Campaign Passes First Milestone

Trinity Hall has now set in motion what is, according to the Master, “without question the College’s most ambitious development programme ever” - the Trinity Hall 2000 Development Campaign, to be known as The Milestones Campaign. It will reach its peak in the year 2000, which coincides with the 650th anniversary of the foundation of the College.

The campaign was launched in June on the same day as the annual Commemoration of Benefactors. Those invited included past and present benefactors, Year Reps and others who had agreed to help the campaign. Our target is £13.5 million, of which £4 million had been raised or pledged by this autumn.

A number of distinguished Hall members who have pledged their support to the campaign are serving as Patrons. The President of the campaign is the Master, Sir John Lysons, and the Chairman of its Development Board, which will assist the College in achieving its objectives, is Mr Graham Ross Russell (1953), who was President of the THA in 1994.

Further details about the campaign are given elsewhere in this issue. Readers wishing to obtain a campaign brochure are invited to contact the College.

In his campaign presentation at the Commemoration of Benefactors, the Master explained that particular emphasis was being laid on the intellectual and academic dimensions of the College’s activities.

“We declare our commitment to the traditional values that are embodied in the Statutes (‘education, religion, learning and research’) and our faith in their enduring relevance,” he said. “More particularly, as far as education is concerned, we want to secure for future students an education of the quality we ourselves, and previous generations, were fortunate enough to receive.”

As was reported in the first issue of Front Court, we have identified four priority development areas: Student Support; Scholarship and Research; the New Library; and Material Patrimony. The first and second of these priorities go naturally together, where the emphasis is on intellectual and academic dimensions is focused, as do the third and fourth, in that the New Library, when built, will become a very important part of our material patrimony, as the famous Elkinsian Old Library and our other heritage buildings are.

We are all great pleasure to see the hard work of our students and their teachers rewarded, but we take equal pride in the fact that, once again, the Governing Body had no difficult decisions to make because of exam failure. This is success of another kind and a tribute to the courage of the small number faced with problems of one sort or another and the support we can offer them.

After a successful year, it is perhaps a good moment to put these performance tables into perspective. Only ten per cent separates the top and bottom colleges in the Tomkins Table, the vast majority of Cambridge undergraduates work hard and achieve high standards. Indeed some of the colleges at the bottom of the rankings have achieved more in terms of ‘value added’ than those at the top, having recruited from a much smaller field of applicants. The real value of statistics is to enable us to monitor our performance year by year in individual subjects which we do through the Education Policy Committee and the Governing Body. Although we back in our usual high ranking, honesty compels us to admit that the Tomkins Table should not be taken too seriously!”

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Target: £13.5m

The target sum of The Milestones Campaign is £13.5 million, with just over 50% for academic and intellectual activities and just under 50% for buildings, fabric and facilities. “The total target sum,” comments the Master, “is a figure which is not wholly dissimilar from 1350, which identifies the year of the College’s foundation.”

The College does not start the campaign with empty coffers. A substantial portion of the target has already been collected, as can be seen in the table. The campaign tally, which stood at £3.5 million when the campaign was launched in June, has now advanced to £4 million.

A very considerable portion of this money - £50,000 goes - has been generously donated by Dr Walter Scott, who came up to the Hall as a PHD student in 1969. His benefaction is to be used to fund, in full and permanently, one of our Research Fellowships, the Walter Scott Research Fellowship in Science.

“It is enormously encouraging to us to have received such a generous donation, particularly under the head of ‘Scholarship and Research’, so early in the Campaign,” commented the Master. “But I want it to be understood that all donations made or pledged to the ‘Trinity Hall 2000’ Development Campaign, large or small, of whatever kind, in whatever form, and for whatever purpose, will be gratefully accepted.”

Back Where We Belong

Says the Senior Tutor, Dr Sandra Raban, in commenting on the latest College “performance tables”:

Many of you will have seen in the Press that Trinity Hall retained this year to the top ten in the Tomkins Table after our disappointing ranking last year. Depending on whether the calculation was based on finalists or all three years, we came sixth or seventh. Statistics compiled by Dr Baxter of the University’s Statistical Laboratory provide us with a much fuller analysis, showing that once more Trinity Hall outperformed the rest of the University in Modern Languages. The Classics also distinguished themselves, with both Part I candidates gaining staked status. Final year scientists too put in a fine performance, ranking fourth overall in the University.

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A Commemorative Address

The Commemoration of Benefactors service was held this year in St Edward’s Church, the College’s “church in town”. In his address to a crowded congregation, the Master spoke about the reciprocal role of benefactors and beneficiaries in “a very special community”, cemented by the love that springs from fellowship, and of the College’s commitment to equality, truth and justice. Included in the following extracts is an abbreviated account of his personal reasons for being “humbly proud” to be preaching in St Edward’s.

"It is with what I trust is the right mixture of pride and humility that I address you today as the Master of Trinity Hall on this very special occasion in this very special Church: the Church of St Edward King and Martyr, with which the College has enjoyed a peculiarly intimate relationship since 1446, when the Admissions were granted to the Master and Fellows by Henry VI.

Most of our benefactors have themselves been beneficiaries of past benefactions. Much of what is most valuable in a college education comes – from belonging to a very special community and sharing in the intellectual, cultural, social and moral values that the members of the community themselves, individually and communally, create and sustain. This kind of belonging and sharing is summed up in the word ‘fellowship’ (in Greek κοινωνία, in Latin comunita).

Granted that it was founded, six-and-a-half centuries ago, as a religious institution, how can Trinity Hall still claim to be a place of religion, in an age which, as far as this country and much of the Western World is concerned, many would describe, not only as post-Christian, but as post-religious or even anti-religious? I will argue that it can and more particularly that in invoking the Holy Trinity, in whose name this College was founded we are, in fact, proclaiming our commitment to the spiritual values for which it stands.

To speak personally for a moment I see the fact that I, the first Roman Catholic Master of Trinity Hall since the Reformation, am preaching here today, in one of the most famous Reformation churches and from Luther’s pulpit, as symbolic of the ecumenical spirit that currently reigns in College. And in this context I want the word ‘ecumenical’ to be understood broadly – as referring to any and all groupings of people: political, social, ethnic, or whatever... Our commitment to the spiritual values for which the College stands transcends any differences, not only of religious belief or practice, but also of race, sex, socio-economic class or political allegiance.

What, then, are the spiritual or, in a broad sense of the term, religious values to which the College is committed? These are love, or charity, a commitment to the pursuit of truth and justice. All three can, but need not, be given a specifically Christian, and indeed a Trinitarian interpretation. But charity (charitas, agape) can also be seen, non-theologically, as having its source, together with the pursuit of justice and truth, in the wisdom that is, or ideally ought to be, the life-giving spirit – the communion, or fellowship, of a true community – in this case our College: the Hall of the Holy and Undivided Trinity.

I would suggest that the Trinitarian formula, which evokes our Founders’ dedicatory intentions can be accepted by all of us ‘Christian and non-Christian’ as a proclamation of the spiritual and moral values to which we subscribe and which, cemented by the wisdom from which they spring, underpin the College’s intellectual, cultural and social values.”

Copies of the full text of the Master’s address may be obtained from the Alumni Relations Office.

Declaration of Support

The following members of Trinity Hall have declared their support for the ‘Trinity Hall 2000 Development Campaign’ and have endorsed the goals and commitments which the College has adopted.

President
Sir John Lyons, LLD, FBA

Chairman of the Campaign Development Board
Mr Graham Ross Russell

Patrons
Dr Henri Léon Simon de Glaisdale, PC
Dr Henri Léon Oliver of Alvelmont, PC
Sir Donald Titter, GCMG
Mr Graham Storey
Mr Hamish Maxwell
Rev Professor Owen Chadwick, DD, OM, KBE, FBA
Hon Mr Justice Corbett, LLB
Mr Revd Lord Bancroft, MC, DD
Mr Revd Lord Howe of Aberavon, PC, QC
Mr Revd David Shippard
Mr Donald Macdonald, PC, CC
Mr Mark Talby, OBE
Professor Stephen Hawking, CH, CBE, FRS
Professor Sir Roy Calne, FCRS, FRS
Professor W. Alexander Dure, FRS
Professor Alexander Groz
Mr John Reilly, CBE
Mrs Joanna Weirich
Mr Terry Watts, CBE

Intel Inside

It was during a chance conversation with David Moore and Jonathan Steinberg at a graduate buffet supper in January that Christoph Gatter (1994) mentioned his MBA course and a very stimulating assignment of his with Intel Corporation. One thing quickly led to another, and the Director of Academic Relations at Intel, Melanie Andrews, came to lunch at Trinity Hall, where she discussed with the Master and a number of Fellows a wide range of issues including networking and computers. The relationship with Intel is developing further, and the Company has so far generously donated 26 high-performance PC computers to the College, which have been installed on the central site.

Networking and information technology are now taking rapid strides forward in College, and the appointment has been made of the first Computer Officer, Mr Jon Callum.

Tax-Efficient Giving at a Premium

There are a number of tax-efficient ways of making gifts to the College. If you are a UK tax-payer, as will be commonly known, the College, as an educational charity, may recover the value of tax at the standard rate. If you are a higher-rate tax payer, you yourself can reclaim tax on the gift you make. Tax-deductible gifts may also be made in the USA and Canada, through the respective alumni organisations.

If you would like to receive information about tax-efficient giving, please apply to the Campaign Office at Trinity Hall. We will be pleased to provide information about the Gift Aid Scheme, Deeds of Covenant, Legacies, Company Gifts, Gifts from Overseas, and other ways of giving such as Stocks and Shares, Property and Non-Monetary items.

Where There’s a Will, There’s a Way

By providing Trinity Hall with the continuing means to fund its diverse activities, legacies are a most important way of supporting the College.

The College has charitable status and does not pay tax on legacies it receives. Moreover, bequests to charities do not attract Inheritance Tax and can therefore be used to reduce the amount of Inheritance Tax which may have to be paid on a donor’s estate.

Making a bequest to the College is a simple matter. We shall be pleased to advise on specific forms of gifts, but you are encouraged to seek professional advice about the formulation of any Will.

Our Gratitude

The College will gratefully acknowledge all gifts and assistance of any kind.

The progress of the campaign will be reported periodically (as in Front Cover) and a list of donors will be published. All gifts will be recorded in The Milestones Campaign Book of Giving and the generosity of donors will be appropriately recognised at the annual Commemoration of Benefactors.

All those who donate or pledge gifts in excess of £100,000, to be known as Millennium Benefactors, will be invited as guests of honour to an annual dinner. All benefactors will be given the title, Milestone Benefactor.

There are many ways of having gifts commemorated, such as by naming a College building, a room or part of the College; sponsoring a student, fund or a Research or Visiting Fellowship; or by supporting an activity or specific project.

The College will be pleased to consider any reasonable suggestions.
Loyalty and Belonging

We have listened to Mark Tully with great interest on the BBC for more than 20 years as he brought us news and interpreted events in India and the Far East. He is an exceptional broadcaster and journalist. In 1994 he was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of the College, having served the previous year as President of the THA, and has now lent his support to the Milestones Campaign as a Patron.

"In his presentation, Jonathan Steinberg talked about a PhD being a sergeant or NCO in the academic army. I obtained only a black and silver hoof. I suppose that makes me a private soldier. And I didn’t always find it easy to get that far!

But I want to say why I feel very strongly that we should all support this appeal and make sure that the Trinity Hall which we have known and loved, and still do love, endures, prospers, modernises and, while living with its past, lives also in the present. There are three reasons for me personally why I value Trinity Hall to the degree that I do.

The first one of course is friendship. Many of you sitting here would agree that the friendships that have lasted longest in life are those we made in Trinity Hall. That is an enormous gift which I will never forget.

The second, which for me has always been a hallmark of this College and is directly relevant to the appeal, is the absence of snobbery or elitism. When I came up to the Hall, I was surrounded by people from all sorts of social and educational backgrounds, and many of them became my very close friends. We were of course proud of being Hall men, but there was never a sense of offensive pride or snobbishness or anything like that. I think this is an enormous virtue. It is why, paradoxically, so much effort in this campaign is being devoted to making sure that no-one is prevented from coming to Trinity Hall for financial reasons. This is of enormous importance.

The third and last reason is that Trinity Hall stands for two great values: one is a commitment to continuity and a sense of history, and the other is loyalty. This too is of tremendous importance. As I said in my Presidential Address to the Trinity Hall Association three years ago, we live in an age where the individual is dominant and triumphal, and where loyalty and a sense of belonging are discarded, and very often decrved. It is something that I have also said in other contexts, from personal experience, with reference to the meaning of "class" and the "class system" which I have always found to be a very useful way of thinking about relationships. That is why I am prepared to be part of it. If you have a view of what the Development Board should do in order to raise funds please pass on your views. Finally, just a word on the appeal. It is of course a massive and challenging sum and even with the tremendous start we have made, it is going to require some quite serious personal giving. This, if I may say so, is the bad news. The good news is that immediate cash, while extremely welcome, is not the only means by which you can support the campaign. Promises for future gifts and legacies are welcome. Anyway let there be no-one whose reaction is that of the couple in Aberdeenshire who, after a period of very inclement weather, had not been seen for some days and whose neighbours duly informed the emergency services. The emergency services with some considerable effort dug their way to the cottage and eventually were able to shout down the chimney. "Hello, this is the Red Cross. Is anybody there?" There was a pause and then came the reply, "Go away. We gave last week!"

An Upper Class Sheep-Shearing Party

Graham Ross Russell (1953) was a Council member of the Stock Exchange from 1973 to 1993. He holds a number of directorships and is currently Chairman of the Stock Exchange Institute. He was elected President of the Trinity Hall Association in 1994. In his capacity as Chairman of the Campaign Development Board, he made the following presentation:

I once attended a fund-raising party which the principal speaker described as being rather like an upper class sheep-shearing party. I enjoyed his turn of phrase but frankly if that is all that we are about to do here, I am not sure whether I want to be part of it.

The fact is that if you respond to this appeal, and I certainly hope you will, it is because Trinity Hall has meant and means something to you and you would like similar opportunities to be available for future generations. What that something is is probably different for all of us. It may be an intellectual grounding, the foundation of a lifetime’s work, it may be friendship and community. I am sure every Hall man and woman (although I regret I was before their time) would agree that what we all experienced was an important aspect of life and it can be to an undergraduate, in many cases remaining throughout life.

It tells us something rather important about the breadth of experience which we all had at Trinity Hall. So without becoming unduly heavy about privileged entitlements, what we are saying is we are being asked to do. We all do something to ensure that Trinity Hall can continue to make available in the future the very special opportunities that we all enjoyed? My answer to that is ‘Yes’ and that is why I am prepared to be part of it. If you have a view of what the Development Board should do in order to raise funds please pass on your views.

Why Milestones?

Douglas Collins, the Campaign Director, explains:

It was during the 1720s that William Warren, Fellow and Bursar of Trinity Hall at that period, set up a chain of milestones, each of them bearing the College crest, for a distance of some 16 miles, leading southwards out of Cambridge towards London. They are reputed to be the first milestones erected anywhere in Britain since the end of the Roman period. They survive to this day, representing a kind of symbol of the College’s history and of our future. You may notice the milestones as you travel back in the College - indeed they have been newly refurbished this year by the College and the Council jointly. In a metaphorical sense, the milestones will measure stages in the fulfilment of the College’s ambitions for the 21st century. This is why we have decided to name the ‘Trinity Hall 2000’ development campaign: the Milestones Campaign.

Twinning with Penn State

The Pennsylvania State University Alumni Association is the largest in the United States with over 130,000 members. Jonathan Steinberg has lectured at Penn State each Spring for the last three years and suggested to Anne Riley, President-elect, that they have a weekend conference of Penn State’s UK alumni on the lines of our two very successful ‘Year Rep’ gatherings. In July, Anne Riley and Diane Ryan from the Alumni Office visited Cambridge and very properly fell in love with Trinity Hall. Their first UK alumni weekend is scheduled for 9 & 10 August next year.

An Upper Class Sheep-Shearing Party

Graham Ross Russell
Year Reps Gather

An unswerving and abiding affection for a small and intimate College, coupled with a desire that this character be preserved as far as possible were the common features of reports delivered by Year Reps to the College this autumn.

More than 40 Reps joined the Master, senior Fellows and College officers for their second conference, held in the College on 21 September. The Reps were providing feedback on discussions they have held with contemporaries since the scheme was established last December. Views from every generation since the 1930's were represented. The conference heard specific presentations from Penny Oliver (1942), Collin Hayes (1967), Henry Poole (1968) and Fiona Cumals (1978).

"There was general praise for and appreciation of efforts in the revivification of alumni relations, in renewed efforts to establish and to re-establish contacts both with the College and with friends, there being a feeling that some neglect of late has meant, sadly, that three contacts had been allowed to drift," commented William Chisholm, Staff Fellow in Law and former Cambridge University Secretary of the THA, who attended the conference.

Individual groups and speakers had their own thoughts: the younger favoured including some family-oriented activities and plans to do this were afoot; Henry Poole spoke of the "intelectual hunger" of his generation, convinced that the College could best approach his contemporaries by bringing them back for a diet of the serious but amusing. Penny Oliver remarked on her contemporaries' particular pleasure in contacts revived after long silences, of a desire for opportunities for meetings and dinners for groups with common interests and of a life-long enthusiasm for collegiate life: one startled by all present or not at the conference.

A number of newly-appointed Year Reps were welcomed although the College was unable to note the death of John Broom CBE who had volunteered as Rep for his year, 1935.

The following principal decisions were taken:

1. Alumni Updates: To continue the process of updating alumni records.
2. To produce Black and White news-sheets for individual years once again in 1997. (Deadline for items: January 31.)
3. To promote alumni activities and events shown on the calendar for 1997, in particular, the two reunions (1958, 1959, 1960 and 1985, 1986), and the second Trinity Hall 2000 Conference in July.
4. To encourage groups of contemporaries to exercise their riding rights and other College privileges.
5. To assist The Milestones Campaign by advising the College of potentially useful connections, introductions and referrals, for example in the corporate sector, trusts, literary companies and overseas.
6. To meet again next September.

The ‘A-word’
The Master Argues the Case

"Do you really have to use that horrid American import ‘alumni’?"I don’t know how many times I have been confronted with this question. Now, I yield to no-one when it comes to linguistic purism and, some would say, pedantry. But I must challenge, or at least qualify, the presuppositions of the question. A word can be, may be, but an imported alien neologism it most certainly is not. Admittedly, in the last couple of centuries or so it has been far more commonly used in the United States than in this country in the new institutionalized, metaphysical sense which appears to cause offence. But alumnus, together with alma mater (with which it is both etymologically and semantically correlated) was in current use in exactly the same metaphorical sense among classically-educated speakers of English on this side of the Atlantic long before American colleges and universities institutionalized this usage for us. Indeed, the word was also employed in this sense (as also in its literal sense of ‘nursling’ or ‘foster-child’) by Cicero and other classical authors. So, whatever else we say about it, there is no doubt that it has an impeccable pedigree. And now for the pedants! A male foster-child of the alma mater (‘foster-mother’) is, of course, an alumnus and a female foster-child is an alumnna. The plural forms for an all-male group and an all-female group are, respectively (and uncontentiously), alumnus and alumnae. But the plural form for a mixed group is also allowed, I would hope that we can all agree that this is preferable to the more cumbersome phrase ‘alumni and alumnae’ (or ‘alumnae and alumnus’). Its grammatical (if not political) correctness is explained by the traditional role (which operates in most of the Indo-European languages, ancient and modern) of the masculine embraces (impoliticly) the feminine’. We are quite willing to consider alternatives to the A-word. But are there any that have quite so the splendidly appropriate resonance?

Answers on a postcard!

The Irish Connection

The trail of students from Ireland to Trinity Hall is well-ebbed, both in the past and to this day. But the journey back for those now resident in Ireland for reunions or gatherings is a long one.

That is why Alec Coleman, an LLM post-grad from 1983, who now practices as a solicitor in Belfast, has been thinking about establishing an alumni chapter in Ireland. In the next month he will be writing to members, both north and south of the border, to canvass opinions. An all-Ireland dinner may be the result. If this is the case, the College would hope to be represented by one of the Senior Members. Those wishing to pursue this connection can reach Alec at the following address: Lisnure, 8 Laurelbank, Comber, Co Down BT23 5EH; tel 01247 879496, office 01232 320603, fax 01232 332770.

Tale of Evolution from Perth

Jonathan Steinberg spent part of his summer lecturing at the University of Western Australia in Perth. While there he held a reception for a small number of members who now live in the region. Dr Peter Haskell (1980) and Charles Lockman (1973) joined him listening to spellbound for an hour to Alex Baynes (1963), a paleontologist who works on animal droppings in caves, casting a new light on human pre-history. Front Court will invite Alan to tell us more in a future issue.

Down Brazil Way

Professor José de Souza Marizas, a distinguished sociologist who became a Visiting Fellow of Trinity Hall during 1993/94 while he occupied the Simon Bolivar Visiting Professor of Latin American Studies, has offered to provide a central point of contact in Brazil. He can be reached through the Depto de Sociologia - FFCLHH, Universidade de São Paulo. Caixa Postal 8,105, 01065-970, São Paulo, Téléfax: 011 21/21996. E-mail: jmarizasusp.br

Sri Lanka Tour

Front Court has learnt there were two separate marriages this summer in Sri Lanka involving Trinity Hall members - and in both cases the grooms' fathers were from the same matriculation year. Dr Ranil Salgado (1983) passed through the College on his way from his home in Maryland for the marriage of his son, Ranil (1986), which took place in Colombo in June. Graham Russell (1984) also (1983) journeyed to Sri Lanka in August for the wedding of his son, Alastair (1983). During his visit, in his capacity as Chairman of the ‘Trinity Hall 2000’ Development Campaign, Graham hosted a reception which was attended by several Hall members resident in Sri Lanka.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS and Activities 1996/97

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Making the Grade

"The College's Admissions Policy rests on the fundamental principles of selection according to academic excellence irrespective of background, race, or gender". Admissions Tutor, Dr Philip Withers (1982), and Admissions Officer, Gareth Marlow (1990), explain how the College puts this policy into practice.

Without the student body, past and present, Trinity Hall would be little more than a collection of "heritage buildings", inhabited by "remote and intellectual dons": an architectural curiosity on the tourist trail. Likewise, its future lies in the hands of those we admit. Consequently, we are interested in recruiting the brightest and most vital students we can. Of the 400 students who apply each year for around 100 places, virtually all already have, or are predicted to achieve, three A grades at A Level or equivalent.

Two factors limit the number of undergraduates we can admit. The first determinants the number of state-funded students (i.e. those who come from any EU country studying for their first degree): this currently stands at 94 (6 Government quota, 41 Arts and 47 Science students). The second is availability of accommodation (and other facilities): the fact that the total number of first-year rooms is about 105 means that (independently of other considerations) we can accommodate no more than 10 or so self-funded (largely non-EU) students.

Within the 59:50 Arts-Science split, there are no constraints as to the type of each subject (with the exception of Medicine). All UK applicants are interviewed, by a fellow in their intended subject and also by one of the three members of the Admissions Committee, who see around 150 students each, over a three-week period and act as the ultimate arbiters. Only when the whole field has been assessed, by interview and school-references, and often on the basis of written work submitted beforehand, can the Admissions Committee decide how many students will be offered a place in each subject.

The number of Trinity Hall's offers is based on criteria: achieving three A grades at A Level. Over 80% of those to whom we make an offer get the grades: indeed 50% of those whom we reject also attain this standard. Mathematics is the exception and STEP (sixth term entry paper) grades are usually required.

So how does all of this translate into the make-up of the College each October? The number of students we admit in each subject is very loosely correlated with the number who apply. The intake for October 1996 (shown in chart i) will see all of the science subjects represented, dominated by the Natural Sciences and Engineering groups, but a larger than usual body of Mathematicians. The relatively recently established Computer Science course is growing in popularity, attracting a handful of students each year. Medicine and Veterinary Medicine are slightly different, in that they are subject to a quota, which remains fixed at six and two, respectively. Competition for places is extremely fierce (last year we had over 20 Veterinary applicants!).

On the Arts side, the intake will be dominated by the big four: English, History, Modern Languages (where, once again, Trinity Hall came top in the University last year) and, of course, Law, which still attracts a higher than average number of applicants, but for which the intake this year, traditionally, has been the smallest there has been for some years. In Law, David Fleming proudly holds himself on the breadth of social backgrounds represented.

It is a dynamic vista. In a small College such as ours the number of students taking the smaller Arts subjects is allowed to vary year on year, but it is unusual for us not to have every subject represented within College. The Fellowship feels, in agreement with our survey of Alumni, that this is very important as a rich and diverse academic pool aids education in its widest sense.

Applicants to the College come from around the world, and we have strong links with schools in Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong, and, given recent changes allowing greater student mobility, an increasing number from mainland Europe. This year we welcome a student from the Universitat de Polytècnic as part of an exchange programme arranged by the Faculty of Law, which saw two Trinity Hall undergraduates studying in France for a year under this programme in 1995/96 and vice versa in 1996/97. As for the UK, our applicants come from all over the country, although the few from East Anglia, the South West and the South East is higher than for other regions. Interestingly, we maintain an encouragingly and traditionally high rate of applications from Northern Ireland.

What about the background of our students? Chart ii shows the variation over time in the percentage of students from independent, state and overseas schools to whom we made an offer. The independent and state sectors have become increasingly close; indeed in 1994 we received more applications, the statistical chances of being made an offer were the same for the two groups. Nevertheless this should be put into perspective: of the students who achieved a Level grade of AAA or higher last year, over 60% were from the state sector. Consequently, it is our aim to increase the number of state-school applications. It is now 30 years since we welcomed the first female students, and last year four of the five students who achieved a starred first were women. In 1996/7 women account for 31% of the intake. The sons and daughters of Trinity Hall men course, so attractive to employers. And many of our students have proved that it is possible to combine outstanding non-academic achievement at College or University level, in sport, drama, music, etc., with equally outstanding academic achievements. We therefore welcome promising actors, athletes and musicians and those with an interest in politics, social affairs or environmental issues, subject always to the proviso that they will take their academic work seriously and devote a proper amount of time to it.

The popularity of Trinity Hall is very much in line with that of other colleges, and indeed since 1993 the average number of applicants to Trinity Hall has increased at a faster rate than in the University overall. A new edition of the College Prospectus, coupled with the use of the Internet has brought the College to a wider audience. As a result, we are looking forward to an even more competitive admissions round this year.

This is something which can only be good news for the future of Trinity Hall.

Information on admission to Trinity Hall can be viewed on the Internet http://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/admissions/
Michael Stobbs
1944 - 1996

Innovative thinking and unstinting enthusiasm. Stobbs will be remembered for the way in which he threw himself into projects with unreserved energy and for the astonishing speed with which he was able to assimilate data. He was always ready with the unexpected course of a project. He was an outstanding scientist and as a mentor.

Stobbs spent periods working in the USA and Japan but always returned to Cambridge, where he regarded Trinity Hall as his second home. For nearly 20 years he was director of studies in Natural Sciences and in this capacity he shaped the lives of so many undergraduates through his personal teaching and his sensitivity as a tutor.

Michael Stobbs acquired international status as a pioneer of new techniques in electron microscopy. The application of Stobbs’s techniques for examining the structure and composition of materials has not only changed the ways in which electron microscopes have been used but has also influenced the way in which modern microscopes are designed.

John Boon CBE
1916 - 1996

Professor John Kay
1920 - 1995

On this page, in response to many requests, we are pleased to publish brief appreciations and tributes to College members who have died in the past year. Notices of deaths will continue to be published in the Newsletter.

Professor of Nuclear Power at Imperial College, London. Of his two publications one contains a standard textbook for engineering students. Kay was very musical and he had an abiding love of opera. He was a friend of his nephews, Peter (1960) and Martin (1964) Pannagam, and are members of the College. Professor Owen Chadwick, who knew and worked with Kay, comments: "He was quiet and unassuming, at times reserved. But he was a great friend and an excellent companion. We shared the same love of opera. He was a great scientist, and his passion for music and opera was infectious."

On his death in 1995, he was succeeded by his wife, Susan, who married him in 1968, and by their two sons, Fiers and Justin.

The Ven David Scott
1924 - 1996

The Bishop of Dunblane, David Scott, died in his sleep in November 1996. He was a man of deep faith and a tireless worker for the church. A former student of Trinity Hall, he was ordained in 1950 and served as Vicar of St John's in 1954. He was a member of the Bishop's Council and a Trustee of the Diocesan Fund.

Dr Nicholas Richardson
1936 - 1996

Nicholas Richardson, who died on 9 October after a long illness, was a Fellow of Trinity Hall from 1963 to 1967. He specialised in French history and in 1966 published The French Parlement 1649 - 1830 (Cambridge University Press), a witty and shrewd analysis of the evolution of France's élite bureaucracy in the transition from French dictatorship to monarchical restoration. "Those who remember him well will be glad to know that in his last months his sense of the absurd and his good-natured spirit returned to cheer him and comfort his family and friends."

John Boon, who came up to Trinity Hall as a scholar in 1935, played a significant role in the college. He was especially known for his family publishing house and was responsible for its subsequent commercial success.

At Trinity Hall, he got a first in History and a First in English and despite his many business activities, he remained devoted to the college, especially in recent years, and regularly attended the student's College functions. He visited the College in June shortly before his death for the Commemoration of Hesbourn, and he held the role of Warden for his matriculation year, 1935.

Allan Crockett
1923 - 1996

John Crockett (1935) pays tribute to his brother, Allan Crockett OBE (1940) who died this summer.

Allan had a busy and successful business life, but always gave a great deal of his time to public service. He was appointed a Magistrate at the age of 33 and was concerned to discover that the new magistrates were not trained in the law at all.

Dr Stuart Ager
1913 - 1996

A memorial service for Dr Stuart Ager, who died in January, was held in the College Chapel on Saturday, 26 October 1996. The address was given by Professor W. A. Dear, D.Eng., M.T. of Trinity Hall, 1966-75, and Professor of Mineralogy and Petrology, 1961-78, who knew Stuart well over many years both in college and in the laboratory. Dr Ager was an undergraduate here from 1922 to 1925, and came back to a Staff Fellowship in 1964, which he held until he was elected as an Emeritus Fellow in 1980, when he retired from his University Lectureship in Mineralogy and Petrology.

W H Simonds
1904 - 1995

Wilfred Simonds contributed significantly to medicine, particularly in the West Country. He began his medical studies at Trinity Hall in 1922 and qualified as a doctor in 1928.

He set up his own practice in Chillingham, South Devon, where he looked after, by modern standards but not unusual during the 1939-45 war, a huge area. During the war conducting his practice was more difficult when his cliff-top house in Llanacombe was requisitioned by the Americans as part of the D-Day preparations.

In 1948, Wil wrote his thesis, The Care of Old People, which gained him a Cambridge Doctorate of Medicine. His argument, that old people are better cared for in their own homes than in an institution, has become today's policy. Following the death of his wife in 1956, he moved to Weymouth and worked in Dorchester as a Senior Medical Officer in charge of old people's homes in Dorset.
Living with our Benefactors

Dr Jonathan Steinberg, Fellow and former Vice-Master, took the rostrum at the Commemoration of Benefactors to deliver the following incisive commentary:

Next Friday (28 June) just over 100 undergraduates and a dozen or so LLM and MEng postgraduates will take their degrees. (MPhils and PhDs need not apply.) According to the notice "General Admission to Degrees", Trinity Hall candidates will be presented in the second congregation of the day at 3.10 p.m. It is amusing, now absolutely traditional, democratically, happily for us, the arrangement of the day. About coffee time in the morning, the students begin to emerge in their mortar boards and the small groups of parents and grandparents. There are many fine hats and the occasional Trinity Hall tie. The parents look proud, the students sheepish. The capacity of parents to embarrass their children on such occasions adds to the excitement. Just before lunch, tutors entertain their pupils and families to drinks. At about 1.00pm the groups dissolve and head for the Fellows' Garden where the kitchen and battery staff serve over 500 people a buffet luncheon. We mingle on the sunny lawn, and I meet parents of my pupils, some of whom I already know, others for the first time. If only I had met some parents at the beginning, not the end of three years, one or two questions would have been answered.

About 2.30pm the graduates collect in Front Court, where they are marshalled in four columns, corresponding to the fingers (less the thumb) of the Proctor’s right hand. Miss Jeffs fusses and cajoles them to get into the right alphabetical order, so mesh them up to their rooms to find black socks, and to arrange their bodocks decently. The Master and Fellows now put on their finery too, the brilliant red and placks of the higher degrees, the bright red facing on black of the ordinary PhD gown, the "NCO" grade, as it were, of academic distinction. Just before 3.00pm the Proctor addresses the troops and explains the procedures for presenting them to the Vice Chancellor. The graduates look nervous, then on signal they walk out of the court while we stand and appluined them.

The College has discharged its young and suddenly feels empty. As I walk back to my room to hang up my scarlet, I can almost hear the silence. Nicky and Ben and Rachel and I haven’t gone down...for good. They will never again be together as a unit, much less be part of that company which came up in October, 1993. Their time at the Hall has passed.

I look around at Front Court, its pleasing regularity, its tall windows, its ashlar from, the lantern over the west pediment, "comfortable and placid", Pevsner calls it.

The capacity of parents to embarrass their children on such occasions adds to the excitement.

Lloyd, whose intense portrait looks benignly over the heads of his successors dining in hall, came to Cambridge from Oxford and arrived with a reputation for being difficult, haughty and overbearing. And he was all those things. A rich man and a successful lawyer, he practised all the arts of blackmail which the wealthy employ to bend institutions to their wills. Lloyd was a fellow of All Souls and, as Charles Crawford put it, "after bombarding the Warden with letters, he was allowed to retain his fellowship at All Souls on becoming Master here," an outrageous abuse. Lloyd took a robust view of giving. He had been an undergraduate at Liberton’s College, Oxford, and in 1735 gave them the sum of £250. In his will he wrote "it not being laid out as intended - so more from me." He was equally difficult with the then campaign director at All Souls to whom he bequeathed £1000 to "finish the North Pile, or, if finished, towards completing the library". All three of his colleges took pains to have his portrait painted and to be in it in other ways. Lloyd was not fooled. On his large marble monument in Trinity Hall chapel he inscribed in Latin: "epitaph should be truthful; telling lies is wicked; this place is holy; go and tell lies outside." Like many benefactors before and since, he was careful with his money and knew exactly what he wanted. In 1729-9 he concerted a deal worthy of the best modern campaign directors.

He gave £1000 pears to the College in return for an annuity of £50 so that they could start to replace the glass frontage in Front Court with the latest such windows and ashlar facings. When he died, he left a further £3000 to remodel the hall completely and to extend the College to the Cam, knocking down the old library and flattening the gardens along the way. The plans had been drawn by Messrs James Bunning and James Essex, the chief architect of the time, to whom we owe Clare Chapel, the only chapel in the university where, I am assured, it is impossible to pray to a personal God.

The great definition of the 18th century, not the aesthetic reservations of the Fellowship, saved the Old Library and the Fellows’ Garden. Lloyd’s £5000 pounds proved insufficient for the scheme and other benefactors came with strings. What was done was considered by contemporaries to be an improvement. William Warren, who was a fellow from 1712 to 1745, tells us that the former dining hall was "one of the most ancient buildings at present remaining in the University...roofed with old oak beams, very black and dismal from the Chancellors which is burnt in the middle of the Hall and over it an old awkward kind of Cupola to let out the smoke."

Lloyd’s legacy allowed the College to build an 18th century dining chamber, light and airy, its fine plaster and equipped with a good draught. The ceiling must have been white and curled with those violets, tendrils and thistles of grain so beloved of the period. It was an expression of the age of reason. Its length was twice its width, and even so any one can recapture its proportions by walking ten paces from High Table so that the fireplace sits in the middle of the hall, where it was intended. By the 1890s, undergraduate members had grown beyond the capacity of Lloyd’s space, so the College engaged Messrs Grayson and Odell to enlarge the hall. They moved Lloyd’s 18th century structure with its coupled Corinthian columns further to the east, and, as Perrier puts it, "unfortunatly and incomprehensibly - a Tudor roof was substituted for the 18th century ceiling."

Lloyd’s world was corrupt, full of abuse and privilege. Lloyd was a shameless pluralist and gathered up office and stipends with that unembarrassed greed which made Dr Johnson, a near contemporary, observe, that "a man is never so incorrently employed as when he is making money." Yet Lloyd clearly loved this College and wanted it to be beautiful. He succeeded. It is beautiful in its cozy way. He made a space in which the young people who graduate next Friday can chat and bump into each other. Most of them know nothing of him. Many have never even noticed his huge portrait behind the High Table. Yet they are his heirs and live with him as we all live with all of us, who have lived in his enlightened 18th-century space over the past two and a half centuries.

This abiding, timeless continuity makes Oxford and Cambridge colleges what they are, alike and yet incredibly different. It was pure chance that for once in its six and a half centuries Trinity Hall should have been allowed to have some remembrance of its transitory time in this world, to remind others that we too once lived and loved and had an eye for beautiful things.

It is a wonderful essay on how, Leslie Stephen, a Hall man and great bibliographer, put the situation perfectly:

A man who’s swallowed up in a corporate body, which will outlast him, acquires a kind of derivative immortality. His own life is only an element in the more permanent life. His work could be carried on by his successors, as the buildings which he helped to erect would remain for future generations."

"Looking and coloured" in Front Court before the General Admission Ceremony - this year on a rainy day.

It was pure chance Trinity Hall elected a seriously rich master in 1710 and that he imposed on the following ages the taste of his time.
TWIN ACHIEVEMENT FOR HALL MEN

The Student Sheriff

Hamish Maxwell Honoured

Third Trinity Hall Member in a Row

This summer Hamish Maxwell (1946) became the third member of Trinity Hall to receive an Honorary Degree from the University in consecutive years, following on from Lord Simon of Glaisdale in 1954 and Lord Olivier of Aylmerton in 1965. The University Orator’s citation at the Honorary Degree Ceremony (as transcribed from the Latin) read:

“From this man’s apartment in New York, nine floors up on the south west end of Long Island, there is a view west across the waterfront where Europe’s ferries cross the Atlantic, and the river Hudson with its flow of native wealth meet and mingle their streams. The view is towards Manhattan Island, and almost visible – those who know it can point out the break in the skyline – in Wall Street, where the first Dutch settlers laid the foundations of New Amsterdam.

This man’s origins lie in south west Scotland; others from that country have flourished overseas. He devoted himself to the fortunes of his farm with such flair and attention that he became its President and Chief Operating Officer. But he is far from being the business tycoon of fancy; by birth and by upbringing he is circumspect, shrewd and persuasive, a man of modest lifestyle but vigorous ambition; a tireless perfectionist. He has, in the words of a colleague, a high level of constructive dissatisfaction. He is an exemplary Cambridge graduate.

Let us return to that wide window looking west. In his retirement he has looked back to his beginnings. In 1989 he took on, partly at his own expense and partly by securing other sponsors, the exhibition in Washington, Fort Worth, New York, Atlanta and Los Angeles of treasures from the Fitzwilliam Museum. At the same time he became Chairman of the American Friends of the University and then President of the Advisory Committee for the University Development Office in the United States. In this capacity he has blessed as with more buildings and equipment of various sorts than it is easy to record; Biochemistry, Mathematics and Astronomy, for instance, already know his generosity; visiting Alumnae now know it too.

I present to you a man of many benefactions: Hamish Walter Hyslop Maxwell, MA, Honorary Fellow of Trinity Hall.”

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Sheriffs of Cambridge and of Greater London in the Same Year

The THA Committee has taken a new initiative this year and has launched the Trinity Hall Association Award. It is to be given from time to time to those old members who have distinguished themselves by service to the Hall, its activities, or its alumni in some special way. “It parallels the initiatives the College itself has been taking,” said Sir Derek Thomas in his address at the Association Dinner.

We all have a story of how someone in our family once knew or went to school with someone who went on to be an ex-Cambridge or ex-Trinity Hall. In Hamish Maxwell we have one such story.

Honorary Degrees procession - while he was still an undergraduate. He is now completing his PhD research in Indian History. He is being installed as High Sheriff, he continues the distinguished line of Trinity Hall members who have occupied this position, the most recent being Richard Wright DL (1947) in 1952. As High Sheriff one of Nigel’s major responsibilities is that of overseeing the operation of the judicial system in the county. And many eminent representatives were present when he was sworn in as High Sheriff. At his invitation, no fewer than eight senior judges, six of them members of the College (as can be seen in the photographs), went in procession, with the Master, from Trinity Hall to the Senate House. This year’s Sheriff’s Chaplain, who participated officially in the installation ceremony, is also a member of Trinity Hall: our Dean, the Revd Dr Charles Elliott.

New THA Award Goes to Bevis Sanford

Bevis Sanford (1960) received the THA Award, an Armada Plana, from the President, Sir Derek Thomas.

“Bevis matriculated in 1956 and it happens 60 years ago this year, which makes it particularly appropriate to be recognising his contribution to the College now. His rowing prowess as an undergraduate is well documented, but let me just remind you that not content with winning the Coplegham sculls and getting a Blue, he stroked the Hall crew that went to the finals of the Grand in 1938, and won the Visitors and – famously, with Hugh Parker - the Cockles, in 1939, having stroked the Cambridge crew to victory the same year. But that was just the groundwork. Six decades followed of unceasing dedication to the Hall and the THB. Bevis came back here to coach the College boats every time he was on leave - in 1946, 1949 and 1952 - when one of the struggling oarsmen whom he helped

Sheriffs of Cambridge and of Greater London in the Same Year

In the same year as Nigel Chancellor’s appointment in Cambridgeshire, Sir Cyril Taylor (1956) has been installed as High Sheriff of Greater London. After graduating from the Hall (also in History) he went to Harvard Business School to do an MBA, as did several of our students of his generation, and laid the foundation for his future career. He greatly values the complimentary merits of British and American higher education and, apart from retaining an active interest in the Harvard Business School, he still runs the American Institute for Foreign Study, which he founded in the 1960s. It encompasses institutions such as Richmond College and Camp America. He was a member of the GLC before its dissolution and he is the advisor to the Secretary of State for Education and Employment on the specialist schools initiative. During the 1980s, he became more widely known as the Chairman of the City Technology Colleges Trust, which he played a major part in establishing. He is also proud, as Chairman of the Lesbian Gardens Residents’ Association, of the award they have recently obtained for “the best-kept square in London”. Sir Cyril was knighted in 1989.

In the early 1960s, the students of Trinity Hall, after the untimely death of Fellows at the University, were selected to travel to the United States of America for a two-year period for the purpose of helping out with the construction of the National Union of Students. The purpose of this trip was to help the students of the United States in their fight for civil rights. The students were chosen based on their academic achievements and leadership qualities. The trip was sponsored by the American Friends of the University, a group of alumni who were committed to supporting the students of Trinity Hall in their efforts to fight for civil rights. The students were tasked with working on various projects in the United States, including civil rights campaigns, community development projects, and educational programs. The trip was seen as an opportunity for the students to gain valuable experience and to learn more about the American culture. The students were given the chance to live and work in the United States, and to experience the American way of life. The trip was a success, and it helped to strengthen the relationship between the students of Trinity Hall and the American people.
30 Years On

How happy and innocent we were when we used to jog down to the river together. It all comes back now; the excitement building before we started, the adrenaline surge as we went off, the feeling of rhythm and power (sheer exhilaration) and then the feeling we could do it. Then that was it, done, finished, exhausted, but satisfied - move ever to one side as the rest of the world went by.

So 30 years on we met again. Everything perfectly, the champagne, the table set, the candles reflecting in the glass and silver, even the menu printed in the same way - just like the old days - and the reminiscences of shared moments long ago.

The Trinity Hall Ragazza Boat crew, coach and wives were entertained to dinner on 8th this year in London by Michael Gatautis to celebrate winning their oars in the May races of 1966. One couple came from Australia and another from America just for this reunion. Only the Cox was missing (Had to attend a wedding - poor excuse!).

So Roger Miller was inspired to write the following poem:

Ode to an Oar, or, “Can I come by you, Sir”.

It’s 366 on the calendar, an unseasonable crook around the neck. To know that rowers nagged you could pull for all they were worth. Crooked by dint of Dally, whilst they struggle in the thrall. And yes by dint of Wintwistor, though we be not quite as it was be.

Nathan Harris restored this crew, the steersman Kool, Mathew Naseby hit our hands onto six oars in one boat. Robertson restored his books, as the empire was in hand.

Though Gatsby噪声混合 reminded, to a two man oar.

Mede Rego restored, waken deep, for the logistics that he set up (enlisted them to follow him), do they even forget?

Q.C. Smythe, another, in making the boat they refigured, the river that was fenced (and cracked by Miller in the low).

Lady Magpie the fox in full kill.

Then all she kill, and Clare is quick succession!

Lording O’pen Parker to finish the ceremony.

This Old Hall rowed engi on that chord with speed so fast that Dally’s differences were seen, they’d been there race at last.

The Sailing Crescent

The start noxiously of the BT Global Challenge Race prompted John Bagley (1957) to wonder how he defied the elements and circumnavigated the globe... backwards!

“One Crecent sailed the wrong way around the world! Chay Blyth three down the gauntlet by offering “The Toughest Yacht Race Ever” and 12 men and women - few of whom had any sailing experience at all - grabbed the opportunity of a lifetime to take on the elements in their very own.

As a solitary hall man I had the unique good fortune to helm Pride of Teesside, one of the specially designed steel ocean racers, which had been generously sponsored by Teesside Development Corporation. We braved waves of up to 79 feet (the highest ever officially recorded), against 90 knots of headwind, in the middle of the night, deep in the Southern Ocean. We were among ten crews from all walks of life running from unemployed to professional businesswomen, surgeon to milkman, graduates to retirees and whose ages spanned 40 years from 21 upwards.

The Pre-Steel Hall Challenge, which took place in 1993, was the first time the world had been “match raced”, the first time the hard way against the prevailing winds and currents and the first time by amateurs. All yachts were identical in every respect, so each crew had an equal chance of winning. Only the skippers were professional yachtsmen. Our journey took us from Southampton to Rio, round Cape Horn to Hobart, thence to Cape Town and back home again 28,000 miles and eight months later.

Since returning from the Challenge John has been giving illustrated talks to raise funds for a new lifeboat for the RNLI. If any Hall man needs a guest speaker with a fascinating story to tell for any special business or club gathering, John promises “entertainment with a difference”. Contact John Bagley on 01483 422247.

Tales Out of Africa

“I’m off to Lesotho for BESO”

Bob Ely (1950) recalls his escapades in southern Africa:

“Where? they enquired. “For whom?” Lesotho (pronounced Lexonko) used to be called Basutoland, and, roughly the size of Switzerland, it borders Natal and the Orange free state. It is said to be the world’s highest country, a very worthwhile place to visit.

My assignment was to go as a personnel management consultant to the Lesotho Flour Mills, one of the country’s leading enterprises. BESO is a charity agency supported by the Overseas Development Administration. It has a list of some 3000, mostly retired, people with a wide range of skills, giving their time free.

I spent two months in Lesotho advising on personnel policies and practices, for which I received a warm welcome and much support. The country was formed in the 1820s, ruled from a mountain plateau for 70 years by

Cam Skills

Jonathan Chamberlain (1985), now a member of the chambers committee, reports on the exploits of his friend Alexander Shandland (1985).

Alexander is the representative in Brazil of a charity called “Health Unlimited”. In this role, Alexander set up and runs primary health care projects in the far western Amazon rainforest for the indigenous and the scattered communities that live off a living by tapping wild rubber trees. I was lucky enough to join Alexander on one of his regular expeditions to a project site earlier this year.

Alexander read English, was on the committee of the Preston Society and edited Concel the then student university magazine. Consequently, Cambridge gave him no trouble giving or experience of any kind at all for his job except for one thing. He told me the only means of getting about in the forest is on foot, or by river. During the dry season, when the rivers are very low, certain stretches of water are navigable only by dug-out canoe. The locals move the canoe along by pulling a long pole against the river bottom. They had no idea why or how a gringo like Alexander could be so good at this.

Without Prejudice at the Bar

Barbara Hewson (1979) talks about the organisation she helped to establish which campaigns for equal treatment at the Bar and with the firm-mindedness that we would expect of a Trinity Hall lawyer nabs her own colours very firmly to the mast.

The Association of Women Barristers (AWB) was founded in 1991 and its current President is the Hon Mrs Janet Arden, the first woman judge to be appointed to the Chancery Division, and now Chairman of the Law Commission.

The AWB is a “gin-ginger” group: unlike the Association of Women Solicitors which receives a very substantial grant every year from the Law Society, the AWB is funded entirely from subscriptions, and has nearly 500 members, including employed women barristers. As a co-founder, I hope that former colleagues in the erstwhile Trinity Hall Women’s Group will note that some of the Trinity Hall feminist spirit (circa 1980-82) lives on at the Bar!

What is the AWB do? Well it has a number of current campaigns: to improve the representation of women in the judiciary (currently, woefully low); it gave oral and written evidence to the House Affairs Committee last year on Judicial Appointments and made a number of proposals aimed at involving opportunities for employed barristers. It aims to inform women on issues like maternity and harassment. It also has an interest in matters such as tax relief for child care, and fair distribution of work in chambers, it organises seminars, and an annual dinner, and has a quarterly newsletter.

We originally asked the Bar Council to set up a Sex Discrimination Committee to conduct research into the position of women barristers, this led to the landmark 1992 Report by TMS Management Consultants, Without Prejudice? Sexual Equality at the Bar and in the Judiciary. I am glad to say that the Bar’s Equality Code for Chalmers is now in its second version. This covers all aspects of discrimination, and the Sex Discrimination Committee (ably chaired for four years by the Hon Mr Justice Sedley, and now by Laura Cox QC) now takes responsibility for sexual orientation issues too.

Barbara Hewson became Chair of the AWB in 1995-96. Hall women at the Bar who are interested in joining should write to the Administrator, 12 Gray’s Inn Square, London WC1R 5JP.

Next 2000 Theme: Legal Education & Learning

The next Trinity Hall 2000 Conference, the second in the series, will be held jointly with the British Legal History Conference from 2 to 5 July 1997, in Trinity Hall. The theme will be “Legal Education and Learning”.

The first three days of the conference will be devoted to the general history of legal education and learning, while the weekend sessions will be devoted exclusively to Trinity Hall’s role.

The Trinity Hall weekend section will cover aspects of the six and a half centuries of the Hall’s history as “the home of civilians” and include a paper on Bishop Bateman, a study of Trinity Hall civil servants in University Courts in the 16th and 17th centuries and the Trinity Hall lawyer’s profile in 1996. This part of the conference will be sponsored by a generous gift from Linklaters and Paines. Details of the arrangements will be sent out to TH members in due course.

Sing Again

The Trinity Hall Choir Association hopes to organise a second reunion and general “sing” in the Spring. Dates and programmes have not been fixed yet but the success of the last occasion encouraged the members to have another meeting. Provisional dates, to be confirmed, are 5 & 6 April 1997.

“ALUMNI BRIEFS” - REPORTS FROM MEMBERS
The officers of the THA welcomed a large number of members to the 31st AGM held as usual during the Annual Gathering in May. This year, there was an expanded programme of attractions and tours, including two very popular ‘Fellows’ Lectures’, one delivered by Dr Michael Hobson, Research Fellow in Particle Astrophysics, on Big Bang theory, the other by Dr Alison Liebling, Staff Fellow in Social Sciences, on issues facing the Prisons Service. There follows on this page a selection of reports both of matters discussed at the AGM, and of other events at the Gathering.

Committee Work
The outgoing President, Mr Edward Greenfield OBE (1957), while chairing the meeting, was thanked by members for his year of office. Mr Greenfield told members that he had been intensely proud of the honour, and how it had brought him closer to the College. “As far as I am concerned,” he said, “the year 2000 represents the alma mater reasserting its claim to be a great College, while the millennium year itself will take place in 2001!”

The former diplomat and Ambassador to Italy, Sir Derek Thomas KCMG (1950) was elected President for the forthcoming year. Two committee members, Dr Barry Fairbank (1947) and Mrs Cathy Stavely (1983), stood down and were thanked by the London Secretary for their involvement and attendance over several years. Ms Paola Allen (1991) and Mr Sarah Wexle (1971) were elected to fill their vacancies.

Other Business
The proposal to introduce an Association Award, to be given to time to members for exceptional service to the College, was warmly supported. It was agreed to make the first award at the Annual Dinner in September (see item, page 8).

A proposal to revive a London Association Dinner was also warmly greeted. This will take place in January 1997, thus avoiding competition with other alumni events and taking advantage of the College’s functions. Details of the dinner and a booking form appear on page 12.

The Treasurer, Mr Martin Williams (1966), reported the Association had assets in excess of £125 000 and that the proposal for the Committee to make use of this sum through awards to students or members was approved. For example, subsidies might be given for sports or arts tours, and the Committee had agreed to support the College Choir’s summer tour in the West Country.

The Mothering Type
Mrs Thelma Jeffs who, after serving as PA to the Tutor for the past 20 years before retiring this year, received an award from the THA.

In responding, Mrs Jeffs told the members present that she had enjoyed her long period of service, and in particular the companionship and comradeship of the students. She recalled bow, at the age of 20, her Fortune had been told. She had been advised she would have no children of her own, but in fact would have many children and that she would never be rich. “And that is how it has worked out,” Mrs Jeffs said. “I have not had any children of my own, but every year there have been 100 new children come through the College who I have tried to look after. I have not been rich financially, but I have become rich with many memories of life here.”

Mrs Jeffs received a retirement cheque from the THA, which, together with cheques from the Master, Fellows, staff and the student body, has enabled her and her husband to go on a Mediterranean cruise.

Home from Home in Pall Mall
Ron Wintz (1976), a member of the Alumni Liaison Committee, offers this tour of the Oxford & Cambridge Club in Pall Mall, and finds it an amiable base in London.

The Club exists for the benefit of Members (women and men) of Oxford and Cambridge Universities and Lady Associate Members. It provides very attractive “home from home” facilities and accommodation as well as reciprocal membership of similar clubs elsewhere in the UK and throughout the world.

The facilities include breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout the week and weekends, bar and comfortable lounges. It is possible to entertain guests. The library, as one would expect, is extensive with some 30,000 volumes and there is a most obliging and efficient librarian who can obtain books from the London Library if necessary. Bedrooms are available for staying in town. There are private rooms where banquets can be held and private meetings for business purposes and so on.

There are squash courts for the physically fit and billiards, snooker, cards and chess for the mentally fit.

Medical Society Reunion
Mike Griffiths (1975) reports on an alcoholically cardioinhibitory evening for medics.

We gathered in September to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the foundation of this august body. We had a great evening, starting with drinks in the Fellows’ Garden followed by a splendid meal in Hall with fine wines and of course magnificent College port (which has lost none of its potency). The high point of the evening was, as ever, Dr H F ‘Bill’ Grundy’s speech, a classic of this unique genre and style. I gave the same speech that I had given at the original dinner 20 years before, establishing that the formal founding of a society is based on the printing of headed paper, not the consumption of barrels of beer. There were selling contributions from Gordon Wright, Dr David Rubenstein and Professor David de Bono. Dr Karen Thomas was impressed by the longevity of the effects of her morphine.

We are very grateful to all in the College who helped make this such a splendid evening.

Dame d’Honneur
Lady Lyon - Danielle as she prefers to be known - has been made Honorary Member of the College. The Governing Body minutes (8.86) records that this was “in recognition of her work on its (the College’s) behalf, particularly with junior members”. Asked to comment, Danielle told Front Court that she was “humbled” to be honoured in this way and “delighted” that her association with the students was mentioned specifically. “This, more than anything else, is what I enjoy about life in College,” she says, “and what I find the most rewarding.”

Gaining Ground in Space
Dr Michael Hobson summarises his lecture:

Astrophysics is one of mankind’s oldest interests, and certainly enjoyed an important role in many early civilisations, including the ancient Egyptian and Mayan cultures. Sadly, many of the skills of these early astronomers were lost through the ages and were not rediscovered until the Renaissance. Building on these rediscoveries, however, the last century, in particular, has seen impressive advances in our understanding of the Universe. From investigating our own Solar System, to developing theories of the formation of other stars and of galaxies, astrophysics has combined with physics and mathematics to present us with an astonishing, and often bewildering, view of the cosmos. Perhaps the most exciting amongst these advances are in cosmology, which aims to describe the Universe as a whole. It is in this field that, using new satellite and ground-based telescopes, we hope in the near future to discover, for example, the age of the Universe, how much matter it contains, how fast it is expanding, and perhaps predict its eventual fate. As is the nature of science, we will most likely encounter many surprises along the way, that may change our view of the Universe still further. But, after all, that’s what makes it interesting.”

Incentives for Offenders
Investigated by Dr Alison Liebling:

Prison Service interest in the success of its new incentives and earned privileges policy led to me being awarded a research grant of £151,000 to carry out research on incentives in prison regimes. It was the Home Secretary’s decision that all prison service establishments should introduce incentives-based regimes by early 1996. This project began in May 1995 (under the title: An Evaluation of Incentives in Prison Regimes). The project aims to evaluate the implementation and impact of the introduction of incentives-based regimes in a selected range of establishments. The project comprises a process and an outcome dimension and is being carried out in five of the first group of establishments to bring in incentives schemes in line with a National Framework from 3 July 1995. These include a local prison, a Category C training prison, a young offenders’ institution, a dispersal (maximum security) prison and a prison for women. The project seeks to assess the extent to which prisoner behaviour is influenced by particular incentives, and to identify those in which incentives schemes are successful in meeting their main aims relating to improved order and engagement in constructive activities.

‘1350 And All That’

Following the recommendation of the Alumni Liaison Committee, the Governing Body has approved the appointment of a committee to plan the celebrations for the 680th anniversary of the College.

The committee is charged with bringing forward recommendations, in particular:
- A programme of academic and social events to mark the occasion.
- The programming of any repairs and refurbishment of College accommodation and premises in readiness for such events.
- The production of publications and other commemorative items appropriate to the celebration of the Anniversary.

The annual planning committee will be chaired by the Master, Sir John Lyon, and other members include the Bursar, Miss Susan Pipe, the Cambridge Secretary, Dr Jonathan Sinibaldi, Mr Douglas Collin, the Campaign Director, who will act as Secretary, Mr David Fleming and Dr Alison Liebling as Fellows. It will also invite further representation from the Trinity Hall Association and from the student body.

Front Court invited the Senior Tutor, Dr Sandra Rabas, herself a specialist in medieval history, to establish more precisely the principal dates associated with the foundation of the College. Her researches in the College Archives confirmed these as follows, all in 1350:

- November 20
- December 29
- January 2
- February 12
- March 22
- April 22
- May 22
- June 22
- July 22

The 680th Anniversary Celebrations are sponsored by: Highbury College, University of Cambridge, 71 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 6HD. Tel: 071 930 5151.
“Community Over Time”
Applauded by THA President

The following extracts are taken from the address of the President of the THA this year, Sir Derek Thomas KCVO, at the Annual Dinner in September. Sir Derek, who was admitted to the College in 1950, had been preceded by his father, “Mr Registrar Thomas”, and then followed by his daughter, Caroline, in 1981.

“There is something undeniable about this College that binds us all to it, long after we have gone down, and across the generations. It’s not just nostalgia for lost youth. It’s not even just the fun of catching up with old friends. There is a community of spirit which is not matched in any other place I have ever spent time in. Jonathan Steinberg commented on it in his Report in the Spring Newsletter this year - much improved by the way. We have all experienced it. It is here around these tables tonight. “A Community over time” was how Jonathan defined it. I certainly cannot better that.

It is why I personally have very much welcomed the move by the Masters with strong support from Lady Lyons, has taken over his 12 years at the Hall to rebuild the fabric of relationships between the College and its members, past and present. We used to take that fabric for granted. But it seemed to fade somehow, over the “60s and “70s, and it needed people as determined and visionary as our present Master and Fellows to bring it back to life.

The establishment of the Alumni Liaison Committee - terrible name, but no one can fail a better one - was the first step. The latest phase of the process is the launching a year ago of the equally awfully named Year Reunion scheme, which held its second meeting at the Hall today. We can fuss about these titles but the important thing is to achieve what they have been set up to achieve.

The process will certainly go on and develop, and I am confident that it will help to rebuild and sustain that “Community over time”, so aptly defined.

Of course, none of us is entirely taken in.

We know that something else will be coming down the pipe - and yes, it’s a new Appeal. But the thing is that from the time of Dr. Eden onwards, funds have been the name of the game for any institution like this one, and over the centuries, Trinity Hall has been extraordinarily fortunate in its benefactors.

But inflation has taken its remorseless toll. Governments have increasingly hardened their hearts and tightened their purse strings, and the onus falls increasingly back on those who love the place to fund it further development. If it is to continue to flourish for another six and a half centuries - and why not? - then we must keep pace with the changing demands of the academic market-place, and the Governing Body are doing an outstandingly good job in making sure it can do so. We have seen evidence of this in the first phase of the New Library. The process is under way, but there is a great deal more to be done.

Hence the Milestones Campaign aimed at the 650th Anniversary of the College in the year 2000 - which also happens to be the 50th Anniversary of My Year!

This is not the moment and I am not the person, to make a big fund raising pitch. But I hope we will all go away tonight with something to think about, if we want to see this “Community over time” preserved and promoted as we would want it to be in the future.

On the Nanometre Scale

In July, Trinity Hall hosted a conference on the future of the electronics industry with a number of Fellows and members of the MCR taking part. Sponsoring its first conference in Europe, the Japanese Government Agency, IDE, flew in 25 guests from Japan for the work and ten from the USA and the Continent.

With the Leslie Stephen Room as base, the atmosphere led to frank discussions. Every delegate gave a talk; there were 91 in all and a wide range of topics were covered. Fifteen of the speakers came from industrial laboratories and the conference therefore concentrated on potentially ‘manufacturable’ devices. It became clear that the projected progress of conventional silicon technology will ensure that silicon chips dominate the device technology field for at least the next decade. But in the longer term, there are exciting prospects for nanometre-scale devices, particularly sensors. Superconductors are likely to be important as are single electron transistors.

The conference included a dinner in Hall hosted by the Master, a reception at the Master’s Lodge and a concert in the Music Room, purring as far as the Mill Pond, and an excursion to Ily and the Strathallan Old Engine. The conference was a first and a very stimulating start of a small group of industrial device engineers, thin-film materials technologists and university future-electron device scientists. Trinity Hall was the ideal place and several of our Fellows and ex-Fellows took part.

Copies of the 80-page booklet of conference abstracts are available from Dr. David Moore, Director of Studies in Engineering, and organiser of the conference, at Trinity Hall.

Visiting Fellow 1996/97

Our (Senior) Visiting Fellowships, like our (Junior) Research Fellowships are awarded on the basis of open competition and this is the first time since the scheme was inaugurated that a Hall man has been elected. Dr C. F. Amerasinghe read Law here as an undergraduate, 1951-1954, as did his late father (1923) and other members of his family, including his uncle (1928), two brothers (1967 and 1969) and his daughter, Shalini (1981), now married to another Trinity Hall graduate.

Dennis Gaunaud (1984). Most of Dr Amerasinghe’s career has been with the World Bank based in Washington DC. He has however kept his academic research going and has, in addition to other higher degrees, a Cambridge LLD and has published several important books. While he is in residence at the Hall, he will be associated with the Research Centre for International Law and is planning to complete two further books in the field of international law.

On the Web!

Recent improvements in the College’s computing infrastructure have permitted the introduction of the Trinity Hall World-Wide Web server. It is managed by Admissions Officer Garrett Maclow (1990). Information currently available includes the Academic Prospectus, with Front Court and up-to-date alumni information to follow soon. An Internet alumni directory already exists for those College members who have e-mail addresses; please e-mail Garrett Maclow at gtm12@csa.cam.ac.uk if you would like to be added. A future issue of Front Court will carry a complete listing of the College’s on-line activities, but for a sneak preview, the pages can be seen at http://www.trin.hall.cam.ac.uk/

Sign of the Times

This vintage notice was spotted by Mrs Ann Toner during a clear-out of files. Mrs Toner who has occupied the positions of Secretary to the Bursar, Conference Administrator and now Secretary to the Campaign Director, this year celebrated her 20th year at the College and received a long-service award.

The notice reads:

North America Bound

Flats are being considered for the Master to make a North American tour in 1997.

A preliminary visit to make arrangements is being undertaken by the Campaign Director, Douglas Collins. He will be meeting College members in the following cities and regions in November: Boston, 17-21 Nov; New York, 21-25 Nov; Washington DC, 23-26 Nov; Toronto, 26-28 Nov. Members wishing to make contact are invited to do so.

Staff Appointments

The College has appointed its first Computer Officer, Mr Jon Collins, a Selwyn graduate. He has worked in IT and software programming for a number of years. His multi-purposes aim is to develop further IT and its use in College, and to ensure the smooth operation of the College’s network.

Mrs Jane Skinner has been appointed Domestic & Conference Manager and joined the College in September. Mrs Skinner is a graduate in English and French Literature from Southampton University, and holds a professional qualification in Hotel and Catering Management. She has held similar appointments at City University and the University of Westminister.

Mrs Skinner has succeeded Mrs Dorothy Horner who retired as Housekeeper at the end of September after nine years service.
Crossing Boundaries

Four Court invited the Dean, the Revd Dr Charles Elliott, to report on an exhilarating occasion at the College:

It is becoming increasingly well recognised that many of the pressing human problems cannot be adequately tackled by Governments alone. Or the voluntary sector alone. Or the corporate sector alone. From homelessness to third world poverty, from drugs to stewardship of the environment, there is a range of issues on which everyone agrees urgent action is needed, yet on which everyone feels powerless. The livers seem to lie elsewhere.

This was the background thinking of an international conference held at Trinity Hall in September, entitled Crossing Boundaries: Building Creative Partnerships. It brought together notable players from all three sectors in the United States and the United Kingdom, to think afresh about what we could learn from each other, to exchange “best practice” stories of intersectoral collaboration, and to begin to form new alliances around central themes. Over 90 delegates spent two days in small workgroups - no talking heads at this conference - probing each other’s experience and training ourselves about what “the best” might look like in a set of different scenarios. Co-convened by Terry Weite for the UK and Bob Rogers, Director of the Kaufland Foundation in the US, the conference was unusual in that it used throughout the techniques of “appreciative inquiry”, developed by David Cooperrider in Cleveland, Ohio (and of the subject of a book-in-progress by the Dean of Trinity Hall).

What came out of it? It is too early to say in detail, but here are two possibilities to give a flavour: a world-wide programme to “RE-Affirm the United Nations”, now a broken-backed organisation but one that still refracts important values for the whole of humankind; and a joint USA/UK leadership programme for people who find themselves in leadership roles in low income communities on either side of the Atlantic. Conference chronicler is, as everyone knows, one thing: making it happen on the ground is something else again. The high level of commitment of the delegates and the extraordinary track-records of most of the participants give us grounds for some optimism.

Watch this space!

May’s Hopes Dashed...
But Strength in Depth to Come

Choir on Tour

The Chapel Choir spent a very successful weekend in Truro at the end of August, singling for two evenings and a communion service in the cathedral, winner Organ Scholars, Richard Quennel. We were supplemented by choir members of previous years who were keen to meet up with each other again. This reunion was both musically and sociably rewarding. We sang music from different periods ranging from Victoria and Byrd to Eloweth and Peter Aston. We also said farewell to Ian Macfarlane who retired as Organ Scholar after Truro to take up a post at Law School and as Organ Scholar to Guildford Cathedral.

Next summer we shall be travelling to France. Our two-week visit begins in Rennes, singing in the cathedral and at the International Music Festival. We follow this with a week in Paris singing Mass at Notre Dame and Sacré Coeur. The object is to perform the music of Joubert Alan (1911-1940) in places associated with him; there will be a concert in the Château at St Germaine-en-Laye and we shall be recording a CD of his music in Villeneuve Abbey on the Somme.

Profile of College Lawyers

Trinity Hall lawyers can expect to receive a survey form from the College early in 1997. Data compiled from responses will form the Profile of Trinity Hall Lawyers, the findings of which will be presented in July at the next ‘Trinity Hall 2000’ Conference (see item on page 9).

As has been noted in the annual Newsletter, the College is grateful to Linklaters & Paines for their generous sponsorship and assistance in establishing this project.

“This will be a fascinating survey charting the direction and influence of lawyers from this College,” commented the Vice-Master, Dr David Thomas QC, LL.D.

The survey form will be sent to all the Trinity Hall lawyers who are recorded as such on our Database. Any member of the College who has not received a form by 31 January 1997 and who either read law here or who has taken up law subsequently is requested to contact the Alumni Relations Office for a copy.

(Phone telephone 01223 332567)

Poets’ Corner

Following in the footsteps of poets who are members of the College, for example, Christopher Winser (1956) and Stephen Romer (1975), Katrina Porteous (1979) will be reading from her new book of poetry, to be published by Bloodaxe, after dinner in Hall on Sunday evening, 4 May.

Contemporaries of Katrina will be sent details nearer the time, but it is an opportunity to note the date on next year’s calendar, says Dr Jonathan Steinberg, her former tutor. Members may use their MA dining rights to make an evening of the occasion; the reading will follow dinner at about 9.00pm.

Volleyball-tastic

Volleyball is fast, frenetic, and the only game you can play on the beach—even though we are 80 miles from the nearest beach, you only had to go to Parker’s Pool to see volleyball-tastic action during Easter Term, reports secretary Claudia Conedera. The TH teams were 96% grads, 100% effort. 1st team fought gallantly against strong opposition, beating Newman I and Emma B in Division 4. 2nd team, despite its quota of novices, surged from drop-slip-misses to dig-set-serve over the four-week tournament, winning four out of their six matches.

Smash Hits

The Editor apologises to its many followers for failing to include a report on tennis in the Newsletter this year. Normal service will be resumed next year. This season’s captain, Uri Saxner, has however provided the following brief update:

Having been (wrongly) relegated in 1994 and (rightly) promoted back to Division I, in 1995, the Men’s 1st team had something to prove in 1996. We had a strong international line-up—with players from the US, France, Denmark, Italy and Germany, as well as the UK. We failed to drop a single point as our first few opponents were easily overpowered. Thereafter we cruised to the league title.

The second teams were runners-up in Division 4 and achieved promotion easily.

Association London Dinner

Revised in 1997

The THA London dinner will be held again in 1997 - the last one being when the London Secretary, Barry Lewis, organised a fork supper.

The idea was greeted warmly at the AGM of the THA in May. The dinner is to be held on the evening of Friday, 31 January 1997, at Middle Temple Hall, Middle Temple Lane, London EC4. The nearest underground station is Temple on the District and Circle lines.

Cost of the dinner will be £55, to include pre and after-dinner drinks and four-course dinner with wines.

Dress will be black tie, and College members are expected to wear black tie.

Members wishing to reserve places should contact the Alumni Relations Office, tel 01223 332567 or 332525, or send in the coupon below:

To the Alumni Relations Secretary:

☐ I would like to attend the THA London Dinner
☐ I shall be accompanied by
☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order for £

[payable to “Temple Hall”]

(Price of ticket is £55 per person)

Name

Address

Post Code

Mentional Year

Tickets will be issued a fortnight before the Dinner