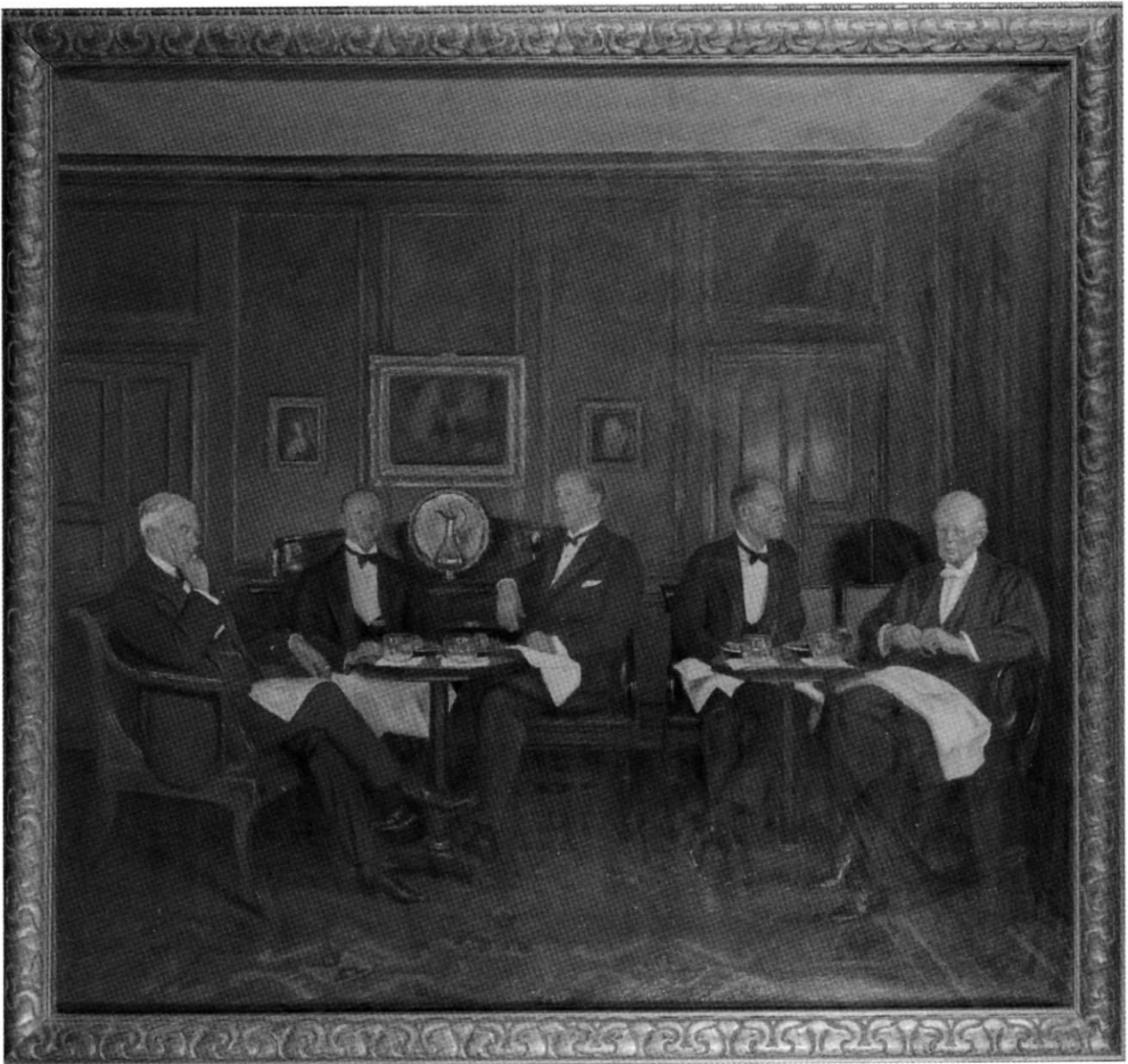


College Notes



William Rothenstein's painting, hanging in the SCR, depicts an after-dinner scene in that same room in 1936, with Provost Lys and four of the eight Fellows who then made up the Governing Body¹. There were about 200 junior members on the books at the time and the College buildings, comprising only the main and Pump Quad, had remained externally almost unaltered since the eighteenth century (the attic storey rooms on the Terrace were added in the mid-1920s). One wonders what the

¹From right to left: Provost Lys, A.N. Bryan-Brown (Classics), C.H. Wilkinson, the Dean (English), W.A. Pickard-Cambridge (Philosophy), P.E. Roberts (History). The other Fellows at the time were H.V.F. Somerset (History), G.E.K. Braunholtz (Professor of Comparative Philology), J.L. Parker (Law) and the Chaplain, R.L.P. Milburn (Theology). Will Rothenstein was the father of (Sir) John Rothenstein (Worcester 1920-23 and Honorary Fellow 1963-91).

gentlemen portrayed here would think of their College seventy years later, with its Governing Body now numbering fifty, its 600-odd students, undergraduate and graduate, and its buildings extending beyond the Gardens to north and south. One hopes that they would still recognise and approve its continuing heart and spirit.

That heart and spirit were much in evidence at the beginning of Trinity Term, after the tragic death in a road accident of Tsz ('Chi') Fok, former JCR Secretary and one of the best-known and most popular members of the College. As the Provost observes in his article below, the whole College community was united in its sorrow for Tsz and in its expression of sympathy for his family in China and his many friends here, to which the *Record* adds its own voice. Tributes to his memory appear later in these pages.

The year began and ended with two other sad losses. On 3 September last Tony Corner, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics from 1962 till his retirement in 2001, died suddenly at his home in Exeter. And on 24 June 2007 Ken Prescott (1939), Honorary Fellow and former Chairman of the College Society, died in London. Appreciations of both also appear below, and our sincere sympathies go to Liz Corner and to Ken's widow and family.

We also extend our sympathies and good wishes to Lesley Le Claire, former Librarian and previous Editor of the *Record*, whose husband, the distinguished physicist Alan Le Claire, died in September of last year.

As noted above, the election of no fewer than eight new Fellows has increased the Governing Body to fifty in number. Robert Gildea now occupies the Chair of Modern History held in former years by Bruce Wernham, Richard Cobb and Norman Stone. He was for some years Lecturer in History at King's College, London, then Tutor in Modern History at Merton College. His interests are in nineteenth- and twentieth-century French and European history: his *Marianne in Chains: In Search of the German Occupation* won the 2002 Wolfson History Prize. He is currently working on *Children of the Revolution: France 1799-1914* for Penguin, and is also running an international project on 'Around 1968: Activists, Networks, Trajectories', funded by the Leverhulme Trust and the Arts and Humanities Research Council. He is delighted now to be a Fellow of his father's old college (Denis Gildea, PPE 1946-9). Robert Harris is the new Tutorial Fellow in Modern History. He read History and Politics at Durham, completed his D.Phil. at Lincoln College and taught for thirteen years at the University of Dundee, where he was head of the history department from 2002-5 and from 2003 held a personal chair in British history. He has written widely on eighteenth-century British and Irish history, most recently editing a volume of essays on Scotland in the age of

the French Revolution. He is currently completing a further book on the same topic, and is about to embark on a major project on Scottish urban society in the age of the Enlightenment, also funded by the AHRC. Michelle Dempsey, who is filling Jeremy Horder's role as tutor in Criminal Law during the period of Jeremy's service on the Law Commission, graduated from the Universities of Illinois and Michigan and practised in the U.S.A., first as a criminal prosecutor, then as a civil litigation attorney, before moving to England and completing an LL.M. with Distinction at the L.S.E.; she has recently completed her Oxford D.Phil. on problems associated with domestic violence, one of her principal interests, on which she has published a number of papers. Her legal colleague Cathryn Costello, formerly a Senior Research Fellow, has also been elected to the Governing Body. Grant Ritchie succeeds John Eland in the tutorial Fellowship in Chemistry, which has been endowed by a generous legacy from John and Patricia Danby. He graduated from Trinity College, where he also completed his D.Phil., and has held Research Fellowships and lecturerships at a number of other Oxford colleges. He is currently Royal Society University Research Fellow, is co-author of *Foundations of Physics for Chemists* (OUP) and has published numerous papers, mostly on the applications of laser spectroscopy to fundamental and applied problems in gas phase chemistry. Elizabeth Bills read Mathematics at Corpus and studied mathematics education at Roehampton Institute and the Open University, where she took her Ph.D.; she taught at the Universities of Warwick and East Anglia before returning to Oxford as University Lecturer in the Department of Education, with a special interest in mathematics education. She has published widely on the teaching and learning of algebra and is an editor of *Preparing to Teach in Secondary Schools*, now in its second edition. Paul Azzopardi is Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Experimental Psychology and will assume tutorial responsibility for our psychology students. His particular interests are in the biological and computational aspects of visual processing in the brain. Andrew Price is Reader in Orthopaedic Surgery, with particular research and clinical interest in the understanding of cartilage damage and repair; he graduated originally from Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, then with an M.B. and B.Chir. from St Thomas's Hospital, and after some years of hospital work read for his D.Phil. at Worcester from 1999 to 2004.

We congratulate six of our Fellows who in the University's Recognition of Distinction exercise in 2006 were awarded the title of Professor: Dr Essler (Professor of Physics), Dr Horder (Professor of Criminal Law, formerly Reader), Dr Macaro (Professor of Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition, formerly Reader), Dr Roberts (Professor of

Criminology, formerly Reader), Dr Terrar (Professor of Cardiac Electrophysiology, formerly Reader in Pharmacology) and Senior Research Fellow Dr Goldsmith (Visiting Professor of Computing Science); together with Dr Vulkan, who has been appointed Reader in Business Economics.

Congratulations are also due to two of our Honorary Fellows, both also Old Members: to the Rt. Hon. Lord (Arthur) Hamilton (1961) on his appointment as Lord Justice General of Scotland and President of the Court of Session (the highest judicial appointment in Scotland), and to Steven Isenberg (1964), Senior Lecturer in Humanities in the Liberal Arts Honors Program at the University of Texas, Austin, on the award of the Harry Ransom Award for Excellence in Teaching at the University of Texas.

The Provost has continued to act as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor, mostly chairing electoral boards for Professorships, and to chair the Trustees of the Higher Studies Fund, the College Accounts Committee, and – most enjoyably – the Curators of the University Parks. Much of Hilary Term was taken up with meetings of the Henderson Committee (named after its chairman, the Master of Pembroke) which was set up by the Conference of Colleges to propose changes in its governance. Unlike the proposals to reform the University's structures (see 'From the Lodgings Windows' below), the Henderson proposals went through one major review, and were then adopted by the Conference of Colleges at the end of Trinity Term. After serving on the North Commission and now on the Henderson Committee, the Provost has reaped a pleasant reward in being asked to comment on the steps that the College of the Bahamas needs to take in moving towards University status. He insists that as he dislikes swimming, hates walking on fine, dry sand, and does not tan well, he spent much of his visit working in his air-conditioned hotel room, though he admits it had a lovely view.

Amongst the Fellows of long standing, we congratulate Edward Wilson on his election to the Linnaean Society in recognition of his horticultural expertise. In October 2006 he gave the Society's Brogdale Lecture, on the nurseryman, fruit and apple specialist, and food and wine writer Edward Bunyard (1878-1939), and in 2007 published *The Downright Epicure*, a volume of essays on Bunyard, with contributions by himself and (among others) three former Vigornians, Simon Hiscock, Arnd Kerkhecker and Richard Sharp.

Donald Fraser, who has been actively involved, together with Daniel Lunn and Bernard Sufrin, in the debates on University governance on which the Provost reports below, will himself be close to the centre of power in the not so distant future, having been elected the College's Proctor for the academic year 2008-9. Daniel Lunn himself is currently

completing an extended and arduous tour of duty as Senior Tutor, in which he has chaired Tutors' meetings with aplomb and good humour and completed business in record time, to the gratification of all; he has also managed to secure University support for a number of important College appointments, for which he deserves our thanks and good wishes for a well-earned sabbatical. His collaboration with his research student Helen Beaumont, in a statistical analysis of the progress of Alzheimer's disease in patients of different ages and receiving different treatments, is now yielding results which it is hoped will be of considerable practical use to GPs in assessing and treating this condition in future.

Sabina Lovibond spoke on 'Iris Murdoch, Gender and Philosophy' at a conference on Iris Murdoch at Kingston University in September 2006. David Bradshaw edited *The Cambridge Companion to E.M. Forster*, to which he contributed the essay on *Howards End*; lectured in Dundee, St Andrews, Newcastle, Birmingham, London and Lund, and thoroughly enjoyed his teaching as a Visiting Professor at the University of Paris III. Alan Ware also enjoyed a sabbatical abroad, in his case at the European University Institute in Florence, working towards a projected book on the dynamics of two-party politics, and giving papers (mercifully, he says, in English) at the Institute and at the Universities of Siena and Trento. Jeremy Horder is now in his third year (of five) of service as specialist on criminal law on the Law Commission for England and Wales. The Commission's final report on murder and homicide was published in November 2006. Jeremy's most recent book, *Excusing Crime*, was published in paperback by the OUP in April 2007.

Susan Gillingham's *Psalms through the Centuries: An Introduction*, the first volume of her work on the reception history of the Psalms, is due to be published in September. Working towards the second volume, she has 'taken the Psalms to locations as diverse as Texas, the Netherlands, the Bahamas and Westminster Abbey', and has further conference assignments over the coming months. She is continuing to prepare her sermons on the adornments of the College Chapel for publication, and has also served on a University review panel which is about to report on the role in the University of the Permanent Private Halls – a topic which has recently reached the realm of wider public controversy. This has proved both a challenging and an unsettling task in the present climate of theological change. Heather Viles, despite breaking her front teeth in a 'ridiculous' jogging accident, has been continuing research with English Heritage on various aspects of building and monument conservation, with a new project on whether ivy is a good or a bad thing for stone walls. She has also been convening a series of interdisciplinary workshops on integrating methods for studying the historic environment, which will be

concluded at a meeting to be hosted in Worcester in the coming September. Kate Tunstall was a Visiting Professor at Paris III-Sorbonne during Hilary Term, has enjoyed a further term's sabbatical in Paris during Trinity, working on a new project on the representation of blind people in early modern French literature, and has spoken at conferences in Paris, Montpellier, Oxford and Birmingham. Ernesto Macaro has co-edited *Language Learner Strategies: Thirty Years of Research and Practice*, due to be published by the OUP in September of this year. He has also been investigating the receptivity of Year 12 students (formerly known as first-year sixth-formers) to spoken French and the kinds of inferencing strategies they use for dealing with unfamiliar words and phrases.

Donal Nolan has published a number of papers on negligence, liability and compensation, and has updated the relevant chapters for the new edition of the volume on *Tort* in the Butterworths' Common Law Series. Judith Freedman delivered the 2006 Hardman Lecture for the Tax Faculty of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales on 'Small Business Taxation – The Indefinable in Pursuit of the Unachievable?' In April 2007 she was Anton Philips Visiting Professor at Tilburg University and delivered an inaugural lecture on 'Innovation and Interaction: Small Business Legal Structures and Tax System Design'. She contributed to *Reforming the Tax System for the 21st Century: The Mirrlees Review* (Institute for Fiscal Studies) and published further on tax avoidance and related topics. Cathryn Costello has continued working on her D.Phil. as well as publishing articles and papers on human rights, refugee and asylum law. Conferences in Rome provided in her case what she describes as 'a welcome opportunity for reviving my rusty Italian.'

Andreas Willi, holder of the College's oldest professorial fellowship, in Comparative Philology, completed his book on the literature and culture of ancient Sicily, which is due to appear later this year, and worked on a number of linguistic and orthographical topics, as well as giving papers in Edinburgh and Basel.

Amongst our Research Fellows, Mike Searle has continued his fieldwork in the Himalayas (for which he has received a research grant of \$250,000) as well as in the Gulf region, Burma, Vietnam and Thailand, and has co-authored a book on the new geological concept of 'channel flow' in the Himalayan region, where he also has a number of graduate students working. We welcome SRF James Kelly back to Worcester, after a period of schoolteaching, as Lecturer in Renaissance English. He has edited *Robinson Crusoe* for the OUP World's Classics, has published an article on 'The Sea-Journal' in *Recording and Reordering: Essays in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Diary and Journal* (edited by Dan Doll and Jessica Munns), and is working on what will be the first scholarly

edition of Captain Bartholomew Sharpe's South Sea Journal of 1680-2. Elisabeth Dutton has enjoyed looking after what she describes as a 'stellar' year of Visiting Students, and has given papers in Cardiff, in Kalamazoo and at the University of Oklahoma. She collaborated with Professor Joyce Coleman of the University of Oklahoma in producing a film of staged readings from Chaucer's *Troilus and Criseyde*, in which she also acted, and directed a production of Skelton's morality play *Magnyfycence* at the Medieval English Theatre Conference in Sheffield. Her book *Julian of Norwich's 'Revelation of Love'*, an annotated and modernised edition of this text by the medieval anchoress, is due to be published in October of this year.

Rune Frederiksen, Sackler Fellow, has curated the highly successful exhibition 'Treasures of the Ashmolean', which recently welcomed its 100,000th visitor; he has also been speaking on and guiding visitors round the exhibition and has almost completed his catalogue of the Cast Gallery (see *Record* 2005, p. 10f.). He is co-organising an international conference on the use of plaster casts from antiquity to the present day which will be hosted by Worcester and the University in the coming September. He has also found time to contribute to an exhibition catalogue of the artist Jane McAdam Freud, to work on a book (almost finished) on Archaic Greek city walls, and to attempt (so far unsuccessfully) to catch the monster pike which is alleged to haunt the College lake. Irina Voiculescu has co-authored with colleagues from Portugal and the USA a book entitled *Implicit Curves and Surfaces: Mathematics, Data Structures and Algorithms*. Implicit objects have been increasingly important in geometric modelling, visualisation, animation and computer graphics, and are now central to the kind of solid modelling that is used in engineering, entertainment and medical applications.

Alex Buckle has succeeded Andrew Timms as College Lecturer in Music, has almost completed her D.Phil. on music in medieval Warwick, and has received two awards for her doctoral work, the Louise Dyer Award from Musica Britannica and a Foundation Award from the British Federation of Women Graduates. Myrto Malouta has been extremely busy, teaching, publishing, and contributing to the conference and workshops organised by the Oxford Roman Economy Project. She will shortly be presenting a paper at the 25th International Conference of Papyrology in Ann Arbor, a case study of a village in Roman Egypt in which she will attempt to reconstruct its topography by integrating documentary and archaeological evidence. She is also contributing the section on Roman papyri for a Handbook of Epigraphy and Papyrology (in Greek) shortly to be published in Greece.

We bid farewell to Michele Gemelos, Wilkinson Fellow and Assistant Dean, who is leaving us after a total of nine years at Worcester for a new life in Cambridge, where she will be teaching English and American literature for a number of colleges. In the past year she has successfully completed her D.Phil. (see last year's *Record*, p. 9) and wound up her duties as coordinator of the Oxford American Literature Colloquium by hosting a seminar at the Rothermere American Institute on the life and lyrics of Woody Guthrie. She has also completed a biographical essay on the Victorian journalist and reformer William Thomas Stead (to be published by Scribners) and worked on the textual history of a novella by Malcolm Lowry.

The College has also this year appointed a record number of new Junior Research Fellows. Jenny Bizley came to Oxford in 2000 from Newnham College, Cambridge, and completed her D.Phil. at Christ Church under the auspices of the Wellcome Trust Neuroscience programme. Her current research is on the neural basis of sound pitch, timbre and location perception. She is also women's captain of the Oxford Academicals, a rowing club for university staff and postgraduates, and somehow also finds time to care for 'a rather aged horse'. Martin Galpin read for an M.Chem. at Keble, moved to Balliol for his D.Phil., and has since 2005 been working as a 'post-doc' in the Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory. His current research lies on the boundaries of chemistry and physics, where he is developing theories of so-called quantum dots and single molecules placed between metallic wires, which promise very interesting technological applications. Outside work, he plays the piano and is interested in a variety of music, from Romanticism to jazz. Stephen Graham came to Oxford from Sydney in 2006 as a Nuffield Medical Fellow and can usually be found 'up the hill' at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, where he is investigating the structure and function of various proteins involved in viral pathogenesis. He has published a number of papers in the field and had the honour of being a member of the first team to use the protein crystallography beamlines at the newly constructed Diamond Synchrotron Light Source. He describes his outside interests as 'bushwalking (or whatever it is called in this country), cycling and keeping my eye in with Unix system administration.' Other new JRFs in mathematical and scientific subjects are Sugata Kaviraj (Astrophysics), Karla Miller (Neurology), Christoph Ortner (Computing) and Vasilisa Shramchenko (Mathematics) – maintaining the strongly international character of the College's research fellowship.

From the above selection it will be readily seen that in the past year not only the College's heart and spirit, but also its various minds have

been well and truly engaged in an extraordinarily wide range of subjects. Our undergraduates have also distinguished themselves, equalling last year's record of 33 Firsts in Schools, also across the board of subjects in both arts and sciences, and a record number of graduate students obtained higher degrees.

Whatever the outcome of the 'governance' debates within the University, we can be sure that outside authority will continue to intervene more and more in our daily lives. On 1 July, under the new anti-smoking legislation, the College buildings became a smoke-free zone. We therefore thought it appropriate to include in this year's *Record* some reflections on the role of smoking in Worcester and in the University at large in times past, which we hope will offer some amusement as well as, for smokers, occasion for nostalgic regret.

It remains only to express our customary, but no less serious and sincere thanks to Coleen Day, without whom the editing of the *Record* would be a much more onerous if still pleasant duty, to all our contributors and to all those others who have contributed to this year's publication.

F.J.L.