



Hertford College News



Issue 18, 2010

The Arctic Circle: Icy Traces

Roger Van Noorden (1939–2010)

Euripides' Medea: Tom Paulin's adaptation

Principal's Column

It is often the case that a column of this kind begins by observing the comings, goings and changes of personnel which have occurred since the last edition. That is true enough in this instance, but our thoughts in the recent past have been dominated by the premature and most unexpected death of our Honorary Fellow, Roger Van Noorden, on 12th April 2010. Roger was associated with the College for half a century: as an undergraduate, tutorial fellow and bursar before being elected to an Honorary Fellowship on his retirement. He was, above all, an inspirational teacher of generations of undergraduates, but this should not be allowed to eclipse his record as an extraordinarily successful steward of the College's investments.

Roger built up the endowment from a state perilously close to bankruptcy to one in which it served as a basis for the College's expansion and the capital investment underlying the success of our International Programmes department. Not even Roger, however, could work financial miracles, and Simon Lloyd's article on p. 6 demonstrates how much we still rely on public funds to advance the work of the College. Furthermore, our new coalition government is coming into power at a time when what now looks like a second economic golden age has given way to a new age of austerity. Already the higher education budget has sustained a number of cuts (some presented as 'efficiency gains') and the looming budget will certainly bring more in its train.

In the face of likely future cuts in public funding, there will be considerable pressure to increase the other element – the undergraduate 'top-up' fee – to furnish the income needed to ensure that the teaching model remains viable. However, the reality of 'top-up' fees and excessive debt after leaving University deter applicants from applying. Therefore to counteract this, a system of fee-deferral and/or loans will have a part to play here, but it will be essential to back this up with a well-funded bursary scheme. Here in Hertford we have established a fund of our own which has



got off to a flying start with a very generous six figure gift. The future will hold many challenges for the College, as for Oxford as a whole, but I am certain that thanks to the generosity and loyalty of all the members of our Hertford family we will be able to meet them with confidence.

Dr John Landers,
Principal

Congratulations to Hertford's Fellows, Graduates and Students for their recent accomplishments. These include:

Professor Dame Kay Davies CBE, Fellow & Dr Lee's Professor of Anatomy, was awarded the 2010 Jean Hunter Prize from the Royal College of Physicians and has been invited to give the Joan Mott Prize Lecture at the Physiological Society later this year. In 2009, Kay also received the Award for Excellence in Molecular Diagnostics from the Association of Molecular Pathology.

Dr Mark Leake, Junior Research Fellow in Sciences, was awarded the 2010 Young Investigator Award for the British Biophysical Society.

Avraham Bram (PPE, 2007) won first prize in the 2010 Oxford Law Society's essay competition.

Alice Gleave, (History & Modern Languages, 2005) won the 2010 Folklore Society's President's Prize for her essay on *The Female Soldier in Street Literature and Oral Culture in the German-Speaking Lands, c. 1600 – 1950: A Marker of Changing Gender Relationships?*

David Rowlinson, (Engineering Science, 2004) received a highly commended prize at the New Civil Engineer magazine's Annual Graduate Awards in 2009.

Qu Hsueh, (BPhil in Philosophy, 2006) was one of five winners of the Student Essay Contest from the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness (ASSC), 2009.

Since the last edition of *Hertford College News*, the College has continued to thrive as a centre for academic and social activity. As we hope this Newsletter demonstrates, across the College, the Fellows and Lecturers continue to uphold the highest academic and research standards, whilst the students are excelling with Hertford 6th in the 2009 Norrington Table.

The Members and Development Office has also had a busy and successful year. There has been a veritable feast of events and occasions and the member participation rate has increased from 3% to 7%. However, we still need your support and generosity.

Despite these triumphs, the office has witnessed some personnel losses: Sarah Salter has gone over to the dark side of the High Street to be Head of Alumni Relations at Corpus Christi; and Cris Ballinas Valdes has successfully returned to Mexican politics as Senior Advisor to the Vice-Minister of Interior Affairs. Nevertheless, *'every cloud has a silver lining'* springs to mind as we welcome Claire Blake to the team as Development Officer. Previously, Claire was Development Assistant at Magdalen College and now looks forward, as do the rest of the Development Team, to meeting many old members in the coming months.

Telethon 2009

Were you contacted in the Telethon? If so, you are one of 815 alumni who contributed to Hertford's second successful telephone campaign. We gained extremely valuable feedback from old members and the student callers had a great time talking with alumni. One of our 2009 Telethon callers, Clare Loughlin (History, 2008) recalls that:

"It was a really enjoyably experience; it's quite a unique opportunity to speak to lots of alumni and find out about their experiences at Oxford, whilst at the same time knowing that you're helping to contribute towards the college's future."

The Telethon 2009 raised c£160,000 (including Gift Aid) from 278 gifts and pledges and Hertford would like to express its sincere thanks to all those who gave and to the Oxford University Development Office for their hard work and professionalism. We must also say a huge thank you to our 14 enthusiastic student callers who did a sterling job.

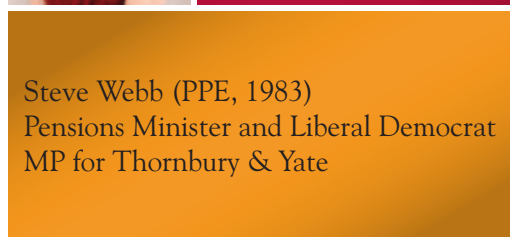
MPs

You could only have been in the Arctic Circle or glued to your World Cup countdown calendar to have missed the past few months of election frenzy in the UK.

The present new coalition government seems to be all about team building and in the interest of fairness, Hertford is proud to boast alumni MPs in each of the three main political parties. We wish them luck in their endeavours.



Bridget Phillipson (History & Modern Languages, 2002)
Labour MP for Houghton & Sunderland South



Steve Webb (PPE, 1983)
Pensions Minister and Liberal Democrat MP for Thornbury & Yate



Anne Marie Morris (Law, 1976)
Conservative MP for Newton Abbott



Contents

Principal's Column	2
Development News	3
Events	4
A Brief Guide... College Finances	6
Hertford's New Undergraduate Bursaries	7
Feature:	
Hertford Wine Makers Flourish in Province (Part 2)	8
The Arctic Circle: Icy Traces	9
Review: Hertford Fellow's adaptation of Medea	10
International Office News	11
Chapel News	12
Roger Van Noorden (1939–2010)	13
Students News	14
Dates for Your Diary	16

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

Editor: Anna Baskerville

Cover Photo: Greg Jennings

Produced by:

Members and Development Office

Hertford College

Oxford OX1 3BW

T: +44 (0) 1865 279428

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

W: www.hertford.ox.ac.uk

Hertford College is an exempt charity: Inland Revenue Number XN4052

Hertford College Golf Society

The College Golf Society won the recent Inter-Collegiate competition at Frilford Heath, avenging last year's narrow loss to Teddy Hall. The Hertford team of Kieran Hamill (2000), Daniel Andrews (1999), Duncan Chisholm (1997), Neil Andrews (1968), Jonathan Stewart (1968), John Dunne (1965), Michael Brignall (1958) and David Moseley (1955) managed 201 points, winning by a single point!

The difference this year may have been in the Hertford team's preparations, with the inaugural society meeting held at Swinley Forest in early March. David Moseley was victorious with a score of 33 points. Also, John Dunne, Ian Welsh (1991) and Neil Andrews all played well to win prizes.

We welcome diversity in the team and are keen to hear from other Hertford golfers so please contact Dan (daniel.andrews@hoganlovelles.com) or Kieran (khamill@blg.co.uk) if you are interested in getting involved and hearing about future events. Following our success in the Inter-Collegiate Tournament, Hertford will be hosting next year's dinner and it would be great to see some new faces.

Alumni Concert, January 2010

Following the success of the first Alumni Concert in 2009, it was decided that there should be another to follow suit. The event began with 60 alumni, staff and students being welcomed at midday into their respective meeting areas to commence choir and orchestral rehearsals. Bearing in mind this was the first time the musicians had played together, the rehearsals seemed to go very well and the atmosphere was notably upbeat and exciting.

By 6.30 the musicians had donned their concert attire, instruments and voices were well-tuned and there was a full compliment of audience members. On this particularly cold and dark January evening, the dimly lit Chapel provided a fitting ambience to the dramatic compositions of Handel's *Zadok the Priest* and Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, to name but a few. The event was extremely enjoyable and, as anticipated, a great success... despite the sub-zero temperatures in the Chapel!

Wanted:

Choir and Orchestral members for the next Alumni Concert, Saturday 29th January 2011

Hertford in North America

There are nearly 600 Hertfordians living in Canada and the United States: just under ten percent of all of our living Old Members. Nevertheless, you are spread far and wide – in New York state there are more than eighty of you, whereas New Brunswick and Hawaii each have only a single member making alumni reunions that little bit more difficult.

In 2009 the University launched the *Oxford Thinking* campaign in North America and Paul Dryden, Director of Development, had the privilege of meeting a large number of Old Members in several cities: New York, Washington DC, Dallas, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver. Thanks to the generosity of Rob Lusardi in New York and Dennis Bonney in San Francisco, we were able to hold Hertford events as well as attending the University receptions.

This year, the Oxford University North American Reunion at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City coincided with an unpronounceable eruption in Iceland. The Principal and Paul, along with over 70 others from Oxford, made the most of this extra time to go out and meet as many of you as possible.

What's next? Choir Tour to San Francisco

The Hertford College Choir will be visiting San Francisco this Summer. The Choir are an outstanding group of young amateur musicians and have an impressive reputation in Oxford. There will be about 25 students taking part, 80% from Hertford itself, and the remainder from other colleges within the University.

Dates include:

- Sunday 27th June: Christ Church, Portola Valley - Sung Eucharist, 10.30 am
Christ Church, Portola Valley - Choral Evensong, 5.00 pm
- Tuesday 29th June: RC Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption - Mass for SS Peter and Paul, 12.10 pm
- Thursday 1st July: Grace Cathedral - Choral Evensong, 5.15 pm
Grace Cathedral - Alumni Reception, 7.00 pm
- Sunday 4th July: St Mark's, Berkeley - Sung Eucharist, 10.00 am

We would like to see as many alumni, with their family and friends, as possible so if you're in the area please let us know.



Victorious: Golf Society Members



Alumni Concert 2010



Gaudy 1983-1985



Eights Week 2009



London Drinks at the Paternoster Chop House



Oxford Thinking Dallas USA, Reception hosted by Richard Fisher



Hertford Society Event, House of Lords 2009



T. G. Jackson Exhibition, Divinity School



New York Reunion 2010



Renewal of Wedding Vows Celebration

College Finances - sources of income and expenditure

The College's income in the last financial year was £6.6 million. As you can see in the chart below, one third is income from student fees to fund undergraduate tuition and research activities. As undergraduate fees for UK and EU students are regulated, the College has limited influence on the level of tuition fee income, other than to ensure we admit a full complement of undergraduate and graduate students each year. Fees are set at a level that does not fully reflect the high cost, but premium value, of Oxford's research led, small group tutorial system.

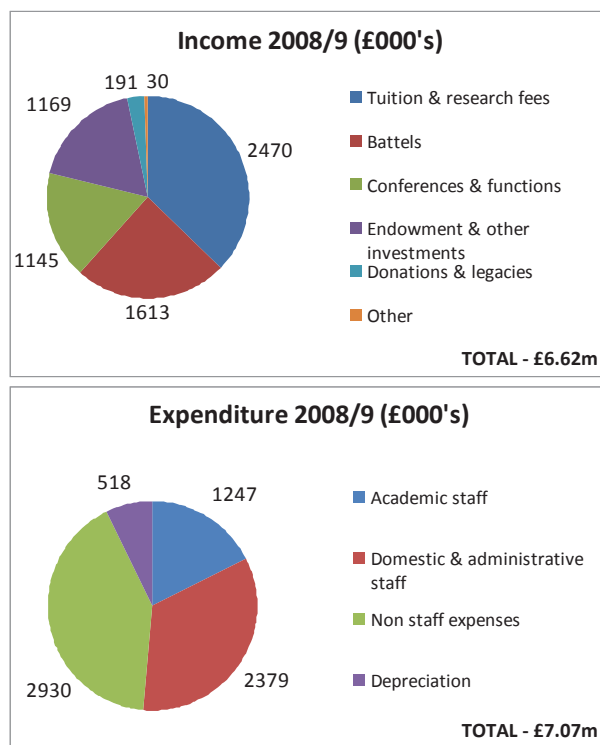
A further 25% of the College's income is from battels - charges for student board and lodging. These charges contribute towards the cost of catering, cleaning, maintenance and the provision of a full range of services such as IT and welfare. In common with other Oxford colleges, these charges are lower than both the external market and the cost of providing these services. This helps ensure that student life remains more affordable, but the funding gap must still be bridged somehow.

The total cost of teaching, housing and feeding students is about £5.5 million or £10,500 per student. This compares with the income generated from tuition fees and battels to fund these activities of about £4.0 million or £7,500 per student, thus creating a deficit on the College's core operations of £3,000 per student or £1.5 million per year. This level of deficit is about average for Oxford colleges and all colleges, Hertford included, are striving to improve efficiency of service provision to mitigate the level of the deficit. However, the main differences arise in how this deficit is funded.

Hertford has an endowment valued at the end of the last financial year at £35 million. This is not in the premier league of Oxford colleges, but in the top half of the second division. The endowment has been built up over the years from donations and legacies and the judicious stewardship

of these investments taking into account the needs of both current and future generations of Hertford students. The value of the endowment broadly tracks world stock market indices and the income it generates in interest and dividends reflects conditions prevailing in the bond and equity markets. Last year, the endowment generated an income of £1.1 million.

As the endowment itself is inadequate to bridge the funding gap on core operational activities, the College relies more than most other colleges on its conference business. Income from this activity last year was £1.1 million, the 6th highest of the Oxford colleges. The College has built an excellent reputation in the market for Teaching English as a Foreign Language (EFL) programmes, especially with universities in Japan and now increasingly in other Asian countries. During the Long Vacation and to a lesser extent at Easter, the conference business takes centre stage as we strive to make best use of empty student rooms and our range of facilities.



Conference and endowment income together square the circle and, in a normal year, ensure the College can balance its books.

What about donations and legacies? Currently this represents just 3% of the College's income. We are working hard to increase this. The financial model described above does not provide headroom to fund plans to improve the quality of student facilities, ensure we continue to attract the best students regardless of ability to pay, or ensure we continue to provide excellent research led teaching irrespective of any changes in public funding of higher education. Income from donations will help fund these development priorities and are therefore essential to the College's longer term financial security and independence.

Simon Lloyd
Bursar

Hertford's New Undergraduate Bursaries

In the last few weeks there has been an increased interest in the national media about the very heavy financial pressures affecting students and potential undergraduates. This burden is one of the major reasons why talented youngsters from disadvantaged backgrounds are still failing to realise their potential, according to a report recently published by Sir Martin Harris, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manchester and Director of the Office of Fair Access (OFFA). With a further round of spending cuts to come following the General Election, it is not likely that the situation will improve.

At Oxford there are grants and University Oxford Opportunity Bursaries (OOB) available to students from families with a household income of less than £50,000 – a sum that might seem large, but is roughly that earned by two adults on the national average salary. The Oxford College Bursars' group estimate that undergraduates require in the region of £6,300 pa for accommodation, food and general expenses, plus fees of £3,225 giving a total cost of c£9,500 per annum. This will increase at least in line with inflation.

Currently, grants and bursaries totalling up to £6,131 are available for the very poorest students, but the amounts available fall off sharply for families with a gross income of more than £25,000 and in most cases, at this level of income, it is not possible for the parents to make a contribution. With a family income of £40,000 per annum, the total support available is reduced to £1,216, which means students will rack up a debt of over £5,000 each year, in addition to their student fee. Those of our undergraduates who cannot rely on family support are now leaving with debts of nearly £30,000; more than twice the amount owed by students who left just a few years ago.

In light of this, and to ensure that we continue to admit UK students on academic merit, rather than because of their financial circumstances, the establishment of a bursaries scheme has become a major priority for the

College. As well as maintaining Hertford's tradition for access to all based on their academic ability, we also wish to implement a simple, effective scheme which works with the University's current support mechanism. Other colleges have also established new bursaries along these lines, and they are an ever more important consideration for potential applicants.

Thanks to the generosity of a number of Old Members, including one who has given £100,000, we hope to be in a position to launch the scheme from the start of Michaelmas Term next year, providing a £1,000 per annum bursary to each eligible home undergraduate. Hertford currently has 65 OOB students, 20% of our UK undergraduate population, and numbers have been increasing. This is likely to continue with increasing numbers of parents being made redundant, and others declining to support their children.

We need to have a full three years funding in place before we can go ahead, based on the current number of eligible students, and the likely increase over the coming few years. In addition, we will need to raise at least £100,000 every year to maintain the scheme; please do give generously to ensure that Hertford continues this proud legacy of access on merit.

Your support will make a considerable difference to students from this group, who might otherwise be deterred from applying, particularly where there is more than one child in a family.

We have enclosed a donation form with this edition of *Hertford College News*, but if you would like to know more, or would like information on the financial background that led us to establish the scheme, then please contact me in the Development Office.

Paul Dryden
Director of Development

TELETHON 2010...

20th SEPTEMBER - 4th OCTOBER

Hertford Wine Makers Flourish in Provence

...Part 2 (or everything you didn't want to know about wine making!)

There were three main challenges facing us at Piqueroque in August 1999. Firstly, we needed to rebuild about 130,000 sq ft of potential accommodation to meet our five partners' individual needs. The hamlet consisted of a main house (bastide) plus the adjoining maisonette, annexed by a hole in the ground with planning permission (the extension). Fifty yards away was a large L-shaped stone barn used for livestock and storage. The ensemble had a slightly leprous appearance where unrendered breeze block walls had replaced fallen stonework.

My son, Max, having taken a business administration degree in London, had gone into the wine trade. Max returned to Provence in May 1999 as manager designate of Piqueroque and was thrown in at the deep end to oversee the reconstruction of the housing, vineyard and winery.

During the preceding twenty years, my 'hobby' when I was not working in Monaco, had been the restoration of old houses. I thought that I had probably learned enough about techniques and materials to be able to budget for cost and time on most jobs, so we agreed to by-pass architects and contractors, and directly employ a team of builders. It took roughly eighteen months to create twelve apartments (including no fewer than nineteen bathrooms). We must be the best washed hamlet in France.

Our second challenge was to make good wine in good quantities... Piqueroque was a working vineyard only in the sense that the average age of its fifteen hectares (thirty-four acres) of vines was 20-25 years, the grape varieties were "correct" and the vines – all 80,000 of them – had been well tended. However, the winery consisted of little more than an industrial hangar, a chute for delivering the grapes into the winery, and a dozen or so enameled steel vats. There was a contract for the grape harvest with a well-known local negociant Alain Combard (formerly one half of Domaine Laroche in Burgundy). We agreed with Alain a three year plan to crop share. This gave Max time to upgrade and reorganise the winery. Cash was tight so we sourced secondhand where possible for stainless steel vats, a hydraulic press, refrigeration plant, crusher/destemmer, filterpress etc. A local oenologue then had to ensure that the quality of the wines were good. Immodestly, we have since been encouraged by winning a "barrel-load" of medals at major wine fairs.

A great deal can be done at a purely technical level (selection of yeasts, temperature control, remontage, micro

-oxygenation, barrel-ageing, filter-pressing etc) to adjust the style of each vat before the crucial blending of the various batches. The important thing to know, and know how to get to, is the kind of wines you enjoy. However the essence of winemaking always remains in the quality of the fruit and the secret is in the soil and in the weather and the skill of the vigneron.

Our 80,000 *pieds de vigne* need visiting on foot at least twice each year and by tractor for spraying, ploughing, rotavating, deleafing etc, many more times. New plantations are especially time-consuming, and the wire trellising system needs constant adjustment and replacement. Hedging and ditching is an additional chore. After years of handpicking, we are slowly moving over to machine harvesting. Consequently the grapes now come in cool, and oxidation is minimised.

As we get our product and the product mix about right, we need to package it. It was decided that labels showing each partner's family crest was suitable. Bottle-sizes, shapes and colours vary: bag in box for the Dutch caravan trade(!); magnums for the big occasion; 75cl for Mr Average; 50cl for the cautious driver and so on. We produce seven different wines, two roses, two reds, one white and a *methode champenoise* rose and white.

Oh, yes, and then we have to get around to marketing and sales - the third, ultimate and essential challenge! We are halfway home on this one. We manage to sell 100% of our production in Piqueroque's packaging (most small enterprises like ours only manage about 20%, the rest going out in bulk). It takes an awful long time to persuade the market to pay a premium for a brand. This may come as sweet news to you, dear reader, but for my part I hope to make a small profit soon.

Are we pleased with ourselves?
Now that we have reached 'break-even' we are very happy. However it is a precarious equilibrium dependent on good harvests, winemaking and market conditions. A lot of 'ifs' really and we are not yet able to put something aside for rainy days.

But it's great fun ...and we have lovely women, a lot of song, and the wine keeps pouring in!

Digby Hubbard
History, 1965

The Arctic Circle: Icy Traces

Throughout August 2008, one Hertford student was in the northern reaches of Sweden, 100km within the Arctic Circle. As part of his Masters' dissertation, Thomas Jellis lived and worked with a group of glaciologists at the foot of *Storglaciären*. Awarded a 'Special Graduate Travel Grant' by Hertford College, he was able to study the ways in which



Tarfala Research Station

the ice is measured, as well as be involved in the process himself. Employing an ethnographic approach, Thomas was involved in the day-to-day activities at the research station at Tarfala. By being on the fieldwork site, the research tried to bring a sense of what life in the field is like, in a site where work and play are, at times, indistinct. Drawing on notions of the practices of place, the study was interested in the performances involved in (re)creating a history of ice.

After a two-day journey – involving a flight to Stockholm, followed by a 17-hour train journey, a bus trip, a helicopter ride and a hike – Thomas was able to participate in various monitoring programmes, discussions, maintenance and social activities over a three-week period (06/07/08 - 28/07/08), during the station's summer season. As well as being lucky enough to be awarded the grant from the College, Thomas negotiated a reduction from Stockholm University, who own the station. He worked as a *hantlangare* (which loosely translates as assistant), helping out around the station, as well as joining the teams which would go on to the glacier to perform the measurements.

This fieldwork is by definition conducted in intimate, unpredictable and unorganised interactions with specific geographical localities.

These specific characteristics, such as the crevices and slow-moving or buried ice-poles, influence, shape and to some degree even constitute results. Although this may have earned the field sciences a reputation for being further removed from the scientific 'ideal' set up by the laboratory, fieldwork remains a crucial tool for making the world available for scientific investigation.

The dissertation argued that the precise locations of scientific endeavour are elusive and require a rethinking of the idea of fieldwork as distributed and relational, rather than found at a particular point. Indeed, since the measurements began, they have developed with each successive year and are on-going practices. The research



Probing the ice

involved a panoply of places, personalities and practices and through grappling with the field's stability/instability suggests that Tarfala is a setting for place-specific practices of knowing.

Thomas has been a member of the college for the past five years, reading Geography as an undergraduate and completing a subsequent MSc in 'Nature, Society and Environmental Policy' with distinction. He has now completed his first year as a doctoral student and is interested in thinking about spaces of aesthetic experimentation and what it means to be experimental.

Thomas Jellis
(Geography, 2004
Environmental Policy, 2007)
thomas.jellis@hertford.ox.ac.uk
www.spacesofexperimentation.net

Review: Hertford Fellow's adaptation of *Medea*

It's 25 years since Tom Paulin's last stage adaptation from the classics: In 1984 the Irish theatre company Field Day produced his version of Sophocles *Antigone*, *The Riot Act*. In 2010 Barrie Rutter's Halifax-based Northern Broadsides are touring with *Medea*, based on Euripides.



Nina Kirstofferson as Medea

A group of 25 Hertford students and colleagues attended the sell-out opening performed at the Oxford Playhouse in February. Tom had alerted us to a characteristic word 'lunk' in the Nurse's opening monologue – a Northern Irish dialect word meaning a sultry day. However dialect, which is a prominent feature of earlier work, isn't very evident in the new play as a whole. Nevertheless, the script of *Medea* derives its energy, like all Tom's work and like the theatre manifesto of Northern Broadsides, from a strong sense of the rhythms of speech – the formative legacy of the American poet Robert Frost whose influential ideas on the use of the vernacular and the sound of the sentence Tom has often cited. Rutter describes the translation as 'lean and mean, like Tom's poetry': what Tom has achieved is something more sparsely naturalistic than the English versions from which he has worked (he ruefully admits he is no linguist and doesn't have Greek).

Medea doesn't quite have the political bite of *The Riot Act* - the resolute account of tyrannical rule or individual conscience that other twentieth century adaptations of *Antigone* spoken in the present own. Tom does play up one of his other personal themes: a deep understanding of racial prejudice. A black *Medea* (Nina Kirstofferson) self-consciously takes on stereotypical 'jungle' savagery as an escape from her ex-lover Jason's blandly clichéd expressions of regret: her status as an 'immigrant' – a more loaded term than the usual 'foreigner' or 'outsider', or the Greek 'barbarian' – in Corinth, as is emphasised by both production and script. In the end her murder of Jason's new bride and of her own two children is figured as a sort of triumph – the lights go down on an image of Jason, bowed with grief, while

Medea exults in her chariot centre-stage. It is as if she fears agency being denied her, that action, however horrifically taboo, is better than impotence.

The subject of the play is, of course, challenging, and so is the treatment by both Paulin and Rutter. Audiences expecting that the Yorkshire accents will mean a comfy domesticated version of the tragedy will be bewildered by the production's alienating use of a live soundtrack ranging from jazz to blues to discordant electric guitar. The vocabulary, too, delivers some shocks – sometimes Tom's own choice (he calls *Medea* and Jason's children 'the kids'), sometimes not. As he explained to us in his pre-show talk, one of the most brutal obscenities of the evening was suggested by the director, not playwright. *Medea* dismisses Jason's plea to take his children for burial, not with the standard euphemistic translation 'No, no! in vain this word has sped its flight', but with a four-letter rebuff, much to the delight of the school parties in the playhouse.

Tom's *Medea*, like Euripides, is, uncomfortably, a monster, a woman we never meet until everything is taken from her except the urge for revenge, and thus a figure it



Medea's Chorus

is hard to understand, still less to identify with. But the play's vocal strength and toughness give a lyrical shape to this horror and develop Euripides' sympathy for *Medea* even as her crimes are unflinchingly described. Not an easy evening, but if you want things to be easy – as his former students know as well as those who read him or watch him on *Newsnight Review* – don't ask Tom Paulin, whose fierce and provocative intelligence is his stock-in-trade.

Dr Emma Smith
Fellow & Senior Tutor

Photos courtesy of Northern Broadsides. Photographer: Nobby Clark

Developments in International Programmes

Visiting Students

In September 2009, Julie Dearden and Josephine Reynell made their first visit to American Universities, namely Smith College in Northampton Massachusetts and William and Mary University in Virginia.

The visit coincided with an invitation for us to attend their Study Abroad Fair. In the past we have had students from Smith of excellent academic calibre, so their invitation presented us with an ideal opportunity to initiate an individual relationship with this academic and highly ranked women-only college. We were also grateful for the help of Maria Lantz, a former visiting student.

The visit to William and Mary University in Virginia, which is one of the most popular and academically selective public universities in the USA, was equally successful and we were again grateful for help from three of last year's visiting students, Tess Perrin, Omar Farid and Robinson Woodward-Burns.

English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Programmes



Our visits to South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and China took place in October and November 2009. The three main aims were: firstly, to strengthen ties with existing overseas university contacts by providing feedback on our summer 2009 programmes. Secondly, to discuss expanding and improving our existing programmes with a view to recruit more students in 2010. Thirdly, to visit additional high-level institutions in order to present our programmes and work towards developing new business opportunities for the future.

To name but a few examples of our achieved aims: The adult learners from Waseda University pledged to come back for a newly-developed second programme.

New government directives in Hong Kong mean there is a real need for teacher training programmes – an area we are currently expanding successfully with groups from mainland China. We are, therefore, liaising with our Hong Kong partners in view of providing high-quality training programmes at Hertford. Furthermore, we have established contacts with three potential new business partners in Japan ie. a university, a prestigious high school and a luxury travel agency which specialises in educational programmes.



Todoroki High School, Japan

Whilst visiting Seoul in 2010, we also benefited from the help of Hertford alumna, Ms Sun Kim. The possibility of creating a training programme for teachers was discussed and as a result, we already had a student who wished to partake in our 6-week English programme. Kim's help was much appreciated and similarly, we would be delighted to hear from Hertford alumni who have contacts in this area, as a means for expanding our programmes even further.

Caroline Rice
International Programmes Administrator

International Programmes Department

Our permanent team comprises of Julie Dearden (Director), Andrew Hemingway and Hannah Gregory (Senior Teachers and Japan/South Korea contacts), Caroline Rice (Administrator and China/Taiwan/Hong Kong contact), and Fatjon Alliaj (Marketing and Administrative Assistant). We then recruit and employ over 60 people over the summer months; EFL teachers and Residential Advisers (RAs) to help with the programmes. The RAs are our own Hertford students, and they do a fantastic job of taking care of our customers during the summer (and Easter) programmes.

We are able to offer short term and summer programmes in the following areas: - English Language and British Culture, Business English, Economics and Business English, and Teachers' Training. For further details of our high quality programmes, please contact Julie Dearden, at Hertford College.

Julie Dearden
Director of International Programmes

This year has been as busy as ever for the College Chapel. Last Trinity Term saw the culmination of our Centenary celebrations; on 10th May the Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, College Visitor and Chancellor of the University, preached a thought-provoking sermon at Evensong where we rejoiced not only in 100 years of the College Chapel, but also the return of our Hunter organ, which emerged after a much-needed refurbishment over the Easter vacation. The Chapel was full, and the Choir sang Stanford's Canticles in G and, appropriately, Parry's 'I was glad' with grace and gusto.

On Saturday 25th April we were glad to welcome Sir Nicholas Jackson, who gave a fascinating lecture in Chapel on the work of his grandfather, architect T.G. Jackson. Later in the term, our service of re-affirmation of wedding vows on the feast of Pentecost was an extremely moving occasion, witnessing the return of many alumni who had been married in Chapel in years past. As ever, we were fortunate to have a range of excellent guest preachers, including the Very Revd Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, and the Revd Dr Simon Oliver, who was Chaplain at Hertford 2001-05.

Our annual Chapel dinner was lively as usual, though not without sadness: we said goodbye to Senior Organ Scholar Tom Hammond-Davies, whose talent, enthusiasm, and dedication to all aspects of Hertford music will not be soon forgotten. We wished him well as he left to pursue his studies in Choral Directing at the Birmingham Conservatoire.



Hertford College Choir

Immediately term finished, the Choir headed to Krakow, Poland for their tour; they sang in St Kinga's Chapel, Wjeliczka, Jasna Góra, Czestochowa, Wawel Castle Cathedral, and the Church of the Most Holy Trinity. As soon as they returned, planning began for our now traditional 'mini-tour' in 9th wk of Michaelmas Term.

After some investigation into the feasibility of visiting Amsterdam, we decided instead to visit Paris 11th-14th December. We were fortunate enough to be allowed to perform in the magnificent St Sulpice, where we gave a well-attended afternoon concert of music for Advent and Christmas; in addition, we led the musical worship at an atmospheric – and crowded – evening Mass at St Eustache.

The new academic year started with our 'Welcome Evensong', and the term ended with our traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas which proved popular as ever as a prelude to the JCR Christmas Dinner. Our team of Chapel Wardens changed, too: Alistair Fletcher left Oxford for London, and Rebecca Hutchinson headed for her year in France (which proved convenient as she then joined us on tour in Paris!), and we were delighted to welcome Charlotte Nickel (Law), and Clare Loughlin (History) to join Vicky Arnold, Tom Brodie, and Pete Charlton on the team. We were also extremely pleased to welcome our new Junior Organ Scholar, Jennifer Law, who will be assisting Grace in all matters musical.

Following the success of our sung Requiems for All Souls' Day in previous years, our Choir and Chamber Orchestra accompanied our worship this year by performing a setting by contemporary American composer Morten Lauridsen; this haunting and reflective setting ideally suited such a sombre, yet hopeful, occasion. Sadly, soon afterwards we had a similar – but more personal – service as the College Chapel was the setting for the funeral of one of our Housekeepers, Veronique Hunt.

Hilary Term began as usual with Hertford hosting the annual Macbride Sermon, one of the University Sermons. This year's preacher was Professor Christopher Rowland, the Dean Ireland Professor for the Exegesis of Holy Scripture here at Oxford. He preached a stimulating sermon entitled '*Messianic prophecy for the poor and afflicted*', and many students enjoyed meeting with him over traditional refreshments in the Principal's Lodgings after the service. On the feast of Candlemas (2nd February) we were delighted to welcome the Rt Revd Henry Scriven, assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Oxford, who both preached and confirmed Charlotte Nickel, one of our Chapel Wardens, and Andrew Gosling, a Hertford alumnus who married alumna Jo Cabon in Chapel in August 2009. As ever, we are pleased when alumni choose to return to Hertford for their wedding ceremony; we have had six weddings here since last Trinity term, and look forward to a busy summer in 2010.

We were also glad to welcome back alumni who wished their children to be baptized in the Chapel: Clementine Beswick, whose parents John and Ellie met and married

at Hertford, was baptized on 16th May, and Anoushka Nairac, whose parents Sasha and Alex also met whilst studying here, on 20th June.

We look forward to a busy and interesting Trinity Term, providing support and encouragement as usual to those facing the pressure of examinations, and remaining a welcoming, peaceful space for all who seek some respite

from a hectic term. We are always glad to welcome old members in the Chapel; please do get in touch if you would like more details or to receive our termly Chapel Card.

Reverend Leanne Roberts,
Chaplain
leanne.roberts@hertford.ox.ac.uk
<http://chapelweb.hertford.ox.ac.uk/>

Roger Van Noorden (1939 - 2010)

Honorary Fellow



An editor's role is to be the unseen hand that guides, but with this task it feels impossible to maintain this detachment. Roger Van Noorden was truly an astounding man with remarkable humility and patience.

Roger's death came as somewhat of a shock, as many of you will agree. From the Development Office's perspective, as for so many others, it is a huge loss. Despite having notionally retired, Roger was extremely reluctant to release his connections with Hertford and he visited our office weekly to catch up on member and development activity. I now fondly remember that his visits usually coincided with that moment you had to dash off or that meeting you had to attend in five minutes. Roger overcame these timing difficulties by sending us a three hour warning email that he was 'calling in'! However after he left us, my predecessor and I were always glad that he had taken the trouble to visit; his knowledge and memory of the College and University seemed infinite and his devotion to Hertford was incomparable.

Until his last few days, and despite being unwell, Roger remained deeply committed to the College and to his former pupils. On the Friday before he died he was at the

Gaudy and hosted his usual Saturday morning tea for the Economists.

His commitment is illustrated in the recollection below:

"As one of Roger's students, I was convinced he would agelessly go on forever - patiently correcting students' basic essay errors; patiently delivering Saturday morning maths tutorials to hungover first years; patiently accumulating wealth for Hertford College; patiently building up the Oxford Saïd Business School; patiently fighting for the rights of the colleges at the University Council. For me personally, it is no exaggeration to say that I owe my university career to Roger - I was a fast-failing physicist when he granted me permission to turn my hand to PPE. At first, I resented those additional Saturday morning maths tutorials, rather than being grateful to have a tutor prepared to dedicate so much free time to his students' success. Indeed, tutorials of any sort with Roger were always a terrifying prospect, waiting for his acute intellect to tear oh-so-politely through incoherent arguments hastily plagiarised from a journal article the previous evening. But over time, the investment of Roger's time and effort would gradually pay dividends as each of his students learned to think for themselves, which is the very essence of education. By the time I graduated, I recognised Roger for the absolutely superb tutor he was; and in the years since, over a series of lunches, I came to call him a friend. He was a brilliant Fellow and a fine fellow who left Hertford an incomparably better place than he found it. I am truly grateful to have known him and feel deeply saddened that future generations of Hertford economists will not have this opportunity."

Sam Tomlinson
PPE, 1994

**A memorial celebration of the life and work of
Roger Van Noorden will be held on
Saturday 20th November 2010 at 2.30 pm in the
Examination Schools, Oxford.**

JCR

Has it been an interesting year for the JCR? To start with Hertford welcomed a new year of Freshers. During their Freshers' Week the new arrivals took in the College, University and city alongside a multitude of events; coming to the same unbiased conclusion as every generation before them – that Hertford is the best college by far.



Mak Bavicic

Trinity saw the “Gala of the Gods” Ball. The ball started with a champagne reception in OB Quad, accompanied by the notes of an award winning harpist. Guests then moved on to the Union Gardens – where they enjoyed a hog roast, chocolate fountain and silent disco. It was, as one JCR member put it, a “splendid evening”; and judging by the number of people who tried to crash, *the* event of the social calendar.

In a recent survey Hertford came top of all colleges for student involvement in charitable projects. The scope of such activities is wide ranging, with many students involved in projects such as Overseas Development Abroad. Of particular note is “Kids Adventure”, a joint project between Hertford and Wadham which provides activities and adventure days for underprivileged children from the Oxford area. The project is entirely organised and run by student volunteers, and is supported in part by donations from the JCR.

As exams begin for some and are in full swing for others there is a large and permanent Hertford presence in Oxford's libraries. Academically Hertford has been impressive, sitting sixth in the Norrington table and with students receiving many of the highest Prelims results; including the top result in Geography for one student. This sets a high bar for finalists, but if their performance thus far is anything to go by – it could be a very academically successful year for Hertford.

There have recently been interesting developments in the JCR following the (not altogether serious) proposal that a ‘JCR House of Lords’ be established; both proposed and to be composed of Hertford's PPEists. Shockingly, the JCR as a whole did not agree with the proposition; but appreciated the idea of Lordship. Hence, the House of Lords was expanded to include all JCR members; henceforth to be titled “Lords of Hertford College JCR,” with the mandate that these titles be added to everyone's pidge with the use of the JCR's new ‘Dymo Pro Label Maker’. As expected, sadly, this has come to no avail.

Mak Bavicic, JCR President

MCR

The new academic year began with a traditional Freshers' Fortnight, which saw over eighty new members of the MCR welcomed to Oxford and Hertford. Other events were planned to facilitate their integration: guided tours of College, dinner in Hall, President's drinks in the Octagon, and, outstandingly, the Jazz and Cocktails' Night and the Matriculation Ball in Hall. The College's social and cultural scene was enriched by many activities both on the main College site and at the Graduate Centre.



Abby Loebenberg

The Octagon was host to some of the year's most important events, including Waugh Night, the exchange dinners with other colleges, among them Queens, University, New, St. Johns, Wolfson, Teddy Hall, and Nuffield, Burns' Night. Also, David Spiro (Visiting Student from Hartford University, Connecticut) held the academic soirée of the year: ‘A Discourse on Love: Adult Attachment and the Chemicals that link us’.

The Tea Room enjoyed a very well deserved renovation over the Christmas break last year and we have completed the renovations, rearranging our ‘art’ collection as well as moving the games up from their relegation to the Waugh Room. In the Graduate Centre's common room Monday nights have remained as film night, and this year we elected two arts reps, Emily Webb and Hannah Boulding, who have also contributed in extra measure to Arts activities, including theatre trips to see *Pride and Prejudice*, *West Side Story* and *Sister Act: The Musical*.

In sport, we have seen a strong turnout for college and University teams, with Geoffrey Nelson, Doug Laburn, Mark Valentine, Rebecca Davies, Lisa Lodwick and Tom Anderson all rowing in the college 1st and 2nd VIII's. Tom Anderson, Greg Lippiat and Chris Whalen also played for the men's rugby 1st XV. Edward Wilman, Nikesh Dattani, Jeeshan Chowdury, William Wu (Sports Officer) and Abby Loebenberg also represented the University across a wide range of sports. The MCR Football team continues to meet and play regularly with enthusiasm.

Academically, the MCR has moved from strength to strength with the admissions policies making as many offers as possible to high-quality researchers. We have been both happy and sad to see many DPhils complete and our old friends moving on to post-doctoral positions around the world. Irish Government Senior Scholar, Tony Craig, will launch his book, ‘Crisis of Confidence: Anglo Irish Relations in the Early Troubles’ in college in Trinity term.

Abby Loebenberg, MCR President

Sport

Unsurprisingly, after another strong fresher intake, sport at Hertford has met with much success. The Boat Club seem to have been the main beneficiary of this and with Messrs Robinson and Hawkins in charge of a strict training regime, the Men's crews have performed exceptionally well. Their training paid off early on with M1 finishing 3rd in their Division at Quintin Head back in January. Their most notable performance, however, came at the end of Hilary Term where M1 bumped on every day of Torpids to win Blades. This is, apparently, the first time that Hertford has won Blades in Division 1 since the 1950s! The Women's crews were less successful as both W1 and W2 finished down two places in Torpids.



James Baillie

The Rugby team has also had a successful year; a more relaxed training regime than the rowers has yielded similarly favourable results. HCRFC achieved a thoroughly well deserved promotion to Division 4 and secured a resounding victory against 2nd Division side LMH in the first round of Cuppers. Progress through to the semi-finals of the Cuppers-Bowl Competition was a fitting testament to the vast improvements they've made this year. Moreover, for the first time in some years Hertford was able to field both a 7s and mixed 7s side in Trinity term, which is promising despite failure to fulfil their high hopes.

The Cricket team have made a very positive start to their season with a full house so far in the League matches. They progressed to the second round of Cuppers where they were unfortunately trumped by a Blue-studded Worcester XI. In similar fashion the Hockey team made it through to the second round of Cuppers as well, though they were narrowly defeated 2-1 by Jesus College.

The Football team are experiencing a period of consolidation. After losing a number of hardened veterans at the end of last year, this new side has struggled greatly and though the 2nd XI managed a couple of victories, the 1st XI have much to improve on next year as they made Hertford history by losing every single match. I end, on a more up-beat note, with mixed lacrosse. The popularity of this sport has grown considerably and turnout has almost been comparable to that of the Boat Club. The team fought their way through to the League final in Hilary term where they unfortunately lost to LMH.

There remains a healthy social aspect amongst Hertford students and in short, it has been mostly a successful year with the prospect of further accolades still to come.

James Baillie, JCR Sports Officer

Music

This year, Hertford's musical life has been punctuated by a series of outstanding events: There was a very successful orchestra concert in Hilary Term with music from South America and Spain. The Rodriguez Guitar Concerto was performed by the orchestra who were supporting soloist Dimitris Dekavallas alongside movements from Carmen and Danzon no. 2; Michaelmas Term saw the return of ex-organ scholar Alistair Reid to play the Saint-Saens Organ Symphony with Hertford Orchestra in the University Church alongside Debussy's beautiful '*Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*'; and in Trinity the concert was part of the lunchtime recital series in the chapel with clarinettist Jennifer Law performing the Mozart Clarinet Concerto accompanied by the orchestra.



Jennifer Law

Until the more detailed report in the next edition, for now I must report on two significant developments. Firstly, thanks to the generous donations of alumni, the beautiful Hunter organ in Hertford Chapel has now been fully restored to its original glory. The organ is one hundred years old and the restoration, which took place during early 2009, coincided with the centenary celebrations of both the chapel and the organ itself. This has allowed the Organ Scholars to explore a much wider repertoire both within the context of chapel services in accompanying the choir and also solo organ works in a recital setting. Visiting organists have also enjoyed the opportunity to play in Hertford Chapel.

Secondly, following the much-enjoyed and hugely successful tour to Paris in December, the chapel choir are due to embark on a Californian adventure in June. The choir will be participating in several Evensong and Mass services with music from Morten Lauridsen, Robert Kelly and Palestrina. As well as these established works, the choir will be singing a new piece, written specifically for the tour by Paul Burke who studies composition in London.

The choir have been participating in various fundraising events for the tour including bake sales, a sponsored psalm-athon (in which a few dedicated singers stayed for over 9 hours to sing all 150 psalms) and a bar quiz. A fundraising raffle is also underway with donations of prizes from large companies including The Randolph Hotel, All Bar One, Caffe Nero and Blackwells. The choir are well on their way to reaching the £6,000 fundraising target and hope to achieve this in the coming weeks.

Jennifer Law, HCMS President
hcms.hertford.ox.ac.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Hertford Society Annual Buffet Lunch **Sunday 27 June**
If you are a member of the Hertford Society and would like to attend the buffet lunch, please contact Anthony Swing, the Social Secretary, avswing@tiscali.co.uk or c/o The Members & Development Office

Choir Tour to San Francisco **Friday 25 June**
 Details of time, and venue, on p.4 **to Monday 5 July**

San Francisco Reception **Thursday 1 July**
 Grace Cathedral, 7.00 pm

Admissions Open Day **Wednesday 30 June**
 Thursday 1 July
 Friday 17 September

Gaudy **Friday 24 September**
 Matriculation years 1986 – 88

Alumni Weekend **Friday 24 to Sunday 26**
www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk **September**
 Recital in Hertford Chapel and morning coffee **Saturday 25 September**
 (Weekend accommodation available)

London Drinks **Thursday 4 November**
 At Nabarro LLP

Roger Van Noorden Memorial Celebration **Saturday 20 November**
 Examination Schools, 2.30 pm

Alumni Concert **Saturday 29 January 2011**

If you would like to hold a conference in Hertford College, please contact Julie Dearden in the International Programmes Office.



Facebook is a registered trademark of Facebook, Inc.

www.facebook.com/hertfordcollegealumni



Contact Details

Principal's Office

Dr John Landers, Principal
 Jill Symons, Principal's P.A.
 T: 01865 279405
 E: principal@hertford.ox.ac.uk

The Lodge

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

College Office

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

Admissions

Jacqueline Chapman, Admissions Secretary
 T: 01865 279404
 E: jacquie.chapman@hertford.ox.ac.uk

Conferences

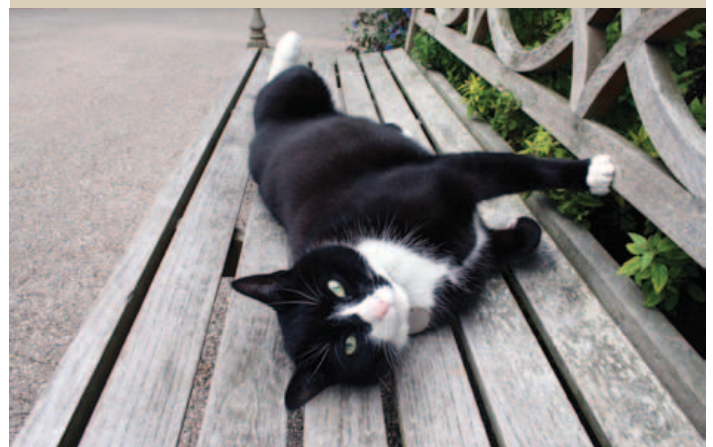
Julie Dearden, International Programmes and Conference Director
 T: 01865 279456
 E: julie.dearden@hertford.ox.ac.uk

The Chaplain

The Reverend Leanne Roberts
 T: 01865 279411
 E: leanne.roberts@hertford.ox.ac.uk

Members and Development Office

Paul Dryden, Director of Development
 Anna Baskerville, Senior Development Officer
 Claire Blake, Development Officer
 T: 01865 279428
 E: development.office@hertford.ox.ac.uk



As much as he tries, Simkin can't reserve the whole bench!