

pelican

The magazine of Corpus Christi College Cambridge



Stuart Laing
New Master

Paul Warren
New Bursar

Corpus Clock
unveiled

First Telephone
Campaign



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Master's Introduction



Dear Alumni and friends of Corpus,

I write having taken up the Mastership just three weeks ago. I am naturally delighted – and honoured – to be here, at a desk looking out into New Court where so many of my distinguished predecessors have sat before. As many of you will know, I've kept up connections with the College since I was here as an undergraduate (our son and a nephew were at Corpus, and our two daughters also at Cambridge), so at one level it feels like coming home. On the professional

side, where much is new to me, I look forward to working with the Fellows and others to ensure good governance in the College, build on the strengths of our traditions, and develop our features of excellence.

The new academic year has started with its usual flurry of activity. The Corpus Chronophage has become an icon of King's Parade, and watchers of the time-eating Grasshopper put themselves in peril of the traffic coming up Bene't Street. Conscious of the passage of time – in this case 800 years – the University prepares to celebrate this great anniversary with church bells and flags in January, and events through the year. Corpus will play its part, and many of our alumni have already been most generous in their contributions to Corpus, all of which have been counted towards the collegiate campaign to raise £1bn for Cambridge University. In these days of reduced Government funding, financial management features high on the concerns of leaders in the University, but (despite the recent economic turmoil) we feel confident that Cambridge's reputation will be strong enough to attract the support needed to keep us in the world Top Three.

It is good to be in Corpus, and I look forward to meeting more of you, our friends and alumni, when you revisit for whatever reason. Stay in touch!

Stuart Laing



Gerard Duveen

4 March 1951 – 8 Nov 2008

The Master and Fellows of Corpus Christi are sad to announce the death of Dr Gerard Duveen, Fellow of the College and Reader in Genetic Social Psychology in the University. Gerard was a Fellow of Corpus from 1992 and Director of Studies for Social and Political Sciences. He graduated from Surrey University with a BSc in Psychology, before undertaking postgraduate work at Strathclyde university and Sussex university where his PhD was supervised by Barbara Lloyd.

Gerard's research interests lay at the intersection of social and developmental psychology. He was a major contributor to the field of social representations and to work on the development of gender.

His many and varied publications included *Gender Identities and Education* which he published in 1992 with Barbara Lloyd and most recently he edited the English translation of Serge Moscovici's seminal work *Psychoanalysis: its image and its public*.

He became Director of Studies in SPS in 1992 and as such inspired generations of undergraduates and postgraduates with his intellectual generosity and clear-sighted guidance. Many former students became lifelong friends. At a party held in his honour in July, shortly after his diagnosis, it was a surprise only to Gerard that 130 people came from all over the world to celebrate his life and achievements with him.

His loss will be felt keenly both in the College and in the Faculty, but his legacy is seen in hundreds of students and colleagues who have all been touched by his teaching and friendship.

Stuart Laing takes up Mastership

By Simon Heffer (m.1979)

STUART LAING BECAME MASTER OF CORPUS AT THE START OF THIS MICHAELMAS TERM, DAYS AFTER FINISHING A 38-YEAR CAREER IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE. HIS LAST POST WAS AS HER MAJESTY'S AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT, AND THE SANDS OF THE DESERT ARE STILL METAPHORICALLY ON HIS SHOES WHEN WE MEET IN THE MASTER'S LODGE IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF HIS INCUMBENCY.

Corpus is in his DNA - he was one of three brothers to come to the College and his son is a Corpus man too. He has the modesty and understatement that come with his metier, denying my perfectly truthful observation that his career had been immensely distinguished. 'You exaggerate a bit - it was not stratospheric. But at the time I retired I was possibly the longest standing head of mission in the Foreign Office.' He had spent a decade first as High Commissioner to Brunei, then as Ambassador to Oman, and finally Kuwait.

So why did he want to be Master of Corpus? 'It has in fact been a long-term dream that turned into a fantasy, I suppose, of being Master of my old College. I think a career in the public service gives you skills which can be of value in a position like this. The idea turned into a fantasy when my career seemed to be taking me off in a different direction, but then - by good fortune - events and the wishes of the Fellowship allowed the dream to become delightful reality. Sometime mid-career, though, I thought coming back to Cambridge or to some other university to do a PhD might be interesting. I still have ideas for research and writing, and I think being Master of a college allows you an opportunity and, to a certain extent, time.'

One of these ideas, dating from his time in Muscat, is a book on the history of the relationship between Britain and Oman. However, a more complex prospect is a thesis on the history of east African slavery. 'There's a lot been written about west African slavery. But in the English-speaking world we know much less about east African slavery, which was actually quite big business. The history of our relationship with the Sultan of Zanzibar in the 19th century is pretty much about dealings between the British government and the Sultan in trying to get

rid of east African slavery.' So the College seems to have acquired a Master who is also going to be a student.

'I hugely enjoyed my time here,' he says, recalling his undergraduate days in the late 1960s. 'I mixed it up. Perhaps I shouldn't admit this in a public place like an interview, but I was inadequately focused. I was speaking to the freshers at the start of this term and I said: 'You are in your first week here, you will be confused. Don't worry, confusion is the norm - and I'm afraid I'm not a good role model for you.' I didn't choose to focus on getting a first or getting a blue, but I did have huge fun by doing a bit of a number of things. I did take my studies reasonably seriously and I got a first on one of my papers, but I ended up with the traditional 2:1. I was happy with that, it was enough for the career I wanted.' What he liked about Corpus he still likes: 'The friendly character of the College, and the small size, which pushes people to make friends across a number of academic disciplines and outside the College.'

The Master had been a keen sportsman - he took his rowing seriously - and was something of an actor. His regret is that he didn't do more music. He plays the oboe but says he is 'probably a better keyboard player'. This too is rather modest, since with a fellow pianist he used to give lecture-recitals in the Middle East, and has one more engagement still to fulfil in Kuwait. He hopes to find an enthusiastic pianist to practise with on the fine grand piano that now adorns his drawing room in the Lodge. Why had he been so reluctant to do more when an undergraduate? 'I was a little intimidated, we had some really first class musicians in the College at the time.' One of them was Mark Elder - now Sir Mark, the conductor of the Hallé.



Mr Laing was up at Corpus during the period of student unrest that included the occupation of the Senate House and the Garden House riots. He hadn't felt moved to join in. 'I wasn't a radical; I wasn't then conscious of things that should be changed. I'm afraid looking back on it I was politically disappointing. I think, going into the Foreign Office, it would have been better if I'd had sharper political antennae, which I developed later.

'DURING MY LAST YEAR HERE, WHEN IT WAS SUGGESTED TO ME BY MY GODFATHER, I STARTED TO THINK ABOUT GOING INTO THE FOREIGN OFFICE. I THOUGHT IT HAD A LOT OF WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR.'

'During my last year here, when it was suggested to me by my godfather, I started to think about going into the Foreign Office. I thought it had a lot of what I was looking for. I'd done a year with Voluntary Service Overseas, as a teacher in India, in an era when it wasn't so fashionable to do gap years. In those days of much poorer communication, I was pretty much out there on my own, along with a wonderful bunch of American Jesuit priests who were running a school in a remote part of Bihar: so I had the taste not just for working abroad, but for living abroad.'

He liked the three-year cycle of job rotation in the diplomatic service, and felt it necessary. 'The job of an ambassador is to represent British policy to Ruritania. As soon as you reach the point of representing Ruritanian views to London, then it's time you should move. This is a particular trap to which Arabic speakers are prone; you can easily develop a particular fascination for the culture, the language and the people, and start representing Arab policy to London.'

He was a classicist at Corpus and, perhaps predictably, did well in the language aptitude test all diplomats have to take on entry into the service. He was therefore asked to learn one of the more difficult languages and, his first choice (Persian) having already been taken by someone, chose Arabic. He was still not especially moved by politics. 'A deep-seated interest in the international system is not, funnily enough - is this a controversial thing to say? - essential. I don't think you need a prior interest in the United Nations or international systems to want to represent British interests abroad. But, once in the Service, you quickly pick up the intense political environment in which Foreign Service officers have to operate.' 'A lot of diplomats are genuinely interested in history. I think what I found as I worked in embassies was that I became

intensely curious about what had gone before: what you can learn from history, what you can't learn from history, and why the people in the culture in which you are working behave as they do.'

He wasn't always in the Middle East. As the Berlin wall was coming down he found himself in Prague, first watching a country move from communism to capitalism, then helping re-build a relationship with Britain that had been lost for over 40 years, then finally witnessing the peaceful split of Czechoslovakia into two nations. It was also a reality check, showing him the 'disconnect' between a Europe whose

'The normal job of an ambassador in Kuwait is to sustain the very strong bilateral relationship, to keep them as allies in an unstable region, to make sure they place their huge sovereign wealth funds through London, and that they buy goods and services through us. But my time there was coloured by the Iraqi business, in which the ambassador's job, working with ministers, was to maintain the relationship with Kuwait to keep them happy in the support that they give us, and in strengthening their elbow in their policy towards Iran.' He points out that Kuwait has 8-9% of the world's proven oil reserves, so instability on their borders is an issue for them and for all who trade with them.



tumult as the Iron Curtain came down caused it to lose interest in other parts of the world, and - when he went to his next post as deputy ambassador in Riyadh - finding a world where both the local people and the expatriate community had barely noticed the fall of communism.

In his final posting in Kuwait he found himself in a country that is economically important, but while he was there strategically crucial, to Britain. Kuwait was - and is - the gateway to Iraq, and many men and much material passed through there on the way to Baghdad and Basra, in support of British forces and the UK diplomatic presence there. 'The Kuwaitis are very pro-British and never forget we have rescued them three times from Iraq. They particularly remember the crucial part we played in the politics of the build-up to the 1991 war on Iraq that liberated them after Saddam's invasion. They love quoting Margaret Thatcher's exhortation to George H Bush in August 1990: 'Now is not the time to go wobbly, George.' The Kuwaitis have not forgotten our support.

'THE COLLEGE HAS TO MOVE FORWARD, ADAPT TO THE SECOND DECADE OF THE 21ST CENTURY, PRODUCE STUDENTS WHO FEEL HAPPY IN THEIR SKINS AND WHO GO ON TO ACHIEVE WHAT THEY WANT TO ACHIEVE, AND TO KEEP PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION, TEACHING AND RESEARCH: THAT'S OUR CORE BUSINESS.'

Asked how long he thinks our troops will have to stay in that region, Mr Laing is cautious. We discuss Barack Obama's pledge to pull American forces out. 'I think that like most incoming American presidents he'll be faced with the situation of real life, and a lot depends now also on the politics within Iraq. Six months ago I'd have said that real life would entail a prolongation of the American presence in Iraq. Now I think on both sides there are pressures to get the numbers down.'



I tried to press Mr Laing on whether he has an agenda for his Mastership, and provoked a disarming laugh. 'I'd like to leave a happy memory. The College has to move forward, adapt to the second decade of the 21st century, produce students who feel happy in their skins and who go on to achieve what they want to achieve, and to keep providing high quality education, teaching and research: that's our core business.' He is diplomatic about how far he can ensure that. 'The ability of the Master to do this is limited by the influence that he can bring to bear - and it is a question of influence, rather than the application of more straightforward leadership qualities that perhaps you can use in the civil service. Actually, though, the modern British embassy is more like a college than you might think, and not hierarchical in the way it used to be. Defence staff, visa people, intelligence officers and consular people are now autonomous, while simultaneously part of an embassy team. In all this the ambassador finds himself less in a command position than in a position of influence: leading a team through influence and persuasion rather than by command.'

'THAT IS HOW THE GOVERNANCE OF A COLLEGE WORKS - THE MASTER LEADS BY INFLUENCE RATHER THAN BY EXECUTIVE ORDER.'

He relates this to his new position. 'That is how the governance of a college works - the Master leads by influence rather than by executive order. For the Head of House position colleges choose people from outside and people from inside at different times in their history - what I bring is a career that's been outside the maelstrom of Cambridge, but I am someone with a deep knowledge of and affection for the College, and who has a determination to do his best for its interests.'

He is unstinting in his praise for the work of his predecessor, Oliver Rackham. 'He had an amazing and positive stabilising effect on the College and its affairs. A lot of the goodwill I inherit is thanks to the wise counsel he has presented at the governing body and the other institutions of the College.' I try the agenda point again. 'It's too early to say what I would like to see happen in the next few years. We are part of



a wider body that must adapt. We – the University and the colleges – are going to be faced with tremendous pressures. Lots of them are going to be financial. How we're actually going to pay for our higher education is something we are going to have to look at – and find new solutions.'

In this context, it is undoubtedly fortunate that he says he 'feels passionately' about fundraising, something that earlier generations of Masters had to worry much less about. 'It will involve looking for new sources of finance to pay for the education we want to supply, and to make it available to those who can benefit from it. We certainly don't want Cambridge in general or Corpus in particular to be places whose doors are only open to a wealthy elite. We must make ourselves attractive and available to all those who have the brainpower to benefit from our education.' He is a great supporter of the University's 800th Campaign and has already taken up a role as deputy chairman of the Vice-Chancellor's new Alumni Advisory Board, which aims to promote closer communications with alumni, linked with support for fund raising for the combined goals of the Cambridge 800 campaign – co-ordinated between the colleges and the University.

If this all sounds rather intimidating, Mr Laing also makes it clear that his Mastership will be a time of play as well as work, bringing together all those civilising elements of recreation and academe that have given Corpus its distinctive flavour over the years. He is planning to reinstitute the tradition of Sunday evening concerts in the Lodge - with himself among those performing. And his wife Sibella, a Newnham woman, comes with him very much as part of a team, preparing to immerse herself in the life of the College. From head of mission to head of house might seem a large step for many, but it is one that Stuart Laing appears to be making effortlessly.

The Pelican Michaelmas Term

The office of Treasurer appointed

SUE AINGER-BROWN, WHO HAS BEEN HEAD OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT FOR FIVE YEARS, HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE OFFICE OF TREASURER, WHICH ALSO HOLDS A FELLOWSHIP.

This follows her role as Acting Bursar, a role she stepped into with great grace despite an already heavy workload. During this period she once again steered the College through its annual external audit and prepared the year end financial statements of the College, helped initiate a review of income and expenditure, managed the refurbishment of the Master's Lodge and other operational areas of the College site including overseeing staffing matters, and managing the investments and property portfolio.

During this time Sue has become an indispensable figure in the management of the College.

A close-up portrait of a woman with short, dark brown hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a dark blue or black top with a buttoned placket and a pearl necklace. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

The position of Treasurer means Sue will continue to be responsible for all day to day financial matters, including planning, budgets, financial and management accounts and reporting, IT and those other unthinkable financial tasks such as VAT, tax, PAYE, insurances and legislative reporting. The duty of managing the investment portfolio and the overall operational and bursarial functions becomes that of the new Bursar, Paul Warren.

Sue came to Corpus in 2003 from a sports and leisure manufacturing and distribution company where she was Finance Director. After twelve years in this role, she decided a change of environment would be good in order to adjust towards a healthy work/life balance. However, as her husband and daughter recently pointed out, this has not entirely worked out as planned.

Previously Sue held several financial controller, operations director and accountant positions with local companies. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants and a Member of the Chartered Management Institute.

Sue lives happily in Cambridgeshire. She was born in Ely and lived in Cambridge until she was thirteen, before moving to a village and then to a local town. Her interests are very much Cambridge-based and she is a member of the St Ives Civic society.

Lunchtime usually finds Sue and the College finance team on a run around the Newnham area and annually they participate in the local Chariots of Fire event. As Sue says persuasively, 'everyone is welcome to join us on our jogs (about 3 miles), but so far we have only managed to persuade the Chaplain. I love Cambridge, its historic buildings, the people and on a sunny day with the big blue skies you can't help but look about and smile!'

The Corpus Clock

THE UNVEILING OF THE CORPUS CLOCK BROUGHT A TOUCH OF SHOWBIZ AND EXCITEMENT TO CAMBRIDGE ONE FRIDAY IN LATE SEPTEMBER. BENE'T STREET WAS CLOSED FOR AN HOUR TO ALLOW THE LARGE CROWD AND PRESS TO WATCH THE CEREMONY AND A VIEWING PLATFORM FOR FELLOWS AND GUESTS WAS ERECTED ON THE GRASS OUTSIDE KING'S COLLEGE.

Professor Stephen Hawking performed the unveiling itself and spoke about time and his work on relativity of time. John Taylor, inventor, horologist and benefactor to Corpus who designed and built the clock, explained that he wanted to create an entirely new type of clock that would play with time. He designed the clock in honour of John Harrison, who famously pioneered the accurate measurement of longitude, and who invented the mechanism known as the grasshopper escapement. In John Taylor's clock, sculptor Matthew Sanderson created the fabulous and fierce creature who sits on top of the face and drives time forward.

The unveiling was followed by a lecture by Sir Arnold Wolfendale, former Astronomer Royal, and a banquet during which John Taylor presented a key to the President, Professor Christopher Andrew, to formally mark the handing over of the clock to the College. At the end of the evening actor Hugh Bonneville (m. 1982) performed the final scene from Christopher Marlowe's Doctor Faustus, a dramatic reminder of the inevitability of death.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN HAWKING PERFORMED THE UNVEILING ITSELF AND SPOKE ABOUT TIME AND HIS WORK ON RELATIVITY OF TIME.

Since the clock was unveiled there has been scarcely a moment when a crowd has not been standing mesmerised on the corner of the street. Described by Christopher de Hamel, Fellow Librarian, as both 'hypnotically beautiful and deeply disturbing,' the clock represents 5 years work and research. John Taylor's aim was to create a clock that was both a traditional timepiece, driven by a spring, and paced by a rocking escapement, but which measures and shows time in an original and innovative way.

The enormous round face is plated in gold, polished so it reflects the world behind the viewer. It is moulded from a single thin sheet of stainless steel five feet in diameter. The undulating surface resembles radiating ripples, as though a stone had been dropped into a pool of liquid gold. The design is heavily influenced by John Harrison's famous grasshopper escapement. However, on the Corpus Clock, the grasshopper is external and enlarged and becomes a Chronophage (time-eater), a fearsome beast. This enormous creature moves up and down, engaging its feet onto the teeth of the escape wheel below by means of pallets, which are like little horizontal bars between the monster's toes. Christopher de Hamel describes it as being like one of the locusts from the bottomless pit in the Apocalypse (Revelations 9:3). It hypnotises the watcher as it moves with its perpetual motion, studded with a repertoire of blinks, jaw-snaps and stings from its tail.

But that is not all. It is the way the clock plays tricks with its watchers, pausing time, racing or going backwards momentarily that captures its audience so... And on the hour, it reminds the people of Cambridge of their mortality with a dreadful sound – that of a chain dropping into a wooden coffin hidden behind the clock. Time is told not by hands or numbers but by LED lights that lie behind a series of vernier slits cut into the golden face. When the escape wheel moves, a series of rapidly darting lights run in concentric circles and pause at the correct hour, minute and second.

John Taylor designed the clock to jar our expectations of time, to remind us that, despite the precision of scientific measurement, time is unpredictable. And it is always later than we think.



Paul Warren – Bursar

AFTER 15 YEARS IN ASIA FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER 7 IN BOSTON AND THEN A SPELL IN LONDON, PAUL WARREN HAS AN UNDERSTANDABLE WISH TO RETURN TO A PLACE HE ENJOYED SO MUCH AS A STUDENT AND TO WHICH HE ALWAYS PROMISED HIMSELF HE WOULD RETURN.

He takes up his new position as Bursar at the start of the Michaelmas term, alongside new Master Stuart Laing. The appointment realises a long held desire to come back to Cambridge in a college position, and a move away from the frantic world of international investment management and permanent jet lag.

Paul graduated in 1982 from Emmanuel with a first in economics and immediately pursued a career in portfolio management. Within a year of starting at Morgan Grenfell in London he was relocated to Japan in 1983 as a Japanese equity analyst. Prior to moving to Tokyo, his only connection with Japan was an undergraduate friend at Corpus who studied Japanese who persuaded Paul to attend the Japan society meetings. By 1986 he was head of Japanese equity investments at Morgan Grenfell. The following year he moved to Salomon Brothers in Tokyo and in 1989 Paul became managing director and head of equity sales for the Asia Pacific region, responsible for Japanese equity sales in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia. In 1987 Paul married his Japanese wife Michi, who had previously worked for NHK, the national television broadcasting company. Paul and Michi had first a daughter, in 1989 and then a son in 1991, both of whom speak fluent Japanese.

'I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE ABLE TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK AND THE OPPORTUNITY AT CORPUS WILL NOW ALLOW ME TO DO SO.'

In 1992 he moved to Hong Kong where he started his own specialist Asian Fund Management Company, which was subsequently taken over by American Express Asset Management in Hong Kong. However, in 1997 the family relocated to Boston where Paul took up a position as portfolio manager in the international equity team of Putnam Investments, one of the largest mutual fund managers in the US.

He became Managing Director and Head of Global Core equities in 1999 and Chief Investment Officer of US and Global Core Equities in 2002. In this role he was responsible for managing the US and global mutual funds, as well as the core global pension fund and endowment assets. It was a huge job for seven years but after that time, the family decided to move back to the UK and Paul became Chief Executive and Chief Investment Office of Investor Select Advisors (ISA), a hedge fund group based in London, a position he leaves to become the Bursar here. At ISA he started out as Head of Research and was also responsible for managing several global and Asian funds. Eventually he took on the management of the whole business including responsibility for the group's offices in Geneva, New York, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Melbourne and Hong Kong.

There is no doubt Cambridge will be a sharp contrast to this global role, though its challenges in many ways will be no less. The family is at the moment house-hunting (a challenge in itself). His daughter Emma is having a gap year before going to Bristol University to study history of art, and his son James is in his final year at Eton, applying to university at the moment. Michi, as well as trying to sell their house in London and looking for a home in Cambridge, is a keen photographer, something she hopes to be able to expand once settled in Cambridge. When asked by friends why on earth he is giving up the glitzy, frenetic world of international finance for a Cambridge college, Paul usually points out, 'that I have been amazingly fortunate in my business career and I owe much of this to Cambridge. I have always wanted to be able to give something back and the opportunity at Corpus will now allow me to do so. There is an amazing team at Corpus and together I feel that we have the opportunity to build on the historic strengths of the College.'





The Pelican Michaelmas Term

Nick Danks – Director of Music

‘THE ETHOS OF MUSIC-MAKING WHICH EXISTS IN CORPUS – THAT WONDERFUL MIXTURE OF THE FORMAL, EXCELLENCE-DRIVEN AND THE INFORMAL, PLEASURE-DRIVEN – IS ONE WITH WHICH I STRONGLY RESONATE.’

So said former organ scholar, Nicholas Danks (m. 1993), who knows the inside of the chapel and the College well and now returns to Corpus as Director of Music after 12 years at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Nick started there as Assistant Organist and then became Director of Music, responsible for all the church music at St Martin’s, managing and directing the choir and choral scholars, and planning the music for the many choral services, including the broadcasts. In addition to his work at St Martin’s, Nick is the Assistant Director of the St Paul’s Knightsbridge Festival Choir and organ tutor for the BBC Organ Club and the North London Collegiate School in Stanmore.

At first glance it might seem difficult to follow a role as rewarding and exciting as St Martin’s, but for Nick, coming back to Cambridge was always on the cards and the timing was right. ‘St Martin’s has just completed a £36m renewal project, restoring the church and building a sequence of stunning new spaces in the church’s crypt which provide first class facilities for musicians, for parish use and for St Martin’s ministry to the homeless. Having been closely involved in the planning and execution of such an historic project for the past 6 years, I was keen to see it through to its conclusion. Now that that is done, it seemed the right moment to start pondering the next stage of my musical career. It just so happens that it was at this point I saw the post at Corpus advertised.’ The challenge was immediately attractive. ‘I am absolutely delighted to be rejoining everyday life at Corpus and look forward immensely to playing my part.’

He has a strong sense of the responsibility the post holds for the young musicians he will be directing. As well as empowering their talents, he aims to channel their enthusiasms and mentor their development as musicians. As someone who has kept in close touch with the College since graduating, Nick comments that he has been ‘impressed with the way the musical life at Corpus has developed since I graduated and I hope to be able to build upon the considerable achievements of the last few years. I would in addition hope to be of assistance to people within the College community who might not be involved in any of the formal music making, or who might have hidden or unusual musical talents, and who would like to take some part in the musical life of the College.’

Apart from his role as Director of Music, Nick will be developing other aspects of his musical career (the post is not full-time), including choral directing, composing and writing about music. ‘My special area of interest is neglected British choral music of the first half of the 20th century – of which there is much, particularly in the University Library.’ He has a very wide taste in music, reaching far beyond church and classical music and in addition to the organ and piano, is a keen cello player. On a personal side, he is getting married in January, and when not in London or Cambridge, enjoys his house in North Cornwall – ‘a very wild yet dramatically beautiful part of the country.’





Telephone campaign

IN MARCH 2009, THE COLLEGE WILL BE RUNNING ITS FIRST TELEPHONE CAMPAIGN TO STRENGTHEN OUR LINKS WITH OLD MEMBERS AND RAISE MONEY FOR THE ALUMNI FUND. AROUND 1,000 OLD MEMBERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY CURRENT STUDENTS TO SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES, EVENTS AND SERVICES FOR ALUMNI AND TO INVITE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ALUMNI FUND.

Alumni Fund

The College's Alumni Fund was launched in April this year with a mailing to 4,500 Old Members. The priority for this ongoing Fund is student support in the form of scholarships and bursaries. The Fund will also be used to enhance the learning experience of students through supporting the tutorial and supervision systems and maintaining and improving College facilities.

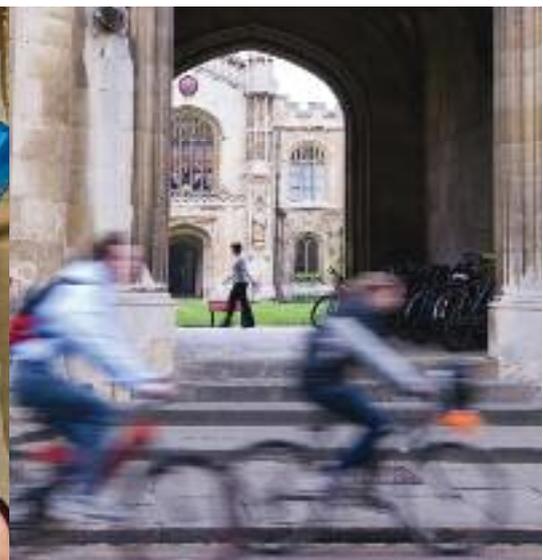
If everyone contacted during the Telephone Campaign were to pledge to give just £22 per month, an impressive £1,000,000* could be raised for the Fund over just three years. This money could be used to provide student support grants, scholarships and bursaries, fund supervisions, refurbish student rooms, buy books for the library or new computer equipment and software.

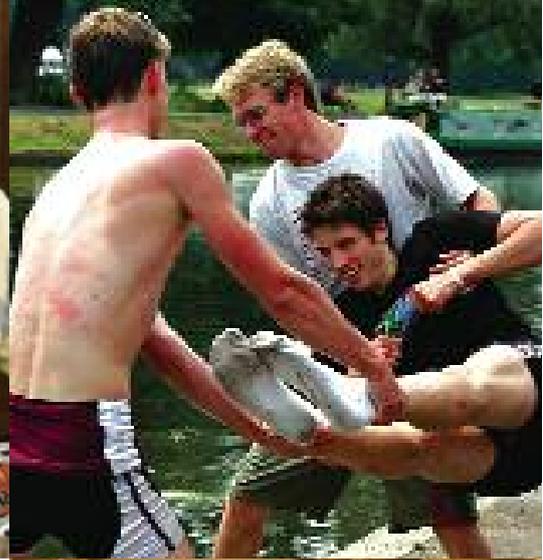
'THIS IS A FORMER STUDENT'S OPPORTUNITY TO ENSURE THAT THOSE ATTENDING CORPUS NOW AND IN THE FUTURE CAN ENJOY THEIR TIME HERE.'

THIRD YEAR UNDERGRADUATE



The Pelican Michaelmas Term





Telephone Campaign

A telephone campaign is recognised by many other colleges and universities as a personal and enjoyable way to directly contact alumni.

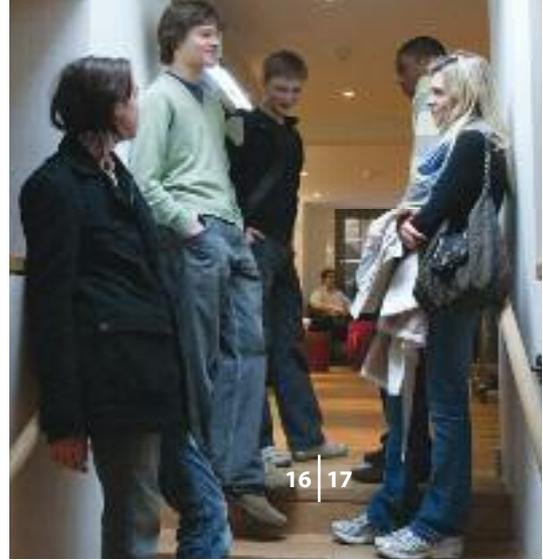
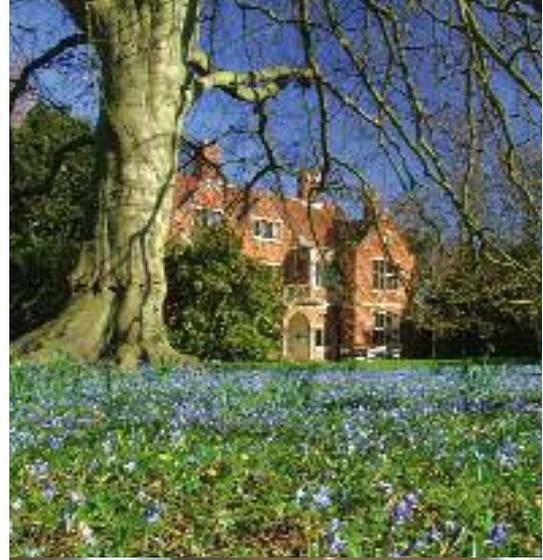
The callers will discuss the College's Alumni Fund with you and the various ways in which you can support it. This will also be an opportunity for you to hear details of College life and developments from those experiencing them today. Those of you who gave to the Library Court project can find out how the new library, bar and JCR are impacting on the lives and education of our current students. We will also make every effort to assign each alumnus with a caller who is reading the same subject or shares similar extra-curricular interests. You may therefore want to discuss how the College's sports clubs are performing, as well as the activities of the College's many other societies. Our callers will also be able to update you with details of events organised by the College that you may be interested in attending, or take feedback from you on the types of events you would like organised.

We hope that the student callers will also benefit from talking with you as you share experiences and memories of student life in Corpus. It is a wonderful opportunity for our students to gain insight into where their subject may take them in the future and possibly get some career advice. The role provides the callers with an opportunity to learn and improve valuable communication and negotiation skills which will benefit them throughout their time at Corpus and in their future career.

Old Members who we intend to call will be sent a letter in February 2009 with further details of the campaign. Everyone will be given the opportunity to opt-out if they do not wish to receive a call. Our students will be making calls in the evenings from Monday to Thursday and during the day on the weekends for two weeks at the end of Lent term. There are a variety of ways in which you can support the Alumni Fund, all of which can be discussed confidentially with our student callers.

We hope that you will find the call interesting and enjoy the opportunity to speak with our students.

*this figure includes tax reclaimed through Gift Aid.



Christopher Kelly's book on

Attila the Hun

CHRISTOPHER KELLY, CLASSICIST AND HISTORIAN OF THE ANCIENT WORLD, AND FELLOW AND DIRECTOR OF STUDIES IN CLASSICS, HAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED TWO BOOKS ON THE ROMAN EMPIRE. THE FIRST, '*THE ROMAN EMPIRE: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION*' WAS PUBLISHED IN 2006 BY OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS (AND TRANSLATED INTO GREEK, JAPANESE AND CHINESE). '*ATTILA THE HUN: BARBARIAN TERROR AND THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE*' WAS PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER BY BODLEY HEAD.



Dr Christopher Kelly

Attila the Hun is a man to be reckoned with. To countless schoolchildren his name still conjures up mindless ferocity, and his attacks on the unified world of the Roman Empire helped to ensure the fall of that great civilisation in western Europe. Attila represents all that is worst and most terrifying about barbarian rule. However, this book suggests another point of view. It goes in search of the real Attila the Hun and for the first time, reveals a man

who was a first-rate military commander and strategist, a wily politician whose astute mind skilfully exploited the weaknesses of the Roman empire.

Key to Dr Kelly's revisionist views are the writings of the Roman historian Priscus of Panium, which record his own visit to the Huns on the Great Hungarian Plain. Priscus offers the only surviving eyewitness report of the court of Attila. Dr Kelly uses Priscus' writings to reveal how the historian was unwittingly involved in a failed Roman plot to assassinate Attila. This is a fascinating tale of ancient espionage. It is a gripping story of lies, deceit and cunning, in which the leader of Attila's bodyguard was to be bribed to carry out the murder, but instead informed Attila about the plan.

Drawing on numerous original texts, Christopher Kelly creates a vivid and mesmerising account of an extraordinary and complex man, who using espionage and counter-intelligence as well as brute force, changed the map of Europe forever. This is the first serious historical study of Attila and the Huns to be published for sixty years and it offers an intimate portrait of Attila.

Critic Tom Holland, writing in *The Telegraph*, commented; 'Christopher Kelly, in his learned, fluent and often witty study of the great Hunnish leader, is too nuanced a historian to buy

Medal awarded for study on Neanderthals

PROFESSOR PAUL MELLARS HAS BEEN AWARDED THE GRAHAME CLARK MEDAL OF THE BRITISH ACADEMY IN RECOGNITION OF 'DISTINGUISHED RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STUDY OF PREHISTORY'



based mainly on his recent work on the Neanderthals and Modern Human origins. The medal is awarded every two years and is generally seen as the premier medal for Archaeology awarded in Britain. His recent edited book on *'Rethinking the Human Revolution'* was published last September.

The University has extended Professor Mellars' appointment for two further years beyond retirement, on a half-time basis. He will be taking up a further one-semester position in the Department of Anthropology at Stony Brook University (New York) in January 2009.

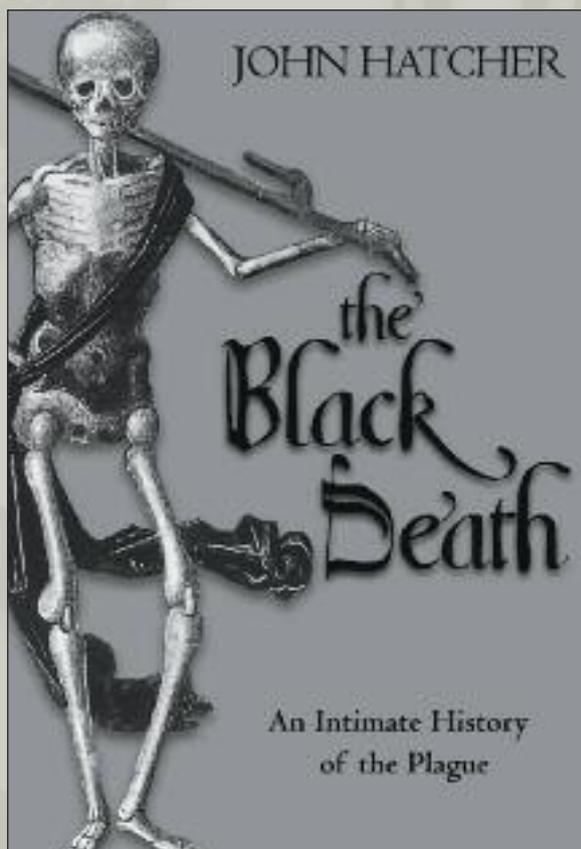
into the notion of his subject as merely a mindless thug; but nor does he go to the opposite extreme, and cast Attila as a misunderstood man of peace. 'Even for the most sympathetic' he freely acknowledges, 'it is difficult not to be desensitised by the dull repetition of stories of the Huns' ruthlessness.'

But perhaps the most terrifying lesson is not to do with the savagery of the Huns or Attila the man, but, as Christopher Kelly puts it: 'It is always reassuring to think of our enemies as godless barbarians. It is troubling to learn that they might be more like us than we would ever care to admit.'

Dr Kelly read classics and law at the University of Sydney, Australia, before coming to Trinity College, Cambridge to take his doctorate. He was Senior Tutor at Corpus Christi for five years, before the award of a Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship in October 2006 leading to another book, *'From Calvary to Constantinople: the Conversion of the Classical Past in late Antiquity'* to be published by Harvard. He returns to academic life in Cambridge in Lent Term 2009.

The Black Death: an Intimate History

THE BLACK DEATH: AN INTIMATE HISTORY (WEIDENFELD AND ORION), BY PROFESSOR JOHN HATCHER, SENIOR FELLOW OF CORPUS, MEDIEVALIST AND HEAD OF THE HISTORY FACULTY AT CAMBRIDGE IS A COMPELLING, PARTLY FICTIONALISED ACCOUNT OF THE WORST EPIDEMIC IN HISTORY.



The book has received great critical acclaim both here and in the US and was featured as 'Book of the Week' on BBC Radio 4 in June, read by actor Robert Glenister.

The Black Death is the story of the people in a typical English village, in this case Walsham le Willows in Suffolk, who lived and died in the terrifying time of the great plague. It draws the reader into events through the eyes of its residents. With scrupulous attention to historical accuracy, John Hatcher uses a technique he developed himself which he calls literary docudrama to describe what the parishioners experienced, what they knew and what they believed. As John Carey, reviewing the book in the *Sunday Times*, put it: 'What ordinary people thought and felt, how much they understood and what they believed is impossible to say. The vast majority were illiterate, so they have left no trace of their inner lives. This is the aspect that John Hatcher seeks to rediscover.'

Walsham le Willows was chosen because it has exceptionally good records for the years of the plague providing a framework on which the characters were built. However, as John Hatcher explains, 'even in the best documented of places, the sources surviving from the fourteenth century are silent, or severely deficient, on most of the issues that were central to the lives of the villagers. There are no diaries, reminiscences, or correspondence, and no accounts of what people believed or how they spent their days.' Yet, as Simon Winchester wrote in a review in the *New York Sun*, 'In the hands of John Hatcher the extraordinary tragedy of the great plague has been brought to life in a manner rarely attempted, and with a level of success even more rarely achieved.'

An Intimate History
of the Plague



Profile of John Hatcher

John Hatcher is Professor of Economic and Social History and Chairman of the History Faculty at Cambridge and a senior Fellow of Corpus. He has taught the subject of the Black Death for twenty years and is the author of eight books on medieval and early modern history. He has taken part in the BBC series *Timewatch* and the Channel 4 series *The Seven Ages of Britain* and acted as an advisor on many other television projects.

His general field of research is the economic, social and demographic history of England from the middle ages to the eighteenth century. In recent years he has focussed on the rise of the British coal industry before the industrial revolution, the impact of the Black Death of 1348-9, the working habits and leisure in medieval and early modern England, the history and theory of economic development in the middle ages and the population history of England between 1450 and 1750.

John Hatcher is currently on a sabbatical visit to Stanford University, but returns to Cambridge next academic year.

Ryan Wigglesworth

THROUGHOUT JANUARY, CORPUS FELLOW RYAN WIGGLESWORTH WILL BE CONDUCTING THE BRITTEN SINFONIA IN A PROGRAMME OF WORKS, INCLUDING THE PREMIERE PERFORMANCES OF HIS NEW PIECE, COMMISSIONED BY THE ENSEMBLE.



The programme, also to feature works by Benjamin Britten, Oliver Knussen, and Johann Strauss II, will tour to several cities, both in England and abroad. The dates of the concerts are:

- 18th January,** Filharmonice Hall, Krakow
- 20th January,** West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge
- 21st January,** Wigmore Hall, London
- 22nd January,** Town Hall, Birmingham
- 23rd January,** The Assembly House, Norwich

Further details are available on the Britten Sinfonia website (www.brittensinfonia.com)

The choir's new recording *Ave Virgo* will be available from mid-December. Featuring sacred music by composers such as Britten, Duruflé, Palestrina, Rachmaninov and Stanford, and reflects the College's two-fold dedication: Corpus Christi and the Blessed Virgin Mary. Conducted by our recent Senior Organ Scholar, Leo Tomita (m2005), and accompanied by the current Senior Organ Scholar, Thomas Chatterton m2006, the recording provides clear proof of the current strength of the choir. The CD is available to Old Members via the College.



25 YEARS

of the admission of women

As a new academic year begins, it might surprise the fresh intake of students to learn that it is only twenty-five years since women were first admitted to Corpus Christi College as undergraduates. It was only in 1947 that women were allowed to become members of Cambridge University and Corpus was one of the last of the all-male Colleges to open its doors to women (Peterhouse and, finally, Magdalene followed Corpus). Even then, the change to its constitution was, as might be expected, not without its opponents. Professor Christopher Andrew recalls that it had taken two attempts, the first in the late 1970s, to secure the necessary votes of two thirds of the Fellowship. In the academic year 1981-82, when Professor Andrew was Senior Tutor, he seized an opportunity to resubmit the proposal to the Governing Body. On this occasion, the two-thirds majority was gained, the Senior Tutor persuaded the more resistant members of the JCR

committee of the merits of the decision, and Corpus under the Mastership of Michael McCrum prepared to open its doors to women. In the first year following this historic but, ultimately, inevitable decision, Professor Charlotte Erickson and Ms Diane Dawson were admitted to the Fellowship. A number of female research students also joined the College.

Sadly, Professor Erickson died earlier this year. Diane Dawson, now a Life Fellow, who returned to Corpus in June 2006 from the Centre for Health Economics at the University of York, recalls: 'On the day Charlotte and I were admitted as Fellows, I was given a copy of the College Statutes. Statute 2C stated: 'No woman shall be elected on the Foundation [Master, Fellows and Scholars] or admitted as a member of the College'. The Privy Council had approved a change of this statute but the



College had not yet printed the new version!' There were a few other practicalities that had been overlooked, including the failure of the College to identify toilets for the use of women. 'When, in extremis, I asked for directions, I was told there was a door simply marked 'private' that had suitable facilities. Plumbing had frequently been used as an argument against the admission of women, but the problem was quickly and easily solved.'

ONE OF THE COMMONLY EXPRESSED VIEWS AT THE TIME WAS THAT THE ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO THE COLLEGE WOULD BE 'TANTAMOUNT TO SPORTING SUICIDE'

In 1983 Kate Langford was one of a cohort of seventeen women to matriculate at Corpus; a quarter of a century on Dr Langford, who read Medical Sciences, remembers: 'I applied to Corpus because being in the first intake of women held a certain magic for me. I wanted to be part of a College that had made a conscious decision to open its doors to change, indeed dare I say, progress. We were welcomed very warmly by most of the Fellows but I particularly remember the kindness of Peter Lewis and his wife, Joyce. Together they hosted numerous tea parties, presiding over our assimilation into the social life of the College. I remember very little opposition from

the older male undergraduates who were generally delighted to have female company on their doorstep, even though they never quite forgave the partitioning of the Crystal Palace (Old Court bathroom). They supported the women's rowing enthusiastically, even painting the railway bridge in Corpus colours for our inaugural Fairbairns. No doubt driven by the enthusiasm, I went on to become the first female recipient of the Jaggard Cup, my own personal part of Corpus history.'

The male undergraduates' response to the admission of their female counterparts is recorded in the *Letter of the Corpus Association* (Michaelmas 1986). Cathryn Russell writes: 'The arrival of women undergraduates in Corpus in 1983 was greeted with a mixture of reactions from among the undergraduate members. Among them, predictable indifference, blind panic, and a refreshing amazement at what on earth all the fuss was about.' One of the commonly expressed views at the time was that the admission of women to the College would be 'tantamount to sporting suicide'. The presence of a Lacrosse Half-Blue and a Lightweight racing Blue within the first-year female intake alone are just two examples given to illustrate the unnecessary nature of such fears.

A Short History of Corpus Christi College includes a list of some of the most notable women in the College's history. For the first six hundred and thirty or so years the entries are, predictably, sparse.

25 YEARS

of the admission of women



It is, however, good to be reminded that in 1349 Margaret Andrew was the first known benefactor of the Gild of Corpus Christi, and it is also pleasing to learn that women were allowed membership of the College as ghosts from as early as 1667 (Elizabeth Spencer). The last entry in *A Short History*, which appeared in its third edition in 2002, is for 1997 when all eight Foundation Scholars elected by the College were women. Today the presence of successful women on the Fellowship and within the student body at Corpus is so integral to its history that individual achievements no longer need to be singled out. Four of the key College Officers are women – the Senior Tutor, Tutor for Admissions, Development Director and Treasurer – and women represent 46% of the College's undergraduate population and 40% of its postgraduates. Nevertheless, it is still fitting that this anniversary is remembered, and at this year's Matriculation Dinner I proposed my own private toast to Margaret Andrew, Elizabeth Spencer and twenty-five years of undergraduate women at Corpus.

Melanie Taylor, Tutor for Admissions

The Jaggard Cup is awarded to the medic or vet who has contributed most to the sporting or social life of the College

Luisseach Nic Eoin is a third year Archaeologist who feels very lucky to be a student at Corpus. 'I still get a thrill down my spine when I look out my window onto Old Court, or walk through the Bursar's garden when the daffodils are out, but mostly I love Corpus because I can't walk through the Porter's lodge to Bene't Passage without saying hello to at least five people on the way; students from all years, staff, or Fellows, it doesn't matter.' Luisseach is also the JCR Women's Welfare Officer, working with her male counterpart to provide a student face for welfare at Corpus. Both officers deal with issues such as mental and sexual health, work or social problems, directing students to people who can offer more specialised help, when appropriate. The Women's Welfare Officer has a further role in liaising between the women of Corpus and the CUSU Women's Council to promote the concerns of

A photograph of two women standing outdoors in front of a building with a stone wall and a window. Both women are wearing red academic gowns over white shirts. The woman on the left is wearing a black top and a necklace. The woman on the right is wearing a black top and a watch. They are both smiling.

From L to R: Dr Marina Frasca-Spada (Senior Tutor), Dr Melanie Taylor (Tutor for Admissions), Miss Diane Dawson (Fellow), Mrs Sue Ainger-Brown (Treasurer) and Ms Elizabeth Winter (Development Director).

women in a university which is still largely male-dominated. Luiseach states: 'Cambridge has come a long way from the days when women could not be awarded degrees, but organisations such as the Women's Council and Union are still extremely important in helping eliminate any form of gender discrimination from university life.'

Sophie Zadeh is a second year who is specialising in Politics papers from the PPS (Politics, Psychology and Sociology) Tripos. She is also Access and Academic Officer on the JCR committee, a role that she finds particularly rewarding. Sophie enjoys meeting prospective applicants and helping to dispel a lot of myths and is also available to support current undergraduates with any concerns they have about their academic work: 'As I recently told the freshers, I hope this year I'll be approached for all sorts of reasons - from footnotes to fears of failing exams. Funnily enough, I've worried about both of these things too.' Having the opportunity to be an undergraduate at Corpus Christi has for Sophie been, undoubtedly, one of the best things life has thrown at her. 'Not only is it an environment of academic excellence, where even lunchtime conversations can be both creative and challenging, but it is a College which must be credited for its ethos of care, upheld by undergraduates, staff and Fellows alike. This attitude is most definitely my favourite thing about being an undergraduate at Corpus.'

AWiSE, the Association for Women in Science and Engineering, is holding a series of three events to celebrate the 800th Anniversary of Cambridge University. For more details visit: www.800.cam.ac.uk/page/195/cambridge-awise-wiseti.htm



SUMMER INTERNSHIP: CANCER RESEARCH UK

As a student at Cambridge University, the people you meet often ask you the question, 'What subject do you read?' I ebulliently respond, 'biochemistry!' But for some reason the questioner too often fails to reciprocate my enthusiasm for my subject and the topic changes straight away. Only on two occasions have I shared my subject area and been met with wide-eyed joy, on both occasions by closet biochemists. I guess given my unique excitement it is no surprise then, that as I think about my future dream job, biochemistry dominates a large area of thought. Thus, I spent the summer 'testing the waters' of research in Adele Murrell's lab at the recently founded Cancer Research UK's new Cancer Research Institute at Addenbrookes, a highly prestigious centre already attracting many of the world's top researchers.

The 6 week internship was something of a 'dream come true', giving me the chance to enter cancer research, a passion of mine within the biochemical field. It almost did not come to fruition for financial reasons, and if Corpus had not been able to give me incredibly generous support in providing accommodation over the summer I could not have taken up the internship. If Cambridge is about giving people a step-up, and affording them every opportunity, then Corpus certainly lived up to that, for which I am truly grateful.

I am currently an undergraduate entering into Part II, or third year, of Biochemistry, so it was only my second time working in a lab environment. As a summer student I was able to not only further my

practical skills, but also learn the in-and-outs of running a lab, from day-to-day budgeting and lab meetings, to organisation of a group and where that fits within a larger institute. It was a truly holistic educational experience, and one that has set me up well for the future. The group itself worked in the area of genomic imprinting, and its implications in cancer. Specifically, I was investigating the interactions of a potential protein target at the differentially methylated region within the Igf2-H19 locus. This allowed me to try out for the first time many fundamental biochemical techniques not possible within a teaching lab, and placing me well ahead of my peers without similar experience. These techniques included western blots, cell culture, immunoprecipitation, plasmid mapping and cell-transfection experiments. Rather to my surprise the lab greatly appreciated the work I did, and have very kindly offered a similar and longer placement in the future.

Another question I'm often asked is, 'What do you want to do after you graduate?' I think after my experience this summer, I am able to say research. But a significant time spent in Zambia this summer has led me to the hope of being able to combine a desire to use my skills as a biochemist in furthering the effort towards eradicating HIV/AIDS. At this stage, I can only guess as to how my summer experience, aided by Corpus' generosity, has set me up for this, but I am sure that it certainly has given me a terrific start.

Blake Hansen, third year, Natural Sciences.



New Junior Common Room (JCR)

THE FINAL PART OF THE LIBRARY COURT PROJECT WAS COMPLETED IN THE EARLY PART OF THE SUMMER WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW JCR NEAR P STAIRCASE IN OLD COURT.

As part of the original plans the students asked for a quiet area that could be used for meetings, reading and watching TV away from the bar.

The new JCR has been furnished to the same high standard as the bar with relaxed seating, occasional tables, and a large screen TV on the wall.

The previous JCR area had the pool table, video games, and table football, which are now located in the bar area of the Student Centre. The new room is seen as a place for quieter moments, committee meetings and small group gatherings.



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