

COLLEGE FEE TO BE CUT

As foreshadowed in Issue 11, the Government has now decided on the size and timing of cuts in the College Fee – the sum paid annually to Oxbridge colleges to cover undergraduate tuition costs.

Much remains to be settled, but the broad outline is now reasonably clear:

- the total College Fee paid to Oxbridge for undergraduates will be reduced in annual stages from a 'premium' of £35mn to £23mn;
- the cuts will start in the academic year 1999/2000 and, in the case of Oxford, are expected to be in increments averaging about £1.4mn per year;
- from 1999 the Fee will be paid in a 'single cheque' to the University, which will be responsible for distributing funds to the colleges;
- the Government will use all means available to stop colleges recouping lost income through 'top-up' fees.

Until a distribution formula is agreed the financial impact on Keble remains uncertain. The best current guess,

however, is that by 2004 Keble will have lost some £300,000 p.a. of funding – a sum approaching one-sixth of its academic budget. Moreover, cuts beyond the £23mn baseline are entirely possible: any prudent long term planning has to contemplate the complete elimination of the Oxbridge premium.

Keble has been building up its conference business in anticipation of such cuts – it now has the largest conference income of any Oxford college. But this remains vulnerable to increasing competition, and to recession. In the long run there is no substitute for a stronger endowment. To produce an inflation-proofed increase in income of £300,000 p.a. would require a further £7.5mn in endowment: if the premium were eliminated altogether we would need in excess of £20mn.

Over the coming months Keble's Development Committee will be working on plans to meet this challenge. Meanwhile, Page 4 of this issue carries a report on a major initiative to strengthen further the College's links with its Old Members.

College	Norrington
1 Merton	8.35
2 St John's	8.25
3 University	8.18
4 Jesus	8.17
5 Wadham	8.09
6 Keble	8.08
7 Corpus	8.06
8 Trinity	8.05
9 New	8.05
10 Oriel	8.02
11 Magdalen	8.02
12 St Edmund Hall	8.02
13 Queen's	7.95
14 Lady MH	7.93
15 Exeter	7.90
16 Lincoln	7.84
17 Hertford	7.81
18 Brasenose	7.80
19 Balliol	7.75
20 Christ Chch	7.75
21 St Anne's	7.73
22 St Hugh's	7.68
23 Pembroke	7.65
24 St Hilda's	7.64
25 Somerville	7.60
26 St Catherine's	7.56
27 Worcester	7.54
28 Mansfield	7.46
29 St Peter's	7.40
30 Harris Manchester	7.00

RECORD YEAR FOR KEBLE FINALISTS

When the 1997 Schools results came in it was clear that Keble finalists had done very well. 85% got firsts or upper seconds. But in these days of political correctness the University does not publish exams results by college, so drawing comparisons isn't easy. The Norrington table, devised in 1963 and, for many years, the most watched measure of college performance, no longer has official backing. But the market will always supply a need and, in May, 'The Times' published the table. This showed Keble in sixth position, its best ever placing.

The table is calculated by awarding ten points for a first, eight for a 2.1, six for a 2.2, four for a third and two for a pass, and then calculating the average score per student for each college. Critics of the table argue that the spread of scores is very narrow, so that a handful of results can have a major impact on a college's placing.

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Whilst recognising this, Tim Jenkinson, Senior Tutor, feels the results support his view that Keble's tutors are particularly effective in helping 'borderline 2.1s'.

'A first needs good tuition but ultimately it's down to the student,' he suggests. 'And at the other end of the spectrum, a third is usually the result of a student adopting other priorities. Almost all our undergraduates are capable of getting 2.1s, but for quite a few the quality of tuition will make the difference between a 2.1 and a 2.2.'

As impressive as its Norrington position, is Keble's ranking for cost-effective tutoring. This measure involves dividing a college's tuition costs by its Schools' points (using the Norrington formula) to give a cost per point. On this measure Keble was placed second, spending one third less per Norrington point than the average.

COFFEE AND KILIMANJARO



Having climbed through the night, Charlie Nixon reaches the summit of Kilimanjaro

OU Tanzania 1997 was an Oxford University expedition to the foothills of Mt Meru, Northern Tanzania from July to September last year. The expedition, approved and supported by the Royal Geographical Society, was led by Charlie Nixon, a Keble geography undergraduate, who supplied this report.



Interviewing coffee farmers on Mount Meru

It took more than a year to reach our budget of £9,500, obtain research permits and make the necessary contacts in the field and in the UK. In this College, members proved an enormous help. We were very grateful to the Keble Association for a grant of £300. With this encouragement, and with the approval and advice of Gordon Smith and Professor Tim Burt, we approached former Keble geographers to ask for a small contribution. The response was amazing, and a total of nearly £500 was donated. Particularly encouraging was the number of responses from Old Members who had undertaken similar projects during their time here, or knew the area and offered advice and support. Thank you to everyone who helped.

Three dissertations were researched in Tanzania, focusing on the changing welfare of agriculturally dependant communities growing coffee on the steep, eroded slopes of Mount Meru. Working with Anaeli Elibariki, a Tanzanian student from the University of Dar Es Salaam, detailed interviews assessed the relative economic and social welfare of households following the introduction of structural economic reforms imposed by the IMF and World Bank in 1986. A second study examined

the changing role of women under these circumstances. Visibly high rates of erosion on the steep slopes prompted the third study – of soil degradation resulting from the pressure to cultivate plots of land more intensively and to farm new and often unsuitable areas.

Having been approached by a UK based charity, the expedition also delivered (with an extended weight limit from Gulf Air) a large supply of medical equipment to a hospital in Moshi near the fieldwork site. We concluded the expedition with an exhilarating ascent of the 5,895m Mount Kilimanjaro.

A fuller report of the expedition and research results can be obtained from Charlie via the Keble Development Office.

THE ART OF ADVOCACY

The annual Law Society mooting competition is an event now firmly established in the College calendar. The idea originated with Richard Leiper ('94). Now a tenant in the Lord Chancellor's set of chambers, Richard returned to judge the early rounds, whilst Marion Simmons QC, Master of Moots at Gray's Inn, judged the final. As in previous years, Rowe and Maw continued their generous sponsorship of this and other aspects of the study of Law at Keble.



Lisa Weston receives her prize from Arundel McDougal of Rowe and Maw, after winning the third annual Law Society mooting competition.

CONFERENCE KEBLE

Within days of the end of term, Keble transforms itself into a conference centre. Young people laden with books, chatting by the Chapel or lying on the grass, no longer populate the quads. Their rooms, the JCR and the Hall are taken over by business professionals, teachers, nurses, politicians, and academics. Like the students, though, they all invariably end up in the bar.

The College has hosted a variety of gatherings in the past year, including a training week for shopkeepers, one for barristers, a meeting of the British HIV Association, and a conference on investment in Africa. VIPs have been known to bring their own chefs, their own bodyguards, even their own loos.

Keble earns over a million pounds annually from the conference trade – roughly twice as much per student as the average Oxford College. Students also profit from the business, working as scouts or bartenders, or waiting in Hall and the SCR. Conference attendees



Earl Cairns, Chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation, and President Museveni of Uganda with the Warden at a conference dinner.

welcome the opportunity to learn about Oxford first hand from these students, and the students enjoy contact with all sorts of people they might not otherwise meet, from prelates to presidents.

Conferences at Keble do have a downside for the students.

Undergraduates must vacate their rooms promptly when term finishes. The rooms – almost all en-suite, with new furniture – are kept to a higher standard than before, but rent charges are also higher. Finally, some students find it strange to see what they regard as *their* college, *their* quads and *their* rooms, occupied by 'strangers'.

Despite the mixed blessings, conference income is vital to Keble's well-being. In response to the growth in the business the College has created its own conference company, *Conference Keble Limited*. With smart accommodation, a large dining hall, good conference facilities, all combined with the magic of Oxford, its trading outlook looks healthy.

Any member whose organization is interested in holding a conference at Keble should contact Marilyn Bowler (telephone 01865 272789, fax 01865 272729, or e-mail conference@keble.oxford.ac.uk).

DARTMOUTH LINK

With the arrival of the long vacation comes the departure of the latest quartet of students from Dartmouth, the Ivy League college in New Hampshire with which Keble has an exchange programme. Four students come over each term to read Economics or Politics. In return, Keble sends two students on scholarships during Dartmouth's summer term, which coincides with our long vacation.



Lee Bronsnick, Dominic LaValle, Brian Laibow and Jason Deeken plus two of the Dartmouth bikes

The link was developed following the sabbatical term which Tim Jenkinson, Keble's Economics Fellow, spent at Dartmouth three years ago.

Dartmouth students confess to feeling spoiled by the individual attention they receive in tutorials here. Back home, tutorials involve up to thirty students at a time. They also notice a greater focus on writing here – 15 essays per term instead of 5 – and appreciate the emphasis on independence. Tim Jenkinson is equally appreciative of their academic abilities and willingness to work.

One unusual aspect of the link is that Bill Thompson, Head Porter, now has custody of four identical 'Falcon Stealth' bikes. The College realised it was unreasonable to expect students who were only coming for a term to acquire their own transport, so Bill negotiated a bulk purchase. Thus mobilised, the

Dartmouth visitors have been able to explore the parts of Oxford that cars cannot reach – which is to say, all of it. They love Oxford and its history, and are particularly taken with the social scene and the lower drinking age compared to the USA, where it is 21. Rather surprising, considering that hardly any alcohol is consumed in Keble Bar!

We wish them well in their future careers and look forward hearing reports from Hsienmin Toh (English) and Simon Duffy (History) who are off to Dartmouth for the summer.



Inter-planetary bounty hunters, dancing space sirens, madcap scientists – the Keble float in the 1998 Rag Parade won the competition to collect the most money for charity with its frenetic display of interstellar lunacy.

COLLEGE STARTS YEAR GROUPS INITIATIVE

Over the next few months the College plans to establish year group committees for all post-1945 matriculation years. The aim is, for each year, to have a small group of Old Members who will take the lead in helping the College to strengthen its links with their contemporaries.

There are three aspects to the work. The first is to obtain more and better information on members of the year group: Keble has almost 7,000 'live' Old Members, but has lost contact with a

fifth of them, and its information on those it is in touch with is, as often as not, sketchy and out of date. The second is to give year groups the opportunity to organise events which best appeal to their members: Gaudies are splendid occasions, but they only come round once every seven or eight years, so the College has drawn up a menu of other events, from smaller dinners and receptions to discotheques and barbecues, which it can offer to year group organisers. And the third aspect is fundraising: year groups will give the

College a framework within which future campaigns can be conducted.

The idea comes from the United States, where many alumni organisations have been built on a year group basis. Indeed, it was at the urging of Old Members who had experienced the US approach that the College decided to adopt it. One such Old Member, Andrew Arends ('80, PPE and subsequently graduate school at Harvard) describes the impact of year groups at his other *alma mater*...

YEAR GROUPS – THE HARVARD EXPERIENCE



Looks familiar? Harvard's Tanner Memorial Hall, opened in the same year (1878) as Keble Hall. If only our endowments were as similar as our buildings!

In the 15 or so years since I left Keble, I've received just a handful of fundraising requests. Since I left Harvard 10 years ago, I've received so many that they have their own filing cabinet. Facts like these help to explain why Harvard University, with a gross endowment of over \$11bn (£6.6bn) has an endowment per student of over \$600,000 (£366,000) – well over ten times the figure for Keble. Last year alone, the Harvard endowment fund distributed some \$500mn to the university departments, accounting for 30% of the university's total income.

This firepower enables Harvard to be a centre of excellence – able to attract some of the best academics and scholars from around the world. It also enables it to provide substantial financial aid to those academically qualified students whose background and income would not normally allow them to afford a Harvard education, as well as providing excellent accommodation, library and other facilities.

But what is intriguing about the Harvard endowment is that the major growth has taken place over the past 20 years. Faced with cuts in government research grants in the late 1970s, American universities set off to replace those funds and more with an on-going series of campaigns and appeals that tapped into the goodwill of their alumni.

Harvard does this by trying to develop the concept of a 'community' of its alumni: Year group co-ordinators communicate with other members of their class on a semi-annual basis; class reunions occur every five years and are centred around a programme of activities and meetings designed to build closer ties between the alumni and the university. The alumni have responded – most recently helping to raise \$1.8bn over four years in the latest five year campaign. What is even more remarkable is that students pay substantial fees to attend Harvard and yet still feel able to give generously after they have left.

The parallels with the American experience are clear. Keble now is faced



The interior of Harvard's Memorial Hall. Originally built as a memorial to Harvard's Civil War casualties, this was recently renovated by a gift from the foundation established by Walter Annenberg – former Ambassador to the UK.

with sharp government cutbacks and must seek to replace those funds, finding those resources to ensure that it can sustain the highest possible quality in education and research and continue to provide access to all academically qualified students. We alumni are an important part of that process – helping to build that community that links Keble past and present and, where we can, providing financial support to preserve the best that the College offered us in the past and will continue to offer to generations in the future.

If you would like to know more about Keble's plans for year groups, or would be willing to help with the running of your year group, please contact Roger Boden or Isla Smith in the Development Office. (Tel 01865 272786; Fax 01865 272735; email roger.boden@keble.oxford.ac.uk)

KEBLE REVISITED – THE BLENHEIM GIRLS RETURN



On Tuesday 23 June, a 'moment in time' was recaptured. The College hosted a Reunion for the young ladies who had worked for the War Office at Blenheim Palace during the war and were billeted here in the College. 60 'girls' came, the youngest being 71.

Some had not seen each other since those days, but many had formed and nurtured lifetime friendships. Any worries over not recognising each other were quickly dispelled over sherry in the SCR, and the lunch in the Hall proved to be a memorable occasion for all. For many, it was the first time that they had seen the Hall without blackout curtains.

In the afternoon, the girls visited rooms which they had lived in, some for 5 years, and stood amazed at the advances in heating and plumbing. During the war, a bucket of coal a week was the ration for the open fires in the rooms, shaving water was brought round by the scouts and a bath was a luxury rarely experienced as there were so few in the College.



The many letters of appreciation confirm that it was a truly memorable day for the 'girls'. For us at the College, it was wonderful to see such a remarkable group of women recalling a very important time of their lives.

FAMILY DAY – 27 JUNE

The 1998 Family Day built on the success of the inaugural event two years ago. Old Members and their families filled the Hall to capacity for lunch. After a decent interval, races and games were organised in the Fellow's Garden for the 85 children present, where there was also a bouncy castle. Traditional favourites such as egg and spoon and sack races were run with much gusto and the parents' race, a balloon bursting relay, was fiercely contested. Many older children chose to do the Keble Quiz, scouring the College for the answers to such questions as 'What do the entrances to P1 and P2 have two of that P4, P5 and P6 have only one of?' The winning score was very impressive!

Tea and strawberries in Liddon Quad rounded off a very happy day on which the weather was far kinder than the forecasters had predicted: whilst Wimbledon sprouted umbrellas and

every cricket match in the country was rained off, we were able to sit in the sun and enjoy the College at its best.



DIARY

Friday 2 October

'Experimental' Degree day. For the first time ever, the College will be presenting all its current year finalists for their degrees at the same time.

Early October

The Record circulated to Old Members

Sunday 11 October

Michaelmas Term starts

Friday 13 November

Richardson Lecture, Pusey Room, 5.30 p.m. All Old Members welcome. Details in *The Record*.

Sunday 29 November

Advent Carol Service in the Chapel, 5.30 p.m. All Old Members welcome

1999

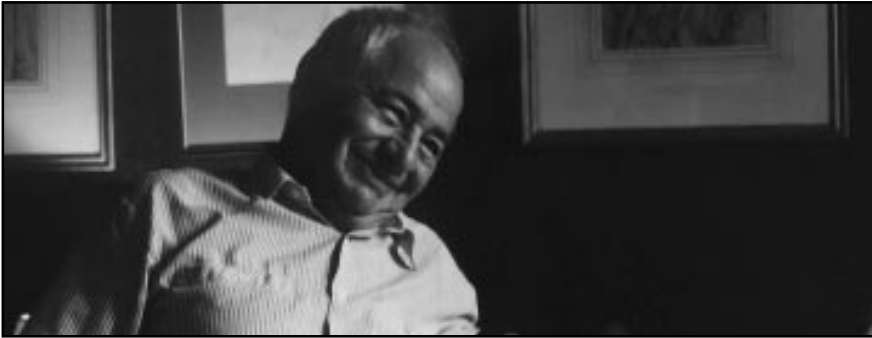
Friday 29 January

London Dinner. Details and booking form in *The Record*.

Friday 20 March

Gaudy for Old Members who matriculated in the years 1976-80. Invitations will be sent out in January.

NOT NOW, KERSHAW. I'M LISTENING TO WAGNER.



Fictional Keble history graduate, Adrian Kershaw, is the new assistant to Inspector Morse in 'The Wench Is Dead', the most recent Morse tale to be filmed. Real first-year English student, Elizabeth Stopford, invited author Colin Dexter into College to talk about Lewis's replacement.

The arrival of Kershaw, a Keble graduate, marks a radical departure from the Morse – Lewis relationship. It was prompted by the withdrawal of Kevin Whately, who plays Lewis, allegedly due to contractual problems. Whately is so identified with Lewis that it was impossible to keep the character without the actor, so Dexter invented a replacement.

Sadly, Kershaw's fame may be short-lived. Dexter claims to be rather weary of 'Morse', insisting this will be the last in the series. Yet the introduction of a new assistant carries the potential for a further development of the Morse character. Kershaw is no Lewis: the blunt, down-to-earth northerner is replaced with an Oxford graduate who might be too clever for comfort. He is described in the stage script as, 'A young PC...early 20s, working class background but with the added gloss of an Oxford degree'.

Kershaw is clearly suited to the case in hand, the murder, in Victorian times, of a woman found by the Oxford canal. His historical knowledge easily eclipses Morse's own, and Morse feels threatened by the young graduate, even though he realises the worth of his intellect. During a scene in which Kershaw offers important information concerning the past use of some buildings, Morse asks how he knows all this. The probationer constable displays his irritation at the menial tasks he has been given. 'I got my degree in Oxford before I became a teaboy. First in history, Keble College.

Like another, Sir?' Not the quickest way to Morse's heart!

Despite the ingenuity of his plots, and his Cambridge background (about which he is surprisingly reticent), Dexter appears to share Morse's attitude towards Oxford's intelligentsia. He has enormous respect for the brilliance of the dons, comparing their abilities to 'moving into fifth gear in a car'. Yet he retains a dislike of pretentiousness. This, perhaps, explains his own modesty, his self-deprecating persona. Dexter claims, 'I've never said anything significant in my life'.

His respect for learning, which he shares with Morse, is rooted in his childhood – it

has been said that he writes all his novels for his English teacher. Dexter tells the story of a memorable classroom experience. The teacher asked everyone what they had been reading. When Dexter replied 'Scott', he was held up to the class as a 'cultured soul in a wilderness of Beans'. Asked which Walter Scott novel he had been reading, Dexter told us he would have given the whole world to have been able to name any one. He had, in fact, been reading about Scott of the Antarctic.

Why Keble? Dexter has been involved with the College in the past. He used to speak on the Summer Schools organised by Jean Robinson and Christopher Ball in the 80s. Having been shown the 'voids' by Jean Robinson on one occasion, the College became the setting for *The Settling of the Sun*. He said of Keble (through Robert Hardy) in the television episode *Twilight of the Gods* (1993), that it was the most 'memorable' college in Oxford!

Let's hope Keble's own Adrian Kershaw will persuade his creator to give the beloved Endeavour Morse (for that, indeed, is his first name) a new lease of life.

ART PARTY AT FREUD'S

Nazish Minhas reports on a night out that could start a trend

Art met club culture in Fifth Week of Trinity, as a group called the 'Monopoly Collective' took over Freud's in Walton Street. Keble fresher Jamie Goodman helped organize and stage the event, entitled *Colour is the Type of Love* (a saying of John Ruskin's).

The event featured work by artists from Ruskin College – encompassing film, fashion, photography and painting – to the cutting-edge sounds of Drum 'n Bass and electronica. The aim was to achieve sensory enjoyment on as many levels as possible, and the eclecticism of the components worked with the chilled-out music to create a dynamic and stimulating atmosphere and a very successful evening.

The goal of the Collective is to promote student talent in a relaxed and sociable environment in which art is much more accessible. 'The talent is there,' explains Jamie, 'and Oxford students are capable of appreciating something more than a kebab-and-lager night out.' Monopoly Collective wants to make contemporary art more accessible, and to rid it of the stigma of pretentiousness. 'It's time to take art out of the strait-jacket of the gallery and into an interactive environment,' he says.

The Collective hopes to stage more parties at atmospheric venues such as Freud's, but the focus will continue to be the art. Jamie hopes Monopoly will become 'a by-word for a good night out'. Given the brilliant impression left by the night at Freud's, it looks as if his hopes are well on the way to being realised.

KEBLE GOLF

Keble has a long history of Golf Blues. Last year two of the team that beat Cambridge 11-4 were from Keble – Mike Hall ('96) and Dave McDowell ('93). Two years previously Keble had arguably the best University golfer of recent times – Charlie Rotheroe ('94), who also won Blues for Squash and Racquets. His was one of the best Oxford sides for decades, but despite Charlie winning both his matches comfortably, Oxford had to come from behind for a narrow win.

Charlie's great achievement, though, was to win the famous President's Putter two years in succession ('96 and '97), a feat no one else has achieved. The President's Putter is a matchplay knockout competition held in January every year at Rye in Sussex, open to all members of the Oxford & Cambridge Golf Society. This society is made up of all past Blues from both universities. Being held in the middle of January means that it is blessed invariably with horrendous golfing weather. This, added to some good golf, gives it reason to be extensively covered in the national press.

The Blues team consists of ten players and beyond that there are two reserves. These two reserves, who also can gain membership to the Society, are awarded what are called 'Dinner Blues'. The reason for this is that on the day before the two day Varsity Match the two sets of reserves play each other in a game of



Toby Griffiths, the latest in a distinguished line of Keble golfers, deciding between a 9 iron and a wedge for the tricky shot over the Chapel into the Parks

foursomes and two singles to decide which university pays for the dinner held on the Saturday night. This obviously results in considerable peer pressure and possible financial hardship for the losers! This year at Rye, Toby Griffiths ('94), who also won three hockey Blues, played in the Dinner Match.

A number of colleges now have Golfing Societies for Old Members, and there have been several inter-collegiate matches. Anyone interested in establishing a Keble Golfing Society should contact Roger Boden at the Development Office.

SUMMERTIME BLUES

Summer Eights brought mixed fortunes for the Boat Club. The men's 1st VIII, stroked by Olympic gold-medallist Jurgen Hecht, looked promising in qualifying, and were in confident move after bumping Christ Church on the first day. But a bump on Balliol on Thursday was disallowed, and on Friday, within a canvas of catching Balliol again, a caught crab stalled the boat and Jesus came through. A Saturday row-over left the crew back where it had started the week. Other crews experienced similar triumphs and disasters. The exception was the 'Jazz Crew', which narrowly missed blades.



The bump that wasn't – Keble close Balliol at the Gut on Day 2



Keble's Jason Molins ('97, DipSoc) prepares to snatch a quick single in the one-day Varsity Match in May, oblivious of the imminent arrival of a golf ball



James Brierley ('96, Geography) won the men's high jump event at the Athletics Varsity Match with a clearance of 2m20. Emma Wilson ('97, Law), shared third place in the women's competition

PEOPLE

Adrian Hollis, Keble's Sub-Warden and member of the British team which won the World Postal Chess Championship, comments on a remarkable concentration of talent.

The first outstanding Keble chess player of recent times was David Goodman ('77). He had shown exceptional ability as a schoolboy, winning the Junior World Championship. David happened to be brother-in-law to Grandmaster Raymond Keene, chess correspondent of *The Times*, who introduced to us David Norwood ('88), Keble's first Grandmaster, now a columnist in *The Daily Telegraph* and several times captain of England in world team tournaments.

Our second Grandmaster was Dharshan Kumaran ('93), who had tied for the British Championship (losing the play-off) before coming to Keble, and he will soon be joined by Jonathan Rowson ('96). The latter has a mysterious benefactor, who has several times put up £5,000 for Jonathan to play matches against established Grandmasters.

Oxford chess altogether is of a higher standard, nationally and internationally,



The Warden, Professor Averil Cameron, opening the session on 'Practical Buildings and Dreaming Spires: Architecture in Oxford' at the University's New York Reunion, held at the Waldorf Hotel in March.

than almost any other sport or game played by the University. All the more perverse, therefore, that chess should be denied at least a half-blue. After graduation such talented players have to decide whether or not to become professional tournament chess players – not an easy living except for those who prove to be world class Grandmasters. This dilemma may be faced by Harriet Hunt (daughter of our medical Tutor, Simon Hunt), who has followed the

Hungarian Polgar sisters in showing that women's underachievement in chess was a matter of social conditioning. In the 1998 University match Oxford beat Cambridge, but the top three boards could be considered a 3 – 0 victory for Keble, since Dharshan and Jonathan won for Oxford and Harriet no less impressively for Cambridge. In Michaelmas Term 1998 Keble should acquire one of the best young women players, if the A-level examiners concur.

the brick

the brick is written, designed and produced by current and former Keble undergraduates and graduates, with the assistance of the Keble Development Office.

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COMPETITION CORNER

The position shown comes from a postal game, won by Adrian Hollis against a Dutch Grandmaster. White's first move is obvious enough, but a solution must show how white can achieve a quick checkmate or decisive gain of material against each of Black's four possible replies.

Solutions, please, to The Development Office, Keble College, Oxford, OX1 3PG, to arrive no later than 1 October. Adrian will adjudicate, and the winner's prize will, as ever, be dinner for two at High Table.

