

NOVEMBER 12 | N°29

NEW COLLEGE NEWS



www.new.ox.ac.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2013

OLD MEMBERS' CAROL SERVICE

Saturday, 8 December 2012

Old Members matriculating after 1969 are invited to apply for tickets. Old Members may apply for up to four tickets. Please contact Jonathan.Rubery@new.ox.ac.uk

CITY & PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

February/March 2013

Date and Venue TBC.

You will be sent an invitation.

NEW COLLEGE LAW SOCIETY DINNER

Thursday, 7 February 2013

For more information and to book your place please contact the New College Law Society President: Liv.Utvar@new.ox.ac.uk

ANNUAL INTER-COLLEGE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, 22 March 2013

Frilford Heath Golf Club, Oxford. Please email the New College Golf Team Captain, Mark Steers (1978), to register your interest.

Mark.a.Steers@gtuk.com

EUROPEAN REUNION, MADRID

26-28 April 2013 (Friday-Sunday inclusive)

You will be updated in the coming months of New College's presence at this event.

OPERA IN THE WARDEN'S GARDEN

(The opera is still to be decided)

Saturday, 6 July 2013

Friday, 12 July 2013

A booking form is enclosed.

Please visit the *Alumni* area of the College website (www.new.ox.ac.uk/alumni/events) for more information. This is regularly updated as and when event details are confirmed. Due to a major refurbishment of the kitchens next year, we are sorry to say that we will not be holding *Gaudes* in 2013.

If you have any queries, please contact the Development Office on:

(0) 1865 279337 or

(0) 1865 279509

Email: develop@new.ox.ac.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA

You can also receive news from the College by joining our social media sites. Go to your internet browser, eg. Google, search for the Social Media site, and then follow the instructions below:



To 'Like' us on Facebook, search for: 'New College Old Members'.



To follow us on Twitter, search for: 'NewCollegeOMs'



To connect to New College LinkedIn, search for: 'New College, Oxford – Alumni and Old Members'



To watch the New College Channel visit: <http://www.youtube.com/user/NewCollegeOxford>



To browse pictures of recent New College Events visit: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/new-college-development/>

We encourage you to visit these sites to keep up to date with news from the College.

If you are not currently receiving our ENews and would like to, please email develop@new.ox.ac.uk

CHRISTMAS CARDS 2012

This year you can order the New College Christmas card online, at £6 per pack of 10, by visiting the Oxford University Shop at:

<http://www.oushop.com/Oxford-Colleges/New-College>



If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the Development Office **(01865 279337)** to make your order.



WELCOME...

THE WARDEN'S REPORT



My report in the previous issue began rather gloomily with a prediction of foul weather, which proved to be accurate both literally and figuratively. However, despite the endless rain, our lawns and borders looked more beautiful than ever in late summer, and Oxford seems to be weathering the storm triggered by the coalition government's higher education funding reforms. This has also been a very good year for New College in several respects.

Despite the near trebling of undergraduate tuition fees, the withdrawal of the teaching grant for humanities, the introduction of a graduate tax and 97 other cuts, life at Oxford will, I suspect, feel no different for the freshers who arrived in early October than for the class which just graduated. In fact, it may even feel a bit better for them (and their parents), since they will no longer have to pay anything up-front. The University is also decisively winning the publicity war, first, by offering the most generous bursaries and fee waivers for students from poor family backgrounds of any UK university. Such students don't really need fee waivers (pace Wellington Square) since they won't have to pay anything until the graduate tax kicks in; and evidence that debt aversion is putting anyone off applying to or accepting a place at Oxford is non-existent.

Second, the widely publicised Moritz-Heyman Scholarships, also for students from homes with low parental income - £75 million increasing to £300 million in matching donations - has at a stroke exonerated the University of any suspicion of dragging its heels on access. New College already has three Moritz-Heyman scholars, and we have also recently benefited from Michael Moritz's challenge to others to contribute to hardship bursaries. An Old Member from the 1970s was the first to respond, donating a substantial sum to be applied to supporting New College students in history and more widely in humanities (unlike the Moritz-Heyman Scholarships, which are intended mainly for students of STEM subjects). We are extremely grateful for this most generous support.

This is all very encouraging but doesn't change the fact that higher tuition fees and charges pay for only half of what it actually costs to educate a New College undergraduate - about £18,000 p.a. The rest, which is required to run the tutorial system (mainly Fellows' salaries) and to maintain our buildings, comes from the endowment and, increasingly, from annual giving (see Mark Curtis's report). Again, there is significant progress to report. The £1.2 million required to endow the Tutorial Fellowship in Ancient History has been secured, releasing a further £800,000 in matching

funding from the University Teaching Fund. And a major donation from the Leon Levy Foundation in New York City has allowed us to endow a Tutorial Fellowship in Classical Philosophy. Some readers may detect an Alexandrian figure behind this *embarras de richesses*: Robin Lane Fox worked tirelessly to raise the money for these posts, and we are extremely grateful to him and to dozens of former Greats students who succumbed to his blandishments, as well as for major gifts from Richard Oldfield (1974), Eugene (1968, PPE) and Carol Ludwig, Gordon McCallum (1978), Sarah Hewett (née Simon) (1989), Oliver Ramsbottom (1994), and the Trustees of the American Friends of New College. As attention now shifts to establishing endowments for other fellowships, one hopes that Old Members will show similar enthusiasm for helping to sustain excellence in their subjects so brilliantly represented by the likes of Steve Davies, Ann Jefferson, Martin Ceadel, Richard Dawkins, David Wiggins, Wilson Sutherland and Harvey McGregor.

It's reassuring that, even at a time of historically low interest rates, endowments can still make such a difference in maintaining the superb quality of education which New College offers. No one understood this better than Stewart Millman (1967, Chemistry), who died earlier this year. Through his widely-read booklets on New College finances, long service on the endowment and investment committees, and commitment to development and fundraising, Stewart played a significant role in protecting our endowment during the crash and helping it to recover. His devotion to the College was motivated by gratitude (reading Chemistry here was, he said, ideal preparation for a career in the City) and altruism. Stewart also liked to be in the thick of it, always looking for ways to improve our investment strategy and occasionally making mischief. He was also a significant donor in his lifetime and now, through his Will, becomes one of the largest, single benefactors since William of Wykeham. The College would, however, be far better off with Stewart himself than with his bequest. He is sorely missed.

Why, in a collegiate university with a common framework for admissions and so much divisional and intercollegiate teaching, the Norrington Table should be officially sanctioned and centrally compiled, still escapes me. Only in passing, therefore, will I say that New College maintained its position in third place. Unless we improve on this in 2012-13, I promise not to mention the table again in these reports! It's worth noting, however, that whilst our students - both graduates and undergraduates - are of course academically excellent, they also have rich extracurricular lives. During annual 'collections', I make a point of asking everyone about their outside interests and note them down. As one would expect, rugby, rowing, clubbing and the Union remain very popular, but a large and growing number of students are devoting their 'spare' time to voluntary work amongst the poor and disadvantaged in greater Oxford - helping children and immigrants learn to read, supporting the homeless and volunteering in hospices. If New College is typical of the University as a whole, then this notable trend *pro bono publico* - and not alleged bias in favour of public schools or who was or



was not a member of the Bullingdon Club - should be headline news. Fat chance.

Attempting to reduce the interval between *gaudes*, we held two of them in 2012. In April, those who matriculated in the late 1970s were eloquently addressed after dinner by Patrick Reeve (1979, Modern Languages), and at the June gathering of the early 1980s vintage, Stephen Macklow-Smith (1982, Classics and Modern Languages) tapped a rich vein of nostalgia in his speech. Judging from the high spirits and many letters from those who attended, both *gaudes* were outstanding successes. It was particularly gratifying that so many emeritus fellows returned to dine with their former students. Almost no one attempted to repeat the transgressions of their youth, and even those who did were well beyond a decanal summons.

It is, alas, doubtful whether we will be able to hold two *gaudes* in 2013, as the College is seeking planning permission for long-overdue refurbishment of the barely compliant catering facilities including the medieval kitchens, a huge project which will take at least 18 months to complete. Please bear with us if a temporary hall and kitchen 'under canvas' in the Holywell Quad prove to be unsuitable for class reunions in the style to which OMs are accustomed.

The rapidly deteriorating state of the kitchens should remind us that, whilst our development strategy is focused on people - on teaching and student support - we neglect the fabric of the College at our peril. But the beauty of this strategy is that endowing Tutorial Fellowships and finding extra support for bursaries helps to release money for long-term maintenance. We are moving in the right direction, and my colleagues and I are extremely grateful for the generous support which Old Members are increasingly providing.

CURTIS PRICE

A CALL TO ARMS

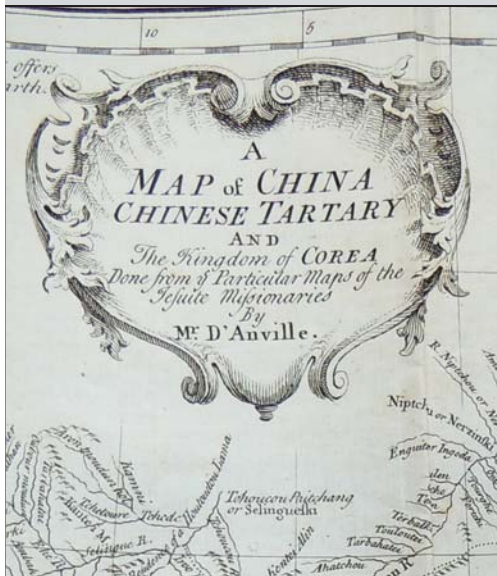
MARK CURTIS, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Much has been made in recent months of the changes to university tuition fees, and the Warden reminds us in his report that there is no immediate effect on students, who will not feel the impact until they have graduated and are earning in excess of £21,000. From the College's perspective, an increase in fees per student from £3,465 to £9,000 may suggest a welcome addition for the Bursar. But in fact I am reminded, as a former modern languages student, of Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr's epigram, *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose*. The additional income from student fees is directly set against the withdrawal of the government teaching grant, so that New College continues to subsidise roughly half of the cost of an undergraduate's education.

No one denies the additional expense of running the tutorial system, and it remains central to the education that we will continue to offer to the four hundred and twenty undergraduates at New College. In the long term, our aim is to secure the future of this exceptional offering by endowing our core Tutorial Fellowships, a process that we have already embarked on and to which many Old Members have already generously lent their support.

But we are also fortunate to be supported year after year by over 1,300 Old Members who choose to support the College through regular donations that in 2011-12 amounted to nearly £600,000. As well as helping fund fellowships, these gifts enable the College to support students directly through bursaries and scholarships, as sporting and cultural awards to encourage their extra-curricular activities, and as hardship awards to those that find themselves in unexpected financial difficulty; they help fund Junior Research Fellowships, nurturing and developing the next generation of teachers and researchers; and they provide additional resources for the library, chapel and conservation of our treasured environment.

Of course, the College is fortunate to benefit from many substantial donations and, equally valuable for the longer term, from significant bequests in Old Members' Wills. Some of these are in their own right truly transformational. But the on-going support of large numbers of Old Members and a consistent flow of legacies of all sizes are as important to the future of the College. We remain most grateful to those who have already answered this call and hope that many more will wish to join them.



LIBRARY 'LOST AND FOUND' REPORT

You may remember that I reported the anonymous return of an engraving of Alexander Pope, the frontispiece to 'Works, 1717', in the College Record 2010. Since then, an extraordinary map of China by Jean-Baptiste Bourguignon d'Anville (1697-1782) has arrived in the post with an Edinburgh postmark but no note of explanation. D'Anville was an important French cartographer noted for adjusting his measurements to astronomically defined positions and omitting information used by earlier cartographers that could not be corroborated. This map also had been removed from one of the antiquarian volumes (Du Halde: The general history of China, 1736, vol. 1) and has recently been reunited by a conservator. If there are any more "lost" items out there, I should be delighted to receive them!

NAOMI VAN LOO, LIBRARIAN

WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM

When I got the message that one of the statues had a crack in it, little did I know the course of the next six months. The crack turned out to be a complete separation of the head and hands from the body, any vigorous pigeon activity could have caused it to fall. Perhaps even more perilous was the front of the statue, a sheet of Portland cement just hanging there with only a few cobwebs for adhesion. The statue was in a bad way, most of the carved detail was already lost and the surface had been capped with cement.



The trusty team was assembled, consisting of Jason Lowe, Brendan Holmes and myself to tackle the removal. With the head and hands removed it became evident just how little stone was left and how fractured the inner core was. There was no way this could be repaired, a new replacement statue needed to be carved. I set about producing a drawing with the robes re-instated and also his lower legs, previously rather truncated. So much of the original statue had been lost to decay that he was a shadow of his former self.



Michael Burden with Antonia celebrating the arrival of the completed statue.

The first hurdle involved the stone; none of the original quarries that supplied the college were still working. I was hopeful of Syreford stone, as it is in the approximate locality. Sadly, although it looked good initially, it weathered to grey, totally inappropriate for the warm tones of New College. We called in the services of Dr Jefferson, the stone consultant to English Heritage and a good friend of many years. Our quest resulted in him and I ankle deep in slurry at Ancaster Quarry in Lincolnshire, sounding a stack of huge lumps of stone. The challenge with this project was the extreme dimensions of the niche, a wedge of 25cm narrowing to 12cm. The reason for the original failure of the statue is down to the dimensions of the stone.

When the very best piece of stone had been found, I worked through the winter in my workshop shaping with air-chisel, then hand chisels and finally rifflers. I left the surface slightly textured so the dirt particles could find a home and start the process of toning down as fast as possible. It will still take a number of years to bring out the iron content and mellow in tone.



The final stage brought the trusty team back together and once again the scaffold went up and the 'old-fashioned' chain hoist was called into service. A lot of sweat was produced hauling the boxed statue up; 650kg is not easy to handle. A lot of worried frowning and man-handling later we got him into his niche. The repaired points of the trefoil above showed they had not been able to get the statue under last time. Jason saw an opportunity for a bet, as I thought we would not make it this time either. I lost.

Antonia Hockton (www.antoniahockton.co.uk)



(The new statue of William of Wykeham was funded through a generous donation by David Mann (1956) and Anne Kriken Mann. Sadly David died only a couple of weeks after the statue arrived in College, but we know that he now has a lasting memorial in the College for which he had great affection.)



NCBC REUNION

As well as being the centenary of the New College Men's 1st VIII winning a silver medal at the Stockholm Olympics, losing to a Magdalen/Leander composite in the final, 2012 also saw the thirtieth anniversary of the New College Women's 1st VIII rowing onto the river in a fixed division in Summer Eights and becoming the first New College Women's crew to win their Blades, as well as the thirtieth anniversary of another Men's 1st VIII missing Blades on the final day of Eights for the second year running with the same crew, albeit in a different line up. What better excuse for a reunion than a beautifully sunny day on the banks of the Isis, drinking Pimms at the New College boathouse, watching a younger generation row their hearts out; all felt tempted to get back in a boat. There followed a most enjoyable evening of anecdotal story-telling and memories in Hall at the NCBC Summer Eights dinner. Sadly, only about half of each crew was able to attend on the day, owing to family/school commitments in many cases, immigration to Australia in one case and a couple of members simply having lost touch, with no contact details held for them by the Development Office. Discovering Steve Gaisford was still loyally serving the Boat Club's needs as boatman some thirty years on, after memorably winning his novice cap when subbing in a New College Men's VIII at Reading regatta in 1981, was heart-warmingly nostalgic indeed. All in all a wonderful celebration in wonderful weather and a very warm welcome from existing boat club members led to a conclusion, we wouldn't wait another thirty years to do the same again.

MARK PAYNE (NCBC MEN'S CAPTAIN 1981/82)



From rear left: Mike Stewart (Isis cap), Mark Bloomfield (Isis cap), Bruce Thompson (lightweight cap, and 1980/81 NCBC men's captain), Mark Payne. From front left: Beth Talbott (nee Morgan), Paul Ellis, Sarah Payne (nee Talbot) and Rachel Bailey-Williams (nee Bailey).



THE VICE CHANCELLOR'S CIVIC AWARD

New College student Michael Wilkerson was one of this year's recipients of the Vice-Chancellor's Civic Award, which recognises students who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in and commitment to volunteering.

Michael has worked as a journalist to fight corruption and promote human rights and his most recent project has been to co-found Own Your Own Boda, a social enterprise in Uganda.

Michael says: 'At Own Your Own Boda (www.oyob.com) we help motorcycle taxi drivers own their own motorcycle in 18 months instead of renting indefinitely. Ownership more than doubles incomes and allows drivers to invest in better homes, health and education for their family.'

This year's awards were given out in the presence of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who was also presented with the Freedom of the City of Oxford.

EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2011

The Wykeham Society and 1379 Society Lunch is held each year for those who have left a legacy to the college in their Will and/or have donated £1,379 or more to the Development Fund during the previous fiscal year.

Members of the Warden's Club, those who have donated £500-£1,378 during the year, join us for the Warden's Club Concert and Tea, featuring talented New College musicians and arranged by Edward Higginbottom.

FEBRUARY 2012

The New College Society arranged a private view of the Hajj Exhibition at the British Museum generously organised and hosted by the Director, Neil MacGregor (1964)

GAUDES

The College hosted two Gaudes in 2012: in March for those matriculating between 1976-79, and in June for those matriculating between 1980-83. Due to the major refurbishment work that the college is undertaking, sadly it is unlikely that we will be able to hold a Gaudé in 2013.



Chris Iley (1979) and **Jackie Iley** (née Brown) (1980), with **Mark Curtis**, Director of Development at the Wykeham Society and 1379 Society Lunch, 2011



Stewart Millman (1967), who sadly died in June this year with **David Pearson** (1968) and his wife Carmen



Sir Curtis Price (Warden) with **Neil MacGregor**



Gaudy March 2012



Gaudy June 2012

APRIL

The Warden and Development Director attend events on the East coast of America

11 April: John Simon (1984) arranged a marvellous and well-attended dinner at Towne Stove and Spirits **13 April:** Tom Campbell (1981), Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York gave a talk which was followed by a reception generously hosted by Miles Young (1973) at his Ogilvy and Mather offices

16 April: a splendid reception at the British Ambassador's Residence in Washington, kindly hosted by Sir Peter Westmacott (1969), HM Ambassador to the United States. Sir Peter has just been elected to an Honorary Fellowship at New College

MAY

The annual Open Day for the parents, family and friends of first year students was a tremendous success.

JUNE

The New College Society Cloister Party did stay in the Cloisters, despite threatening clouds giving the Catering Manager Brian Cole some unsettling moments.

JULY

Michael Burden, Tutor in Music, Professor of Opera Studies, and Director of New Chamber Opera follows two of the performers out of the Ante-chapel to much-deserved applause following a performance of Mozart's *Il re Pastore* (The Shepherd King)



Tom Campbell with **Alex Urelis** (2007) at the reception



Bill Kerr (1963), **Kovan Pillai** (1977) and his wife **Mary**



The Warden, Sir Curtis Price, with **Sir Peter** on the steps of the embassy.



Adrien Malleveys (2011) with his family in the Cloisters prior to lunch.



Jamie Dundas (1968) recently elected President of the New College Society, addresses the gathering.



Michael Burden with cast members