot of sport, not simply been too easily diverted. There's much to be said for indulgence and flattery and being healthy enough to return to Hertford after fifty years!

**Anne Maria Farnsworth** (EEM, 1990): It was with nervous excitement that we arrived in Oxford on a glorious spring afternoon. A talk over afternoon tea updated us with college news; it was great to hear Hertford is doing well and what it is doing to remain accessible to all in the current economic climate.

Pre-dinner drinks provided a great opportunity to start catching up with old friends. A few more grey hairs between us, but I should have known it would be a typically friendly Hertford atmosphere. Dinner in Hall felt just like old times, particularly as we were sat by subject. There are not many better ways to spend an evening than having dinner with great company in the wonderful surroundings we all took for granted 20 years ago. A visit DTB had to be done to finish off the evening, where we started to feel our age in the distinctly more modern bar than we were used to.

## Celebration of History at Hertford



**Jennifer Schofield** (History & Modern Languages, 1982): This event was both to recognise the strength of history teaching at Hertford and to mark the public launch of The Ellis Barnard History Fellowship Fund. This also proved to be another great opportunity to catch up with one's student cohort (the 'lady historians' of 1982 were all present), as well as to meet other Hertfordians. We were treated to an extremely well-organised and diverse programme of events, starting with lunch, followed by an afternoon of lectures by Hertford historians past and present, the official launch of the appeal by the Principal, and culminating in a splendid dinner in Hall.

The series of lectures entitled *Perspectives on History* was divided into two sessions. The speakers shared some results of their research in fields as diverse as *The Visual*

*Presentation of the British Monarchy, 1689-1714* and *Catholicism on Germany's Home Front in World War II*. For those of us whose academic study of history is now a thing of the past, it was a chance to re-discover the fascination that first attracted us to the subject.

In launching the appeal in the Sheldonian Theatre, the Principal emphasised that History and other Humanities subjects are under serious threat due to changes with funding.

All credit to the Members' and Development Office team, and of course to the college catering staff, for another excellent alumni event. Due to the exceptional hot and sunny weather conditions, afternoon refreshments and pre-dinner drinks were outside in OB Quad, thus reminding us of the unique Oxford atmosphere that events such as these offer.

## William Charnley Law Dinner



**Sarah Singleton** (Jurisprudence, 1979): An eclectic and multi generational collection of Hertford lawyers together with associated glitterati both academic and judicial, legal and otherwise, gathered in College to enjoy a wonderful occasion. We started with champagne in the SCR, then to the Chapel where we were entranced by the glorious singing of Hannah Pedley. The company then assembled in Hall where the food and wine was excellent and the conversations fascinating. Speeches were made by the Principal, Professor Timothy Endicott (Dean of the Law Faculty) and Dr Alan Bogg.

Finally (and this was optional), in a somewhat rumbustious finish, some, not wanting the evening to end and disappointed that the end of our dinner coincided with the college bar closing time, ended up in the Kings Arms until its closing time.

Some had not seen each other for 30 years and delighted in catching up. Others had never met before and enjoyed the discovery of the similarities and differences in our professional lives. For me the differences were more stimulating. Legal practice comes in apparently infinitely variable forms. It is unlikely, it seems to me, that the city solicitors working impossible hours to negotiate and complete the key deals of the economy, national and global (at least I assume that's what they do), have the first idea of the nature of the work of those of us at the publicly funded Bar who spend our days in Court presenting and pursuing those cases with no commercial resonance but the potential to radically change the lives of those involved. Lawyers do not often have the opportunity to pause and to compare and contrast the values we bring to diverse practising lives. With many thanks to William Charnley, this occasion was a luxurious opportunity to do both.

# Far East Events

(Singapore & Hong Kong)



**Vanessa Collingridge** (Geography, 1986): On a typically hot and hazy evening in Hong Kong, a group of Hertfordians gathered at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club for a night of reminiscing, meeting old friends and making new ones over glass(es) of wine and a buffet that would have fed every First VIII in Hertford history. The skyscrapers soon added to the mood with their nightly 8 pm light show, dousing Victoria Harbour in a riot of flashing neon.

It was fascinating to see Hertford history writ large in its offspring - alumni from the '70s (who had by far the best stories of the night!) to the more diverse backgrounds and degrees of later alumni. Before long, conversation flowed as freely as the wine as we shared memories, moments, musings - and more than a few laughs. A small band of hardy souls continued on into the night but everyone enjoyed the evening.

**Paul Brown-Kenyon** (EEM, 1985): Having graduated from Oxford too many years ago to count, and living in South East Asia for the last ten years, I had lost touch with the activities of the College. As such, I was surprised to receive an invitation for a Hertford event in Singapore. Wanting to reconnect, I rearranged travel from Kuala Lumpur to India via Singapore to be able to attend.

The drinks reception, with thanks to Bill Jamieson (Law, 1976), was organised at the offices of Colin Ng & Partners LLP. It was attended by about 30 Hertfordians and provided a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Hertford and alumni based in Singapore (most of whom I did not know were in this part of the world) and make some new friends. I hope that the small Hertford contingent in Singapore and South East Asia can make this a regular event.

# North American Reunion



**Rachel Nixon** (Modern Languages, 1990): *'Leadership is about learning who your community is, how you can best serve them and earn their trust'*. With this call-to-action, Professor Ngaire Woods kicked off the first session of the North American Reunion in New York.

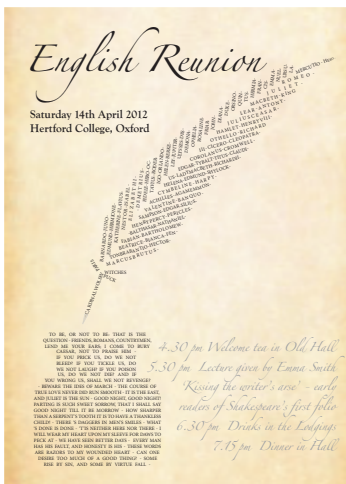
The inaugural Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government was joined by a set of prominent panelists to discuss leadership in the 21st century. Google's Eric Schmidt, the *New York Times'* Nicholas Kristof and Oxford Chancellor Lord Patten all shared their insights on how rapid technological advances are enabling change and facilitating the spread of (mis) information - and what this means for the leaders of the future. The panel was the launchpad for a day of debate at the Waldorf Astoria, with subjects zipping from the genetic revolution, by way of black holes, to end

with a familiar favourite: the treasures of the Ashmolean. The reunion offered a perfect opportunity to stretch the brain as only Oxford can. The lunch, with tables hosted by each college's Head of House, was the first chance we had to meet Principal Will Hutton.

That evening alumnus Mike Thorne (Physics, 1966) and Leila Shakkour generously opened their Manhattan home to about 50 guests. With impressive views across the city, it was a far cry from the much-loved subterranean college bar. But the Hertford spirit and camaraderie had clearly crossed the Atlantic. Will Hutton shared his enthusiasm for the College and outlined his plans for moving Hertford forward, with a focus on innovation.

After much talk and laughter we left rather late, full of new ideas and having made some fresh connections. Just like Hertford.

# English Reunion



**Hermione Eyre** (English, 1998): English graduates of all vintages gathered for the inaugural English Reunion. Old friendships were renewed, and new ones forged at an event where everyone had something significant in common. We began with a highly enjoyable lecture by Dr Emma Smith entitled *'Kissing the Writer's Arse' - Shakespeare's Early Readers*, an account of the all-too-human marginalia written by owners of the First Folio (uncomprehending plot synopses, underlining of 'useful' passages such as declarations of love and swearwords, etc).

Emma Smith took questions from the floor which seemed to indicate that curiosity increases with time elapsed since graduation.

A drinks reception in the Old Lodgings and a splendid dinner in Hall followed, and Professor Charlotte Brewer spoke briefly about Hertford life and the possibility of forming an English graduates' network, and welcomed us all warmly.

English often seemed to be at the heart of people's lives. I spoke to a novelist, a dictionary compiler, an illustrator and an English teacher amongst others. At dinner I was lucky enough to sit opposite one guest who matriculated in 1951, and had taught English at university for many years, and beside a current English undergraduate, whose finals were a few weeks away. The years between us didn't seem to matter at all, as we all agreed about Thackeray...



## Saturday of Eights Week



**Walter Swan** (English, 1973): It is a well-established tradition amongst a fairly sizeable group of Hertford alumni who matriculated in the early to mid 70s to meet together at least once a year out of camaraderie (and also to see who still looks the youngest). This year, we made a weekend of it by attending the Saturday of Eights Week before cricketing the next day.

On this particular occasion, we met to commemorate and celebrate the life of a dear friend, Gareth Edwards, of Trinity College, who adopted Hertford as his second Oxford home, and who sadly died earlier this year aged fifty-six. Thus, the luncheon at the Graduate Centre next to Folly Bridge for alumni attending the Saturday of Eights Week was a wonderful opportunity for many of us to gather together – Peter Newman, Tony Foster,

Mark White, Jon Ford, Roger Parkin, Rosalind Atkins (née Kitchen), Phil Davies, Nick Graves and Dick Griffiths (with partners), followed by an afternoon by the river with Pimm's.

The food and wine were plentiful (at a bargain price, too) and the sun shone all day long during this generally dismal summer of near constant rain induced by the jet stream. We felt like the jet set, dining alongside a range of generations from Hertford in these impressive surroundings as a prelude to meeting yet more old friends on a hugely enjoyable and memorable occasion by the Isis. The days of our cricketing glory may be over, but we now have a new fixture on the calendar and await our invitation to the next Oxford Eights luncheon with relish (and other such accompaniments).

## London Lecture & Reception



**Matthew Ashworth** (History, 2006): Willis Ltd. welcomed alumni and guests to the inaugural London Lecture and Reception. Dr Christopher Tyerman, Senior Research Fellow and Tutor in Modern History spoke on *Crusading, our contemporary?* as part of the Ellis Barnard History Fellowship fundraising effort.

Starting with an overview of History at Hertford the audience were presented with an interesting analysis of the past and present research outputs from our college. From Geoffrey Ellis' work on Napoleonic France, to Toby Barnard's research on Ireland and David Hopkins's study of French folklore. Reflecting on the diverse, and yet complementary, interests of different generations of historians at Hertford it provided a great example of Hertford's research-led teaching. Dr Tyerman then moved to his own

field of expertise, providing a fascinating and intellectually stimulating overview of the Crusades within their own and modern context, exploring the bias, interpretation, propaganda usage and evolving understanding of the role the Crusades played in history and the world we know today. Particularly interesting was the modern usage of the Crusades: considering Saddam Hussein, the 'War on Terror', Al Qaeda and more, this provided a refreshing modern historical analysis and assessment of the long term implications of events now approaching 1,000 years old.

Following Dr Tyerman's lecture a lively Q&A session developed, with contributions from former students and guests on a range of topics. It was a very enjoyable event, and reminded me warmly of my time studying History at Hertford.

## Manchester Drinks Reception



**Pravesh Solanki** (Pharmacology, 1997): I attended the Manchester Drinks in town following an alumni email that I had received. I thought that it would be a great networking opportunity to at least meet and find out about what other Hertfordians are doing in the area.

Having left Hertford over six years ago to set up my own healthcare consultancy I have been very much absorbed in my own business and life and haven't had a chance to attend any Hertford or Oxford events since. I have only been able to keep in touch with a handful of my closest friends. Attending the event was like stepping back in time and it reminded me what the Hertford atmosphere was like. It was great to have a chance to meet the Development Office team and learn about their work, Will Hutton the new Principal and also Hertford graduates from many

generations, some older and some younger.

One chap I spoke to told me of times in Hertford when the scout would bring him a jug of hot water every morning to his room to wash in; sharing a bathroom seems somewhat a luxury in comparison! There was one thing in common amongst everyone in the room - everyone was approachable, down to earth and had an interesting story to tell about what happened next. My only criticism of the event was that it was too short and I didn't have the chance to speak to everyone. I will definitely be attending future events in Manchester and also in College.



# Olympic Torch Relay

by **Jessica Hill**  
(English, 2003)

You can't miss the fact that London 2012 is happening this summer, and hopefully wherever you are in the UK you've had the chance to experience the magic that is the Olympic Torch Relay.

As part of my job, working as a senior sponsorship manager for Lloyds TSB, I have been lucky enough to join the Relay on its 70 day journey around the UK.

Every day is different but one thing never changes - the excitement and enthusiasm of communities, however big or small.

A typical day starts at 4am. There are over 100 of us - the organising committee, the police, the drivers, the partners.

Everyone has a different job - from the police outriders, who both clear the route and entertain the crowd, to the Torchbearer team, who take care of the inspiring people selected to carry the Flame.

Some days I have been part of the advance activation, taking a Lloyds TSB taxi or ice cream van to a local branch or school, handing out ribbons to wave and looking after our Flame Follower performers who entertain the crowds. Other days it is as part of the convoy - singing, dancing, waving and most importantly smiling at the people who come out to watch. It's truly amazing to see crowds gathered in the rain at 5 am, from young to old, and truly humbling.

The Olympic Flame was lit by the rays of the sun in Olympia, Greece, but it's here in the streets that it's really shining brightly - a normal day involves a lot of tears at the joy of the crowd - but more importantly the inspirational Torchbearers. Selected for their amazing stories, these unsung heroes deserve to be recognised.

All in all, the Relay has never ceased to amaze me - each day is a new adventure, and although the Games may be in London, the Olympic spirit is alive in every place lucky enough to welcome the Flame.

*Photo: Mike Hart*

# Diversity to a deadline: how we created everyone's London 2012

by **Stephen Frost** (Geography, 1995)

Anyone who cares how we live and work together as a society may well be interested in one of the key promises made by the London Olympic bid in 2005: to create an Olympic games for everyone. For the last five years, I have been at the centre of the Organising Committee as Head of Diversity and Inclusion, part of the team responsible for delivering on these promises.

When London became the surprise victor, the Organising Committee had to shift from a campaigning organisation to a delivery project. Many corporates and governments talk a good game about diversity and inclusion but few have ever achieved breakthrough. Under unprecedented scrutiny, facing competing agendas and egos, lacking in resources and with an immovable deadline, we therefore had to be bold and brave, establishing risky and untested policies if we were to stand any chance of meeting those expectations.

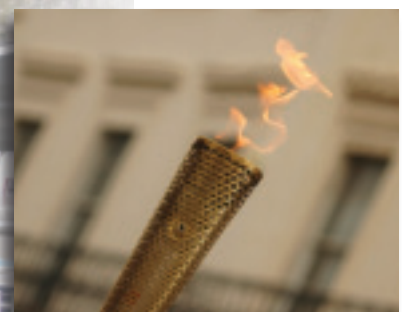
I was responsible for developing and leading a three-stage strategy to integrate inclusion systemically in the Games; in our 200,000 workforce, in our £1.1 billion procurement and in our customer service delivery across 134 venues. We've worked hard as a team to achieve unprecedented diversity and inclusion, often achieved by ignoring convention. For example, when we were lobbied by disability groups to set quotas

for disabled people, we instead changed the system and implemented a guaranteed merit-based interview scheme across our entire recruitment process rather than a tokenistic scheme in one area only. This summer there will be over 2,000 talented disabled people in uniform as the face of London 2012. We held group interviews that reduced the effect of individual subconscious bias, reduced recruitment costs and ensured a more diverse and talented candidate selection.

In the supply chain, we worked with contractors and sponsors to implement policies that would not add one penny to procurement costs, but would add significant social value. For example, over 100 suppliers have now implemented the free of charge guaranteed interview scheme providing a step change in employment prospects for disabled people. Major corporations have changed their policies as a result of working with us, and the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply have enhanced their accreditation process based on the work we have developed with them.

We have implemented a Torch Relay covering the entire country with the spectrum of British society represented in it – one of our torchbearers is 100 years old! We have accessible venues, a free of charge mobility service around venues for older, younger and disabled people.

Our Alumni: Where Are They Now?





We have adapted cars for disabled drivers, pay your age tickets for younger spectators and older spectators so they can feel young again. We have designed genuinely inclusive, easy to understand sport presentation, food and services designed to include all visitors. We co-launched a Charter against homophobia in sport that is incentivising even the toughest football clubs to take action against discrimination.

When we become (sometimes justifiably) cynical about ineffective policies, one option at our disposal is to address them. As the recent riots across England showed and as the current debates around disability living allowance and religious dress show, we need new bold and brave inclusion policies if we are to work and live together effectively as a diverse society.

The circumstances surrounding the London Olympic and Paralympic Games have provided a once in a lifetime opportunity to challenge existing thinking on this subject and to try new approaches, with the incentive of an immovable deadline.

If they had gone wrong everyone would know about them. If they continue to offer new solutions and challenges to existing problems, then there is the opportunity to create a cadre of best practice to pass on to future projects and contribute to national policy.

There is the evident story of the sport, with athletes at the heart of the great Games. There is the less talked about story of excellent physical regeneration in London's East End. There is also the even less understood story of the social legacy of the Games. The work that has been delivered will hopefully be a contribution to that legacy.

The Olympic and Paralympic Games are many things to many people, but they will not happen again in the UK in our lifetime. As most diversity programmes and efforts have achieved limited success to date, the immovable deadline presented by the world's biggest event offers a real test for what can be achieved. The bulldozer that is the Olympic Games can create paradigm change, over-riding established competing factions, conflicting agendas and localised lobby groups.

This summer, enjoy the sport if you like sport. However take a peek at the workforce or notice the activity behind the scenes, which contributed to the world's greatest event. I will be taking a moment to reflect on the unique, surprising and sometimes hilarious story of how we did it and would be interested in talking to any alumni who share that interest.

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@frostincluded  
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*Photo, right page: Olympic stadium. Photos, left page (clockwise from top left): 1. from left Tom Secker-Walker, Procurement Lead; Mark Todd, Internal Accessibility Lead; Stephen Frost, Head of Diversity & Inclusion; Jackie Parkin, Recruitment Lead (Government secondee); Caroline Smith (intern); David Morris, External Accessibility Lead (Mayoral secondee, now sadly passed away); 2 PAs to Lauren Finnegan (Volunteer Recruitment Lead, RNIB secondee); Abdul Hassan (intern, secondee, London Borough of Tower Hamlets); Ursula Hoermansdorfer, PA to David Morris. 2. Stephen Frost at RSA Conference (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce). 3. Olympic Torch. 4. Celebrations for Olympic Torch Relay.*



— Our Alumni: Where Are They Now? —

# Hertford at a glance



## Team Hertford tackles the Oxford Town and Gown

**Dr Claire Vallance** (Fellow & Tutor in Chemistry): The Oxford Town and Gown 10km charity fun run is something of an Oxford institution. By race day there were 17 Hertford participants; team members included Principals past and present, Will Hutton and John Landers, the JCR president, Rachel Pickering, and a good cross section from the SCR, MCR and JCR, some aiming to finish within a particular time or to set a new personal best, and others aiming simply to finish.

On the day, the weather gods were smiling. The starting gun fired, and chaos ensued until faster and slower runners had sorted themselves out and found some clear road on which to sprint, jog, plod, or stumble their way around the course. From the start outside Keble, the race headed south to the High Street, back through Commarket and Broad St, and through the leafy suburbs of North Oxford, before looping south for another trot past Hertford and a finishing lap through the University Parks. In the

words of Simon Brewster, a Senior Research Fellow, *'The race was great, sunny and clear weather and a brilliant atmosphere with various colourful characters including chimney sweeps, ducks and even a bride'*. At the finish, Team Hertford gradually reassembled to cheer on those still running, with the Principal receiving the biggest applause of all (though to be fair, he did have the benefit of the full cheerleading squad!).

Hopefully Team Hertford will return in even greater numbers for next year's event. Alumni welcome!

### Time results for Team Hertford

Edmund Barter 40:21	John Landers 51:32
Annie Birch 43:35	Daniel Millichip 47:44
Simon Brewster 50:53	Joe Phillips 41:02
Daniel Bundala 42:50	Rachel Pickering 1:07:01
Sallie Burrough 47:44	Nora Rohde 1:05:27
Angelica Datta 54:27	Thomas Smith 44:35
Alexandra Hazell 1:02:04	Claire Vallance 45:28
Alexandra Huk 56:24	Claire Wilkinson 1:04:03
Will Hutton 1:19:02	

## William Charnley



William Charnley, partner at King & Spalding in London and Fellow of Hughes Hall, Cambridge, has agreed to become a non-stipendiary lecturer in Law and has been elected to membership of the Senior Common Room. Although he is

not an Old Member, he is an old friend having been Junior Warden of the Drapers' Company and founder of the William Charnley Law Dinners at Hertford. He has also generously established the eponymous prize fund which will award £500 to the best First in Law each year, initially for five years.

## Tanner Prizes

Thanks to the generosity of Mike Thorne (Physics, 1966) and Leila Shakkour, the Tanner Prizes have been enhanced and extended for a further 3 years.

Every year a prize of £150 will be awarded to the most improved student in Physics in each of the first, third and fourth years. The prizes are designed to encourage hard work and improvement rather than simply being an award for the best.

They reflect the spirit of Neil Tanner who did so much to open access at Hertford, and, in so doing, transformed our academic performance.



Prof. Neil Tanner

## Wellcome Trust strategic award for sleep study

Researchers at Oxford, including Hertford Fellow **Professor Dame Kay Davies**, have won a Strategic Award from the Wellcome Trust to set up a Sleep and Circadian Neuroscience Institute to study the relationship between sleep and psychosis. Many mental illnesses are commonly associated with highly disturbed sleep, but the importance of this disruption is frequently overlooked. Significantly, many of the health problems that arise from disturbed sleep are also found in mental illness, but these problems are rarely linked back to sleep abnormalities.

Data from patients and mouse models suggest that parallel brain pathways might be affected in mental illness and sleep disturbance. The SCNI aims to bring together neuroscientists and psychiatrists in several departments at Oxford to understand these common connections. The aim is to use this understanding to develop new approaches to correct abnormal sleep and so improve the broader health problems and quality of life for patients with mental illness.

Disturbed sleep is also a common feature of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. Professor Davies and her team hope to extend their current studies to analyse the role of sleep disturbances in these diseases with a view to developing new approaches to treatment.



# Alumni in print

## Farewell to three long-standing Hertford Fellows



### Dr Toby Barnard

Armstrong-Macintyre-Markham Fellow & Tutor in History

After 36 years at Hertford, Toby Barnard is retiring. Toby has served as Fellow and Tutor in History for this period as well as, more recently, Fellow Librarian and Archivist. 400 historians, undergraduate and postgraduate, have studied at Hertford. We hope to secure the Ellis Barnard History Fellowship in tribute to the work he has done for Hertford.



### Dr Paul Coones

Supernumerary Fellow & Tutor in Geography

Paul Coones has elected to take early retirement at the end of September. Paul has taught Geography at Hertford for 35 years and as a Fellow for 22 years. He has played an active part in many aspects of the life of the College and has made a much valued contribution to the lives of many students.



### Professor Fionn Dunne

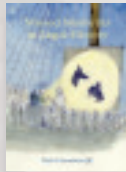
Fellow & Tutor in Engineering Science

Fionn Dunne started at Hertford in April 1996 and was appointed Professor of Engineering Science in 2006. He has been a much respected tutor, and successfully served as College Dean from 2003 - 2007. After 16 years in Oxford, Fionn has been elected to the Chair of Micromechanics at Imperial College, London.

## Further academic achievements for Medicine

The British Heart Foundation will fund the Oxford Cardiovascular Science DPhil Studentship Scheme which will be run by **Professor David R. Greaves**. This scheme will provide sixteen fully-funded four-year graduate studentships for basic research into all aspects of cardiovascular science across the Medical Sciences Division from October 2013 - October 2016 (£2.3m over years).

**Dr Richard Graham**, Lecturer in Medicine, has been appointed Head of the Medical Branch of the Royal Naval Reserve (RNR). The RNR Medical Branch's primary function is delivering medical care to service personnel injured on operations. The branch provides a surge capability to increase the operational capacity of the UK's Primary Casualty Receiving Ship, RFA Argus. The specialist skills of branch members are frequently used in support of Operation Herrick in Afghanistan and on counter piracy operations. The Medical Branch has been an integral stakeholder in providing the highest quality trauma care on operations and providing instructors for pre-deployment training of defence medical service personnel.



### *Missed Moments in Legal History*

Nicholas Chambers QC (Jurisprudence, 1962)

*Missed Moments in Legal History* (2012): 'This is a book of fanciful scenes of what might have happened instead of what did happen to people who met the law. It was inspired by the tale of Mrs Donoghue who found a decomposed snail in a bottle of ginger beer and made legal history. It also tells you what did happen so that you can understand the pictures of what might have happened'. The book will be published on the 10th October 2012 by Oblong Creative Ltd.

Nicholas will be the Mercantile Judge for Wales until he retires in September. He is also Chairman of the ICLR and my series *Illustrated Legal Words and Maxims* can be found if you Google 'ICLR - news and events'. 10 of the prints of *Missed Moments* and the accompanying texts are due to go on permanent exhibition in the new Rolls Building in London which now houses the Chancery, Commercial and TCC Courts.

### *The Barefoot Shepherdess and Women of the Dales*

Walter Swan (English, 1973) & Yvette Huddleston



Last year Walter and Yvette published *A Day in a Dale*, a collection of their features for the *Yorkshire Post* which captured twenty-seven visits to various Yorkshire Dales. Such was its success that their publishers commissioned them to write a new book, on this occasion concentrating on some of the individuals that they have met during their travels. *The Barefoot Shepherdess and Women of the Dales* celebrates the variety and versatility of a dozen or more determined women who have made a distinctive life for themselves 'far from the madding crowd'. The Yorkshire Dales attracts tourists aplenty to appreciate the beauties of the local landscape but most visitors return to their towns and cities renewed by the peace and quiet of the countryside though unable to leave their modern, urban lifestyle for too long. Women like Alison O'Neill, who owns her own flock of Rough Fell sheep and designs her own brand of tweed clothing, demonstrate that you can live a life of independence and fulfilment even in Britain's remotest regions. There are inevitable hardships to be endured but innumerable compensations when the Dales are your doorstep. Each chapter features inspirational women who have made the choice to live and work collaboratively with the people and places of the Yorkshire landscape. What they have in common – farmers, artists, vets, publicans, entrepreneurs, artisans, academics, vets, curators and vicars – is a passion for life where Yorkshire countryside and community coincide.

The book is published in mid-September and is being launched at the Ilkley Literature Festival on the 6th October. Walter is currently Artistic Director of the Ilkley Playhouse and a freelance writer. Yvette was formerly the film critic for the TV pages of the *Daily Mail*, and is a freelance journalist and PR consultant.

# Music at Hertford

## Choir tour to Malta



**Reverend Gareth Hughes**  
Chaplain

The Hertford College Chapel Choir have just returned from a successful nine-day tour of Malta. Seventeen members of the choir, including me, were conducted by Junior Organ Scholar Edmund Whitehead (Music, 2011). The choir sang twice in St Paul's Anglican Pro-Cathedral, Valletta: once to raise funds for the restoration of the cathedral organ, and again at the Sunday morning Mass. We also had a very warm welcome from the Franciscan Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Sliema, where we sang at the evening Mass and raised funds to support Maltese university students doing charity work. One highlight was the singing of the Hertford favourite, Bruckner's *Locus Iste* on top of the natural sea arch of the Azure Window, Gozo.

Hertford College Chapel Choir tour every year in December and July, and are always pleased to meet alumni wherever we sing.

## 80th anniversary of HCMS



**Olivia McDermott**  
Chemistry, 2010  
HCMS President

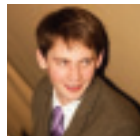
Monday 28th November 2011 saw a celebration for the 80th Anniversary of the foundation of Hertford College Music Society. The society was established in 1931 'for the promotion of madrigal singing and recitals on the new Chapel Organ'. Whilst the activities of the society have expanded somewhat, madrigals and organ recitals continue to feature!

To mark the anniversary, a concert was held in Hall featuring all three of Hertford's musical ensembles. Amongst those in the large audience were many Hertford alumni, as well as current students. The concert opened with a speech by Sir Nicholas Jackson, the Society's honorary patron, who warmly welcomed everyone to the celebrations. Under the baton of Andy Warnock (Music, 2010), the

first half saw a performance of Haydn's *Harmoniesse*, with the combined forces of the Choir and Orchestra giving a fine performance after only limited rehearsal. Talented singers from across the University took the solo parts. In the second half, the Wind Band, conducted by Tom Sears (Physics, 2008), provided a varied programme, including Holst's *Concert Suite in F* and a rousing medley from *Chicken Run*.

Over 80 years, the Society has played host to many famous faces, including Sir Simon Rattle, who conducted a concert in 1979 whilst he was a student at the Royal Academy of Music. The Choir have performed all over the world, under the guidance of generations of talented organ scholars. It continues to provide Hertford students with the opportunity to perform to a high standard, as well as an active social hub for anyone with an interest in music.

## Vocational calling



**Dr Ben Skipp**  
Lecturer in Music

At Hertford we have two, and sometimes three, students a year who study for a BA (Hons) in Music. Many people will be surprised to learn that the Music degree here is far more than playing or singing, and involves a number of papers in music history, analysis and aesthetics. This page is a good opportunity to boast of some of our students and their varied successes of recent years. Since I joined Hertford as its college lecturer in Music three years ago we've had a number of students leave for further study. Laurence Osborn (2008) is now studying composition at the Royal College of Music and has just completed his first opera, *Una Tragedia di Proporzione Titaniche*, while two of our organ scholars, Grace Newcombe, soprano (2008) and Jennifer Law, clarinet (2009) are about to begin specialist performance degrees in Basel and Manchester respectively. One of our leavers, Ben Goodson (2009) is stepping into the profession directly as a choral and orchestral conductor. He takes up a post with the Lea Singers as well as continuing to conduct his own group, *Solis* which he founded while an undergraduate.

Our current students are also beginning to forge their own reputations: second-year

Samuel Parsons (2010) recently made the finals of the prestigious National Centre for Early Music Composers Award in York, while Andy Warnock (2010) conducted the Oxford University Wind Orchestra in a tour to Israel over the Easter vacation, as well as finding time to write a fascinating dissertation on temporality in the music of Schubert. It has also been pleasing to see that, as with many subjects, Music can serve as a stepping stone to seemingly unrelated professions. We have had two students – John Hardie (2007) and Alison Hopper (2009) – begin fast-track courses in Medicine having successfully completed their Music degrees.

Past members have been very supportive of Music in Hertford and we are very grateful to all those who come to the Alumni Concert and contribute funds each year. We are especially thankful this year as we have been able to purchase, as the result of donations, digital pianos for all of our music students. These will certainly help them, and future students, to excel in their studies as has come to be expected of Hertford musicians.

## Forthcoming Alumni Concert



**Andy Warnock**  
Music, 2010

This autumn sees the return of the popular Alumni Concert on Saturday 27th October. Any musically inclined alumni are invited to take part in the choir and orchestra, which will also include current students and tutors. An afternoon of rehearsals (punctuated by tea) will culminate in an evening concert at 6.30 pm in Chapel, which everyone is very welcome to come along to! Choral music will include *Ave Verum Corpus* by Mozart, *Lux Aurumque* by Eric Whitacre, *I Was Glad* by Parry while the Orchestra will perform a selection of pieces including *Coriolan Overture* by Beethoven, *Water Music* by Handel, and *Pirates of the Caribbean* by Hans Zimmer.

The last Alumni Concert was enjoyed by both students and alumni. This year's concert promises to be just as good and we look forward to seeing you in October for another day of fantastic music!



# Just deserts...



**Professor David Thomas**  
Professor of Geography

Since 2004 David Thomas has been University statutory Professor of Geography and a Professorial Fellow at Hertford College. He was an undergraduate and postgraduate student at Hertford from 1977 to 1984, and in the intervening 20 years was lecturer, then Professor, at the University of Sheffield. In 2011 he received the Farouk El-Baz Award from the Geological Society of America for a body of work that has significantly advanced desert science, and in 2012 he finished his term as Head of the School of Geography and Environment.

People often wonder what geographers do. There is not a single simple answer, to the point where, sadly, many geographers do not describe themselves as such, preferring other terms that relate to the specificity of their own areas of interest and activity. I was recently introduced at a meeting as 'a desert geoscientist', which to some extent explains what I do, but not all of it. I am very happy to be labelled as geographer, not least given the tradition of the subject at this university and especially in this college. Nonetheless, most of my research is carried out in drylands or deserts, and most of what I do, relating to investigating and quantifying landscape dynamics and change, can be called geoscience.

But in that is a mix: of quantifying the processes that shape drylands, especially

focusing on the role of the wind; of measuring the nature and timing of desert changes – mainly in geomorphological and hydrological terms and relying heavily on Optically Stimulated Luminescence dating to produce chronologies of change from sediments - in response to past external forcing at time scales from hundreds of thousands of years to decades; of attempting to establish the drivers of these changes, especially in terms of climate system behaviour; and of determining and measuring growing human impacts on drylands (including 'desertification').

The bread and butter of my research has taken place in the deserts of southern Africa, especially the Kalahari, where two current projects dominate. One is as Co-Investigator in a major NERC project establishing controls and drivers of dust flux to the atmosphere, to generate new data to improve the dust component in climate models. The other focuses on long-term hydrological dynamics in the region, especially with a view to explaining controls on the past existence of mega lake basins in the desert. Much of this work in recent years has been carried out with Dr Sallie Burrough, a JRF at Hertford. Presently we are focusing, with a Leverhulme Trust grant, on the dynamics of the Upper Zambezi River over the last 50,000 years or so, since this great river, with its tropical origins, was likely one source of Kalahari lake-basin filling in the past.

Since coming back to Oxford, my research has also gone in three further directions, two distinctly geographical, one geo-

archaeological. First is a new project on land degradation and climate change in the drylands of Inner and Outer Mongolia which is starting this year and is funded by the Leverhulme Trust. Second is working in the deserts of Arabia, and potentially North Africa, on a series of projects that link long term environmental change with key debates in early human migration (the 'Out of Africa' hypothesis). This may lead to new research in collaboration with Hertford Fellow in Archaeology & Anthropology, Professor Nick Barton (Archaeology, 1980).

Third, and final, I spent two years as a Lead Expert on a UK government Foresight project charged with reporting on the potential impacts of environmental changes in the 21st century on future human migration. I became involved, as someone from the science end of Geography in a group dominated by social scientists, because of the critical role that future desert changes may have on humans. This unexpected engagement has proved to be one of the most challenging and interesting research activities I have carried out recently, and the report, published in November 2011, provided a new way at looking at an issue that is usually dominated by tired concerns about 'climate refugees'. There was also a Hertford connection in this work, as the expert group was chaired by Richard Black (Geography, 1983) of Sussex University...another former Hertford Geographer.

*Background photo: Abi Stone. David Thomas doing fieldwork in the Namib Sand Sea, September 2009. Photo: Mike Meadows. David Thomas being interviewed in the Kalahari by the BBC, October 2006.*

# Student initiatives:

## Student Ambassador Scheme

**Jamie Beacom** (*Mathematics, 2010*), JCR Outreach Co-ordinator, explains what Hertford students are doing to promote outreach and access to Oxford.

In the Michaelmas Term, the JCR Access Officer, Susanne Seaton (*Law and Law Studies in Europe, 2009*), along with the then JCR President, James Weinberg (*History, 2009*), established a Hertford Undergraduate Ambassadors Scheme. The aim of this scheme was to further encourage and promote the outreach activities of Hertford through establishing a core group of students who were interested in Access initiatives.

The scheme currently has 31 ambassadors all of whom are interested in and involved with Access work in and around the University. This involves the undergraduates visiting schools in Hertford's targeted and other regions, giving talks on what life at Oxford is like and then the same school students are invited back to Hertford at a later date. The ambassadors are also expected to organise visits in their local hometown schools during the vacation period, and are encouraged to contact their old school and invite them to Hertford.

The ambassador's role is to represent not only Hertford, but also the University and Higher Education in general. We want them to go out and demonstrate that access to Higher Education is possible, and to demonstrate the value that it has. We want them to show students who might otherwise think they have no chance of getting into University, including Oxford, that it can be an achievable aim. Part of the way in which we are doing this is by taking part in school visits with groups of students in Years 9, 10 and 11 as well as Sixth Form students. Through this, we hope to inspire these students from a young age so that if they want to they can apply to Higher Education and, in particular, Oxford without any unnecessary worry.

Many of the ambassadors are also part of the Hertford E-mentoring scheme, which is now in its third year. Students at Hertford are paired with students from target schools who



# and Alternative Prospectus

want to study the same (or a similar) subject at University. Their mentor will be available to answer any questions they have about the University application process, providing a source of information based on personal experience of the system. Over the last three years, Hertford mentors have mentored 47 students through their University applications, and we would welcome many more. Our mentors are enthusiastic about the work that they do and, having a surplus of them, we would welcome any requests to take part in the e-mentoring project.

In addition, last year saw the launch of a new *Alternative Prospectus* by the JCR. By providing a student's eye view of life at Hertford and in Oxford, we believe that it complements the College and University prospectuses, as part of an effort to demystify the application process and what life at Oxford is like socially, academically and pastorally. Our aim is to make use of these during the Open Days, school visits and to attempt to send out a copy of the prospectus to as many target schools as we can. We hope to establish links with more schools through the ambassadors and to then make use of these links to continue to improve the access work of the JCR.

Hertford's student body is both enthusiastic and committed to the Access work of the University, and we are always looking for ways to improve the work that we take part in. At such a difficult time for the higher education system, with the subsequent detrimental effect on admissions from schools which would not traditionally send applicants to Universities like Oxford, we are committed to reaching out and breaking the myths and barriers surrounding Oxford and Higher Education.

If any teachers would like to get their school involved with the Hertford ambassadors, E-mentoring scheme or would like a copy of the *Alternative Prospectus*, please e-mail me at [jamie.beacom@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jamie.beacom@hertford.ox.ac.uk). Alternatively please contact the Admissions Office by phoning 01865 279404 or by emailing [admissions@hertford.ox.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@hertford.ox.ac.uk).



## Statistically Speaking...

### Hertford College 2011 Undergraduate Admissions: Key Facts from the University Central Database (ADMIT)

**20%** success rate: 137 offers were made from 684 applications.

**52%** of applicants were female, of whom **21%** were successful.

Economics & Management received the greatest number of applications; **86** (of which 10 were successful) making it the most competitive subject in this admissions round at Hertford, followed closely by Geography.

Among UK applicants, the split for State / Independent was **63% / 37%**.

Offers were split **61% / 39%** between State / Independent applicants.

Of the offers made, **10%** were unconditional post qualification.

The success rate for overseas applicants was **10%**.

# Oku Tournament



**Nicholas Lee**  
English, 2009

The Oku Memorial Tournament is an annual rugby tournament held to celebrate the life of Ambassador Katsuhiko Oku (Social Studies, 1982), who was assassinated in Iraq in November 2003 whilst on secondment from the Japanese Embassy in London.

Oku was the first Japanese national ever to represent the Blues XV at Oxford, a long standing member of the international committee of the Japan RFU and founder of London Japanese rugby club. This year was the seventh memorial event, the first five events were played between London Japanese and the Kew Occasionals at the Richmond Athletic Ground. In 2010, and since, the event was staged at Iffley Road, the Blues' home ground, for the first time allowing sides from Hertford and Vincent's Club to participate.

In 2010, on brutally frozen pitches, Hertford narrowly lost the final by a single score to a Vincent's XV packed with ex-Blues. Looking to match this precedent, Hertford started strongly in this season's tournament – breezing past London Japanese in their opening game.

In 2011, led by that indomitable stalwart of the college rugby circuit, Andrew 'Goose' Gosling (Astrophysics, 2004), Hertford posted a convincing 19 points to London Japanese's 5. In the other play-off, Kew Occasionals comfortably dispatched Vincent's XV by 50 points to 5.

After a quick turnaround, Vincent's and London Japanese played for 3rd place. Vincent's registered 39 points to the exiles' 10. The final was, unfortunately, even more one-sided with an impressive (and significantly larger) Kew capitalising on Hertford errors to score 50 points, answered by just 7. After the tournament the four teams and their

family members, well-wishers and friends gathered in the Iffley pavilion for a meal and a few beers. London Japanese departed for a tour of Oxford and convened later, with the Hertford XV, for a drinks reception in the Principal's Lodgings. The evening ended in Vincent's Club with all four teams mingling and (mis)remembering the day's exploits. No doubt Katsuhiko would have approved.

The **Hertford College Rugby Club** together with a **Hertford College Old Boys Squad** - including both playing and non-playing members - will be going on tour to Mongolia in August 2013. The tour will involve five matches and will include a number of outreach, development and charity activities involving Mongolian youth teams, schools and universities.

Many former players will recall the enjoyment and friendships that they made playing rugby. If anyone is interested in playing, touring or helping, please contact Richard Foord or John Collis by emailing [oldboysrfc@gmail.com](mailto:oldboysrfc@gmail.com).

## MEDIC CALLING



**Naomi Stubbens**  
Medicine, 2007

Five years ago, I was a Southport school-girl finishing A-levels and excited to become a Hertford fresher, but in one year I will begin my first job as 'Dr Stubbens'. There have been so many different chapters to life as a medical student that mean it is never boring! The preclinical course was extremely theoretical to give us an in-depth knowledge base in medical science, which we now apply in the clinical setting. My 3rd year encompassed a one year degree in infection and immunity, in which I was able to carry out a research project in a laboratory and had the freedom of self-directed study.

Clinical school has been the most enjoyable of my years in Oxford so far. This has involved the transition to the 'Medic College' of Osler House, which is a physical space in the hospital to escape the pressures of the wards, and also the social hub for bops

and societies. The main aim of 5th year is to develop our core skills and knowledge in specialist clinical areas. There has been such variety in our day-to-day learning experiences, from delivering babies to interviewing patients at Broadmoor high-security psychiatric hospital. I have to do lots of travelling to placements at district general hospitals, which can be quite taxing, however, thanks to a lot of support from College, I was able to carry out two weeks of my obstetric and gynaecology placement in the Seychelles! It was by far the highlight of my 5th year. In addition to a small amount of time on the beach, I was able to experience a different culture and appreciate how lucky we are to be able to work in a country with an advanced health care that is accessible to all.

Although I do not reside in College accommodation any more, there is still a lot of contact from Hertford, so I still feel a part of the College. Twice a year we have the Vaughan Williams Dinner, which is an opportunity for pre-clinical students to mix

with clinical students and share experiences and advice from the six years of studying. We have a fantastic group of tutors who have supported us both academically and clinically throughout our course, and from meeting medical alumni, I am pleased to hear that this affiliation continues into life after Hertford.

With my final year beginning in June, I am really looking forward to being a tutor for the incoming 4th year medics, teaching them the vital skills of history and examination, that forms the basis of any doctor's core skills. Next February, I will be jetting off on an incredible elective across South America with other Hertford medic girls; the only barrier being the small matter of our ever-looming final examinations! We will be working with a charity to provide health-care to women in remote villages deep in the Amazon Rainforest, that are only accessible by small boats. I have a great deal to thank Hertford and the medical tutors for and hope in the future to stay a part of the strong medical community of which the College is proud.



# oxfordhub



**Rachel Nichols**  
History & Modern Languages,  
2009

The Oxford Hub is a charity which aims to engage as many students as possible in a huge variety of social, environmental and charitable causes, by providing them with resources, publicity, networking opportunities, general support and, we hope, a fair amount of passion. I also have the privilege to be President of the Hub at what is a really exciting time; we are developing a new strategy with broader horizons, greater reach and higher ambitions.

Reflecting on the last five years, since Oxford Hub started in 2007, Hertford and its students have been heavily involved. The way in which the College more than holds its own in all areas of university life certainly demonstrates a level of passion among its students, which the Hub has been able to harness. The Hub's mission is to create a community of socially aware and engaged students who will go

on to take their passion for creating positive social change into their undoubtedly bright futures. It is an ethos which has already been instilled in many Hertford students, either through their involvement with the Hub directly (it can count two Presidents and three Community Volunteering Co-ordinators!) or through their extraordinary record of affiliated projects. Kids Adventure, a volunteering project which aims to provide fun activity days for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, was established by Hertford student Genevieve Laurier (PPE, 2009) through the Oxford Hub, of which she later became President in Trinity Term 2011.

In the Jebb Table, our ethically-focused junior equivalent to the prestigious Norrington Table, Hertford came third in 2011, based on the huge number of hours which its students dedicate to volunteering in the local community; in Oxford Hub projects such as tutoring struggling GCSE students in all sorts of subjects, including geography and languages; its involvement with social enterprise (Shivaangee Agrawal - Oriental

Studies, 2010 - is currently collaborating with the Skoll Centre on the internationally renowned Emerge conference); and its consistent commitment to activism (Isabel Patkowski - PPE, 2010 - is, for example, co-ordinating one of our member groups, the Howard League for Penal Reform).

Looking forward, the Oxford Hub wants to break away from many of the often stultifying and alienating connotations of 'community volunteering' and 'activism'. We want to make social engagement, or at least some level of awareness, as fundamental to being here at Oxford as is, for example, rowing. The comment we dread most from students is the finalist's '*I wish I had known about you earlier*'. With the help of the Hub's new building and social enterprise restaurant at 16-17 Turl Street, it is becoming the heart of many discourses on social engagement; we want to develop and strengthen this awareness. I believe that the way in which the Hub is already shaping Hertford students' experiences is a testament to its growing success.

## PPE Societies



**Sixtine D'Angelin**  
PPE, 2010

Hertford is quite a vibrant place to study PPE. Not only do we have amazing tutors, but we are also given the opportunity to apply this newfound knowledge outside of the classroom. The main events in this respect are the termly society dinners, where a speaker presents us with engaging food for thought that we can then actively discuss over a three-course dinner. In Michaelmas, the Politics Society thus hosted Dr Michael Koss from Potsdam University on the exciting topic of *how the rise of political parties in Germany and the UK in the 19th century have transformed parliamentary politics in Europe*. Hilary was a busy term, Dr Shane Martin from Dublin University came to speak about *electoral institutions, the personal vote, and legislative organisation* for the Politics Society while the Philosophy Society debated the *origins of morality* with

economist Ken Binmore in a stimulating inter-disciplinary event.

This year also saw the third annual Hertford Philosophical retreat, during which students from all years withdrew to lovely cottages in the Cotswolds for three days to spend some time together, talk a lot, read, play chess, walk in the countryside, and occasionally have a glass of wine (or two). Conversations this year ranged from the philosophical implications of psychological disorders to how to defeat our tutor at chess, with special mentions going to vegetarianism and the Queen's jubilee.

Last but not least, second-years also had the fantastic opportunity to attend a PPE conference organised by the department at Cumberland Lodge (in the middle of Windsor Great Park!) on the theme of global justice. We were invited to take part in interactive discussions with leading scholars and practitioners, examining the question of global justice from the respective (and

interrelated) angles of philosophy, politics and economics. It was also the perfect occasion to meet fellow PPEists from other colleges, bonding over a film show, a game of table-tennis or a pint of beer!

In conclusion, the best part of studying a degree like PPE is the range of events that are subsequently organised and the thought-provoking discussions that ensue between philosophers, politicians and economists. The best part of studying PPE at Hertford is how inclusive and friendly everyone is, and the capacity of students from all years to come together – even though it is true that chess remains a dividing issue!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2012 - 2013

### SEPTEMBER

**FRI**  
**7** Hertford in Heidelberg

**FRI**  
**14** Admissions Open Day

**FRI**  
**14** **SAT**  
**15** **SUN**  
**16** Oxford University Alumni Weekend  
[www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk](http://www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk)

**SAT**  
**15** Jazz & Pimm's on the Quad  
Soweto Kinch Live Performance

**SAT**  
**15** Hertford Alumni Dinner  
Open to all matriculation years

**FRI**  
**21** Gaudy  
Matriculation years 1971, 1972 & 1973

**FRI**  
**28** **SAT**  
**29** Hertford Economics Summit

### OCTOBER

**FRI**  
**26** Hertford Conversations  
with Paul Tucker

**SAT**  
**27** Alumni Concert

### NOVEMBER

**THU**  
**1** London Drinks (Provisional)

**FRI**  
**9** Hertford Conversations  
with Lord Layard

### JANUARY

**FRI**  
**4** Gaudy  
Matriculation years 2002 & 2003

**TUE**  
**8** EMBA & MBA Soirée

### FEBRUARY

**SAT**  
**2** **SAT**  
**9** Freshers' Parents' Lunches

### MARCH

**FRI**  
**1** William Charnley Law Dinner

**FRI**  
**15** The John Donne Lecture

**FRI**  
**22** Gaudy  
Matriculation years 1992 & 1993

### APRIL

**FRI**  
**26** **SAT**  
**27** **SUN**  
**28** Oxford University European Reunion  
in Madrid

### MAY

**FRI**  
**10** Geoffrey Warnock Society Lunch

**SAT**  
**25** Eights Week Buffet Lunch

### JUNE

**SAT**  
**1** Summer Reunion  
Matriculation year 2005

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Simpkin, loyally guarding the College...



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