Election to the Advisory Council of the Worcester College Society

We are again looking for nominations for membership of the Worcester College Society Advisory Council. The Council consists of 20 Old Members who advise the College on the development of its relations with Old Members and other friends which include events, publications and other services.

Council members serve for a period of four years. The Council meets at least once a year and normally twice.

A Postal ballot for four places will take place later in the summer and the results will be announced at the annual Meeting of the Worcester College Society to be held at the United Oxford and Cambridge Club on Monday 3 November 2003, followed by an optional dinner.

If you feel you would like to become involved or you know of someone who would, please complete the form enclosed in this issue and return it to the Development Office by 31 August 2003.

October 2002 - 2003
Advisory Council Members

Elected Members
Elected 1999 all retiring: re-eligible
Garry Jones (1976)
Professor Nigel Reeves (1959)
Kenneth Stern (1949)

Elected 2000
Sven-Erik Bergh (1934)
David Lilley (1969)
James Mirabah (1970)
Catherine Roe (1979)

Elected 2001
Professor Neville Moray (1953)
Helen Mukerjee (1981) née Overall
Henry Thompson (1959)
Nigel Urwin (1969)

Co-opted Members
John Curtis (1953)
Adrian Gardner (1981)
Kenrick Prescott (1939)
David Roberts (1967)
Professor Simon Smail (1964)
Matthew Taylor (1973)
Sir John Weston (1958) President
Michael Woods (1956) Chairman

If you have any news about yourself which your contemporaries might like to hear, please let us know in the Development Office.
Sir Reginald Hibbert GCMG (1940)
Former Ambassador to France
Honorary Fellow
President of the Worcester College Society
Died on 5 October 2002

After coming up in 1940 to read History for two years before war service intervened, Sir Reginald returned to Worcester in 1945 to read Russian, and then joined the Foreign Service in 1946. Readers will recall his article Going Down, 1946 in the Summer 2002 edition. As President of the Worcester College Society he was a genial host at many events and made an especially valuable contribution in piloting the Society through to its new constitution culminating in universal membership.

Reg was one of the most original British senior diplomats of his generation; and when he went as Ambassador to Paris, the French quickly learned to respect his formidable intellect and powers of advocacy. But he will also be remembered as a distinguished historian and expert on Albania, as well as a doughty protagonist in the debates about British policy towards the Balkans in the post-Communist period. His wartime involvement with Albania through his post as a British Liaison Officer to Enver Hoxha’s Partisans was to create a lifelong interest. Never afraid of controversy during his professional career (including the canard that he had once been an undeclared communist), he kept silent until retirement, finally answering his critics with his well received book Albania’s National Liberation Struggle: The bitter victory (1991).

Sir John Weston KCMG (1958) was elected President of the Worcester College Society to succeed Sir Reginald at the Annual Meeting of the College Society in November 2002

John Weston won an Open Scholarship to the College (at age 16) from Sherborne School, whose Governors he now chairs. He came up after two years’ military service with 42 Commando Royal Marines; got a First in both Mods and Greats, presided over the JCR and played hockey as an Occasional and for the College side which then included five internationals.

He passed top into the Foreign Office in 1962, and spent 36 years in the Diplomatic Service, ending his career successively as Political Director in London, Ambassador to NATO, and Ambassador to the United Nations in New York until July 1998. Once fluent in Chinese, he was among those who survived the Red Guard mob attack which burned down the British Embassy in Peking in 1967. He also served in Brussels (EC), Paris and Washington DC (where he ran marathons fast enough to qualify for the Boston); was a Private Secretary to James Callaghan and Anthony Crosland; and was the British negotiator on German reunification, for which he holds the German Order of Merit.

Since retirement he has pursued a mixed bag of activities in the corporate, voluntary, education and arts sectors. He remains a Non-Executive Director of Rolls-Royce Group PLC, the Hon President of Community Foundation Network, and a Trustee of the National Portrait Gallery among other bodies. He also writes poetry, some of which gets published. His elder son Ben read music at the College in the 80s.

John Weston was a Visiting Fellow at All Souls College in 1977-8, and is an Honorary Fellow of Worcester College.
Retirement of Professor James Campbell

Professor James Campbell retired on 30 September 2002 after forty-five years as Tutorial Fellow in Medieval History. "The most consistently creative influence on the writing of Anglo-Saxon history today". James was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1984. A visiting Professor at South Carolina and Rochester Universities, he gave the Ford Lectures in 1996, edited the standard "and best-illustrated book ever published" on the Anglo-Saxons and has published two books of collected articles. He held successively the major College offices of Dean, Fellow-Librarian, Senior Tutor and Vice-Provost, and was a notably courageous Senior Proctor during the period of the student disturbances in 1973-74. Yet it is as a brilliant lecturer and remarkable tutor that most undergraduates remember him, and the Hall was packed to capacity in March for a formal farewell from his former pupils. David Hargreaves (1979) proposed the toast, recalling tutorials with wicked and witty accuracy. James’ inimitable response was greeted with a prolonged standing ovation.

1 Patrick Wormald: “James Campbell as Historian” in “The Medieval State” (London: The Hambledon Press 2000) a Festschrift edited by John Maddicott (1961) and David Palliser (1958), which also includes, inter alia articles on James as tutor by David Hargreaves and as colleague by the late Harry Pitt.

Joining the Fellowship

Professor Judith Freedman
Professorial Fellow
KPMG Professor of Taxation Law

Judith was successively Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Reader and finally Professor in the Law Department of the London School of Economics (1982-2001) with a secondment to the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies as Senior Research Fellow in Company and Commercial Law from 1989-92. Previously, she lectured in law at Surrey University (1980-82) after qualifying as a solicitor and working in the corporate tax department of Freshfields.

Whilst at the LSE, she lectured and researched on tax and company law. At Oxford, her focus is taxation law, particularly corporate and business taxation, but she has a continuing interest in related areas of company law and the interaction between law and accounting. Her publications include articles and co-edited works on the relationship between law and accounting as well as various articles on small businesses and a Tax Law Review Committee discussion paper on the Tax Classification of Workers as Employed or Self-Employed.
**Professor Andrew Carr**  
Professorial Fellow  
Nuffield Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery

Andrew Carr MB ChB graduated from Bristol University in 1982, and for the next four years undertook surgical training at Bristol, Sheffield and Oxford. The following five years were spent in Oxford, first as a Research Fellow in Metabolic Medicine, and later as Registrar and Senior Registrar in Orthopaedic Surgery. After a year abroad in 1992, split between Seattle and Melbourne, he returned to the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre as a Consultant, becoming also our Senior Clinical Lecturer in 1994. In 1999/2000 he was Hunterian Professor, Royal College of Surgeons, and in 2000 he was awarded the Robert Jones Gold Medal and British Association Prize for his work on the genetic aspects of osteoarthritis.

**Dr Andreas Eberle**  
Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics

Andreas studied Maths and Physics at the Technical University of Braunschweig and the University of Bonn, where he completed his Diplom in Mathematics in 1994. After a stay at the Mittag-Leffler Institute in Stockholm, he became a teaching assistant at the University of Bielefeld. He completed his doctorate in 1998 and then spent two years on research positions at Toulouse, and at the University of California/San Diego. His research interests are at the intersection of stochastic analysis, geometry and mathematical physics.

**Dr Ben Morgan**  
Fellow and Tutor in German

Ben graduated in 1989 from Wadham in English and Modern Languages, switching as a graduate scholar to St. Hugh’s, and then becoming a stipendiary lecturer at Wadham and a Research Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the University of Bremen. After the completion of his doctorate in 1994 he moved to Cambridge, where he became an Official Fellow of Emmanuel College. He has just finished a book on mysticism and psychoanalysis and is starting a new project on German film.

**Dr Peter Heather**  
Fellow and Tutor in Modern History

Worcester is not new to Peter: he first joined the College in 1987 as the Murray Research Fellow in History after undergraduate and graduate studies at New College. In 1991 he moved on to University College London where he started as a Temporary Lecturer and in 1997 was appointed a Reader in Medieval History. For the academic year 1999/2000 he was a Visiting Professor in Classics and History at Yale. He works on European history, specialising in the later Roman Empire, the period of its dismemberment, and the construction of its successor states. His books include *The Goths and Politics Propaganda and Empire in the Fourth Century*. He is currently working on the fall of the Roman Empire and migration in first millennium Europe.

**Dr Nir Vulkan**  
Fellow and Tutor in Management Studies

After taking a BSc in Mathematics and Computer Science at Tel Aviv University, Nir worked as a Research Fellow at Northwestern University and then completed a PhD in Economics at University College, London in 1997. He was a lecturer at Bristol University until 2001 when he joined the Said Business School. His research covers a range of areas, including game theory; information economics, automated trading and negotiation; and electronic commerce. His book "The Economics of E-Commerce: A strategic guide to understanding and designing the online marketplace" is now available from Princeton University Press.
Worcester historians have had a long and distinguished association with the writing of European history. Provosts, Fellows, incumbents of the Chair of European History, as well as former students have all played a part. Harry Pitt’s contribution to the volume of *The New Cambridge Modern History* edited by J. S. Bromley, and Bruce Wernham’s editorship of an earlier volume in that series, represent only the tip of the iceberg. Worcester historians have made some aspects of European history virtually their own if we include the late Richard Cobb’s enormous contribution to French studies, Michael Roberts’s unsurpassed mastery of Swedish history, Peter Dickson’s work on Maria Theresa’s Austria and Norman Stone’s work on Russia and eastern Europe. Recently we have had Asa Briggs on the world of Modern European History and former undergraduates and graduates teach and write on European history at innumerable university departments and schools both here and abroad. Nor are they all modernists, Professor James Campbell’s work on the Anglo-Saxon and the medieval periods looks beyond the shores of Britain to the North Sea world, to Scandinavia, to France, and further afield. Fittingly his successor, Dr Peter Heather tracks the decline and transformation of the Roman Empire from one end of Europe to the other, from the barbarian Kingdoms of the West to the splendours of Byzantium in the East.

Now Worcester makes a fresh and topical contribution in *The History of Europe* with John Stevenson as General Editor. In over a quarter of a million words it covers the period from the beginnings of European civilisation in Ancient Greece to the dawn of the new millennium. Its team of specialist writers include Peter Heather on the barbarian Kingdoms and the Byzantine World and John Stevenson on the age of the French and industrial revolutions. Other Worcester historians, Chris Green and Matthew Williams, are responsible for particular sections, though the volume also owes much to the distinguished contribution by historians from elsewhere. In over 500 pages it offers a highly illustrated unravelling of the tightly woven social, cultural, economic and political strands of European history. It includes the creation of the great Empires, Roman, Spanish, and British, and the emergence – once unimaginable – of the prospect of a European Union from the Atlantic to the Ural.

As the European Union witnesses a new radical enlargement, bringing that prospect nearer than ever before, *The History of Europe* offers a timely opportunity to reflect on the differing definitions of Europe that have operated through the centuries and to raise questions about what the idea of European civilisation means. The footprint of what we think of as European civilisation has covered widely different geographical areas. The Roman Empire encircled the Mediterranean, including North Africa and the Near East, but excluded areas we now think of as intrinsic parts of Europe, such as Germany and Scandinavia. It is with the rise of the concept of a Christian Europe in the Middle Ages that we get closer to the idea of what we think of as Europe today, though that Europe was soon to be divided in turn by bitter dynastic quarrels and religious wars. Subsequently, many Europeans – not least the British – turned aside to the pursuit of colonial and imperial expansion beyond the shores of Europe. Fuelled by industrial expansion and technological advance, Europe became the continent that colonised older civilisations and peopled the new worlds of North America and Australasia. Paradoxically, too, far from uniting politically, Europe was riven by conflicts between the nation states with Britain playing a leading role in resisting the great attempt at pan-European supremacy by Napoleon. The twentieth century was to see Europe again divided by two devastating world wars and its supremacy over-shadowed by the rise of the United States and the Soviet block.

*The History of Europe* therefore offers a chance to see Europe’s history in perspective. A sense of where the idea of Europe has come from and how views of it have altered down the millennia may help to put the current debates about the future and shape of Europe into context. In economic terms alone, *The History of Europe*...
spans from the creation of coinage by the Lydians in the 7th Century B.C. to the birth of the Euro. It is as concerned with Europe’s social and cultural development as it is with politics and diplomacy. It is a history of the broad themes of Europe’s history, its artists and philosophers as well as its generals and rulers. We live at a time when there is open debate about the future of Europe and Britain’s place within it. The book’s last spread is about ‘possibilities’ and about the place of Europe in a world now shaped by a new international order and the rise of new nations in the post-imperial world.

It is appropriate that Worcester historians should be actively involved in illuminating these debates when so many of its former undergraduates are engaged in the worlds of business, finance, culture and media directly affected by these issues and their subsequent development. It is to them that we look to assist Worcester history to continue its role of providing a perspective on the timely and pressing concerns of our own day.

Dr John Stevenson
Reader and Tutor in Modern History

The History of Europe (£35) was published by Mitchell Beazley in October.

History at Worcester

A Committee, under the Chairmanship of Stuart Proffitt (1979), has been established to raise the endowment for a Tutorial Fellowship in Modern History in memory of Harry Pitt. Further details from the Development Office.
The closing stages of the Campaign to Re-endow the College were marked in splendid surroundings on 27 February when 326 Old Members, Fellows and their guests dined in the Victoria and Albert Museum by kind permission of the Trustees and Mark Jones (1969) Director of the V & A.

The highly decorated Morris and Gamble Rooms were the setting for a champagne reception, after which we strolled back through the galleries to dine in the Raphael Room, surrounded by the magnificent cartoons for Sistine Chapel tapestries. Mark Jones welcomed us, pointing out some of the features of the room, followed by Dr Susan Gillingham, who read a cheerful message from her husband, the Provost, who was unfortunately in hospital recovering from a serious cardiac condition.

After dinner Sir Timothy Sainsbury (1953), President of the World-wide Campaign, proposed the Royal Toast, and went on to thank the Trustees and Mark Jones for allowing us to dine in such state. Turning to the World-wide Appeal Committees he drew attention to the magnificent achievement of the U.S. Alumni in raising $9 million, to the Ono Family from Japan who had given the new graduate building, and to the ongoing Campaign in Australia and New Zealand.

Sir John Weston (1958), President of the College Society, paid tribute to his predecessor, Sir Reginald Hibbert, whose Memorial Service had been held in St Paul’s the previous day. The work of Sir Reginald, and of John Curtis, the Chairman of the Society, in piloting through the new constitution had been vital in harnessing the Old Members’ efforts toward the great success of the present campaign.

Lord Faulkner (1964) Chairman of the UK Appeal Committee, drew attention to the achievements of the overall Campaign Committee, and of the Law and History sub-committees; and thanked the undergraduate “telethon” teams for all their hard work. Lord Faulkner paid particular tribute to the Sainsbury Family:

“A remarkable family whose contribution to British cultural artistic and public life in the last century, and in this one, is arguably greater than any other. They have donated massive sums to the great art galleries and other cultural institutions of our nation … their company transformed shopping habits for millions of people. And most important of all – for us here this evening – successive generations have been Worcester men and have left their mark on the College, with generous gifts, splendid endowments and beautiful buildings.”

But he warned that although the Campaign had so far raised some £24 million and would, he was confident, meet its target, this was not the end, not even the beginning of the end; annual giving would be needed for the years to come. So it was particularly appropriate for him to end by thanking the permanent College fund raising team: first Coleen Day, Director of Alumni...
Relations and Campaigns, who had not only organised such a successful evening but also formed, with consummate skill and charm, a vital human link between the College and its Old Members; and secondly the Provost. As we drank a toast to his speedy recovery Sue Gillingham’s trusty mobile conveyed our warm greetings back to the Provost’s Oxford hospital room at the end of a truly memorable evening. S.W.H.
Research in my laboratory is concerned with two main themes – the process of fertilisation and the role of calcium as a chemical messenger in the body. In fact the two subjects are intimately linked. Everyone knows that to make a baby you need an egg and a sperm. The sperm supplies the paternal half of the genes that act as the blueprint of a new life. But it has another important role. The sperm also activates the egg to begin developing into an embryo. The egg needs activating because, like Sleeping Beauty, it is in a state of suspended animation until its union with the sperm. Like the kiss that awoke the princess, the activating stimulus awakens the slumbering egg.

Biologists have been interested in uncovering the mechanism of egg activation for over a century. We now know that sperm activate eggs by triggering a release of calcium from internal stores within the egg. Remarkably, the idea that a simple charged atom, or ion, could set a new life in motion was anticipated in the 1890s by the pioneering work of Jacques Loeb. He was motivated by the desire to explain all living phenomena in physical terms. Loeb became a scientific celebrity after showing that unfertilised sea urchin eggs began developing like normal embryos if changes were made to the ions of the sea water in which they were bathed.

Natural parthenogenesis (virgin birth in Greek) has been known about since the 18th century. Many insects and even a few scaly fish and reptiles can create progeny in this way. But this was the first demonstration of ‘immaculate conception’, as Loeb provocatively called it, in the laboratory. Newspaper reports at the time greeted the discovery with headlines such as ‘Scientist nears secret of life’. Loeb triumphantly concluded that egg activation was simply a question of chemistry. He initially claimed that the sperm’s role was merely to allow ions to enter the egg. However, in 1901 he suggested that the sperm carries a ‘catalytic substance’ that causes a change in the concentration of ions within the egg.

Loeb was ahead of his time. Despite his pioneering studies, another 70 years passed before one ion in particular, calcium, was conclusively shown to be the trigger of egg activation. In 1974, teams led by Rick Steinhardt and Ted Chambers showed that egg activation can be triggered by treatment of sea urchin eggs with a chemical that selectively allows release of calcium from the egg’s internal stores. Later studies showed that if eggs are injected prior to fertilisation with chelators, chemicals that bind and neutralise the calcium ions in a cell, egg activation fails to take place.

Calcium’s central role in egg activation was dramatically illustrated in 1977 when Lionel Jaffe directly visualised calcium changes taking place within eggs at fertilisation. He injected aequorin, a jellyfish protein that glows in the presence of calcium, into a fish egg. At fusion with a sperm, a wave of calcium was seen to spread, forest fire-like, through the egg. Later studies showed that in mammals, including humans, the sperm triggers not just one wave, but a series of periodic increases, called calcium oscillations.

Despite these breakthroughs, the question of how sperm trigger calcium waves in eggs...
has remained unsolved and bitterly controversial. One theory still found in many textbooks proposed that sperm activate eggs in a similar manner to hormones, the chemical messengers in our blood. Hormones transmit signals by attaching to proteins on the surface membranes of target cells. The sperm was thought to act as an honorary hormone. Yet problems in identifying such a transmitter system in eggs led some to doubt the theory.

An alternative theory was proposed by Karl Swann in 1990. He believed that egg activation is not triggered by an event at the egg’s surface but by a soluble ‘sperm factor’ released into the egg after fusion. In support of his theory, Karl showed that hamster sperm extracts injected into a hamster egg cause calcium oscillations identical to those at fertilisation. When I began work with Karl in 1992, the task we set ourselves was to identify the sperm factor, which we now knew to be some sort of protein.

With biochemist Tony Lai, we spent the best part of the 1990s trying to isolate the sperm factor using standard protein purification techniques, but without success. However, working at University College London, Karl, Keith Jones and I did gain an important insight. We found that the sperm factor had similar properties to a family of proteins called phospholipase C (PLCs) with a proven record in transmitting calcium signals. PLCs are found in most cells of the body. But the sperm factor appeared to be a completely new type peculiar to sperm.

Tony Lai, now at Cardiff University, decided to use a new DNA technology called Expressed Sequence Tags (ESTs), a spin-off from the human genome project, to identify the sperm factor. ESTs are fragments of genes. The information in genes must be unlocked to make proteins, the real building blocks of the body. Although the cells in our bodies all contain the same genes, which ones are switched on or ‘expressed’ to make proteins varies between different types of cells.

Each EST can be traced to the cell it was isolated from, allowing one to identify new genes that are only expressed in particular cell types. Searching through EST databases, Tony found a novel gene, PLC-zeta, unique to sperm. When we injected PLC-zeta protein into a mouse egg it triggered calcium oscillations identical to those seen at fertilisation. The injected egg also began to develop into an embryo as if it had been fertilised. The sperm factor had finally been found.

One of the most exciting aspects of the discovery of PLC-zeta is that we can now address a series of important questions about how sperm activate eggs and the significance of this event for the development of the embryo. My laboratory is currently studying how PLC-zeta is generated and stored within the sperm.

We are also interested in studying how calcium oscillations triggered in mammalian eggs at fertilisation help mediate the next important event in development, the activation of the embryo’s genes. Recent studies in white blood cells, where calcium signalling plays a role in the immune response, have shown that proteins that turn genes on and off are sensitive both to the frequency of calcium oscillations and to the size of each increase.

We are currently looking to see if such a mechanism is involved in turning on genes in the mouse embryo.

A calcium wave at fertilisation in a sea urchin egg. Diagram shows a series of time-lapse photographs of a sea urchin egg pre-injected with a calcium sensitive dye (showing as blue). Once the egg has been fertilised a wave of calcium (shown in increasing intensity by green, yellow and red respectively) traverses the egg from one pole to the other. Images kindly provided by Dr G Churchill, Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford.
Universally Challenged

By Keith Owen and Mark Tervakoski

Many Old Members no doubt enjoyed watching Worcester’s recent and long overdue appearances on the popular quiz programme University Challenge. The College last took part in the competition back in the 1980s, and were once runners-up in the 1960s, but this was the first time that Worcester students had subjected themselves to the trivia-seeking questions of Jeremy Paxman, who became the Show’s presenter in 1994.

The winding road to the Granada TV studios in Manchester began in an Oriel room in May 2002 when two University Challenge researchers interviewed Keith Owen (MPhil General Linguistics), James Murray (DPhil Biochemistry), Jonathan Gordon (BA English), team captain Mark Tervakoski (MPhil International Relations) and reserve Andrew Reisner (DPhil Philosophy) for a coveted place in the series. A tough general knowledge test was followed by questions about the team, our interests, why we wanted to be on the programme, etc, which Mark reckoned were designed to cull the milquetoasts and social retards who would otherwise make for unwatchable television. If anyone tells you that the researchers simply pick the teams who do best in the test, don’t believe them.

About a week later, the telephone call came and we were told that we’d been successful: Worcester had been chosen to make its long awaited return to the small screen. In fact, not only had we been given a spot in the series, we were also asked to take part in a documentary that was being made about forty years of the programme.

This puzzled us for a while; why had we been chosen for the documentary? Eventually, we were told that they’d picked us because in the selection test we had
scored more than any other team in the country. A great achievement before we’d even set foot in the studio. And so it was that the Great British public had the pleasure of watching us having our noses powdered in make-up and eating nuts in the Green Room.

The first round match was taped on 15 June 2002: the Saturday when England played Denmark in the World Cup. Keith had just finished two days of exams and Mark had been up until 4am going around end of term parties. Told to arrive at the studios by 4pm, our minibus of team and supporters got into downtown Manchester hours early because at least one person wanted to get there in time to watch the football on TV.

After being told in the Green Room how to do our introductions (name; place of origin; subject; look to left – except Keith. Being last in line, he was told not to look to his left or he’d look a twit) we descended on Granada cafeteria with free meal vouchers. Paxman dined nearby, saying nothing to the teams; and the losers of matches already taped that day were easy to single out because they carried with them their now unneeded name signs like plastic badges of courage from the trivia battlefield.

The first match was against Liverpool, and the researchers watching it from the safety of the Green Room rapidly concluded that by picking us for the documentary they had succeeded in jinxing us. Tipped to be victorious, we got off to a shaky start, and we didn’t get into our stride until after the halfway mark. The game went by quickly but as soon as Paxman said ‘three minutes to go’, the time started to drag. Mark lost track to be victorious, we got off to a shaky start, and we didn’t get into our stride until after the halfway mark. The game went by quickly but as soon as Paxman said ‘three minutes to go’, the time started to drag. Mark lost track of the game went by quickly but as soon as Paxman said ‘three minutes to go’, the time started to drag. Mark lost track of the halfway mark.

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The second round match was taped on July 5th, much to the chagrin of our American Captain, who was being forced to miss the anniversary of his homeland’s freedom in order to head back to Manchester. But spirits were not dampened, as he managed to celebrate July 4th in the College Bar on the night before the taping. And having celebrated with him not wisely but too well, we made our next appearance in front of the cameras with at least one of us having taken a good dose of Alka-Seltzer. What’s more, adding to the day’s dyspepsia was a traffic jam that made us disastrously late. We got to Granada about an hour before the match was due to begin. Barely enough time to touch base in the make-up room and wolf down our free meal.

This match was against Newcastle and we got off to a much better start. Although our opposition scooped up the first starter question, it was the last they would get for a long while, and by the ten-minute mark we were leading by 115 to 10. When the dust settled we had won by 215 to 80, leading Paxman to declare us ‘on great form’. We had qualified for the quarter-finals.

The second round match was separated from the finals weekend by the long vacation, and we all headed our separate ways. Up till now, Mark’s coaching had consisted of repeatedly telling the team that it was going to win, but now there was an effort to learn facts; various subjects were divided between us. And although we had hoped to play a Cambridge team next, we learned that all the Tab teams had been knocked out. In fact, we were the only Oxbridge team to reach the quarter-finals.

In our quarter-final, we would play Leeds.

As the finals were to be taped over two consecutive days, we had to take enough changes of clothes for three matches. Consequently, there was a big discussion about what to wear in the final itself if we were lucky enough to get that far. Our original idea of wearing black tie was abandoned in favour of dark suits and college ties; though Jonathan threatened to turn up like a naughty schoolboy with no jacket, loosened tie, and pink hair.

Our teddy bear mascot would sport a pink carnation.

And so in October, team and supporters made their last visit to Granada. The Green Room, our home from home, was now filled with teams we hadn’t encountered before. Our supporters, who had watched the previous match being taped, came out to tell us that if we beat Leeds, the rest would be a cakewalk.

But it was not to be. Having got off to a cracking start, the taping was interrupted twice for score checks and we lost our momentum and confidence. Leeds pulled away, and they won by 100 points. Seems a lot, but if only we’d got three or four more starters right, it would have been enough to swing the game back in our favour. And in our dreams, that’s what does happen. But in reality, the bear did not get to wear his pink carnation… Though we did get a Provost’s Dinner!

And you can’t keep a good team down for long. In February 2003, the same team, this time with Keith as captain and Andreas Isaksson (MPhil Economics) as reserve, took part in Oxford’s annual inter-collegiate quiz as defending champions. We are pleased to report that not only did we win every match, but we scored more than 300 points in every game, beating St John’s in the final by 340 to 140. In two years of quizzing, we played 20 games in Oxford and University Challenge, and lost only one.

Something we can all be proud of.

Keith, now President of the MCR, is working towards a DPhil in Linguistics, he and Mark enjoy obscure words. Ed.
John Prodger
Distinguished Friend of Oxford who read Law 1953-1956 gaining a Rugby Blue in 1955

In Michaelmas Term 2002 John was awarded the Distinguished Friend of Oxford Award for his services to the University. The award is designed to recognise outstanding voluntary effort which significantly benefits the University as a whole (or one of its institutions or departments) rather than a particular college.

As Chairman – an unpaid post – of the Oxford University Rugby Football Club for the last five years, John Prodger has been the driving force behind Oxford University rugby football. He has been responsible for the Major Stanley Scholarships Fund since 1986. He has given immense amounts of time to Oxford rugby and deserves much of the credit for its revival over recent years at all levels.

Left: Lord Butler, Master of University College, President of the OURFC watches whilst the Provost, as Pro Vice-Chancellor, presents John with his award before a celebratory dinner in the Lodgings

Elena Kagan
To be the next Dean of Harvard Law School

Elena, a leading scholar of administrative law, who has served on the faculties of both Harvard Law School and the University of Chicago, will succeed Robert C. Clark, the Royall Professor of Law, who concludes his service as Dean on 30 June 2003.

A Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, where she teaches administrative law and civil procedure, her recent scholarship focuses primarily on the role of the President of the United States in formulating and influencing federal administrative and regulatory law. Her 2001 Harvard Law Review article, “Presidential Administration” was honoured as the year’s top scholarly article by the American Bar Association’s Section on Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice, and is being developed into a book to be published by Harvard University Press.

Writing on a range of First Amendment issues, including the role of governmental motive in different facets of First Amendment doctrine, and the interplay of libel law and the First Amendment, her current work includes a new casebook on administrative law.

Elena came to Worcester in 1981 as a Daniel M Sachs Scholar from Princeton reading for a M.Phil in politics. In 1983 she attended Harvard Law School, where she was supervising editor of the Harvard Law Review and graduated magna cum laude in 1986. She was a law clerk for Judge Abner Mikva of the U.S. Court of
Lindsay Owen-Jones
President of L’Oréal
Read Modern Languages at Worcester 1965-69

This is an extract from an article by Sarah Ryle which appeared in The Observer on 6th April 2003.
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Lindsay Owen-Jones is not a big man – five foot five in his elegant socks would be about right – but his metaphorical stature is gigantic.

As President of L’Oréal, the world’s largest cosmetic group, this English-born, self-proclaimed Welshman commands a company with interests in 130 countries, a portfolio of some of the best known consumer brands including Garnier, Vichy, Lancome and Maybelline, and a salary of £4.26 million.

So why does his name rarely feature on lists of Business icons? The simple answer is that he has been Paris based since he became chief executive and deputy chairman of the French company in 1984, a title upgraded to president in 1988. Since then he has achieved double-digit earnings growth every year and steered the share price ever upwards. It stands at £63.55 (nearly £44), but in better market conditions it has hit four times its value when Owen-Jones took over.

Colleagues say he speaks ‘at least’ four languages, helped no doubt by having married first a French woman and then an Italian. He joined L’Oréal in 1969 and started out in Normandy, selling shampoo and mascara.

At last week’s annual results meeting at the company’s Porte de Clichy head quarters, Owen-Jones was the only Briton on the platform (and the only man in the building without a name tag). He conducted the three-hour presentation in perfect French. When he breaks into English his accent is the sort of nasal posh that reflects his education (Uppingham public school and Oxford University) and his age 57. He sounds more English than most English, let alone Welsh, people.

His adoption of Wales – where L’Oréal’s UK factory is based at Llantrisant – cannot have done him any harm in France, even before the war on Iraq fuelled long standing rivalry with the English. The French have heaped accolades upon him. He received the Legion d’Honneur on Bastille Day in 1998 and was named best manager of the past 20 years by the business magazine, Challenges and Manager of the year by Le Nouvel Economiste. Not that he is unrecognised in this country. He is a CBE for his contribution to Anglo-European relations. Internationally, he won the Global Corporate Achievement Award for Europe from the Economist Group last year.
FRIDAY 4 JULY 2003

RHODES CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS
Dinner in Hall for all returning Rhodes Scholars and their partners

MONDAY 7 JULY 2003

DRINKS RECEPTION and Private viewing of a Sale of Fine Old Master Paintings at Bonhams, 101 New Bond Street W1

TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2003

50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER
for those who matriculated in 1953

SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER 2003

COLLEGE GAUDY
For those who matriculated in 1993, between 1965 – 67 and in 1947 or earlier. Personal invitations will be mailed out in June

MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2003

ANNUAL RECEPTION AND DINNER of the Worcester College Society
at the United Oxford and Cambridge Club following the Annual Meeting.

TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2003

VARSTY RUGBY MATCH
Register your interest now

Events in North America

University of Oxford North American Reunion
FRIDAY 16 APRIL 2004
University Reception to be held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York

SATURDAY 17 APRIL 2004
Programme of Presentations and Exhibits

SATURDAY 17 APRIL 2004
WORCESTER COLLEGE RECEPTION
at the Waldorf Astoria followed by dinner

Worcester events in other cities to be arranged

Worcester Heads
Higher Education in Illinois!

Professor Russell Betts (1965) has drawn our attention to the State of Illinois web page on higher education – http://www.illinois.gov/learning/college.cfm. Alongside text which lists many resources for those interested in going to college, and includes links to Illinois Universities, internship information and other methods of college funding, is an unmistakeable photograph of our terrace building taken from the buttery steps! Russell remarked “you will be gratified to know that someone in the State government has chosen the College as an icon of higher learning”. Can anyone shed light on this excellent, if bizarre, recognition?