Introduction from the Master

Front Court has evolved in many ways since its first issue, and the time has come for a further change in its design and content to meet changing needs and modern style. Plans are afoot to rethink our range of publications: should we change their dates, and should we add a new publication to tackle some of the important and challenging issues facing the College, the University and Higher Education in general? One such matter is Admissions, and our Admissions Tutor, Richard Miles, has contributed a piece to this issue of Front Court which I hope will answer the questions many of you have on this subject. Our future publication strategy will be discussed at the Year Rep conference in September, and we would value your views and comments.

It was marvellous to welcome many of our supporters to our Benefactors’ Brunch in June. Those who came were given the opportunity to visit our Wychfield site, where they saw the terrific progress being made on the new student accommodation and also visited our splendid new Sports Pavilion. Incidentally, you can now all watch these buildings grow by logging on to www.THalumni.net and accessing the web cam – it really is astonishing how quickly the site is developing.

None of our plans – past, current or in the future – could be contemplated without your support. In fact, we have just commissioned an architectural feasibility study of the main College site, to see how we can improve and refurbish our student rooms. This is just the start of an ambitious programme, of which you will be hearing more over the coming months, to ensure that Trinity Hall remains and continues to remain the best College in Cambridge.

In the meantime, enjoy this summer reading!
New Fellows
Trinity Hall welcomes several new Fellows for the academic year 2005/2006

Fellow Commoner
Mrs Jocelyn Poulton has been Trinity Hall’s Development Director for the last four years, and has recently been elected a Fellow Commoner.

Staff Fellows
Dr Edmund Kunji studied Biology and Chemistry at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, where he also obtained his PhD. He worked as a post-doc at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology and in 2000 started his own research group at the MRC Dunn Human Nutrition Unit to study the biochemical and structural properties of mitochondrial carriers. He joins us as a Fellow in Natural Sciences.

Junior Research Fellows
Mr François-David Todd joins us from Trinity College as a Research Fellow in History. He is also affiliated with the Centre for History and Economics at King’s College.

Mr Oliver Williams has spent the last three years working on a PhD in Computer Vision and Machine Learning in the Engineering Department as a member of Jesus College. He will be joining Trinity Hall in the new academic year as a Research Fellow in Science.

Honorary Fellows
Professor Peter Clarke was elected as an Honorary Fellow in June 2005, following the end of his successful term as Master (2000–2004). During his time at the Hall he was responsible for, amongst other things, launching the College’s Strategic Plan and the Wychfield Project, which included the refurbishment of the Pavilion.

Dr William O’Reilly joins us as a Fellow in History, having spent the past year at the Centre for History and Economics, King’s College, Cambridge. Before coming to Cambridge, he studied at the universities of Hamburg, Philadelphia and Oxford and then lectured at the National University of Ireland.

Ms Isabel McNeil is completing her PhD on memory in recent French cinema. She has spent the last three years researching and teaching at Corpus Christi College and in the French department at Cambridge. She is the founder and convenor of the Cambridge University Film Seminar and joins us as a Fellow in French.

Dr Nigel Chancellor (1990) joined the Fellowship as Fellow Commoner in 2003 and we are delighted to announce that, this year, he also took up the role of Domus Bursar. He balances this challenging new role overseeing most of the ‘house’ departments of the College with his academic work as a history supervisor and researcher. He is also a Graduate Mentor to a large number of Hall students.

Mr Nicholas Hytner (1974) was elected as an Honorary Fellow in June 2005 in recognition of his service to the Arts. He has worked as both a stage and screen director and is currently enjoying great success as Director of the National Theatre, London.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Lionel Elvin (1924, Fellow 1930–1944, Honorary Fellow 1980–2005). He died peacefully on the 14 June at the age of 99. A Memorial Meeting will be held at Trinity Hall on Sunday 11 December and if you would like to attend please reply to Ginny Swepson in the Master’s Office – 01223 332540 / vfab2@cam.ac.uk

Domus Bursar
Dr Nigel Chancellor

Dr David Rubenstein
Trinity Hall has been very lucky in its choice of medical Fellows (think, for example, of Bill Grundy) and never more so than in its election of DrRubenstein. He has taught generations of medical students, encouraged the gifted, chivvied the lazy, given them wise advice on everything and loved them all, the virtuous and the rogues alike.

He has his dislikes, but these are for abstractions like Hampstead dwellers and Wagner devotees. His likes are concrete and include most people that he actually knows. In common with most doctors, he has a fierce devotion to any team to which he belongs and he considers Trinity Hall his team. A seat next to him at Governing Body was always considered a privilege carrying a certain price. The privilege was the ability to listen to his whispered but pointed remarks, the price was the necessity to keep a straight face.

Every Trinity Hall Fellow considers every other Fellow as a source of free advice. Since requests for the atomic weight of sodium or the latest quip by Menander are rather rare, the job of supplying such advice tends to fall on the legal and medical Fellows. He replies to such requests with kindness and good will and, if he has ever detected a thin yellow streak of hypochondria running through the Fellowship, he has never remarked on it.

In the last couple of years the determination and force of personality previously applied as Medical Director of Adenbrookes have been turned onto the musical life of the College and his cello. We suspect that neither quite knows what hit them. In ‘full’ retirement he will maintain some teaching links with the College but will have more time to indulge his wife’s love of travelling, his music and his amused observation of human nature.

Professor Tom Körner (1964)
Vice-Master Baton Changes Hands

When I started as an undergraduate at Trinity Hall, the Master, Sir Ivor Jennings, gave a talk in which he told us how the College worked. I do not think that he explained the duties of a Vice-Master and, had he done so, I suspect that I would not have felt personally concerned.

Now that I am about to take up this exalted office, my pleasure is only slightly dampened by those who, after congratulating me, add ‘But what does Vice-Master actually do?’ The correct answer is, of course, that he or she (and the time must shortly come when the Vice-Master will be a she) carries out their duties in an efficient and cheerful manner.

A further answer is given in the Statutes, which are essentially still those drafted by Sir Ivor Jennings. The Statutes dealing with the Vice-Master occupy nearly a page, but are chiefly concerned with how you get the post (a secret ballot of the Fellows), how long you stay in it (four years and then out) and your precedence in the list of Fellows (top billing). They do, however, reveal that, so far as the College is concerned, the Vice-Master stands in the same relation to the Master as a spare tyre does to a proper tyre. Motorists have to carry around a spare tyre, they hope they never need to use it and, in the unlikely event that they do need to use it, they only use it to get to the nearest garage.

The Statutes add that, apart from this, ‘the duties of the Vice-Master shall be such as are assigned to him (or her) by the Governing Body from time to time’. In less happy colleges the Vice-Master acts as a kind of shop-steward for the Fellowship. This is not necessary in Trinity Hall, where, instead, the Vice-Master’s additional duties include running the Vice-Master’s Committee, to which the Fellowship refers various insoluble conundrums unsuitable for any other committee, and a Research Fund with the pleasant task of providing small but useful sums to aid the research of Fellows (and, particularly, of younger Fellows).

There is, however, one task vital to the College which the Vice-Master may be called upon to perform – to conduct the election of a new Master. I should like to pay tribute to my predecessor Professor John Denton for the skill, efficiency and plain good sense with which he guided the deliberations which led to the election of our present Master. This alone would put the College greatly in his debt, but we owe him much more. For many years he has provided an outstanding example of how a distinguished professor can also be a pillar of the College community. We wish him a long and happy retirement and hope that, if his country retreat is ever troubled by low flying aircraft, he will console himself with the thought that he helped produce the splendid engines which power them.

Although Professor Colin Austin is the longest serving Fellow, Professor Tom Körner claims the longest association with Trinity Hall, since he came up in 1964. He was successively an undergraduate, research student, Research Fellow and Staff Fellow at the College. (His father came to Trinity Hall as a refugee research student and later became an Honorary Fellow.) Tom Körner has been Director of Studies in Mathematics at Trinity Hall for about 35 years. Next year he becomes Vice-Master and we asked him to explain what the post involves.

On 23 May 2005, I drove from Cambridge to Liverpool, arriving at the massively impressive Anglican cathedral – a dramatically theatrical space filled with civic leaders, national politicians, sportsmen, and many members of the public. We had arrived to celebrate the life of David Sheppard, Honorary Fellow of Trinity Hall where he matriculated in 1949.

The service culminated in a liturgically unusual though highly appropriate way: David’s ordination Bible and his cricket bat were brought to the high altar, reflecting the two sides of his life. The order of service reprinted a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury to David in 1954, allowing him to defer ordination in order to captain the English test team in Australia. As the archbishop remarked, ‘The Kingdom of God has many different aspects. Here is a piece of what I would regard as direct service to the wider interests of the Kingdom of God which you can render; and, as I understand, there really is a crying need for someone to bring back into the higher ranks of English cricket a sort of moral decisiveness and discipline which has been slipping’.

David Sheppard brought precisely that moral decisiveness and discipline to everything in his life – from his early work as an Evangelical clergyman in the Mayflower community in the East End of London, to his opposition to apartheid in sport in South Africa, to his partnership as Bishop of Liverpool with his Catholic counterpart in difficult days in the history of Liverpool, and his continued work as a Labour peer after his retirement. Appropriately enough, the street linking the two cathedrals in Liverpool is Hope Street. David Sheppard’s memoirs Steps Along Hope Street tells about his voyage along that route in a revealing way. I had the huge privilege of meeting David when he was writing these memoirs, for he sought advice on the wider historical context of his life. I had the immense pleasure of providing ‘supervisions’ on post-war history in the House of Lords. Of course, I learned more from him, for his life touched so many people and so many of the central issues in British history.

The service was astonishing and joyous – a deeply moving tribute to a great man. Trinity Hall can be justly proud to count David Sheppard amongst its alumni.

Professor Martin Daunton

Admissions Matters

University Admissions has become an increasingly high profile issue in recent years. On this front, Cambridge and Oxford Colleges have, for obvious reasons, attracted a great deal of media attention. However, although some reports have been balanced and fair, others have helped to propagate unhelpful myths that have little to do with the reality of the situation.

Trinity Hall, like all Cambridge colleges has been putting increased resources and energy into undergraduate recruitment. Our aim has been to increase the number of academically excellent applicants to the College from all educational backgrounds. We have been particularly active in schools and colleges in Lincolnshire, Bristol and Somerset, Newcastle and the Wirral. This campaign has been very successful with the number of candidates applying to the Hall increasing from an average of 350 to around 550.

Although much of our outreach work takes place in schools where there have been very few previous applicants to Cambridge, this does not mean that we have been neglecting old friends. In the past few months I have visited comprehensive schools in Bath, grammar schools in Kent and the North-West, a sixth form college in Huddersfield and Rugby school.

We would like to reassure candidates and their parents that our selection procedure is rigorously fair. We look at each application on its individual merits. We certainly do not discriminate on the basis of the type of schools that our applicants have attended.

Trinity Hall alumni can also rest assured that their children will be treated with the same fairness as all our other applicants. We consider that any kind of bias against candidates because of their educational or family background is wrong.

So what are we looking for? Across the Cambridge colleges, candidates are assessed on their academic ability and potential alone. Talent at sports and music, although welcomed, will not alone secure a place. The three qualities that we look for, above all else, are intellect, an aptitude for hard work and a real interest in the subject that they wish to study.

Competition for places has undoubtedly increased and this means that each year there are a considerable number of candidates who have the ability to thrive at Cambridge but Trinity Hall does not have room for them. We work very hard to try and make sure that these candidates have a good chance of being picked up by other colleges in the inter-collegiate pool. I hope that it is a sign of the effectiveness of our aftercare service that last year 41 of the 100 applicants that we placed in the pool were interviewed or made offers by other colleges. This puts us in the top group of Cambridge colleges.

The Senior Tutor and I very much hope that the Hall alumni will continue to support us in our efforts to uphold the tradition of bringing the best and the brightest students to Trinity Hall.

Dr Richard Miles
Tutor for Undergraduate Admissions
Anyone with any connection to Trinity Hall will find this lavish book an absolute joy. Though not a “history” as such, it is packed with historical nuggets: did you know that the Hall has produced at least 19 Olympians? And that seven won Gold medals? Or that one of these – Billy Fiske (1928) – was, sadly not the first American to be killed in World War II? (He died of his injuries in 1940, flying with the RAF.) Of the Hall’s river triumphs, much has been written elsewhere, but a fascinating digest appears here, with some glorious anecdotes: the story of the exploding cool box is one, and another concerns an oarsman with a detachable leg. And with chapter headings including ‘Poets, decadents and irritants’, ‘Conformity and rebellion’, ‘Matters of the spirit’ – well, you get the idea.

For anyone more academically minded, there are pieces on how the Hall developed from a law College to its present position as a place where students can follow virtually any discipline. And the section concerning the admission of the first women Fellows and Masters – it is amazing that this was less than 30 years ago – is revelatory. A big worry was how this might affect the Hall’s sporting prowess: it hasn’t. Hall ladies won Blues more than 30 years ago – is revelatory. A big worry was how this might affect the Hall’s sporting prowess: it hasn’t. Hall ladies won Blues in 1924, was a Fellow from 1930–44, and was elected an Honorary Fellow in 1980: “We were a separate group, supposed to be brighter and expected to get Firsts; but these other people, with their hands in their jingling pockets, seemed to be the lords of the place.” Some would cut him dead, even after he had played football or cricket with them the same afternoon. Appallingly, this went on in the Sixties. TV and film director Tony Palmer (1960), a pupil of Lowestoft Grammar School, remembers: “No more than a handful (of us) were from other than a public school. Thus, the entire language and manners and rules…were mysterious, even alien. I was made to feel isolated, unwanted and definitely unwashed.” What “saved” him, were the friendships he made with the then Master, Sir Ivor Jennings (also ex-grammar school), and with contemporaries. And it is this element that crops up in so many reminiscences by alumni – the deep, lasting and sustaining friendships they made at college – which helps give The Hidden Hall its appeal.

Equally, recollections by former staff are illumining. Tutor’s Clerk Bert Stearn, here for over 40 years, recalls one surreal night during World War II: “We had a room up on A staircase for fire-watching…and the porters took it in turn. One night, some of the men put a bicycle up on the cupola, and the porter didn’t hear it – he must have been sound asleep!” It’s not known how the hapless chap was disciplined, but the undergraduates were punished by rostering them on fire-watching duties.

Also a delight are the illustrations, many in colour – Hall people, sports events, architectural drawings, menus of long ago, cartoons, College silver, etc. It’s richly done, on very good quality art paper – one reason for the book’s price. But everything is relative: if you and your partner go out for a meal and a film or a play, you wouldn’t see much change from £50. So, with its portraits of notable and notorious former students, Fellows and Masters, its depictions of college life and its glorious reminiscences, this is a book to be treasured and turned to often, for entertainment and enlightenment. You owe it to yourself to buy it!

Ian Walker, Porter

“Namibian Visitors”

On 27th January five third year law undergraduates visited the Hall from Windhoek, Namibia. Peter Shivute (TH 1988) is Chief Justice of Namibia and had arranged for the top 5 law students, under the auspices of the Association of Commonwealth Universities and British Council Higher Education Link to visit the UK. Based at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London they took a day out of their studies to visit the Hall, meeting Law Fellows and students before ending the day with tea with the Master in the Lodge. Trinity Hall wishes the students all the best with their future studies.
Developing Developments

In previous issues we have written of our plans and aspirations. In this issue we write of our achievements!

Sports Pavilion

Firstly the Sport Pavilion: officially opened in January 2005 with a Student vs Staff/Fellows football match (an honourable 3-1 score!), the Sports Pavilion is a wonderful addition to College facilities. Now regarded as the best pavilion in Cambridge, it boasts two competition standard squash courts, a gym/studio with outstanding views across the playing fields, and improved changing facilities. Alumni are very welcome to use the squash and tennis courts (contact the Porters on 01223 332500).

The new student accommodation at Wychfield

Secondly, the College's most ambitious project to date – the new student accommodation at Wychfield – is quickly taking shape on the practice pitch. The design team comprising architects RH Partnership, builders Amec and project Managers David Langdon has ensured that work is well on schedule for completion in September 2006. The building has yet to acquire a name, and a bottle of College Port is being offered for the best suggestion (ideas to be submitted to the Development Office by October 2005). For inspiration, do visit the webcam which is accessible through our alumni online directory, www.THalumni.net

Already up to first floor level, this exciting project will provide 153 much needed additional rooms for students and fellows.
A New Milestone

A New Milestone: to commemorate the new building at Wychfield, a Milestone has been commissioned from the Cardozo Kindersley Workshop to echo those erected by Trinity Hall in the 1720s. The Milestone will be of Portland Stone and carry the College Crest and will be located in the beech hedge along Storey’s Way.

Benefactors’ Brunch

As the Master noted in his opening comments, it is thanks to the support and generosity of our alumni, friends, staff, Fellows and students that so much has been achieved at Trinity Hall – and that so much more can be achieved. As a small token of our thanks to those who have recently donated, a Benefactors’ Brunch was held in the Fellows’ Garden on Saturday 18 June. This will become an annual College event for those who have supported us during the year.

A full set of accounts showing disbursement to individual funds will be included in the next issue of The Newsletter.

The success of this telephone appeal is in large part due to the skills of our student callers and to the generosity of those called - to you all our warmest thanks. It sets a strong precedent for future campaigns and demonstrates without doubt that the rewards of such an appeal are and will continue to be of direct benefit all who study, research, work or visit Trinity Hall.

Thank you again!

We are delighted to announce that our telephone appeal in June/July 2004 has raised over £150,000 (£75,000 in cash with a further £78,000 due in pledges over the next two years). This level of support means a great deal to the College. Of the total received, one quarter has been designated by the donors for specific funds, the remaining three-quarters has been left to College Discretion. The Annual Fund disbursement committee has suggested that approximately one third of the undesignated cash available to spend during the academic year 2005/2006 is placed in the newly established Annual Student Hardship Fund: one third is used to underwrite the enhanced musical programme of the College (see page xx) and support the Choral Scholarship Scheme; and the remaining third is used to encourage academic, sporting and cultural creativity and performance within the entire community of Trinity Hall. A full set of accounts showing disbursement to individual funds will be included in the next issue of The Newsletter.

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Annual Telephone Appeal

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Thank you again!
For most people, May Week represents a time of May Balls, Garden Parties and Pimm’s. However, this year, an enthused bunch of students chose to put these indulgences to one side, whilst they became involved in what is rapidly becoming an annual event at Trinity Hall: the May Week Show. The musical of choice this year was Return to the Forbidden Planet, the award winning Rock ‘n’ Roll musical which combines a parody of the sci-fi B-movies of the 1950s with several well-known songs and numerous excruciating Shakespeare puns.

It was an ambitious project, involving at least forty people all together, including Director, Andy Palmer, Musical Director, Tom Lidbetter, and Producer, Catherine Kapff. After the week and a half of flogging Good Vibrations to death in the baking hot Lecture Theatre, as the rest of College lay around relaxing in the May Week sun, hopes of performing the musical in the Fellows’ Garden were dampened, and indeed drenched, when the weather took a turn for the worse on the day of the performance. Whilst members of the cast, escaping the downpour, sheltered underneath the set that Dave Merrick and his team had constructed only that morning, the decision was made to take the show indoors.

Thanks to a great team effort from the cast, the crew, the band, and the Senior Tutor, everything was transported from the Fellows’ Garden into the Dining Hall two hours before the performance. Despite the fact everyone was too busy hairdrying cables and nailing the set back together to have a dress rehearsal, the show went off without any major hitches, thanks to everyone in the technical team. Emily Mansfield’s expert choreography and Kate Miller’s inventive costumes were appreciated by all, and the cast coped fantastically well in the unfamiliar setting. But of course the star of the show was the Master, in his role as the Newscaster. Perhaps this is the beginning of a stunning new career!

Tom Lidbetter (2001)

Ben Hardy (2003)

University Challenge

In the 1860s, French chemist Hippolyte Mège-Mouriès first produced which foodstuff from animal fats, although it is now mainly made from vegetable oils?

Do you know the answer? – No? Nor did I (apparently it is margarine) but in spite of this we still managed to put together a team for University Challenge. The College hasn’t had the best record of late in the competition and has not yet appeared in what the aficionados (and yes, there are aficionados) term ‘the Paxman era’. Last year we didn’t even get past the preliminary questions and interview stage – let alone near Paxman – but this year was different, we got through to the actual competition itself. Cue a lot of flapping around trying to organise ourselves and an entertaining evening courtesy of the University Quiz Society where we took on Cauis, Christ’s and Trinity and won. We still didn’t know who our competition was going to be for the first round, apparently it is ‘more fun’ if you only find out on the day. As it turned out it was Magdalen College, Oxford. We adopted our usual tactic of trying to get the first couple of warm up questions right so that they felt intimidated and it worked rather well. We seemed very good at getting the starter questions right but rather less good on the bonus ones – embarrassingly not being able to answer anything on Robert Herrick. As the game went on we were treated to the Paxman sneering ‘come on’ when Chris managed to name a series of Michelin starred chefs from the external appearance of their restaurants (‘What sort of student are you?’) a situation which wasn’t helped by his then answering some questions on Caribbean resorts. We ended up beating Birmingham by a pretty convincing margin and are now through to the quarter finals. Hopefully they will keep asking questions about high living and Heat magazine, topics which we seem depressingly better on than worthy tranches of English literature.

Ben Hardy (2003)
On 19 May a unique recital was staged by the occupants of ‘N’ Staircase. An eclectic range of pieces were presented in a well thought out programme, each played with the appropriate verve and panache. The artists concerned, Jenny Angell, Lucy Bell, Harriet Clark, Rachael Drogg, Erica Foskett, Dani Hayward-Bradley, Callum Hind, Ed Percy and Alice Swift were justly lauded by a large and enthusiastic audience. ‘N’ have thrown down the gauntlet. They await the response!

Ian Andrew, Porter
The kitchens are responsible for all College catering. They have a variety of customers ranging from Fellows and Students, to American School kids, private conferences and even on one occasion Her Majesty the Queen! With such a diverse range of diners the versatility of our Chefs and the flexibility of all our staff play an important part in the kitchen’s success. The Hall is fortunate in having a kitchen, that has the reputation for being one the best, if not the best, College kitchen in Cambridge. That good reputation extends to the Cambridge Environmental Health Department, who regard the kitchen as being one of the best exponents of the Food Safety Act throughout the Colleges.

Headed up by the Manager Nigel Fletcher, and his assistant Allan Flavell, the kitchens employ a total of 14 members of staff. They are open seven days per week, forty-eight weeks per year opening from 6am and sometimes closing as late as 11 pm. Admittedly there are quieter moments but the last few years have seen the number and type of functions catered for ever increasing and it is only through the hard work and a genuine pride in the standard of food we produce that we cope. Whilst it is the Chefs who regard the kitchen as being one of the best exponents of the Food Safety Act throughout the Colleges.

The following is a typical day in the life of a Trinity Hall Chef. The man in question is Massimo Santivito.

0645 – 0910. Arrives at work to cover the breakfast shift. During term time this is mainly for students and Fellows, but out of term it includes anyone staying in College. Deliveries arrive and are all checked and food temperatures logged in accordance with the food safety act.


0920 – 1400. Commence main day shift, which includes food preparation and cooking for the day’s lunch and dinner. During term Max covers the students’ main meals, normally consisting of a number of choices. In addition, depending on which Chefs day off it is, Max will assist in other sections. Most chefs will have a 10-minute tea break at 11 am but have to grab lunch when they can. The cafeteria finishes at 13.30 when Max will clear down his part of the servery and his own work area. 2 pm will see Max go off shift for an afternoon break before returning early in the evening.

1700 – finish. Actual start time will depend on the workload of the day and 4.30 pm is an average start for Massimo. Prep is finished for the students’ evening meal, again assisting in other departments if required before completing any prep for the following day. After clearing down Max will eventually finish at about 9 pm, to be back on shift at 9 am, unless he is on breakfast in which case it’s a 6.45 am start.

That’s a typical day of a Trinity Hall Chef. Some like Degree Day are busier, some perhaps not so. We arrange our workloads in advance so that we are never caught on the hop, so when someone tells us the numbers for a certain dinner have gone up at the last minute we can cover; when a diner with a special diet forgets to tell us until he actually sits down for dinner we are able to accommodate or even when we don’t get told about a dinner being booked until the very last minute we always manage to meet the demand. Hopefully the food we produce does the College proud and the efforts of the kitchen staff are appreciated.

All our chefs have to check deliveries for quantity, quality and to ensure it is within the correct temperature. We have a computerised temperature logging system which retains all the information required by the Food Safety Act.

The workload necessitates that all our chefs help each other. Multi-tasking is alive and kicking in the kitchen.

Our chefs are a main point of contact between the kitchen and the students, good customer relations is extremely important.

End of the day – at last.

Working along side the kitchens is the Butler, Sara Rhodes and her team.

As the Butler, Sara is responsible for the Fellow’s wine cellar, and the College Silver. The silver takes care of itself as most of the time it just sits in the safe. The cellar on the other hand needs a lot of attention. Thankfully (for Sara at least) Simon is the Cellar Master so he mainly takes care of that, but it’s a lot of hard work. We have several thousand bottles in stock at any given time and it all has to be taken in, and then binned. There is an audit every year, which takes a lot of preparation, but once it is done, and everything is found to be in order there is a sense of satisfaction.

When the Fellows lunch or dinner is served we make sure that there is sufficient food and places available. Where lunch is served we make sure that there is sufficient food and places available. Where lunch is concerned this can sometimes be very hectic, especially during term time, but luckily dinners tend to be a more relaxed affair!

Without her team of ‘merry men’ Sara doesn’t know what she would do, as they each know their jobs, so that makes her job easier, for which she is extremely grateful. They all work well together and manage to enjoy themselves even when things get tricky!

Sara Rhodes, Butler

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Sara Rhodes, Butler
Trinity Hall Alumni
Wine Society

Trinity Hall Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz
Vinified in South Eastern Australia, this is a superbly balanced, smooth, fruity table wine. Plump dark fruit flavours, soft spice, supple tannins and a good backbone of acidity make this an ideal red for consumption on its own or with meat or cheese.

Trinity Hall Colombard Chardonnay
Also from South Eastern Australia, this is a delightful, intensely flavoured wine for any time of year. The nose is fresh and fruit driven, with distinctive lemon and tropical fruit notes. The palate is crisp and lively with opulent peachy fruit balancing zippy citrus flavours. A charming aperitif or a good match for salmon, chicken and cream sauces.

Trinity Hall Aultmore 1990
A classic Speyside, rich, broad and warming with the distinctive aromas of a sherry finish. The whisky exhibits enormous intensity and length with layer upon layer of flavour – honeyed fruit, dry spice, raw oats to mention but a few... an ideal malt to savour with leisure after dinner.

Trinity Hall Rosebank 1991
Rosebank was formerly Queen of the Low-lands, producing a delicious, fresh, light grassy, highly aromatic whisky, triple-distilled and distinctively green-hued. The distillery is now sadly closed and this is a great rarity - a recent bottling from a single cask produced shortly before the site's closure. This is a delicious example of the classic lowland style, unlikely to be seen commercially again. It makes a first class aperitif.

Trinity Hall Sound of Islay 1998
Due to labelling regulations, we cannot directly use the name of the Islay distillery that created this malt, though those with some Gaelic will have no trouble in translating the name... This is a raw, essential Islay, bursting with pure, white fruit and delicious peaty smoke. Delicious, intense and guaranteed to delight the Islay Connoisseur.

We're delighted to present another wonderful collection of high-quality wines, malts whiskies and beer, purchased and labelled exclusively for Trinity Hall in association with Cambridge Wine Merchants. The College Development Fund will continue to benefit from every purchase made.

Cambridge Ale
A great find, this! Brewed by the multiply award-winning City of Cambridge Brewery and bottled specially for College, this is a superb golden ale full of refreshing, bitter hopiness and sweet malt flavours.

Porters' Porter
A dark, richly copper-coloured ale with lovely chocolaty richness and warm, spicy flavours.

The beers are not, however, available for mail order but can be bought locally in the Cambridge Wine Merchants Shop.

Launois Grand Cru Champagne Blanc de Blanc
We're delighted to offer you this Blanc de Blanc Champagne again from the famous Grand Cru village of Les Mesnil sur Oger (home of the world-renowned 'Les Mesnil' vineyard from which Krug produce the most expensive Champagne in the world). This wine has wonderfully mature brioche and biscuit aromas on the nose and a superb, full-bodied, rich, creamy palate with tingling Chardonnay acidity. This is surely one of the best value Champagnes available in the UK, and the College is delighted to have secured an allocation of this highly sought-after wine for its alumni, selling it at nearly 25% less than RRP!

Silverlake Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2004
A charming example of justifiably fashionable New Zealand Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc. Pungent, grassy, gooseberry notes dominate the nose with delicious, ripe lime and tropical fruit notes coming through on the rich, brightly acidic palate. A long, fruity and clean finish completes a superb vinous experience. A superb partner for simply cooked shellfish.

Georges Dubœuf Régnié 2003
A classic Beaujolais Cru from one of the region's most respected producers. A highly expressive wine bursting with fruit: blueberries and red plums on the nose and generous red fruit abound on the juicy textured, medium bodied palate. A winner with poultry, pork fillet or firm-textured fish.

Please return this form with a cheque made payable to Cambridge Wine Merchants Ltd to: The University Sales Team, Cambridge Wine Merchants, 2 King’s Parade, Cambridge CB2 1SJ.

Minimum order is 12 bottles (whole cases or mixed), delivery is only £10 per case to mainland UK. For smaller orders or delivery overseas ring 01223 309 309 for information and shipping costs.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Product</th>
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<td>Silverlake (Buy 2 get 1 free)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georges Dubœuf Régnié</td>
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Shipping (per case) £10

Grand total

ORDER FORM
It was a glorious day and I had just started my daily swim around the tropical island, 100 yards off the southern coast of Sri Lanka, which has been my home for the last 12 years. It was 9.20 in the morning when I experienced without any warning a sudden change in the temperature of the water and a very strong current. Initially I put this down to a rather stronger than usual full moon tide and tried to keep swimming, however after about 30 seconds this proved impossible, and then glancing at the island I saw I was at least 25 feet higher than I would usually be. At about the same time I could hear frantic shouts from the shoreline and on looking back saw traditional fishing boats being carried across the coast road and into the village beyond.

Fishermen were screaming all over the place and it was obvious that this was not going to be just another day in paradise. The surge continued to take me closer to the beach line and I began to wonder just what I should do next. I decided to be sociable and went along with the tide, but on reaching the coast road decided that I did not want to join the debris and destruction on the other side and managed to cling onto a fishing boat which had lodged itself between the top of a coconut tree and a fish market. For five minutes the waters continued to flow inwards and all the time I could hear the screams of people crying out for help and then silence as they either drowned or were killed by buildings collapsing around them. Sadly I was too preoccupied in saving my own life to start trying to do something for others. After what seemed a very long time, but in reality was only a few minutes, the sea began to subside and the boat to which I was clinging once again touched the ground. I was able to stand on my own two feet and had a chance to look around at the carnage before me. Those who had survived the initial surge were running in all directions. I started to try and find my sister in law who I had last seen on the coast road and eventually found her clinging to a coconut tree with gashes in her legs. However I was then suddenly swept off my feet by water gushing back from the village towards the sea and in a sight that I will never forget and of which Moses would have been proud I saw the whole bay (the second largest in Sri Lanka) just empty of water. Dive sites which I regularly go to could have been found by water gushing back from the village.

I was then suddenly swept off my feet and found myself in a situation where I was completely unaware of what was happening and in a daze made my way on foot to my island home where I was relieved to find that none of my house guests had been injured. Luckily too my own house had been spared and only the jetty and main gate had been taken away by the surge. At this time mobile phones began to ring and we realised that we had just been spectators to one of the worlds biggest natural disasters. In five minutes in Sri Lanka alone 35,000 people had been killed, 80,000 homes destroyed, 50% of the Sri Lankan fishing fleet destroyed, 140 children orphaned of both parents, 500,000 people made homeless.

On realising the enormity of the disaster I like many others had a gut reaction that we had to help rebuild Sri Lanka, I resolved that I would spend the next year helping to restore the country that has become my own. We are now building permanent homes, repairing and building new boats, rebuilding small guesthouses, teaching children to swim, setting up trauma clinics, restoring turtle habitats and replanting coastal vegetation. Full details of what we are doing can be seen on our website www.adoptsrilanka.com I hope all Hall members will respond with generosity and look forward to hearing from you. I can be contacted on geoffreydobbs@yahoo.com

Geoffrey Dobbs (1972)
Building it back better

It has been six months since the tsunami struck 11 nations surrounding the Indian Ocean, killing more than 200,000 people and leaving millions of survivors both homeless and without a livelihood. The tragedy touched the world and millions of individuals combined to donate money, food, water and shelter to save and rebuild the lives of the survivors. The rapid response paid off: widespread starvation and health epidemics were both avoided.

But what of the situation today? In Sri Lanka alone, 220,000 homes housing 890,000 people were destroyed in a country that last year built just 5,000 new houses. Most of the coastline that was once a thriving community still looks like the picture below. Temporary tents and food and medical packets are being widely distributed, but still hundreds of thousands of people remain homeless, unable to work and dependent on aid. Thousands of schools and community buildings have to be built and many local people, especially the children, remain frightened and distressed.

Alistair Ross Russell (TH 1983), Jac Peeris and their children, Finlay (7) and Maya (4) were on the beach in a small fishing community in Sri Lanka when the tsunami hit. Their survival owed much to the bravery of the fishermen on the beach that morning, fishermen who within an hour had lost almost everything: family, friends, homes, boats and equipment. Their response was to ask everyone they knew for assistance in trying to rebuild this community.

The response to their personal appeal was overwhelming. Within 3 months their new organization, Amenti Relief had entirely repaired the small fishing compound and supplied each family with a boat, engines and nets with which to resume their livelihoods. This one small community was back on its feet. From here, Amenti selected three other small, specific communities where they felt targeted investment could be used to generate the greatest return in terms of returning respect and normality to the lives of those who have suffered so much: the repair of school facilities near Galle, the purchase of new fishing vessels in Aragam Bay and the reconstruction of a village in Sarvodayapuram.

Amenti is proud of the fact that over 75% of the donations they received have already been invested and that the benefit of this is already being appreciated by identifiable survivors on the ground. The experience has taught Alistair and Jac that, for a small organization, the greatest impact is achieved when helping those people who are most willing to help themselves. The remaining donations are being focused into an ‘entrepreneurial aid’ scheme that will provide local entrepreneurs with the micro-financing required to get the local workforce and the local economy back to work.

The devastation.

A boat restored with Amenti funds.

Bill Clinton, special envoy for tsunami relief for the United Nations, recently specified the UN’s strategy to help the tsunami generation as “building back better”. It is an approach that resonates strongly with the strategy at Amenti. “The tsunami was a disaster, but it is also an opportunity” says Alistair, “an opportunity to rebuild homes, livelihoods, communities and economies to a quality and level of sustainability that far exceeds what existed before. It may sound obvious to say that we must not replace poverty with poverty – but to replace it with something better requires vision and commitment on behalf of the relief agencies as well as the survivors.”

Contact Ali on alirossrussell@yahoo.com www.amentirelief.com

Saving the Planet

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the largest contributor to global warming, and one of the most complex to address. It is released wherever fossil fuels are burnt, whether in industry, households or vehicle exhausts. It is inextricably linked to many of the things we view as essential, from most sources of electricity generation to air travel.

The Carbon Trust was set up in 2001 as part of the UK government’s climate change programme, with the specific mandate of helping UK industry move towards a low carbon future. Around half the Carbon Trust’s work is with ‘ordinary’ companies (from supermarkets to banks to manufacturing sites) on energy efficiency and ‘carbon management’. The other half is supporting the development of renewable energy and other low carbon technology. My role is to look after City relations, encouraging investment analysts to develop a greater understanding of the financial risks and implications.

Climate change is a phrase that seems to be in the news a lot more these days – whether it is melting ice caps, sudden floods, yet another hose pipe ban, or stalemate on intricate international negotiations. It may still seem remote, but it is an issue that isn’t going to go away. And addressing it earlier will help minimise the costs – both environmentally and financially. I find it a fascinating area, and – together with a husband working in environmental issues at BP – feel privileged to be involved. If you’re interested in finding out more, please do get in touch.

emma.johnson@thecarbontrust.co.uk

Emma Johnson (née Owens) (1989)
This April, with the gracious support of Dennis Avery (1980) Bob Ely (1950), and a number of MCR members, I embarked on a volunteer mission to Tanzania. Friends may recall that before my departure, my primary concern was encountering a certain bird eating spider or Tanzanian killer ant, both of which are known to be ubiquitous in Tanzania. Indeed, being infected with a tropical disease did not even factor into the equation as I was sure that the chemoprophylaxis I had undertaken would be sure to protect me. On my arrival however, I soon realised that fighting off the dreaded mosquito was going to be one of my main problems, as in the arrival hall of Dar es Salaam Airport I received approximately 34 bites in less than two hours. The term ‘being eaten alive’ was an understatement.

Despite being bitten from head to toe and sweating buckets in the 95% humidity, I ventured onwards to my placement city Tanga. Here, I spent my first two weeks working alongside doctors in an Obstetrics and Gynaecological hospital, where I performed basic nursing duties. My next four weeks were split into two areas. My primary role was to co-ordinate a community based Malaria Prevention Programme for the rural villages in the region, which entailed going into the villages, assessing the problem of malaria, and transferring this data back to the Tanzanian Ministry of Health. Alongside this role, I was also responsible for organising a medical camp for children under five, and for the distribution of aid packages and infant mosquito nets to rural villages. My work was hard, but very rewarding, and I really enjoyed the feeling that all my work was really making a small but needed difference.

During my time in Tanga, I became aware of the magnitude of the malaria epidemic that is spreading throughout Tanzania. Surprisingly, and largely unknown to the West, it is malaria and not HIV that is Tanzania and East Africa’s biggest killer and almost 2 million people, mostly children under five, die from malaria per annum. I even experienced the problem first hand, as despite being armed with a DEET impregnated mosquito net, anti-malarial medication and mosquito repellent, I managed to contract the dreaded malaria three times in my eight-week stay. (I later found out that Tanga is sometimes nicknamed the malaria capital of the world!) Indeed, out of 20 volunteers, 12 of us contracted malaria.

If, therefore, a number of westerners armed with an arsenal of expensive preventative measures can contract malaria so easily, imagine how it affects the average Tanzanian who lives on less than 25p, and cannot therefore financially afford a net, chemophrophylaxis or repellent. In fact, I found that there is little education regarding malaria within the rural villages, and I rarely stumbled across a mosquito net within the villages. Thus, due to the lack of education and publicity regarding the disease, malaria can truly be labelled ‘the silent killer’ of Tanzania.

Based on my work in Tanzania I feel it is imperative that the problem of malaria should no longer be sidelined. It is time ‘the silent killer’ should finally be spoken of; loudly and clearly. Indeed, like HIV, malaria needs to be propelled into the ‘limelight’, enabling research regarding its prevention and treatment to appear at a more rapid pace.

Since returning from Tanzania Krishna is desperate to help the people that she met and has set up the following appeals: One is to raise £3,000 to purchase 1,000 adult and 500 infant mosquito nets for the Bombo Government Hospital thus providing a net for each bed, as contracting malaria alongside another infection can be deadly. Secondly, a book appeal. English is Tanzania’s official language and they are desperate to learn, so any books that you wish to get rid off will be gratefully received – children’s books, novels, dictionaries etc.

Please direct all queries and any help to Krishna at k.chatterjee.03@cantab.net 93 Twyford Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 0J1
A TRINITY HALL FRIENDSHIP
Bringing peace to over a billion people

It was an October evening in 1961. Nervous but excited, I stored my luggage in my second-floor room on the B staircase of my Cambridge college, Trinity Hall, and stepped into the balmy twilight to work my way towards my first "hall". Standing in Front Court were two sub-continentals, Jamshed Hamid, who had rooms across from mine on the same staircase, and a middle-aged youth dressed rather startlingly in a formal three-piece suit with a rolled-up brolly dangling from his arm. He introduced himself as Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri from Pakistan, come to take a law degree. I remarked that I had spent a few hours in Lahore where the boat bringing me to England had docked. He said he himself was from Lahore. I told him that was where I was born. Rapport established, we went into hall together, awkward that we were yet to secure for ourselves the black University gowns that were de rigueur. As we sat down, Hamid spoke our collective mind as he wondered aloud – happily in Urdu - what we were supposed to do with the array of cutlery gleaming in front of us. All of us instinctively took care that first evening not to bring up the ticklish question of Kashmir, but as, over the years, we became friends, inhibitions faded and even Kashmir could be discussed rationally; if sometimes heatedly. I always found Khurshid straightforward and patient, calm, logical and willing to listen. He holds strong opinions and holds them with conviction. But an argument with him does not degenerate into a shouting match. There is scope for disagreement and scope for accommodation. Can one ask for more in a Pakistani Foreign Minister?

After Cambridge, Khurshid went on to Oxford and the Inns of Court before returning to a life of dabbling in the feudal politics of Pakistan, first with the high-minded but essentially irrelevant Air Marshall Asghar Khan, later with the Pakistan Muslim League, and now with PML’s somewhat grandiosely named Quaid-e-Azam faction. More humbly, I joined the Indian Foreign Service. It is that which brought us together once again. For on being posted to Karachi as Consul-General in December 1978, I transited through Lahore. Khurshid was at the airport to receive me.

with his usual warmth and slightly arcane gentlemanliness. Generous to a fault and hospitable as only a Pakistani grandee can be, he not only drove me around the city of my birth but took the trouble to trace the apartment in which I was born – 44, Lakshmi Mansions – and gave me the thrill that only a refugee can know of visiting a home he has no memory of! I was only four when I last left Lahore and but six when my father fled to Delhi at Partition. But the thought of standing in the very bedroom where I had first seen the light of life was, literally, the experience of a lifetime. Astonishingly, half a century after Partition, Lakshmi Mansions are still called Lakshmi Mansions! So much for the Indian parody of that country as a bunch of Taliban look-alikes.

Contemporary Pakistan, like Khurshid himself, is thoroughly modern-minded. His wife, Mona, is a truly distinguished educationist, who has started a string of schools across the country, highly reputed for the excellence of the education they impart. She has a wicked sense of humour and particularly enjoyed my saying of her husband that unlike the rest of us, he had not grown from youth to middle-age because he was already middle-aged in his youth! (This was in reference to his wearing three-piece pin-striped suits as a college student and our envy at his having the money to take taxis to early morning classes!) Although our time at Cambridge was a period of the usual high tension in India-Pakistan relations, it was always possible to discuss the relationship reasonably and calmly with Khurshid. I, therefore, think in Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri, India has a Pakistani Foreign Minister (and a potential Prime Minister) we can deal with. Of course, he will act at the behest of his government, but I believe he will treat with our negotiators in an honest, straightforward way, without resorting to wile or guile. That owes something at least to what we picked up through our pores, as it were, in our two years at Trinity Hall.

The roller-coaster of politics has brought me now to the position of a Minister in the Government of India. I am engaged in negotiating with Khurshid and his colleagues a pipeline from Iran through Pakistan to India which will provide life-giving energy, and therefore the hope of springing the trap of poverty, to nearly a billion and a quarter people who inhabit the sub-continent. To cut through the prejudices and stored-up hatreds of the trauma of Partition and its bitter aftermath requires goodwill and trust that rely on human goodness and the power of reason. The challenge before Khurshid and me, as we steer our respective ships of state through the shoals of sixty years of hostility, is to let a personal friendship forged in Front Court blossom into peace between our peoples.

Mani Shankar Aiyar (1961) 
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Rural Local Government of India

A TRINITY HALL FRIENDSHIP

Book Review

Mani Shankar Aiyar’s most recent book Confessions of a Secular Fundamentalist, published by Penguin Viking, has been reviewed by Norman Lamont in the Financial Times. He describes it as ‘…a brilliant book – written with fierce eloquence, biting wit and scholarship. It must be read by anyone who wishes to understand India’s troubled politics today and it’s complex past.’

I have recently written and published a novel in which the central character is a Trinity Hall law graduate of the 1975-1978 vintage. He is a keen Wolves fan and a Bob Dylan fanatic but any similarities to a living person are purely coincidental.

The book has no literary merit whatsoever- the genre is Nick Hornby meets Barbara Cartland- but it was fun to write and may bring back some memories. It is not available from any good book shops but can be obtained from www.pabd.com or via Amazon.com. I hope that sales will rival the new Harry Potter book- only another 14,999,674 to go!
Year Reps

1935  Michael Page MC
1936  Bevis Sanford
1937  Dr Robert Miller FRCP
1940–46 d’Arcy Orders MBE
1947  Dr Michael Mynott
1948  Roy Barter MBE
1949  Ian Romer
1950  Bob Ely
1951  His Honour Angus Macdonald
1952  Dr Keith Humphreys CBE
1953  John Russell
1954  Dominic Brooks
1955  Miles Halford
1956  Michael Shipley
1957  Martin Wolfstar
1958  Peter Hill RD
1959  Richard Devitt
1960  Julian Ebsworth
1961  Andrew Medlicott
1962  Colin Hayes
1963  Dr Edward Pank
1964  Dr Tom Biggs RD
1965  David Bell
1966  Martin Williams
1967  Chris Angus
1968  Henry Poole
1969  Simon Jones
1970  Tim Stevenson
1971  John Ellard
1972  Geoff Gardiner
1973  Roy Warden
1974  Guy Brannan
1975  Nick Eastwell
1976  Rob Highmore
1977  Andrew Burr
1978  Christopher Grigg & Dr Fionna Grigg MRCP
1979  Roger McKinlay
1980  Dr Geoff Parks
1981  Sarah Webbe
1982  Tim Steele
1983  Mrs Lizzie Iron (née Shaw)
1984  Mrs Cathy Staveley (née Kendall)
1985  Andrew Medlicott
1986  Tim Bennett
1987  Kate Holmes
1987  (Grads) Dr Harry Bradshaw
1988  Mrs Helen Powell (née White)
1988  (Grads) Mrs Rosalind Lane (née Jeans)
1989  Dr Andrew Pauza
1990  New Year Rep Wanted
1991  Paddy Doris
1991  (Grads) Dr Mark Field
1992  Chaz Dheer
1993  Ms Lee Davidson
1993  (Grads) New Year Rep Wanted
1994  Chris Hancock
1994  (Grads) Dr Sarah Barrett Jones
1995  Nick Forbes
1995  (Grads) Dr Alex Schroeder
1996  Helen Barracough
1997  Mary Wilson
1996  (Grads) Dr Eric Breton
1997  Kirsten Etheridge
1998  Dan Smith
1997  (Grads) Bent Grover
1998  (Grads) Dr Marina Terkourafi
1999  Amy Burchell
1999  Tim Nixon
1999  (Grads) Dr Andrew Lennon
2000  Anna McKay
2000  Jill Goodier
2001  Ben Rawlings
2002  Frances Denniss
2002  James Thomas
2002  Paul Murphy
2002  (Grads) Jenny Ifft
This year your Year Reps are meeting on Saturday 24 September, and we would like to give you all an opportunity to contribute to the meeting.

The topics to be discussed this year are:

- We would like to switch the publication dates for Front Court and the Newsletter.
- Front Court will be coming out in the summer, and the Newsletter will be published in December.
- This allows the Newsletter to report on the academic year in College, rather than the calendar year as it does at the moment. It also gives more notice for the June Event, the London Event and the Annual Gathering.
- The design of both publications will be updated over the next year.

**Events**

- With a greater need to make ourselves accountable within the College, we are introducing charges for events that were previously free to alumni. Reunion Dinners will remain free, but there will be a charge for accommodation and the Annual Gathering (although this and the London Event will still be subsidised by the THA).
- How can we make the Annual Gathering more appealing to younger alumni?

**The Trinity Hall Association**

- All alumni are members of the THA, but still very few seem to know what it is and how it applies to them. We need to spread the word, especially now the Year Reps are such a crucial part of the Association.

If you have any comments on the above issues, please let your Rep know so that they can truly represent your views.

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**1959 Achievement**

Nigel Southward, Vice Commodore of the Royal Yacht Squadron, was invited to join the crew of the 137 foot ketch Marie-Cha IV to take part in this spring’s Rolex Transatlantic Challenge Race from New York to the Lizard. This was the 100th anniversary of the race for the Kaiser’s Cup for which the record has stood ever since that first race in 1905. No more, Marie-Cha took two days off it, finishing in 9 days, 15 hours, 55 minutes and 23 seconds, sometimes reaching over 30 knots, finally careering up the Channel to the Isle of Wight in a fog, overtaking what must have been a rather surprised Frigate. It cannot have been comfortable.

The above photo shows Nigel coming ashore looking pretty well having endured 10 days freeze dried food, without the benefit of a shower or a decent drink. However the crew were then showered with champagne, which some thought a terrible waste! Nigel described it as a life enhancing experience - I take it he means now it is over and he can enjoy the rest of his retirement! Meanwhile, Desmond Hampton continues to take part in equally life endangering short-handed sailing races when his work permits, whilst I had a very gentle sail from Lagos in South Portugal to Sao Miguel in the Azores.

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**What me? Retiring?**

Those who reach the age of 65 really ought to pack it in and start enjoying themselves. But those alumni on the cusp of, or just past 65, show little inclination to do so. Undergraduates who came up in 1958, especially those who had to complete their National Service first, are well into their sixties. Prof. Stephen Prickett, who researches and teaches in Waco, Texas, recently claimed that he might be the only one of his contemporaries still working. Well, it depends on how you define work. James King immediately responded that he was still teaching at 68. Tony Briggs, who recently re-translated War and Peace, has been joined in his Russian labours by John Kendal, who sits in Copenhagen working on a 1,000-page treatise on Stalin’s power apparatus. He says he has never had to work so hard in his life. There are doctors still doctoring, lawyers still practising, judges still judging, and clergy still preaching; Nick Payne is chairing the National Gardens Scheme; Douglas Miller is writing cricket books; Tom Wesley is helping with a new edition of Pevsner, and testing out new City Guides; Jeremy Stone is a realtor in Florida, and others are fundraisers, rugby referee assessors, National Trust room stewards, country house guides and part-time academics. We have an active peer and an active MP, and seventeen of the year are in Who’s Who. And that’s just the ones I know about. John Denton, however has finally given in and retires from his stint as Vice-Master this year for a well-earned rest.

Peter Hill
(Year Rep for 1958)

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**THAlumni.net**

1,200 of you have already discovered THAlumni.net, the online Trinity Hall directory. Old friends have got back in touch with each other, and those of you living in far flung parts of the world (or indeed in Cambridge!) have been able to get in touch with other local Hall members.

The website also acts as the alumni section of the College site, so you can keep up to date with College news and events without even having to register.

For those of you who have logged in, you can now keep an eye on the new building at Wychfield and if you want to see what other people in your year are up to, just log in! If you don’t have access to the internet or an email address, and you are curious to see if there is any news from your year (previously covered in Black & White News) get in touch with your Year Rep who should have their finger on the pulse!

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**Events for your year**

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<td>November 2005 Lunch at the RAF Club in Pall Mall</td>
<td>25 March 2006 MA Ceremony &amp; Reunion</td>
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<td>1964, 1965 &amp; 1966</td>
<td>1 July 2006 Reunion</td>
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<td>1970’s</td>
<td>24 September 2005 Football match</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>8 April 2006 Dinner in College</td>
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<td>1975</td>
<td>10 December 2005 Dinner in College</td>
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<td>1985 &amp; 1986</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>25 March 2006 MA Ceremony &amp; Reunion</td>
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**Trinity Hall Association – end of an era**

After 30 years as London Secretary of the THA, Barry Lewis (1959) has handed the pen over to a new secretary, Colin Hayes (1962).

At the Annual Gathering on 2 July, Barry was presented with a tune by the THA President Dennis Avery (1980) as a thank you for his 30 years of dedicated service to the Association. It isn’t quite goodbye though as Barry is staying on the committee for the next couple of years to help with the implementation of the new Rules that were accepted at the AGM in 2004.

**Dust off those football boots…**

For those of you who came up in the 1970’s and feel the urge for a kick around, Nick Eastwell (1975) and Andrew Burr (1977) are planning a football match at Wychfield at 4pm on Saturday 24 September, to be followed by the annual Cambridge Dinner in the evening. If you would like to take part (or would prefer to come and cheer from the side-lines) drop them a line (see Year Rep contact details) or contact Liz Pentlow in the Alumni Office for more details of the match and the Dinner.

**2005/2006**

**a Year of Music at Trinity Hall**

In celebration of the Hall’s appointment of Dr Richard Baker as Director of Music, the arrival of a fine new Steinway in the Master’s Lodge, and the impending arrival of the new organ, a series of concerts and musical events will be held throughout the year, culminating in a service of dedication for the installation of the organ on Sunday 7 May 2006. Once finalised, information about the concert series will be sent out and will be available on the College website.

**The Cambridge Illuminations**

Between 26 July and 11 December 2005, the Fitzwilliam Museum and Cambridge University Library will host a major exhibition of medieval illuminated manuscripts, and three of Trinity Hall’s manuscripts will be part of the display. They are the *Liber contra XII Errores et Hereses Lollardorum* by Roger Dymock (c.1395), the *Speculum Augustinianum* by Thomas of Elmham (c.1410) and the Elizabeth I Charter (1559).

Collectively, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the University Library and the Cambridge Colleges can write the history of book production from late antiquity to the Renaissance. *The Cambridge Illuminations* will present these treasures to the public on a scale that has not been attempted previously. Opening with the sixth-century ‘Gospels of St Augustine’, over which the Archbishop of Canterbury still swears his oath, and closing with a sixteenth-century political invective against the Hapsburg kings of Spain, it spans ten centuries of European book production, represents all major centres of learning, and covers the full range of religious and secular texts, in Latin and the vernacular languages. It showcases the work of some of the greatest medieval and Renaissance illuminators, such as Master Honoré, Attavante degli Attavanti and Simon Bening, as well as commissions by the most celebrated patrons of learning and art, including the Kings of France and England, the Dukes of Burgundy and the Medici.

An exciting last-minute addition to the exhibition will be the Macclesfield Psalter, just acquired by the Fitzwilliam Museum after a major public campaign which ensured its future in this country. While disbound for conservation, the manuscript will be displayed in its individual leaves in a gallery of its own for the full duration of the exhibition.

For further details see the website www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/index.html or call the museum on 01223 332900.
Events in 2005

The year started with the annual London Event. With the pressure on to find ever more interesting venues in the city, the arrival in College of Professor Martin Daunton as Master opened up the doors of the Reform Club to us, and we jumped at the chance. The spread of years on the guest list was amazing, with representatives from 1943 through to 2003 and almost every year present. Many new friends were made and old acquaintances re-established. Next year we will be in the Long Room at Lords, and we hope many of you will join us there.

1998 produced a record attendance at the MA ceremony in April. The weather was kind, and the new format for the day worked well. Instead of a lunch only for those actually graduating, we held a tea in the Fellow’s Garden after the ceremony to which the MA’s and their guests were invited. In the evening the MA’s had their first official Reunion dinner. The Year Reps Laura and Richard did a great job in getting responses from almost every member of the year – setting a big target for 1999 next year!

Building on the success of the centenary Annual Gathering, this year’s event again offered a varied and fascinating programme. A superb buffet lunch was followed by lectures given by Dr John Pollard on the research for his latest book *Money and the Rise of the Modern Papacy* and PhD student Riccarda Torriani on the democrtisation of Germany in 1945, focussing on the British and French sections. The College silver and Old Library made their annual appearance, and Luke from Cambridge Wine Merchants led an extremely educational wine tasting. The choir battled the scaffolding in the Chapel to perform to another full house, and the day concluded with tea and cake in the garden.

Following on from the Annual Gathering, members from 1982, 1983 and 1984 came back for their Reunion. It was a huge success as Cathy Staveley (Year Rep for 1983) reports:

Saturday 2 July was the date for the roughly 20 years reunion for everyone in our year. We were lucky that the day was being shared with the years immediately above and below us, which meant there was a high likelihood that everyone would recognise at least one other person there! In fact, it was much better than that and we were delighted to have well over half our year in attendance.

It was a busy weekend for the Trinity Hall staff but we were still made to feel welcome and had a chance for an initial catch up over tea in the Master’s Garden. I was struck by how little most people had changed (or so it seemed to me) apart from one or two grey hairs here and there (or one or two fewer hairs in some cases) and it seemed that as soon as we were back in the old surroundings, everyone reverted to type. We picked up where we had left off 20 years ago.

We had a Reunion photo in Latham Court, copies of which can still be obtained via the College, followed by a delicious meal in Hall. Some of us found it even harder than before to climb in over the benches and once seated we were going nowhere. Further drinking followed in the College Bar, the only part of the Hall that seems not to have changed one iota since our day. Despite wicked rumours to the contrary, everyone then had a lovely early night so as to be fresh for College breakfast the next day and then home to the ‘real’ world.

A number of people took photos during the Reunion and I would be very grateful if you could let me have copies of any that are printable so that I could put them together and circulate something. So many of you have had such interesting and varied lives in the intervening 20 years I also thought it might be fun to compile a short resume of what people had done since college days. (If, like mine, yours would only stretch to one line, send it anyway!) Email cstaveley1@aol.com.

The weekend was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone who attended. If you failed to make it this time, don’t worry, you have plenty of time to gear up for the next reunion in ten years’ time. If that just seems like too long to wait, plans are afoot for a mini reunion before then, possibly with a London venue in mind, for some time in the late spring/early summer of next year. If anyone has any ideas for places to meet up, please let me know.
## Diary of Events

### 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reunion Weekend for Graduates of 1996–1999</td>
<td>9–11 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reunion Dinner for those who matriculated in 1987 &amp; 1988</td>
<td>Saturday 17 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Rep Conference</td>
<td>Saturday 24 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970’s Football match &amp; <strong>THA Cambridge Dinner</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 24 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dining Rights Evening</td>
<td>Thursday 20 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch for 1950 at the RAF Club, London</td>
<td>November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milestone Lecture “Blood vessels – from outside in and inside out”</td>
<td>Saturday 19 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Given by Dr John Bradley in honour of Dr David Rubenstein’s retirement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner in Washington, USA with the Master</td>
<td>Wednesday 7 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event in New York, USA with the Master</td>
<td>Thursday 8 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner for 1975 in College</td>
<td>Saturday 10 December</td>
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### 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reunion for Choir members (rehearsal, Evensong and dinner)</td>
<td>Saturday 7 January</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you haven't received information about this but were a member of the choir please contact the Alumni Officer Liz Pentlow.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dining Rights Evening</td>
<td>Thursday 9 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reception at the British Embassy in Brussels</td>
<td>Friday 24 February</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THA London Event</strong> in the Long Room at Lords Cricket Ground</td>
<td>Thursday 16 March</td>
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<td>6.30pm – 8.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA Ceremony and Reunion for those who matriculated in 1999</td>
<td>Saturday 25 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner for 1974 in College</td>
<td>Saturday 8 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Gathering</td>
<td>Saturday 1 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reunion for those who matriculated in 1964, 1965 &amp; 1966</td>
<td>Saturday 16 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reunion for those who matriculated in 1985 &amp; 1986</td>
<td>Saturday 23 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Rep Conference</td>
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### Trinity Hall Choir comes to Toronto

In September, the College Choir will be visiting and performing in Toronto. They have been practising hard, and are sounding fantastic. They have a full programme of performances lined up, and would love to see any Trinity Hall alumni during their visit.

If you would like more details about the tour, please contact Alex Thom (1999) on ajwt3@cam.ac.uk

### 2005 Milestone Lecture – 19 November

**Dr John Bradley**, the new Director of Studies in Medicine, will give this year’s Milestone Lecture entitled *Blood vessels – from outside in and inside out* as a tribute to the retiring Dr David Rubenstein.

In 1628 William Harvey’s *Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus* described the role of the heart in propelling blood in a circular course throughout the body. Since this milestone in medical history, the complex nature of the circulatory system has become recognised. Blood vessels are not simply passive conduits for the circulation of blood throughout the body, but active regulators of the interaction between blood and tissues. In this journey through the blood vessel wall we will learn how cells lining the circulation can adapt to meet the changing needs of the tissues they supply, and influence the outcome of many common diseases.

All College events will be advertised on THAAlumni.net, along with Guest Lists for many of them so you can see who else is coming. Invitations will also be sent to those people who are eligible to attend each event, so if you don’t have access to the internet, you won’t miss out.

If you have an idea for an event or mini-Reunion, please get in touch, as we would love to help you organise it. The College calendar does get extremely booked up, so events outside the Hall would be encouraged!

For further information on any Trinity Hall event, or to book a place, please call the Alumni Office on +44 (0)1223 332 567 or email alumni@trinhall.cam.ac.uk

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**About Front Court**

*Front Court* is an informal publication produced once a year to keep members informed about the College and in touch with each other. If you have suggestions for future issues (date of next issue Summer 2006), please contact the Editors. *Front Court* is now available as a pdf file from our website.

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Don’t forget to sign up to your Alumni Online Directory. Accessed through the web, follow links to Thalumni.net. And please keep us informed of any changes in address or contact details either using the carrier sheet of this magazine, or through the web/email.

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