

NOVEMBER 14 | N°31

# NEW COLLEGE NEWS



Thomas Adcock (2005)



[www.new.ox.ac.uk](http://www.new.ox.ac.uk)

# WELCOME...



## THE WARDEN'S REPORT



The end is in sight. By the time you read this, the kitchen refurbishment project will be nearing completion, save commissioning of equipment and restoration of the Holywell quad. The temporary facilities served

us well, and some students have said they will miss the fancy tent. But spare a thought for the class of 2014, who were deprived of dining in hall for much of their time here. Indeed, some Masters and MBA students never set foot in it. Even in mid-September, when the Home Bursar, the Director of Development and I climbed the scaffolding to touch the hammer beams themselves (pictured right), we could see below us how dramatically the student experience will be improved, with a new buttery, bar, café and atrium tucked in along the city wall. The new and refurbished student rooms above the buttery, formerly to be avoided like the plague, will be some of the most desirable in college, spacious, en suite and with commanding views. At the moment, practically the only sign of all this activity from the Holywell entrance is the new kitchen roof, a masterpiece in graduated Cotswold stone.

Buildings are something of a theme to this report. Last year I announced plans for a music practice building in Mansfield Road, with funding generously provided by the Clore-Duffield Foundation and, more recently, by Mrs Anne Kriken Mann, widow of David Mann (Modern History, 1956). A noted firm of architects was appointed, attractive plans produced, and things were progressing nicely until an Oxford City Council archaeologist poured cold

water over us. The remains of the city's Civil War defences, an overgrown flowerbed behind a bike shed, had to be treated with more respect, he said, and should be visible from Mansfield Road. Sometimes I think New College unlucky to bear responsibility for the maintenance of not one but two city walls. A revised design, which includes a narrow 'viewing corridor' to allow tourists to see the nettles and brambles atop the earthworks, has been given the archeological stamp of approval, so work should start in the next few months.

And we have more ambitious plans: a new quad. New College has fallen behind many other Oxford colleges in student accommodation. We can house only three quarters of our undergraduates (some of you will recall that most third-years live out) and fewer than half of our graduate students in the Weston Buildings. Other colleges, such as Magdalen and Merton, can house virtually all their students. Besides funding, of course, the question is where to build. Plans to demolish Warham House (on the corner of Savile Road and Mansfield Road) and erect something larger and more attractive have twice been turned down in recent years. Many of the trees on that site are protected, and Oxford City Council are concerned about 'massing' in that leafy neighbourhood. But our architects have come up with an ingenious plan, which includes extending a wing of Savile House and two linked, low-profile pavilions to replace Warham House. The quad would include some 50 bedrooms, sets for junior research fellows, and additional facilities for New College School. Initial discussions with the planners have been encouraging, no doubt helped by the expectation that no tree will have to be sacrificed to make room for the new quad.



Although the college will probably have to make some call on the endowment to pay for this ambitious and exciting project, it will not happen without the support of Old Members. Witness the last two projects of similar size, the Sacher and Weston Buildings, which bear the names of generous Old Members. More generally, alumni will become an increasingly important source of income as state funding looks likely to dwindle to nothing under any government. However, rising fees and the concomitant massive student loan book will make it all the more difficult to keep recent graduates' goodwill. The Vice-Chancellor is lobbying government to allow Oxford to charge an undergraduate fee of £16,000 pa, which is much nearer to what it costs than the current capped fee of £9,000.

The most recent generation of graduates is the first since the war to be asked to donate to their college whilst at the same time having to settle the full bill for their education, unless in receipt of hardship bursaries and fee subsidies. This will be a double-whammy for development: deeply indebted students may hardly feel inclined to 'pay something back'. A similar double-whammy impacted on alumni giving before 2000: most of you in receipt of an LEA grant may have been grateful for a free education but may have felt little compunction to make donations to the college because you believed you were paying for the university grant through income tax. Without a government grant, the university needs both student fees and alumni donations to thrive.

I think the best way to mitigate the effects of the double-whammy is to make every student's experience at New College so wonderful - rich academically, socially and culturally, with the best possible prospects for a fulfilling career - that one



will leave with fond memories and absolutely no feeling that the fees have not provided value for money. The Development Office will have to be patient with present and future graduates, who will need longer than the previous generation to pay off their loans and start earning enough to be able to make donations to support disadvantaged students, preserve the tutorial system or, indeed, help build a new quad.

I normally would not report retirements, but Robin Lane Fox and Edward Higginbottom are such great college figures that saying farewell to both in the same year did seem to mark the end of an era. Robin is a remarkable ancient historian and, as those lucky enough to have had tutorials with him will know, an inspirational teacher. You might think that his greatest passion is the college garden, Alexander the Great, or hunting, but you would be wrong. What Robin cares more about than anything else are his students, which makes his retirement all the more poignant for all concerned. He was also instrumental in raising funds to endow both his own post in perpetuity and also a tutorial fellowship in Classical Philosophy. As I write, he is commuting to Macedonia to pronounce on the latest archeological discovery, so for him 'retirement' is only nominal.

Tasked under the college statutes to provide music to accompany prayers for the Founder's soul, Edward Higginbottom created a truly great choral foundation. His last term was filled with several memorable farewell concerts, recitals and Evensongs. I think the essence of Edward's gift is an ability to elevate the choir during performance to levels of expression far exceeding anything ever achieved in rehearsal yet, paradoxically, for which rehearsal is fundamental. Living in our midst has been an ensemble every bit as professional and distinguished in its own sphere as the Berlin Philharmonic or the London Symphony Orchestra. Edward leaves a discography of well over 100 CDs, a record of achievement, indeed of publication, second to none amongst the choral foundations. He recently conducted a newly formed orchestra in an all-Mozart concert in the Holywell Music Room, so for him, like Robin, 'retirement' will involve very little slowing down.

CURTIS PRICE

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

MARK CURTIS, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Last year saw a record for donations, pledges and legacies received by the College. In the year to 31 July 2014, a total of £5.3m was committed to the New College Development Fund, up from £4.2m the previous year. Such generosity will make a real impact on the life of the College now and into the future and we are most grateful to all those who contributed during the year.

Just under half of this was earmarked for our Tutorial Fellowships, helping to secure the future of the tutorial system. The majority of our Fellowships are joint appointments by both the College and the University; teaching time is split between duties for the department (undergraduate lectures, teaching masters and doctoral students) and for the College (tutorials and arranging other teaching for the College's undergraduates).

But increasingly, when Fellows retire or leave, the University is unable to fund their share of the costs for a number of years, and so colleges are left either to make other temporary teaching arrangements or to find the additional funding to create a "College-only" Fellowship until such time as the University is able to fund its share and so make a normal appointment.

In the case of Ancient History and French, we have been able to take advantage of a University scheme set up to address this very issue, especially in the Humanities. By raising £1.2m for each post the College has successfully bid for a match of £800,000, thereby securing the posts in perpetuity. In other subject areas, such as Engineering, History (in commemoration of Penry Williams), Management Studies, Law and Chemistry, support from Old Members and others is providing us with the flexibility and the resources to ensure the seamless continuation of Tutorial Fellowships. And we are now embarking on a campaign to underpin our Fellowships in PPE, mindful of the imminent retirement of Martin Ceadel after 36 years as Tutorial Fellow in Politics.



Funding for our students represented a third of gifts made, endowing bursaries for students from the lowest income families, offering scholarships to attract the most able graduates, and providing grants to support students in financial hardship and to help them to engage in academic, sporting and cultural activities. Ensuring that no student should be put off or prevented from coming to New College for financial reasons remains a priority.

In addition to gifts for music, the Choir, Library and our new music practice building, some £600,000 was given for the College's areas of greatest need. This flexibility allowed us during the year to make further grants and awards to students, to fund a number of Junior Research Fellowship posts, and to carry out various refurbishment projects around our historic site.

The one danger is that with broken records come ever higher expectations. But I hope that, in the light of the impact that such support for the College can make, the generosity of so many Old Members and friends will give us even more reasons to be grateful in 2014/15.

# NEW PRIZE IN MATHEMATICS



A new prize has been established to commemorate a student who was awarded a scholarship to read Maths at New College, but having enlisted during the First World War was never able to take up his place.

**Lionel Henry Shuckforth Grigson** was born on 25 January 1898, attended St John's School, Leatherhead where he excelled academically, sang in the choir and was an editor of the school magazine and in December 1914 was elected to

a Mathematical Scholarship at New College, with entry deferred until October 1916.

However, overtaken by events, Lionel chose to enlist instead of matriculating and commenced military service in November 1916. He was commissioned into the Devonshire Regiment as a Second Lieutenant and crossed to France the following April. On 9 May 1917, as the Devonshires attempted to recapture the village of Fresnoy, Lionel Grigson was killed in action, aged just 19. He has no known grave, but is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

The Lionel Grigson Memorial Prize has been inaugurated through the generosity of Lionel Grigson's great-nephew, Richard Grigson, to mark the centenary of Lionel winning his place at New College and to recognise his subsequent sacrifice.



1.



2.

# NEW COLLEGE EXHIBITION

On 25 February an exhibition of works by New College's five Fine Arts students opened to general acclaim in the Long Room. A reception on the opening night drew visitors from New College, the Ruskin School of Fine Art, and beyond. **Sonia Bernaciak, ArieH Frosh, Harry Jones, Arjun Paliwal,** and **Lucy Gregory** used many different materials and media in their art. Works displayed ranged from a faux-medieval wooden triptych to a modern video installation. Long used as an exhibition space, the Long Room now also doubles as the temporary JCR bar, giving the art work increased exposure among the college's junior members as well. Plans are afoot to attempt to make this an annual event.



## NEW COLLEGE ART ON LOAN

THE COLLEGE IS LENDING ITEMS FROM ITS COLLECTIONS TO TWO EXHIBITIONS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO OLD MEMBERS.

### 1. The Two Roberts: Robert Colquhoun and Robert MacBryde

22 November 2014 – 24 May 2015  
Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh

The National Galleries of Scotland will be exhibiting at the Gallery of Modern Art 'The Spectators' by Robert Colquhoun, from the Junior Common Room art collection. The picture, which was bought newly painted in the 1940s, has an extra resonance in the context of the exhibition in that the two spectators are thought to be self-portraits of Robert Colquhoun and Robert MacBryde. Both artists belonged to the Soho set that included Francis Bacon, Keith Vaughan and John Craxton, and the poets Dylan Thomas and George Barker.

More details at: <https://www.nationalgalleries.org/modernartgalleries>

### 2. Love Bites: Caricatures of James Gillray

26 March – 21 June 2015, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of Gillray's death, the Ashmolean Museum will be exhibiting a selection of Gillrays from the College's outstanding collection of the artist's prints, which show couples kissing, caressing, in friendships and marriages, from an artist with the most diverse and biting views. There will also be a joint symposium on the artist at the Ashmolean Museum on 28 March. Curated by Professor Todd Porterfield.

Exhibition details at: <http://www.ashmolean.org>

Symposium details at: <http://www.new.ox.ac.uk/lectures-and-symposia>

We would be delighted if Old Members would like to attend the symposium. To register interest, and to be added to the mailing list to receive further information on the programme, please email [jacqui.julier@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jacqui.julier@new.ox.ac.uk).

## NEW FELLOWS



### ANDREW MEADOWS

Andrew Meadows joins the College as Tutorial Fellow in Ancient History. He is a specialist in the history, numismatics and epigraphy of the Hellenistic Greek world.

After reading Mods and Greats at Trinity College (1984-9), he obtained an MA in Classical Philology from the University of Michigan and then returned to Oxford to study for a DPhil. in Ancient History. From 1995 to 2007 he was Curator of Greek Coins at the British Museum, in 2007 he was a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and in the same year he became Margaret Thompson Curator of Greek Coins at the American Numismatic Society, where he was Deputy Director from 2008 to 2014. In 2012 he was elected to the Kraay Visitorship at Wolfson College and a Robinson Visiting Scholarship at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.



### ROBERT QUINNEY

Robert Quinney is the new Organist and Tutorial Fellow in Music and Associate Professor at the University Faculty of Music. He moved with his family to Oxford in September, after sixteen months as Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral.

Robert was Organ Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, and subsequently a postgraduate student under John Butt. Since embarking on a full-time performing career in 2000 he has maintained a keen interest in academic music, with a particular research interest in J. S. Bach. Before moving to Peterborough, Robert was for almost nine years Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey, following four years as Assistant Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral. In April 2011 he played for the Marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, to an estimated television audience of two billion worldwide. In addition to his Bach series, he has made critically acclaimed solo recordings of music by Bach, Elgar, Wagner, Brahms and Dupré, and appears as accompanist on a wide variety of choral CDs, principally with the choirs of Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral and The Sixteen.

# EVENTS

## 16 NOVEMBER 2013 CAREERS DAY

Following the success of 2012's inaugural New College Society Careers Day, we were pleased to welcome a second group of Old Members back for the event in 2013, and are busy planning a repeat for November 2014. Through a range of subject-based discussions and careers groupings in Temporary Hall, our volunteers imparted wisdom and advice to current students over the course of an enjoyable and thought-provoking afternoon. Described by one undergraduate as 'incredibly interesting, exciting and reassuring', this informal and varied event has proven popular with everyone involved.

**Top Right:** The PPE, Law and Social Sciences group sit in rapt attention.

**Right:** A cluster of would-be barristers talk to Kate Hallett (2002) in Temporary Hall.

*If you would like to be added to the Careers Network and invited to participate in future events, please email Madeleine Hammond on [madeleine.hammond@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:madeleine.hammond@new.ox.ac.uk).*



## 1 JUNE

**Above:** Former students, choristers and their families, attended a **farewell to Edward Higginbottom** party following a special Sunday Eucharist.

## 19 JUNE

**Below left and below:** **New College Society visit to The Charterhouse, London.** Over 40 Old Members and their guests enjoyed a tour of this Carthusian monastery to the north of what is now Charterhouse Square. Since the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century the house has served as private mansion, boy's school and almshouse, which it remains to this day.



## 12 AND 18 JULY

**Right and far right:** **Preparing for the opera in the Warden's Garden.** New Chamber Opera performed Joseph Haydn's *L'infedeltà delusa* (Deceit Outwitted). The sun shone for both of the Old Members' performances.





### 13 SEPTEMBER GARDEN PARTY

Activities started with Kate Mosse giving an inspirational talk in the Ante-chapel, partly on her newly-published book, *The Taxidermists Daughter*, but also giving an insight into how she writes and what inspires her. We plan to make the Garden Party a regular event.

**Above:** Norman Illingworth (1949) engaging Kate Mosse in conversation. **Above Right:** Louise Ainsworth (1984) and her family chat with Kate while getting their books signed. **Right:** There were activities for all ages.



### 28 OCTOBER WYKEHAM SOCIETY AND 1379 SOCIETY LUNCH

Despite the restriction of 'Temporary Hall' this annual lunch was, as ever, a most convivial occasion.



**Above:** Naomi van Loo, the Librarian, arranged a marvellous exhibition of manuscripts, incunabula and 16th century volumes to show how illustration in manuscripts influenced the early printers. They allowed for illuminated initial letters, but in fact these were rarely added after the first page or not at all and were soon replaced by patterned or historiated woodcuts.

**Left:** This year we were joined by donors from the student body and recent graduates who had expressed their support for the Society with their donations of £13.79 or £139.79 respectively.

**Bottom Far Left:** Robin Allott (1943), who came with his nephew Nicolas Allott (1976), catching up over pre-lunch drinks with Colin Scales (1965)

**Below Left:** Curtis Price and Tom Morris (1969) at lunch.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2014/2015

Please visit the Old Members area of the college website for regularly updated information:  
<https://www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/new/events>

### OLD MEMBERS' CAROL SERVICE Saturday, 6 December 2014

Old Members' matriculating after 1969 are invited to apply for up to four tickets. Please contact [jonathan.rubery@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.rubery@new.ox.ac.uk)

### CITY AND PROFESSIONAL NETWORK March/April 2015

Date and Venue TBC.  
 You will be sent an invitation.

### ANNUAL INTER-COLLEGE GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Friday 17 April 2015**

Frilford Heath Golf Club, Oxford.  
 Please email the New College Golf Team Captain, Jim Reeve (1979), to register your interest.  
[jetreeve@uk2.net](mailto:jetreeve@uk2.net)

### NEW COLLEGE LAW SOCIETY DINNER

**Saturday 9 May 2015**

For more information and to book your place please contact the New College Law Society President: [benjamin.harries@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:benjamin.harries@new.ox.ac.uk)

### OPEN DAY AND LUNCH

for the Parents, Family and Friends of First Year Students.

**Saturday 16 May 2015**

### NEW COLLEGE SOCIETY GARDEN PARTY AND BBQ LUNCH

**Saturday 27 June 2015**

### OPERA IN THE WARDEN'S GARDEN Saturday 11 July 2015

**Friday 17 July 2015**

A booking form is enclosed

### NEW COLLEGE SOCIETY PARIS OPERA 2nd week in September

Dates to be confirmed

### GAUDE FOR MATRICULATION YEARS 1952-1959

**Friday 11 September 2015**

You will receive an invitation

### UNIVERSITY ALUMNI WEEKEND 18-20 September 2015

Please visit the Alumni area of the College website for more information.

### GAUDE FOR MATRICULATION YEARS (2000-2002)

**Saturday 26 September 2015**

### WYKEHAM SOCIETY AND 1379 LUNCH AND WARDEN'S CLUB CONCERT Sunday 1 November 2015

### GAUDE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

With the kitchen refurbishment nearing completion, we are pleased to confirm Gaudé dates up to 2017:

**2015**

1952-1959 Friday 11 September

2000-2002 Saturday 26 September

**2016**

1966-1970 Saturday 10 September

1988-1991 Saturday 24 September

**2017**

1971-1975 Saturday 2 September

2003-2005 Saturday 23 September

### 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:



'New College Old Members'.



'NewCollegeOMs'



'New College, Oxford – Alumni and Old Members'



<http://www.youtube.com/user/NewCollegeOxford>



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/new-college-development/>

### CHRISTMAS CARDS 2014

You can order the New College Christmas Card online, £6.50 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 279317**) to make your order.

### TO CONTACT THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

#### Mark Curtis

Fellow & Director of Development  
 E: [mark.curtis@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:mark.curtis@new.ox.ac.uk)  
 T: (0) 1865 279261

#### Sue Ashcroft-Jones

Senior Development Officer  
 E: [sue.ashcroft-jones@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sue.ashcroft-jones@new.ox.ac.uk)  
 T: (0) 1865 279509

#### Jonathan Rubery

Communications & Events Manager  
 E: [jonathan.rubery@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.rubery@new.ox.ac.uk)  
 T: (0) 1865 279337

#### Ed Margetson

1379 Society Manager  
 E: [edward.margetson@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:edward.margetson@new.ox.ac.uk)  
 T: (0) 1865 279491

#### Madeleine Hammond

Development Assistant  
 E: [madeleine.hammond@new.ox.ac.uk](mailto:madeleine.hammond@new.ox.ac.uk)  
 T: (0) 1865 279317