

## COLLEGE NOTES



On Wednesday 12 March, the Wednesday after Hilary Full Term, in a solemn ceremony in the Convocation House, Don Fraser, Professor and Tutor in Earth Sciences, was inducted as Senior Proctor for the current year. As his deputies he nominated former Senior Tutor Dr Daniel Lunn and Dr Rosa Fernandez, Lecturer in Economics. Our photograph shows the College procession forming up on the Terrace to leave for the installation, headed by the Bedel of Arts, with Professor Fraser accompanied by the Provost and followed by Dr Lunn and Dr Fernandez<sup>1</sup>. After the ceremony the College entertained the retiring Senior Proctor, Dr John Forder of Balliol College, and his colleagues to lunch in Hall.

The Proctors are elected annually by Colleges in rotation; the last Worcester Proctor was Jeremy Horder (Junior Proctor, 1996-7)<sup>2</sup>, and before him James Campbell (Senior Proctor, 1973-4)<sup>3</sup>. (Edward Wilson held the complementary office of Assessor in 1984-5.) Most junior members while in residence are probably only vaguely aware of the Proctors as the disciplinary officers of the University, and only set eyes on them at their degree ceremony, when the Junior Proctor charges them to

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<sup>1</sup> Photograph by Rob Judges, reproduced by kind permission.

<sup>2</sup> See his article, 'From Dean to Proctor', *Record* 1998.

<sup>3</sup> See his article, 'Interesting Times', *Record* 1977.

continue to obey '*omnia Statuta, privilegia, consuetudines et libertates istius Universitatis, quatenus ad vos spectent.*' But the Proctors have a wide range of further duties and responsibilities, sitting *ex officio* on Council and on numerous important University committees. In the past they had others which have fallen into desuetude: they enjoyed powers of summary jurisdiction (though not, as is sometimes believed, of summary execution) and in somewhat more recent times, as older readers will remember, they were responsible for maintaining a list of approved student lodgings and for registering junior members' motor cars. The latter had to display a green light at the front, permanently wired in to the sidelights, and many an undergraduate had to explain this strange usage to unbelieving policemen in other parts of the country beyond Proctorial sway.

We are confident that Professor Fraser will be assiduous in defending collegiate interests, particularly in the continuing debates on University governance, and hope that he will not find his duties too arduous or unrewarding.

We have this year sadly to record the death of one of our distinguished Honorary Fellows, M. François-Xavier Ortoli, President of the European Commission from 1973-6. The obituary from the *Independent* is reprinted below. We believe that in his younger days M.Ortoli actually spent a year at Worcester as a visiting student, but appear to have no official record of this; we should be most grateful to hear from any readers who could enlighten us about it.

Three members will be leaving the Governing Body this year. Retirement beckons for the Senior Fellow, Edward Wilson, Tutor in Medieval English since 1975, and also Fellow Librarian and Keeper of the Archives and Garden Master. His sometimes acerbic but always amusing presence will be much missed in the Common Room, over which he has latterly presided as Steward. In his tutorial capacity he will be succeeded by Dr Laura Ashe, and in his other offices respectively by Dr Scullion, Professor Ware and Professor Roberts. Derek Terrar, Tutor in Physiological Sciences, is 'migrating' to New College, and Peter Heather, Tutor in Medieval History, is leaving us after a regrettably brief stay to return to London University as Professor of Medieval History at King's College; he will be succeeded here by Dr Conrad Leyser. Our good wishes go with them all, as also with our Chaplain, Emma Pennington, who will be joining the team of ministers in charge of the nearby combined parishes of Horspath, Garsington and Cuddesdon. Appreciations of all four appear below, together with a further appreciation of John Eland, whose retirement we reported in our issue of 2006. Mention should also be made of another important member of the College staff, our Accountant, Mr John Boucher, who has retired after thirteen years'

service, usually seen in semi-hiding behind a pile of papers, always courteous and helpful, and often burning midnight oil far beyond the call of duty. But then Worcester is in John's blood, as his father read Medicine here from 1927, proceeding to the DM in 1938, and is indeed to be seen sitting on the ground, resplendent in plus-fours, in the freshers' photograph of 1927, reproduced in the *Record* of 2004. We wish John a long and happy retirement. He has been succeeded by Graham Jowett, who joins us from St Antony's College.

Three new members have joined the Governing Body. Dr Mark Howarth, Tutor in Biochemistry, was an undergraduate at St John's, took the Gibbs Prize for the best performance in Finals in 1999 and completed his D.Phil. in 2003; he then spent four years at MIT before returning under the Oxford Life Science Initiative as University Lecturer in Bionanotechnology. His main area of research is aimed at developing new chemical and biological approaches to the imaging, diagnosis and treatment of cancer; his team is also using 'quantum dots' to study single molecules in living cells, rather than up to millions of molecules as in most biological experiments. He is a keen squash and tennis player. Dr David Steinsaltz, Tutor in Statistics, is a graduate of Yale and Harvard Universities, who has worked in Germany, the Netherlands, the USA and Canada before taking up his present post in the Department of Statistics. His recent research has concentrated on the applications of probability theory to biology and demography, particularly in relation to the theory of ageing. This can involve mathematical, statistical and demographic analysis and questions of genetics, physiology and evolutionary dynamics. His numerous other interests include comparative marriage customs, the history of the English language, the psychology of mathematical thought, and Renaissance and Baroque guitar and lute music. Dr Elisabeth Dutton, Director of the Visiting Student Programme and hitherto a Senior Research Fellow, has been made a member of the Governing Body; her busy academic and artistic activities are recorded below. The new Sackler Junior Research Fellow is Dr Yannis Galanakis, who has joined us from Keble. He is Project Curator for Bronze Age Greece in the Ashmolean, and is principally involved in the setting up of a new gallery in the reconstructed Ashmolean<sup>4</sup> which will focus on the achievements of Sir Arthur Evans, Keeper of the Museum from 1884 to 1908, excavator of the palace at Cnossos on Crete and known as the father of Minoan archaeology. He curated the prototype exhibition, 'Man, Myth and Legend: Sir Arthur Evans and the Discovery of Minoan Crete,' currently

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<sup>4</sup> See further the article below by Rune Frederiksen, Yannis's predecessor as Sackler Fellow.



to be seen in the Randolph Gallery, a 'test run' for the final installation of the new galleries. His research interests include the archaeology of complex societies, funerary architecture and burial practices, and archaeology in Greece in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Archaeology is further represented by the new Wilkinson Fellow and Assistant Dean, Worcester graduate Jason Mander, who took a First in Classical Archaeology in 2004 and a M.St. the following year; he is currently working for his D.Phil. on 'The Representation of Children in Roman Funerary Sculptures of the Western Empire.' Dr Brian King, BA California State University, Los Angeles, M.Phil. and Ph.D., Magdalene College, Cambridge, and currently Student Lecturer in Cambridge, has been elected to a teaching Research Fellowship in Philosophy; his research is in the application of Kantian principles to the philosophy of mathematics.

In this year's University Recognition of Distinction exercise, the following new titles were awarded: Sue Gillingham - Reader in the Old Testament; Tony Blakeborough - Professor of Engineering Science; Heather Viles - Professor of Biogeomorphology and Heritage Conservation; Robert Saxton - Professor of Composition; Mike Searle - Professor of Earth Sciences; Brian Angus (College Lecturer in Medicine) - Reader in Infectious Disease. Our congratulations to them all.

This year it was the turn of Arts and Humanities candidates to compete for non-stipendiary Junior Research Fellowships. From a field of 40, there were four successful candidates. Daniel Came, currently Lecturer in Philosophy at Birkbeck College, London, is a Cambridge graduate (BA, M.Phil.) who then came to Oxford and completed his D.Phil. at LMH on 'Nietzsche and theodicy'; he is preparing a monograph based on his thesis for publication by OUP. Rebecca Clifford took her BA at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario and her MA at the University of Toronto, then came to St Antony's College where she completed her D.Phil. on commemorations of the Holocaust in France and Italy from the 1990s to 2005. She is now working with Robert Gildea's collaborative oral history project on protest movements in Europe in the years before and after 1968, with particular responsibility for Italy. Her work has taken her and will continue to take her on prolonged visits to that country, but, she tells us, 'I do miss the College when I'm away on research.' Her travels in Europe and Asia have provided many opportunities to indulge her taste for experimenting with exotic foods, including all manner of fish, flesh, fowl and insects. Joanna Bullivant (née Dunn) is a Christ Church graduate in music, currently working for her D.Phil. on 'Musical modernism and socialism in Britain, 1929-39', with particular reference to such politically left-wing composers as Benjamin Britten, Alan Bush,

Michael Tippett and Elizabeth Maconchy. She has published and spoken on Alan Bush, and in April convened a study day on British musical modernism in conjunction with the Faculty of Music and the Royal Musical Association. Finally, 'home-grown' Worcester theologian Natasha O'Hear (BA Philosophy and Theology 2003, M.St. 2004), whose D.Phil. is on artistic representations of the Book of Revelation in the later Middle Ages, is collaborating with Sue Gillingham, as noted below, on her work on the iconography of the Chapel.

As usual, we report on a selection of the Fellows' activities and achievements for the year now ending. Vice-Provost Simon Cowan has continued his research on price discrimination and is also investigating the role of metering in the management of water resources, a topic on which the Government has recently announced a major policy review. He also spoke on 'Regulation with a light hand' on two occasions in Australia in 2007. He is a member of a number of important University committees concerned with teaching policy and resource allocation<sup>5</sup>. Alan Ware has continued to work on his book on *The Dynamics of Two-Party Politics*, and contributed to a seminar at the Department of Politics in Cambridge. Susan Gillingham's *Psalms through the Centuries: an Introduction*, the first volume of her study of the place of the Psalms in Jewish and Christian tradition, was published by Blackwell in December 2007. A second volume, dealing with the reception of individual Psalms in translation, interpretation, and musical and artistic representations, is in preparation; so too her illustrated survey of the iconography of the College Chapel ('a coffee-table book, but it has to be academically respectable too'), in which she is being assisted by former pupil and now Junior Research Fellow Natasha O'Hear, and which they hope to complete before the end of next year. Kate Tunstall has spoken at conferences in Paris, Lyon, London and Oxford and at a three-day event in the Sheldonian on the topic of blindness and its representation in the arts, entitled 'Land of Silence and Darkness,' and involving artists, scientists and film-makers. Kate's interdisciplinary interests have also been recognised in her appointment as Academic Programme Director of the projected new Besterman Centre for the Enlightenment, which alongside the existing Voltaire Foundation, established through Dr Besterman's original benefaction in the 1960s, will, it is hoped, strengthen Oxford's reputation as a focus of research in

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<sup>5</sup> Dr Cowan adds, 'Those who studied economics in Worcester in recent years will be sad to hear of the death of Andrew Glyn, Fellow of Corpus Christi, in December 2007, of a brain tumour that was only discovered in September. Several hundred people, including a number of Worcester Old Members, attended his funeral in Corpus.'

comparative eighteenth-century studies. She also continues to be actively involved in the Oxford Amnesty Lectures, which this year made a donation of £5,000 to Amnesty International. Robert Saxton's radio opera *The Wandering Jew* will be recorded by the BBC this coming winter, with a cast of soloists including Robert's wife, the soprano Teresa Cahill. Several of Robert's choral and chamber works have recently been recorded, including his carol 'Was it Winter?' for a CD by the Worcester Chapel choir to be released later this year. He co-presented two of this summer's Proms on BBC 4, a full-length performance of Messiaen's *Transfiguration de Notre Seigneur Jésus-Christ* and a concert by Daniel Barenboim and his East-West Divan Orchestra of young Arab and Israeli musicians, playing Haydn, Schoenberg and Brahms. Jo Quinn, after publishing an article on the significance of penis size in ancient Athens, is recuperating on leave at the Getty Villa in Los Angeles, writing a book on pre-Roman North Africa. Donal Nolan spent Michaelmas Term on sabbatical leave in Melbourne, where, as he writes, despite the attractions of 'one of the best cities in the world in which to live', he managed to complete a number of articles, to make progress on a new project on the relationship between the Human Rights Act and tort law, and to give papers to staff seminars at the University of Melbourne and the ANU. Since his return he has taken on a new role as Vice-Chair of the Law Board. A paper on the 'Hongkong Fir Shipping Case' (which, he assures us, should be familiar to all lawyers!) was recently published in a collection entitled *Landmark Cases in the Law of Contract*, and next year he will be taking part in a similar project on leading cases in tort law. Cathryn Costello, while still working on her D.Phil. thesis, continues her engagement with European immigration and asylum law. She is currently acting as a consultant to the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, and in this capacity has prepared a report entitled *Improving the Quality and Consistency of Asylum Decisions in the Council of Europe Member States*. On a separate theme altogether, she has also been doing comparative research on constitutional conflicts between freedom of association and non-discrimination, research prompted by interest in on-going constitutional litigation in Ireland. Members of a prestigious golf-club claim that their constitutional right to freedom of association is violated by an anti-discrimination law which prohibits them from excluding women on grounds of sex. At the time of writing, Cathryn is teaching a short course on EU Constitutional Law at the National Law School of India in Bangalore. The third member of our current team of law tutors, Michelle Dempsey, has completed her D.Phil. on aspects of domestic violence, and has given birth to her second child: we offer our congratulations on both events. Jeremy Horder continues his work on the Law Commission, and Judith Freedman, Professor of Taxation Law, has



published a number of articles on her specialism, and is one of a team at the Oxford Centre for Business Taxation which has been awarded a grant of £2.5 million towards a four-year project on 'Business, Tax and Welfare', led by the Director of the Centre, Professor Michael Devereux.

Elisabeth Dutton has continued to enjoy her work with our Visiting Students, some of whom, she reports, have been 'truly exceptional.' Her edition of Julian of Norwich's *Revelation of Love*, commissioned by the International Sacred Literature Trust, appeared this February, and her monograph on Julian will appear with the Cambridge University Press later this year. She has spoken again at the Kalamazoo Medieval Conference, directed more productions of medieval plays, and reviewed the film of *Beowulf* for Radio 4. Our much-travelled Senior Research Fellow Mike Searle has continued to work on his Himalayan project, and has been awarded the Murchison Medal of the Geological Society of London for his work in the region; he has also worked in Syria, Oman, the Andaman Islands and Burma, witnessed the overthrow of the monarchy in Nepal, and met the Dalai Lama, by whom he was charmed but not converted. A little nearer home geographically, but further back in time, Peter Frankopan has published a number of articles leading up to two major studies which will refine and reshape our views of eleventh- and twelfth-century Byzantine literature; he has also served on the Committee on Gender Studies at Cambridge. James Kelly, Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer in English, has co-authored an article on Milton's 'Lycidas' with a former undergraduate student from Greyfriars, which has been accepted for publication by *Milton Quarterly*. His edition of a seventeenth-century buccaneer's manuscript journal for the Hakluyt Society is about to go to press, and he has commenced work on a new edition of Dampier's *New Voyage Round the World* for the OUP World's Classics. He is mounting an international conference on Milton's early writings which will take place at Worcester in May 2009; he has completed a Postgraduate Diploma in teaching and learning in higher education, and has won a Teaching Award from the University Humanities Division. JRF and Lecturer in Music Alex Buckle contributed to a Radio 3 Record Review feature on the music of Thomas Tallis. She has also been appointed Music Consultant to a major English Heritage project in the Great Tower of Dover Castle. The Great Tower was intended by Henry II partly as a palace for ceremonial functions, including the reception of the increasing numbers of important visitors from the Continent coming to the shrine of St Thomas à Becket at Canterbury, and English Heritage will aim to recreate for present-day tourists a sense of these occasions, including appropriate contemporary music, which Alex is engaged in selecting. Martin Galpin, after participating in a very stimulating conference in Dresden last year,

has co-authored a paper on the novel Kondo physics seen in recent experiments on carbon nanotube quantum dots, and is preparing further papers for publication and for conferences in Grenoble and Hvar (Croatia). Stephen Graham has continued his work on viral morphogenesis, investigating the methods that viruses use to survive and proliferate inside their human hosts, and is about to publish the results of his study of the ways in which the vaccinia virus (the vaccine used to eradicate smallpox) succeeds in fooling the immune system of its host. Marcus Leong, who joined us last year as a United Kingdom Research Council Research Fellow in the Engineering Department, is working on sustainable energy projects including electric vehicles and generators for renewable energy plants such as wind, wave and tidal turbines; he is an 'avid' tennis player and model car racer.

Our congratulations go to novelist and Honorary Fellow Peter Vansittart (1939) on the award of the OBE in the New Year Honours List, and to Paul Thornton (1969) and *Doctor Who* scriptwriter and producer Russell T. Davies (1981), who received the same distinction in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. And as we go to press it has been announced that Tim Stevenson, OBE (1967) has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, to succeed Sir Hugo Brunner from September of this year. The office involves a number of ceremonial duties, but also the general fostering of good relations between the various groups that make up the Oxfordshire community. Our warmest congratulations and good wishes to him for his new office.

Congratulations too to those who achieved academic and/or sporting success in the past year, and to all those who helped to enrich the College's musical, dramatic and cultural life: details are given in the several reports which follow.

Two Worcester graduates competed in the Beijing Olympics: our congratulations to Katherine (Daisy) Dick (1990), on her contribution to the bronze medal-winning equestrian eventing team (in which she replaced Zara Phillips, forced to withdraw owing to an injury to her horse), and to Helen Casey (1995) on reaching the semi-final of the women's lightweight double sculls.

Finally, an important non-event of the year. As the Provost writes in more detail below, the College's bid to acquire the Ruskin College building in Walton Street was unsuccessful. We understand that the future of the site is still uncertain, but that Ruskin are unlikely to vacate it before 2011.

After five years, it is time for me to hand over the Editorship of the *Record*. It has been both an instructive and enjoyable task, thanks in no small measure to Coleen Day, who has assembled information, particularly



from Old Members, chased up tardy contributors, herself furnished photographs for our new-style covers, dealt with our printers with admirable efficiency, and plied me with coffee and biscuits. Others whose help has been particularly valuable have been Edward Wilson, Scott Scullion, Jo Parker, Lesley Le Claire, Jane Gover and the other denizens of the College Office. My warmest thanks to them all, and my very best wishes to my (as yet unnamed) successor. May the *Record* continue to flourish, and to offer its readers too an appropriate blend of information and enjoyment.

**F.J.L.**