Featuring:

Dining Hall Refurbishment

Trinity Hall Across the Continents

London 2012 and After
A College in Mourning

On Saturday 1 June 2013, a Memorial Service for Dennis Avery (TH 1980, Honorary Fellow and President of the Trinity Hall Association 2003–2006) was held in College.

Over 150 attended the service which included eulogies from the Master, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stephen Hawking (TH 1962), and Dr Nigel Chancellor (TH 1990 and President of the THAI), together with a performance of a specially commissioned composition from Julian Revie (a protégé of Dennis Avery). The Trinity Hall choir sang the anthem “Give us the wings of faith” by E Bullock (1890–1979). Dennis Avery, together with his widow Sally Tsui Wong-Avery, are two of the College’s greatest benefactors. Their philanthropy funded two Fellowships, student bursaries, student accommodation, and support for the musical activities of the College, including the purchase of a new organ for the Chapel. Their support has also extended to the University of Cambridge, most notably their support for the work of Professor Stephen Hawking. Dennis will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege to meet and know him.

The members of the Trinity Hall Association wish to express immense gratitude for the vision, fellowship and generosity of Dennis Avery in re-invigorating and endowing the Association. The THA stands as yet another lasting legacy to a man who gave support and friendship to so many.
When Trinity Hall was established in 1350, the College was part of a wider world of European Christendom: our founder, Bishop Bateman, spent time at the papal court at Avignon and participated in the politics of Western Europe, attempting to make peace between France and England. After European incursions into the Americas and Asia, the Hall continued to play its part in the wider world outside Cambridge and England – through intellectual links and through the Empire. Sir James Stephen, whose bust is outside the Leslie Stephen room (named after one of his sons), became Under-Secretary of the Colonies in 1836 – or, as wits claimed, over-secretary for his dominance of policy. His achievements included drafting the bill for the abolition of slavery and defending the rights of indigenous peoples in Australia. Trinity Hall continued to influence imperial policy through the work of Sir Henry Maine, a Fellow and Master of Trinity Hall from 1877 to 1888. His portrait hangs in the Dining Hall, where few of us recall that he was a legal member of the Council in India, playing a crucial role in codifying the laws of the Raj – reforms that were implemented by Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, another son of Sir James Stephen. Maine hoped that the self-governing villages of India, about which he wrote, would be replaced by a modern, centralised imperial state. His analysis of these villages was appropriated by Gandhi who wished to preserve them. The imperial connection continued into the 20th century, and extended to the Dominions. Stanley Melbourne Bruce read Law at Trinity Hall and rowed in the winning Cambridge boat in 1904. In 1923, he became Prime Minister of Australia, pursuing a policy of ‘money, men and markets’, which involved borrowing large sums and attracting immigrants to increase the population, and so create prosperous markets. The policy came to grief in the crash of 1929, but he continued to play a major role in Australian economic policy, in the League of Nations, and in debates over the reform of the world economy after the Second World War.


The days of Masters of Trinity Hall codifying the laws of a subcontinent or writing the constitution of a country have passed. But the global reach of Trinity Hall continues with our alumni spread around the world in many roles – law, finance, academia. Globalisation now takes a different form in the early 21st century, and the role of an academic Master is to visit universities to lecture, and to seize the opportunity to meet alumni. During the past year I have visited many parts of the world. In September 2012 I spent a week in Hong Kong, delivering the first of the WYNG lectures, generously funded by the WYNG Foundation, and hosted on this occasion by the Chinese University of Hong Kong Business School. I talked about the uses (and abuses) of history in the understanding of the current financial crisis to a large audience – and Stanley Melbourne Bruce made an appearance in the lecture. On the final evening of the visit we held an extremely successful alumni event, attended by past and present students and their friends and parents. I met some of the leading business people of Hong Kong, toured the splendid new campus of the University of Hong Kong, visited the Chinese University of Hong Kong...
which is seeking to replicate the collegiate system, and inspected the new Legislative Council building. At a dinner hosted by Anthony Ng, I met the newly appointed Under-Secretary for the Environment who has the formidable task of dealing with air pollution in the area. Dr Andrew Murray, our Admissions Tutor, talked to various schools and we look forward to more outstanding candidates from Hong Kong. Our visit is now an annual event, and we have very close links with both the WYNG Foundation and the Philomathia Foundation which have supported posts in College and in the University. I return in September 2013 with Andrew, and the WYNG lecture will be given by Dr Damian Crowther, a Fellow in Natural Sciences who works on Alzheimer’s disease.

On my return, Claire and I made a more local trip to Haddon Hall in Derbyshire, organised by the Trinity Hall Association – a very enjoyable short weekend in the Dales at the start of a new and busy term, closely following the September Reunion events in College. The Easter vacation started with the MA ceremony for undergraduate students matriculating in 2006 – a chance to welcome back about 90% of the cohort for a first Reunion dinner which promises success for Reunions stretching far into the future. I then made another long trip, starting in Sydney where I was invited to deliver the annual lecture at Macquarie University in memory of Henry George. This radical late 19th-century American economist is now little remembered, but at the time he had a huge influence. He developed the idea of David Ricardo that the increase in land values at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries was the result of the efforts of the community as a whole, and not of the individual landowner. The ideas of Ricardo influenced land policy in the Empire during the careers of Stephen and Maine, and were taken in a far more radical direction by George. He argued that the “unearned increment” should be appropriated by the state, and could even become a “single tax” to replace all other impositions. The proposal was taken up in this country by progressive Liberals and in part inspired David Lloyd George’s budget of 1909 which introduced a land tax; it was still more important in New Zealand and Australia. The proposal to tax unearned increments clearly has resonances in Australia with the current boom in minerals and the discussion over a mineral tax, but I did my best to steer clear of local politics! I took the opportunity to host an event in Sydney which was attended by a number of our former Fellows – Professor Matthew Conaglen, Dr Richard Miles and Professor Geoff Harcourt – as well as a large number of alumni and friends. The event was a huge success, and I much enjoyed returning to Australia and meeting many old friends. A highlight was touring the Quarantine Station, where so many immigrants arrived, with the newly appointed Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History, Professor Alison Bashford, who is joining Cambridge from the University of Sydney.

I moved on to Singapore, where my visit coincided with that of the Vice-Chancellor, and I was able to host an event for Trinity Hall alumni at Raffles Hotel – a connection with the days of the Raj and to take part in a University alumni event. Somewhat to my consternation, I discovered that my lecture on the abuses of history by politicians and economic commentators came immediately after a talk by the Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister. One of my main targets was the so-called 90% rule of Carmen Reinhart and Ken Rogoff which claims that the growth rate drops by 1% when the level of national debt rises above this ratio of debt to GDP ratio, a point stressed by some politicians both in this country and in the presidential election in the USA. I did survive without a diplomatic incident, and I also met with the College’s financial advisers in Singapore and discussed our future investment plans. But the visit was not only about finance and investments: I met an alumna who plays in the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, and another who is involved with establishing art history at the university.

Shortly after my return to Cambridge for the Easter Term, Claire and I spent a weekend in Boston. Alongside academic commitments at Harvard, we were able to use the opportunity to host a dinner for alumni and to visit our American financial adviser, Hugh Taylor (TH 1962). My previous visit to Boston had been longer than expected as a result of the volcanic eruption. On that occasion, I was entertained by Hugh and taken to lunch by his brother, Jim Taylor (TH 1960), at a venue overlooking the finish line of the Boston marathon. On my last visit, the spot was marked by the recent bombing and we visited the site of remembrance nearby on Copley Square.

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We have more visits planned, both in this country to a THA event in Portsmouth and to Britain in late August with the College Choir which will be singing once more in Josselin and at the basilica in St Anne d’Auray. This visit forms part of our established link with the choir at St Anne directed by our former organ scholar, Richard Quesnel (TH 1995). They visited Trinity Hall in March to work with our choir, and the concert in Brittany promises to be another success that will do much to foster the good relations desired by Bishop Bateman. Then it will be back to Hong Kong …

Trinity Hall has global reach, and one of the great pleasures of being Master is visiting so many parts of the world, meeting alumni who are engaged in so many activities, whether finance, education, music or law. Everywhere Claire and I go, the College is remembered with affection and pride. Trinity Hall has played a part in shaping the world for the better, showing that we can all work together regardless of religion or background or nationality. This sense of tolerance and mutual respect was exactly the message of the Dalai Lama when he visited the College in April – and one which I hope we can continue to exemplify. Our student body is drawn from around the world, and I know that a future Master will be able to reflect on new and surely different connections between our College and the wider world.
Dining Hall Refurbishment

Over the last few years a major refurbishment programme of College staircases has been undertaken, with P, G and A now complete. Starting in early July, the hall will enjoy a complete redecoration, a rejuvenation of existing furniture and the arrival of new chairs, the installation of a hearing loop system, and improved lighting and heating. A working-party committee was established 18 months ago, consulting widely with all members of the College, and working closely with a wide range of specialist consultants, with recommendations presented and passed through the Governing Body. The work is due to be completed by the end of Michaelmas Term 2013.

The refurbishment is also providing the College with an opportunity to consider a re-hanging of those familiar portraits of Masters and Fellows. Professor Jonathan Steinberg (Trinity Hall Emeritus Fellow and Professor of Modern European History at the University of Pennsylvania) has written an informal guide to the portraits in the hall which will be published to coincide with the completion of the hall project. As a preview of this guide, our website will feature occasional extracts and illustrations, and we leave you with words from Professor Steinberg:

“These Cambridge and Oxford colleges give us an identity too. We become part of that invisible fabric we call ‘our College’. We become ‘Hall men and women’ and share in the inheritance which our founder, Bishop William Bateman, and his successors passed on to us, and we in turn pass on to the next generation.

A place like Trinity Hall fulfils that wish in all of us to leave some remembrance of our transitory time in this world, to remind others that we too once lived and loved and had an eye for beautiful things. In a wonderful essay on Benjamin Jowett, the famous Master of Balliol College, Oxford in the 19th century, Leslie Stephen, a Hall man and a great biographer, put the proposition perfectly:”

‘A man who is 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.’

Progress on this project can be followed online at: www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/hallrefurb

Career Network

Trinity Hall is committed to offering students an excellent education and the best start to their career, but we are aware that it is hard to find opportunities to seek careers advice, gain experience and ultimately find a suitable job.

This is where the network of Trinity Hall alumni can help future generations. Connections within the Trinity Hall community can be invaluable to those starting out on their career. We are keen to link our alumni with current students to offer careers advice and advertise any suitable work experience placements.

Our Career Network comprises:
- an online careers directory on www.THalumni.net;
- an annual careers seminar, held in Michaelmas Term with support from the Nicholson Fund and assistance from the THA;
- a listing of work placements and opportunities on our intranet careers pages;
- a guide on the intranet as to what it means to work in certain careers, written by alumni.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact Dr Rachelle Stretch on careers@trinhall.cam.ac.uk. For more information on how to sign up go to www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/career-network

Ella Hollowood (TH 2009) spent five weeks in the Corporate Communications department at English Heritage under the guidance of Beth McHattie (TH 1980): “I gained a grounding in effective reputation management and was given lots of opportunities to gain new skills which greatly help me in my current role as a data journalist. I was responsible for responding to enquiries from journalists, monitoring the media for heritage issues and I was able to draft a press release. I had a fantastic time attending press events, such as the Olympic torch at Stonehenge, and preparing press materials for the English Heritage Angel Awards.”

James Bousher (TH 2009) undertook an internship with BIPB, through a connection with Charles Rccoli (TH 2001): “The experience has been extremely valuable in my professional development. It was my first chance to work in a corporate environment and I think I experienced more at BIPB as it is a relatively small and fast-growing company. I developed important communication and business skills whilst having an enjoyable time and meeting a number of great people, many of whom I am still in contact.”

Rory Nath (TH 2008) undertook an internship with Santander for two months during the summer of his second year through a connection with James Lyon (TH 1994). The College’s alumni-led careers events broke the status quo for those of us clinging to the idea that university life would continue ad infinitum. I attended a presentation in College and after several rounds of interview I was offered an internship. Working on a post-merger integration project I gained transferable skills in the fields of data analysis, presentation and product design, as well as enjoying substantial contact with senior management. The internship headlined the experience section of my CV when I applied to strategy consultancy in my fourth year, the industry in which I now hold a full time position.”

In the summer of 2010, Sally-Anne Limb (TH 2004) started a full time post at Emap, whose Chief Executive at the time was David Gilbertson (TH 1975), whilst five other Trinity Hall students started their internships elsewhere in the company. Emap had held a recruitment event in College and Sally had gone along to find out more. After sending in a CV, an interview and assessment exercises they offered her the role of Training Marketing Exec which she accepted immediately: “It was a fantastic first job and I’m so grateful that College made the opportunity possible. I can’t endorse Trinity Hall’s support for its students enough.”
Trinity Hall Diaspora

This map shows the approximate spread of Trinity Hall alumni in countries and territories across the world. The following pages give examples of our international outreach as we follow our Fellows in their research carried out beyond the confines of Cambridge, how two Trinity Hall Ambassadors keep connected to the Trinity Hall community and as students give insight into their year abroad.

NUMBERS OF ALUMNI PER COUNTRY

- < 10 alumni
- < 100 alumni
- < 200 alumni
- < 600 alumni
- = 6,400 alumni living in the UK (74%)
In his nine years in tenure, the Master has travelled extensively across the United Kingdom, attending events in the north, west, south and east of the country.

He has never missed an alumni event through ill health, and has only missed one event through holiday arrangements. Professor Martin Daunton and Dr Claire Daunton have relished the opportunity to meet alumni in College, extending their warmth of welcome to everyone. The Master has also made several forays beyond the shores of Great Britain. Trips to Europe have included Brussels and several to Brittany in celebration of the musical exchange with St Anne Aubray. Regular visits have been made to the USA and Hong Kong, and more recently trips have been made to Australia, Singapore and mainland China.

These trips have often resulted in a decision by the attendees to arrange their regular gatherings – with or without the Master or a Trinity Hall Fellow present. Trinity Hall’s online alumni directory allows those who register to keep in touch with each other. The site is continually improving, and we hope that it will become a natural destination for those taking up new posts or relocating anywhere in the world so that they can connect to the Trinity Hall network and sources of local knowledge. If you have not already signed in, visit www.THalumni.net and follow the instructions.

The Master will be travelling to Hong Kong in September and the USA in April next year.

There are over 400 volunteer-led Cambridge alumni groups worldwide. For more information see: http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/groups

The University Alumni Relations Office arranges events overseas; their next event will be in Canada in December.

The University also offers an extensive travel programme which offers alumni the unique chance to visit fascinating destinations with expert insights: http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/travel
THE HALL ON HIGH

To state the obvious, Cambridge is not the most logical place to research high altitude physiology. Dr Andrew Murray describes his research work.

As I write this, I can reflect on the first few weeks of a typically frantic Easter Term spent dashing between lecture halls and teaching laboratories, with the occasional late-afternoon supervision in the tranquil and increasingly sun-baked environs of the Fellows’ Garden thrown in. The nearest I have come to a Himalayan ascent would be during my evening stroll home, taking me up the gentle incline of Castle Hill, or perhaps the morning dash up a flight of stairs en route to my office. Every few days, however, this semblance of normality and routine is interrupted by a telephone call, a crackle and then a voice breaking through across the poor quality line, thousands of miles away, breathless but unmistakably that of my PhD student, James Horscroft (TH 2008):

"Hello Andrew, can you hear me? Hello. Hello. Yes, it’s James here at Base Camp. Experiments have gone well today. Data’s looking good."

James, along with another of my students, Aleksandra Kotwica (St Catharine’s College) have now spent nearly two months over 5,300m above sea level at Everest Base Camp, Nepal, as part of Xtreme Everest 2 (XE2), a medical research expedition investigating the effects of hypoxia (low oxygen levels) on human physiology. XE2 is a follow-up to our 2007 expedition, Caudwell Xtreme Everest, in which we placed a team of researchers on the summit of Everest, making the first measurement of oxygen levels in human blood high on the mountain in the so-called Death Zone. As part of the team in 2007, I tested my own body’s response to hypoxia along with those of other researchers and over 200 members of the public who joined us as volunteers, trekking to Base Camp and participating in what was then the biggest medical research study of its kind ever conducted. Whilst our team is not attempting to climb Everest this year, in scientific terms alone XE2 has surpassed our previous study, and we feel that we are closer than ever to our goal of understanding why some people perform well in the rarefied atmosphere of extreme altitude, whilst others fade and fail even at more moderate elevations. We hope this will explain why critically ill patients experiencing hypoxia in the clinic, such as those seen daily by many of our team, have such different and unpredictable outcomes.

In this expedition, our major new focus has been on the superior physiology of the Sherpa people, a Himalayan population who migrated from the Tibetan Plateau to their current homeland in the Solukhumbu region of Nepal over 500 years ago, but whose ancestors have lived at altitudes over 3500m for about 30,000 years. There is little doubt that the Sherpas have a natural physiological advantage over lowlanders at high altitude and amongst their number they can count many of the World’s greatest...
mountaineers, including Tenzing Norgay, who, along with Edmund Hillary, made the first successful ascent of Everest exactly 60 years ago. Recent interest in the unique genetic characteristics of Sherpas and related Tibetan populations has provided us with clues to the origin of their supreme performance at altitude, but this year we are attempting to explain these mechanisms for the first time.

Our research includes tests of genetics, exercise performance, lung capacities, blood composition, heart function and blood flow to the brain and other vital organs. This time, we have put particular emphasis on two new areas which between them might hold the answer to successful acclimatisation. First, we are studying blood flow through microcirculation – the tiny blood vessels that penetrate the tissues of our body supplying oxygen to meet the demand of each of our body’s 100 trillion cells. Secondly, in the study led by my research group, we are measuring the function of mitochondria – the molecular powerhouses of our cells that consume almost all of the oxygen that is used by the body in order to burn fuels such as fat and glucose, releasing the energy that we need to support life. To do this we take biopsies of muscle from the top of our subjects’ thighs and separate them into microscopic bundles of fibres before using specialised electrodes to measure oxygen consumption. Whilst this is not a popular study, our subjects, both Sherpas and Europeans, have been terrifically good sports giving us biopsies and blood samples both in London or Kathmandu before they headed off on the trek and again after they arrived at Everest Base Camp. A select group of very brave individuals (including my students but not me, I hasten to add) even volunteered to give a third muscle biopsy after two months at Base Camp allowing us to study changes following longer-term exposure to altitude.

I joined the team for the first month of the expedition to run the mitochondrial studies in the Kathmandu Laboratory. Crammed into a single-roomed makeshift laboratory at the Summit Hotel, were more than a dozen researchers plus around eight Sherpa subjects a day working to a very tight schedule to complete over 60 different studies. I shared a bench with another Trinity Hall alumnus, Ronan Astin (TH 1998), now a clinical lecturer at UCL, whose own study aimed to measure the total mass of haemoglobin in the oxygen-transporting red cells of our subjects’ blood. Despite the long days, the excitement of knowing that almost all of the measures we were making had never before been carried out on this fascinating population kept us buoyant with enthusiasm. Already we have seen some unusual differences between our European subjects and the Sherpas, and whilst it’s too early to reveal these findings with certainty, there is a real possibility that in the long term these could translate into new advances in medicine that might allow the intensive care doctors in our team, and others worldwide, to better care for critically-ill patients and help them climb their own Everest as they fight for survival.
Monday 11 February started as a very ordinary day and then, suddenly, at just before 10am it changed.

That was when I received the first of a stream of calls about Pope Benedict XVI. The BBC: was it true that Benedict had just announced his resignation? Stupefaction! Thereafter, I was juggling my landline with my mobile. By 12 noon I had already done two interviews for BBC World Service, and by the end of the day I had taken calls from The Washington Post, El Pais and Lavanguardia (Barcelona), as well as being interviewed by the News Channel at the BBC TV studios in Cambridge. I have lost track of the other interviews I gave, some on the phone, some with camera crews in Trinity Hall and more at BBC Cambridgeshire. Despite the claims to the contrary from a few smart alescs, nobody anticipated Benedict’s resignation speech that morning. David Willey, the BBC’s most seasoned correspondent in Rome, a man who spends all his time sniffing around the Vatican for stories, admitted to being flabbergasted. However long and carefully Benedict meditated upon this (in modern times at least) unprecedented decision, he kept the secret well. Many of the interviews were, inevitably, about Benedict’s reasons for resigning. My take on it was, and is, that he was absolutely truthful in saying that he could not go on, that his state of health would not permit it. I heard some on the phone, some with camera crews in Trinity Hall and more at BBC Cambridgeshire. When I explained that I was not actually in Rome, they quickly lost interest!

My hunch was that the next pope simply had to be a Latin American. I never thought any of the African cardinals had a serious chance. Crude demographics – the fact that over half the world’s Catholics live in the Western hemisphere, and that Brazil is the country with the largest Catholic population – convinced me that the Conclave would have to accept that it was Latin America’s turn, despite the alleged manoeuvrings of the Italians, in particular, to keep a European on the Chair of St Peter. My guess, therefore, was that Cardinal Scherer of Rio di Janiero would be elected. Of course, I was wrong. They chose Jorge Bergoglio of Buenos Aires. And for the second time in eight years I just missed being present in the studios when the new pope’s election was announced.

Thereafter, my task was to explain the ‘rationale’ of the cardinals’ choice. Well, he was Latin American [at least I got that right!], he had been runner-up in the 2005 Conclave which elected Benedict and he was arguably ‘Italian’ in some sense (which seemed to please the Italians like Rocco and Giancarlo who make up the hard core of the waiting staff in Hall). Obviously, the reasons go deeper; he was presumably elected because for so many non-Italian and non-European cardinals fed up with Vatican bureaucracy and scandals, he was their best serious hope for reform. Scherer, according to many commentators, was too close to the Roman curia, the central government of the Catholic Church based in the Vatican. After Benedict announced his resignation, many pundits argued that this had changed the papacy irrevocably, that much of the mystique of an office which had hitherto only ended in the very public death of its holder had gone for good. The contrast was, I suppose, particularly with John Paul II whose long, lingering final illness and ‘mediatised’ death was a statement, a theological statement, on his part about the normal and inevitable nature of illness, pain, suffering and death.

In my estimation what has really changed the papacy is the election of his successor, Francis I, who is clearly determined to bring the Vatican closer to the ideals of apostolic simplicity and poverty in which he believes and which he apparently practised in his previous ministry in Argentina. The eschewing of the Papal Apartments – ‘there’s enough room for 300 people here’ he is alleged to have said when taken on a tour of inspection – is one sign of the papacy being under a very different style of management. His insistence on calling himself first and foremost ‘Bishop of Rome’, and attending most punctiliously to his episcopal duties there, is an even greater sign and one that will go down well in the non-Catholic churches where the previous constant emphasis on papal primacy has not been viewed as a good augury for ecumenical progress. The ‘pope from the end of the earth’ clearly was elected to carry out reform, in particular reform of the Roman curia, and it looks as if he has made a serious start. Who knows where a serious process of reform will take the Roman Catholic Church?

Dr John Pollard is a Fellow in History, Fellow Archivist and Tutor. He is also Emeritus Professor in Modern European History at Anglia Ruskin University.
Interactive Media in Africa

After the Arab Spring, there was a great deal of excitement about the role social media could play in enacting political change in countries with oppressive governments. Dr Alastair Fraser reports on his research in sub-Saharan Africa.

Scholars initially speculated that a sweep of ‘e-revolutions’ might spread across Africa. However, in most sub-Saharan countries, few people have regular access to the internet, which may or may not explain the stalling of protest movements. To understand what is happening in these typically poorer settings, a team of researchers from Cambridge, Kenya and Zambia have started a collaborative project to research ‘Politics and Interactive Media in Africa’.

In sub-Saharan Africa it is not so much the internet, but an older generation of technologies that are having the biggest impact on political participation. There has been a huge increase in the last decade in the number of FM radio licenses in both Kenya and Zambia. Tiny radio ‘stations’ are popping up in the deep countryside that basically consist of one priest, a microphone and a dodgy generator. Larger urban stations are becoming major commercial operations, making plenty of money advertising to Africa’s emerging middle class.

Since colonial times, radio has usually been understood as a tool of the powerful, used by the state or foreign experts to talk down to the masses about the correct use of fertiliser, condoms and ballot boxes. However, dramatic increases in the ownership of mobile telephones have contributed to the proliferation and popularity of a new format of show in which the listeners talk back, calling or texting to vote in a poll, express a view, or ask a question of an invited guest. These shows are often seen as a threat to the status quo. Zambian President Michael Sata’s victory in the 2011 elections has been ascribed to his skills as a populist rabble-rouser; his jokey and informal style was particularly effective as a way of engaging live audiences through community radio stations.

Western donors, anxious to ensure aid has the intended impact, have latched on to the idea that call-in shows might also enable poor Africans to make politicians live up to their promises, delivering books to schools, water and roads to remote communities. Alongside aspirations to ‘empower the poor to demand their rights’, there is nervousness that shows on service provision might not be the biggest draw. This raises the question of whether political entrepreneurs – or bigoted callers – might use interactive shows to mobilise mobs and to promote less liberal values.

Our research has sought to discover whether old elites have dominated this emerging public sphere, sponsoring ‘serial callers’ to push party lines, or whether call-in shows represent a genuinely pluralistic mode of debate. The first stage of work has involved observing, as unobtrusively as possible, what goes on in a typical African radio station. I have been spending time in Zambia, perched in the corner of a studio as DJs host debates and manage switchboards. Once the ‘On Air’ light goes off, I have been able to grab interviews with DJs, the politicians they have interviewed, and the listeners and callers. The aim is to work out who controls the agenda, what type of people call and who gets on air.

One particularly enjoyable part of the work in Zambia’s capital, Lusaka, has been tracking down and interviewing ‘serial callers’. The first thing that became clear is that they are not ‘sponsored’ party cadres. Rather, we found a small band of rather eccentric men (and they are all men) who aim to contribute their thoughts at least once a day, and have learned a few tricks of the trade. They have several radios to monitor multiple stations and several mobiles to make sure their calls get through. They need no-one’s permission to speak, but most see themselves as ‘representatives’ of communities in which they are celebrated as local champions. Several serial callers are market-stall holders with plenty of time and a regular spot to which people can come to ask them to pursue particular concerns; many of the serial callers meet each other face-to-face and call each other to plan their interventions. This is particularly true of a disabled sub-group within the serial callers. As one of them put it, “Being blind is no disadvantage on the radio”.

Serial callers’ campaigns and interventions are frequently reported in the newspapers and seem to have affected some policies. As a result, some serial callers have become so well known that they have been invited as in-studio guests to answer other callers’ questions, or have been approached to run for office by parties who hope to ride on serial callers’ celebrity. None of them has yet won a seat, but it is at this point that our research questions about who gets to participate starts to generate answers: those willing to spend time and money to enjoy the sound of their own opinions coming out of radios across the city.

Dr Alastair Fraser is the Philomathia Fellow in African Politics at Trinity Hall. The Politics and Interactive Media in Africa (PIMA) project is hosted by the Centre for Governance and Human Rights in the Department of Politics, and funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC; http://www.esrc.ac.uk) and the Department for International Development (DFID; http://www.dfid.gov.uk).

An opposition rally in Chipata, Zambia during the 2011 elections

Guests from the civil service answer callers’ questions on Radio Breeze, Chipata, Zambia
Being the Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York has given me a unique opportunity to connect with the Trinity Hall diaspora in New York and elsewhere. I host a reception at my residence for Trinity Hall members at the beginning of each summer. Of course, others from different academic institutions enthusiastically join the Hall men and women at this event which is always a success, with many having to be turned away due to space constraints.

This reception gives participants the opportunity to re-establish links with their own contemporaries and also make the acquaintance of other alumni. I find it a wonderful opportunity for reminiscing with my contemporaries of the wonderful times we had during our sojourn at Trinity Hall. I managed to find time to play cricket, amongst other things, for the Hall team during my stay and a couple of my team mates live in the tri-state area. The balcony of the residence, with its sweeping views of the East River and Queens stretching as far as the distant JFK airport, has become a popular place to interact with other alumni during this reception.

Many a useful social and professional contact has been made at these events. It is amazing the number of Hall alumni who have gravitated to New York for work. The common refrain is that if you make it in New York, you can make it anywhere. The range of professions in which the Trinity Hall alumni are engaged and the aura of visible success that surrounds them seems to confirm this adage. They are to be found in banks, hedge funds, insurance companies, in leading legal firms, the media, the arts, etc. Trinity Hall alumni from many parts of the world also visit New York as members of delegations sent by their Governments to various United Nations meetings. Many have taken the diplomatic track to serve their countries. There are others working at the UN.

These days the UN is constantly in session dealing with issues of intrinsic interest to the global community. So far this year, among the prominent issues that have been addressed are: the follow up to the Rio Plus 20 outcomes; defining sustainable development goals which would be a challenge to even the most patient among us; sustaining the momentum relating to the millennium development goals after the target year of 2015; negotiations on a treaty on the trade in arms which has produced bitter divisions; the annual meeting of the commission on the status of women with all its socio-political and religious complexities; discussions on biological diversity beyond national jurisdiction (a UN working group that I co-chair); elements of the UN budget, not to mention the politically charged areas such as Mali, Syria, nuclear non-proliferation in certain parts of the world, etc.

Many difficult issues may be resolved and compromises achieved on the basis of personal relations developed at receptions through quiet diplomacy. An Ambassador in charge of a small mission, such as Sri Lanka, is often required to acquire expertise at short notice to represent his or her country at any one of these discussions. That is also the key challenge at a busy multilateral post such as New York.
British Ambassadors often value links with their old colleges. “There, I told you! They’re all Oxbridge. You’re looking at the umbilical cord of the chinless establishment!” Er – thanks. Bit of a stretchy cord, if you think of the far flung places in which we end up. And we’re not all Oxbridge either.

But when we are – so what? And if we occasionally hanker after the Backs and Betty’s cakes, so what again? We sit in tents with Sheikhs, we mop our brows and unfold our laptops amidst all the chaos and colour of Africa and Asia. We need our occasional fix of mellow-stoned staircases, bicycling blue stockings, chapels, choirs and punts. They crystallise our Britishness. They root us back home.

A number of senior Ambassadors over the years, men and women, have ended up as Masters or Principals of Oxbridge colleges (“There, what did I tell you?” Oh be quiet). Perhaps it’s a soft landing, for colleagues who have become used to running small institutions in fine old buildings surrounded by clever people. But there is something in it for the dons too. As more than one of them has told me (not, I hasten to add, from Trinity Hall) – we need you professional peacemakers to stop us feuding!

Anyway, myths aside, the point is that the links are valued in both directions. Cambridge has not kept its place as one of the world’s top universities by ignoring the world, and could not hope to do so anyway in the internet age. It attracts the best and the brightest from all over the planet, and their fields of study cover everything on and of the planet (indeed, planets!). Working with the British Council, we Ambassadors are able to market Cambridge and other top UK seats of learning to scholars and future leaders from our host countries.

Sometimes we can help with fields of study. Andrew Murray, a Trinity Hall Fellow, is involved in an imaginative project to examine ways in which the Sherpas of the high Himalaya have evolved to function with less oxygen, in the hope of discovering factors which could prevent or palliate strokes (featured in this edition, on pages 8 and 9). So I’m in touch with him to see what I, as Ambassador in Nepal, can do to help. In DRC and Kosovo, both case studies in the challenges of post-conflict reconstruction, I had several PhD students, some from Cambridge, interview or write to me for theses in that area.

Sometimes, too, our world comes to Cambridge. In late 2008 President Sedjiu of Kosovo, himself a historian, teacher and writer, was in the UK to meet the Prime Minister and had a day spare. He told me he had visited Oxford but not Cambridge. I told him he hadn’t lived (!) and asked Martin and Claire Daunton if he could visit Trinity Hall. They responded magnificently and he now has a facsimile of a 300-year-old chart from the Old Library showing that Kosovo’s modern day capital Pristina was already “on the map” in 1715.

And finally … we come in handy as ringers. Visiting Martin and Claire on a subsequent occasion I was enlisted to make up the numbers for the Fellows in a tug-of-war against the staff. At 75 kg and five feet six inches I am sure I made all the difference. But anyway – we won!

Andy has recently finished a secondment to the European Union as Deputy Head of the largest EU civilian mission in the world, the EU Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo.

Andy Sparkes CMG
TH 1978, previously HM Ambassador to the Congo and then Kosovo, and presently HM Ambassador to Nepal

Working with the British Council, we Ambassadors are able to market Cambridge and other top UK seats of learning to scholars and future leaders from our host countries.
A Year Abroad in Argentina

A land of meat, football, and beautiful women. And not much else ...

Or so you’d believe if you were to visit on holiday and never get beyond the ritualistic ice-breakers that almost every Argentine (even women!) will proffer on your first encounter: ‘¿Ya comiste un asado acá?’ (‘Have you eaten a barbecue here yet?’). The basis for this? A proper *asado* is a barbecue unlike any other, consisting solely of cow and virtually every conceivably edible cow part at that (liver, kidneys, sweetbread, chitterlings ... you get the drift) with a smidge of token greenery on the side. It is a national institution and, thankfully, surprisingly delicious if cooked by an experienced *asador* or perhaps, for political correctness sake, an *asadora* (but I’ve still yet to see one).

As I find myself having completed the first two months of my six-month teaching placement in a lovely English school called San Bartolomé here in Rosario, I feel very much at home. I was lucky enough to venture here and work for three months on a gap year in 2010, and I didn’t hesitate in snapping up the chance to return. As part of that trip I was fortunate enough to savour the diverse array of landscapes on offer within this jarringly mammoth nation: the raging waters of the Iguazú waterfalls at the border with Paraguay and Brazil; the breathtaking panorama of the Bariloche Lake District at the foothills of the Andes bordering Chile; and the ever more earthy and rugged backdrops of Tucumán, Cafayate, Salta, Jujuy, and Purmamarca.

But, alas, I must at times rein in my wayfaring reveries and remind myself that the Year Abroad is an unequalled opportunity to reach fluency in one’s chosen foreign language[s] of study, in my case Spanish, and the principal reason I am actually here. In between working and studying hours and of course not overlooking the blight of many a linguist’s year out, the infamous Year Abroad project – finding time to attend a weekly Spanish class, gorge myself on the at times repetitive staple foods of *milanesas* (breaded veal), *supremas* (breaded chicken) and *gnocchis* (gnocchi), play 5-a-side football with locals, visit a recently discovered gem of a cinema gifting many a free showing and going out to the bars and *boliches* here (Rioplatense Spanish for *discotecas*) with various groups of friends I have made means, all in all, I am rather busy.

My final word of mention must, however, go to the truly great people I have met here. From that very first moment: that first taxi ride with those stereotypical starters for ten; that first negotiation of a seemingly impossible linguistic task in order to converse with locals in such a different dialect of Spanish; that first invitation to a fellow teacher’s house to share their food and home and stories, and play with their children; that first awkward beso (kiss) on the cheek when meeting new male acquaintances (yes, they really do that); right through to meeting up with friends in the park at weekends and drinking mate together (a bitter, infused tea typical of Argentina and its surrounding countries); to the countless medialunas (sweet or savoury croissants) and *facturas* rellenas de dulce de leche (pastries filled with caramelised condensed milk) eaten as an afternoon *merienda* (snack) with friends and colleagues; to the unwavering affection shown by a people for an extranjero (a foreigner) from Britain, by a people who are often dissatisfied, dismayed even, with the rocketing inflation rates, severe government restrictions on imports, exports and travel, and lack of social security within their own home nation, I have never felt anything other than incredibly welcomed and humbled by the kindness and positivity emanating from the wonderful ‘Rosarinos’ whose city I am proud to call my, albeit temporary, home.

Rory Griffiths
[TH 2010 – currently studying MML]
Chile originally featured relatively low down on that list, so it was with some degree of uncertainty that I found myself applying to study and teach English at a small university in Santiago. Although initially uninspired by the prospect of teaching English, I have found it to be both challenging and extremely rewarding. Aside from the general skills one acquires as a teacher, it has taught me a huge amount about Chile and its people through constant interaction with students.

For the most part, my life in Santiago is relatively uncomplicated. I have enjoyed taking on new responsibilities and, dare I say, leaving the Cambridge bubble temporarily; I have vastly improved, though frustratingly not perfected, my Spanish (very little could have prepared me for the variety spoken here); and I have developed a genuine appreciation for a new culture.

Although aesthetically fairly unremarkable, save for the city’s mountainous backdrop, Santiago brims with modern sophistication. Its museums, trendy cultural centres and vibrant nightlife are all indicative of a positive cultural shift in a post-dictatorship era. The wide, leafy boulevards, expensive shops and luxury apartment blocks seem to confirm Chile’s reputation as Latin America’s burgeoning model economy. And yet social inequality is rife and discontent high. Lamentably, much of this remains exceptionally well-hidden and therefore overlooked by many.

Geographically, Chile is replete with contrast. It is only upon leaving Santiago that I become aware of the fact that I am 12,000km away from home. It is the longest north-south country in the world and therefore displays a remarkable variation of landscapes – from the Atacama Desert in the north (supposedly the driest place on earth), down to the fjords, glaciers and icebergs of the far south.

Clichéd though it may sound, my year abroad has undoubtedly been one of the best years of my life. My initial reservations were quickly overcome, and I am quite certain that I will be back sooner rather than later.

Edmund Daley
[TH 2010 – currently studying MML]
A talk on language, literature and medicine in the extreme climates of the polar regions, Everest and Greenland, sat well alongside that on the global incidence of cardiovascular disease, stroke and diabetes, and their disastrous consequences, both social and economic. And a long, hard, critical look at the British economy, in its present state and in historical perspective, came as a well-matched companion to a panel Forum on the highly topical subject of tax avoidance, barely out of the news since. It has been a bumper year!

**The results were heartening. The overwhelming response was positive in terms of the range and quality of the talks, and the topics covered; and we had some good suggestions.**

Our speakers have included Fellows and students of the College, alumni, and those whose primary associations are with other institutions. It is always a huge pleasure and privilege to welcome speakers who give their time and expertise freely, and who, unfailingly, provide an excellent level of engagement with the audience both in the talks and the quite lengthy question sessions.

Audiences have been consistently large ranging from 130 to 170, and ticketing is now essential. One of the most interesting aspects of running the series is the way in which it has brought members of the public into the College who would otherwise not pass through our gates and would know very little of what goes on in Trinity Hall. We hope, and believe, we have made everyone feel welcome; and, indeed, some very useful encounters have taken place amongst strangers sitting next to each other, waiting for a Forum talk to take place, or over a drink afterwards.

This year we drew up a survey questionnaire to find out what our growing audience thought about the series, now in its ninth year. The results were heartening. The overwhelming response was positive in terms of the range and quality of the talks, and the topics covered; and we had some good suggestions. A number of respondents liked the panel format – and this year we have had two panel sessions – others wanted more time for questions. Of the favoured areas of interest reported in the survey we have covered many across the series – economics, history, art, medicine, architecture, engineering, law, landscape, theology and different areas of scientific enquiry. We have actually been rather light on history, most surprising given the academic interests of those of us who reside here in the Master’s Lodge!

Literature and music were also mentioned as areas of special interest in the survey and these will be covered in the next Forum on Shakespeare and Wagner, with speaker Patrick Carnegy (TH 1960), formerly dramaturg at the Royal Opera House. This will be topical because of the bicentenary of the death of Richard Wagner. Our final talk in the Forum series will include material on architecture and engineering, and on planning, when we look at the planning of public transport in its architectural, engineering and environmental context. There will be a panel of speakers led by Professor Robert Mair, CBE, FREng, FRS (Professor of Geotechnical Engineering at the University of Cambridge).

Dr Claire Daunton and Mary Richmond

**Further details are on the events page, so sign up early to be sure of a ticket!**

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**Topography and Topicality**

For a series that has often been framed by serendipitous encounters, this year’s Forum programme seems, remarkably, to have emerged with two overarching themes – topography and topicality.
TH Sport

Fencing

Abigail Harvey (TH 2012) reports on the 106th Annual Varsity Fencing match on Saturday 6 March which saw a tense clash of arch-rivals followed by Light Blue victory for both men’s and women’s first teams.

Being one of the longest running Oxford vs Cambridge stand-offs in history, I was delighted to share a taste of the glory with my friends and teammates in the women’s match.

From the outset, Cambridge was very much the favourites all round, both teams having defeated Oxford twice previously in the season. However, going into our most important contest of 2013 in front of a home crowd, complacency was simply not an option. The hunger to win was all the more pungent considering Varsity victory would put the women’s team on track to qualify for Full Blues.

It was not until the day of the contest itself that I truly appreciated the celebrated Light and Dark Blues rivalry. Clearly the fierce competition between Oxford and Cambridge is far from secret, but I was completely unprepared for the world of difference between fencing our longstanding foes in the British Universities and Colleges Sports (BUCS) league and the electric exhilaration of competing in a home Varsity match. Before my appearance in the épée leg of the women’s three-weapon relay, the Light Blue sabreurs forged a strong lead of 15 hits. With sabre being the only weapon that allows points to be scored by cutting with the edge of the blade, this impressive display of dominance sparked the atmosphere at the New Museum site. My nerves gave way to focus as I stepped onto the piste, ready to hold and expand on this early break.

A solid performance from the épée squad meant that Oxford would have to give their all to claw back victory from another fifteen point lead. Although putting up a formidable fight, it was too little too late for the Dark Blues. The strongest women’s foil team seen in years secured Cambridge the title of Women’s Varsity Champions with a final cumulative score of 133–86.

Adding to the amazing experience of victory over Oxford for the fourth consecutive year, further success came in the form of Full Blues for the entire women’s team when we qualified for the BUCS Championship Finals. After a tense match against Edinburgh in the semis, we only narrowly missed out on taking the national title, losing to Imperial College London by just ten hits overall. The team’s performance this season has set an extremely high standard for the years to come; having recently elected next year’s women’s captain, the whole team is itching to train relentlessly and repeat excellence in 2014.

In addition to her Varsity success, Abigail has also fenced épée for the British Junior Fencing Squad.

Rugby

The most recent Trinity Hall e-newsletter reported on the success of the Rugby team as they reached the final of Cuppers. We speculated as to whether this achievement had ever happened before in the history of the College. Of course it had, and our query caused a huge response from those who were here in 1967 when the final was played twice and both matches drawn – and what’s more the team had a reunion in Hall in 2007 (the 40th anniversary). Thanks so much to everyone who responded regarding the achievements of 1967. We, and the team of 1967 in particular, send our hearty congratulations to the 2013 team!

Water polo

Congratulations to the Trinity Hall Water Polo team who won Cuppers in a close final against Queens’. The match was won on penalties.

Football

Following on from the success of last year, we are delighted to report that the Trinity Hall women’s football team has triumphed again by retaining the Plate, following a 3-0 win against Churchill in the final. Congratulations to the team and to Malcolm Pearman, their coach. The men’s 1st XI also had a great season winning seven out of the nine games to become champions of division two.

The Master with the Plate winners

If you would like to experience the excitement of a Varsity game then book up now for the Varsity Rugby match on 12 December 2013. For booking details, please contact Dr Rachelle Stretch on sports@trinhall.cam.ac.uk or visit the website: www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events

Men’s and Women’s first teams celebrate Varsity Victory. Abigail is in the back row, second from right
I’d already met Jenny Sealey – Director of the Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony – and expressed an interest in her work, so I was thrilled to secure a job as an Access Worker for the ceremony, based in the Professional Aerial Cast.

Fifty performers, whose disabilities ranged from visual impairment to artificial limbs, trained full-time from May until the end of August. The performance included harness, vertical rope and the wonderful fibreglass ‘sway poles’, each 3m high with a perch on which the performer stands and uses his body weight to fling himself almost to the floor while swivelling around the fixed base. Despite being told it was ‘impossible to fall out’, I was glad not to be the one attempting the ‘back balance’ manoeuvre!

Far from mastering any tricks, my role consisted of assisting performers to overcome the barriers imposed by their various impairments. Jobs ranged from physically supporting people with no use of their legs during floor-based warm-ups, to audio-describing aerial choreography for visually impaired artists. The group’s routines ultimately formed a small part of the giant spectacle taking place at the Olympic Stadium, but the intense process leading up to it heightened our sense that we were involved in something much greater than the sum of its parts. While my own role was hardly a starring one, I felt lucky to be working at such a remarkable event that I hope will have a lasting effect on attitudes towards disabled performance.

After such an awe-inspiring first year in the field, it was hard to know where to look for my next job – and it would certainly have been foolish to try and beat 2012 in terms of spectacle. Keen to use my experience as a springboard into my own creative work, I have recently founded Unscene Suffolk, a new community theatre company for blind and partially sighted adults in my home town of Ipswich. Thirteen participants have been meeting weekly since February, and we are now in rehearsals for our first public performances this summer. They might not be for a global audience, but amidst much talk of the ‘legacy of 2012’, this project provides a much needed opportunity to access the Arts for a group with a specific sensory need. By encouraging participation at grassroots level, Unscene Suffolk will contribute in its own small way to improving our cultural industries’ relationship with disabled people as audiences and as artists.

Jenni Halton (TH 2004)
As the Michaelmas Term comes to an end, December 19 1980, it seems I might do well to try to capture a few impressions of what has been going on in recent months, presuming, of course, that I understand, at least somewhat.

Perhaps I should start as the day begins. Few people outside Cambridge realize that scholarship begins at 6am. My alarm sounds at six. The cold radiates through the windows and I listen for rattling of the window glass, the first indication of whether or not there is wind. If there is wind it will be worse than mere cold, which can be tolerated with clenched teeth. The wind causes one to moan, audibly, for the first few moments of bike peddling through the darkness on the way to the boathouse.

I can see snowflakes in the light of my Marlborough bicycle and I hear the drone of my friction-driven light generator mingling with the hum of others as dozens of bicycles converge on Midsummer Common, an open park, which must be crossed to reach the River Cam.

As one nears the Cam one notices the light bulbs in front of the boathouses swinging in the wind, dripping drops of water as they melt the snowflakes striking them. As I cross the bridge I hear the splash, splash, splash of St John’s College Eight passing under. Actually St John’s does not have a boat, for the college was banned from the river for two hundred years. They now row under an alias, Lady Margaret. (The two hundred year penalty followed a careless ramming and resultant death of an opponent’s cox during what the water sportsmen euphemistically call “bumps”). St John’s will have an official boat again in AD 2152.

No matter what the weather, two rules reign on the river. No gloves.

a. “Coming from behind sir: may we pass sir”.

b. “Yes sir, you may pass, sir”.

c. “Thank you, sir”.

(Actually b. did not want a. to pass, and b. was not at all thankful to be overtaken.)

The only time I am truly unhappy on the river is when the snowflakes hitting my knuckles no longer melt.
THA Secretary’s Report

On 23 July we heard of the sudden and untimely death of Dennis Avery (TH 1980, Honorary Fellow and President of THA 2003–2006), a great friend to the College, to the Association and to many members of both institutions. We owe a very great debt to Dennis and Sally, both for their very generous endowment of the Association and for his leadership, as President, at a time when its future looked less than secure. We were very grateful to Barry Lewis (TH 1959 and former THA Secretary) who, at very short notice, changed his travel plans and flew from Thailand to San Diego to represent us at the funeral. Many of us had the opportunity to attend his memorial service in Chapel on Saturday 1 June.

At the AGM the Committee proposed a new policy covering subsidies for events. For the last few years the Association had been offering subsidies to events organised by year groups and other special interest groups in order to encourage wider participation. That policy had been in many ways remarkably successful – to the extent that it was becoming increasingly difficult to meet all the demands from available resources. After much discussion the Committee decided that we should place more emphasis on maintaining contact with recent alumni and we therefore proposed that the Association should host the drinks prior to the MA dinner and subsidise the ticket price for THA events for members within ten years of matriculation. The revised policy was carried nem con.

The AGM was followed by a really excellent dinner in Hall – superb food, excellent wines (with great recommendations from Sara Rhodes, the Butler, and Dr Cristiano Ristuccia, the Wine Steward) and, of course, great fellowship. The numbers attending were down somewhat, but this almost certainly reflects the greater number of other events and reunions that had taken place over the preceding period, something which is certainly to be recommended. The Committee is keen to look at ways in which we might encourage the attendance of younger members.

Not many weeks later, on Friday 12 October, the THA gathered again for a dinner at Haddon Hall just outside Bakewell in Derbyshire. The evening started with a tour of the Hall, a medieval manor house described as “the most complete and interesting house of its period”. After drinks in front of a very welcome log fire in the hall, we sat down to dinner.

The annual careers seminar, organised jointly by Dr Rachelle Stretch and Andrew Burr (TH 1977), was again a success with a great array of speakers. Opposite, you will find news of the THA Awards which go from strength to strength – a great testimony to Dennis Avery and his spirit of benefaction.

There have been some changes in the Committee during the course of the year. At the AGM David Lock (TH 2006) and Andrew Lennon (TH 1999) were elected and have proved very welcome additions. Jackie Horne (TH 1985) has stepped down from the Committee after a number of years contributing to the work of the Association. Roger McKinlay (TH 1977) has been co-opted onto the Committee to fill the vacancy and will be formally proposed for election at the 2013 AGM.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to the London Event on Thursday 23 May, being held this year at the headquarters of the Royal Geographical Society in Kensington Gore. At the start of the evening there will be a talk by Professor Andrew Goudie (TH 1964) on ‘Deserts of the World’. The Committee has made a conscious decision to set the ticket price for the event at a lower level than has been customary in the hope that we will attract higher attendance from more recent alumni.

Looking further ahead, our 2013 AGM will be held in College on Saturday 28 September followed by the Annual Cambridge Dinner. As some of you may be aware, the Hall is undergoing a major programme of refurbishment over the summer, so the dinner will be held in Front Court in a smart heated tent.

On Saturday 5 October we will be holding an event in Portsmouth at the new Mary Rose Museum, opening at the end of May. In addition to drinks and dinner, Chris Dobbs (TH 1976) will be talking to us during the course of the evening. As a marine archaeologist he was on the salvage diving team in 1982 that brought the Mary Rose to the surface and is Head of Interpretation at the Mary Rose Trust.

One of the great pleasures of being involved in the Association is working with the team in the Alumni and Development Office who provide so much support in the running of the THA and the organisation of events; particular mention must be made of Dr Rachelle Stretch and Mary Richmond. We also receive tremendous support from the Master and Dr Claire Daunton; they have attended every THA event during the course of the year and offer such a warm and unstinting welcome to alumni visiting the College.

Dr Chris Angus (TH 1967)

Find out more about the THA at www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/THA
THA Awards

The Association was pleased to be able to make awards to three students to enable them to take part in humanitarian projects abroad during the long vacation.

Kiran McCann (TH 2008), after his final year of Engineering, went to northern Thailand to work on the Karen Hill Tribes project for over two months. This well established and most worthwhile project has already been attended by at least two other Trinity Hall students, and involves working up-country with the local community in various capacities, including building and maintaining clean water supply systems, and teaching in the schools.

Naomi Wood (TH 2011), a first-year English student, went to Mexico for a month to work with the Armonia charity among indigenous Mexicans in the hill country around Oaxaca. She had been with this organisation in Mexico a year before so was building on previous experience, working mainly in clinics and pharmacies with local people who are marginalised in Mexican society, and in many cases have never before set foot beyond their own area. Clinical work included finding and dispensing spectacles of sufficient strength for young people with seriously limited sight. The results brought intense joy.

Bethany Parker (TH 2010), in her second year of Linguistics, spent a month in Brazil, mainly in Recife, under the auspices of the Christian charity Latin Link. She was a team leader among a group of twelve volunteers running summer camps for children aged eight to sixteen from the favelas. Her duties involved teaching, and all manner of tasks coping with exuberant children from the most disadvantaged of backgrounds who were enjoying a totally new experience. The main aim of the charity is to build enduring links between the local churches and the poorest of the poor in the favelas.

All three students expressed great gratitude to the THA for the support they had received, and were very much affected by their experiences. No doubt they acquitted themselves splendidly and were a credit to the College. That the THA is able to make these awards is due entirely to Dennis Avery’s generous endowment of the Association, and by a happy chance we were able to tell Dennis, not long before his untimely death, about the year’s recipients and what they were going to do. He responded, of course, with his typical enthusiasm and warmth.
Dalai Lama’s visit to Trinity Hall

Trinity Hall was delighted to welcome the Dalai Lama in April 2013.

Invited to Cambridge by the Global Scholars Symposium, an organisation that brings together students from around the world to find solutions to the world’s most challenging problems, he spoke on the theme of non-violent conflict resolution. Whilst here, the Dalai Lama took the opportunity to walk around Trinity Hall and greet the crowds on Latham Lawn.

Publication Launch

This past year Kitty Drake (TH 2011) and Megan McPherson (TH 2011) have been involved in the start-up of a new student-run feminist magazine called Ladybeard.

The idea emerged from a dissatisfaction with the current magazines, and media in general, which constantly criticise, objectify and lament women in the public sphere. We love the medium of the glossy magazine but not so much the message, so we’ve embarked upon creating a beautiful magazine which hopes to offer an alternative perspective on issues which are current in the media today. Ladybeard hopes to challenge and reform the aggressive style of media currently on offer: instead of angrily critiquing women’s ‘lifestyle’ magazines, it questions how the media make us look at ourselves, and why. Though it is grounded in feminism Ladybeard is aimed at all gender identities – men, women, transgender, non-gender, pan-gender – and it hopes to open up the media playing field.

We have recently raised £4,269 from an online Kickstarter page, which received unexpected but wonderful publicity and support. With this money we hope to be able to print our first two issues, create interesting shoots and properly launch the magazine in Michaelmas 2014. We are so pleased that we have received such amazing support from a wide cross-section of people, which goes to show that our message is one that is not exclusionary, but rather the opposite. We will have a copy in the Jerwood Library so that all Trinity Hallers can become involved in Ladybeard and we hope that everyone finds it as thought provoking, fun and beautiful as we do.

Kitty Drake (Deputy Editor) and Megan McPherson (Commissioning Editor)
Windows on the World

An exhibition of sepia pen and wash drawings by Colin Hayes (TH 1962) will be held in College during Michaelmas Term.

Entitled ‘Trinity Hall Observed: doors and windows of an ancient college’, the exhibition will be open on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons between Saturday 14 September and Sunday 17 November. The Private View will take place on Friday 13 September. All welcome.

Below: Doorway to the Jenwood Library

Song Lin Zhai

Trinity Hall is delighted to present an exhibition of contemporary paintings in the East Asian tradition, including landscape, still-life, animals, birds and flowers, using traditional Chinese pigments and ink on hand-made papers.

There will also be a display of hand-carved seals and raku pottery. There is an opportunity to meet the artists and to try your hand at brush painting. Participating artists: Peter Cavaciuti, Edmund Kunji (Trinity Hall Fellow), Ann Massing and Dominique Ruhlmann (Trinity Hall’s Director of Library Services).

The exhibition is open on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 August, Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 August 2013, from 11am to 6pm, in the David Sheppard Room, Wychfield, CB3 0DZ. All welcome.

The Open Gate

An exhibition of paintings by Maurice Cockrill

This autumn Trinity Hall is pleased to be hosting an exhibition by Maurice Cockrill, who has been a member of the Royal Academy since 1999 and was elected Keeper in 2004. He has won numerous awards for painting and has exhibited internationally with shows in Germany, Australia and the USA.

Open Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons between Saturday 14 September and Sunday 24 November. The Private View will take place on Friday 18 October. All welcome.

For further event information, please visit our website www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events or email Mary Richmond at events@trinhall.cam.ac.uk
Remembering Dr David Moore
(TH Fellow in Engineering, 1984–2006)

The David Moore Prize in Engineering has been established by the Moore family.

Christina Barry, David’s widow, recalls David wanting to establish an Engineering Prize for the ‘most improved student’ in his/her second or third year. The Engineering Fellows are thrilled to be able to award this prize in memory of their former colleague, noting that it is a particularly appropriate way to celebrate David’s contribution to teaching in the College. Subject to sufficient funds being available, an additional bursary will be awarded to support engineering summer placement travel costs. If former students of David Moore would like to contribute to this fund, please contact Jocelyn Poulton in the Development Office at development@trinhall.cam.ac.uk

A picture is worth a thousand words ...

At our new online image gallery you will find some wonderful photographs of Trinity Hall which you can have made into prints, coasters, canvases and other products such as fridge magnets and mouse mats. All purchases will be sent directly to you or your chosen recipient.

You can now summon up your memories of Trinity Hall by browsing and purchasing from our new online image gallery available at: www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/gifts

Hugh Carless (TH 1947) – Inspired by Everest

Hugh Carless and his friend Eric Newby were in the crowd for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II when news came through of the conquest of Everest. Thus the seed was planted for their great adventure three years later, immortalised by Newby in his bestseller A short walk in the Hindu Kush. Hugh Carless was a diplomat (1950–1985), explorer and philanthropist. His distinguished career began with his first posting as Oriental Secretary in Kabul and his last was as Ambassador in Venezuela. On his retirement he was the author of numerous articles on adventure and global travel, with a particular focus on Iran and Afghanistan. The College Archive now has a rich and fascinating collection of papers relating to the diplomatic career and journalism of Hugh Carless recently donated by his son, Ronnie Carless, who also generously donated a bench which sits in front of the Jerwood library, in memory of his father and five other members of the Carless family who studied here at the Hall.

A full listing of events, with booking details, is available at www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/events