



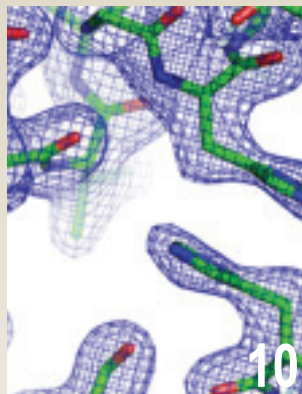
# Hertford College News

**Issue 24, 2013**

Bridge Centenary Special  
David Stuart: Improved vaccine  
The importance of being an intern

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SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013

## Bridge Centenary Party

Food, Drink and Live Music!

For more information please visit [www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge100](http://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge100)





# Sustaining openness



**Will Hutton**  
Principal

The essence of innovation is serendipity. It is the chance encounter, remark or challenge that triggers the innovative connection between previously unconnected ideas to produce a new thought. Serendipity is more likely, the more open you are. Openness and innovativeness are first cousins, the great drivers of intellectual advance and prosperity. One of the great assets of the collegiate nature of Oxford, built around colleges like Hertford, is that we are predisposed to openness. It is hard-wired into the DNA of academic life: academics must be free to think, research, attend conferences, exchange ideas and disseminate their findings according to where evidence, argument and inquiry lead them. But it is also cultural. The College is an open institution. Every day, our fellows and students interact across the college community, sparking ideas and innovations that transcend their respective fields and disciplines, inspiring research, publications and landmark discoveries in the process. I hope that you recall your days at Hertford as ones where you were encouraged to think freely and interact openly – it is at the heart of college life.

Nor is it just intellectuals who value openness as a means to innovative thought. As the pace of scientific and technological advance accelerates, there are ever greater possibilities to create break-through business models but also make ghastly mistakes. A growing number of companies are turning to open innovation – working with others in their network – to co-create answers to business problems, knowing that they don't know enough as stand-alone companies to find solutions. Better to have a share in a successful business solution that makes money than sole ownership of one that does not.

I write in these terms about openness because just as its value is becoming ever clearer, it is also under assault in contemporary Britain, and universities find themselves at the forefront of the battle. In efforts to limit immigration by making student visas harder to get, or the insistence that universities make more intense efforts to ring fence knowledge with patents and copyrights, we continually find ourselves battling forces for closure.

One concern about the impact of the new fee regime is that it changes the character of applicants to university degrees at all levels. The evidence is that boys, especially from homes where neither parent went to university, are deterred by the debt now associated with university education. Overall applicants for university may be holding up reasonably well, but to exclude even one category of applicant – working class boys – makes universities less open. Chance encounters that spark innovation require diversity.

Over my tenure as Principal this question of how to sustain openness is likely to become ever more pressing. No British government wants to find itself on the side of closure, and many ministers concerned with higher education are striving to mitigate the impact of wider policies. Yet euroscepticism is becoming fiercer. One of the advantages that many eurosceptics give for leaving the European Union is that it would allow Britain to further close its borders, especially to European migrants. It is left to foreign governments and companies to make the obvious point: one of the attractions of Britain as a member of the EU is that it combines its tradition of openness with the formal agreements of EU, European wide, openness. For a university, European students and contributions to our research budget are essential but in the stampede for closure these points are disregarded. Hertford College is only a small part of this story; however an open Hertford in an open university in an open Britain is surely a vision worth fighting for. I am sure we will sustain it.





## Bridge Centenary Celebrations: Please join us!

*'The Bridge of Sighs is Hertford's single most important distinguishing mark. Every tourist sees it and every member of the University knows it as a feature of Oxford as significant in its Edwardian way as its neighbours.'*

Sherard Cowper Coles (*Literae Humaniores*, 1973)

2013 marks the 100th anniversary of the construction of the Hertford bridge, also known as the Bridge of Sighs. To celebrate this occasion we are hosting a two day celebration on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th September appealing to the College's community: present and prospective students, alumni, fellows, staff and friends.

Our approach to access and outreach will be the main theme for these celebrations. By enhancing the link between Hertford's visual profile - the bridge - and its existing reputation for open access and dynamic outreach we want to create a strong and positive identity for the College.

**What is outreach and access?** Hertford's outreach is all about making contact with students who have the academic potential to succeed at Oxford but are in schools with little experience of supporting Oxbridge applications, or those who come from families with little or no experience of tertiary education. We need to go out to find them in their schools and encourage them to apply.

Our access work focuses on making sure that all applicants with the requisite potential have equal access to Oxford and to Hertford. Hertford is committed to finding, attracting and admitting the best students. We believe that genuine academic excellence can only be fostered by our commitment to fairness and making the opportunities Hertford has to offer accessible to all.

On Friday 27th September, 100 students from state schools will come to Hertford for a day that will allow them to sample the full range of courses on offer in the humanities, the sciences and the social sciences. Participants will meet and be taught by our fellows and lecturers, and will have the opportunity to put questions to current undergraduates and find out about the admissions process.

Saturday 28th September will feature a celebration of the College's past, present and future along with the continuing theme of outreach and access. Please see the invitation enclosed with this newsletter. This will be an event like no other and we hope you will come and join the party in OB and NB Quads.

More events celebrating the 100th anniversary will take place in 2014. We have plans for a family day, plus an ambitious project for a sponsored charity bike ride from the Bridge of Sighs, Oxford to Venice!

For more information please visit [www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge100](http://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge100)

# From the Members' and Development Office



We are in the midst of an exciting period of celebration for Hertford; not only are we honouring the centenary of our iconic bridge, but we are also preparing for the 40th anniversary of co-education at the College.

How do these two correlate? Through the socially progressive approach at Hertford's core. Some may look at the bridge and compare it to the Pont dei Sospiri in Venice, or more accurately the Rialto. Some may look at our iconic landmark and admire its architectural prowess surrounded by other gems such as the Radcliffe Camera, Bodleian Library and Sheldonian Theatre. Very few realise that the bridge is a symbol of Hertford taking the opportunity after its refounding in 1874, to showcase its non-conformist educational values. Dr Christopher Tyerman expands upon this theme in his article on p.12. In keeping with this commitment to forward thinking, Hertford became one of the first five colleges to introduce co-education in 1974, proving its dedication to academic excellence regardless of background or even gender. The upcoming celebrations of these two different but momentous periods of the College's history will celebrate Hertford's unique position at the forefront of Oxford social innovation. There will be a range of diverse events to honour these occasions, and these will provide a platform for us to share our vision for the future and the projects that are designed to help us achieve this.

This year we have received generous support from our alumni and friends, with £750k in gifts and pledges, surpassing last year. Our Ellis Barnard History Fellowship currently stands at £720k of the required £1.2m and you have kindly donated £112k towards our Undergraduate Bursary Programme this year. The September and June telephone campaigns achieved a combined pledge total of £250k, of which 70% has been fulfilled so far. Furthermore, support from friends of the College has increased. Bill and Weslie Janeway have given \$150,000 towards

Computing at Hertford, the first new subject at Hertford for many years and they are also supporting outreach activities for this subject. Barclays Bank Plc has funded an overseas collaborative project with four Hertford students, and Stella Schuck (Economics & Management, 2011) discusses this project further on p.19. Recently, filming has taken place at Hertford as part of Anthony Geffen's documentary film for the College. Anthony, Chief Executive of Atlantic Productions and BAFTA award winning film producer, generously offered to produce a short piece showcasing Hertford's students, academic staff and its achievements in both teaching and research. We look forward to updating you with regard to numerous additional opportunities that are currently in the pipeline.

Events held since the last newsletter have received positive feedback and have been well attended, many have been hosted and sponsored by our alumni. We are very grateful to Rob Lusardi (Engineering & Economics, 1975) and Sabina Wu for the New York Economics Summit & Reception, Mark Higgins (Linguistics, 1993) for the Manchester Drinks, and Rodney Baker Bates (History, 1963) and Willis Limited for the London Lecture. There have been numerous other events within this time, some memories of which have been recounted by attendees in 'Alumni Events'.

Hertford's students play an important ambassadorial role and give a generous amount of their personal time and effort. The success of many of our events results, in no small part, from their commitment and support. We would like to thank all students who have been a part of our activities this year and we are sure everyone would agree that they are one of Hertford's greatest assets.

We hope you enjoy the summer period (and long may the sun continue to shine!); we look forward with great expectation to the next academic year.

## Economics Fellowship Fundraising: Update

Today Economics at Hertford is thriving, with over 40 students across four schools studying for papers in Economics, making it one of the most popular subjects at Hertford. In 2011 Hertford appointed a University Lecturer in Economics, Dr David Gill, and we also have a Stipendiary College Lecturer and Departmental Teaching Associate. In addition, Dr Damoun Ashourmia will be joining us in September as a four-year Career Development Fellow. The College's decision to maintain several posts in Economics, despite the drop in funding from the University, is largely due to the strength of the subject, both numerically and qualitatively, and also that Economics is inextricably linked to several joint schools subjects that are key to the College's undergraduate offering.

Fundraising for an endowed Economics Fellowship was initiated by Roger Van Noorden, who led Economics teaching at Hertford from 1963 to his retirement in 2006. As the College's Investment Bursar for four decades, Roger brought the College's endowment from steady decline back into good health. However, his retirement coincided with an unexpected vacancy in the College's second Economics fellowship, and the University's Economics Department was unable to provide its share of the funding, leaving Hertford to finance almost all of its own Economics teaching. Roger, therefore, began fundraising for an endowed post at Hertford and in 2010 the fellowship fund was named after him in recognition of his long service to the College.

Securing a total of £800k would underwrite the College's portion of this University Lectureship, and we have so far raised £240k.

Endowing the Roger Van Noorden Fellowship in Economics would not only ensure the future of Economics at Hertford but would honour the memory of a man who gave so much to Hertford, as a tutor, a bursar and a fellow. Many of our alumni and friends have already given generously to support this appeal and we are very grateful to you all.

If you would like to know more about the Roger Van Noorden Fellowship in Economics, or would like to offer support or think you might be able to lead us to other supporters then please contact us in the Members' and Development Office.

## Gaudy (1992-1993)



**Jennifer Paker** (Modern Languages, 1992): It's been over 20 years since matriculation, yet on returning to College we were struck more by what hadn't changed than what has. The Lodge may have been rebuilt, but Pam was there to greet us, as was Kenny. We were touched that many of our old tutors joined us for dinner. At top table, discussing Mauriac with Dr Holmes, the years melted away – if only all our tutorials could have been conducted over a bottle of wine... By the time we made it down to the College bar, we were partying like it was 1992.

It was lovely to go back to Hertford and relive some of what had made our time there so special. Will Hutton proved a charming host, and was hopefully not too disappointed to find that, whatever we might have accomplished over the the past 20 years, when back at Hertford we are all 18 again.

**George Ujvary** (Physiological Sc., 1992): It was without hesitation that I hopped on a plane from Australia to attend the Gaudy in March. A number of good friends were able to meet me before the event and it was a great opportunity to catch up on old times and acquaint ourselves with Oxford. The Gaudy meal itself was excellent and the conversation flowed. Richard Cope gave a humorous and thoughtful speech and it was incredible to see the breadth and depth of careers that followed my colleagues at Hertford. Whilst the University prides itself on the diversity from which it recruits, it would also be worthwhile celebrating the amount of diversity it creates. Needless to say, the conversation continued long into the night and after a short break for some sleep, went well into the next day too. With many friendships rekindled, I would not hesitate for a moment to return for the next one!

## New York Economics Summit



**Gabriel Packard** (English, 1999): At a 57th-floor penthouse room in Manhattan's Columbus Circle, following an edifying panel discussion on economics, we stood on the wrap-around terrace and saw the stalwart factories of New Jersey across the Hudson River to the west, the walking trails of Central Park picked out in dotted lights below us to the north, the under-construction 'world's most expensive apartment building' a few avenues away where units are selling for \$90 million each, and the hipster fiefdoms of Brooklyn way out across the East River. What a perfect setting for Hertford's New York Economic Summit, held in honour of the late Roger Van Noorden and hosted by good bloke extraordinaire Rob Lusardi (Engineering & Economics, 1975) and his wife Sabina Wu. The panel discussed the question: Is this economic situation the new norm? And, luckily,

it would seem that the answer is probably not and things will probably get better.

After the discussion, an eclectic assortment of Hertfordians who'd somehow ended up in NYC tucked into a tasty buffet dinner and washed it down with a signature cocktail named the Hertford Cocktail, designed especially for such evenings and consisting of champagne, cognac, a brown sugar lump and a raspberry. One Physics alumnus was called upon to speculate on the hydrodynamic principles that made the raspberry sink to the bottom of the glass and then mysteriously rise to the top again. The answer was thoroughly convincing and had something to do with relative density or relative gravity or perhaps both. Was this cocktail a carefully designed metaphor for the vicissitudes of the global economic climate?

## European Reunion: Madrid



**Hugh Whittaker** (Modern Languages, 1964): When I got the notice in *Oxford Today* and by email from the indefatigable Hertford Development team that the third biennial alumni reunion was to be in Madrid, it was a no-brainer.

The events began with a bang, with a drinks party hosted by HM Ambassador, Giles Paxman (yes, his brother) at his palatial residence in a smart suburb in northern Madrid. We then returned in a fleet of coaches which dropped us off at the various restaurants booked for college dinners. Hertford's was the Naia Bistro, well concealed in the Old Town, but the hunt gave us a good appetite and the Principal and his wife Jane Atkinson hosted the evening very convivially.

We dragged ourselves out of bed on Saturday and headed out northwards to the Fundación Areces, a think-tank of (I suspect) conservative tendencies, to hear literary and

political lectures and discussions of various colours, about Spain's Golden Age (16-17th centuries) history and literature, and then on the present and future. For the afternoon there was a choice of excursions and I chose the Royal Palace and Old Town: interesting and lively, but the former was rather better. Then came the big dinner, where the University took over a very large and opulent restaurant in the Old Town, La Pasada de la Villa, specialising in Castilian meats roasted in a large bread-oven. Spain is not the place for vegetarians.

The concluding event was a colloquium over brunch at the Instituto de Bellas Artes, a kind of Royal Academy, in the Gran Via. Everything was great apart from the weather which was 25 degrees on Thursday when I arrived, about 5 on Sunday. Everything was superbly organised both by the Development Office and by the office in Wellington Square. Don't miss the next one... any bets on Rome?



# Summer Reunion Lunch (2005)



**Alexandra Flynn** (PPE, 2005): Heraclitus famously declared the impossibility of stepping in the same river twice (yes, I did philosophy) but it certainly didn't feel that way at the reunion lunch. Everything seemed wonderfully familiar: Simpkin curled up on a bench, winding our way up to Hall, indulging in a hearty lunch beneath the portraits of past Principals. An unusually sunny Saturday afternoon provided the perfect opportunity to renew old friendships whilst lazing on the grass in the Quad. Our conversations ranged over bops (and the unique costume choices they inspired), Finals (mostly the joy of leaving Exam Schools on red-carnation day) and the downsides of 'real' life (not being able to cycle everywhere). It was witness to the brilliantly intense years we spent at Hertford that connections could be re-established in the blink of an eye.

**Tom Roberts** (Engineering, 2005): Great company and a familiar setting made it difficult to believe that it had been almost eight years since we had first been thrown together at Hertford. In a sunshine bathed OB Quad, there were plenty of opportunities to catch up on the changes in our lives that had taken place in the years after Oxford. Over drinks, the conversation often turned to reminiscing over our short few years at Hertford: memories of tutors, societies and uncountable dinners. We were then ushered up to the Hall, where we enjoyed an excellent lunch, and heard from the Principal about the College's exciting plans for commemorating the centenary of the Bridge of Sighs. Despite the sense of familiarity and a very warm welcome back, returning to Hertford made me realise that what had seemed 'the norm' for four years was anything but!

# Manchester Drinks



**Elisabeth Bellamy** (Jurisprudence, 1981): Having managed to miss the Manchester Drinks last year I was determined to make sure that I could attend this year. To be honest I wasn't certain how many Hertford alumni were in the Manchester area as most people seem to gravitate towards London.

A fairly small group of about 20 people gathered to enjoy a good supply of wine and general conversation before we were called to order by the Principal, Will Hutton, to discuss some of the challenges facing young students today. One issue highlighted was the increasing number of students undertaking a postgraduate degree and the need to consider ways to support these students financially.

An interesting debate followed with contributions from Dr Alison Young (Fellow and Tutor in Law) and one of her rising stars, a current law student. As ever, the broad range of views expressed clearly represented the diverse alumni of Hertford. Being a smaller group meant that everyone had an opportunity to share their thoughts, some more vociferously than others.

Thanks to Mark Higgins (Linguistics, 1993) for hosting what turned out to be a very enjoyable evening which nearly ended with myself and Jonathan Billowes (Physics, 1973) getting locked in the building. Now that would have been interesting!

# London Lecture



**Jade Wimbledon** (English, 2007): It can be hard to reconcile the glistening multi-storey HQs of central London with the 16th century city in which Shakespeare once worked. But an image of Shakespeare awaited us here, once we'd tumbled out of our own office buildings and been swiped through Willis's security barriers. Dr Emma Smith, Fellow and Tutor in English, was here to take us back to the city and stage of the Early Modern period with a talk intriguingly titled 'Team Shakespeare'.

Alumni from a rainbow of academic disciplines with matriculation dates dotted across the decades gathered in the plush lecture room. In a fast-passing half hour, Emma Smith moved away from a vision of Shakespeare as a singular genius. Instead, she grounded the plays in the playwriting culture of their era, replacing the idea of one, formidable individual with the understanding of a fluid and multiple

writing process. Emma briefly sketched Shakespeare as apprentice, as collaborator and as patcher of plays. We also heard about the influence that the different venues and the available actors would have had on the plays as we find them; these works were being created for particular performances, with particular actors in mind. This was a tantalising taste of a fascinating area of study, and was followed by a lively question and answer session.

In this broker building in central London, I was drawn into the lively, literature-seeped world that I'd left behind – a little bit of Hertford was whirling around me. Over the post-event popcorn and kettle chips, Hertford alumni and their guests clamoured around Emma, each with a further question about Shakespeare on their lips. Reluctantly, we eventually spilt out into a drizzly London night, minds buzzing with Early Modern possibilities.

# Hertford at a glance

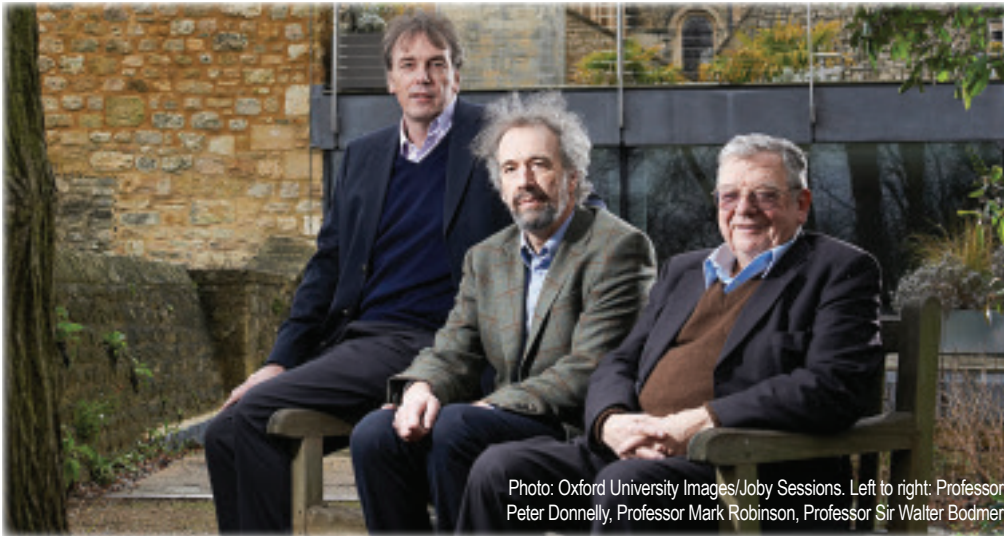


Photo: Oxford University Images/Joby Sessions. Left to right: Professor Peter Donnelly, Professor Mark Robinson, Professor Sir Walter Bodmer

## What makes the British?

Professor Sir Walter Bodmer (Hertford's former Principal and Honorary Fellow), Professor Mark Robinson (Hertford's Lecturer in Archaeology) and Professor Peter Donnelly (Director of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics) have been working on a ground-breaking interdisciplinary project producing a detailed genetic inventory of the British population. For Sir Walter, one of the many interesting aspects is the research into inherited disease susceptibility; for Mark the data gives clues about the history of post-Empire Romano-British population. There are political aspects too: the strong genetic connection between the people of Northern and Southern Ireland, or the connections between Cornish, Welsh and French genes. Sir Walter: 'Along with my colleagues in the Oncology Department, over the last nine years I have accumulated material for a UK population study investigating inherited disease susceptibility, and enabling the characterisation of British genetic variation in relation to its history and

origins. We have accumulated over 4,000 DNA samples from people throughout the UK. An analysis of over 500,000 genetic variations, in collaboration with Peter Donnelly and colleagues in the statistics department, has shown remarkable geographic patterning of the genetic variability in the UK. This patterning relates to similar variations in other countries. Thus, we can see evidence of Norse Viking influence in Orkney and other Scottish populations. We can also identify the probable origins of the ancient British, especially from Northern France, who seem most closely related to the modern Welsh population. Patterns from North Germany and Denmark, contribute to a high proportion of the South-Eastern English, and we can distinguish the Cornish from their Devonshire neighbours. We are now using the data collected to determine the genetics behind differences such as facial features.'

(<http://www.peopleofthebritishisles.org/>)

## Oktoviano Gandhi



Photo, left to right: Councillor David Williams, Councillor Elise Benjamin, Luca Ferrini (StreetView Oxford Project Leader), Okto, and Anthony Ralph (a Julian Housing resident and potential tour guide).

Hertford student Oktoviano Gandhi (Physics, 2011) is the man behind a new project, StreetView Oxford, to see the city from the point of view of its rough sleepers. The social enterprise charity Enactus has gained the support of local councillors and will begin tours of the Cowley Road area led by homeless people this summer.

## Seed fund investment for entrepreneur

Recent graduate Eamon Jubbaw (Economics & Management, 2010) is one of the new-generation entrepreneurs backed by the Saïd Business School Seed Fund. Eamon's company Onfido, co-founded with three other students, is an online service enabling employers to conduct background checks and reference reports on new and existing employees. The investment of £20,000 will enable the company to develop and to accelerate technical development.

Commenting on the investment, Eamon said 'Employers are waking up to the importance of background checks and our technology, coupled with the backing of the Saïd Business School, places us at the forefront of the UK background checking industry, ready to service the needs of employers.'

## Computing at Hertford

Computer Science and Philosophy – the first new Philosophy degree programme at Oxford since 1973 – welcomed its first students in 2012, four of them at Hertford and eight in the University as a whole. Professor Peter Millican, Fellow & Tutor in Philosophy, first proposed this idea back in 2006, having experienced the great synergies between the two disciplines in his 20 years spent lecturing both of them at Leeds University. Obvious overlaps include logic, artificial intelligence, computability, and morality (security, privacy, behaviour of robots etc.). But many other areas of philosophy are increasingly touched by computational issues, from the aesthetics of computer composition, to the metaphysics of programs, to the philosophy and epistemology of scientific modelling (both of the natural and human worlds, e.g. climate change and economic systems).

Promisingly, our first four students have just averaged over 74% in their Prelims! Thanks to the generosity of Bill and Weslie Janeway, parents of an alumnus, a fund has been established to support the new degree, with outreach as a major strand to attract bright students regardless of background. Computers are now so ubiquitous, and so integral to what we do personally, commercially, and in education and research, that it is vital in the next generation to have critical thinkers who understand them well and are able to address the many vital issues that they raise.



Professor David Thomas



## Accolades for Hertford Fellows:

### Professor David Thomas

Professor of Geography David Thomas has been appointed Vice-President for Research and Higher Education at the Royal Geographical Society. It is an important role at an important time for the subject - and Dave will have the Research Excellence Framework and ongoing discussions about the place of geography in the school curriculum, as part of his portfolio. Dave is himself a graduate of Hertford's popular and highly successful Geography school. His work focuses around issues of climate and landscape change.

### Professor Chris Schofield

Professor Chris Schofield, Fellow and Tutor in Chemistry, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. This acknowledges his place as an international leader in the field of functional, structural and mechanistic studies on enzymes, in particular those employing oxygen and 2-oxoglutarate cosubstrates.

Professor Chris Schofield



Dr Alison Young



### Dr Alison Young

Dr Alison Young, Fellow and Tutor in Law, has been awarded the prestigious Levehulme grant for two years from October 2013. The money will be used for a partial teaching buy-out, allowing Alison to focus on a project aimed at a new way of understanding constitutional theory. Here's Alison's abstract: 'Constitutional theory is often presented in terms of polemics - between legal constitutionalism and political constitutionalism; descriptive and normative theories; internal and external approaches to the subject. This project challenges these traditional approaches. It proposes a new way of analysing constitutions, applying a model-theoretic approach arguing that political and legal constitutionalism are best understood as models whose ideals cannot be fully realized. It proposes a new model of analysing constitutions in terms of dynamic interactions between legal and political controls, arguing for greater engagement of citizens in this process to enhance constitutional legitimacy.'

### Professor Sir Walter Bodmer

Professor Sir Walter Bodmer, Honorary Fellow, was one of three recipients of this year's Royal Medals from the Royal Society, in recognition of his seminal contributions to population genetics, gene mapping and understanding familial genetic disease. The Royal Medals (alternatively the Queen's Medals), are an annual award recognising the most important contributions made in the fields of physical, biological and applied sciences. Sir Walter is a member of the Department of Medical Oncology, where he is Head of the Cancer and Immunogenetics Laboratory.

## Hertford bids a fond farewell to...



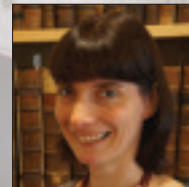
**Julie Dearden**  
Director of Conferences & International Programmes  
Modern Languages, 1979  
Applied Linguistics, 2006

Over 13 years with Hertford, Julie has built the International Programmes office into a thriving team and business with a £2.9m turnover. She is taking up the post of Senior Research Fellow in English as a Medium of Instruction at Oxford's Department of Education, where she will set up a centre to study the use of English globally as a teaching language. Julie was one of the first women to study at Hertford and has also undertaken post-graduate study here. We look forward to welcoming Julie back as an Associate SCR Member.



**Eamonn Bennett**  
Executive Head Chef

Eamonn joined us in December 2010, and has spent three years transforming the food offered in Hertford College. We now bid him a fond farewell as he leaves us to take up the position of Catering and Commercial Services Manager at St Clare's in Oxford, where he will take on a more managerial role, overseeing the College's catering department and services. Though we will miss his innovative menus, his culinary flair and his passion for good food we wish him all the best in his future endeavours.



**Kirsty Taylor**  
Librarian

Kirsty, although with us for what seems a short time, has made a lasting impression on the College. She leaves us now to join Green Templeton College as Head of Library and Information Services, where she will be responsible for developing and overseeing the new college library, learning resources and information technology. She will be most missed for her unstinting generosity to the students and her willingness to instigate new ideas for rejuvenating the College library.



# The long path towards an improved vaccine: Foot-and-Mouth disease virus



**Professor David Stuart**  
Professor of Molecular  
Biophysics, Senior Research  
Fellow in Molecular Biophysics

No doubt most of us remember the chilling consequences of the 2001 Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak in the UK, which led to the death of over seven million sheep and cattle, devastated farming communities and cost the economy billions in control measures and compensation. Globally, FMD remains one of the most economically important livestock diseases; it is endemic in Central Africa and across much of the Middle East and Asia. Even in FMD-free countries like the UK, outbreaks like that in the early 2000s tend to re-occur roughly every 10 years. It is therefore important to try to bring this highly contagious disease under control, particularly in the developing world where it contributes substantially to poverty, and consequentially limit the threat of it spreading to FMD-free countries.

FMDV vaccines have been available for some 50 years; so why are we not able to control FMD effectively? Our failure reflects weaknesses in existing vaccines, which are created by growing (massive amounts) of live virulent virus in a high containment facility; the virus is then chemically inactivated and formulated into a vaccine. Many strains of FMDV are quite unstable and the process of inactivation makes them even more sensitive to even moderate temperatures. Unfortunately damaged particles do not induce a protective immune response and so the vaccine must be kept chilled and distributed via a cold chain. Particularly in hot countries, this is enormously challenging and ultimately the effectiveness of the vaccine itself is compromised. The net result is that the best vaccines only confer protection for about six months and for some of the least stable viruses the vaccine is essentially ineffective.

In 1985 I was trying to set up as an independent scientist in Oxford and through the support of David Phillips (later Lord Phillips), who was head of the Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics, I had started to work on determining the atomic structure of FMDV by X-ray crystallography. When a lectureship

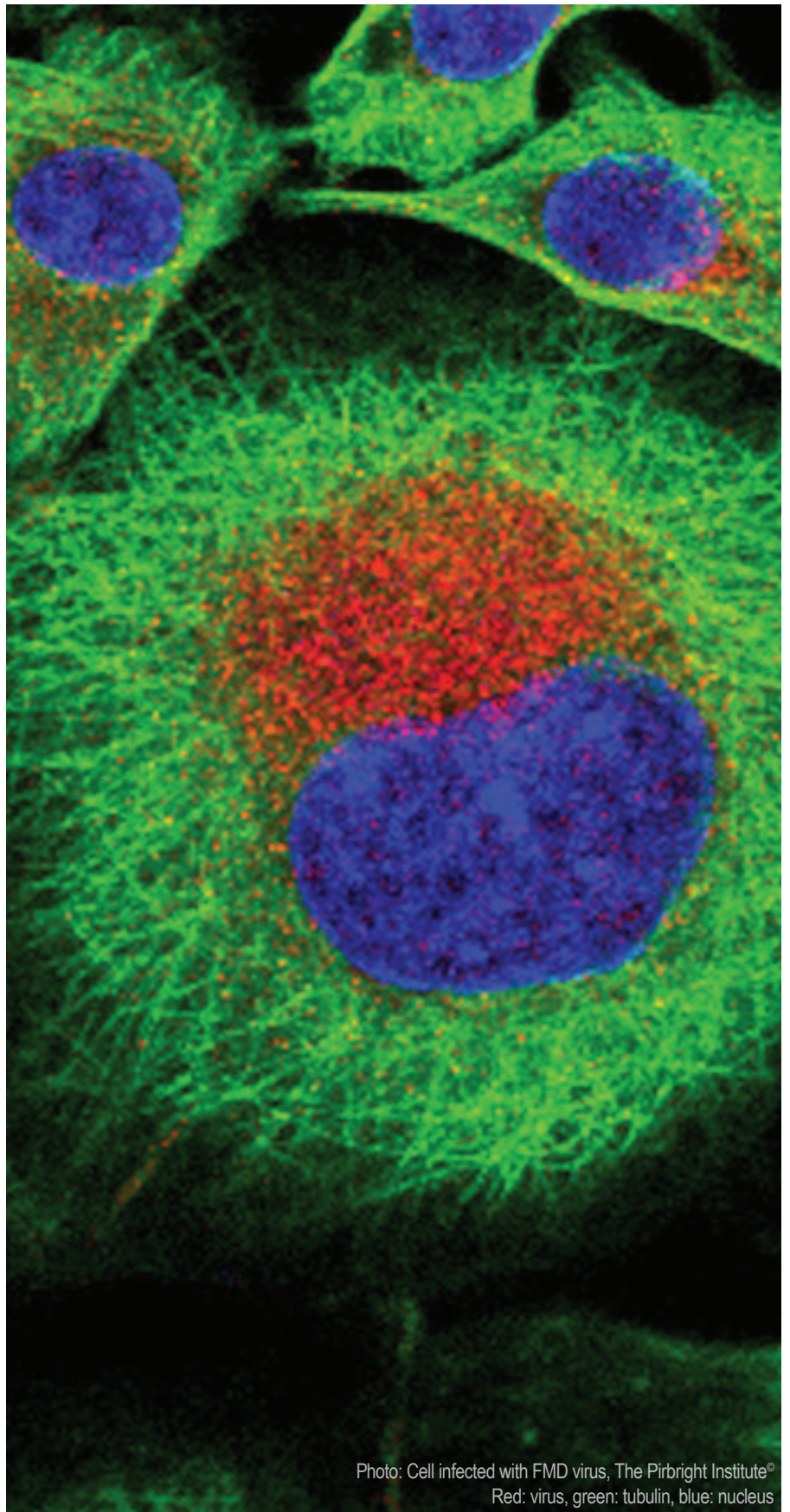


Photo: Cell infected with FMD virus, The Pirbright Institute®  
Red: virus, green: tubulin, blue: nucleus



and associated biology fellowship at Hertford College became available, I applied, was successful, and began both a connection with the College and my independent work on the virus. I learnt later that the wiser people in the College felt that my hopes to determine the positions of the half a million or so atoms in the virus shell were insanely optimistic. Thankfully this was not seen as an impediment to appointing me! Fortunately by 1989 the structure was published, however, it took more than twenty years before my group in the Structural Biology Division of the Nuffield Department of Medicine, in a collaboration led by Dr Bryan Charleston, (Head of the Livestock Viral Diseases Programme at The Pirbright Institute), including Reading University and Diamond Light Source, were able to implement methodologies to produce a vaccine for FMDV which promises to be safer and more effective.

Instead of using infectious virus as the basis for the vaccine our team has created a synthetic vaccine comprising empty protein shells which exactly imitate the protein coat that forms the outer layer of the virus. We use molecular biology tricks, developed by Professor Ian Jones at the University of Reading, to produce these empty shells in insect cell culture, since they contain no viral genome they cannot cause an infection, and are completely safe. These shells are still very fragile however. My group have tackled this problem, using our knowledge of the structure of the virus shell we identified its weak points and suggested molecular engineering solutions to make it stronger. Furthermore we have developed computational methods to predict stability, so that we can rank our engineering proposals and implement only the most promising. We then, at the Diamond Light Source, determined the structures of the modified shells, to show that we haven't disturbed the structure, and measured the stability of the capsids. Results demonstrated that the shells were indeed able to withstand much higher temperatures (for instance, two hours at 56°C). We have also tested engineered vaccine in pre-clinical trials on cattle, and have shown that it can protect them from a challenge by the virus and we are performing further experiments to assess the duration of the response.

Inset photo: Empty shell vaccine structure, Oxford University®

Background photo: Extreme close up of modified vaccine structure, Diamond Light Source®

So, it seems that we might have a vaccine that is safe to produce, more effective and much easier to distribute and store. Since production does not require a contained laboratory it should be possible to locate facilities more widely and to greatly increase the production capacity, which at present struggles to satisfy the demand (3-4 billions of doses of vaccine are administered every year). Finally the vaccine completely lacks some of the components that make up a live virus, making it very easy to distinguish between animals that have been vaccinated and those that have been infected, an important consideration for maintaining disease-free status.

Currently we are working to transfer the technology as quickly as possible to a vaccine manufacturer, however even if all goes well it will take several years to licence and deploy such new technologies. In the long term the new vaccine might help to alleviate the huge economic burden that FMDV places on the farming industry. However complete elimination of the disease is unlikely in the short term since there are still significant reservoirs of disease in wild animals.

We hope that our work will also have a broader impact on vaccine development since the technology of making and stabilising vaccines should also be able to be transferable to other related viruses such as Polio and Hand-Foot-and-Mouth Disease, a human virus prolific in South-East Asia. It is tremendously pleasing to see that our pure science might be of real value. As Louis Pasteur once said 'there is no such thing as applied science, only the application of science' ... just don't always expect the application to come along quickly!

.....  
*I am personally supported by the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the research described was supported by DEFRA and the Wellcome Trust and carried out by a UK partnership between The Pirbright Institute, which receives strategic funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences research Council (BBSRC) and grant funding to research FMDV, and Diamond Light Source, the UK's National Synchrotron Facility, which receives funding from Science Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and the Wellcome Trust along with the Universities of Oxford and Reading.*



# Sermons in stones



**Dr Christopher Tyerman**  
Fellow and Tutor in History

The bridge, linking the old and new quadrangles of Hertford College, was opened on the 14th January 1914. It was designed, as had been all the new buildings erected since the College's foundation in 1874, by the fashionable architect T.G. Jackson. The bridge presented a far from neutral aesthetic statement, inscribing not only Jackson's own architectural principles of what he called 'judicious eclecticism' but also now long-forgotten debates over the nature of the new college, its educational purpose and academic credentials.

The new Hertford College was born of a series of paradoxes. Magdalen Hall, its institutional progenitor, had flourished in the nineteenth century because of its lack of restrictive statutes allowing it to admit a wide range of fee-paying undergraduates at a modest charge, a contemporary version of open access. However, legal reforms in the 1850s and 1870s freed other colleges from their statutory straightjackets and allowed them to undercut Magdalen Hall in numbers, facilities and social standing. The foundation of Keble in 1868 further threatened Magdalen Hall's market.

Principal Richard Michell saw incorporation as a college as the only way for Magdalen Hall to avoid the fate of most Oxford halls that had either gone bust or had been absorbed by colleges. Michell was a reformer, believing in extending the curriculum and in fostering a genuinely educational tutorial system. But, Michell's plan required endowment. Fortunately, the banker T.C. Baring offered to endow a new college lavishly. In the end, his donations amounted to over £210,000, the equivalent today of c. £25 million; contrary to legend, Hertford was not originally an especially poor college. Baring, though, was a difficult customer, 'a reactionary curmudgeon', and deeply opposed to reform. He wished to tie his endowment to the provision that new fellows of the College should be unmarried Anglican clerics nominated by him, in direct challenge to the reforming Act of 1871. Apart from being of dubious legality, Baring's conditions contradicted Michell's whole reformist policy.

Enter at this point F. H. Jeune, a young barrister specialising in ecclesiastical law. He helped finesse the details of Baring's endowment to make it legal and acceptable to MPs, allowing them to pass the private Act of Parliament that incorporated the new college. Baring's role was hidden in an anonymous trust. Jeune became one of the very first new fellows of Hertford in 1874. Later a judge and elevated to the peerage as Baron St Helier (where he had been born), Jeune was, like Baring, a Low Church evangelical, involved in cases over High Church tendencies in the Anglican church, but, unlike Baring, a reformer. Henry Boyd, another of the first new fellows of Hertford who became Principal in 1877, was also a reformer but, like Jeune and Baring, suspicious of the Romish aura that surrounded the rival foundation of Keble. These disparate tendencies are combined in Jackson's architecture and are nowhere more obviously than in the bridge.

Pre-reform Oxford had been wedded to vernacular classical architecture (as in OB1 and the Old Lodgings of the 1820s). Reformers from the mid-nineteenth century turned to the Gothic as a visible symbol of a new academic rigour. However, by the late nineteenth century, Gothic had become associated in turn with a growing intellectual rigidity and was tinged with the alleged Romism of the Oxford Movement, embodied in Keble. Nobody was more sensitive to the statements conveyed through architecture than Jackson, who sided definitively with progress, the modernisers and reformers. Jackson chose a loosely Renaissance range of designs to express this distance from both reaction and Rome. He sought a delicate balance of reform and reaction, humanism and evangelicalism. Just as the Hertford bridge has never been the Bridge of Sighs, neither was it without its own message.

The idea for a bridge was Boyd's who wrote in 1899 of his scheme 'to have an underground passage for the servants and bridge for the fellows and undergraduates'. This would unite the two parts of his college, and allow its members untrammelled access even after curfew at 10 pm. The tunnel was never completed and most inhabitants of NB Quad have always preferred a stroll along Catte Street to mountaineering in NB2 and OB1.

Overcoming sustained hostility from City and University, Boyd finally secured permission early in 1913. The bridge was largely paid for Lady St Helier, Jeune's widow, who, when opening the newly built construction in 1914, publicly dedicated it to her husband. On the St Helier bridge, the heraldry and inscriptions testify to the layers of compromise on which the College had been founded. On the west side, confidently facing the public and academic heart of the university, with the arms of Hertford College and Magdalen Hall, are those of Lord St Helier and the name of Principal Boyd, the evangelical reformers. On the east, hidden from the crowds, are carved the arms of T.C. Baring, the real, if reactionary, founder of Hertford College.

Further Reading: W. Whyte, 'Unbuilt Hertford: T. G. Jackson's Contextual Dilemmas', *Architectural History* 45 (2002), pp. 347-62; idem, *Oxford Jackson* (Oxford 2006), esp. pp. 112-14; N. Saul, 'A bridge between town and gown', *Seven Hundred Years of an Oxford College*, ed. A. Goudie (revised edn 1999), pp. 72-5.





# Notes from the architect

Taken from *The Hertford College Magazine*,  
No. 9. May 1914

**(‘College Notes’, Editor, May 1914).**

The bridge has become almost an old institution, and the great advantages derived from it are taken for granted, as though it had always been thus. We have almost forgotten that last Christmas term one thought twice before visiting a part of ones own College after the closing of the gate; that such a visit made after 11 involved an expenditure of fourpence; while after 12 it involved a possibility of even greater expense, and fractured limbs into the bargain. Criticism of the architectural merits of the bridge has been various and contradictory; but we entirely agree with the opinion of the artistic majority; that it is worthy to rank with the chapel, which is sufficiently high praise.

**(‘Hertford College Bridge’, Thos. G. Jackson, R.A, January 16, 1914).**

The masonry of the bridge is of Clipsham stone, a very hard material from Rutland, a shelly oolite very like the magnificent Barnacle Rag, of which Peterborough Cathedral, the great churches in the Fens, and most of the buildings in that part of England are constructed. Barnacle stone is worked out and no longer obtainable, but I believe Clipsham stone, which I used first at the New Schools in Oxford, will prove as good a material. The arch within the facing is of brick, the soffit being of bricks cut and rubbed, and the steps are of a very hard bituminous stone from Castlehill, in Caithness. The roof is of oak, covered with lead on deal boarding.

A bridge of this kind in England is unusual, and naturally invites criticism. There are many examples in Italy, which contain useful suggestions, though I have tried to give the design a character rather in conformity with the traditions of the English Renaissance. The heraldry on the west side gives the arms of Lord St. Helier in the middle supported by two figures in a manner usual in Italian work, which have been admirably modelled and carved from my designs by Mr. Whiffen, at Messrs. Farmer and Brindley’s studio...

The contractors for the work were Messrs. Bowman, of Stamford. The carving was done by Messrs. Farmer and Brindley, of London, and the work was superintended by Mr. Edwin Long, who has been one of my clerks of works for over 30 years, and served me in that capacity all through the recent difficult and hazardous repair at Winchester Cathedral.



# Bridge memories

## **Sherard Cowper Coles (Literae Humaniores, 1973)**

The bridge is Hertford's single most important distinguishing mark, a central element in what makes the College so special – and so central to Oxford. Every tourist sees it and every senior or junior member of the University knows it as a feature of Oxford as significant in its Edwardian way as its greater and grander neighbours. For Hertford undergraduates of my generation, the bridge is full of memories: of drunken attempts 40 years ago to drag the sculptures exhibited in the Old Quad up there, of romantic encounters during the Centenary Ball of 1974, of moments of dread en route to an interview or a tutorial, of posing for a much republished postcard under the bridge, of the closing sequence of the BBC's magisterial 1979 mini-series *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*, accompanied by an ethereal *Nunc Dimitis*. One final irony, very Oxford: as every pedant knows, the model for the bridge is obviously the Rialto, leaping over the Grand Canal, not its meaner, sadder, namesake.

## **Michael Thorne (Physics, 1966)**

One creative scheme on Ball night (late 60s) for the little well before the bridge was to line it with plastic and fill it with water and goldfish. Unfortunately, the Dean didn't go for it.

## **Stuart Whayman (Mathematics, 1991)**

I proposed to my wife on the bridge on 23rd June 1994, shortly after getting my Finals results. Nicola happily accepted and we were married the following year. We've now enjoyed 18 happy years of marriage and the bridge will always be a special place to us. It was with great pride we were able to show our two daughters this romantic spot a few years ago when I came up to College to receive my MA (a few years late!).

## **Derek Roebuck (Law, 1953)**

On 5th November 1953, upon climbing into College I was greeted in NB Quad by the familiar voice of the Dean Dr Armstrong, who said, friendly as you like, 'Roebuck, would you help me? I need someone to man the stirrup-pump in my bathroom.' Having expected at the least a rebuke for my late entrance, I happily followed Johnny to his rooms as he explained. It was the tradition for New College people to express their disapproval of the architectural monstrosity which had been built across their lane by lighting a fire under it on Guy Fawkes' Night. Two or three other volunteers had already taken up positions on the bridge, silently looking down on the enemy.


It wasn't long before the first flames could be seen and I was sent off to Johnny's bathroom where the war-time fire-watchers' pump had already been attached. I pumped with a will until after a while Johnny came to relieve me of duty, and I could join the forces on the Bridge. It was a fine sight. Scarcely more than a trickle fell on the score of New College arsonists, but it was enough to dampen their fire (if not their enthusiasm). The battle raged on as Johnny acted as both military commander and barman, keeping us supplied with bottles of Guinness. At last, the fire went out, the wet New College men skulked home in defeat, and we retired to the Dean's rooms for a substantial breakfast of bacon, eggs and more Guinness, a night's work well done.

## **Jimmy Hartley (R.J.R.Hartley), (History, 1952)**

On Guy Fawkes Night 1953 and 1954 I stood on the Bridge armed with a soda syphon which I sprayed liberally on the students unlucky enough to be at other colleges that had no such prominent feature.

Background photo: Julian Asquith (Physics, 1985)





**Hugh Nicklin (History, 1961)**

When I was up 1961-4 a jolly jape was played on someone. He had gone out for the evening, and while he was out some people placed all the contents of his bedroom on the walkway over the bridge, so that as he came home he found his bedroom just as he had left it, but 50 metres closer than he expected.

**Ella Davis (Modern Languages, 2007)**

In August 2011, I was working for Hertford's International Programmes Office, having finished my degree. On my last night in Oxford, after a farewell dinner, my boyfriend Elliot came to visit, and insisted on making the trip from Warnock into town to have a cocktail, and then suggested a last trip over the bridge to end the night. On the steps, at a few minutes after midnight, he asked me to marry him. I said yes.

**Graham Winyard (Medicine, 1965)**

It was on the bridge that we created a feature for the College ball in, I think, 1967. We flooded the area between the bridge and OB and had a wooden bridge crossing that water. It seemed like a good idea at the time!

**Rupert Perry (Chemistry, 1966)**

In 1966 my room was under the bridge. By removing some things which prevented the window being opened the window became an easy way in and out when the College was locked at midnight; it was easier than climbing the wall near the Turf.

**Leonie Caldecott (Philosophy & Modern Languages, 1974)**

In 1974 I was one of the first 16 women to be admitted to the college as part of the 'Jesus plan'. There I met my future husband, Stratford Caldecott, who had matriculated a year earlier and was reading PPP (I started out reading Philosophy and Theology, but switched to French and Philosophy after my first term). Strat lived in the Old Buildings in a room near the right side of the Bridge of Sighs, and I lived in the New Buildings close to the left side of the bridge. Having met him on my first day when I was directed to his room for my orientation as a freshman, I called on him a number of times for advice, mostly about my philosophy essays, and thus had many occasions to cross the aptly named bridge...

**John Wells (Physics, 1970)**

Just before I matriculated, after a rugby 'do' - probably a dinner after winning a game - several rugby players switched on the fire hose, and used it to flood the dip in the passageway at the entrance to OB1. It meant the bridge was impassable, except in Wellingtons!

**Alan Murton (Modern Languages, 1953)**

One cold winter night when there was snow lying in the streets of Oxford when I was returning late (probably from a party at which we drank the headache-inducing standard mix of Riesling, Cointreau and grapefruit juice) I was halted on the bridge by sounds of merriment from New College Lane. I looked out to discover four senior members of the University indulging in a snowball fight - I recognised two of the combatants, our Dean and a lady don from the Modern Languages Faculty whose name alas I cannot remember.



# The importance of being an intern



**Emma Pritchard**  
English, 2010

As a student just leaving Hertford and about to begin the search for work in the charity sector, the topic of internships is one close to my heart. With ever-increasing numbers of graduates the competition for jobs gets harder; it is no longer enough to simply have a degree. So many jobs, even at the first level, require previous experience in the sector, experience from internships which are invariably unpaid. For me, and many others in my situation, working for free is simply untenable.

## **Dr James Castell** Outreach Fellow

The current economic climate means that prospective applicants to universities want to see clearer connections between their degree and their future career. This is no different for top institutions like the University of Oxford and is especially true of candidates from less economically advantaged backgrounds or from families that do not have a history of going into higher education. Better paid internships would make a substantial difference for students applying to university from such backgrounds. They would allow students to aspire to careers that are currently perceived to be closed to them due to financial reasons. They would also encourage applicants to consider non-vocational subjects (rather than law and medicine which are frequently the most highly competitive).

## **Professor Peter Millican** Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy

Students arrive at Oxford having felt very pressured to achieve academically at school, and that pressure is only increased by our demanding degree courses (especially those that seem designed more to turn out future researchers than employees). Hence the later transition into professional employment can be particularly difficult, when the academic achievement to which a student has devoted so much time and effort suddenly ceases to be a major discriminator, and success turns out to depend instead on extra-curricular organisational activities and, especially, on work experience. If such experience is available through internships only to those who have the independent wealth to support themselves (to cover costs of accommodation, travel etc.), then many of our efforts in extending 'access' to Oxford will be wasted. It risks betraying those whom we have attracted here from poorer backgrounds if the undoubted burden of their studies – which, for example, rules out work experience during term time – is not combined with facilitation of the move into employment, through the availability of internships that they can afford to take.

The limited availability of internships that pay (at least to cover expenses) discriminates particularly against those whose homes are too distant for commuting – thus exacerbating familiar divisions – and can seriously bias student choices. Financial services are of course important for the economy, but it cannot be healthy that such a high proportion of our brightest young people feel pushed in that direction from absence of comparable opportunities elsewhere. Some other countries seem more enlightened, with support for internships provided, for example, by the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes. Carefully targeted support for our Hertford students could bring them valuable experience, and also deliver more public benefit through fostering their involvement in work for others, both nearby and further afield (for example through international and charitable opportunities coordinated by the Oxford Hub).



**Tony Foster** Law, 1973

These are straitened times. An earlier generation of Hertford graduates, of which I was fortunate to be one, could more or less choose their professions or businesses. Today the boot is on the other foot. Competition is severe, and it is not only domestic. In our business, international shipping, we see applicants from many countries - not many of them British, although I think that is because the British have forgotten how important shipping is to global enterprise!

I would like to believe that Hertford, as part of the Oxford tradition, still produces graduates who are educated in the widest sense, and these are the type of people who, for me, may be best suited to face the challenges ahead in the world of work. As a small company in terms of number of staff, we don't have the time or capacity for the Milk Round. Why not restrict ourselves to places we know well, and what better place than my *alma mater*?

Internships have become rather fashionable. For some companies I suspect the appeal of internships lies in cheap - if not free - preferably intelligent, labour, with no strings attached. Our view is that an internship should be offered to someone whom we might employ permanently, and that it should always be paid. I personally have never quite understood why someone should be expected to give their time - certainly over several weeks - for free, irrespective of the contribution they might be expected to make. Furthermore, we are in London, and we all know that London is an expensive place to be in.

Three months is probably a minimal time for both parties to be able to establish whether or not they want to make the arrangement permanent. Mobility is another fashionable word, but finding a career which suits the individual will remain more important than mobility, and the internship arrangement gives them a taste of one or more possible futures, which can't be a bad thing.

**David Holden White** Biochemistry, 2007

In the summer following my third year at Hertford, I worked as an intern at Marine Capital Ltd., a company run by Hertford alumnus Tony Foster (Law, 1973) following an advert he sent to Hertford. Marine Capital is a small shipping investment and shipping services provider. During my internship I worked as part of a team of eight people on a variety of different projects. I carried out research into financial aspects of the shipping industry, which was included in reports and presentations to investors, and I also helped in the production of financial models to simulate various shipping deals. With a lot of guidance from others at the company I was able to learn a lot, quite quickly, about the shipping industry, which I found to be a fascinating niche of the financial world.

I found many advantages in interning for a smaller investment company, rather than a large corporation; I was given plenty of independence to incorporate my own ideas into my work; I was given responsibility to be involved in work that was important to the company; and there were a wide variety of tasks for me to be involved in. For example, probably my most memorable contribution was designing the logo that is seen on the funnel of Marine Capital's ships. My experience during this internship proved invaluable to me when applying for jobs after university and I would recommend this sort of internship to current students. It is also an excellent way of developing a network of contacts with other Hertford alumni, and I would encourage other alumni to offer similar internships to students.

As has been emphasised through this article, it is vital to our continued outreach and access programmes that we can support students not only academically but by providing opportunities to gain experience necessary to get work. If we want our students to know that, regardless of what background they come from, coming to Hertford will provide a solid foundation from which to succeed, we need to demonstrate access to opportunities such as internships. And to do this, we need the support of alumni such as Tony Foster who can offer internship opportunities in their companies, who understand the value that intelligent, motivated people can bring to the work environment and can help our students make the transition to work. It is now essential to our outreach and access programmes that we are able to offer paid opportunities for our students to gain experience in the world of work, if we are to maintain our position and live up to our history.

**If you can offer an internship, please get in contact with the Members' and Development Office!**



# multimedia



**Helen Spooner**  
Geography, 2011

As my second year at Hertford College comes to an end, I've had time to reflect on my experience over the past year. Oxford has opened many doors for me, in ways far greater than purely the academic. During my second year here, Hertford has facilitated my engagement in a city beyond the ivory towers. A hotbed of inventiveness, Hertford has offered me the means to explore my passions, test the waters of the unknown, and be part of an incredibly comfortable family along the way.

As Fashion Editor of *The Tab* student newspaper, I have been able to pursue my interests in journalism and photography. Organising photo-shoots in the dead of night, the snow, and on punts on the Cherwell, this position pushed my innovation, creativity and initiative. Film and cinematography has exploded this year in Oxford, encouraging me

to showcase my talents in trailers for theatre productions and short films that have been broadcast in Oxford's Ultimate Picture Palace.

With help from the Edmund de Unger Academic Purposes Fund, Hertford offered me the opportunity to travel to India in the Easter vacation, to further my interest in the study of Indian youth. Spending three weeks travelling around Rajasthan and Kerala, I encountered a world so different to anything that I had seen before. I was lucky enough to be there during Holi festival, widely known as the festival of colours. The festival involves entire communities coming together to celebrate the beginning of summer by throwing coloured dye at one another. Stained in dye of all colours it was interesting to see how local youths engaged with foreign tourists, seeing me not as an outsider, but very much one of them. During a long train journey to Kerala, down the west coast of India, I met so many young people hungry for a voice and to engage in politics. Hearing their perspective, their thoughts on congress and what will become of India in the next decade,

is a firsthand view I would never be able to get out of a textbook. I'm immensely grateful for having the opportunity to travel around India when I did.

Other activities this year have been fund raising for and running the London Marathon which challenged me both physically and emotionally. Staggering with a wave of other runners though the densely packed streets of Pall Mall was a world away from my solitary training runs I had spent weaving through Port Meadows and along the Cherwell.

Along a similar theme, Hertford has offered me the role of Campaign Assistant, joining their Members' and Development Team in organising the Bridge to Bridge bike ride next summer. I hope to spend my summer planning the route and liaising with alumni, students and Fellows who wish to take part.

I'm intensely grateful for the opportunities I have been offered this year, and hope my final year at Oxford gives me the opportunity to discover and develop even further.

# mobilemedicine



**Marco Haenssgen**  
International Development,  
2012

This is my first year at Hertford as a DPhil student at the Oxford Department of International Development (ODID). My research has been inspired by the current enthusiasm for mobile health technology ('mhealth') - devices and applications that use mobile phones for health service delivery. The scope of such technologies is vast and increasing, spanning for example SMS-based medication reminders, electronic medical record systems, and remote diabetes patient monitoring. Due to their relatively low cost, many observers hope and believe that new technology can revolutionise healthcare delivery in resource-constrained contexts.

Coming from the MPhil in Development Studies at Oxford, I have learnt that such developments sometimes lack the necessary awareness of the local context. This made me curious whether this is also the case

in mhealth projects. Despite the growing interest in mobile health applications, there is a dearth of basic information on how people use mobile phones. The forms of mobile phone use, I would argue, critically determine the effectiveness of mhealth applications that use them as a platform. So I decided to investigate how mobile phone utilisation can affect access to healthcare services among rural populations in Rajasthan (India) and Gansu (China).

I have been very fortunate to be awarded a project grant from the John Fell Oxford University Press Research Fund of £28k as a co-investigator, together with ODID's Dr Proochista Ariana, Professor Xiaolan Fu, Dr Felix Reed-Tsochas (Saïd Business School) and Dr Gari Clifford (Biomedical Engineering). This pilot project on mobile technologies and health in China and India makes my fieldwork possible and helps me collaborate with an interdisciplinary team of experts. A substantial part of my work in this project also consists of reaching out to other researchers and partners, both within and

beyond the University of Oxford. We have exciting plans for a follow-up project to delve deeper into the questions that I am currently exploring. I also hope that my research will be of use outside academia, for example by informing the providers of mhealth services and technologies about the importance and implications of the local context, in order to design more effective mhealth interventions.

Very soon I will embark on my journey to India and China. Having spent two months last summer in Uttar Pradesh, India for my MPhil research, I am looking forward to returning and exploring new places. I am confident that amazing new adventures await me and I will return next year with a deeper understanding of the subject. I hope to contribute my experiences from doing fieldwork in China and India and from interdisciplinary research on mobile technologies to other Hertford students. It has been an amazing year being a member of Hertford and I cannot wait to again benefit from one of the most responsive libraries in Oxford and attend all the fantastic College events next year.



# capecricket



**Ben Williams**  
English, 2010

My 3rd year at Hertford has been just as busy (well, nearly...) as the first two. Although I have been spending more time in the library than in previous years, preparing for English Finals, I have found some free time to continue playing cricket.

In my 1st year I immersed myself in Oxford cricket, establishing a regular place in the Blues side and playing for Oxford MCCU (a combined university side with Oxford Brookes). I spent the summer with Warwickshire County Cricket Club, and was lucky enough to be selected as 12th man for England in their third Test match versus India at Edgbaston. Since then I have captained both the Blues and Oxford MCCU, before deciding at the start of this year that I wouldn't be pursuing cricket as a profession. Nonetheless, I have still had some fantastic experiences in 2013.

In March a 16-man Blues side travelled to South Africa for what proved to be a hugely competitive tour. We spent the first 7 days in Cape Town, playing against some of the strongest university sides in South Africa, including the University of Western Cape. The highlight of the Cape Town leg would have to be the three day T20 tournament at the Newlands Test ground. Although we lost against a Cape Cobras emerging XI under lights on the final day, it was a truly fantastic experience. We then travelled to Johannesburg for the second week of the tour. Arriving blurry eyed after a very early internal flight, the Oppenheimer XI hosted the team at their idyllic ground just outside Johannesburg. Off the pitch we had some fantastic experiences too, from a full day of Safari to a visit to Robben Island. The highlight, however, came on one of the final days in Cape Town. We visited a township school on the outskirts of Cape Town, Impendulo Primary School. Many of the players, including myself, were overwhelmed by the warmth and kindness of the school

children; as a result, several squad members have decided to establish a partnership with the school – so watch this space.

Due to Finals this year, my 2013 season for OUCC started much later in term. Nonetheless, it proved to be another fantastic year. After suffering two consecutive defeats at Lord's, we came out victorious this time round, winning by six wickets in a rain affected match. The T20 Varsity was abandoned, leaving just the four-day match to decide the Varsity series. This year's captain, Sam Agarwal (Queen's), put in a match winning performance. Sam scored 313, the highest individual score in Varsity history, helping Oxford to 550-7 declared in the first innings. Oxford then picked up 20 wickets within four days, taking the series 2-0."

I feel very privileged to have experienced so many fantastic opportunities on and off the cricket field over my three years at Oxford, and I must thank my tutors at Hertford for being flexible and understanding to this end.

# sustainable society



**Stella Schuck**  
Economics & Management,  
2011

In Michaelmas Term 2012 Professor Tomo Suzuki (Fellow and Tutor in Accounting) approached me with a request that would transform my life at Oxford. He asked me if I would set up a Hertford College Society that would aim to address social sustainability problems through innovation in business, economics and public policy. I was fascinated by this idea and decided to initiate a student society that became Hertford Business and Economics Society (HBES).

Just after two fellow Economics & Management scholars, Murat Unur and Dara Latinwo, joined me in launching the brand-new society, Principal Will Hutton contacted us with extraordinary news; the COO of Barclays Plc., Shaygan Kheradpir, was interested in a relationship with Hertford College, in which HBES would

form a centrepiece. A co-operation was established enabling Oxford students to innovate around the topic of Socially Sustainable Banking for Barclays in the 21st century, HBES had just acquired its first big project!

HBES decided to split the project with Barclays into two separate parts; one with a focus on sustainable banking for Africa, and another about UK banking. We launched the Africa project in early Trinity Term '13, running multiple brainstorming events, so called Hackathons, together with Oxford students and academics. Plus, in the summer, four HBES members, including myself, will conduct in-depth research into the African financial services industry, which will include working with African politicians and experts on African banking, as well as organising Hackathons in Johannesburg, South Africa, and Nairobi, Kenya. The research will result in a final report, *Socially Sustainable Banking for Africa*, that HBES will present to Barclays in late August, marking the end of the Africa Project just

in time for the start of the UK Project at the beginning of Michaelmas '13.

In addition to setting up HBES, I have also helped establish Oxford Teach Green. This society aims to raise awareness amongst children about problems of ecological sustainability, often disregarded by the curriculum, through environmental education in local primary schools. As secretary of Teach Green I worked with the project coordinator, James Ball, to establish a committee and large volunteers base, enabling us to officially launch weekly classes in Hilary '13. In Trinity '13 we were able to expand to two primary schools, and are adding a third by Michaelmas.

Overall, this has been a most stimulating year for me at Oxford. I am grateful to all who made HBES possible, particularly Tomo Suzuki and Will Hutton. I hope HBES will live up to its mission and be continued by generations of Hertfordians equally interested in making world economies socially sustainable!



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2013 - 2014

### AUGUST

**SUN 11** **Rugby Tour to Mongolia**  
organised by Hertford's Rugby Club & Old Boys Squad

### SEPTEMBER

**SAT 7** **West Coast Afternoon Reception & Dinner in San Francisco**

**WED 18** **110th Rhodes Anniversary**  
**THU 19** [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/110th](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/110th)  
**FRI 20**

**FRI 20** **Admissions Open Day**

**FRI 20** **Oxford University Alumni Weekend**  
**SAT 21** [www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk](http://www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk)  
**SUN 22**

**FRI 27** **Bridge Centenary Celebrations**  
**SAT 28** [www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge100](http://www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/bridge100)

### NOVEMBER

**SAT 2** **Oxford in Bristol**  
[www.alumni.ox.ac.uk](http://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk)

**WED 6** **Hertford Conversations**  
with Sir Roger Carr, President of the CBI

**THU 14** **London Drinks**  
at Taylor Wessing

### JANUARY

**FRI 10** **Gaudy**  
Matriculation years 1994 & 1995

### MARCH

**FRI 7** **The Charnley Law Dinner**

**FRI 21** **Oxford University Far East Reunion**  
**SAT 22** **in Hong Kong**  
**SUN 23** [www.oxfordchina.org](http://www.oxfordchina.org)

### APRIL

**FRI 4** **The John Donne Lecture**

**FRI 11** **Oxford University North American Reunion**  
**SAT 12** **in New York**  
[www.oxfordna.org](http://www.oxfordna.org)

### MAY

**FRI 9** **Geoffrey Warnock Society Lunch**

**SAT 31** **Eights Week Buffet Lunch**

### JUNE

**THU 19** **'Into The Mix' London Lecture**  
at Willis Ltd, part of the 40th anniversary of co-education

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Simpkin, quite the aristocat!



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