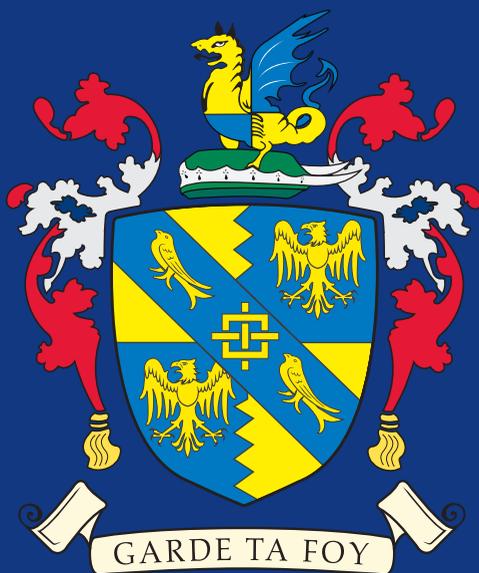


MAGDALENE COLLEGE MAGAZINE



No 55

2010–11

MAGDALENE COLLEGE

VISITOR: The Rt Hon the Lord Braybrooke, MA, KStJ

The Fellowship, October 2011

THE GOVERNING BODY

- 2002 MASTER: D D Robinson, CBE, MA, and MA (Yale), FSA, DL,
Director of Studies and University Affiliated Lecturer in History of Art;
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- 1981 PRESIDENT: M A Carpenter, ScD, *Professor of Mineralogy and Mineral Physics*
- 1968 N Boyle, LittD, FBA, *Schröder Professor of German*
- 1978 R Lockett, MA, PhD, *Pepys Librarian*
- 1979 E Duffy, DD, FBA, FSA, *Professor of the History of Christianity*
- 1984 H A Chase, ScD, FREng, *Director of Studies in Chemical Engineering*
and Professor of Biochemical Engineering
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- 1984 J R Patterson, MA, PhD, *Praelector, Director of Studies in Classics and USL*
in Ancient History
- 1987 M E J Hughes, MA, PhD, *College Librarian, Director of Studies and University*
Affiliated Lecturer in English
- 1989 T Spencer, MA, PhD, *Admissions Tutor (Graduate Students), Director of Studies*
and Reader in Coastal Ecology and Geomorphology
- 1990 B J Burchell, MA, and PhD (Warwick), *Director of Studies and USL in Politics,*
Psychology and Sociology
- 1990 S Martin, MA, PhD, *Senior Tutor, Admissions Tutor (Undergraduates), Director of*
Studies in Mathematics and University Affiliated Lecturer in Pure Mathematics
- 1992 K Patel, MA, MSc and PhD (Essex), *Director of Studies in Economics & Land*
Economy and UL in Property Finance
- 1993 T N Harper, MA, PhD, *Acting Dean, Joint Director of Studies in History and Reader*
in Southeast Asian and Imperial History (1990: Research Fellow)
- 1995 H Babinsky, MA and PhD (Cranfield), *Tutor, College Lecturer in Engineering,*
Professor of Aerodynamics
- 1996 N G Jones, MA, LL.M, PhD, *Assistant Dean, Director of Studies and USL in Law*
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Evolutionary Biology
- 1996 P Dupree, MA, PhD, *Tutor for Graduate Students, Director of Studies in Natural*
Sciences and Professor of Plant Cell Biochemistry and Cell Biology
- 1998 S K F Stoddart, MA, PhD, *Director of Studies in Archaeology & Anthropology,*
USL in Archaeology (1986: Research Fellow)
- 2000 R M O'Keefe, LL.M, PhD, *USL in Law, Deputy Director of the Lauterpacht Centre*
for International Law
- 2000 M Hughes, MB, BChir, PhD, *Tutor, Director of Studies in Pre-Clinical Medicine*
and University Affiliated Lecturer in Pharmacology
- 2000 T A Coombs, MA, PhD, *Joint Director of Studies and USL in Engineering*
- 2001 H Azérad, MA, PhD, *Joint Director of Studies in MML and University Senior*
Language Teaching Officer in French

- 2003 A L Hadida, MA, PhD, *Director of Studies and UL in Management Studies*
 2004 C S Watkins, MA, MPhil, PhD, *Tutor, and USL in History (1998: Research Fellow)*
 2004 E H Cooper, LittD, FBA, *Professor of Medieval and Renaissance English*
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 2007 S J Morris, BA (Newcastle), *Senior Bursar*
 2007 R M Burnstein, MB, BS (Sydney), PhD, *Director of Studies in Clinical Medicine*
 2008 G P Pearce, BVSc (Bristol), MA, PhD (Leeds), *Director of Studies in Veterinary Medicine and UL in Farm Animal Health and Production*
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 2009 P P Hobday, MA, and MA (Oxford), *Chaplain and Director of Studies in Theology and Religious Studies*
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 2010 A K Bennison, BA, and PhD (London), *Director of Studies in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, USL in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies*
 2011 L C Skinner, BSc, MPhil, PhD, *College Lecturer in Earth Sciences*

EMERITUS FELLOWS

- 1960 P J Grubb, ScD, *Emeritus Professor of Investigative Plant Ecology*
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 1962 J B Dwight, MA, MSc, *Emeritus Reader in Structural Engineering*
 1964 P E Reynolds, ScD
 1964 J E Field, OBE, PhD, FRS, *Emeritus Professor of Applied Physics*
 1968 His Honour C F Kolbert, MA, PhD
 1971 R J S Spence, MA, PhD, *Emeritus Professor of Architectural Engineering*

LIFE FELLOWS

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RESEARCH FELLOWS

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 2009 L Incurvati, MA (Rome), MPhil, *Lumley Research Fellow and Director of Studies in Philosophy*
 2009 C Vial, PhD, *Nevile Research Fellow in Pure Mathematics*

- 2010 S Korte, MEng, *Senior Research Fellow in Material Sciences and Metallurgy and Joint Director of Studies in Natural Sciences*
- 2010 E Rothschild, CMG, MA, *Senior Research Fellow in History and Economics and Honorary Professor of History*
- 2010 J D Coull, MA, MEng, PhD, *Rolls Royce Senior Research Fellow in Engineering*
- 2010 A Bartok-Party, MSc, PhD, *Nevile Research Fellow in Physics*
- 2010 P M Steele, BA, MPhil, PhD, *Lumley Research Fellow in Classics*
- 2011 L Chang, BA, DPhil, *Lumley Research Fellow in History and Politics*
- 2011 A Büll, MSc, PhD, *Nevile Research Fellow in Chemistry*
- 2011 R Gillespie, PhD, MRIA, *Parnell Visiting Fellow in Irish Studies*
- 2011 C M Lye, MA, PhD, *Herchel Smith Research Fellow in Physiology, Development and Neuroscience*
- 2011 C N Spottiswoode, BSc, PhD, *Sackler Senior Research Fellow in Biological Science*
- 2011 S Mahajan, MSc, PhD, *Sackler Senior Research Fellow in Physical Science*

BYE-FELLOWS

- 2010 M D Spring, BEd (British Columbia), BA (Victoria), MA (Essex), *Royal Literary Fund Teaching Bye-Fellow in Literary skills*
- 2011 M Hetherington, BA, *Donaldson Bye-Fellow in History*
- 2011 M C H Tointon, BA, *Kingsley Bye-Fellow in Earth Sciences*
- 2011 L E G Donkin, MA, PhD, *Teaching Bye-Fellow in History of Art*
- 2011 A J W Thom, BA, MSc, PhD, *Teaching Bye-Fellow in Chemistry*

FELLOW-COMMONERS

- 1989 T G M Keall, MA, *Alumni Secretary*
- 1990 R L Skelton, MA
- 1991 A D Rawley, QC, MA (Oxford), *College Advocate*
- 1993 A M Brown, MA, PhD, *Academic Director, Cambridge University Press*
- 1997 A I J Fitzsimons, Diplômée de l'ISIT (Paris)
- 2002 J J Hellyer Jones, MA, FRCO, *Director of College Music*
- 2010 B Fried, MBA (Pennsylvania)
- 2010 E S Disley, MA, MPhil, PhD, *Research Associate, Department of German and Dutch*
- 2011 N Raymont, BSc (Econ), *Assistant Bursar*
- 2011 M R W Rands, BSc, DPhil

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- 1988 The Rt Hon Sir Christopher Staughton, PC, MA
- 1992 Professor Sir David Hopwood, MA, PhD, and DSc (Glasgow), FRS
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- 1999 Seamus J Heaney, BA (Queen's Belfast), Hon DLitt (Oxford) FBA, MRIA
- 1999 J C F-Simpson, CBE, MA, FRGS

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 2001 Sir Colin Corness, MA
 2001 Professor Sir Richard Jolly, KCMG, MA, and PhD (Yale)
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 2009 His Excellency Judge Sir Christopher Greenwood, CMG, QC, MA, LLB
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 2009 The Hon Wong Yan-lung, SC, MA, JP

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1999	Michael Stone	2007	Dato Isa Bin Ibrahim
1999	Sir Anthony O'Reilly	2010	Margaret Higgs
1999	Lady O'Reilly	2011	Lady Braybrooke
2000	Christopher Smart	2011	Les Murray



Photo: Nigel Hawkes

The Clock Tower



Photo: Jane Hughes

MAGDALENE COLLEGE MAGAZINE

NEW SERIES No 55: 2010–11

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EDITORIAL

First, the headline: on the occasion of the 2011 Cripps Dinner, held as usual on Ascension Day, our Honorary Fellow Robert Cripps confirmed the decision of the Cripps Foundation to provide £8 million towards the cost of a new College Library. He did so only weeks after the official opening of the second, and last, phase of Cripps Court, which overall we owe to the extraordinary generosity of two generations of the same family of benefactors. This completes the College's plans to house all of its undergraduates and a growing number of graduates within the precincts. Our material comforts guaranteed, Robert and his fellow trustees have given their resounding endorsement to our plans to address our intellectual needs. As the motto on the Pepys Building reminds us, *mens cuiusque is est quisque*.

Magdalene is one of a very few Cambridge colleges not to have improved library provision in recent years. The deficiency was stated bluntly in the Strategic Plan which the Governing Body adopted in 2005, as a result of which in 2007 Rick Mather Architects conducted a feasibility study for a building between the river and the Fellows' Garden, on the site currently occupied by the gardeners' workshop and the greenhouses. That exercise was funded by gifts from several members of the College who came to hear about the proposal and kindly offered to support it. At the same time it was recognised that further progress would be entirely dependent upon raising sufficient funds to build and endow the new library, and that the campaign to do so would be given greater credibility if we could attract a major donation during its 'silent' phase. The pledge which the Cripps Foundation has made exceeds by far our expectations and places the Libraries Appeal firmly at the top of the College's agenda. To complete the full project by the end of this decade, we must raise a further £6 million. At this stage the estimates are indicative only, but they are intended to provide for the refurbishment of the Pepys Building as well as adequate staffing levels for all of the libraries, in addition to the cost of new construction.

Before choosing an architect to design a new building, there are a number of interesting questions to be asked. What are the optimal conditions in a twenty-first-century library designed for undergraduate and graduate students? The old answer, beginning and ending with books, is no longer adequate, however important those hardbound printed texts remain for some disciplines. With ever-increasing dependence upon the internet as a reference tool, high-speed access to it is as essential as shelving for books. For many of our students, quiet space is the highest priority, as we discover every year before Tripos, when we are hard pressed to find enough rooms which can be designated as study areas. A modern library also needs a social space for study breaks, and rooms which can be used for seminars and supervisions. And given Magdalene's important collections, a display area or small gallery would be appropriate. If this appears to be stretching the definition of a library too far, we need only to recall the academies of the ancient world, of the

‘museum’ in Alexandria for instance, a building dedicated to science, learning and the fine arts, catering for the needs of scholars in all disciplines.

Which brings us to the wider implications of a new library building at the heart of the College’s intellectual endeavours. Samuel Pepys’s Library is one of our inalienable treasures, housed in its original (*the original*) bookcases. It is, however, something of an antiquarian’s delight, appreciated by visitors as much for its ambience as for its contents. It remains seriously under-utilised as a scholarly resource. Removing the undergraduate library from the Pepys Building would enable us to create better facilities for readers there, and also to relocate the contents of the Old Library and the College Archives there. This would constitute under a single roof one of Cambridge’s most important collections of manuscripts and rare books, an invaluable reference collection for students of European social, political and naval history and English literature. With the Centre for History and Economics now firmly established in Magdalene, and the opportunity that it provides for closer ties with Harvard University, there is every reason to envisage the Pepys Building as a research centre of international significance within the College. At a time when the study of the humanities is threatened by under-funding, we should seize the opportunity to become their champions.

For the fourth consecutive year, Magdalene’s graduating cohort has delivered results of which we can be proud. Our graduate students bring us equal credit, and the academic distinction of the fellowship has never been greater. In Cambridge we are justly proud of the fact that the colleges benefit their members intellectually as well as socially; the development of our Libraries as engines of research and teaching will ensure that there is nothing idle in that boast.



The Pepys Building

This issue is edited by the Master, assisted by Mrs Fitzsimons and Jo Hornsby.

IN MEMORIAM

BRIAN DEAKIN

Fellow and Benefactor

Brian Measures Deakin, MA, born 6 February 1922. Educated Westminster School, De Havilland Technical College, and Christ Church, Oxford. Senior Research Officer 1964, Assistant Director, Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge, 1975–1989; Official Fellow, Magdalene College, Director of Studies in Economics, 1967–1989 (Emeritus Fellow, 1989–2010); Tutor, 1974–1984; Senior Tutor, 1984–1989; Senior Proctor 1973–1974. Married Ann Buckley, 1954 (d 1989), one son, one daughter. Married Leila Keane, 1991. Died 4 December 2010.



Brian grew up helping on the land in Hertfordshire where his father, an engineer by training, farmed. He went to Westminster School but left at the outbreak of war, aged 17, to enrol in the De Havilland Technical College as an engineering trainee/apprentice though the college closed after a bombing raid during which many of his fellow students were killed. In 1942 he joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve where he specialised in electronic navigation aids and became a Test Flight Navigator in Lancaster Bombers. The work was dangerous, often involving the deliberate stalling of aircraft in mid-flight, and on numerous occasions he missed death by inches – literally so when his plane nearly collided with a V1 flying-bomb. He left a vivid description of being blown up by a 4000-lb blockbuster which claimed the lives of 13 of his comrades, and a comic account of being dropped off for home leave at the most convenient airfield by a Lancaster that was providing an illicit taxi service

Brian was demobilised in 1946 with the rank of Flying Officer, but not before spending almost a year in India, at a particularly critical time in the history of that country. Initially he was made Commanding Officer of Gurrarakonda Fort, an isolated part of the Southern India Radar system and was then posted to RAF Dum Dum, Calcutta, as Station Radar Officer. The Calcutta riots were in full swing at the time and on one occasion he found himself detailed to take command of an armed escort for a busload of civilians who had to run the gauntlet of sectarian violence on their way from the airport to the city centre. Meanwhile, Brian was anxious to take up the place he had secured to read Classics at Christ Church Oxford. He was released from the RAF in time to matriculate in October 1946. After taking final honours in PPE, he moved to London in 1950 where he worked as a temporary Research Assistant in Politics at the London School of Economics before joining the Investment Department in the London office of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada in 1951. In 1954 he joined the Research Department of *The Economist*, and in 1961 became its Research Director.

In 1964, Brian was appointed a Senior Research Officer in the Department of Applied Economics in Cambridge, of which he became the Assistant Director from 1975 to 1989. None the less he had no security of tenure and his entire academic career was grant-funded. In 1967 he was elected to the Magdalene Fellowship and directed studies in Economics here for more than twenty years, as well as serving as a Tutor from 1974, and as Senior Tutor, 1984–89. He handled with great sensitivity that worst of tutorial crises, the sudden death of an undergraduate in residence. For many years he was also Director of Studies for Jesus College. In 1972 Brian allowed his name to go forward for appointment as a University Proctor, during a period of student unrest which must have reminded him of his experiences in India. He worked immensely hard – full-time until he was 75 – was always in his rooms in College on Saturday mornings, and entertained all his pupils to Sunday lunch at home. Happily none of the administrative and pastoral duties he took on detracted from his research activity or impacted upon the steady stream of publications, which focused mainly on transport productivity, freight shipping, and then youth training and employment. Significantly, he was awarded on his retirement, one of the Leverhulme Foundation's prestigious Senior Fellowships. Thereafter he continued to play an active part in the academic and social life of the College until his death in December 2010.

Brian's owlsh exterior concealed a man as sensitive as he was brave, and it was many years before he spoke to anyone, even fellow servicemen, about his wartime experiences. Always notably self-effacing, when the award of a PhD under 'special regulations' was made to Col M H Cobb (1935) at the age of 91 in 2008, and attracted national attention, Brian never claimed any credit for having encouraged him, at a Reunion Lunch the previous year, to submit his work on railway history. Wholly non-judgemental he was nevertheless implacably determined to see the best in everyone, even the most idle or gormless of students or the most awkward of colleagues. He never uttered a malicious word about anybody (though he did

once comment in the early 2000s that Gordon Brown was allowing the banks to print money) and he never allowed his own unbending attention to duty to give him an excuse for looking down on others. However, an economist has to be realistic about human behaviour and the moving words with which he eventually concluded his memoirs of the war years were entirely in character:

Throughout my service in the RAF... no one I knew spoke or behaved disloyally... No one I knew let his fellow service men down in any way that could have been avoided. There were of course some unpremeditated mistakes and errors, sometimes leading very sadly to fatal results. In my view these shortcomings should be excused, bearing in mind the human condition and the often severe stresses of active service in wartime.



Brian was the younger brother of Sir William Deakin, DSO, a legendary officer in the Special Operations Executive, a friend of Churchill's, and first Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford (1950–1968). Brian was proud of his brother's fame, but never overawed by it. In 1954 he married Ann Buckley, a Newnham graduate who had been in the WRNS during the war and who had regularly visited him when he fell ill with amoebic hepatitis contracted in India. They had two children, Matthew and Joanna, who between them produced the five grandchildren to whom Brian was devoted. Sadly Ann died after a serious illness in 1989 and two years later, Brian married Leila Keane, a Newnham friend of Ann's who survives him.

Brian's attachment to his College was as undemonstrative as the man himself. A recently received letter from a former student speaks of 'Mr Deakin's warmth and constant care and encouragement' and of his 'understated humour'. In a quietly reflective way, always interested in his colleagues, he was a valued presence in the Senior Combination Room. He was a regular Chapel-goer and a discreet benefactor. It was only after his death, when the College was informed of his legacies, that we discovered the depth of his commitment and, indeed, how well-off he was, the fortuitous long-term result of being paid partly in shares while a researcher with *The Economist*. In his Will, the provision for Magdalene was carefully defined: funding for a Teaching and Research Fellowship in Economics, another gift unrestricted as to subject, for the charitable purposes of teaching and research in equal proportions, and finally with characteristic thoughtfulness a legacy 'for the benefit of the Magdalene College Staff Social Club'.

D D R & N B

B M D's principal publications:

Productivity in Transport: A study of employment, capital, output, productivity and technical change (with T Seward), 1969

Shipping Conferences: A study of their origins, development and economic practices (with T Seward), 1973

Effects of the Temporary Employment Subsidy (with C F Pratten), 1982

The Youth Labour Market in Britain: The role of intervention, 1996

Book reviews for *The Economic Journal*

Policy research reports for the Department of Employment

FROM THE CHAPLAIN'S MEMORIAL ADDRESS,
19 MARCH 2011

'Greater love hath no man than this', says Jesus, 'that a man lay down his life for his friends'. Some people, of course, do actually give their lives for others, not least those who are caught up in conflict, losing their life to serve others or ideals. Brian Deakin had great respect for such people – not least because of his own distinguished war service in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, and reflected in many of the books which lined the shelves of the peaceful and welcoming sitting-room in the family home on Newton Road.

Despite a near-death experience – a doctor, treating Brian for hepatitis contracted on active service in India, misread a decimal point and almost injected him with a fatal dose – Brian was not called to sacrifice his life for others. But there are, of course, more ways to lay down one's life than dying for others or for a cause: ways of *living* which demonstrate courage, commitment to others, faithfulness. His respect for Churchill and Lord Dowding, whose pictures hung above his desk, was for two people who lived in the service of others; the sense that this marked Brian's own life recurs in many of the letters and comments sent to Leila and the family since his death last December...

His election to a Fellowship at Magdalene in 1967 began an association spanning five decades. For eight years he was Director of Studies in Economics for both Magdalene and Jesus, as a supervisor and tutor, spending five years in the demanding role of Senior Tutor. This was alongside faculty administration, lecturing, examining at all levels, acting as a referee for grant-making bodies, and as a reader for two university presses. That his research projects bore so much fruit while he discharged so many responsibilities – not least for the academic progress and pastoral care of up to fifty economics undergraduates at a time – is a measure of the abundance and balance of his academic, administrative, and pastoral gifts.

As Senior Proctor, he remained level-headed and even-handed; his wartime experience of dealing with civil unrest in Calcutta was brought to bear on difficulties closer to home, enabling him to pursue an effective middle course between escalation and retreat. Like the 'season'd timber' in Herbert's poem, he 'never gave' – not in the sense of being unyielding or impassive, but rather in the attentive teasing out of a firm but sympathetic response under pressure.

With Brian's distinguished professional and academic abilities was blended remarkable personal warmth and care. He commanded widespread affection and respect among colleagues and pupils – staying in contact with the latter over many years and making a point of seeking them out, in a planned but personal way, at reunions and other events. Brian is repeatedly described as a man of kindness and courtesy. He was clear-eyed about others but never disparaging; witty but never cruel; attentive to detail but never fussy; guided by a strong sense of duty but never judgmental. His company was particularly sought at High Table and in the

Combination Room, where he would talk thoughtfully with and about whoever sat with him. His commitment to Magdalene was – like everything about him – quiet, firm, and faithful, and his presence will be much missed in Chapel and at Dinner on Sundays here and of course in College life more widely.

Brian's wartime memoir (unpublished but now deposited in the College Archives) describes his professional and academic life as 'some sort of career as an economist', in much the same way as he thought his wartime service as 'unusual, but ... certainly not distinguished'. Writing about himself, he was understated and modest. Writing about situations, he was lucid, perceptive, and drily amused. Writing about others, he showed acuity but sympathy, with a humane approach to their peculiarities, shortcomings, and mistakes. So his memoir, it seems to me, rather wonderfully encapsulates many of the qualities of this husband, father, grandfather, uncle, colleague, and friend.

'Greater love hath no man than this ...'. The speaker of those words, of course, *did* die believing he was doing so for others. At the same time, he lived his life attentive always to those around him, always purposeful and compassionate, even in moments of great trial. In this way, Brian's life – of service, kindness, and care – reflects something of the ideals of the Christ who came to show us what a fully human life looks like. The warm and wise man we remember today will be much missed here in Magdalene and the wider University, and by his family and friends. As we celebrate all Brian gave us, in a life lived for others, we honour him in death, trusting that he rests in the One who gave up his life for us all, and now lives again to bring us the fullness of joy, love, and life which he promised.

PPH



BRIAN DEAKIN'S ECONOMICS*

At the start of his first major study for the Department of Applied Economics (DAE) at Cambridge, on *Productivity in Transport* (1969), Brian Deakin succinctly pre-figured the course of his work over the coming 25 years: '[T]he production function underlies all really meaningful analyses of productivity change'. The production function defines the rate at which productive inputs, chiefly labour and capital, are transformed into outputs. He then goes on to enumerate a number of factors that influence the transformation process, including technical change and the characteristics of the markets for labour, capital and final output. This sets the focus for his work that was to come in Cambridge: on the production function and on the market mechanism, in particular when the latter fails to operate efficiently and equitably. Brian's principal work was, first, on transport economics (productivity; freight shipping cartels) and then on the operation of the labour market (employment subsidies; youth employment).

The DAE, founded originally by J M Keynes, was a research department within the ambit of the (then) Faculty of Economics and Politics. But its staff did not enjoy tenure of appointment and had to rely on securing a sequence of full-cost external research contracts in order to keep their posts. The DAE had been the incubator for Richard Stone's Cambridge Growth Project (now incorporated commercially within Cambridge Econometrics) and under Brian Reddaway's direction was working on a wide range of policy-oriented research projects. The work of the DAE came to an end in 2004, when most of its remaining staff moved to Faculty posts. Because of the importance of typically large-scale externally supported research projects in the DAE's work, much of the published output was in the form of monographs and occasional papers, rather than the journal articles that are today's gold standard for economists.

Following initial work on productivity in the service sector, carried out in collaboration with K.D. George (1967), Brian's study of transport develops and fits explanatory production functions for six British transport sectors: railways; road passenger transport; road haulage contracting; sea transport; port and inland water transport; and air transport. Postal services and telecommunications are used as a comparator sector. The work is path breaking, chiefly because of the difficulties in measuring the output of transport services. Hitherto, production function estimation had been confined largely to the manufacture of tangible goods.

The starting point is a production function in which overall productivity gains can be attributed to changes in: the 'quality' of labour (skills); capital-intensity (the capital/labour ratio); and the interaction between the two factor inputs, generally regarded as reflecting technical change. The research finds conclusively that technical change is the single most important force in explaining productivity growth in the transport industries.

However, there were wide differences in productivity levels and growth rates between the various transport industries studied. While air transport, unsurprisingly, made substantial productivity gains in the ten-year period of the study to 1962, railways and road passenger transport both suffered a persistent decline, the trend being reversed for railways in the early 1960s as the effects of the Beeching restructuring were felt. The diversity of the results means that there is no one production function that is typical of the transport sector as a whole, but the close positive correlation between the growth rates of output and productivity confirms the 'virtuous circle' of sustained economic expansion (the so-called 'Verdoorn's Law') which played an important part in Nicholas Kaldor's theory of growth.

Brian's approach to applied economic research, his technique and his style are shown to advantage in *Shipping Conferences* (1973), arguably his best work. It starts by setting out the theoretical basis of the issues to be studied; puts the industry into an historical context; develops a unique database via detailed questionnaires and interviews; uses statistical rather than econometric methods for the analysis; and gives policy-relevant conclusions, all within the framework of a clear and uncomplicated prose style.

Shipping conferences are cartels of shipping companies; in this case the operators of deep-sea freight liners carrying general cargo in each direction between Europe and Australia and the Far East. The mention of cartels raises concerns immediately amongst economists about welfare detriments arising from output losses and from distortions to the distribution of income and wealth through impairments to the efficient operation of the market mechanism. But Brian is strictly non-judgemental until his final summing up.

His focus is on how the conferences have developed and on how they operate, particularly in the process of setting prices. The outstanding features of the study are its richness of detail in a hitherto largely opaque area of business activity; the careful specification of the problem to be studied; and the painstaking process of analysis. The detail comes from access to the pricing and other financial records of three groups of conferences and was obtained through the co-operation of the shipping lines involved, whose managers must have been concerned about the motivation behind the study and the eventual findings. Establishing and maintaining trust between the researchers and the companies was vital.

Shipping conferences began to be formed in the second half of the 19th century as improvements in the size and speed of steamships (technical progress) increased the supply of freight capacity faster than the growth of demand. As steamships were large capital items, fixed costs formed a large part of the total, emphasising the need for ship operators to achieve high load factors even at the expense of low prices and financial losses in the short term. The conferences were designed to balance demand with capacity and to stabilise prices with the aim of ensuring the long-run financial viability of the members.

The study finds that the 'things done' by shipping conferences were to:

- Set prices, differentiating between shippers (buyers) according to the value and volume of their consignments
- Pool revenues to support the finances of weaker members
- Influence overall capacity and allocate it between members
- Approve 'loyalty rebates' (discounts) to selected shippers and
- Regulate membership

These would be sufficient, even now, to lead many economists to conclude that the conference system is a self-evident case of detrimental monopolistic practices. But Brian is customarily circumspect. To judge the effects, he focuses on how prices are formed, using the large database he has constructed.

In general, cargo tariffs were set in relation to the unit value of the consignments being carried, reflecting the largely insensitive response of demand to transportation prices across the greater part of the tariff range. But there were deviations from this rule at the extreme ends of the range, where the price elasticity of demand was higher. For more valuable and time sensitive consignments, conference liners were feeling competition from air freight. At the other end of the scale, tramp steamers, operating outside conference rules, offered competitive rates for bulk cargoes of undifferentiated commodities. Competition from container ships, themselves operating within the framework of the conferences and representing the next wave of technical change, only began to be felt at the end of the period covered by the study.

As a consequence of the relatively low price elasticity of demand for most classes of goods, Brian finds that over the period from 1948 to 1970 shipping tariffs on average rose much faster than British prices in general. Since aggregate rates of profit for conference members remained low, he concludes that prices were being set mainly by cost-related factors. But when *relative* tariffs – freight charges for different types of commodity at a given point in time – are considered, demand side factors become important. Here he develops a detailed computable model of cross-commodity tariff differences for consignments carried in five long distance sailings by conference liners in 1969 and 1970. The technique used is Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression, which has since become a standard econometric method of analysis. The main factors influencing relative tariffs are found to be: the unit value of the consignment; its measured weight; and any loss of stowage space on account of the nature of the consignment – for example, assembled cars for immediate distribution and sale on arrival at the destination port need space-demanding protective casing and careful stowage. Of these factors, unit value is by far the most important.

Revisiting this price formation analysis almost forty years after it was done, one cannot fail to be impressed by the scale of the task undertaken, given the resources for data collection and computation that were available at the time.

About 15,000 price observations were made, covering 4,359 consignments. Data processing involved manual collation and then punched or magnetic tape preparation for loading onto a mainframe computer with limited software capability, particularly for assessing the statistical robustness of the results and for modifying and re-running the regression programme. Today, this type of analysis is routine and swift.

The final part of the research is an assessment of the economic and financial performance of the three shipping conferences that were studied in detail. Efficiency is gauged by the degree of capacity utilisation that was achieved. This was found to be high (above 83% in the period 1958–1968), even if not quite as high as in branches of manufacturing industry. Brian judges that the efficiency rate achieved was higher than would have been possible in the absence of the conferences.

Financial performance is measured by the rate of return on capital employed. This is found to be low on average, and well below the returns earned in manufacturing – at the time of the study the manufacturing sector was the general benchmark for performance against which industries and sectors were compared. The low financial return raises the question, which is not addressed explicitly, of why and how resources remained in the freight shipping sector. But of much greater interest is the finding that the range of profitability between the members of a conference is very wide. Given that tariff rates for general cargo are fixed by each conference, this is taken to reflect underlying differences in unit costs between the shipping lines involved. Against this background, weaker members may be expected to have pressed for higher tariff rates if they were to remain in the conference, which overwhelmingly they did. But this upward pressure on prices was in part offset by the pooling of revenues, by which the more profitable members aided the less profitable. Brian's assessment is that, while this practice reduced overall profitability, at the same time it prevented prices from rising as high as they would have otherwise, which was to the benefit of shippers.

Brian's overall appraisal of the economic effects of shipping conferences is cautious in evaluation but bold in assessment. 'We have no means of measuring the gains or losses due to the cross-subsidisation which arise from the differential pricing processes of shipping conferences, but it is clear that the re-distribution is arbitrary and is to be deplored on those grounds alone.' This welfare loss was in part offset by the improvements in operational efficiency attributable to conferences' organisation of their members; an overall increase in world trade made possible by prices being held back and by some consignments being carried at below cost; and (more controversially) by cross-subsidisation between developed and developing economies, in favour of the latter. But striking an exact balance between overall welfare benefits and costs was not possible when Brian wrote – and still is not.

After *Shipping Conferences*, Brian's research interest moved to the functioning of the UK labour market. His two major studies published in this field are

into short-term measures to support employment in the face of severe recession and, later, into the effectiveness of policies to improve vocational skills and job opportunities among young people. The common themes linking this work with his earlier studies on the economics of transport are the production function and market failure – the factors that impede the efficient and welfare-maximising operation of Adam Smith's 'hidden hand'.

The setting for both studies was the steady rise in unemployment in the UK during the second half of the 1970s as the long period of post-war full employment came to an end. This gave rise to severe economic, social and political concern, particularly with regard to youth unemployment. In 1975 the Labour Government introduced a measure – the Temporary Employment Subsidy (TES) – intended to help firms maintain the jobs of workers who would otherwise face redundancy as conditions in the labour market worsened. In 1978, the Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP) was started, through which work experience opportunities were provided for 16 to 18 year olds so as to help them enter the labour market. But the effectiveness of this proved to be weak and the new Conservative Government of Margaret Thatcher, in contra-distinction to its generally *laissez-faire* policies, strengthened the initiative with a sequence of policies intended to support youth employment and improve skills, of which the Youth Training Scheme (YTS) was the most important.

Effects of the Temporary Employment Subsidy (1982) was prepared as the result of a government research contract for the evaluation of a subsidy scheme designed to give temporary employment support to firms that were on the point of declaring redundancies, at a time when unemployment was increasing rapidly. The method of analysis used involved a comparison of the economic outturns associated with the Temporary Employment Subsidy (TES) with those to be expected if the policy had not been applied ('no policy' – the counterfactual). Brian was to use this approach in a more refined way in his later work on the youth labour market.

The main part of the study was the construction of an extensive and original dataset obtained from a questionnaire and interview enquiry based on a large sample of respondent firms, both those that had applied for TES (the 'treatment group') and those that had not (the 'control group'). Although the scheme was available to eligible firms across the whole economy, in the event it was taken up almost entirely by those in manufacturing, and in particular by the clothing, footwear and textiles industries, where firms were typically small and medium enterprises that were facing increasing international competition, were using labour-intensive production methods, and were paying wages that were low relative to manufacturing as a whole.

Bearing in mind that the TES was explicitly intended to be short-lived, the study found that about half the jobs covered by the scheme would have been lost without it and that, for manufacturing as a whole, employment in 1977 was about 1% higher and output about 0.6% higher than would have otherwise been the

case. For those industries that had a high take-up rate for the scheme, the subsidy enabled prices relative to those of competitors to be reduced, which boosted sales in both the home and export markets. The net trade gain gave some respite to the balance of payments at a time of increasing macroeconomic difficulty for the UK. Set against these benefits, the net costs of the TES were small – about 70% of the attributable costs were estimated to have been covered by lower unemployment and social security benefits and higher taxation receipts than would have been the case if the redundancies had been allowed to occur.

Following his retirement as Assistant Director of the DAE in 1989, Brian was awarded a Leverhulme Emeritus Fellowship to study in detail the operation of the youth labour market and in particular the effects of the Youth Training Scheme (1983–1990), introduced with the prime aim of improving the skill levels and hence the employability of 16 to 19 year olds. *The Youth Labour Market in Britain* (1996) draws on the analytical approach developed for the TES study, but it is impossible to read it without absorbing Brian's emotional commitment to policies that open employment and career opportunities for young people by enhancing their vocational skills and abilities. The personal resonance is clearly with his time as a 17-year old engineering trainee and apprentice at De Havilland Technical College at the outbreak of war in 1939.

For the period covered by the study, the particular problem of youth unemployment, set against the background of a general deterioration in the labour market, resulted from the erratic nature of the flow of young people onto the labour market. The volatile flow arose from the combined effects of: generational crowding (the 'baby boom'); a substantial increase in the rate of participation in the labour market, among women in particular; and the fall in the demand for labour in the downswing of the economic cycle. At the same time, Britain's international competitiveness depended in large part – as it still does – on the productivity, and hence the quality, of its workforce, something that demands enhanced skills. Because of uncertainties surrounding the benefits from training for young people and firms alike, without government intervention the labour market will not provide the optimal amount of training. To address these issues, YTS initiatives provided both on-the-job and off-the-job training over a one-year period (later extended to two years), the costs of which were shared between the trainee; the employer; and the government.

To gauge the scheme's effectiveness, Brian assembled questionnaire and interview-based data from a large matched sample of firms across a wide range of branches of industry so as to compare the outcomes from training providers with those from non-providers. The key measures are the *induced training effect*, indicating the net additional training places that could be attributed directly to the YTS initiative, and the *net employment effect*, which is the additional number of jobs created overall in the economy.

The scheme's effectiveness in increasing the number of training places was assessed by estimating the amount of reported training that would have taken

place in its absence – the *deadweight* effect. Similarly, the measurement of the additional employment took account of the extent to which firms hired young people in place of older workers, leaving the overall size of the workforce unchanged – the *substitution* effect. Taking account of these effects reduced significantly the impact of the scheme, and hence the balance of benefits against costs.

The impact on the number of training places and on the number of jobs created was greatest when the overall demand for labour was weak. The financial benefits from the scheme went mainly to the employers, many of whom benefited from the windfall payments for training services they would in any case have provided. However, the YTS initiative overall was estimated to have boosted total economic output (GDP) by 0.7 per cent a year. After taking account of all this, Brian's assessment of the scheme's effectiveness is critical. He finds the level and quality of the training services provided, and the qualifications awarded, to be low and not to stand comparison with vocational education and training initiatives in other European countries. '[T]he content of courses, the quality of teaching and training and of assessment have been shown to be far too low, with consequently low rates of attainment of qualifications which are themselves of too low a standard'. The lessons for policy are clear.

As the finishing point of a distinguished career dedicated to research and teaching in economics, this is about as good as it gets – a policy prescription for the education and training of young people of all abilities so as to open opportunities by boosting productivity and setting a path for sustained and sustainable economic growth. Such is the strength of the production function.

A personal note: Brian Deakin introduced me to Magdalene College soon after I joined the DAE as a Research Officer in 1969. From that time onwards, he was my unflinching mentor and friend, reading and commenting incisively on everything that I submitted for publication. Thanks in large part to his advice and support, I was able to return to Cambridge to Magdalene and to the Economics Faculty in 2006. It has been a privilege to review the wide compass of his work. I hope that I have done him justice.

T A J C

*Brian Deakin's publications are listed fully at:

<http://www.econ.cam.ac.uk/faculty/person.html?id=cockerill&group=rstaff>

THE COLLEGE RECORD

I FELLOWSHIP ELECTIONS

The President

PROFESSOR M A CARPENTER writes: My historian colleagues will probably tell a scientist like me that history is not a sequence of random events. If this is true, I am



left to wonder how they and the other Fellows of Magdalene came to elect me as their next President, for five years from October 2011. It seems that they only had one candidate to choose from so perhaps the election itself was not chance. Joking aside, I have had the good fortune to be associated with the College since arriving as a very green undergraduate in 1972, with only a few absences over the intervening years. It is touching (and very flattering) to be asked by respected colleagues to take on this responsibility. It is also more than a little daunting to be following in distinguished footsteps: Bernard Saunders, Dennis Babbage, Ralph Bennett, John Stevens, Mickey Dias, Peter Grubb, Ronald Hyam, Bill Cornish, Eamon

Duffy and Nick Boyle. All readers of the College Magazine will have fond memories (and humorous anecdotes, no doubt) of one or more of these Presidents from the last 35 years.

The President says grace at dinner, is the first Fellow out of Chapel, is supposed to tell the Master what he can and cannot do, is invariably polite to guests, tries to keep the Fellows happy and maintains as low a profile as possible on any difficult issues. There are many social functions to attend, of course, including Guest Nights, Matriculation, Half-way and Graduation dinners, reunions and development events. The most recent reunion lunch, for example, was for members of the college who matriculated before 1953. This was a memorable occasion marked by good humour and memories of a College that was very different from the comfortable existence of recent times. The lives of most of this group of old members were touched by the Second World War; one was in the army occupying Germany and had been a great deal more frightened of the Russians than the Germans. Three were able to identify themselves in the 1949 Matriculation Photograph taken in front of the Pepys Library, and one knew he was there but could not recognize himself in youthful guise. This particular group of guests should have included my father (sadly, long deceased), who was responsible for more than the genetic

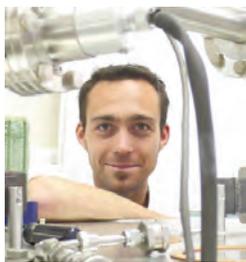
accident of my appearance at Magdalene. When asked by my headmaster about a choice of college for my Cambridge application I knew the name of only one. Curiously, the 1949 photograph shows my father standing immediately behind Dennis Babbage, Fairfax Scott and Ralph Bennett.



George Anthony Carpenter, second from left, upper row. Dennis Babbage (left), Fairfax Scott & Ralph Bennett (right) are in the row below. Professor Carpenter is the first President of the College (at least in modern times) to be the son of a Magdalene man.

With the benefit of hindsight, the credentials for entrance to read Natural Sciences in 1972 do not appear to have amounted to as much as those required now – some skill at rugby and a few A levels then being sufficient it seems. The sequence that I followed, graduate student (1975), Bye-Fellow (1977), Research Fellow (1982), Fellow (1984), Professorial Fellow (2001), contains additional quirks of accident and fortune, but perhaps the historians would approve the logic of this more normal flow. My research interests in Earth Sciences relate mainly to the physics of minerals and functional oxides. Resonant Ultrasound Spectroscopy is the method I use for measuring large variations of elastic and anelastic properties of crystals in response to changes in temperature and magnetic field. Expectations for my Presidency must be kept low but the duties and challenges of the next five years will be accepted with as much calmness and good grace as can be sustained. To be serious, briefly, current members of the College are fortunate to be part of a warm community with debate, friendships, generous colleagues, banter and plenty of professional hard work applied to the running of the College. All Presidents seek to promote academic distinction and to support the quality of experience that Fellows provide for each other and for College staff, undergraduates and graduate students alike. I would like to maintain this tradition.

Official Fellow



LUKE SKINNER has been elected to an Official Fellowship from 1 October 2011. He also holds a University Lectureship in the Department of Earth Sciences, and has been a Royal Society University Research Fellow since 2006. Luke has previously held a Sackler Fellowship at Churchill College (2005) and a Junior Research Fellowship at Christ's College (2005–2009). He holds a BSc (Hons) in Geological Engineering (Queen's University, Canada, 1999), an MPhil in Quaternary

Science (University of Cambridge, 2000) and a PhD in Palaeoclimatology (University of Cambridge, 2004). In 2007 he was awarded an Outstanding Young Scientist Award by the European Geosciences Union, and in 2008 was awarded a President's Award by the Geological Society of London. Luke's research looks broadly at the role of the ocean circulation in past climate change, including in particular its impact on the carbon cycle and the transport of heat from low to high latitudes. Ultimately, this work aims to provide a geological perspective on the climate system and its dynamics on relatively short time-scales; time-scales that are relevant to both hominid history and future human activities. One interesting question that Luke's research addresses, and that bears on our ability to make accurate predictions of future climate evolution, is the existence of 'tipping points' in the climate system. These are putative thresholds beyond which the climate system's response to some perturbation accelerates sharply, leading to changes that may be irreversible for centuries to millennia. Tipping points lead to climate 'surprises', and are the hallmark of a dynamical system that is dominated by feedbacks. Luke's research aims to improve our understanding of such tipping points and their implications by looking into the recent geological past at abrupt transitions in the ocean, the atmosphere and the ice-sheets.

Research Fellows

JOHN COULL joined Magdalene in 2010 as the Rolls-Royce Senior Research Fellow for turbine thermo-fluid mechanics. He first came to Cambridge in 2001–02 to read engineering at Sidney Sussex College. During this time he spent an exchange year at MIT and completed a Masters project with the Silent Aircraft Initiative. He stayed on to do his PhD at the Whittle Laboratory under the supervision of Professor Howard Hodson, examining unsteady flow behaviour in the low pressure turbines of large civil aeroplane engines. His current work with Rolls-Royce focuses on improving design methods, and developing novel blade geometries for the challenging high-temperature environment of the high pressure turbine. Outside of work, John is a keen traveller, a great fan of quality single malts and dabbles in a spot of golf and scuba-diving.

LILY CHANG has been elected as the Henry Lumley Research Fellow in History from 1 October 2011 for three years. She will concurrently serve as an Associate Research Fellow with the joint Centre for History and Economics (with Harvard University). She holds an MA in Regional Studies-East Asia from Harvard, and an MSt in Oriental Studies from the University of Oxford, with a dissertation on wartime Chinese students which was awarded a prize by the Society for the Study of Childhood in the Past. Lily is currently a member of the Leverhulme Trust funded project on 'China's War with Japan' and expects to complete her DPhil (Oxon) this autumn. Her doctoral research draws upon over 400 previously unexamined legal case records from five different Chinese archives in China and

Taiwan, and navigates the legal and moral ambiguities of how the law should treat the young in the first half of the twentieth-century in China. During the tenure of her fellowship, she will be writing a comparative study on the legal treatment of the young through the adjudication of juvenile offenders and the development of juvenile justice system in China, Japan, France, Germany, and the United States in the twentieth century. Lily is fluent in English, Chinese, and Japanese. She also reads Korean, French, German, and Dutch.

ALEXANDER BÜLL has been elected to a Thomas Nevile Research Fellowship in Chemistry for three years. He has studied Chemistry in Tübingen, Paris and Sydney, and he came to Cambridge in 2007 to do experiments for his Master's degree in Physical and Theoretical Chemistry. After a short stay in Paris, he came back to Cambridge in April 2008 to embark on a PhD with Professors Christopher Dobson and Mark Welland on the molecular mechanism of protein aggregation, which he completed in June 2011. He will continue to work in this field at the interface of Chemistry, Physics and Biology during his fellowship. He held a one year Bye-Fellowship in Magdalene during the second year of his PhD. His interests outside of his work include astronomy, bird watching, languages, travelling and cycling.

CLAIRE LYE has been elected to a non-stipendiary Research Fellowship. As an undergraduate Claire studied Natural Sciences at Queens' College. In her final year she specialised in cell and development biology in the Zoology Department. In 2004 she moved to the Institute of Child Health, University College, London for her PhD on the developmental biology of the renal system. In 2008 she returned to Cambridge to work with Bénédicte Sanson in the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience. There she researched how groups of cells move and change shape to achieve the diverse array of tissue shapes seen within animal bodies, using embryonic fruit flies as a model system. She has now been awarded a Herchel Smith Postdoctoral Fellowship during which she will focus on how movements of neighbouring groups of cells impact on each other during development. In her free time Claire enjoys cooking, swimming, photography, gardening and scuba-diving.

CLAIRE SPOTTISWOODE has been elected to a Raymond and Beverly Sackler Senior Research Fellowship for three years. Claire is South African and after undergraduate studies at the University of Cape Town, came to Cambridge in 2002 to do a PhD in Zoology supervised by Professor Nick Davies. She was next a Junior Research Fellow at Sidney Sussex College for three years, and since 2008 has been a Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Research Fellow, based in the Department of Zoology. Her field of research is evolutionary ecology, and her current work investigates coévoluation between brood parasitic birds (such as cuckoos) and their hosts. This takes her to the Zambian bush for several months every year. Away

from research, Claire's interests include cycling, travelling, cooking, photography, and all things related to Africa and birds.

SUMEET MAHAJAN has been elected to a Beverley and Raymond Sackler Senior Research Fellowship for three years. He graduated from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, majoring in Chemistry in 1998, and obtained a Master's in Biomedical Engineering from IIT Bombay in 2005. In between the two degrees he worked as a Scientist in Defence R & D Organisation for five years developing analytical methods and improving and scaling up chemical processes. He won an ORSAS scholarship to do a PhD at the University of Southampton with Professor Philip Bartlett in 2005 in the area of electrochemically fabricated nanomaterials and their applications in surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy. He has won several awards for his academic achievements including a Proficiency Prize at IIT Kanpur for his dissertation and the Ronald Belcher memorial lectureship in 2008 by the Royal Society of Chemistry for his work on a new method for detection of mutations in the CFTR gene. After his PhD he joined the NanoPhotonics Centre at the University of Cambridge headed by Professor Jeremy Baumberg and in 2010 he was awarded an EPSRC Research Fellowship to develop applications of enhanced spectroscopic techniques in biology and medicine. Sumeet is developing his research at the interface of physical sciences with biology and has joined the Physics of Medicine Initiative at the University where he is currently jointly hosted by the BSS group and Department of Genetics. He has published more than 32 papers and has three patents. Other than research Sumeet is interested in philosophy and spirituality.

Parnell Fellow

RAYMOND GILLESPIE studied history at Queen's University, Belfast, and Trinity College, Dublin, from where he obtained his PhD in 1982. After a period in the Irish Civil Service dealing with banking supervision and health expenditure in the Department of Finance he moved to the National University of Ireland Maynooth in 1991. He has been a professor of history there since 2004. There, in addition to teaching early modern Irish history, he established the highly acclaimed local history programmes and edits *Maynooth Studies in Local History*, the one hundredth volume of which will be published in 2012. He was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy in 2001 and was Visiting Fellow at All Soul's College, Oxford in 1996–7. His research interests are eclectic but focus mainly on the transformation of Ireland in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. He began as an economic historian but quickly gravitated into the history of religious belief in early modern Ireland and more recently into the cultural history of books. He will be using his time in Magdalene to combine a number of interests by working on Gaelic Irish society before the spread of English colonisation and in particular using a number of saints' lives to explore that world.

Bye-Fellows (2011–12)

MICHAEL HETHERINGTON has been elected to a Bye-Fellowship in English. He has been in Magdalene since 2005 as an undergraduate and graduate student, during which time he has won several scholarships and prizes, including the University's Rylands Prize. His PhD thesis examines the many printed anthologies and miscellanies of verse produced in Elizabethan England, in relation to sixteenth-century reading practices and theories of textual interpretation, with a particular focus on the role of rationality in reading. His broader interest in the interactions between logic and poetics in the early modern period underpins both his work and his plans for future research. Apart from work on his doctoral thesis he has also recently completed an article on the early modern reputations and reception of the second-century philologist and miscellanist Aulus Gellius from St Thomas More in the early sixteenth century to John Aubrey in the late seventeenth. He wants to run his first marathon in the coming year, and hopes that making this ambition public will help to bring this about; he is also trying to write a sonnet sequence.

MATTHEW TOINTON has been elected to a Bye-Fellowship in Mathematics. His research lies in an area known as 'arithmetic combinatorics', an eclectic field with links to various disciplines such as number theory, analysis, algebra and combinatorics. He first entered Magdalene in 2001, earning his BA in mathematics in 2004 before spending a number of years working in financial markets, mainly based in London but focusing on the Japanese stock market. He then spent several months during 2008 in Tokyo studying the Japanese language before returning to Magdalene in October of that year to resume his mathematical studies, gaining a Distinction in Part III and then embarking on his current PhD research as a Leslie Wilson scholar. Outside his academic work he is a sabre fencer, and in the 2010–11 season gained a half-blue as well as winning his first individual ranking tournament, the Hampshire Open.

LUCY DONKIN has been elected to a Teaching Bye-Fellowship. Born in Cambridge she returns this year to take up a three-year university lectureship at the Department of History of Art. Lucy read Ancient and Modern History at University College, Oxford, and received her MA and PhD in Medieval Art History from the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. Research Fellowships in Rome, Toronto and Oxford have been followed by teaching positions at St Catherine's College, Oxford, and the Courtauld. Her research interests focus on medieval visual culture and perceptions of place, with particular reference to Italy and the Mediterranean region. Doctoral work on 12th-century ecclesiastical mosaic pavements in northern Italy led on to a British Academy postdoctoral project on the medieval decoration and understanding of holy ground more generally. She is currently completing a book on the subject, along with a co-edited volume of essays on medieval maps of Jerusalem. Her next research project will explore the movement of building materials and earthen relics to and from Rome in the later

Middle Ages. In the current year she will share the direction of studies in the History of Art with the Master, with a view to taking over from him in 2012–13. As well as carrying out fieldwork in Western Europe, she also enjoys travelling in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia.

ALEXANDER THOM has been elected to a Teaching Bye-Fellowship in Chemistry. At Trinity Hall he read Natural Sciences, followed by a PhD in Theoretical Chemistry under Dr Ali Alavi. After this he moved to Churchill College to take up a Junior Research Fellowship investigating new methods to accurately model chemistry in silico. During this he intermitted, spending two years researching with Professor Martin Head-Gordon in Berkeley, California, and returned to Cambridge for a year. He currently holds a Junior Research Fellowship at Imperial College London, continuing work into new methods in theoretical chemistry. His association with Magdalene began two years ago, since when he has been a stalwart tenor in the Chapel Choir. His other interests include wine tasting, gastronomy, and playing the piano and organ.

Fellow-Commoners

NICOLAS RAYMONT has been appointed Assistant Bursar from 1 June 2011 and elected a Fellow-Commoner from 1 July. Brought up in Berkshire, he was educated at Radley and LSE where he graduated in 1970, before training as a Chartered Accountant in Oxford. He then joined the family retail business in Reading where he enjoyed the varied demands of running a business as well as overseeing the accounting function. From 1992, he was self-employed for a number of years before moving to Bishop's Stortford as financial director of another private company. He joined Magdalene as College Accountant at the end of 2001 when Cambridge colleges accounts were still in the Dark Ages and so had to unlearn all his training and experience before bringing the College up to date in its accounting function and reporting. He and his wife Judy live near the centre of Cambridge and so he enjoys cycling as well as walking and swimming. His interests include architecture, design and music.

MICHAEL RANDS has been elected as a Fellow-Commoner from 1 October 2011. He gained a First Class degree in Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia, followed by a DPhil in Zoology at Oxford (Wolfson College). He became Chief Executive of the conservation organisation BirdLife International in 1997. In 2009 he was awarded the President's Medal of the RSPB, 'in recognition of outstanding contribution to leadership in international nature conservation' and became Executive Director of the Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI). He is based in the Judge Business School, where he also contributes to research and teaching. Dr Rands's early research focused on investigating the population dynamics of farmland wildlife in relation to agricultural practices. His research horizons subsequently expanded to questions concerning international

biodiversity conservation, including ecological research on globally threatened species and habitats. More recently, his focus has shifted to interdisciplinary approaches to managing the natural environment. Current interests include: environmental governance and capacity development at local, national and trans-national scales; the relationships between business and biodiversity; the interface between science, policy and practice; and drawing together interdisciplinary teams to generate solutions for conservation and sustainable development.

Visiting Fellows

We welcome IAN HOBSON as a Visiting Fellow. Professor Hobson (1970) is a pianist and a conductor recognized internationally for his masterly performances of the Romantic repertoire. In addition to being a lauded performer, he has pioneered renewed interest in the music of such lesser known masters as Ignaz Moscheles and Johann Hummel. He has also been an effective advocate of works written expressly for him by a number of today's noted composers, including Benjamin Lees, John Gardner, David Liptak, Alan Ridout, and Roberto Sierra. He is a much-sought-after judge for competitions and has been invited to join numerous juries, among them the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, the Arthur Rubinstein Competition, the Chopin Competition, the Leeds Piano Competition, the Schumann International Competition, the Cleveland International Competition, the Kosciuzsko Competition, and the newly renamed New York International Piano Competition. After graduating from Cambridge, Professor Hobson went on to the Royal College of Music when he became one of the youngest ever graduates. He began his international career in 1981 when he won First Prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition. He is now a professor of Music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

VIRGINIA SPATE will join us as a Visiting Fellow in the Lent Term. Professor Spate was educated in Australia and the United States before coming to Cambridge as a Lecturer in the History of Art and Fellow of New Hall College in the 1970s. She then returned to Australia as Professor and Director of the Power Art Institute at Sydney University. She was Slade Professor of Fine Art in Cambridge in 1998–99. Her publications include the definitive study of Orphism (OUP) and a major monograph on Monet. She is currently working on a book on Cézanne.

II THE MASTER AND FELLOWS

The Master was re-appointed as a Deputy Vice-Chancellor and, in addition to his other duties, he agreed to chair the University's Human Remains Advisory Panel. He continued to serve as a trustee of the Henry Moore Foundation (chair), the Prince's Drawing School (chair) and the Royal Collection. He became a Trustee of the Chantrey Bequest. For the City of Cambridge he continued to chair the Public Art Panel.

On 11 July, Mr Dwight was given a special lunch in Hall by the Master and Fellows to celebrate his 90th birthday.

Professor Duffy was elected as an Honorary Fellow of the Ecclesiastical History Society.

On 2 December 2010, Dr Lewins was given a special lunch in Hall by the Master and Fellows to celebrate his 80th birthday. He attended the Joint European Thermodynamics Conference XO at Chemnitz, Germany, in June 2011 to present the Magdalene Thomson Prize Competition paper.

Professor Chase has been awarded the Donald Medal of the Institution of Chemical Engineers. The medal is named after a long-serving Honorary Secretary and former Ramsay Professor at University College London where biochemical engineering was first established in the UK. It is awarded by the Biochemical Engineering Subject Group of the IChemE for outstanding services to biochemical engineering.

Dr Spencer has been promoted to a Readership in Coastal Ecology and Geomorphology.

Dr Burchell has been awarded a 2011 Pilkington Prize for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr Jones has been appointed Literary Director of the Selden Society, from January 2012. With colleagues in the Faculty of Law, he organised the Twentieth British Legal History Conference in July 2011 in Cambridge.

Professor Babinsky's *Unsteady Effects of Shock Wave Induced Separation* was published by Springer in 2011.

Mr Thompson has been appointed a Trustee of the Cambridge Foundation and will serve as its Honorary Treasurer.

Dr Azérad co-organized an international conference last July, at Magdalene, <http://frenchpoeticpractice.wordpress.com/>.

Dr Hadida has been awarded the first, inaugural 2011 Cambridge Judge Business School Faculty Teaching Award. She was invited to present her research on the music value chain revolution at the workshop on the economics of media and content industry (MCI), organized by the European Commission in IPTS Seville in May 2011. In July 2011, she was awarded the prize for the Best Paper, *You can win the critics and have nothing to eat...*, of which she was first author, at the AIMAC Conference in Antwerp, Belgium.

Professor Cooper's *Shakespeare and the Medieval World* was published in the Arden Companions to Shakespeare series in September 2010, reviewed below (pp 114–16).

Dr Du Bois-Pedain has been awarded a British Academy/Leverhulme Senior Research Fellowship for the calendar year 2012 and she has been promoted to a Senior Lectureship in Law.

Dr Waithe has been awarded an Early Career Fellowship at Cambridge's Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) to be held in Lent Term 2012.

Dr Mullen was awarded the University's Hare Prize (for the best thesis on a classical subject), and has been elected to a five-year Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford.

Dr Atkins has been awarded the Julian Corbett Prize for Modern Naval History for his dissertation on 'The politics of influence and the influence of politics: Evangelicals and the Royal Navy, 1778–1815'.

On 17 March, Mr Keall was given a special lunch in Hall by the Master and Fellows to celebrate his 80th birthday.

Professor James Raven (Visiting Fellow) delivered the Panizzi Lectures at the British Library on 'London Book Sites: Places of Printing and Publication before 1800' and his new edited book *Books Between Europe and the Americas: Connections and Communities 1620–1860* was published in May 2011.

Honorary Fellows

Bishop Barrington-Ward, KCMG, had his portrait drawn in pencil for the College by Peter Mennin of Cambridge.



Dr Barrington-Ward and Bishop Barrington-Ward

Sir John Tooley was presented with the Sir Stanley Santley Memorial Award for 2010 by the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Lord Malloch-Brown has published *The Unfinished Global Revolution – The Limits of nations and the Pursuit of a New Politics* (Allen Lane, 2011) reviewed below (pp 117–19).

III ACADEMIC REPORTS

1 UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS RESULTS, 2010

302 students took Tripos and Preliminary examinations. The numbers in each class are as follows:

Class 1, 70; 2.1, 159; 2.2, 43; 3, 2; first year undivided Class 2, 21 and Pass, 5; two students reached only an ordinary degree standard or were failed. The number of Firsts awarded by subject were: Archaeology and Anthropology, 4; Architecture, 1; Chemical Engineering, 1; Classics, 2; Economics, 5; Engineering, 12; English, 5; History, 1; Land Economy, 1; Linguistics, 1; Law, 6; Mathematics, 5; Medical Sciences, 3; Modern Languages, 3; Music, 1; Natural Sciences (Biological), 6; Natural Sciences (Physical), 12; Politics, Psychology, Sociology, 1.

Distinctions were awarded to

B S P Hinson (Archaeology and Anthropology Tripos Part II); Y Wang (Chemical Engineering Tripos Part IIA). The following advanced students (not classed in Tripos) obtained Distinctions: P P O'Brien (Master of Engineering Part IIB); M E Schabas (Master of Engineering Part IIB); P A Carter (Mathematics Part III); H F Gruetjen (Mathematics Part III).

University Prizes were awarded as follows:

H Duncan (MML), *Tiarks Prize*; B S P Hinson (Archaeology and Anthropology), *Mark Gregson Prize*; A F Hohmann (Natural Sciences, Biochemistry), *Perham Prize*; N Oberbeck (Natural Sciences, Biochemistry), *Perham Prize*; B West (Economics), *HA Turner Prize*; H Worsnop (LLM, Law), *3 Verulam Buildings Prize for International Litigation*.

Senior Tutor's Report

Finalists' ranking. Our finalists yet again ended their careers comfortably above the University average, and for the fourth year in a row. They fall five places to 10th (out of 25 colleges) in the Baxter tables (as compared to 5th in 2010) and in registering this outcome their tally was a splendid 27 Firsts (equating to 29%, down from the 32% record of 2010) and 56 (= 60%) Upper Seconds. Including the fourth years, a fraction under 90% of the graduating cohort achieved a 2.1 or better, which most people would consider a towering achievement.

University Prizes and Distinctions. Magdalene continues to produce scholars of University-wide distinction, this year producing six University prize-winners and four students obtaining Distinctions in fourth year unclassified examinations. In addition, major subjects such as Economics, Engineering, Law, Mathematics and MML continue to perform within the top five compared with all other colleges.

Broader Results. However you conduct the statistical voodoo, we are still within the top third of colleges ranked by their Tripos performance. Considering all three

years in aggregate we have fallen four places to be Baxter-ranked at 11th – this compares to 7th last year and 10th in 2009. If you prefer the slightly different Tompkins methodology published in *The Independent* newspaper we fell to 9th (out of 29 colleges) compared to 5th last year. The overall percentage of Firsts (70 Firsts equates to 23.6%) has broken the 20% barrier for the fifth time since we first breached that particular hurdle in 2003. Those students attaining either a First or a 2.1 is 75.8% and represents an all-time high while at the other end of the spectrum the number of Thirds is at an all time low. Our Baxter score is in fact the highest in the rolling 10-year period from 2002 which Baxter calculates, though it has only produced our 4th highest position in the list, suggesting the opposition are doing slightly better.

Arts and Sciences. Our overall Arts position at 13th is just under the University average, while our Scientists have undergone something of a renaissance after a period in the doldrums and now feature at 5th place, far and away their best showing in 10 years.

The following elections were made by the Governing Body:

Bundy Scholarships: S E Ardin, E J Atkinson, A J Bladon, A W Calderwood, R Cassidy, NT Coetzee, T J Crellen, N Hobbs, A F Hohman, C Husband, E L Kwo, YYE Lai, E C Loukota, L A McMullan, K A McVinnie, N H Nickerson, N Oberbeck, P P O'Brien, L Otsuki, B Y Park, M E Schabas, A L Spain, P M Spittal, V K White, X Xu.

Scholarships 2011–2012: E Arbuthnot, D Babic, H M Brooks, K E V Bystrom, P A Carter, K Changela, T Corker, J V Dilworth, S Duffield, H Duncan, L J Gallagher, M H Gilson, H J Q Godwin, P Gould, A L Gregory, H F Gruetjen, M A Kitchener, M Lawson, S B Lim, H Male, G Matharu, A Ozornin, T Qiu, A Rabkin, M J Sharp, G Shaw, K S Siencnik, A Steeland, A Strano, B Sun, J Y Tan, E Tsiulowski, S Wallis.

The following re-elections to Scholarships were made by the Governing Body:

3rd Year: J Chen, R H Henrywood, Y H Leung, H T Nguyen, Y Wang, T A L Ward, H D P Williams.

2nd Year: D Y K Chan, B H Davis, J F R Goodwill, B S P Hinson, R Patel, K Relph, F W B Sanders, B J T West, Y Zhu.

Exhibitions 2011: S Sado, C L Taylor, E Brookes, T S J Lam, A Blandon, J M Gibson, C Wellesley Wesley.

College Prizes for excellence in University Examinations were awarded as follows:

Archaeology and Anthropology: T J Crellen, *John Hutchins Prize*;
 B S P Hinson; M Lawson, *James Torre Prize*; E C Loukota, *Cyril Fox Prize*
 Architecture: NT Coetzee, *Cleary Prize*
 Chemical Engineering: Y Wang, *Pilkington Prize*
 Classics: D Babic, *Richard Carne Prize*; N Hobbs, *Davison Prize*
 Economics: A Ozornin; P M Spittal, *Brian Deakin Prize*; B J T West; X Xu,
 Brian Deakin Prize; Y Zhu
 Engineering: K E V Bystrom; D Y K Chan; K Changela; J Chen, *Lewins Prize*;
 T Corker; J F R Goodwill; P Gould, A L Gregory, R H Henrywood,
 P P O'Brien, M E Schabas, J Y Tan; E Tsiouloski; H D P Williams,
 Christopherson Prize
 English: L J Gallagher, *Stucley Prize*; M A Kitchener, *Stucley Prize*;
 L A McMullan, C S Lewis Prize; G Shaw; A L Spain, *I A Richards Prize*
 History: S Wallis, *Dunster Prize*
 Land Economy: A Steeland, *Cleary Prize*
 Law: R Cassidy, *Norah Dias Prize*; M H Gilson; B Y Park, *Orlando Bridgman Prize*;
 H Rabkin; M J Sharp; V K White, *Orlando Bridgman Prize*
 Linguistics: K S Siencnik
 Mathematics: P A Carter; H F Gruetjen, *Maurice Goldhaber Prize*; E L Kwo,
 Davison Prize; Y Y E Lai, *Dennis Babbage Prize*; H T Nguyen, *Walton Prize*;
 R Patel, *Edward Waring Prize*; T Qiu, *Edward Waring Prize*
 Medical Sciences: S B Lim; K A McVinnie; K Relph, *Iris Rushton Prize*;
 F W B Sanders, *Iris Rushton Prize*; B Sun
 Modern Languages: E Arbuthnot; H Duncan, *Peskett Prize*
 Music: J V Dilworth, *Benjamin Britten Prize*
 Natural Sciences (Biological): S E Ardin, *Christie Prize*; A J Bladon;
 A W Calderwood; S Duffield; H J Q Godwin; A F Hohmann, *Keilin Prize*;
 N Oberbeck, *B C Saunders Prize*; L Otsuki, *Gill Prize*; A Strano
 Natural Sciences (Physical): E J Atkinson, *Tedder Prize*; H M Brooks,
 J K Burdett Prize; B H Davis; C Husband, *P M S Blackett Prize*;
 Y H Leung, *James Torre Prize*; H Male; G Matharu, *Pilkington Prize*;
 N H Nickerson, *Maurice Goldhaber Prize*
 Politics, Psychology and Sociology: T A L Ward

Other Prizes were awarded as follows:

Arthur Sale Poetry Prize: D Potts (graduate); L J Gallagher (runner-up)
Davison English Essay Prize: L J Gallagher
Dorothy Kolbert Prize (Music): R C Spencer
Foo-Sun Lau Prize: D E C Byatt; G J Forrest; A K Geere; K R H Newton;
 P P O'Brien; M E Schabas; D R Smith
Garrett Prize: L J Braithwaite
George Mallory Prize: K A McVinnie
Jim Ede Prize: A L McDougall

Hogan Lovells Prize (Law): J Russell
Macfarlane Grieve Prize (Music): H M Thorpe
Master's Reading Prize: awarded jointly to E C Nnotum & H E Patterson
Newton Essay Prize: M A Kitchener
Rae Mitchell Prize: B Torre
Nicholas Whitworth Prize: J Collier
Winter–Warmington Prize: G Shaw

2 GRADUATES

The following elections were made by the Governing Body during the year:

Clutton-Brock Scholarship: Godfrey Mtare
Leslie Wilson Major Scholarship: Kathy Hadje Georgiou, Rachel Parikh
Leslie Wilson Minor Scholarship: Timothy Bazalgette, Nina Oberbeck, Peter O'Brien
Mandela/Magdalene Scholarship: Michelle Joubert, Sasha Stevenson

The following research degrees (PhD) were conferred:

S W Brown (Astronomy); A P Coutts (Social and Political Science); L J Clay (Biological Science); J P Hafler (Medical Genetics); S Hamid (Biological Science); J J Hayward (Chemistry); B Holm (Computer Science); A Ibrahim (Politics & International Studies); M Kapushesky (Genetics); P J Kiley (Materials Science); M-H Kuok (Biotechnology); V E Langum (English); S-L Lewis (History); A S Lockhart (Divinity); M C J Malins (History); H Mei (Physiology, Development and Neuroscience); A Nabatiyan (Zoology); Z J Nie (Engineering); N Papadogiannis (History); G T Powell (Biological Science); C N B Ross (Pure Mathematics and Statistics); R S K Sharma (Biochemistry); I P J Smit (Geography); S Sugnaseelan (Veterinary Science); B R Underwood (Medical Genetics); W Yuan (Engineering); F L Wensley (Public Health & Primary Care); W Xian (Engineering).



Graduation 2011

Photo: Jane Hughes

IV STUDENT ACTIVITIES: SOCIETIES, CLUBS AND SPORTS

1 JCR AND MCR REPORTS

Junior Common Room

President: B J T West. Vice-President: J M A Hyland. Treasurer: W J Benjamin.

Committee: M Black, A Chan, T R Crowley, S A Daud, S Kohli, B Ledingham, A Neilson, P N O'Neil, M Scragg, H D P Williams.

This year has led to a number of major changes within the JCR. The work on the rooms ballot system has made the balloting process much faster and more understandable and the opening of the new gym in Cripps has proved to be successful. We have also been raising money for the College charities through charity 'formals' and a very successful casino night. Overall we have raised more money this year than in previous years. As a 'Fairtrade College' we have introduced recycling bins into Cripps Court and we have held various events to promote green and ethical attitudes. With the development of a new JCR website we have established a system to enable our members to contact JCR Committee members much more easily about specific issues that may arise. Our weekly bulletin has also had a facelift and is now read by more people than before. As usual, we have had a strong focus on Access this year with an ever increasing array of subject open days. After a successful year we are encouraged to do even better next year and preparations are under way for what is already shaping up to be a promising year ahead.

Middle Common Room

President: R A Hartley. Secretary: E L C Gage.

Treasurer: A D Easter. Committee: H A Dickinson, C O Drummond, S J Gay, J Kommemi, R Parikh, H Taylor, T L von Glehn, T C Wilson.

This year has been a particularly eventful one for the MCR. With an increase in the number of graduate students admitted to Magdalene all of our social events have been well attended by people representing a wide range of different subject interests and nationalities. A series of successful Freshers' Fortnight events ensured the integration of new members to the MCR and set the mood for the rest of the year. Our regular Friday night BA dinners continue to be fully subscribed and our end-of-term Banquets in Hall have been extremely popular, highly enjoyable evenings. We have repeated our out-of-term Parlour Dinners as well as continuing weekly film nights to maintain that social contact during the vacation periods. We have increased the number of other events organised such as international style brunches and a Royal Wedding party in the MCR. The Burns Night ceilidh was another success, this year jointly hosted with Trinity College MCR, and we introduced a Halloween fancy dress party to the Michaelmas Term calendar. As ever, MCR members remain very active in all College societies whilst continuing to uphold the high academic and research standards expected of graduate students at Cambridge.

The Editor received the following club and society reports for 2010–11:

Ladies and Mixed Badminton (Captain: J Shak). It has been a successful year for Ladies Badminton; we have settled into a comfortable position in the middle of Division III following promotion last year. This is thanks both to a team of dedicated regular players and the enthusiasm of new players, all making a much valued contribution towards our consistent performance in league matches. This year also saw the first Magdalene Mixed Badminton team entered for the Mixed Cuppers. However, both the Ladies and Mixed Badminton teams met strong opponents in early stages of the Cuppers competition and were unable to progress despite our own strong performances.

Men's Badminton (Captain: Alex Quinn). The Men's Badminton Club had a mixed season. The arrival of Sam Ashcroft and Andrew Webster brought some much needed quality to the team, and we were unlucky to miss out on promotion in Michaelmas despite equalling the top teams for matches won. Sadly, Sam and Andy were unable to play for much of Lent, and by the end of term we found ourselves in the far more familiar territory of the relegation places. Nonetheless this was overall an encouraging year, with the number of games won up dramatically from last year!

Mixed Lacrosse. The Sitting Dragons (Chieftain: D.R. Murray). The Dragons had by their own account a strong season and by all others a very weak one. Managing on several occasions to have more players than sticks and even fielding a full team occasionally, the club managed to avoid ending at the bottom of the fourth division of four by taking a solitary victory. Disallowed goals and disapproving opponents at Cuppers did not deter the spirit of the warriors and nor did financially driven point deductions.

Mixed Netball (Captain: George Clarke). The key to Mixed Netball is to have fun and it has certainly been a very enjoyable season. Despite losing most of our matches, everyone involved had a great time. The outstanding features of the season included the brilliant fancy dress outfits and ridiculous chat that intimidated our more serious opponents.

Cross Country and Athletics Club performed excellently in the Hare and Hounds College League, with the Men's team finishing fourth in Division One and the Women's team coming second in the Women's Division.

Cricket Club (Co-Captains: Jack Pinnock and George Clarke). There has been a fantastic spirit in the club this year. We played three solid group matches in Cuppers including impressive victories over Pembroke and St John's.

Unfortunately we had to pull out of Cuppers dues to exam commitments that cut short a promising run that could have gone a long way. However, the highlight of the year was a commanding victory in the inaugural Magdalene v Magdalen match in which we comfortably chased down 138 after a precise bowling performance. It has been a great team effort from everyone involved, but special credit must be given to the graduate students who made up the backbone of the team.

Law Society (President: Shantanu Kafle. Secretary: Millie Benson). The Law Society has had another active year, with the usual combination of academic and social events. Our annual exhibition moot against Jesus College, sponsored by 4 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, saw a victory for Magdalene, represented by Millie Benson and Richard Alam. The annual Magdalene Mooting Competition for new law undergraduates, sponsored by Maitland Chambers, Lincoln's Inn, was won by Robert Dacre, who was also a finalist in the University Law Society's Brick Court Chambers team mooting competition. Robert Dacre and Michael Black went on to victory over Downing College in our annual encounter, sponsored by Clyde & Co. The year was rounded off with the annual dinner, held in Hall during the Easter term, at which the guests of honour were The Hon Mr Justice Blake (1967) and Lady Blake.

May Ball 2011. Our beautiful grounds mean that it is easy for any Magdalene Ball to look good, but in this its centenary year (the first May Ball having been held in 1911) and decked in all its finery the College looked sumptuous. Details such as a bar encircling the huge plane tree in the middle of the Fellows' Garden and sweets hanging from trees made for a delicious spectacle. Entertainment-wise the burlesque dancers were a splendid contrast to the oh-so traditional setting. Life-drawing classes amused guests as they sipped cocktails and enjoyed cupcakes. A funfair, and tiny fish giving delicate nibbling pedicures to tired feet, represented a mere fraction of the treats to behold. And of course the bands played on, White Lies, headliners Mystery Jets, Itchy feet, and Truly Medley Deeply all going down a storm. The food was plentiful and the drinks ever-flowing. The Master's lusty and heartfelt rendition of the College pre-prandial Grace should earn him a BAFTA. The champagne poured forth all night long: a fresh bottle opened in front of guests with a sword each time was quite a statement of intent. From the Barbershop group on a punt entertaining the queue, to champagne from the upturned punt under the Pepys Building, all the way through to a packed survivors' photograph, Magdalene still holds its place as the pre-eminent Cambridge Ball. Here's to the next 100 years.

S M

Rugby Club (Captains: F W B Sanders; G J Morrissey).

The Honorary Secretary, Mr Bob Smith writes:

We had two major successes this season with the highlight being our first win, a 15–12 victory against St John's College. This was the first win for many years. The

game was hard fought with everybody putting in a tremendous effort, especially in the last few minutes to hold out. We also had our first Varsity match win over our much larger sister college Magdalen Oxford whom we beat 18–16 thanks to a last minute penalty kick from Jack Pinnock from 45 metres out. We managed to get through to the semi-final of Cuppers where we met a very strong Jesus side. We surprised them with an excellent performance and were only just beaten, 22–17. We could not complete all our league games because Queens’ College could not play their final game against us, which was to be the relevant decider. We ended the season not knowing whether we have remained in the first division. This game is now scheduled to be played at the start of the next academic year.

Will Briggs spent most of the season playing for the University first side but unfortunately was not selected in the starting team for the Varsity match, although being named as a replacement. We had two players representing the under 21s, Frank Sanders and George Morrissey, and two players representing the LX, Will Briggs and Frank Sanders. To finish the season we were awarded the Fair Play for Good Sportsmanship trophy for Cambridge colleges.

3 SPORTING DISTINCTIONS

The following obtained Full Blues (*) or Half-Blues during 2010–11:

<i>Athletics</i>	D R Murray
<i>Eton Fives:</i>	G S Rhys
<i>Fencing:</i>	M C H Tointon
<i>Korfball:</i>	S A L Harley-McKeown
<i>Women’s Basketball:</i>	C Beniuk*, K M Beniuk
<i>Women’s Cross-country:</i>	L K Barklie
<i>Women’s Netball:</i>	V A Colgate*
<i>Women’s Ruby Football:</i>	S Neil *, A Soler*

(The Editor is grateful to Mr Keall for verifying this list.)



Fuchsias in First Court

Photo: Nigel Hawkes

V CHAPEL AND CHOIR

Wardens: S Harris, M Hetherington, E J Mynott, E R Parsloe, D Pickersgill, K Relph;
Organ Scholars: G A Pickard, J V Dilworth.

Joyful music and sparkling wine helped us celebrate Easter Day which this year fell on the Sunday immediately before Full Term. Earlier in the year the Chapel was, as usual, packed for the candle-lit Advent Carol Service at the end of the Michaelmas Term. The end of the Lent Term was marked by a Passiontide performance of Bach's *Es wartet alles auf dich* (BWV 187). We bade farewell to those leaving the choir at a special Evensong, which included the world première of an excerpt from a musical setting of the Song of Solomon, conducted by its composer Ed Henderson, a Johnian music undergraduate and member of our choir. The former JCR President spoke movingly at Evensong on the eve of General Admission, where a large number of graduating students came to reflect, with the occasional tear, on their time at Magdalene.

A more solemn moment was Remembrance Sunday, an increasingly well-attended service at which the College's war dead are honoured. In the Lent Term, following his death in December, we celebrated the life of Brian Deakin, Fellow and benefactor, who was a faithful supporter of the Chapel for many years.

Episcopal preachers we welcomed included the Bishops of Gloucester and Coventry, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham, the Dean of St Paul's, and (on Remembrance Sunday) the Bishop to Her Majesty's Forces. In the Lent Term, we invited a series of biblical scholars to preach on some of the New Testament letters, among them Professor Judith Lieu (Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity), Dr Simon Gathercole (Fitzwilliam and Divinity Faculty), Dr Will Lamb (Vice-Principal of Westcott House), Professor Markus Bockmuehl (Keble College, Oxford), and the Revd Kenneth Padley (Bangor). Visiting preachers also included the Revd Professor Sarah Coakley (Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity), the Revd Canon Anne Dyer (Cranmer Hall Theological College, Durham), the Revd Dr Craig Holmes (Vicar of Hanworth, Middlesex), and the Revd Canon Adrian Daffern (Rector of Blenheim, Oxfordshire). It was a particular delight to welcome back the Revd Canon Dr Hueston Finlay (Chaplain then Dean of Chapel 1995–2004). Bishop Barrington-Ward, Professor Boyle, and the Chaplain also preached during the year.

Donations from Chapel collections went to Jimmy's Night Shelter, Christian Aid, and Médecins Sans Frontières, while the Remembrance Sunday collection was given to the Army Benevolent Funds, and the Commemoration of Benefactors' collection to the College Student Hardship Fund.

CHOIR REPORT. The year has been successful in several different ways. The main activity of the Choir – to sing Choral Evensong on Thursdays and Sundays during Full Term – has been discharged with enthusiasm and accomplishment.

Outside College, the Choir sang a concert in Pickwell in Northamptonshire on 1st December and sang Choral Evensong in St Albans Abbey on 19th February. Entertainment at dessert was provided on 25th February at the annual celebration of Pepys's birthday and on 2nd June for the Cripps Dinner.

The summer tour was to Italy. In this, the Precentor was much assisted by Dr Stoddart who generously offered to set up the tour in the area near Perugia where he has conducted archaeological excavation over more than 20 years. Concerts were given in Gubbio, Castel Rigone and the cathedrals in Perugia and Assisi. Occasional pieces were sung during a tour of the abbey at Montelabate. Several donors supported the tour and we are most grateful to them, as their contribution helped to reduce the cost paid by each singer.

The entire Choir successfully continued their commitment in January and early February while the Precentor was on leave in New Zealand and Australia. We are most grateful for the contribution of the Organ Scholars in leading the Choir at this time.

VI LIBRARIES

COLLEGE LIBRARY. On 1st September 2010, Dr M E J Hughes succeeded Dr Stoddart as College Librarian.

The College Library continues to be very well used throughout the year. In the Easter Term, additional seating was arranged in the Library, and further 'Revision' rooms were provided in Cripps and Benson in response to demand. A number of non-resident members have visited the Library to consult the holdings, including the growing collection of works by and about Magdalene and Cambridge. It has been a pleasure to meet them.

A Library web site has been created on the College intranet (MagNET). The Library Rules, guidance in using the Library and monthly updates of new acquisitions are now available there. There has been a successful trial of an Electronic Recommendation Form which allows students to request books. Heritage Online (the Magdalene-only catalogue showing the availability status of books, and permitting remote renewals and reservations) is now functioning, providing a valued service to students and Fellows.

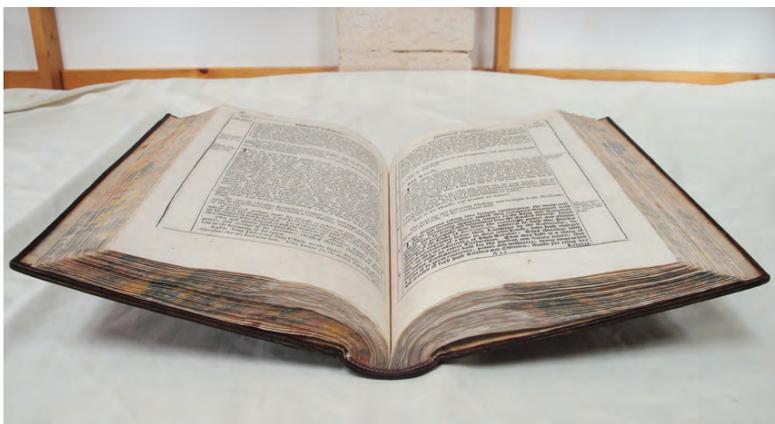
A rolling review of holdings by subject was initiated by the Librarian at the start of the academic year to identify gaps in provision, and there has been pleasing progress. The following subjects had been reviewed by 1st July 2011: Architecture, Economics, Engineering, English, Geography, History, Land Economy, Medicine, Modern and Medieval Languages, Philosophy, Physics, Veterinary Medicine. Mathematics is under review at the time of this report.

There have been several generous donations by students, former students, Fellows and others, for which the Library is very grateful indeed.

PEPYS LIBRARY. Last year we reported the discovery, in the quinquennial inspection, of a 'bad apple', a book (PL 2386, the first volume of John Rusworth's *Historical Collections* 1659) badly infested with rot and mould. After 16 months this is back on its shelf, having been disbound and then repaired, page by page, by leaf-casting. This is a labour-intensive and time-consuming process (at most six pages can be treated in a day); although cheaper solutions exist they would have substantially thickened the book and made a rebinding which approximated to the original impossible.



Mrs Jill Flintham did the disbinding and the rebinding; Mrs Judith Wesner undertook the laborious task of paper conservation and restoration. We are grateful to them both. The cause of the damage remains uncertain, but Mrs Wiesner surmises that it might have begun with the death of a spider or another kind of insect. Very careful page by page inspection of all the books in the relevant portion of press 8 shows that the infection was limited to this one book; the press has subsequently been disinfected.



Photos: Jill Flintham

Although the *Historical Collections*, which eventually ran to seven volumes, all of which Pepys acquired, is not particularly rare, its significance for the diarist is considerable. Rushworth was a barrister who had become a clerk to the House of Commons in 1640, was subsequently closely involved with the administration of the new Model Army, and became secretary to Cromwell in 1650. The *Collections* might not unreasonably have been considered as 'topical' rather than 'historical'; Pepys appears to have thought this when he bought volume 1 in 1663, charged it to the Navy Office, studied it closely and considered it 'the best worth reading for a man of my condition' – that is to say as a civil servant under the Restoration whose work with the Navy was conditioned at any point by the circumstances of the civil wars and the inter-regnum.

During the period 1 July 2010–30 June 2011 there were 2,578 visitors to the Library, and 62 visits by 36 readers. The Librarian gave 12 guided tours, the least since 1978. Tours for alumni and Cambridge Primary Schools remained as usual.

OLD LIBRARY. *The Cambridge Quarterly* held a colloquium on 'Cambridge English & China'. The principal figures to emerge historically were IA Richards and W Empson both, of course, Magdalene men and an exhibition was held in the Parlour on 7 July drawn from the Old Library unique and extensive collection of their work.

There were 29 visits by 17 readers, excluding Archive queries. As usual the Mallory papers and the Richards collection were most in demand.

VII BUILDINGS AND GARDENS

COLLEGE BUILDINGS: REPORT FROM THE CLERK OF WORKS. We are happy to report that our Cripps New Building has proved a very valuable addition to the College with both students and conference guests enjoying the facilities these extra rooms have to offer. We are also pleased to report that after many years the students, Fellows and staff who reside in the Lutyens Building have enjoyed a warm winter with the introduction of the new heating system throughout the building last summer. Also, whilst on the subject of heating, residents in Mallory D and E are in for the same treatment this year. During the year following a competitive set of interviews for design consultants, we have embarked upon the services of Pleasance Hookham & Nix, to carry out a feasibility study to renovate our 40 year old College Kitchen which has come to the end of its useful life. The study includes alterations and a reorganisation of the College Buttery to provide an enhanced area for serving meals in Hall as well as changing and welfare facilities for waiting and kitchen staff. This will be a major project for the College not only as far as the work and disruption is concerned but temporary cooking facilities will be required as there is still the need to feed our students and indeed our Fellows throughout this period of work. Works this year include new doors that have been fitted to the main entrance of Benson F

and G which not only reduces heat loss but adds extra security for our residents, renovations to Graduate Houses at 3 and 5 Hertford Street and improved washing and lavatory facilities to 7 Northampton Street. During the last few years it has been noticed that Benson Hall (now a hundred years old) has been suffering with minor subsidence on the main entrance elevation overlooking Benson Courtyard. A full survey has been carried out resulting in the recommendation that this wall be supported by small piles to prevent any further subsidence. At the present time our Structural Engineer is obtaining quotations for this work which happily is covered by insurance. Finally Ramsay Hall is having a minor face lift, panelling is being cleaned, lighting is being enhanced, new chairs have been purchased and we are currently awaiting the supply of new solid oak folding tables and storage units for them. This will allow more students to dine than the current arrangements allow and make it easier to use Ramsay for both student and conferencing events.

B H

THE GARDENS: REPORT FROM THE GARDEN SUPERINTENDENT. Last year when writing this report we were in the middle of a heat wave, this year I look out of my window to see grey overcast conditions and temperatures more suited to April.

The autumn saw the lawns in First and Second Court under attack from a severe infestation of cockchafer grubs. These live in the soil and enjoy eating the roots of plants, their favourite dish being grass. Because this causes the grass to lose vigour and become somewhat unstable underfoot, the crows and blackbirds spot this and then attack the infested areas for the grubs. This results in large areas of grass being pulled up by birds searching for the larvae. In the good old days the gardener would have reached for his chemical of choice, probably something that could trace its history from the First World War, and gone out and exterminated everything within the infested area! However, due to legislation over the years these chemicals have long gone and the only option at the time was to rotavate the affected areas, let the birds eat the grubs and then re-seed. I can report that grass has returned to the Courts.

We were hit in late autumn by a period of intense cold and snow, a sure sign of global warming. This certainly held back the snowdrops and aconites, which were a good six weeks later than usual. However, a warm dry spring made sure that the daffodils were at their best at the end of March. I would say that this year's display was one of the best, maybe due to the two cold winters that we have experienced, although if you visit the College at this time of year you will usually see the Fellows' Garden at its best.

The year also saw us dig and plant a new flower border outside Ramsay Hall. This was a very sterile area consisting of gravel, paving and a few tubs. With plenty of leaf-mould and compost dug into what was little more than poor sub-soil and rubble, a border full of colour and texture has taken shape. This is most definitely my highlight of the year.

A J W



The new border outside Ramsay Hall



*Photos: Kanak Patel
Colourful approach to Second Court*

Professor Boyle adds:

Tempora mutantur, even or especially, in gardens. Many will be sad to hear that the old pear tree in the Fellows' Garden finally gave up its skeletal ghost, even though the pears had long since ceased to be useful as anything but cannonballs.

An area that used to be stacked with tarpaulin-covered benches now makes a colourful approach to the Ramsay Hall servery and completes the route from Cripps Court through the Fellows' Garden and past the Pepys Building to the centre of the College. That route is in need of some improvements and the year has seen some experiments with both the surfacing of the path and with its lighting. The buried 'runway lights' have proved unreliable and will have to be replaced with something more conventional but it is hoped not too obtrusive, and it looks as if a combination of plastic honeycomb and deeper gravel will rid the path of the alternating lakes and mud-baths that in wet weather reduce it to an obstacle course.

Planting in Phase II of the Chesterton Road development is now almost complete. The osmanthus hedge outside Phase I is virtually mature and for a few days this spring its heavy scent completely replaced the usual traffic fumes. A frothy drift of nicotianas in First Court rivalling the fuchsias has been a novel and special feature of the summer planting in 2011.

N B

VIII COLLEGE STAFF

This year's newcomers include Chris Percival who has joined the Tutorial Office as a part-time Graduate Tutor's Assistant. Chris can also be found with cardboard boxes next to her desk feeding wounded or abandoned birds that people bring to her for first aid. Vicky Wallace has joined the Conference Office as Conference and Events co-ordinator, and Allison Wright, Library Assistant, will continue with us for a further year. Marie Scholefield has changed from part-time to full-time assistant gardener which will undoubtedly help this small department. Kevin Bentley has been appointed as the new Deputy Development Director and there is also a new Alumni Relations & Development Assistant, Emma Tunbridge, who comes to us from St Edmund's College where she was Development Secretary. A new General Handyman, Karl Squires, has joined the College Staff, along with two new Domestic Assistants, Malgorzata Coupe and Tina Thompson.

There have been a lot of leavers this past year mostly through retirement. Jackie Rawlings, Kitchen Assistant decided to retire after working for Magdalene for nearly 20 years. Lyn Saunders who began life in the Domestic Office and ended in the Conference Office retired after more than 25 stalwart years at Magdalene. Jo Kirkpatrick of Admissions Office fame retired on 20 December after 13 years; Mick North, College plumber for 23 years, retired at the end of April; and Marlene Fordham, our tireless seamstress retired at the end of June after 20 years service. Glenis Hutton has also left the College Office after 10 years to retire to her new home in Norfolk; and Anita Hagi retired from the Domestic Office after nine years reliable service. Wayne Johnson was promoted from Junior Sous Chef to Sous Chef with effect from 1 December 2010, and Jerome Viard, who has been working as a Kitchen Porter has been promoted to the position of Trainee Chef.

It is with great sadness that we report the deaths of four members of staff. Glen Hawkins, one-time College Marshal died on 27 December 2010. He had developed various health problems since his retirement and whilst on holiday in Scotland suffered a major heart attack. His funeral was attended by family, Fellows and staff at the Crematorium in Cambridge. Trevor Taylor, College Chef for 40 years, died on 30 June 2011. Mr Gary Love, College Butler, read the Tribute and our Chaplain, Philip Hobday took the service which was at the Crematorium in Cambridge. Philip Snowden, who worked in the Domestic Office as a handyman passed away peacefully at his sister's home in Dorset on 22 April 2011 after a long illness. He will be remembered for his jolly personality and never-ending string of jokes. Leon Cole, a long-standing much-loved buttery assistant from 1960 to 2004, died on 28 July 2011. He was a great character, a walking almanac, a master of neologism and malapropism, faithfully devoting his whole life to Magdalene from the age of 16.

IX EVENTS AND COMMEMORATIONS

THE MAGDALENE COLLEGE-INVESTEC LECTURE ON BUSINESS. Sir Michael Grade, CBE, delivered the third annual Magdalene College-Investec Lecture in Business on 24 November 2010 in the Sir Humphrey Cripps Theatre to a capacity crowd. In his lecture entitled 'Public Interest in Television', he argued the case for a radical shake-up of the current UK broadcasting landscape, including a proposal to have Channel 4 funded by the BBC Licence Fee. The conversation with Sir Michael went on late in the evening, first at a reception open to all lecture attendees in the Denis Murphy Gallery, then, in the Parlour, at a private dinner in honour of Sir Michael hosted by the Master, the event organizer, Dr Hadida, and Investec. A full transcript of the lecture, which received extensive media coverage in the national news and online is available on the College website (<http://www.magdalenecollege.com>).



Sir Michael Grade

PARNELL LECTURE. This year's Parnell Lecture was given by Tim Robinson in the Sir Humphrey Cripps Theatre. His title was 'A land Without Shortcuts'. The 7th Roundstone Conversation, usually held in Tim and Máiréad Robinson's home in the west of Ireland, this year followed them to Cambridge and took place in Cripps Court in March.

NORTH NORFOLK READING PARTY (March 2011). At the end of the Lent Term, Professor and Mrs Duffy and Dr and Mrs Atkins, assisted by the red Border Collies, Molly and Jess, once again led a party of ten undergraduates for a week of unremitting toil, relentless walking and compulsory sociability, in the shadow of Cley windmill on the North Norfolk coast. This year there was only one undergraduate theologian in the group, but Arthur Boscawen established that Divinity was a hero's subject, by stripping off his clothes and leaping into the sea during our first walk along Cley beach. The North Sea in March is bracing even when the sun shines, but Boscawen's bathe so impressed the company that several days later the

entire undergraduate contingent rose early for a dawn swim: their return for breakfast was heralded by the sound of teeth chattering like castanets. Other high points of the week included a boat-trip to the seal-colony at Blakeley Point (the seals obliged by being there this year!), and the arrival of the Master for an overnight stay, bearing a delicious cassoulet in a dish large enough to bath the colliers in.

Magdalene reading parties are a venerable tradition, with a pedigree in the legendary summers hosted by Francis Turner, Pepys Librarian, DOS in music, and President of the College, at Mortehoe on the North Devon coast. That continuity was symbolised this year when we played the College's traditional card-game, Hearts, using the rules employed at Mortehoe before the Second World War. These were kindly supplied, in response to last year's report on the Cley reading-week, by Mr Frank Terry, History Exhibitioner 1936–1939, and a veteran of those Mortehoe summers.



FESTIVAL OF THE IMAGE 2011–2012. The College is delighted to announce that the third Magdalene Festival takes place from October 2011 to March 2012. Following on from the previous themes, *Literature* and *Landscape*, the theme of *The Image* has been chosen, and a challenging and enjoyable programme has been devised to look at this topic from interdisciplinary angles. We draw on expertise both from within the College and from the wider international academic community, as well as from the world of the Arts.

Events take place on most Thursdays of Full Term (Michaelmas and Lent Terms) at 5.00 pm, followed by a Reception, and there are afternoon events on certain Saturdays as well.

The Festival events take place in the Sir Humphrey Cripps Theatre.

Details are available on www.magd.cam.ac.uk or from the Festival Director, Dr Jane Hughes, litfest@magd.cam.ac.uk.

X ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

1 REUNIONS

A Reunion Dinner was held on 17 September 2010 for members matriculating in 1973–1975, attended by 75 guests, 10 Fellows and Staff; the speaker was Mr Rhoddy Voremborg (1973). On 24 September 2010, a Reunion Dinner was held for 1976–1978 members: 73 guests came, together with 11 Fellows and Staff; the speaker was Professor Andrew Wallace-Hadrill (1976), Master of Sidney Sussex College. A Reunion Dinner took place on 25 March 2011: 53 members matriculating in 2000–2002 were present with 15 Fellows and Staff; Mrs Sarah Tebbs (2002) proposed the toast to the College. On 7 May 2011, a Reunion Lunch for members matriculating in the years up to and including 1953 welcomed 53 guests, with 11 Fellows and Staff; the speaker was the Reverend Dr John Turner (1942).

2 AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Rabbi Dr T Bayfield (1965): CBE for services to British Reform Judaism in the new year's Honours List; and Lambeth Doctorate for body of writing in the field of the Theology of Jewish-Christian relations

R Cowley (1970): MBE for services to the community in Dorset in the 2011 Birthday Honours List

Professor D K C Cooper (1972 formerly Fellow): awarded the Roche Award for Excellence in Transplantational Science by the Transplantation Society

J A K-Fellowes (1967): raised to the peerage as Baron Fellowes of West Stafford

H E Flight (1966): raised to the peerage as Baron Flight of Worcester

A G Houston (1980): MBE for services to the Tourist Industry in Dumfriesshire in the New Year's Honours List 2011

P T A Massey (1971): High Sheriff of Kent 2010–2011

F Nicholson (1972): Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion (2010)

R J G Spring (1969): raised to the peerage as Baron Risby of Haverhill

M G Rhodes (1991): OBE for services to the Pro Bono legal service in New Year's Honours List 2011

Professor N M Stratford (1958): Grand Prix of the Société Française d'Archéologie

Professor R E Thomas (1961): van de Sande Distinguished Achievement Award (2010) for mentoring, by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary

Colonel R J Thomson (1985) MBE: DSO for services in Afghanistan in 2009 on Operational Honours List 35 (March 2008)

Sir Stephen H Waley-Cohen (1965): Honorary PhD from Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel

3 SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (to 30 June 2011)

*We are grateful to these authors for presenting copies of their works to the College Library.

P L F Anthonissen (1982), editor, *Crisis Communications: Practical PR Strategies for Reputation Management and Company Survival* (2008)

*A-W Asserate (1970), *Afrika: die 101 Wichtigsten Fragen und Antworte* (2010) and *Draußen nur Kännchen: Meine Deutschen Fundstück* (2010)

*T Bartlett (Parnell Fellow 2001–02), *Ireland: a History* (2010)

*P O Beale (1946), co-author, *The Corsini Letters* (2011)

G L Blaxill (2004), *Twisted* (2011)

H N A Brigstocke (1961), *John Flaxman and William Young Ottley in Italy* (2010)

D K C Cooper (1972 formerly Fellow), *Open Heart: The Radical Surgeons Who Revolutionized Medicine* (2010), reviewed below (pp 116–17)

*P D Cowie (1959), *Akira Kurosawa: Master of Cinema* (2010)

Y Dresvina (2003), *Julian of Norwich's Revelations of Divine Love* (2010), (first Russian translation)

E J Feuchtwanger (1944), *Als Kind Hitlers Deutschland. Ein Leben in England* (2010) (English translation)

T J Fletcher (1969), *Gardens of Earthly Delight: The History of Deer Parks* (2011)

R Francis (1964), *The Old Spring* (2010) and *Fruitlands: The Alcott Family and their Search for Utopia* (2010)

*B L Hebblethwaite (1961), *The Christian Hope* (rev edn 2010)

T O Licence (1999; Research Fellow 2006) *Hermits and Recluses in English Society, 950–1200* (2011), reviewed below (p119)

*K Jeffery (Parnell Fellow 2003–04), *M16: the History of the Secret Intelligence Service, 1909–1949* (2010)

*T DF Llewellyn (1966), editor, *Owen McSwiny's letters 1720–1744* (2009)

*S A Mackintosh (1975), contributor, *Private Client Tax: Jurisdictional Comparisons 2010* (2010) and co-author, *Trusts and states in Scotland 2010–11* (2010)

E A Newsholme (1956), co-author, *Functional Biochemistry in Health and Disease* (2009)

L Robinson (1988), contributor & editor, *The Gathering Storm* (2010)

* G F Waller (1966), *The Virgin Mary in Late Medieval and Early Modern English Literature and Popular Culture* (2011)

*M J Waring (1969), editor, *Post-compulsory Education and Lifelong Learning Across the United Kingdom: Policy, Organisation and Governance* (2011)

*D J Weekes (1953) *How Captain James Set Churchill on the Path of Glory* (2010), *On John Buchan's grave* (2010) and *What Sir William Fettes Really Meant: What Was in His Mind When He resolved to leave the Residue of His Estate to Establish the Fettes Foundation?* (2010)

T E Yates (1955), *Pioneer Missionary, Evangelical Statesman: A Life of A T (Tim) Houghton* (2011)

4 MEMBERS' DEATHS (to mid-July 2011)

Lt-Col F M Beale (1931); Dr M Goldhaber (1933); P de Lande Long (1933); Lt-Col I L Roney-Dougal (1934) OBE; R J B Walker, CVO (1935); J R R L Blum (1936); J E W Elliott (1936); H Fitzroy, The Duke of Grafton (1937); J S Shuckburgh (1937); Dr M Craig (1938); C F Claydon (1939); C P Lea-Wilson (1939); R G Pendered (1939); R Ley (1940); R Hamilton-Peters (1941); J A Rutledge (1942); J R Utting (1942); W P Wright (1942); J H Holloway (1943); J N Lowe (1943); A B Cowl (1944); R W Fishwick (1944); A A Gilbert-Scott (1944); D I Staniforth (1944); A H Bullen (1945); D W Stratton (1945); J B Forge (1946); S S Gill (1946); R T Hewitt (1946); G C Gore (1946); R H Merrett (1946); W Mostyn-Owen (1947); M E G Prince (1947); G M Pilkington (1948); I G P Grant (1949); Professor G M Hughes (1949); The Hon. D L R Nail-Cain (1950); Dr N C R W Reid (1950); W I A Smith (1950); T J G Edmondson (1951); R A Wootten (1951); R A Johnson (1952); R D H Robinson (1952); G F L Turner (1953); R E Ulmann (1953); B D Davies (1955); Professor D Sinor (1955); M D Gibbs (1960); C B Barrington (1961); Dr R H Lass (1962); R W Gibson (1963); R H M Hamersley (1963); Professor L S S Riva di Sanseverino (1964); M J Cummins (1965); S Chainani (1965); Dr R M Marchbanks (1969); C T Sidgwick (1971); R J Campbell (1977); S K Karthigesu (1979); E Binks (1999);

Maurice Goldhaber (1933). A few weeks beyond his hundredth birthday, one of Magalene's most distinguished alumni, Maurice Goldhaber died on 11 May 2011. Magdalene played a pivotal role in Maurice's life and early scientific career, a career, as a nuclear and particle physicist, which was to become one of the world's longest and most distinguished.

Some thirty years ago Maurice and I were collaborators on a famous experiment consisting of ten thousand tons of water, some two thousand feet underground in a salt mine near Cleveland Ohio to search for the decay of the proton. This we did not find, but we famously detected neutrinos from the supernova explosion 1987A. Maurice was an extremely energetic retiree, and once he realized that I was a Welshman (it did not take long!) he became effusive and told me the crucial role a Welshman at a Cambridge college had played in his life. I had recently learnt from Maurice's son that Magdalene was that college and, thanks to College Archivist, the Welshman has been identified as the then Senior Tutor Vernon Stanley Vernon-Jones (1875–1955).

Maurice was born in the Austro-Hungarian city of Lemberg, now the city of Lviv in Western Ukraine, where his father had a travel agency business. The family lived for some time in Egypt so that the father could pursue his interest in the ancient world before going to Germany in 1921. Maurice went to a Real-Gymnasium in Chemnitz (Karl Marx Stadt 1953–1990), where he started his life-long note-book containing his ideas and thoughts, and then to the University of Berlin in 1930. Here as an undergraduate he was taught by Laue, Nernst and Schroedinger and attended seminars by Einstein and Planck. In 1933 with remarkable prescience the Goldhaber family returned to Egypt to seek refuge

from the catastrophe that was to befall European Jewry. But Maurice's refuge was elsewhere. He had a burning desire to do research at Rutherford's world-leading group and was accepted by the Cavendish Laboratory in 1933 to do a PhD. Perhaps overdramatically he recounted to me how the doors of Cambridge colleges were closed to him until he came to Magdalene and entered the office of the Senior Tutor, Vernon-Jones. 'Ah, you are a refugee, I suppose we ought to have one of those.' Next Vernon-Jones said 'I suppose you have no money. We'd better give you £100'. After that Maurice never looked back and became a leading researcher in Rutherford's group, working particularly closely with the Nobel Prize-winner James Chadwick. He was awarded a PhD in 1936 and continued as a leading researcher until 1938, partially supported by Magdalene's Kingsley Bye-Fellowship. Vernon-Jones, whom Maurice got to know well, was a classicist whose reputation did not extend much beyond Magdalene, and an eccentric who was a keen fisherman. It is now beyond recall whether Maurice accompanied him to his beloved Teifi pools, high in the Cambrian mountains of Mid-Wales.

Following Rutherford's death in 1937 and Bragg's appointment as head of the Cavendish, there was no future for nuclear/particle research at Cambridge. Maurice was appointed an assistant professor at the University of Illinois where he built up a leading research group in nuclear/particle physics. Goldhaber will be forever remembered for an ingenious experiment carried out with his post-doc Lee Grodzins and his research student Andrew Sunyar to show that the neutrino was left-handed. The result was published in 1957 and the experiment displayed a virtuoso knowledge of experimental technique, particle and nuclear physics. It is still the subject of amazement more than fifty years later. He was the director of the Brookhaven National Lab from 1961 to 1973 and continued an active career, full of new ideas well into his nineties. Along the way he received the National Medal for Science, the Wolf prize, the J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Prize and the Fermi Award.

It has been a privilege to be asked to commemorate Maurice Goldhaber's life and to celebrate Magdalene and its eccentric Welsh Senior Tutor for that act of humanity in 1933 against an evil whose full horror did not emerge until the end of the Second World War.

Tegid Wyn Jones

The Duke of Grafton, KG (1937) died on 7 April 2011. After leaving Magdalene, and war service as ADC to the Viceroy of India, Hugh Fitzroy devoted his life to the conservation of the nation's heritage of old buildings. He advocated the cause by lecturing all over the world on historic preservation, and sitting on a breathtaking array of specialist architectural committees. As chairman of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, in 1972 he launched an appeal for 8,000 churches deemed to be at risk of demolition.

Maurice Craig (1938). Maurice James Craig, who died on 11 May 2011, was Magdalene's most distinguished Irish alumnus after Parnell. He was a gifted architectural historian, writer and raconteur, and a pioneer in the appreciation and rescue of Dublin's Georgian architectural heritage. He was also a dedicated and talented photographer, whose thousands of architectural and urban landscape photographs from the 1940s, 50s and 60s chronicled woefully neglected aspects of Ireland, including much which has since disappeared. Mercifully, Craig's photographic record of this lost heritage is now safely and appropriately ensconced in the elegant premises of the Irish Architectural Archive in Merrion Square in Dublin.

Born in Ballymoney in 1919, Craig was the son of an ophthalmic surgeon whose passion for the Belfast shipyards gave his children an abiding love of ships and shipping. Maurice was to become a ship model-maker of genius, several of whose meticulously accurate steam-driven replicas are in the National Maritime Museum: his proudest achievement was a magnificent working model of the Guinness Brewery ship, *Clairemont*. He came up to Magdalene (where he occupied the ground floor of Pepys Right Cloister, Parnell's old rooms) on a history scholarship, but was deemed to have neither the talent nor the application for so rigorous a subject, and was steered instead towards the English Tripos. A projected book on Walter Savage Landor (a lifelong favourite, whose poems he edited) mutated into a doctoral thesis at Trinity College Dublin, but he was too ebullient a character to settle to *academia*. In 1951 he joined the English Ministry of Works as assistant inspector of Ancient Buildings, and the following year published his most important book, *Dublin 1660–1860: the shaping of a city*. It is an eloquent and engaging celebration of the exceptional beauty of a city which few but he at the time appreciated, and remains in print as a classic of its kind. He was to produce a succession of other important works on Irish visual and material culture, including a pioneering study of Irish 18th-century bookbindings, and the characteristically named *Classic Irish Houses of the Middle Size* (1976).

Craig took early retirement from the Department of Works in 1969, and began a second highly-influential career as executive secretary of An Taisce, the Irish National Trust, in which role he was able to raise consciousness of Ireland's architectural heritage, and to help slow the destruction of the country's historic buildings by ruthless developers.

Craig was a brilliant talker as well as a gifted writer, a colourful presence on the Dublin cultural scene, and a man who lived life with zest. He was the veteran of three marriages, and the driver of a vintage 1930 Straight-8 Delage motor car. My last encounter with him was in Newman House on St Stephen's Green, at the launch of the Dublin volume of the *Buildings of Ireland* (the Irish 'Pevsner') in 2005. Maurice was delighted with that splendid volume, which in many ways represented the public vindication of his own lifelong campaign to save Dublin's architecture, but he was also feeling his 86 years. He held court from a chair in a corner, scornfully waving away the champagne he was offered, and demanding

bottled Guinness instead. I was glad, after scouring the building, to be able to provide him with the taste of old Dublin.

ED

Thomas Geoffrey Daish (1938), whose death was reported in last year's *Magazine*, died on 18 July 2010. After engineering and rowing at Magdalene, Daish was called up with the Royal Engineers in June 1940. Serving in Tunisia in 1943 he suffered life-threatening injuries in a minefield, and lost his right leg. Discharged from the Army, he joined Frank Whittle's Jets as an aeronautical technician, working on the early development of jet engines. After the war he focused on the development of gas turbine propelled engines for marine and industrial purposes, including (with Rolls-Royce) back-up electricity generation, and application to North Sea oil and gas extraction.

Richard Pendered (1939) died on 19 November 2011. After a year reading mathematics at Magdalene, Pendered was recruited to join the Bletchley Park code breakers in July 1940 where he worked on the codes and ciphers used by the U-boats of the German Navy. He was credited with deciphering a Boxing-Day message which located the German battle cruiser *Scharnhorst* off the coast of Norway (1943), which was then sunk later the same day.



GMH holding his collected publications

George Morgan Hughes (1949), who was successively a Bye-Fellow, Research Fellow and then Official Fellow of Magdalene in 1949–65, died on 30 January 2011. He left Cambridge to become the Professor of Zoology at Bristol and Head of Department at the age of 40.

While at Magdalene he succeeded in recruiting able young biologists by visiting many schools to run the A-level practical examinations in Zoology and suggesting to the most able candidates that they apply to this College. He was a brilliant, inspiring and dedicated supervisor, able to cope with the whole range of sub-disciplines within Zoology. He was a modernizer, for example, by frequently working abroad himself, and by introducing distinguished zoologists as visitors to the College. When appointed the Wine Steward in 1962, he persuaded the Fellows that table wine should be available on weekdays, and not merely on Sundays. It had been the custom to have a choice of only beer (albeit in a fine silver stoop!) or Manzanilla sherry.

George was born in Liverpool, the son of a carpenter, educated at the Collegiate School, and won an Open Scholarship to King's College; he was awarded the University's Frank Smart Prize in Zoology in 1946. As a research student he worked under Professor James Gray (later Sir James), and studied the co-ordination of movement in insect limbs; the papers based on this work came to

be highly cited. He was appointed a University Demonstrator in Zoology in 1950, and a Lecturer in 1955. He quickly showed that he was an outstanding researcher into the physiology of movement and breathing in a wide array of animals from slugs, crayfish and dragonflies to fish and tortoises.

At Bristol he put much effort into reshaping the Department, while continuing to be highly productive in research. In 1970 he gave up the Headship of the Department and spent the next twenty years as Head of the Research Unit for Animal Respiration. The most influential of his many contributions concerned our understanding of gill structure in relation to its function in a wide range of fishes, including those that leave water and breathe air. He published three books and over 180 papers in journals, and edited a number of symposium volumes.

George was a keen sportsman, and played hockey for both the University (1945) and for Wales (1952–53). In later years he was deeply interested in genealogy, and contributed articles on that subject to this magazine (*Coll Mag* 42, 1997–98, pp 63–64; *Coll Mag* 46, 2001–02, pp 107–113 + letter). He also loved travel, and particularly enjoyed his involvement in the 1972 International Coelacanth Expedition to the Indian Ocean, where the elusive ‘living fossil’ was found.

George was appreciated for his lively cheerfulness and encouragement of the younger Fellows as well as his pupils, and he valued his connection with Magdalene to the last.

P J G



Shyam Chainani (1965) died on 25 December 2010. He was born in 1942 at Karachi, into a privileged Hindu family. They moved to Bombay in 1947, his father H K Chainani (1923) eventually becoming the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court. Shyam studied Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, followed by a year at Magdalene, and later at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, before taking up a job with the Tata Group as an engineer.

Much of his spare time was taken up by his lifelong passion for sailing, based at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club. But in the early 1970s, when the Club building (dating from 1898) was sold to the Indian Navy and scheduled for demolition, he protested. This led him to found the Bombay Environmental Action Group (BEAG). He quickly came to realise, first, that conservation had to do more than preserve individual buildings or land areas, but to encompass the whole environment; and, second, that it had to be underpinned by legislative and policy changes initiated by government. To this cause he devoted his whole life. He lived modestly, and never married.

How does Magdalene come into this? Shyam loved his time here in the 1960s, and latterly regarded it as a haven of tranquillity, where he could return each year for a week or two during the Long Vac to ‘do some quiet reading and recharge batteries’ for the battles ahead.

The story is told that the Tata Group were planning to build a large power station near Bombay. At a board meeting the Chairman, the legendary J R D Tata, was told that there was a lot of opposition to the plan, led by one of his own employees, a Mr Chainani. Shyam was duly summoned to the presence of the great man. The result, amazingly, was that Tata's allowed him to devote himself full time to BEAG, while still drawing a Company salary, for the rest of his working career and afterwards; even when, on two or three occasions, he was protesting against projects initiated by Tata's themselves.

His method of operation was to cajole, persuade and co-draft policy with government officials. Once they saw that he was intelligent and rational in pursuit of his objectives, their doors were open to him. At first his efforts were confined to the Bombay area – a large enough canvas – but as time went on they were extended to other areas, notably Goa, coastal areas, hill stations and cantonments throughout India, working with the Union government itself. The result has been that quite largely through Shyam's efforts there is now a logical framework of legal protection for the environment across the whole of India. This isn't everything, of course – the legal framework needs to be matched by action – but it has been a vital start. The extraordinary outpouring of press tributes on Shyam's death testify to his remarkable achievement, which after many years of fairly solitary effort, is now at last being publicly recognised.

To his friends and supporters Shyam could be a hard taskmaster, driving them on with a relentless persistence that, though always polite, could sometimes be maddening. But at the same time he was, as the *Guardian* obituary put it: 'a lion, one of India's most fearless, principled and effective fighters for public good'.

John Malcolm

Richard Hamersley (1963) died on 2 May 2011. As many members of the Boat Club will know, Richard was a leading force in the resurgence of the Magdalene Boat Club, as its President since 1997, and much more behind the scenes, over the last 15 years. In addition to his energetic and enthusiastic support of the Boat Club, both in Cambridge and at the training camps he organised on the Thames, he had sat for a number of years on the CUWBC Executive and had recently been appointed Chairman of the CUCBC itself.

Magdalene and Cambridge rowing will miss him greatly. Worthy tributes were given to him at his funeral in Remenham on 24 May, at a short thanksgiving service in Magdalene Chapel on the Saturday of the May Bumps, and in a centre spread of the 2011 Mays Programme. As Peter Convey of the CUBC wrote in the last tribute: 'if Richard saw a job as worth doing, his immense energy, determination and sheer persistence would immediately be put behind it, ensuring it was done, and done properly!'. The current momentum and vibrancy of the Magdalene Boat Club is a witness to this effective applied energy.

SKFS

Development Director's Report

The change of funding in the Higher Education sector has dominated discussions both at Magdalene and Cambridge during the past year. The decision to charge the maximum fee of £9,000 has left many of us with a heavy heart. The realities of the cuts, however, have left the University with no real choice, as the cost of educating an undergraduate is around £17,000, a significant chunk of which, around £7,000, is met by the College. This cost is funded, in part, by our endowment income as well as student fees and the Government grant. Our teaching budgets are facing a real cut of up to 80% over the next few years and we will continue to look to the generosity of our members and friends to help us face this funding shortfall.

We received a total of £757,771 in benefactions during the past financial year, of which £112,000 came to the Alumni & Development Office for the benefit of the Centre for History & Economics. Almost half of all donations received were given for General Purposes, while some £157,000 was raised to close the Chesterton Road Phase II funding gap, and Student Support received the third largest share of total gifts, £115,000. The Telephone Campaign, a cornerstone of our fundraising programme, was held in the last two weeks of March and raised a total of £177,900 in cash and pledges. The student callers did a magnificent job and were wonderful ambassadors for the College. Pleasingly, just over 11% of members donated to College in 2010–11, and over 15% of total donations received during the last financial year were regular gifts despite the continued economic downturn.

The new Development Director, Mrs Corinne Lloyd, joined the College as a Fellow on 1st September 2010, just in time to complete the office move into First Court. Guann-Yeu Chin, Deputy Development Director, stepped down at the end of May, leaving officially at the end of June. We are grateful to him for his sterling work and wish him well with his new career in photography. He has been succeeded by Kevin Bentley, who joined us in June after more than five years in Development at St Catharine's. Charles Cook, Development Officer (database and website), a graduate from Downing who joined us last May, and Emma Tunbridge, the Alumni & Development Assistant, who took up her new post in July, complete the team.

The Alumni Relations programme has, as always, proved popular and a number of new events have had an enthusiastic response. Events in London (Magdalene in the City) remain popular; those in College, notably the first Magdalene Family Day in early July, as well as the inaugural Buckingham Society luncheon, were well attended and much enjoyed by all. Reunion Dinners took place for the years 1972–75, 1976–78 and 2001–02. A Reunion Lunch which was held for members up to 1953 was well attended and much enjoyed by all present.

Many of those who matriculated in 2004 came back to receive their MA in person in May this year. A number of events in North America, including New York, Boston, Washington DC and San Francisco, were also well attended and appreciated. Links with alumni in Asia-Pacific continue to strengthen, with Magdalene Dinners in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.

Over the course of the year we meet members from all over the world who, despite their differences, share their unwavering support of and belief in the College. They are fully committed to helping ensure that Magdalene remains unchanged in offering the best possible education free from financial worry and continues to admit the most talented students regardless of background. The Master and Fellows are grateful to all members who have supported the College over the last year.

CDL



Wisteria in River Court

Photo: Kanak Patel

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Photo: Nigel Hawkes

*Buckingham chained swan (1873): rear view, taken from the top of the
flag-pole turret (River Court, above the oriel window)*

THE PRESIDENT'S SERMON

This sermon was preached by Professor Boyle in the College Chapel on Sunday 15 May 2011. The readings were Ezra 3: 8–13 and Ephesians 2: 11–22.

'The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner'. Psalm 118.22

The resurrection of Jesus Christ marks the end of the Stone Age. Except for the next President of our College, I suppose most of us do not think much about stone. Yet until a few thousand years ago stone had for our ancestors a value and a significance that we can scarcely imagine. They lived in a soft and decomposing world of wood and plants, of human and animal flesh and bone and hides, of clay and water, a world in which hardness and durability were the direct presence among humans of a power beyond human understanding. Stone gave fire, struck from flint, and so it gave life; and it gave the sharpness of knives and arrowheads, and so it gave death. It was not just for the convenience of construction that, while the houses of the living were made of wood and straw, stone was generally reserved for the habitations of the dead. 5,500 years ago, one of the largest chamber tombs in Northern Ireland was built on a hill at Creggandeveskey in Co Tyrone, overlooking Lough Mallon. When the 21 individuals whose remains have been found there were encased in this little man-made mountain they were being wrapped in and returned to the pure and holy element that underlay all human activity, the unbearable hardness of being, what we have learnt to call God. A few miles further north, however, and 2,000 years later, another monument was constructed that shows a changed understanding of stone, perhaps a consequence of its builders' recently acquired ability to smelt bronze. We do not know the purpose for which the stone circles and rows were set up on the green slope at Beaghmore. We can however see that its builders still recognized the elemental power of stone but believed they could impose on it shape and arrangement and so compel the world around them to obey their wishes. This magic may have been intended to combat the deteriorating climate and the encroachment of bog on to the fields, but we do not know. The arrangement is inarticulate, and the stones themselves are mute. But 2,000 years younger again, and only three miles away, at Aghascrebagh, a single stone stands in a lumpy decaying field of thistles and rushes, and it is not mute. It is Co Tyrone's only Ogham stone, and the few lines scratched across its edge fundamentally change our relation to it. For they are writing, and through them someone is addressing us. However this new relationship of communication is established at the cost of the stone. The stone has lost all substance of its own. It is just another material to write on, merely the bearer of a message, which could be borne by anyone. And the message itself could hardly be more prosaic. Nothing is said about death or life, holiness or magic. There is just a name: *Dot Tteo Maqi Magllani*, Dotteo the son of Maglan. Dotty McMullan probably just wanted to tell us that this was his field.

In the oldest traditions of the Jews, which seem to relate to a period roughly contemporary with the stone circles at Beaghmore, we can find traces of the original sacredness of stone as the immediate presence of God. When Jacob dreamt of God's promise to him and his descendants he set up the stone he had found and used as a pillow in order to mark the place as 'none other but the house of God and ... the gate of heaven'. In Exodus, c.20, it is provided that an altar of sacrifice shall be made of undressed stone, undefiled by any metal tool, as if God's people, and perhaps God himself, belonged to the archaic age of Creggandevskey. But very early in the development of the Jewish tradition we find its distinctive, perhaps unique feature: the marriage of stone and writing as the revelation of the mind, not of man, but of God, a revelation that does not deprive the stone of substance. The word that is the gateway to the human spirit is written on the stone that marks the gateway to heaven. So in Exodus c.24 it is not the twelve mute standing stones, representing the twelve tribes of Israel, that embody the covenant God makes with Moses, it is the two tablets of stone on which God, not Man, writes the words of the Law. The Ogham stone speaks to us, but it speaks human words, the prosaic language of a demystified world, in which stone is simply one of many possible writing materials. Because they spoke the word of God, the tablets delivered to Moses at Horeb, and put by him into the Ark of the Covenant, retained the mystery and sanctity of the material on which the world is founded and to which our Neolithic ancestors were returned when they entered into death. Stone and word were here conjoined, while on the Ogham stone they are separated. Around 1,000 BC King Solomon centred the religion of Israel on Jerusalem, housing the Ark of the Covenant in a Temple built, we are told in 1 Kings, on foundation stones cut at the quarry so that no tool of iron should be heard working at the site of the building. When the Temple was completed, and the Ark was deposited in its Holy of Holies, we are also told that God's presence in the Temple was directly manifested, as a sign that henceforth he would dwell with his people in this place: 'the cloud filled the house of the Lord, So that the priests could not stand to minister, because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord'. The God whose glory transfigured the stones of the Temple was both the God whose word was the Law and the God who had made the stone on which the Law was written.

But like all material things, like the human body itself, even stone is vulnerable to time and to violence. The history of the Jewish religion is the history of the repeated breaking and remaking of the bond between the stone and the word, the Temple and the Law. No sooner was the covenant with Moses made than it was broken. Moses came down from the mountain to find his people idolatrously worshipping an image cast in metal and he broke the tablets of the Law in dismay. But then he interceded with God, who remade the Covenant and rewrote his Law on a second set of tablets. The stones Moses put into the Ark, therefore, were already a memorial to past sin and forgiveness, to a past breaking and a subsequent making whole. And so it was with the Temple too. In 587 BC the armies of

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Assyria, present-day Iraq, destroyed the Temple of Solomon and the city of Jerusalem and began the ethnic cleansing of Palestine, deporting the Jewish population into Assyria. God seemed to have abandoned His people and no more to be present among them. But in 538 BC, Cyrus, king of Persia, having conquered Assyria, issued a decree permitting the Jewish exiles to return to their homeland and to rebuild their Temple, appointing a governor for them whom the author of the book of Ezra calls Zerubbabel. And when under Zerubbabel the foundation stones of the Second Temple were laid on the site of the First, we read that the tears of joy could not be told apart from the tears of sorrow. One great and turbulent shout of praise and thanksgiving expressed all the confused emotions, bitter and sweet, aroused by the breaking and remaking of the Temple of the Covenant. 'O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; because his mercy endureth for ever', they sang in the opening and closing words of Psalm 118, and in between they must also have sung vv.22 and 23: 'The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.' And the prophet Haggai promised them another marvel: that when this new building was completed, the glory of the Lord would fill it as it had filled Solomon's Temple on the day of its dedication: 'the desire of all nations shall come and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts ... The glory of this latter house shall be greater than the former ... and in this place will I give peace' (Hg 2: 7, 9).

In 167 BC, we are told in the First Book of the Maccabees, the Second Temple was itself the object of persecution. King Antiochus Epiphanes, one of the successors of Alexander the Great, set up an altar to Olympian Zeus on the altar of sacrifice before the Holy of Holies. Judas Maccabaeus led a successful revolt against this enforced Hellenization, retook Jerusalem, and rededicated the Temple. A new altar was built of unhewn stones and a fire lit on it struck directly from a flint, for it was thought that only by a complete renewal could the memory of the profane incursion of the Gentiles be expunged from the Temple. But the memory could not be eliminated altogether: alongside the new altar, the defiled stones of the old altar remained, and Maccabaeus, not knowing what to do with them but not wishing to treat them with disrespect, in the words of 1 Maccabees, 'deposited the stones in a suitable place on the Temple hill, to await the appearance of a prophet who should give a ruling about them' (4:46). Similarly, the festival of Hanukkah, which commemorates the joy of this rededication, also commemorates the sorrow of the original desecration, for both took place on the same day, the 25th day of the month Chislev, which was, furthermore, and not by chance, the birthday of Antiochus Epiphanes, the desecrator. Like the tablets in the Ark of the Covenant, and like the dedication day of the Second Temple, the new festival and the Temple hill preserved the memory both of the remaking and of the previous breaking of the bond with God.

In the period after the Maccabean rededication a spiritual revolution began in Judea with the consequences of which we are still living. A Jewish sect began to

realize that it was not necessary to go up to a stone temple in a capital city in order to have access to the ultimate mystery. The word did not have to be cut into stone by the finger of God in order to have Divine authority. Ordinary people, wherever they were, by hearing and reading and studying the words that writing on paper or parchment now made available to them, whether at home or in schools or in places of worship, could be as directly in contact with the mind of God as idolaters thought they were when they approached their graven images, or as loyal Jews were when they participated in the sacrificial offerings at the Temple. The numbers of this sect grew rapidly, they successfully survived the final destruction of the Jerusalem Temple by the Romans in AD 70, and they became known to the world under the name of Pharisees.

Into the religious world of studious Pharisaism, gradually cutting off the word of the Law from the stones of the Temple, burst the prophetic figure of Jesus of Nazareth. As a Galilean, Jesus was an outsider, coming from a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural region where the people of God had to mingle daily with unchosen unbelievers. But his consuming mission was to recall to the people of Judea, and especially of Jerusalem, the extraordinary and life-changing truth that in their Temple God had dwelt with men. His contemporaries had forgotten, or were no longer moved by, the overwhelming visions of Isaiah and Ezekiel and Haggai of God's glory filling the Temple, as when it was first dedicated by Solomon. According to Jesus, the Pharisees' cult of the Law and of study was not misguided, but it had lost sight of the essential truth – the presence of God among men. The supreme commandment was to live the presence of God as intensely as one of Solomon's priests unable to minister for the cloud of glory surrounding him. For this reason it was said of Jesus, in the words of the psalm, 'the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up'. It was soon apparent to his first hearers, such as Peter, the rock, that the glory of God that Jesus was urging his fellow-Jews to recognize as given to them in the Temple was already present to them in Him – that in Him the kingdom of God had come upon them and in Him was the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father. One of the very few sayings of Jesus recorded by all four Evangelists is, in the form given it by St John, 'Destroy this Temple and in three days I will raise it up'. Even if the Second Temple were to suffer the fate of the First, Jesus was saying, the presence of God in it would be preserved and renewed in his Anointed One, his Christ. And if Jesus and the Temple were indeed identical, as St John goes on to say ('But he spake of the temple of his body'), then Jesus would be broken and restored as the Second Temple had already been in the time of Judas Maccabaeus, as the First Temple had been in the time of Ezekiel, and as the stones of the Law had been broken by Moses and restored by God – on each occasion to make good a sinful act of profanation. Just as the tablets put into the Ark at Horeb, and given the honour due to them in the Temple of Solomon, made good the breaking of the first tablets and Israel's apostasy, just as the joy of the rebuilding of the Temple by Zerubbabel made good the sorrow of the destruction by Nebuchadnezzar, just as the feast of the purification by Judas Maccabaeus made

good the desecration by Antiochus Epiphanes and the new altar stones made good the profaning of the old altar stones scattered and buried on the Temple hill, so the raising up of Jesus, after a death in which his shame is indiscernible from his glory, makes good all the sins human beings commit against the ever-present glory of the kingdom of the only King. In the life and death of the Christ all the distinctions drawn by the Law between righteousness and sin, between purity and impurity, even the seemingly fundamental distinction between Jew and Gentile, between those inside and outside the mercy, are reconciled. He is the desire of the nations, expected by Haggai to fill the temple with glory and give us peace, 'for he is our peace who hath made us one'. He is the prophet expected by Judas Maccabaeus who takes up both the desecrated stones of the old altar and the ritually pure stones of the new altar and builds them into a new Temple altogether, the Temple of his body, in which the sting of death is drawn and the spark of superabundant life is struck from the unbearable hardness of being. The Temple of stone is replaced, not by writing, by a book of the law, but by a Temple of flesh, his flesh. In this new Temple the Law studied by the Pharisees is once again written on stones, but they are the living stones of human lives, the members of the Church who build up Christ's risen body and among whom the glorious presence of God dwells as the bread of life and the cup of salvation. In Christ's new Temple of flesh, where he is priest, victim, altar, and cornerstone, all the impurities and failures of human life revealed by the Law are made good, are made participant in the Divine glory in which death and resurrection are one and the noise of the weeping of the people cannot be discerned from the noise of the shout of joy.

NB



Chapel interior

THE IMMORTAL MEMORY:

MANAGING TIMBER: HOW PEPYS MEASURED UP

The following oration was delivered in Hall by Professor James Raven on the occasion of the Pepys commemoration on 25 February 2011.

Distinguished guests, Master, Fellows, and members of the college, a month ago a storm of protest broke across the Sunday morning contentment of middle England. Readers of the *Sunday Telegraph* awoke to a three-word headline: 'Save Our Forests'.¹ The newspaper showcased a letter demanding that the government reconsider its intention to sell-off publicly-owned forests and woodlands. The letter was signed by 100 'leading public figures' including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the poet laureate, numerous Oscar winners, and, more alarmingly perhaps, several members of this college. During the next two weeks, more than half a million people endorsed the petition

The protesters presented their case with great effectiveness, and last week, sensationally, the government admitted defeat. The woody bits were lopped off the Public Bodies Bill making its way through the House of Lords. The original Bill would have given the Government – and future administrations – the power to sell the leaseholds to all or parts of the nation's woodland, including all the Forestry Commission land in England and most notably the New Forest, the Forest of Dean and parts of Sherwood Forest.² The Forestry Commission presently owns and manages some 635,000 acres of woodlands, which range from farms and heath land to royal estates, ancient woodland and sites of special scientific interest. Technically, as the Secretary of State admitted, post sell-off, no government could have prevented privatized trees from being cut down in their entirety. Campaigners also warned that the British public would lose access to what are currently public woodlands.

Samuel Pepys, baptised at St Bride's off Fleet Street, was not born near woodlands – and although he spent some of his childhood in country just north of London and in Huntingdonshire, before retuning to St Paul's School, there is no evidence that he was particularly moved by forests in his youth. We might fondly think that woodlands naturally impinged upon him because England was more wooded in his day than now. In fact, tree cover (if not constituent tree types) was not dramatically different in, say, the year of Pepys's death than it is now. From about the mid 1750s, with the fellings necessary for replenishing the navy in the Seven Years War and then the American and French wars, tree cover actually declined to below what it is today. There are several views in Constable paintings that are now quite unrecognisable because of the later extension of woodlands, even if modern plantings (some by the Forestry Commission) seem highly artificial.

Pepys would not have worried about the artificiality of tree planting; nor, perhaps, about public access. But about timber in general, Pepys was a convert, an enthusiast, an obsessive. Upon his appointment as Clerk of the Acts at the Navy Board in July 1660, he quickly realised that timber management – and its proper measurement and evaluation – offered a critical, and potentially highly problematic, concern for him in the service of the King, in oversight of the Navy and its fitness in the defence of the realm. At the Navy Board, expertise in matters arboreal complemented Pepys's pursuit of bookkeeping and accountancy. Pepys was quick to use perceived failings in these skills in his attacks upon older colleagues at the Navy Board.

According to his Diary, it was on 9 June 1662 that Pepys first paid court to Henry Bond, an experienced teacher of mathematics and the author of a learned tract on gauging, 'to teach me to measure Timber'.³ Three weeks later, Pepys was instructed by Sir William Warren, then the greatest timber merchant in England, about three types of Norwegian fir-deal wood, the Dram, the Swinsound and the Christiana. Pepys wrote that he learnt 'many pleasant notions' about their cutting and sawing and eagerly viewed 'piles of deals, spares, and balkes and Euphroes... indeed, am very proud of this evening's work'.⁴

As Robert Latham wryly noted in his third volume of the Diary, 'the measuring of timber was difficult and often gave rise to fraud'.⁵ Within a month of Pepys's visit to Bond, he was uncovering faults⁶, prompting Pepys to write that he intended to investigate 'the whole abuse that his Majesty suffers in the measuring of timber'.⁷ And so, he applied himself, schoolboy-like, to the task of learning how to measure timber. Indeed, he might well have become something of a bore on the subject. With his usual, irrepressible enthusiasm, he notes that he is reading measuring books and consulting rulers on every possible occasion. In August of that year, he rode to Waltham Forest with Anthony Deane, shipwright of Woolwich (with whom later, in 1677, Pepys was to be sent to the Tower). In the forest, Pepys and Deane 'saw many trees of the King's a-hewing and he [Deane] showed me the whole mystery of off-square, [or 'half-square'] wherein the king is abused in the timber that he buys'.⁸ In an entry some days later, Pepys writes of his pride in mastering the art of timber measuring to prevent fraud.⁹

I have to confess to a certain insight here. My father was a joiner and I grew up surrounded by planks, sawdust and large curly wood shavings. But my father also caught the measuring bug. In his case, it was to solve problems brought by the onset of metric conversion. He took to inventing measuring tables and small measuring wheels which he was determined to patent. Those tables and wheels accompanied us on every family holiday. In every spare moment he was to be found obsessively tinkering with them. The same mania leaps from the pages of Pepys's Diary, although in Pepys's case, unlike my father's, the measuring exercises were accompanied by other enthusiasms. Many entries in 1662 might well have been entitled 'wood, wine and wenches'.

Pepys got out his ruler and his timber manuals anywhere he chose. On 6 June 1663, for example, he went 'over to Mr Blackburys' yard and thence to other places; and after that, to a drinking house; in all which places I did so practise and improve my measuring of timber, that I can now do it with great ease and perfection, which doth please me mightily'. On that day also (as he notes on several occasions), he learns of the greater superiority of the timber and ship yards in the States of Holland and how timber is husbanded there and vows 'to endeavour to understand further'.¹⁰ A fortnight later (after much consultation of tables and drawn rulers) he exalts about the 'measuring of timber, which I now understand thoroughly, and shall be able in a little time to do the King great service'.¹¹ When, in September 1663, calculations all done, Pepys cunningly and single-handedly negotiated a contract for £3,000 worth of Norway masts with the somewhat egregious Warren, Pepys flaunts his superiority at the Navy Board.¹² This was to be followed by further triumphs in 1664, the 'great contract' signed in July, 'the biggest that ever was made in the Navy,' and then in October 'the very great contract' made with Warren for '3000 load of timber'.¹³

Pepys's reading was the source of his mastery of timber measurement and woodland management. We forget what (among secular literature at least) made a best-seller after the Restoration. Just as the most popular non-religious books among the early American colonists were those on bee keeping, so, high-up in the most reprinted titles of English books and pamphlets in the late seventeenth century were practical arithmeticks and trade-specific reckoners. In April 1663, after his visit to Warren's timber yards at Wapping and Deptford, Pepys recorded that he walked back 'all the way reading of my book of Timber measures'.¹⁴ This was probably a part of John Brown's *Description and Use of the Carpenters Rule* of 1662. Its title-page announces it as a book 'rendered plain and easy for the most ordinary capacities'. In this book, Pepys wrote, 'I find much pleasure'.¹⁵ It is certainly a challenging book. But even sceptics about the joys of measuring books (and I count myself one) can be drawn in by the fascination of algorithmic puzzles like Gunter's rule and by the description of the Carpenters' rule, and a series of problems to solve that must have kept Pepys from his wine and women for quite some time.

In successive years, Pepys records all manner of going down to timber yards to examine, for example, dram timber from the Baltic, or 'to see some good Plank in the River'.¹⁶ Several inspections resulted in rejection of the price as not good enough.¹⁷ Encouraged, Pepys continued his lessons. In February 1664, he is considering how best to preserve masts, perhaps by submerging them. A month later, he is suffering from a 'great cold' and is confined to his closet, but spends his time drawing up measures of masts 'to my great satisfaction'.¹⁹ By June, he is having new lessons on curved or bending timbers from Deane.²⁰

Many volumes in the Pepys collection in College contain hand-drawn measurement and conversion rulers and tables for timber and scantlings with calculations about prescribed size, dimensions, or cross sectional areas.²¹ These include gems such as 'What: 50: foote of tymbar wyll make: In Boarde and planke

from one ynche: to vi ynches: in thicknes [with] No Allowance for the wast of the kerffs for the splittinge or Sawinge: not here allowed'.²² A treasured table from 1590 offered advice to Pepys about the circumferences of masts from the bumsparr [boomspar], the caprave, and the small sparr.²³ And in his Diary, Pepys recalls particularly recommending Scots timber for rebuilding London after the Great Fire and predicting that it 'will yield good money'.²⁴ It was in the same year that Pepys took advantage of his timber-yard knowledge to commission his book-presses from Thomas Simpson, naval joiner at the Deptford and Woolwich dockyards.²⁵



One of Pepys's book presses, made of oak with glazed doors

But, like the present, beleaguered Secretary of State, Pepys also knew all about the terrors of getting things wrong in timber management. In July 1664, Pepys was told by Lord Sandwich that the Lord Chancellor, Clarendon, was on the warpath, accusing Pepys of having marked trees in Clarendon Park with the navy's broad arrow and then having them cut down.²⁶ A terrified Pepys rushed round to prostrate himself before Clarendon and spent an anxious day waiting until he could see the Lord Chancellor in the evening – 'there coming out after dinner, I accosted him, telling him that I was the unhappy Pepys that hath fallen into his high displeasure, and came to desire him to give me leave to make myself better understood to his Lordshipp – assuring him of my duty and service'.²⁷ Pepys charmed

his way out, although I have to say that he seems to have done so by shifting the blame elsewhere, for he writes that Clarendon is now 'incensed against poor Deane, as a fanatic, rogue, and I know not what'.²⁸ Pepys added, 'Lord, to see how we poor wretches dare not do the King good service for fear of the greatness of these men'.²⁹

So would Pepys have joined the worthies in signing the triumphant 'Save Our Forests' petition? It is with timber *management* that Pepys would have been concerned. He would have applauded the development of British forestry during the last 90 years from an earlier 4% of the country afforested, to the current figure of 12%. Some 80% of this is already in private hands, and the combination of the public and private sector has allowed a major timber processing industry to develop – and one where the public sector has ensured the continuity of timber supply. Pepys, I think, would have argued that the national forest estate acts as an important resource between the private sector and the market, which has allowed a marginally profitable industry to develop and grow. He might also have pointed out that the private sector currently has hundreds of thousands of hectares of neglected woodland in England, so much that the Forestry Commission has had to establish a task force to see how this might be brought to market. And Pepys, who in 1675 had drawn up 'A Bill for Preservation and Encrease of Timber',³⁰ would certainly have rushed to the defence of the Forest of Dean. In his 1671 survey preserved here in the College, Pepys was told that there were 12,636 oak and beech trees in the Forest of Dean, 'the greatest part of which timber will be for Shipping; The rest is being more Service for house building &c, which being so respectable will buy other Timber for Shipping'.³¹

The recent undoing of the government was that it did not make a coherent case. Pepys would surely have denounced that publicly. Privately, however, he might have been more sympathetic. For Pepys, the friend of Warren, the private contractor, might well have been helpful to our current Secretary of State. Although rushed and poorly advised, she did have a genuine concern about the effective exploitation of a valuable natural resource. For her and for Pepys, the forests were and are not exclusively or even principally leisure destinations, but commercial ventures.

For Pepys, of course, timber in the service of the state was all about defence – about the state of the navy. This was as true in 1660 as it was in March 1686 when Pepys met with James II to agree an advertisement for tenders for felling and cutting timber.³² Pepys then became horribly embroiled in defending his record not just over timber contracts but about the use of the foreign imported timber which he defended as cheaper and more durable. As Pepys wrote to the king, 'so much am I acquainted with the Power of Industry and Good Husbandry, joyn'd with Knowledge and Methodical Application (no two of which seem at this day stirring together in any Part of your Naval Service)'.³⁴

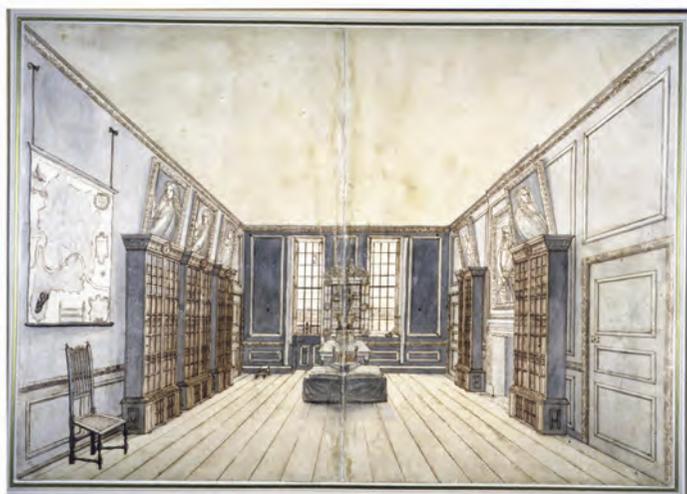
In his 'State of the Royal Navy of England' of 1684, Pepys surveyed a fleet of 179 ships,³⁵ and triumphantly claimed in his *Memoires* of 1688 (printed in 1690)

that the 54 dockyard storehouses built by the commissioners in two-and-a-half years amounted to more activity than that under all previous kings of England put together.³⁶ Unsurprisingly, C. S. Knighton believes Pepys guilty of ‘a shameless juggling of numbers to suit his own purpose’,³⁷ but Pepys’s defence of his conduct has left us with one of his most memorable observations – one with which to close as we salute his life, and, indeed, the preservation of woodlands. In his 1684 ‘The State of the Royal Navy of England at the Dissolution of the late Commission of y:e Admiralty’, kept here in College, and the basis for a more muted printed version in his 1690 *Memoires*, Pepys recalled how bad seamanship and neglect, not his original timber ordering, had been revealed in the inspection of the ships:

some of theyr Buttock-Plankes being started from theyr Transums, theyr Treenailes burnt & rotted, and Plankes thereby ready to drop into the Water... they must inevitably fall under the danger of sinkeing at theyr very Moorings ... I have seene Toad:stooles growing in them as bigg as my Fists; some never once heel’d or bream’d since theyr Building, but exposed in hott weather to the Sunn, Broileing in theyr Buttocks and elsewhere, for want of Liquoring and Cooleing them with Water.³⁸

May I invite you all (not now, I suspect, ‘in want of liquoring’) to stand to drink to our well-oaked and well-seasoned toast, ‘the immortal memory’.

JR



This drawing by Sutton Nicholls, c 1693, shows Pepys’s library in York Buildings, Buckingham Street, off the Strand. Ultimately there were twelve book presses, all of which survive in the Pepys Library.

NOTES

¹ *Sunday Telegraph*, 23 Jan 2011.

² Public Bodies Reform Bill, 2011; the original subsections 1 and 2 allowed the Secretary of State to override the Forestry Act 1967 in relation to managing, using, letting and disposing of forestry land; subsection 3 further granted the Secretary of State exercise of those functions 'for any purpose or without condition'.

³ Robert Latham and William Matthews (eds), *The Diary of Samuel Pepys: A new and complete transcription* 11 vols (London, 1970–83) [hereafter *Diary*], 3: 105 (9 June 1662).

⁴ *Diary*, 3: 118, 119 (23 June 1662).

⁵ *Diary*, 3: 105, n 2.

⁶ *Diary*, 3: 150–1 (31 July 1662).

⁷ *Diary*, 3: 163 (12 Aug 1662).

⁸ *Diary*, 3: 169 (18 Aug 1662); by October the timber measurers at Woolwich and Deptford were dismissed, *Diary*, 3: 151, n 1.

⁹ *Diary*, 3: 172 (20 Aug 1662) and also 177 (23 Aug 1662).

¹⁰ *Diary*, 4: 176 (6 June 1663).

¹¹ *Diary*, 4: 189–90 (20 June 1663); cf. also *Diary* 4: 233 (17 July 1663).

¹² *Diary*, 4: 303–4 (10 Sept 1663): 'the King hath the best bargain of masts [that] hath been bought these 27 years in this office', a bargain, according to Pepys in his papers at the National Archives, Kew, with at least a 5 per cent advantage over the alternative tender, NA SP 29/80, no 47.

¹³ *Diary*, 5: 215–16 (21 July 1664); *Diary* 5: 299 (18 Oct 1664); a succession of other major contracts followed throughout the war years.

¹⁴ *Diary*, 4: 103 (15 Apr 1663).

¹⁵ *Diary* 4: 85 (25 Mar 1663).

¹⁶ *Diary* 4: 289 (27 Aug 1663).

¹⁷ *Diary*, 5: 295–6 (12 Oct 1664); cf. *Diary* 3: 227 (17 Oct 1662), looking for good deals on masts; and *Diary* 5: 6 (6 Jan 1664), expecting to quarrel about masts.

¹⁸ *Diary*, 5: 54 (21 Feb 1664).

¹⁹ *Diary*, 5: 77 (6 Mar 1664).

²⁰ *Diary* 5: 189 (25 June 1664).

²¹ Including Pepys 1266, 'Collections relating to naval and Admiralty affairs, by James Humfrey, 1568: The Boke of the Lawe off Olerone: As also for the holdinge of the cowrte of the Admyrallte' (see esp f 384, a marvellously drawn MS conversion ruler for timber and board measure); among similar historical notes and items are Pepys 2265, no 24, John Tippetts to Pepys, 10 May 1675, with estimates of timber necessary for the building of one 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th rate ships.

²² Pepys 1266, ff 384–7, tables of linear measures of timber and board (f 385).

²³ Pepys 2911, Miscellaneous Naval MSS, ff 12–14, 'Rules for measuring masts and scantlings [etc]', 1590.

²⁴ *Diary*, 7: 298 (26 Sept 1666).

²⁵ *Diary*, 7: 214 (23 July 1666); 7: 300–1 (28 Sept 1666).

²⁶ *Diary*, 5: 203–6 (14 July 1664).

²⁷ *Diary*, 5: 204 (14 July 1664).

²⁸ *Diary*, 5: 205 (14 July 1664).

²⁹ *Ibid*

³⁰ Pepys 2870, ff 541–4, 'Bill for the Preservation and encrease of Timber, Prepared by Mr Freeman' [and the company of shipwrights at the instance of Pepys] (1675).

³¹ Pepys 2265, no 56: i, 'Report on the number and state of the trees in the Forest of Dean', 1671; with iii, an abstract of the Report.

³² Samuel Pepys, 'A Diary of my Proceedings with the King upon the General Present State of his Navy', reproduced in C S Knighton (ed), *Pepys's Later Diaries* (Stroud, 2004), pp 179–99 (p 184, entry for 20 Mar 1686).

³³ Samuel Pepys, *Memoires Relating to the State of the Royal Navy of England, For Ten Years, Determin'd December 1688* (London, 1690), pp. 69–79; cf Pepys, 'Diary of my Proceedings with the King', in Knighton (ed), *Pepys's Later Diaries*, p 186 (22 Mar 1686).

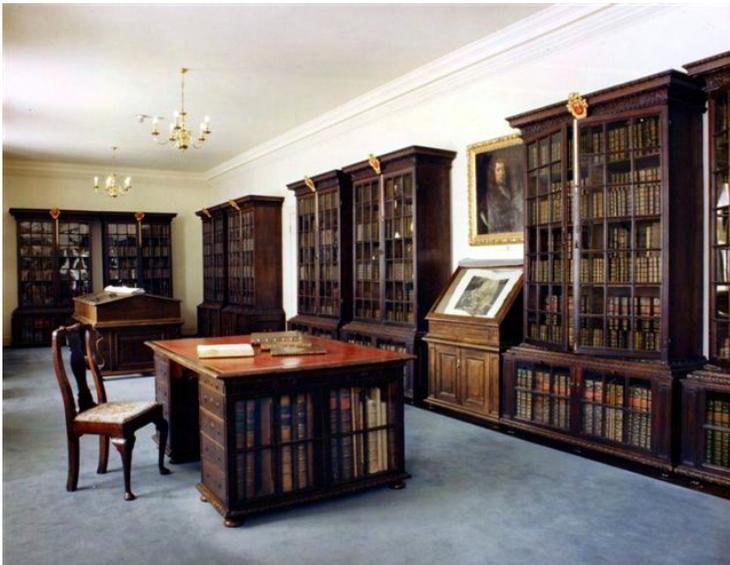
³⁴ Pepys, *Memoires*, 'To the King', p 32.

³⁵ Pepys 1534, 'The State of the Royal Navy of England at the Dissolution of the late Commission of y^e Admiralty, May 1684', f 5

³⁶ Pepys, *Memoires*, p 144.

³⁷ C. S. Knighton, *Pepys and the Navy* (Stroud, 2003), p 155.

³⁸ Pepys, 'State of the Royal Navy of England', ff 8, 12; and muted version in Pepys, *Memoires*, pp 87–8; a year after the special commission was established in 1686, Pepys reported that routine maintenance had been carried out for 70 ships (from a total fleet of 168 ships) despite the dire shortage of timber; see also Knighton, *Pepys and the Navy*, pp 151–3.



The Pepys Library today

THE OTHER PRINCE WILLIAM:

HRH PRINCE WILLIAM OF GLOUCESTER (1941–1972)

At a time when the marriage of Prince William has made him a focus of attention, it seems appropriate to remember another Prince William, a Magdalene man (1960), who, had he lived, would have been 70 this year – and the present Prince William would never have borne that name. Here, Dr Hyam, one of his supervisors for the Historical Tripos, recalls the tragically short life of the other Prince William.

The competition race for the Goodyear International Air Trophy 1972 was held at Halfpenny Green Airfield in Staffordshire on 28 August of that year. One of the competitors was an experienced air-racer, 31-year-old Prince William of Gloucester. He was flying his own Piper Arrow single-engine aircraft, with Lt-Commander Vyrell Mitchell as co-pilot. After take-off, a left-turn had to be made through about 120°, towards the first leg of the course. The angle of turn made by Piper Arrow was observed to be too steep – 90°: the aircraft lost height, cut through the top of a large tree, losing part of its wing, then rolled over, dived inverted into the ground, and burst into flames. Both pilots were killed instantly. It was a desperately sad and terrible end to the life of a remarkable young man of many talents, admired by all who knew him.

HRH Prince William of Gloucester came up to Magdalene aged 19 in 1960 to read History. He had won his place fairly and squarely in open competition, the first member of the royal family to do so. His housemaster at Eton, F J R Coleridge, had successfully diverted the Duke of Gloucester from sending his eldest son to Sandhurst, and persuaded the Duke to enter him for Magdalene, Coleridge's alma mater (1927) ('For me there was only one College'). The Duke, who had not enjoyed his year at Trinity College, readily agreed. The plan was run past 'the Court', where it was warmly approved by the Queen's private secretary, Sir Michael Adeane, also a Magdalene man (1928). Coleridge's reference expressed his complete confidence that his royal pupil could get an honours degree: 'quite a good brain... intelligent and a sense of social responsibility'.

The Duke of Gloucester insisted that William should 'live the life of an ordinary undergraduate'. Accordingly, there was a minimum of fuss. He was not (unlike later royal princes) accompanied by a personal detective. College staff were instructed to address him as 'Prince William, Sir' (though bedmakers slipped into an idiomatic 'Mr Prince William'), while the rest of us simply called him William. He enjoyed only two special privileges: a room to himself in College (E Benson Court) for all three years (then highly unusual), and being allowed to keep a motor-car (a concession to royal scheduling, which he certainly didn't flaunt or abuse). He joined gamefully in College sports, even though his preference was for ski-ing, climbing, flying, and shooting. Once he rowed in the fifth Magdalene boat, which got eight bumps in the May Races.



He was not in any sense a 'playboy prince', however. He obtained a 2.2 in History Prelims, and again in Part II finals; but unfortunately there was a Third in Part I – no-one had expected this. His preparation was seriously disrupted by a bout of glandular fever which sent him home for the whole of February 1961 (– and I always used to say to my pupils, it's what you do in February that counts). Nevertheless there was a tutorial post mortem, at which William disarmingly excused himself with the observation, 'I'm afraid we are not a very bookish family: I can't work more than five days a week'. His supervision reports have not survived (including mine), but I had a high regard for this personable young man, his courtesy and sometimes acute insights into English political history. But his tutor, Fairfax Scott, is on record, commending him as 'a very active, enterprising man', who, despite a large number of interests and activities and much travel, was 'quite reasonably industrious at his History Tripos work – in which he was genuinely interested. While he is not a man of any great intellectual distinction judged by strictly academic standards, he has a shrewd competent mind – his real level is a *good 2.2*'. (Actually, my own feeling was that without the obligations, distractions, and temptations of being a royal – eighth in line to the throne – he might well have been capable of a 2.1.)

William undoubtedly had presence. His lightish blue (blue-grey?) eyes were not bulging in the Hanoverian way, but they could be piercing. He was handsome, rather like *matinée-idols* of the day. He was unpretentiously good-humoured, energetic, and a bit of a sport. At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term 1962 he took part in – probably master-minded – a traditional mock funeral procession for two undergraduate friends from Eton, Philip Gurdon (Magdalene, 1960) and Simon Keswick (Trinity), after they had been sent down for failing their examinations. The deceased sat bolt upright in an open coffin, pulled on a cart, accompanied by pall-bearers (William being one), with two accordionists, and two trumpeters. Invitation cards, heavily black-edged, were sent out for what was no doubt a very jolly wake. I remember seeing William in this procession as it turned into St John's Street; it was probably the last mock funeral in Cambridge.

For the Long Vacation of 1963, William planned an eight-week African expedition in two Land Rovers, driving 12,000 miles overland from the UK to Cairo, Khartoum, Addis Ababa, and on to Mega on the Ethiopian-Kenyan border. William proved to be a born explorer, resourceful and not easily daunted. His companions were Robert Hayman-Joyce (1960), Robin Spence (1960, later a professorial Fellow of the College), Michael Melville (1960), Nicholas Tollemache, Neil Macdonald, and Christopher Blackstone. Together they made a film of their safari for BBC Television.



From left to right: Michael Melville, Neil Macdonald, Christopher Blackstone, Robin Spence, Nicholas Tollemache and Prince William.

By the time he left Magdalene, William was determined to resist pressure to go into the Army, something which seemed to be expected (then as now) of royal princes ('as if they are not intelligent enough to employ themselves in other capacities'). He unburdened himself in a letter to a friend: 'I am blown if I am to be treated as a mascot... I may be arrogant and conceited in thinking myself capable of succeeding in some other career. But on the other hand I am going to have a bloody good shot at showing that although I am just a rather junior appendage to this extraordinary and indefinable institution called the Monarchy, I can also do as well as anyone else in some capacity or other in which I shall have no privileges or advantages'. The Army seemed to be 'the easy way out, and I want more of a challenge out of life'. He was beginning to think that the Commonwealth might provide this.

Meanwhile, he decided he must learn more about America. He enrolled for a year at Stanford University, California, taking courses on the history of the USA, Germany, and 'the USSR and world affairs', together with some Economics. Naturally he used the opportunity to travel widely through North America, including Canada, gaining real insight into the American way of life. The following year he entered Lazards, the London merchant bank, but quickly decided it was 'the most soul-destroying occupation... I am afraid that I could never be a banker. I can't wait twenty years to make a decision, and decision-making is what we need in this country more than anything else. My God, it seems a cabbage-patch after America in many ways, though we do have an enviable culture in London, which is so refreshing after the brashness and lack of civilisation in America: New York and San Francisco possibly excepted'.

In the summer of 1965 William joined the Commonwealth Relations Office, and was posted as Third Secretary on the staff of the British High Commission in Lagos, Nigeria. Seized with enthusiasm, he was determined to learn as much as possible about West Africa and Africa more generally. Among those he impressed was the elder statesman of the Empire-Commonwealth, Malcolm MacDonald, who identified William's crucial ability to relate to people 'regardless of differences in their classes, creeds or race'. MacDonald hoped he would stay in the Diplomatic Service, where he predicted he stood every chance of rising to fill 'one or more of the most important Ambassadorial posts'.

But William was once again becoming disenchanted: 'I have no wish for the goals of the average civil servant, which are stability, status and gradual promotion by virtue of not "putting one's foot in it"'. Fortunately, his next assignment, as commercial attaché (Second Secretary) to the British Embassy at Tokyo, promised to give him much more scope than Nigeria at a time of civil war; 'the chance to do something positive towards the promotion of British exports in a challenging environment'. And indeed, he was thought to have made many friends for Britain in Japan, vigorously promoting Anglo-Japanese trade.

One of the most significant things that happened in Japan was being guided by and then falling in love with Zsuzui Starkloff, a Hungarian woman, older than

he, twice divorced, and a Catholic. It did not take much to see that for all the happiness it brought him, this was a doomed relationship.

As a diplomat, William was far better at dealing with people than paper-work. There were occasional flashes of royal impatience. But whether or not William would have wanted to continue with a diplomatic career after five years, his decision to resign was precipitated by the collapse of his father's health after two strokes (though in the event he pre-deceased the Duke by two years). William, with all his broad sympathies and experience of the wider world, seemed strangely reconciled now to managing the family estate and farm at Barnwell Manor in Northamptonshire, and gradually to taking on more royal duties. (In 1970 he represented the Queen at Tonga's independence celebrations, and in 1971 at the state funeral of President Tubman of Liberia.) He felt that the example of his career explorations might help his younger cousins to lead less stuffy, more independent lives than had at first seemed possible for him. He began to see how he could build upon what his Eton housemaster long ago had discerned, his fundamental 'sense of social responsibility'. As the 1970s opened, William was at last becoming clear as to how he might use his influence and perceptions in public service. Detesting racism in all its forms, and acutely aware of the dangers of racial tension to British society, he decided to devote as much time as he could (and particularly in the House of Lords once he had succeeded to the dukedom) to improving race relations. The involvement of a member of the royal family, would, he hoped, make a real difference.

Quite what British society, the Commonwealth, and the royal family over the next forty years might have lost by the shockingly early death of Prince William, is impossible to say with any precision. One can be sure that he would have done his darnedest 'to make a difference'. And it is not as if he didn't leave a tangible legacy. His old History teacher at Eton, Giles St Aubyn, puts it well: 'Prince William was something of a nonconformist, torn between the demands of his inheritance and his love of independence. In struggling to resolve this conflict he pioneered a new style of royalty'.

R H

The main sources for this biographical sketch are the College Archives, H/FRFS/W; Giles St Aubyn, ed, *William of Gloucester: Pioneer Prince* (London, 1977); the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, vol 26, p 421; and personal knowledge.

MECONOPSIS EXPEDITION

THE VALLEY OF FLOWERS

In July 2010, Professor Sir John Gurdon and Dr Patel set off for India on a lightweight alpine-style expedition to the Himalayan foothills. In their own words, and illustrated by Dr Patel's photographs, this is the story of Kanak and John's trip to the Valley of Flowers.

The Valley of Flowers lies at 3352–3658 m in a maze of glaciated alpine ranges, deep gorges, rivers and waterfalls and is home to over 80 species of wild flowers. It was a tough but fantastic experience, not because we were not physically or mentally prepared, but because the monsoon rain and landslides sapped our energy and morale on the way down.

On Thursday 16 July 2010, soon after landing in Delhi at 7.00 am, we set off on the 403 km drive to Rudraprayag. Our driver, Jasveer, deftly manoeuvred through the morning traffic chaos and noise of Delhi and about an hour or so later we were on a narrow country road that runs along a canal between lush green fields. The road from Ghaziabad to Haridwar and Rishikesh is an unrelenting stretch of heat, dust and honking vehicles, a stark contrast to the serene Himalayan foothills beyond Rishikesh.



The hiking routes to the Valley of Flowers & Hemkund

After almost 14 hours' non-stop driving, we reached our hotel in Rudraprayag, which lies on the famous pilgrimage route of Kedarnath and Badrinath. Rudraprayag is one of the Panch (five) famous prayags (confluence of two rivers) of Garhwal, Uttarakhand. The river Mandakini, flowing from the Kedarnath glacier, and the river Alaknanda flowing from the Alkapuri glacier,

meet at Rudraprayag. Alaknanda meets with Dhauli Ganga at Vishnuprayag, at Nandprayag it meets with Nandakini, at Karnaprayag it meets with Pindar, at Rudraprayag it meets with Mandakini, and at Deveprayag it meets with Bhagirathi. After the confluence of Alaknanda with Bhagirathi at Devprayag, the river is known as Ganga (Ganges).

Next morning before sunrise, we began our 130 km drive from Rudraprayag to Govind Ghat. The early morning dense mist shrouded the mountainside. The road zigzags continuously along the river. In the slight drizzle, it is a bit dangerous negotiating hairpin bends and blind curves. As the sun rose, the mist started to melt, revealing the lush green landscape. There is a steep incline and the scenery changes along the river Mandakini through terraced fields and dense forest, mainly comprising oak, spruce, fir, pine, and rhododendron trees. The road is often crossed by small streams that flow down from mountains. It is often bumpy with loose gravel and debris from frequent landslides, rock falls, and broken tarmac. Soon after Chamoli we got the first glimpse of snow covered peaks. This is one of the most spectacular routes we have travelled.

After about an hour-long stop over at Joshimath, we reached Govind Ghat at around 10.00 am. Govind Ghat is a small bustling town, which serves mostly as a starting point for the trek to Hemkund Sahib, the beautiful lake, considered holy by the Sikhs. We sorted our rucksacks, carrying only bare essentials, parked the car at a long-stay car park, and crossed the single span bridge across Alaknada to where porters and mules line up to be hired. It was almost 10.30 am by the time we organised our rucksacks on mules and started the 15 km uphill journey from Govind Ghat (an altitude of 1829 m) to Ghangaria (3048 m). John decided to walk and I accompanied the mule keeper on another mule with our rucksacks. The path uphill is narrow and steep in places. There is a real danger of being accidentally pushed over the slope by mules jostling up and down carrying heavy loads. The river banks and slopes are covered with birch, pine trees, rhododendron and ferns.



Start of the 15 km hike from Govind to Ghangaria

We reached our campsite in the late afternoon. Ghangaria is about one kilometre above the campsite. The tents overlook a gentle south-facing meadow with a panoramic view to the south over the Ganga and Yumana plains. The gushing waters of nearby streams and waterfalls echo against towering cliffs and sheering rocks to the east. Dense pine and birch forest stretches to the west beyond the river bank. To the north is a land of high relief, towering peaks, expansive mountain plains, and trails of meandering ridges that run in a maze around the ensnared Valley of Flowers. Scattered across the meadow were many species with showy flowers, notably the Cobra lily (*Arisaema intermedium*) not a lily but a relative of Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Wind flower (*Anemone vitifolia*) with large white flowers, light blue-grey *Delphinium denudatum*, the purple Columbine (*Aquilegia pubiflora*) and the blue-violet-whitish Kashmir gentian (*Gentiana cachemirica*). The meadow is used as a helipad during a few days of the year when mountains are clear of snow and monsoon rains. In the late evening we watched across the meadow as the setting sun sent puncturing shafts of rays through the cloud-roofed sky – a few moments of quiet contemplation of what the next couple days would unveil beyond the cliff-edged, towering peaks.



View from the tents (helipad just visible on right as a white H)

It does not take long in the mountains to start raining. It rained heavily overnight. We awoke early the next morning under very gloomy and threatening skies. The leaden skies, with monsoon rain still falling, disrupted our efforts at first. The porters made tea and toast. We drank the warm tea gratefully and wondered whether it would clear. Those were the moments of suspense, our eyes frequently fixing on our watches as well as on the clouds above. Time was limited; we had only one more day in the Valley. It was our only chance, for we could not afford to

wait another day. Our confidence was shaken since we had left our non-essential clothing down in the car at Govind Ghat. We had been waiting for over an hour. Finally, the clouds lifted and the rains eased. Trekking in monsoon season (mid-July to mid-August) was unpredictable but that is the best season to see wild flowers.

The track to the Valley winds through hilly forests covered with birch, blue pine, cheer pine, rhododendron, and other tall plants and ferns. All along the track water glistened from moss covered boulders, flowing over scattered rocks and joining the rapids below. We followed the river Pushpavati upstream, which we had been trekking the previous day from Govind Ghat. We were walking upstream with a panorama of wide open hillsides. The track goes down, crossing a bridge over the river Pushpavati, which hurtles down with great fury, and meets Lakshman Ganga at Ghangaria. The gushing, deafening, waters were nothing short of awe-inspiring. The monsoon rains carried along muddy sediments that made the water murky, eroding, smashing, bashing, crashing against the boulders. We paused for a while in contemplation, absorbed by the force of rapids, swirling around a huge tree trunk that had been washed down in the storm. John spotted a few blue poppies (*Meconopsis*) perched on the rocks beside the bridge. This, however, turned out to be our only glimpse of these exotic flowers on this day. The rain eased as we made a gradual ascent along gentle grass meadows. Now and again springs trickled across the track in to the stream below. Further along the track overlooks a melting glacier. The vast expanse of the Valley is a beautiful patchwork of alpine meadow and soaring peaks. This trek could have delighted any flower lover with so many different types, shapes and colours all along it.



Bridge over Pushpavati



The Valley of Flowers

It is a 5 km trek to reach the eastern edge of the Valley. The Valley of Flowers is 10 km long and 2 km wide and it ranges between 3352 m to 3658 m in altitude. The glaciers, the floral beauty, and the entire environment are majestic. It encompasses about 87 km² and is a part of Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, which has an area of about 630 km². The westwards track, about 12 km long, crosses the Khunt Khal pass (4430 m) or Bhiundhar Khal (6109 m) and Ghamsali and Niti beyond. This high-altitude trek provides panoramic views of a dozen snow peaks of more than 5000 m high, including Kamet (7756 m) and Mukut (two peaks 7242 m and 7130 m). We were rewarded with the sight of a mass of wonderful plants.



Giant Bellflower (Campanula catifolia)

Many are found in European mountains as well as in the Himalayas, eg Wood Cranesbill (*Geranium sylvaticum*), and Alpine Forget-me-not (*Myosotis alpestris*). The most exciting were the ones typical of the Himalayas: the River Anemone (*Anemone rivularis*) with its white star flowers, Crimson Cinquefoil (*Potentilla nepalensis*), grass-leaved Saw-wort (*Saussurea graminifolia*) with its purple heads, Golden Groundsel (*Ligularia amplexicaulis*) with its tall spikes of golden flowers, the green-bellflower vine (*Codonopsis* sp.) and the Giant Bellflower (*Campanula latifolia*).



Snow- covered peaks

We sat for a while amongst the wild flowers to soak up rare moments of nature's perfection. All around us the carpets of flowers, crimson, white, blue, yellow, were swaying in the gentle wind. The colours changed with shades of light as clouds and mist drifted over the flowers. The only sounds in the Valley were the gentle wind and echoes of the river Pushpavati flowing in the distance. In the mist, the transparency of the atmosphere renders a view of astonishing grandeur. The distant snow-covered peaks appeared and disappeared in the clouds. Watching the sun break through the low clouds were among the most dazzling moments we experienced. The west ridge, a majestic mass of snowy peaks, intersected by blue glaciers, gleamed in the slanting rays of the rising sun, like aquamarines set in frosted silver. We turned eastward and then southerly to begin our steady descent. Many shades of green meadows rolled down the steep slopes with white, yellow and pink flowers. Glossy blue berries of Himalayan snowberry (*Gaultheria trichophylla*) bushes glistened against mossy beds along the path. We paused a few moments to catch a glimpse of the only *Meconopsis* plant we had seen earlier, wondering if this was the only plant in the Valley we had travelled so far to see.

When we reached our tents, the light was fading fast. For dinner, the cook (Vishnu) prepared rice, vegetables and tea. We discussed our plan for the next day. Vishnu, standing nearby, overheard our conversation about how disappointed we were not finding *Meconopsis* in the Valley. He politely says he knows where we can find Blue Poppies on the path to Hemkund. We were not sure if he really understood what exactly we were looking for because the Valley is full of blue flowers. He left the tent for a short time while we finished our meal. It was about 10.00 pm when he returned with some photographs. It was difficult to see anything in the dim kerosene lantern light. On a closer inspection we realised that these were indeed *Meconopsis*. Vishnu explained that these flowers grow on the other side of the Valley on steep slopes and around Lake Hemkund. We arranged with him to join us next morning and then retreated to our tents.

Next day dense mist drizzled almost the whole day, obscuring all views. At an elevation of 3048 m, we breathed only 60% of the oxygen that we would have inhaled at sea level. To avoid upset stomachs, during daytime we kept to a strict routine of eating the dried fruit, nuts and biscuits that we had carried with us. With only three hours of fitful sleep, light meals of rice in the evenings and tea and toast for breakfast, our energies were low. Vishnu had arranged to meet us on the track leading to Hemkund where he said he would show us *Meconopsis*. We decided to take mules so that we could spend more time searching for the flowers. We started early towards Hemkund after picking up mules from Ghangaria. The 5 km track is vertical gaining 1500 meters to reach Hemkund at around 4500 m. Heading west from Ghangaria, it was surprising to see how quickly the green wooded slopes changed to a rugged rocky landscape. The area is deeply dissected, leading to a great diversity of local climate, producing marked floristic and vegetation differences on opposite sides of the Valley. The track is heavily trodden by mules carrying Sikh pilgrims and supplies to the Gurudwara temple. The constant drizzle and mule droppings made the rocks very slippery.



Sikh Pilgrims



John & Vishnu

About three-quarters of the way up, Vishnu greeted us with a big smile, his hand stretched out towards some boulders. Through the dense fog we could just make out a few blue dots against the dark grey rocks. A closer inspection revealed exactly what we were looking for, Himalayan Blue Poppies (*Meconopsis*).



Blue Poppies (Meconopsis)



Gazing at the blue-Himalayan light beaming through the transparent, delicate, petals of *Meconopsis* was an intensely moving experience. In the drizzling mist, silver dew drops of radiant light glisten like crystals on tender unfolding buds and hairy stems. At this point we decided to part with the mules and explore the area where *Meconopsis* along with so many other plants were nestling in the rocks, defying the chilly winds of the exposed ridge. In contrast to the other side of the Valley of Flowers, this side consists of sharp ridges, formed of hard slate-like rock and a steep slope covered by an accumulation of rock debris. The veil of mist created a haunting mystical atmosphere in this serene landscape. This steep slope is a remarkable botanical locality with a rich and diverse flora. A most surprising site and well worth all the bumps and dodgy travel to get there. Particular gems were the breathtakingly brilliant sky-blue poppy (*Meconopsis*), the Brahma Kamal with massive fluorescent-yellow light-bulb shaped (*Saussurea obvallata*), and the Himalayan fumitory with yellow flowers (*Corydalis juncea*). Brahma Kamal is a much revered flower of the Himalayas.



Brahma Kamal (Saussurea obvallata)



Lake Hemkund

The thin air made us fight hard for each step. Leaping up and down the steep slope to see the flowers drained our already low energy. John suggested that I should continue up the Hemkund track with Vishnu and that he would make his own way separately and that we would meet down at about 2.00 pm. I was not happy with the idea of being separated in the dense fog. After some discussion I reluctantly agreed to press forward. From here it was all clambering over a rocky track. Vishnu and I made the last very steep ascent to Lake Hemkund.

After a few short stops to admire the amazing stands of *Meconopsis* and *Saussurea obvallata*, we reached the lake. It is clear, still water lying at the top of a small valley surrounded the Saptashringa peaks (5500 m); presumably a glacial drift deposit, caused by melting ice. Most Sikh pilgrims take a dip in the freezing

water of Hemkund before entering the Gurudwara temple. We walked along the lake in the hope of catching a glimpse of the seven surrounding peaks, but no luck. It is a rather eerie place shrouded in dense mist and drizzle. People are advised to leave it as soon as possible because of low oxygen. I decided not to visit the temple because we had to remove our boots and I was not sure if I would be able to tie back the laces securely (because of the plaster on my wrist which was fractured shortly before leaving Cambridge). Vishnu and I began the 1500 m descent to Ghangaria. A few metres from the entrance to the lake, I saw the faint silhouette of John coming up the path. I was delighted to see him. Vishnu and John walked up to the lake and visited the Gurudwara temple.



Vishnu & Kanak



*Photos: John Gurdon
Kanak & Raam Bahaddur*

On the final day we were up before dawn. The early morning mist shrouded the landscape. We hiked uphill to Ghangaria in search of mules and porters. For some unknown reason, mule-keepers were not willing to help us carry our rucksacks. Fortunately, we found a Nepali porter, Raam Bahaddur, who agreed to carry our four heavy rucksacks for only Rs. 500 (at the end of the journey we were happy to pay him more than three times what he had asked). He was a very gentle, soft-spoken person just like many, sincere, hard working porters in Himalayas.

We reached Govind Ghat just after 10.00 am and were soon on the road to Rishikesh. It was a warm sunny, afternoon and the roads were clear for an idyllic drive through the famous prayags along the different tributaries of Alaknanda and Ganga, which were mostly covered in dense mist a few days earlier. Around 2.00 pm we stopped at Joshimath for our driver, Jasveer, to rest and have lunch. It was raining very heavily by the time we reached the hotel in Rudraprayag where we

had stayed on our outward journey. A short break in the late afternoon was necessary for Jasveer, who had been driving on some demanding stretches of roads.

Mountains are bewitching but can be horribly cruel and violent. Unexpected bad weather can develop quickly. In the late evening, after some ominous rumbles the skies opened with monsoon rain. The rain was cascading off the mountainside and cars ahead of us had become trapped. We overtook them and drove through the first landslide but, after driving about half a mile, we encountered a second landslide. There were boulders and piles of mud sliding down across the road. A few feet ahead we could see boulders sliding down the steep slopes. As we reversed to go back towards the first landslide we heard a bang; a big rock hit the back of our car. With his youthful reflexes and skills, Jasveer controlled the car and prevented it from skidding across the slippery road into the rapids below. Water, mud, boulders, trees were cascading down the mountain in front and behind. The rain poured almost like a waterfall across the windscreen so that even with the wipers on at the full speed we could not see anything but water all around. Edging slowly forward in the middle of the road, we found a secluded stretch away from the sheer ravine. It was a miracle how all the drivers behind us managed to avoid a pile up. The whole spectacle happened in just a couple of minutes. One by one all the other vehicles began to pull over around us. The road was blocked, there was no way forward or backward. Having considered all the options we decided to spend the night in the car. Flashes of lightning, followed by echoes of thunder, lit up the black mountain landscape for a few hours.



Monsoon landslide

In the faint light of early dawn, we saw what a monsoon storm can do in the mountains. The road ahead looked like the aftermath of a dynamite blast. The air was still wet, filled with the scent of fresh moist earth and pine forest. The storm had left piles of huge rocks, boulders, mud and trees scattered across the road. Parts of the road surface had been washed away into the ravine. We could not imagine how we would reach Delhi in time to catch our flight early the next day. As the sun rose we saw the Sikh pilgrims, who were trapped in the traffic jam behind us, beginning to circle and inspect the boulders. Teams of men started to shove and push the rocks and boulders inch by inch until there was enough space for small cars to pass through. One by one the cars edged forward. Crossing the point where we had reversed the previous night was the first good sign. Every few yards more and more teams of men circled the rocks, jostling and heaving. We were witnessing the skill and determination of Indian society at work, edging forward inch by inch without any tools or machinery. The monsoon storm made us appreciate why it could take so long to clear roadblocks in the mountains. It was another few miles when we saw a JCB in service, a sure sign that the road ahead was being cleared. Surprisingly, no casualties were reported. When we reached Rishikesh we saw long queues of vehicles because the police had stopped all traffic the previous night from entering the area. After reaching Rishikesh we finally relaxed because we knew we were on our way to Delhi.

K P & J B G



A host of Himalayan Blue Poppies

TRAFFORD LEIGH-MALLORY

COMMANDER OF CONTROVERSY

Magdalene College produced two of the most prominent airmen of the Second World War, Arthur Tedder and Trafford Leigh-Mallory. However, whilst the former rose to be one of the best respected leaders of his generation, retiring in glory and ending his days as Chancellor of the University, the latter remains one of the more controversial wartime leaders. It was in his role as one of Air Chief Marshal Dowding's principal commanders in the Battle of Britain that Leigh-Mallory first came to real prominence and some notoriety, and his subsequent wartime career, in Fighter Command and as Allied Air Commander for OVERLORD, the invasion of Europe, did little to ameliorate his ambivalent reputation. And, having had the misfortune of being killed in 1944, he was never able to put forward a case in his own defence. The younger brother of the noted mountaineer George Mallory, it was ironic that he should meet his death in an air crash in the French Alps where his brother had honed his climbing skills.



Trafford Leigh-Mallory was the son of a clergyman. His father had adopted the double barrelled surname in 1914, and Trafford (though not George) followed suit. He came up to Magdalene to read History in 1911, but after a poor examination showing in 1913, he switched to Law and graduated in 1914. Whilst at Magdalene he was a member of the Kingsley Club (like his brother and Arthur Tedder) and also was President of the Debating Society. On graduation, Leigh-Mallory intended to read for the Bar, but the Great War intervened and he joined a Territorial battalion of the King's Liverpool Regiment as a private. He was soon commissioned and transferred to the Lancashire Fusiliers, though officer training had kept him in England when his battalion embarked for France. However, he went to the front with the South Lancashire Regiment in the spring of 1915, and was wounded during the second Battle of Ypres.

After recovering from his wounds, Leigh-Mallory joined the Royal Flying Corps in January 1916 and, after pilot training, he was posted to 7 Squadron where he flew on bombing, reconnaissance and photographic operations during the Battle of the Somme. He was then transferred to 5 Squadron before assuming command in November 1917 of 8 Squadron, involved primarily in the Army cooperation role. He was noted for his energy and efficiency as a commander and was mentioned in dispatches and awarded the Distinguished Service Order and Bar.

After the war, Leigh-Mallory had initially thought of re-entering the legal profession, but then decided to stay in the recently created Royal Air Force. He progressed rapidly, passing through the RAF Staff College and commanding the School of Army Cooperation before eventually being posted to the Army Staff College as an instructor. He became a leading authority on Army cooperation and, in 1930, lectured at the Royal United Services Institute on air cooperation with mechanised forces. Thereafter his career followed the pattern of a rising star. He attended the Imperial Defence College, the most senior of the staff colleges, before commanding No 2 Flying Training School. He was posted to Iraq as a staff officer in 1935 and was present during the *coup d'état* of 1936, before returning to England in December 1937, to become the commander of 12 Group, Fighter Command, an appointment he held until the end of the Battle of Britain. He then transferred to 11 Group, before taking over command of Fighter Command itself in 1942. In August 1943, Leigh-Mallory was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Expeditionary Air Forces for the Normandy invasion. Finally, he was selected as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief for South-East Asia Command, and it was in November 1944, *en route* to take up this appointment, that his aircraft crashed in the Alps, killing all on board, including his wife. He was the most senior RAF officer to die on active service in World War Two.

One might have thought that such progress through the higher echelons of the RAF (he was promoted Air Chief Marshal in January 1944) and allied command appointments was a testament to a most successful career, yet Leigh-Mallory never gained the level of respect that was accorded to other major wartime leaders. Most references to him in the numerous books covering the Air War are at best lukewarm over his performance, with many leveling serious criticisms at his record. The one major attempt to rescue his reputation, a biography by his great-nephew, Bill Newton-Dunn, entitled 'Big Wing', was reviewed for this magazine (*Coll Mag* 36, 1991–92, pp 64–65) in 1993 by Dr Hyam, who concluded that the book did not appear likely to succeed in its aim. There were a number of causes for his unflattering reputation: his conduct in the Battle of Britain and his alleged part in the removal of Dowding and Park after the battle; his handling of fighter operations in 1941–3; and his role as C-in-C Allied Air Forces for OVERLORD. But it was undoubtedly his behaviour during and directly after the Battle of Britain that did most to damage his standing, both professional and personal: his tactical acumen came in for much criticism and he gained a reputation as a political schemer.

Sir Hugh Dowding, the C-in-C of Fighter Command since 1936, had by 1940 put in place what would now be called an 'integrated air defence system', marrying early warning (radar) with effective command and control arrangements, which allowed the modern Spitfire and Hurricane fighters to be used efficiently. Under the Dowding System, the UK was divided into four defensive regions – 'Groups' in RAF terminology. 10 Group covered the South West and southern Wales, 11 Group the South East, London and the southern portion of

East Anglia, 12 Group the Midlands as far north as Manchester and 13 Group the North and Scotland. The Groups in turn were subdivided in to Sectors, each with their own allotted bases and squadrons. In essence, the system worked by collecting and filtering the raw tactical information (mainly provided by radar) at Fighter Command HQ and then cascading the data to the Group HQs, which in turn tasked the Sector stations and fighter squadrons to intercept the raiders. The overriding concept was command and control, exercised by the Controllers based in the Operations Rooms at Command, Group and Sector level. Fighter Command HQ would determine the overall strategic direction of the battle, while the Group commanders would be given the detailed data needed for the conduct of their own operations, with the Sectors responsible for allocating aircraft to meet the incoming raids. The system was both flexible and efficient, enabling fighters to be committed only when needed, without recourse to wasteful standing patrols.

The air operations of 1939 and early 1940 had taught both the Luftwaffe and the RAF that unescorted daylight bombing raids were not possible in the face of determined fighter opposition. The limited range of the Luftwaffe's principal fighter, the Me 109, even when operating from the newly-captured French bases, meant that escorted raids could not reach much further north than London. Given these geographical and tactical realities, it was clear that 11 Group, commanded by the New Zealander Keith Park, would bear the brunt of the battle, with Leigh-Mallory's 12 Group cast primarily in a supporting role. For a very ambitious officer like Leigh-Mallory, this was a cause of great disappointment and some resentment, especially as Park was junior to him in the *Air Force List*. Moreover, he soon became vociferously critical of the tactics adopted both by Dowding and Park.

The Battle of Britain marked a turning point in warfare. It was the first time that air action would be of strategic rather than purely tactical significance. After the fall of France, Germany needed to knock Britain out of the war to concentrate forces on the coming campaign in Russia. If persuasion or intimidation failed to convince the British to sue for peace, an invasion of Britain would be required. In such an eventuality, the destruction of the RAF was the essential precursor to invasion, to establish the air superiority that would allow the Luftwaffe free range over the invasion areas and beyond, and which would prevent the Royal Navy from opposing any landings effectively. But no-one had fought a strategic air war before, so there was no blueprint for the attackers or defenders to follow. However, Dowding had been considering the coming battle for some years and though his task had been made immeasurably harder by the Luftwaffe operating from France, Denmark and Norway rather than just from Germany, he knew the sort of battle he intended to fight. And so did Park. Dowding knew that the Luftwaffe would need to establish effective air superiority quickly, because once autumn set in, the reduced daylight hours and seasonal weather (especially stormy seas in the Channel) would effectively close the window for invasion by mid to late September 1940. He therefore needed to keep the RAF in being until the threat had receded and then use the winter months to re-build before a resumption of major air

operations in spring 1941. This strategy argued for the careful husbanding of resources, particularly the stock of trained pilots, and the avoidance of unnecessary combat; in early July, he instructed his Group commanders to operate accordingly. He required them to exercise 'pretty good control' over their squadrons, to issue precise orders on where and what to attack; at all costs a Great War style aerial 'free for all' was to be avoided. In 11 Group, individual squadrons would generally be tasked to intercept incoming raids, with further squadrons committed serially, to keep raiders under sustained harassing attack. Enemy losses might not be maximized, but the RAF would be able to mount a continuing defence; moreover, such tactics greatly lessened the risk that large numbers of RAF fighters would be caught on the ground whilst re-arming and refueling. Squadrons from the other Groups were expected to play primarily a supporting role, for example, helping to protect the 11 Group airfields, and generally acting as a reserve pool for 11 Group, from which relatively fresh squadrons could be called on to replace units worn down by the intense fighting expected over south-east England.



Battle of Britain 'Scramble'

Park understood and agreed this approach, but Leigh-Mallory did not. He argued that what mattered was that German aircraft should be shot down in the greatest numbers possible, irrespective of the damage that the bombers might be able to inflict before interception. He also wanted greater operational freedom for his own forces with more emphasis on allowing 'the chap in the air' to make the tactical decisions rather than relying on the Controllers to determine where interceptions should take place. He thus was challenging the very essence of the Dowding System of close directed control allied to economy of force.

There was of course a perfectly legitimate argument to be had about the tactics, given that there were no precedents to call on as air fighting on this scale

was a new phenomenon, but it was the manner in which it was played out that caused great rancour both at the time and during subsequent analyses of the Battle. Leigh-Mallory's role in the debate was instructive. He was not by experience a fighter pilot; Johnnie Johnson, the RAF's top-scorer in the Second World War who served as a 12 Group pilot in the Battle, remarked that Leigh-Mallory 'did not pretend to know about fighter tactics', yet this lack of knowledge did not seem to deter him from advancing forceful opinions on the subject. Moreover, in the spring of 1940, he had told Park that 'he would move heaven and earth to get Dowding sacked'. He had already earned Dowding's and Park's ire for the perceived failure of his squadrons to play a supporting role in protecting the 11 Group airfields whilst its squadrons were engaged (in contrast to the co-operation shown by 10 Group). He now sided with an element in the Air Ministry, led by the Deputy Chief of the Air Staff (DCAS), Air Vice-Marshal Sholto Douglas, which was advocating a more aggressive policy. Douglas and his fellow partisans of the 'offensive defence' approach argued that it was better to 'shoot down 50 of the enemy bombers after they have reached their objective, rather than shoot down only 10 before they do so'. However, to achieve high kill rates, it would be necessary for the defending squadrons to be grouped together, with three, four or even five squadrons operating as one unit – the so called 'Big Wing'.

This was the very antithesis of the Dowding/Park doctrine, which paid little regard to the 'scoreboard' attitude to tactics. Their concept was essentially for an attritional Fabian battle (though later, as enemy penetrations went deeper, they were able to introduce 'paired' squadron intercepts) In contrast, the 'Big Wing' was in effect an argument for an aerial Trafalgar; a decisive engagement that would change the air war at a stroke. With no personal experience to draw on, Leigh-Mallory was swayed by the arguments of others to bolster his critique of the Dowding System; in particular, he was greatly influenced by one of his more ebullient squadron commanders, the legless ace Douglas Bader. Already a legend in the RAF, Bader had many outstanding qualities: great personal bravery, determination and a burning desire to get to grips with the enemy. However, he was no great tactical thinker — he just wanted to shoot down Germans, without 'interference' from the Controllers, and he chafed at the limited opportunities afforded by 12 Group's secondary role. Bader's squadron adjutant was an MP, Peter MacDonald, and he reported the arguments of the Big Wing advocates, particularly Leigh-Mallory, to the Under-Secretary of State for Air, Harold Balfour, who in turn raised them with Churchill. Dowding had never been a favourite of Churchill – he was too cool and analytical to appeal to Churchill's warrior spirit – and he had effectively thwarted Churchill's attempts to deploy more RAF fighters to France in May and June 1940. It was perhaps not surprising that Leigh-Mallory's ideas began to gain traction in high places.

For Dowding and Park, the major problem with the Big Wing was time – or the lack of it. Assembling these large formations took considerably longer than 'scrambling' single squadrons, so that the raiders might well have hit their targets

before they could be engaged. And as these targets included Park's airfields, it was a contentious tactic. However, without any serious consideration of the implications, Leigh-Mallory sanctioned the *ad hoc* formation of a Big Wing in 12 Group (led by Bader) and much play was later made of its claimed 'successes', though subsequent analysis showed that the Wing habitually over-claimed excessively even by the standards of the time (not surprisingly given the chaos of large scale aerial engagements). Moreover, to shoot down large numbers of the enemy, the attackers first had to be intercepted but, according to one historian, 12 Group Big Wings only succeeded in engaging the enemy on seven occasions out of 32 attempts. And as far as Park was concerned, time lost in forming up the Big Wing left his bases open to attack when he had every right to expect that 12 Group would be defending them, and several were badly damaged when 12 Group squadrons arrived too late.

However, the real facts were not fully known at the time, and the pressure exerted by the various siren voices briefing against Dowding and Park eventually had their effect, culminating in a meeting at the Air Ministry on 17 October 1940, which though ostensibly called to discuss 'Major Day Tactics in the Fighter Force', soon became seen as an indictment of the two commanders. Chaired by Sholto Douglas, the meeting was attended by the Group Commanders, members of the Air Staff – and Sqn Ldr Bader. His presence alone has been seen as proof of Leigh-Mallory's bad faith – no other operational pilots were present. As a recent history of the Battle has observed, Bader seemed to be playing 'Iago to Leigh-Mallory's Othello.' The meeting itself came to no startling conclusions on the tactical issues, acknowledging the different priorities and pressures of the Groups, but it had malign effects. Firstly, it strengthened the hands of Sholto Douglas and Leigh-Mallory for the future direction of fighter tactics and secondly, it was a significant factor in the replacement of Dowding and Park by Sholto Douglas and Leigh-Mallory as the commanders of Fighter Commander and 11 Group respectively later in 1940. The prosecutors had replaced the prosecuted.

Posterity has largely vindicated the handling of the Battle by Dowding and Park and the latter has been acclaimed as the 'Defender of London' both by historians and eminent Luftwaffe alumni. Moreover, a staff exercise 'replay' of actual attacks during the Battle, conducted by Leigh-Mallory in 1941 using Big Wing tactics, showed conclusively that for 11 Group at least, such tactics would have resulted in the destruction of the fighter defences within a few days.

Of course, there was to be no replay of the Battle of Britain, for by the summer of 1941, the Germans had turned on Russia, leaving only a relatively few aircraft in Western Europe. The offensive policy subsequently adopted by Sholto Douglas and Leigh-Mallory in 1941 of 'leaning into Europe' did little to provoke a response on the scale that might have eased pressure on the Soviet forces, but it did condemn the RAF fighter wings employed on day sweeps over France to fight under extreme tactical disadvantage for no real strategic gain. The Luftwaffe had more than sufficient radar warning of RAF operations, and, given that the targets

that could be attacked were of limited import, could elect whether to engage or not; when they did, they invariably were able to inflict considerably greater losses than they incurred. Moreover, it was arguable whether the growing RAF fighter strength was best used in this way, when other theatres, notably the Mediterranean and North Africa (and later the Far East) were starved of modern aircraft, and the dogged continuation of this approach is perhaps another question mark against Leigh-Mallory's professional judgement. But the RAF had, from its earliest days, espoused the doctrine of the offensive and Leigh-Mallory remained a true believer, both whilst in command of 11 Group and later as C-in-C of Fighter Command, despite the adverse loss ratios suffered by his squadrons. But the reputation he earned of being a 'hard charger' no doubt helped further his career progression.



Photo: Imperial War Museum

OVERLORD Commanders 1944 (left to right, front row: Tedder, Eisenhower & Montgomery; back row: Bradley, Ramsay, Leigh-Mallory & Smith)

His appointment in August 1943 as C-in-C of the Allied Expeditionary Air Forces (AEAF) for the invasion of Europe, a post for which he actively lobbied, promised to be more successful, at least initially. The AEAF was tasked with the coordination of the air assets deployed to support Overlord, though this did not include the full command and control of the strategic air force elements involved. Here his Army co-operation background was very relevant and he and

Montgomery appeared to work well together, the latter commenting that 'he is the only airman who is out to win the land battle'. His primary aim for the use of the air forces was to seal off the invasion area, to prevent German movement of reinforcements and supplies – the 'Transportation Plan'. He fought hard against the 'Bomber Barons' (Air Chief Marshal Harris of Bomber Command and General Spaatz of the US Army Air Force) for the use of the strategic bomber fleets in these vital operations, and he was right to stand his ground, though it was Eisenhower's Deputy Commander, Air Chief Marshal Tedder who was the key player in brokering the eventual compromise over their use. Indeed, throughout the OVERLORD planning phase and the campaign itself, it was clear that Eisenhower (and the Americans generally) much preferred to work with Tedder whom they liked and respected, than with Leigh-Mallory, who did not enjoy such warm relations with his US colleagues. In particular, General Spaatz had little time for Leigh-Mallory, whom he found overbearing and brusque. Moreover, in many ways, with a very senior and greatly respected airman as the Deputy Commander, and with the strategic bomber commanders semi-autonomous, the role of the CinC AEF was inevitably fraught with great difficulty. A senior US officer on Eisenhower's staff, acknowledging the real contradictions inherent in the AEF structure, noted in his diary that 'the air side stank beyond belief' and it is hard to disagree. In truth, HQAEF was an unnecessary formation that was wholly unwanted by the most senior British and US air commanders, and it would have taken a figure of much greater stature than Leigh-Mallory to have had a chance of making it work. He had been handed a poisoned chalice and he knew it. However, an inherently difficult situation was exacerbated by Leigh-Mallory himself. He managed at the higher command level to incur and inflame the hostility of the bomber barons and many of the Americans (one US commander, General Quesada, noted that 'nobody wants to be under Leigh-Mallory') whilst at the same time – and possibly because of his difficulties with Harris and Spaatz – treading on the toes of his very able and experienced subordinate tactical air commanders. Furthermore, Montgomery's initial enthusiasm for Leigh-Mallory (probably driven partly by Monty's correct perception that Tedder was no fan of his) soon began to pall and, unable to get the air support he desired, especially for his operations around Caen, he vented his frustrations on Leigh-Mallory, calling him 'gutless'. Unfortunately, the allied armies had become very reliant – some thought over-reliant – on air support, especially the use of the 'heavies' and became reluctant to advance without massive preparatory air attacks. However, these could be counter-productive, as mass raids by heavy bombers often left the advancing forces confronted by impassable terrain well-suited to defence. Tedder believed that Leigh-Mallory was 'insufficiently firm' in his dealings with the Army, failing properly to explain the limitations of airpower in direct support of the land battle. Tedder strove to limit army support to medium bombers and especially fighter-bombers, and this inevitably led to further tension with Leigh-Mallory. Nevertheless, it is difficult not to have some sympathy for his predicament; he

was adrift in politico-strategic currents, through which he was ill-equipped to navigate. Many of his colleagues had learnt their trade in North Africa and the Mediterranean, or in the rarified reaches of the strategic bombing campaign; he was an outsider and he could not adapt to the situation; as Professor Zuckerman observed, 'it was simply not his world'. As Tedder became increasingly the *de facto* air commander, Leigh-Mallory himself recognised that his own role had become largely redundant and was probably relieved when, in-mid October 1944, AEAFF was dissolved and he prepared for his ill-fated journey to his new command in South-East Asia.

History has tended to judge Leigh-Mallory in a somewhat unflattering light. Most commentators, historians and participants alike, have agreed that he did deserve his reputation as a 'political' airman. Part of the reason for this unsympathetic verdict probably lay in his own personality. In his review of 'Big Wing' Dr Hyam cited A C Benson's diary in which he recorded that he thought Leigh-Mallory was essentially 'nice', but also saw contradictory character traits: he could be 'fluent and self-confident' as well as 'shallow, pretentious, self-assured.' Benson would not be the last to identify these characteristics. Frequently described as 'remote and pompous' he had difficulties in relating easily to the men under his command, unlike for example, Keith Park, who often visited his units flying his own personal Hurricane, or Tedder who had an easy way with the operational crews and would often visit forward bases to seek the views of the men at the sharp end. Whilst Leigh-Mallory was often well-liked by his immediate staff officers and unit commanders, he could seem stiff and awkward with the junior operational pilots. Partly, with slicked hair and a toothbrush moustache, he had the look of a provincial bank manager or the captain of the local golf club. And he was not a fighter pilot – a distinct handicap during his lengthy period in Fighter Command. An interesting commentary came from the enemy camp. A German appraisal of allied commanders in 1944 referred to him as 'a pedantic worker' who afforded his subordinates little room for manoeuvre; accordingly, he was nicknamed 'The Flying Sergeant'. But he did have some supporters, apart from Bader and Sholto Douglas who continued to fight his corner after the war, though their backing was often on a personal rather than professional level; for example, Johnnie Johnson thought Leigh-Mallory a 'good' man and a 'fatherly' figure to the wing leaders who led the sweeps over Europe from 1941 onwards; however, Johnson was firmly in the Dowding/Park camp on the Big Wing controversy. Moreover, some of the obituaries and assessments written after his untimely death, while fulsomely noting his contributions to the Allied cause, have more than a hint of *de mortuis nihil nisi bonum* about them.

Given his somewhat patchy record, it is tempting to speculate on how Leigh-Mallory managed to rise to such heights. Partly his success can be attributed to the poor judgement of his superiors, who were overly impressed by his energy and offensive-minded spirit – Churchill for one was always attracted to a 'fighter' – that blinded them to his evident shortcomings as a senior commander. Moreover, it is

probable that his own ambition and self-regard drove him on past the point where a more self-aware character might have realized his limitations. His own brother, shortly before his death in 1924, spoke of him looking forward 'without doubt to success and promotion in the future'. Others have referred to him as 'a man of driving egoism'. He also had honed the knack of being able to get on better with his superiors than his colleagues or subordinates. However, he rarely showed any evidence of the depth of intellect and the inspirational force of personality needed for very high command in war; the contrast with Tedder could not have been starker. It is hard to resist the conclusion that Leigh-Mallory was not in the same league as the best of his contemporaries; indeed, some have seen him as an 'ambitious intriguer' who owed his elevation at least as much to energetic self promotion as to any real ability. He was certainly no Tedder or Dowding.

Of course, Leigh-Mallory never got the chance to defend his own performance and record by way of a post-war memoir. Perhaps he could have explained his roles in the controversies in Fighter Command and the AEF that would have shown him in a better light. That opportunity was denied him on 14 November 1944 when his aircraft hit a mountain above the village of Le Rivier d'Allemont in the French Alps. So perhaps the last word should go to Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory himself. During his the lowest point of his difficulties as C-in-C AEF, he had been on the point of resigning, but refrained from doing so 'because he hoped his duty lay in doing his utmost to make the system work'. There are worse epitaphs.

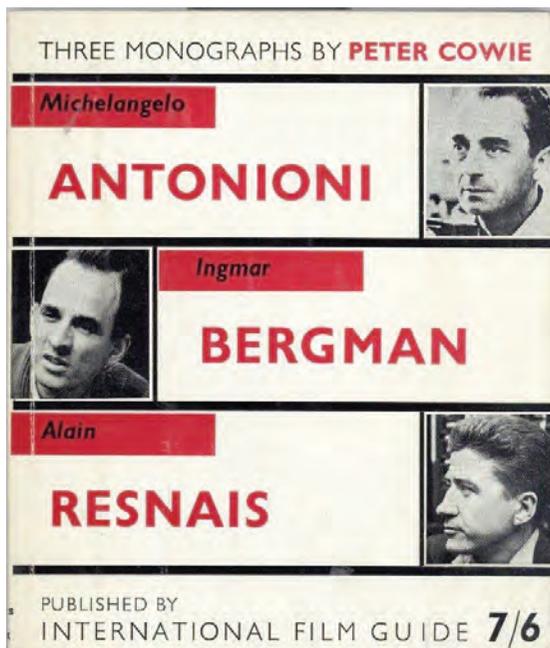
ART



D-Day Mosquito

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS EUROPEAN CINEMA?

The following lecture, organised by Dr Azérad on behalf of the Magdalene-Jesus MML Society, was delivered in the Cripps Auditorium by Professor Peter Cowie on 18 November 2010. Professor Cowie (1959) read History at Magdalene under Ralph Bennett and Frank Salter. He was editor of the film page in Varsity, and worked with David Frost on Granta. He founded the annual International Film Guide, and has written more than thirty books on the cinema and its history.



*The cover of Peter Cowie's first published book (1963).
The 'Bergman' part was written in Magdalene in 1961.*

It is good to return to Cambridge and Magdalene, where I discovered the cinema half a century ago, thanks to the Arts Cinema and its manager Norman Higgins, and also to a general climate of excitement about cinema. It was a great time to be here if you were interested in film. Not because film was studied. On the contrary, there was no trace of any course on film during my period at Cambridge. If anything, film was regarded by most faculties as somewhat subversive if not entirely frivolous. But that ran counter to the undergraduate population, who queued in their hundreds outside the Arts Cinema, and considerable space was devoted to the movies in the pages of *Varsity*, *Broadsheet*, and *Granta*.

What that experience formed in me was a conviction that there is something called European cinema. Film as an art has always sat uneasily among its peers. It can be compared to literature, to painting, to music, in many ways, but what sets it apart is that exists as both an art *and* an industry. Indeed it's such a huge industry in the United States that it represents the country's biggest export apart from aeronautics. The problem is that in Hollywood, money and monetary success are the only criteria applied to film-making. As Michael Eisner, former chairman of the Walt Disney Company, once remarked, 'The only good film is a film that makes money at the box-office.' In Europe it is often the opposite, and sometimes an excellent film may make literally nothing at the box-office, and cannot even get distribution in certain territories.

The problem is that there is snobbery on both sides. Wim Wenders, president of the European Film Academy, was asked to differentiate between Hollywood films and what the European cinema was striving to do, and he said 'A Hollywood film is like going to a meal at McDonald's – it fills you up, but after two hours you feel hungry. Whereas if you go to a Michelin restaurant in Europe, you will not be filled up, but you will be fulfilled.' Basically the distinction goes back to what we call the *auteur* theory. The *auteur* theory was promulgated in the 1950s by the editors of *Cahiers du Cinéma*, the influential French monthly, and it was applied, paradoxically, not so much to European directors as to American directors. The concept was that even in a very commercial director's career – take someone like Alfred Hitchcock, or Howard Hawks – there was in each of his films a discernible, personal signature despite all of the economic pressures that were imposed on that director while making a film in the Hollywood dream factory. But in fact, the theory is much more easily applicable to European directors. In a good European film, one can sense that there is a burning desire on the part of one person to express him or herself on film – I need only mention the names of Ingmar Bergman, Federico Fellini, or Jean-Luc Godard, for you to know instantly what that means. Because when you hear those names, I'm sure even those of you who are not film buffs, are aware that those individuals have created artistic films, in their image and idiom, and very much reflective of their concerns and of their vision of the world.

Let me explain how European cinema works. First of all, Europe is an extraordinary congeries of languages and cultures, and politically distinctive societies. The European Union, as we all know, is a fragile alliance of these cultures. In the case of film, there have been sustained attempts to create an image for European cinema. The Media Programme in Brussels has proved helpful with modest subsidies in various sectors (screenwriting, distribution etc.). It's been an uphill battle, because the European Film Awards have conspicuously failed to attract much attention in the media, or to generate large audience levels on television. They are in the shadow of the Oscars. The European Film Academy does a yeoman job in trying to make its awards worthwhile, and during the year it encourages young filmmakers in different countries by bringing them together for seminars, master classes and so on.

But ultimately, each European filmmaker is pretty much an island unto himself. At its best, a European film reflects the society and the roots of the particular filmmaker. So directors like Rainer Werner Fassbinder, from Germany, Claude Chabrol, from France, Pedro Almodóvar from Spain, or Theo Angelopoulos from Greece, have each been inspired by their country's traditions, virtues, and shortcomings.

The financial aspect has proved a major handicap for European cinema. Unfortunately, it costs a lot to make a film that will eventually be distributed to a cinema near you. It costs normally several hundred thousand pounds, and often into the millions of pounds. We've now entered the digital age, and everyone from students upwards, feels he or she can make a film with a digital camera and upload it the web for practically nothing. That is true. But I'm not talking about those films. I'm talking about the films that are properly projected on a large screen, in a commercial cinema, or in a *cinémathèque*, with an audience seated and watching them. Not a film that is put up on YouTube and watched by you and me in solitary splendour, on a small computer screen.

A European filmmaker still has enormous difficulty in bringing his vision to the screen, and to a public audience, even a restricted one. In many European countries, enlightened governments have established a system of subsidies and advances against receipts that enable a filmmaker to move ahead with his project, to have a script written, to sign up certain actors, to negotiate for the use of locations and studios. Foremost among those countries are of course France and Germany, followed by Sweden, and Finland – indeed all the Nordic countries. Then there are others, like Britain, which have become almost delinquent in supporting their local industry. The UK Film Council, as you may have read, was dissolved this autumn [2010], and there are debates about what body will follow it, whether the BFI will indeed have the power to grant lottery money funding for certain films, and so on. But all of that disguises, very thinly, a lackadaisical attitude towards cinema as an art in this country, and the implication that the cinema should look after itself, because 'films make money – *don't they?*'

Many completed feature films do not, unfortunately, reach the cinemas. Those with stars attached will have a better chance of doing so, especially in their own country. Many a film that is a huge hit in Italy will not be exported to other countries; many a film that is a triumph in Norway will not even reach its Scandinavian neighbours. That's the way it is. Language is a barrier, subtitles are a barrier, and dubbing is expensive.

The Importance of Festivals

So there is often only one avenue open to a quality film once it has been completed, and that is to be accepted by a major film festival. Festivals are indispensable to the fate of all good films, even American ones. They are a lodestone for glamour, for discussion, for debate, for meetings among directors, producers,

technicians, and critics – and they have multiplied like mushrooms in the past three decades. When I was at Cambridge there were essentially three or four festivals that had any kind of clout – the oldest, Venice, the biggest, Cannes, and the most interesting politically, Berlin, which was founded in 1952 at the height of the Cold War, and enabled films of a political nature to be screened for people from Eastern as well as Western Europe. Then there was San Sebastian, Locarno, and Edinburgh which already existed. Even the London Film Festival was only founded in the late fifties. The Sundance Festival, which now attracts considerable media coverage, was only founded in the 1980s, by the actor Robert Redford in his home state of Utah.

Today there are over a thousand festivals throughout the world, and probably four or five hundred of these are reasonably reputable. All this poses great problems for the producer, and for the director, because if you're a producer and you've put your money into a film, and you're invited to a festival in, say, Reykjavik in Iceland, you have to send a print (the *festival might* send it back at their cost), it will be screened to the public for two or three nights, to an audience that sometimes can number over a thousand people each time, and you will get no money for it. So that when, if ever, your film gets widespread acclaim and you talk to an Icelandic distributor at a film market, he will say, 'I'm sorry, but it was shown at the Reykjavik Film Festival, and those screenings have taken the cream of my audience.' Those are extreme cases, but nevertheless it is a factor in the life of a quality film, that it runs the danger of touring the festival circuit, and perhaps never really reaching an audience apart from that.



Peter Cowie interviewing Isabella Rossellini at the 2011 Berlin International Film Festival

The reason that festivals have acquired the high ground in recent decades is that the art-house has died. The art-house was a wonderful institution. Perhaps

that's just nostalgia on my part, so I must be cautious, because many people love a festival, and a festival certainly has more atmosphere than an art-house did. The Arts Cinema in Cambridge was an art-house; the late-lamented Academy Cinema in Oxford Street – now a Marks and Spencer – *was* an art-house. The Everyman in Hampstead was an art-house. There were about thirty such havens in Britain in 1963 when I started an annual called the *International Film Guide* – an annual that focused on those art-houses throughout Europe. I used to go on my trips to Paris, Munich, Copenhagen, even Lausanne. And I would meet the managers of these small art-houses. And each of them had a particular atmosphere, or even a tradition. I remember the Studio 28 in Paris, high up in Montmartre, being notorious because in the year it opened (1928), Luis Buñuel's *L'Age d'or* had been shown and there were riots, the police were called and the cinema was closed for a week. Very often, at such art-houses, the screenings were followed by discussion on stage, involving the director, and even the cinema manager himself. That gave these art-houses the quality of a club. All this was before television became so dominant; long, too, before the age of video and DVD. Then there were the film societies. Each society would screen around a dozen films in a season, once a month. But as video has become better in quality, so 'home cinema' has taken over, and more and more of us have a room in the house, with a large screen television, or even a pull-down screen with a projector, high-quality sound installations where films can be shown on Blu-ray, in high definition, in virtually the same quality as in a good cinema.

All this has affected the fate of the European film. And to preserve the vision to which I've referred, the vision of an individual filmmaker, the director must fight every inch of the way. He must fight, for example, because there is pressure on him to choose actors well-known at the box-office. I should emphasise at this point that there is no such thing as a European star. There are no stars in Europe. There are *local* stars in each of the great European countries. Occasionally the work of a Gérard Depardieu or a Juliette Binoche is appreciated by a minority audience in other European countries. The only way in which a non-Anglo Saxon actor can become a *true* star is by going to Hollywood, as people like Javier Bardem or Penelope Cruz have done. Many a great actor in Europe has never achieved star status. Someone who really was a bulwark of Ingmar Bergman's world in the fifties, Max von Sydow, can still be seen at the age of eighty, playing supporting roles in films like Scorsese's *Shutter Island*. He does so with enormous distinction; but that does not make him a star. This, I think, is the big difference between America and Europe, in that we cannot produce a star because of the linguistic barriers on the continent.

The Philosophical Perspective

If we look at European cinema from a philosophical perspective, I think we can divide the best films into three categories. One revolves around man's relation to

the world he lives in. A second revolves around man's relation with the people among whom he lives. And the third is man's relation to himself. It's interesting that the great directors of Europe usually fit into one of those categories, as do political films, films as *agit-prop*, going all the way back to the days of the Soviet silent cinema, with directors like Eisenstein, Pudovkin, and Dziga-Vertov using film as a superior form of propaganda to motivate a public, to convince them that the philosophy underlying their society was correct. That has not by any means been confined to Eastern Europe, or the former Communist bloc. Take Italy, for example, where some of the greatest political films have been produced. *Salvatore Giuliano*, made by Francesco Rosi in 1961, exposed the tentacular power of the Mafia in Sicily. *The Battle of Algiers*, by Gillo Pontecorvo, recreated and scrutinized the futile efforts of an imperial power – France – to control a restless colony – Algeria – during the late 50s and early 60s. I'm thinking of the so-called kitchen sink school of filmmaking in Britain during the early 60s, with Lindsay Anderson, Tony Richardson, John Schlesinger, and Karel Reisz recording proletarian life in the cities of the North and South alike. I'm thinking of another British filmmaker, Ken Loach, who for forty years has been making films condemning the 'I'm All Right, Jack' tone of British society. His films have fought against injustice, even if on occasion they can sound too doctrinaire, so that sometimes the facts can be bent to suit the dogma. But the heart of such films is in the right place, because they seek a better world, however utopian that might be. Mike Leigh is a British film-maker who looks upon life with a more cynical eye than Ken Loach. In films like *Life is Sweet*, *Secrets and Lies*, and *Vera Drake* he paints life particularly in post-Thatcher Britain in uncompromising if also compassionate terms, as does a more flamboyant filmmaker, Danny Boyle, who has achieved greater commercial success with films like *Shallow Grave*, *Trainspotting*, and *Slumdog Millionaire*.

To this category of films that deal with 'man's relation to the world', belong not just the films of Rosi, Pontecorvo, or Nanni Moretti, but also Bernardo Bertolucci, Costa-Gavras, the Dardenne Brothers, and above all Jean-Luc Godard, who constantly uses the world as a kind of comic-book backdrop to his human dramas. One feels that he is always conscious of the effect that the world exerts on his characters and, by extension, on himself. 'We're all children of Marx and Coca-Cola,' he once quipped.

Who belongs to the category, 'Man's relationship to the people among whom he lives'? For me, these are directors like François Truffaut in France, Andrzej Wajda and Krzysztof Kieślowski in Poland, and Pedro Almodóvar in Spain. One might argue, too, that Ingmar Bergman, obsessed though he was in his heyday with metaphysical issues, deals primarily with relationships. Think of the depth of feeling in a film like *Scenes from a Marriage*, or *Wild Strawberries*, or *Cries and Whispers*. Or his Faustian allegory, *The Seventh Seal*, a film that changed the lives and careers of so many individuals in the late fifties, from Woody Allen to Melvyn Bragg.

Ostensibly dealing with religious doubt and conviction, *The Seventh Seal* reflects the mood of insecurity that swept Europe during the 50s – the fear of the

hydrogen bomb, the feeling that we were but a blink away from Armageddon. Ingmar Bergman, far away in Stockholm, produced a film that touched to the quick a whole generation of artists, writers, filmmakers, university students. It is set in the Middle Ages, with a knight returning, disillusioned, from the Crusades, his encounter with the plague in 14th-century Sweden, and how he plays a metaphorical game of chess with Death. Like all Bergman's films of that period, *The Seventh Seal* is shot through with incessant questioning, to which there is no adequate answer. Yet with the instinct of a great artist, Bergman derives optimism from even the blackest of circumstances.

So to the third category: filmmakers who are focused on man's relationship to himself. None is greater in this category than Federico Fellini, whose films are essentially fantasies stemming from his dreams, but also from his complexes. These are filmmakers who usually seek an *alter ego* that can represent them on screen – someone who embodies the filmmaker for the audience, someone who as a result of being developed within the film, enables the filmmaker to illuminate his own life, to resolve the psychological, physical, and social problems that lurk within him. Perhaps the best exemplar of this is Woody Allen, that most European of American *auteurs*. Then we have Michelangelo Antonioni, Theo Angelopoulos, and more recently a director like Lars von Trier.

It's also only a great European film that offers an aesthetic experience in its own right, for its own sake, in the way that abstract art exists in painting, in the way that the *nouveau roman* or the stream-of-consciousness exist in literature, in the way that twelve-tone technique exists in music. Many filmmakers in Europe have taken that aesthetic aspect of film as a mimetic art to its logical conclusion. A good example is Alain Resnais's *Hiroshima mon amour*, which built on the theories of montage introduced by Eisenstein to a point of high sophistication. Resnais was a Frenchman already in his late thirties when he made that picture. So he did not belong to the generation of the Nouvelle Vague, but he had cut his teeth on some excellent documentaries. *Hiroshima mon amour* was written by Marguerite Duras, one of the high priestesses of French post-war literature. The film focused on the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, something that was still a very, very acute issue in Japan only thirteen years after it had happened. It was edited by Henri Colpi, whose montage, supervised by Resnais, changed the landscape of cinema, leaping back and forth in time, and from one location to another, with audacious *élan*.

Indeed the language of film underwent a profound and critical reform during those ten years 1957 to 1967. Prior to that, in the grim aftermath of World War Two in Italy, directors like Visconti and De Sica had presented life in a naturalistic, gritty form which was dubbed 'Neo-realism'. Shorn of all glamour and intended to show the everyday in its bare, unadulterated state. So many directors, in so many countries, were taking the language of cinema into new areas – Jean-Luc Godard, above all, with his dazzling departure from classical editing conventions in pioneering works like *A bout de souffle* and *Pierrot le fou*.



Peter Cowie interviewing Dusan Makavejev

Although films from Eastern Europe no longer dominate the festival scene, they were eagerly awaited throughout the late fifties and early sixties. It's ironic that despite being under the control of the Communist system, countries like Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia, produced a rich harvest of intelligent, probing films. None more so, perhaps, than those of the Yugoslav maverick, Dusan Makavejev. Poland had Andrzej Wajda, of course, whose *Ashes and Diamonds* became an art-house staple, but they also had the precocious Roman Polanski, who was still in his twenties when he made *Knife in the Water*, a wonderfully spare film that features three characters, a husband and wife and a young hitchhiker, who are marooned one weekend on a boat in the water-lands of Poland. The use of the landscape is brilliant, and it really does become a film that scrutinizes man's relationship to his environment.

However, it would be arrogant and foolish to dismiss Hollywood film. There's no question that when we talk about genres in the cinema, the American product is vastly superior to its European equivalent. Genres like the Western, for example, the war film, and the musical have hardly prospered in Europe (unless you think that a Sergio Leone spaghetti western is superior to John Ford's Monument Valley westerns), and if one focuses on the gangster film one must conclude that the greatest models of the genre all come from the Hollywood studios, whether they be from the pre-war period – films like *Scarface*, *Little Caesar*, or *Public Enemy* – or whether they be more recent films like Michael Mann's *Heat*, a classic of the genre. In Europe, there have been attempts to emulate those films – for example in France the work of Jean-Pierre Melville during the fifties, sixties, and seventies, where his films were essentially a pastiche of their American counterparts, and didn't ring quite so true as those Hollywood pictures do. There's one exception to the rule, as there always is, and that for me is the James Bond franchise – British in tone, with British actors, and even British in monetary terms. The irony is that

these Bond films have been copied in their turn, by the Americans in productions like *The Bourne Identity*. We can also lay claim to the British-born and raised Alfred Hitchcock, whose *Vertigo* of 1958 and *Psycho* of 1960 were more subtle and impressive than European thrillers of the time.

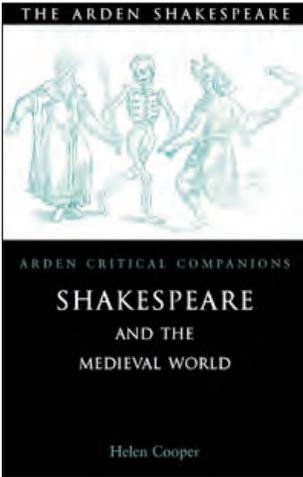
One might say that the genre is the backbone of American cinema, because genre movies have proven identities that people can embrace with a comfortable familiarity. In Europe, however, if we possess one indigenous genre it is what one might term 'navel-gazing'. Such films are made by directors who are so concerned with themselves and their pretensions that they forget about the dictates of film production; they forget that there is an audience to be addressed. History shows that films that were made with an audience in mind, from Orson Welles's *Citizen Kane* to Jean-Luc Godard's *Le mépris*, invariably outlast the avant-garde. They don't always reach that audience, but they are aimed at an audience. Communication is sought between the filmmaker and his public.

I cannot end this talk without striking a note of optimism. One can claim that the late fifties and sixties constituted a golden age for European cinema, just as one can assert that the twenties were a golden age for jazz. There *are* such things as vintages in the arts, but on the other hand it is tempting to fall prey to the cliché that 'fings ain't what they used to be,' that art was always better in one's vanished youth. As I've said, some of those films of the sixties do not bear watching today, but there are many, many very good directors at work now who have inherited that gift for creating personal cinema, whether it be Jacques Audiard or Olivier Assayas in France, whether it be Michael Winterbottom here in Britain, Aki Kaurismäki in Finland, Michael Haneke in France and Austria, Hans-Petter Moland in Norway. There are a great many directors still out there, but if I have dwelt this afternoon on the 60s, it is because never before had so many new directors come to the fore, and never before had film been so much in the spotlight as an authentic member of the family of arts.

Peter Cowie ©

BOOK REVIEWS

HELEN COOPER, *Shakespeare and the Medieval World* (Arden Critical Companions, 2010, 288 pp)



'...the greater part of his excellence was the product of his own genius. He found the English stage in a state of the utmost rudeness; no essays either in tragedy or comedy had appeared, from which it could be discovered to what degree of delight either one or other might be carried. Neither character nor dialogue were yet understood. Shakespeare may be truly said to have introduced them both amongst us, and in some of his happier scenes to have carried them both to the utmost height.'

Samuel Johnson's judgement, in *Prefaces to Shakespeare* (1765), of the special part played by Shakespeare in moving English drama from its medieval 'infancy' to a state of maturity articulates a view that has enjoyed an unsurprising longevity; unsurprising if only because much of the narrative of the movement from medieval to modern as

progressive is provided for Johnson (as for many modern scholars) by Renaissance writers themselves; and, to put it bluntly, 'they would say that, wouldn't they?'. As Helen Cooper points out in her exciting new book on the potency of the medieval world in Shakespeare's plays, post-medieval writers were tremendously effective self-publicists. After five hundred years, the sense that the medieval world encouraged 'childish credulity...[in] adventures, giants, dragons, and enchantments' (to quote Johnson again), compared with the Renaissance with its learned humanists, classical scholars, political savvy and predilection for 'self-fashioning', is still prevalent: the tabloid usage of the term 'medieval' denotes primitive social conditions; a respectable on-line dictionary defining 'medieval' directs us to the rather limited linked words 'bestiary', 'serfdom', 'feudal', 'alchemy' and 'bubonic plague'; and even contemporary scholars seek out special terms for genres of medieval writing such as chivalric romance (i.e. adventure stories), complaint (i.e. satire), or minstrelsy (i.e. lyric) to encapsulate a perceived distinction between modern forms and styles and their proto-plasmic counterparts of merry England.

It would be an easy task to challenge the simplistic contrast between the dirty, ill-educated, 'rude' medieval world and a gleaming new Renaissance (a few lines from the fourteenth-century Chaucer would suffice); the real trick is to spot the similarities while acknowledging the differences – to recognise that Shakespeare's genius lies not in being a writer who eschews the past, but in being a writer deeply

interested in it. This is where Helen Cooper is in the vanguard of the reappraisal of the relationship between the Renaissance and the Middle Ages; and her account of Shakespeare's many inheritances from the medieval world crystallises the arguments, focuses the debate and offers a reading of Shakespeare which properly recognises both his originality and his indebtedness. Shakespeare does not merely borrow from medieval sources 'straightforwardly', she insists – yet equally there is, underlying the plays, a deep vein of medievalism, which is apparent to the careful eye (and Cooper has such an eye) just as the new buildings of the Tudor city preserved the deep structure of the medieval town.

There are some clear locations in which Shakespeare's writing engages with medieval values, specifically in the history plays: late Tudor political realities, classical models of rulership and the remembered narratives of those kings and queens who lived only a hundred years or so before Shakespeare vie with each other in the dramatic accounts of usurpation, the legal wranglings over inheritance and convoluted justifications for violence against and by the monarch. It is the equivalent, in the case of *Richard III*, for example, of modern writers engaging with the First World War. Indeed, Cooper's account of the interface between Richard III as a threat to Tudor kingship and his genesis from the Vice figure in the medieval morality play exactly represents that peculiar mix of the past and present which typifies the relationship between a period and its precursor. The book thus contributes to the current debate on the merits of periodisation in literary studies, as well as providing a corrective to the sense that the past is always a source of anxiety to the present: for Shakespeare, the past was a prized source of richness of thought.

Cooper, in a series of chapters which both develop the argument and stand as cohesive essays in their own right, offers sophisticated and often philosophical formulations of what it was to be 'medieval': Strikingly, she shows Shakespeare's debt to the medieval belief in the possibility that everything – including the mysterious, the ineffable and the invisible – can be put on the stage; she teases out the allegorical mode which is prevalent in medieval morality plays, and which is often cited as a non-Shakespearean feature, revealing its subtle and pervasive influence on the later playwright's idea of the psyche; and in an elegant chapter on tragedy, she shows the shadows of Boethius and medieval theories of the cosmos behind the great tragedies of *King Lear* and *Hamlet*. Cooper reveals how the medieval view of the centrality of nature imbues the writings of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, and writes eloquently of the murder of King Duncan, which takes place 'in a kind of cosmic echo-chamber of significance'.

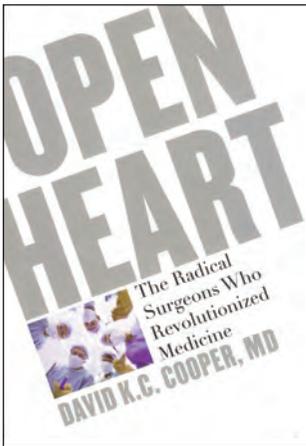
Individual moments of discovery permeate the book, such as the suggestion that Bottom's ass's head in *Midsummer's Night's Dream* might have been recycled from one of the medieval Chester plays, or the revelation that the plot of *Pericles* is a homage to medieval romance conventions (of telling the action twice, 'once for bad and once for good'), or the delicate discussion of the effect of decisions made regarding the capitalization of abstractions in modern editions ('Some of what looks to modern readers like personification actually belongs to the realm of

proto-scientific discourse. Venus may be a classical goddess, a periphrasis for overwhelming love or passion, or the name of a planet whose continuing influence nurtured love on earth'). A final section of the book focuses on Shakespeare's debt to a single author – Chaucer. This comparison brings together the arguments of earlier chapters, plotting the trajectory of romance from the medieval narrative form to the late comedies of Shakespeare in a way which illuminates both writers.

It is rare for so learned and informative a book to be so readable, but in this regard it shares with the plays it discusses a lightness of touch and an open-minded approach. Frustratingly and delightfully, Shakespeare never offers copper-bottomed evidence of his views: he is intellectually playful (a constructive playfulness which Dr Johnson famously failed to appreciate, but which Cooper perfectly understands); and perhaps it is in his ability to treat the most difficult of philosophical questions as available to everyone, that he is at his most 'medieval'.

MEJH

DAVID K C COOPER, *Open Heart: The Radical Surgeons Who Revolutionized Medicine* (Kaplan Publishing, New York, 2010. 448 pp)



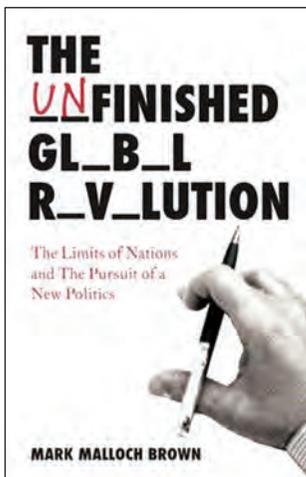
David Cooper was a Fellow of Magdalene College and Director of Studies for Medics and Vets between 1972 and 1980. At that time he was training as a cardiovascular surgeon at Papworth Hospital near Cambridge. He is now Professor of Surgery at Pittsburgh having worked in many of the transplant units in the world that were at the forefront of heart surgery. He worked with many of the surgeons who were pioneers of the art, and writes about them from the perspective of his personal knowledge of their characters and the stories associated with them.

This book therefore combines the aims of telling the story of the development of heart surgery, and its adjunct skills, with a detailed history of the characters involved. On both counts it is informative and captivating. To the reader who is used to modern, near miraculous, surgical successes the early operative steps that are described appear to be crude procedures. The author captures the desperation of the surgeons to help patients who had well-understood but untreatable ailments. The justification to try heroic operative treatments was the inevitability of the patient's demise if nothing were done. This ethical debate is addressed indirectly throughout the book. It is the currency that allows comparisons of the pioneers and is, in part, the explanation of some of their unusual behaviour characteristics.

The development of open-heart surgery is a fascinating and rapidly evolving story that is described in the sort of detail only possible for one who was intimately involved with the process. Whilst this work will be of interest to medical practitioners and patients with a vested interest, or personal involvement, it also has general appeal.

NR

MARK MALLOCH-BROWN, *The Unfinished Global Revolution: The Limits of Nations and The Pursuit of a New Politics* (Allen Lane, 2011, 272 pp)



Mark Malloch-Brown (1972) cuts an authoritative figure, as I found during my occasional visits to his ornate Victorian lair during the two years he served as a Foreign Office Minister in Gordon Brown's government – the most recent public incarnation in his long and varied career as an international public servant.

It has been quite a journey. From Magdalene, Malloch-Brown went on to the University of Michigan, an internship at UN Headquarters in New York, the humanitarian front line on the Thai-Cambodian border with the UN High Commission for Refugees, a stint of political consulting, then distinguished spells as head of communications for the World Bank, Administrator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), Chief of Staff to Kofi Annan then Deputy Secretary-General back at the UN in New York and finally two years in the Foreign Office.

Now he has distilled that experience into a provocative and interesting book which reflects a characteristic willingness to take risks, whether physical, in negotiating a local humanitarian ceasefire with the Khmer Rouge, or political in taking on in public the Bush Administration's bullying Ambassador to the UN.

His plain speaking style and breadth of experience is reflected throughout the book. Its defining theme is the disconnect between the complexity and global scale of the problems confronting the world, from successive financial crises, through terrorism and organised crime to climate change and AIDS, and the inadequacy of the mechanisms available to deal with them, based as they are on the post-1945 settlement, without adjustment for the vast growth in the complexity of international relations, now conducted between nearly 200 nation states and a host of other players, from multinational companies to NGOs.

Malloch-Brown makes clear his frustration with these shortcomings. His description of the dispiriting realities of much of the work at UN HQ will strike a chord with anyone who has ever dealt with that organisation in its various

manifestations. He highlights above all the central paradox that national governments understand that they cannot solve global problems on a national basis, but are reluctant to pool the political and economic resources needed to tackle them collectively.

Some of this impatience surely reflects the balance of Malloch-Brown's own experience: might he have been slightly less dismissive of the pressures on national politicians if he had spent thirty years at Westminster and two in the international sphere instead of vice versa? Whatever its limitations in a globalised world, the nation state, not the region, still less the planet, is still the primary focus for the loyalty of most of the world's people, and attempts to develop more effective international action need to work with the grain of that basic political reality.

Malloch-Brown urges a new San Francisco moment: a recreation of the short period of optimism and creativity between the end of the Second World War and the onset of the Cold War which brought into being the international institutions which, however inadequate, continue to be all we have available in the vastly different circumstances of 2011. The problem, as he acknowledges, is that none of the succession of crises since the Millennium has been quite sufficient to scare governments into a meaningful compromise of their own sovereignty, however limited that might be in practice in a networked world. If 9/11 and the near collapse of the world financial system didn't convince us all of the need for more effective international arrangements it is hard to see what might.

So the book ends without a solution in sight to the basic disconnect it describes: it is hard to see the world's manifold problems being tackled effectively without some form of world government, but there is little realistic prospect of anything like it coming into being. Indeed some of the trends are in the other direction as the Euro comes under ever increasing pressure, the US is preoccupied with domestic economic renewal at the expense of trying to enforce global peace, and the rising powers of China and India remain deeply suspicious of anything which seems to encroach on national sovereignty, especially their own.

If the book ends on a note of pessimism and frustration on the global level, it also illuminates shreds of hope. It went to press before the Middle East was changed fundamentally by the Arab Spring, but Malloch-Brown's emphasis on the fundamental importance of democracy and its link to economic development is surely right. The UNDP Arab Human Development Report, published on his watch and at his instigation, accurately described many of the reasons why the crowds in Cairo and Tunis found the courage to confront repressive rulers.

The book shows how with the imaginative and forceful leadership of Malloch-Brown and others the World Bank and UNDP were able to raise their game in helping the world's poor. The Millennium Development Goals may be too far from fulfilment, but they are a continual reminder to the rich world of its obligations: international development has been the one part of government outside the NHS spared the austerity needed for fiscal stabilisation in the UK. And

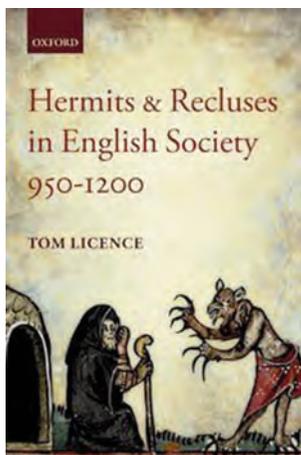
economic growth continues to lift millions out of poverty, especially in Asia and increasingly in Latin America and Africa too.

These are real gains, achieved within the existing system. The crucial question for all of us will be whether we can continue to make enough progress with only incremental change to the present international institutions before global problems, whether environmental or financial, overwhelm us. Certainly there has never been more of a need for creative diplomacy, which is good news of a kind for those working in the field.

Anyone who wants to deepen their understanding of the issues would benefit from reading Malloch-Brown's lively and interesting book on the problems he describes so well.

Robert Chatterton Dickson (1981)

TOM LICENCE, *Hermits and Recluses in English Society, 950–1200* (Oxford University Press, 2011, 256 pp)



Tom Licence (1999) was the first Magdalene undergraduate in more than sixty years to gain a starred first in both parts of the Historical Tripos. He was elected to a Research Fellowship in 2006. In the preface of his book, he gracefully acknowledges that it is the fruit of the investment the College made in him. He also pays tribute to Dr Watkins, for his 'inspirational teaching' as his College supervisor.

The subjects of this book are hermits (who, unlike monks lived in solitude) and recluses (who immured themselves in a cell). In their attempt to eradicate sin, they were capable of inflicting horrible tortures on themselves. Paradoxically it was not always easy to obtain the withdrawal from the world they desired – they relied on daily food deliveries, and the recluse, by being in a fixed position, was vulnerable to importunate visitors. It is a world utterly alien to us, but Licence 'handles its complexities with erudition that is as compelling as it is convincing'. The *Times Higher Education* reviewer also hails the way the author handles complex sources: 'what makes this book so powerful is the subtlety and insight with which it explores the recognisably human experience behind the technicalities of formal spiritual commitment'. The tone of the book is nicely captured by its arresting cover, showing a sneering demon wearing a sexy loincloth, waving his terrifying talons to a resigned and patient hermit, and verbally abusing him – one 12th-century Durham hermit was apparently addressed by the devil as a 'pile of shit: you pretend to be a saint when everyone detests you'.

R H

