

the brick

CRACKING UP

Three years ago, in a project lasting nine months, the Hall ceiling was cleaned. The results transformed the space. Now it is the turn of the floor.

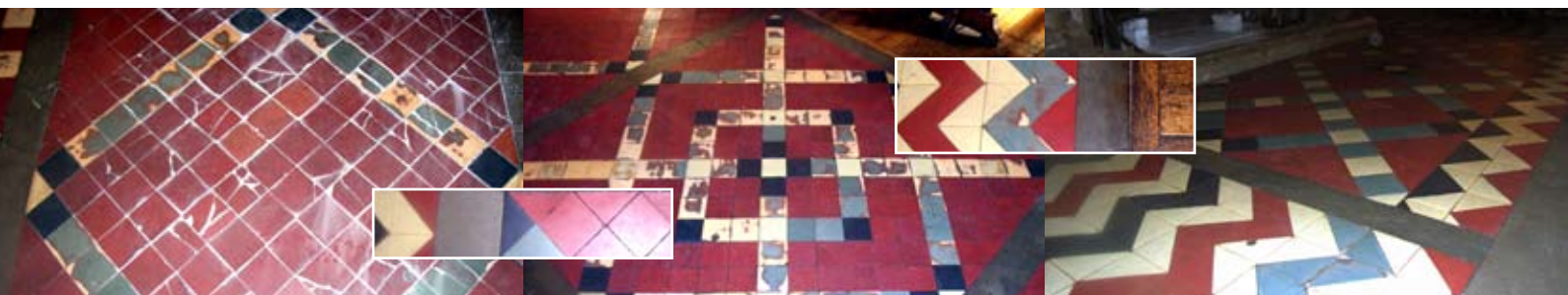
Keble's Hall is the longest in Oxford and probably its busiest. Its floor is supported by two massive steel beams that run the length of the Hall, across which are laid timber beams. These in turn support a lath and mortar base on which the tiles are laid. Over the past 130 years two processes have been at work, particularly in the areas of heaviest traffic near the servery. The junctions between the timber and steel beams have become worn, resulting in a disconcerting springiness in the floor. And the mortar has eroded, partly because of this springiness and partly because of decades of diligent cleaning.

The area under the musicians' gallery cracked up years ago and was replaced with quarry tiles, destroying the Butterfield tile patterns that are one of the glories of the Hall. In the past few months a further area of tiles has had to be removed for safety reasons. But plans to restore the floor are

now well advanced and the work will be carried out over the next Christmas vacation.

Advised by its conservation architect, David Yandell, the College is pursuing a policy of localized repair rather than wholesale replacement of the tiles. As with the ceiling, the aim is to restore, not renew. The second greatest challenge is to achieve exact matches for the tiles—in particular it seems to be almost impossible to replicate the blood red colour. But test firings are continuing and the plan is to have a stockpile of tiles sufficient to restore half of the total floor area. Of this, perhaps half will be used in the forthcoming restoration: the rest will be stored for use as needed over the coming decades.

And the greatest challenge? We have no record of Butterfield's design for the area that was replaced with quarry tiles thirty years ago so our architect is charged with trying to imagine what it might have been. For any Old Member who happens to have a photograph of the original floor design under the gallery, dinner at High Table beckons.



MEAKINS PRIZE

Three Old Members, Nick West, James Ashwell (1993) and Stuart Mathieson (1994), supported by the Meakins family, have set up the Denis Meakins Prize, in memory of Denis who was Tutor and Fellow in Organic Chemistry from 1965–93. The first recipient, James Lillington met the principal criteria of excellent results in Chemistry. He has also made a significant contribution to College life, playing the trumpet in the Keble Jazz Band which has performed regularly in

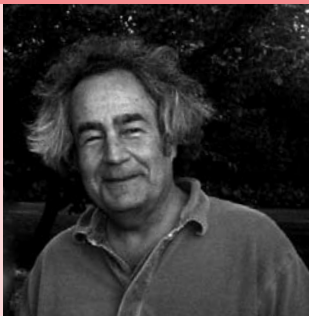

Keble Arts Week; participating in the squash ladder and representing the College in Dancesport, the 'Cha' and 'Quickstep' being his particular areas of expertise. James hopes to continue his studies at graduate level.

If any Old Member wishes to add to the fund which has been set up to endow this prize, Isla Smith in the Development Office would be delighted to hear from you.



Stephen Heyes (Tutor and Fellow in Chemistry), Nancy Meakins, James Lillington

DIARY

Apr	22	Saturday 28			
	Trinity Term Begins	Memorial Gathering for Peter Derow <i>see right</i>	Peter Derow, Tutor in Ancient History, died suddenly of a heart attack before Christmas. His life will be commemorated at a gathering in the Sheldonian at 2.15pm (doors open at 1.45pm) on Saturday 28 April. There is tea afterwards at Wadham where Peter was a Fellow—all his former students are warmly invited.		
May	Saturday 5	BA Degree Day for 2006 Finalists <i>Some places still available. 2005 Finalists may also enquire.</i> Contact Ruth Cowen.	 www.kebleball.com <i>Old Members welcome.</i>	Eric Symes Abbot Memorial Lecture <i>Keble Chapel 5.30pm</i> Initiating Jesus: An Inclusive Approach to New Testament Ethics. <i>Revd Dr Richard Burridge, Dean of King's College, London.</i>	Rowing Society AGM & Eights Week Dinner <i>KRS membership form & Eights Week Dinner booking form enclosed.</i>
	Saturday 2	Garden Party <i>Old Members can apply for tickets (£10 each, payable to Keble College) from Trish Long, the Warden's PA. Invitations have been sent to parents/guardians of second year undergraduates and to first year graduates to invite members of their families.</i>	Reunion Weekend <i>For Old Members who matriculated between the years 1978–82.</i> <i>Enquiries to Ruth Cowen.</i>	KA AGM & Summer Dinner <i>The perfect opportunity to meet up with your Keble friends! Why not have your own mini Reunion? All Old Members welcome.</i> <i>Booking form enclosed.</i>	
	Saturday 28	MA Degree Day <i>Some places for 1999s.</i> www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni/degree-days Retirement Dinner for Adrian Hollis <i>Invitations will be sent to Adrian's former students.</i>	Sep	Fri 14–Sun 16 2007 Oxford Reunion Weekend—Meeting Minds <i>www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk</i> <i>See p7.</i>	Fri 28 50th Anniversary Lunch for 1957s <i>Invitations to be sent out in June.</i>

Contacts: Development Office, Keble College, Oxford OX1 3PG <http://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni/>
 isla.smith@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865) 272786 • ruth.cowen@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865) 282338
 camilla.matterson@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865) 272794 • db.lenck@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865) 272799
 trish.long@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865) 272700 • dev.off@keble.ox.ac.uk

Keble College Music Society

If you'd like to receive copies of future KCMS term cards, email termcard@keblemusic.co.uk with your address, or visit www.keblemusic.co.uk, at

the start of term, where an electronic version can be downloaded. All Old Members are welcome to attend any event free of charge.

THE BRICK INTERVIEW: DAVID OWEN NORRIS

3

Isla Jeffrey (2004, English) and Barney Norris (2006, English) interviewed David Owen Norris (1972, Music) recently appointed Honorary Fellow, Pianist, Broadcaster and Educational Fellow of the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Did studying music at Keble aid your career?

From Keble I gained a real breadth of education. I had a lot of friends studying English or Theology, so I picked up knowledge that I wouldn't have got at a Conservatoire. Unexpected cross-reference means that I can make employment in more fields than most pianists. THEWORKS has started a new programming strand in Art Galleries, for instance. For the Constable Exhibition in Washington DC, we sang English Landscape Songs, and we're following an exhibition of women painters round the country with songs by Rebecca Clarke and Lili Boulanger.

Keble seems to crop up in my life a lot. The Parish Priest who confirmed me was here in the 30s—my new oratorio, *Prayerbook*, premiered last October by the Oxford Bach Choir, is dedicated to him. (He had some gruesome stories about the bath—THE bath—which seems to have once been housed in Keble Clocktower, where the JCR is now. If you tipped the scout a shilling, you could have clean water!) Last autumn I made a BBC series called *Faith & Art*, and discovered that Walter Hussey, Vicar of St Matthew's Northampton, and later Dean of Chichester—famous for his commissions from Britten and Bernstein, Sutherland and Moore—was a Keble man. All those hours in the Chapel must have sown a seed. There are Keble musicians everywhere—Simon McVeigh and Mark Everist have been wonderful colleagues as I dip my toe into academe at Southampton University, where I keep my collection of ancient pianos; the other day I christened the piano in Waltham Abbey, and found Stephen Bullamore; whenever I'm in Nottingham I see Robert Pascall; I run into Simon Over from time to time. To name but a few!

How has College changed over the years?

Keble was a very confident college in the 1970s, perhaps because it felt it had to be! Now its confidence is embodied in a remarkable range of activities and facilities: the Music Room and the piano, for instance, and the Theatre. I'm very pleased to see College Music flourishing still. The Acland site will make even more things possible. The College is in a very strong position.

What are your defining memories of Keble?

My lasting memories are of independent thinkers: the more I think about the way I think now, the more I'm grateful to the Warden in my time, Dennis Nineham. I remember that my entrance interview with him started with a discussion

of medieval strip-farming and ended with me demonstrating country dancing. I read music, of course!

I've been mingling with medievalists more and more lately. I listened to Andreas Haug on early notation just the other day, and was delighted when, with great reverence, he quoted Malcolm Parkes, who manfully endured my piano practice through the wall for two years at Keble—he was unlucky enough to have the next room. And every medievalist I ever meet does a little bow when John Caldwell is mentioned.

As we were a men's college, we had to recruit sopranos from St Hugh's and LMH in particular and my worst memory is the anxiety I felt every Sunday that no sopranos would turn up to Choir. I felt it personally if my recruitment from the women's colleges failed. I was often late for the daily evensongs because I was out punting, so I had no brownie points to spare with the Chaplain, Geoffrey Rowell. When he became Bishop of Basingstoke, he came to Andover Parish Church and found me at the organ. It must have been a nasty shock, but the fact that he gave me the honour of playing for his service at Winchester Cathedral when he became Bishop of Gibraltar makes me feel he may have forgiven me.

What are you up to at the moment?

In February, I recorded the piano version of Elgar's symphonic study *Falstaff*, accompanied Sir John Tomlinson in Schubert's *Winterreise*, and recorded 2 CDs of Elgar's songs and piano music at Elgar's own piano—that's a co-production between our group, THEWORKS, and the BBC. I've also been making a comparative review of 26 versions of Elgar's First Symphony for Radio 3's *Building a Library*, and I'm working on my new translation of Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire*. We're doing it in Dartington in July, with shadow puppets and stage lighting. On top of that, I need to dream up some sort of launch event for two CDs that are coming out soon on the Dutton label—Arnell's Piano Concerto and Horowitz's *Jazz Concerto*.

How do you feel about your Honorary Fellowship?

It was a great surprise. I was delighted. Nothing could have given me greater pleasure.

There is a special subscribers' package available for Norris's double CD of Elgar's Songs & Piano Music at Elgar's 1844 Broadwood Square. Details on www.the-works.org



AROUND THE COLLEGE

Sculptures

The floor to ceiling windows and mirrors in the Douglas Price Room make a perfect setting to display two wooden sculptures by local sculptor, Dominique Lussière.

photo Richard Lowkes



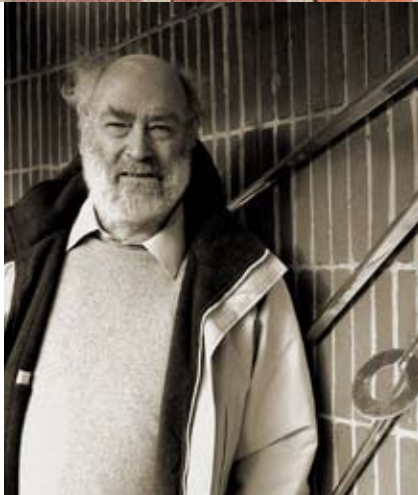
Physics Students Opt for Keble

I was invited to the Physics black tie dinner where I met some inspiring undergraduates and learnt that Keble was the first choice for 63 candidates, 55% more than any other college, making it the top college for applications this year. Keble's ten places were offered and, due to improved collaboration across the University, ten more candidates received offers from other colleges.



Why Keble? It is only two minutes from the Physics department, but that has always been true. It is much more likely that a reputation of first class teaching with many undergraduates going on to D.Phil. study has contributed. Professor Allison, Physics Fellow, suggests the welcome given to prospective students on Open Days should not be underestimated, and of course—because it's Keble!

■ Marie Houghton



photos Ian Bhullar

Good Fellowship

The engineer's maxim that 'form follows function' was the inspiration for a new sundial on the ARCO building. It was commissioned by retired Engineering Professor, Martin Oldfield, and his wife Sue. The elegant, polished stainless steel and the gnomon's minimalist shape of a gas turbine blade reflect the Newman Quad's clean aesthetic as well as the colours of the grass and sky. It has Arabic numerals, used by mathematicians, rather than traditional Roman ones. Professor Oldfield was assisted by artist David Harber's creative and technical skills, gaining the approval of Rick Mather, ARCO architect. The sundial bears two subtle inscriptions (and you'll have to look carefully to find them!); 'Fear no more the heat o' the sun', taken from Cymbeline, honours the completion of Professor Oldfield's 41 years at the College; the second is an academic's pun: 'To good fellowship.' www.davidharbersundials.co.uk

■ Thea Warren and Ian Bhullar

Music Matters

Two KCMS events stand out this term: the Warden's termly Recital and the Keble Choral Society Concert. Always striving for variety in these events, The Warden's Recital was filled with virtuoso performances by the Chaplain, Allen Shin, (a fine opera singer); Laura Huang on the Violin; Paul Wee entertained with a Bach/Busoni arrangement; Gabi Benton-Stage (a new choral scholar) sang Gluck and Derek 'the Porter' Waldron brought the house down with some fabulous accordion playing. The next day, The Choral Society performed Schubert's fine Mass in G and Mendelssohn's *Hear my Prayer* in the stunning setting of the Chapel, conducted by Oliver Walker, the Senior Organ Scholar.



Keble Arts Week 2007

Generously sponsored by the Keble Association, Arts Week began with an evening of music, provided by the Keble Jazz Band, and a dance demonstration performed by JCR President, Paul Dwyer and Danielle Sullivan with their partners. During the evening John Grieves, President of the KA, spoke about the work of the Keble Association, and its valuable role in promoting Arts within the College. The week continued with a Comedy Idol event, raising £85 for UNICEF, plus a Battle of the Bands contest which raised

£60 for WaterAid, both events being coordinated by Keble JCR Charities Officer, Jodie Pennells. The Concert of Love performed by the Keble College Choir in the Chapel was a fitting celebration of Valentine's Day. Throughout the week, students performed music in Café Keble over lunch, and the O'Reilly Theatre was the venue for film nights. Other highlights included Flamenco and Tango lessons, an Origami class and a life drawing session.

■ Daniel Wilson



Figure drawing by
△ Coco Bayley

◁ Keble Jazz Band

For more information on the KA visit www.kebleassociation.org.uk

Carry On Cinderella

The children of Keble were brassily entertained at Christmas with the sweet, yet salty, trifle that is pantomime. The cast maintained a jolly pace throughout, with high camp, bawdy repartee, slapstick, outrageous costumes, and the mock foreboding of fairy tale horror, with the happiest of endings. Buttons (Richard Brain (Accommodation Coordinator), Director, writer and animator) spun the show fantastically from centre stage, while the imperious ugly sisters Nausya (Gerard McHugh, Hall Manager) and Hysteria (Stuart Cherry, SCR Butler) sneered mightily at the daintily feisty Cinderella (Jo Bowen, Hall Supervisor). Glowing with malice

was the Baroness (Caroline Brett, College Gardener), who bamboozled the bumbling Baron (Miles Chetwynd-Stapylton, IT Officer). The King (Michael 'Elvis' Lawson, Assistant Chef) 'lived', the Queen (Margaret Sarosi, Librarian) smiled nobly, while the Prince (Sharon Murphy, Executive Sous Chef) was the quintessential leading boy. The animated (in more than one sense), mafioso Fairy Godfather was a surreal creation. Full marks for the efficiently

effective scenery and props team, who, amongst many feats, transformed a pumpkin into a Tardis (carriages are so last millennium). Three cheers and a hoorah!



Camilla Matterson, Andy Hardiman,
△ Richard Brain and Jo Bowen

■ Keith Brain



Photos Graham Bowen

△ Nausya, Gerard McHugh

SPORT

6

Blue Crews

Congratulations and good luck to Terence Kooyker who is rowing in the Blue Boat and to Lucas Dalglish and Matthew Brown who are rowing for Isis.



Andrea Kussman

Rugby Cuppers Victory

Congratulations to Keble's rugby team, who have been enjoying unprecedented success since the start of Michaelmas. The team earned plenty of local newspaper attention after their double victory of gaining the 1st Division title twice this year, as well as becoming champions of the rugby league Cuppers competition. Having won ten of their 13 matches this season, the Keble team now appear well on their way to success in Trinity's rugby union Cuppers as well. They beat New College 34-15 in the semi-finals match that took place in Eighth Week.



Well done to all those who played, including fresher students Tom Ainsworth and Max Cole, and best of luck for the finals.

■ Natasha Vashisht



Back (l to r): Karis Eaglestone, Janis Meek, Jelena Boskovic, Soraya Gilanni, Coco Bayley, Marnie Dickens, Gretchen Lennon, Sarah Rouse, Inga Deakin; Front: Sophie Palmer,

△ Helen Pugh, Gemma Gulliford, Abi Stone and Andi Kussman

Wonder Women Win Cuppers

Keble Women's football club has exultantly fended off all competition to win the prestigious title of Cuppers Champions. Strong graduate involvement tends to be rare in college sport, but this team is an exception to the rule and this year's triumph can be firmly attributed to the integration and dedication of the graduates and undergraduates from all year groups, beginners and university players alike.

Somerville in the semi-finals. Both matches were nail-biting 0-0 draws after 90 minutes, until Keble, displaying the strength of determination for which the College is well known, proved to be the better and more athletic team, snatching extra time successes. Widely labelled the 'underdogs' in the Final against a joint Christ Church/Oriel team, the women demonstrated they were anything but. Keble took an early lead and showed their critics not to underestimate single college teams, and lifted the silverware after a decisive 2-1 victory.

Having beaten Teddy Hall, last year's winners, to top place in the group stages, Keble then went on to knockout St Catz in the quarter-finals and

■ Helen Pugh



△ Alex Shandro

Table Tennis Triumph

Under the captaincy of Peter Moonlight (first year Biology) Keble achieved an impressive unbeaten run in Cuppers this term. The members of the three-man team are final year students, Jim Smith and Al Shandro (pictured), who picked up their bats again after a six year absence. Each match comprises two singles matches per team member and a doubles match played by Smith and Shandro. In the group stage, they progressed easily to the top of their group and achieved two 9-0 successes in the knockout stages without dropping a set.

■ Abi Stone



△ Jim Smith

OLD MEMBERS' NEWS

45 Years Ago

After reporting the double victory of the 1st XV Rugby team in the MT issue of *the brick*, captain Robert Brown (1959) sent in the photograph



Gillman & Soame

of the 1959 1st XV who it is believed, after much delving in archives, was the last team to achieve this. Do any former rugby players know of any teams in the intervening years, who came top of the First Division and were College League Champions?

Running for Christies

Jonathan Booth (1989, Chemistry) is in the final stages of preparing to run the 2007 London Marathon in aid of the Christie Cancer Hospital, Manchester. Jon was diagnosed with testicular cancer less than three years ago. He underwent chemotherapy and major surgery to treat the disease over a two-year period. Thanks to the excellent treatment and care received at Christies, Jon has now made a full recovery and is ready to tackle his first marathon.

If you would like to support his marathon attempt, please visit www.justgiving.com/JonandDave

For more information about the Christie Hospital visit www.christie.nhs.uk



Japanese Award

Roy Hurst (1959) was awarded the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation for 'Services to Anglo-Japanese Relations' in the Japanese Ambassador's residence in December.

This international honour has only been presented once in the UK since 2002. Roy was Principal Lecturer at the Defence School of Languages from 1964–2002.



Growing up in a War by Bryan Magee (1949 and Honorary Fellow), a biographical sequel to the acclaimed *Clouds of Glory* is recently published by Pimlico.



ISBN 978 1 845 95087 3

OMs at the OBoE

For alumni who would like the opportunity to meet up over a drink with like-minded souls, why not drop in to The Old Bank of England Pub, 194 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2LT. Look out for the Keble scarf wielded by Martin Slaughter (1976), who initiated these regular gatherings. With fellow stalwart Tim Donnelly (1980), they meet every third Tuesday of the month. The OBoE is a popular pub with BBC journalists and TV crews, who knows you may even appear on the 10 O'Clock News!

Forthcoming dates: 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 17 July

For more information email: slaughterm@hmcm.co.uk or tim_donnelly@calypso.com

Meeting Minds

The first University-wide Reunion is taking place on the weekend of 14–16 September 2007 and there are plans for this to become an annual event. There is an extensive programme of activities during the day on Saturday, full details are in the centre of the Hilary issue of *Oxford Today*. If you have not taken your MA and would like to do so, we have been allocated 20 places in a special ceremony which will take place on Friday afternoon.

Keble would be delighted to welcome you, we are offering accommodation in College and dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings. Items from the College Archive will be on display on Saturday afternoon and the *Light of the World* will feature in the Pre-Raphaelite Tour. The Keble contact is Ruth Cowen.

www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk



Greg Simolonski

AND FINALLY...

Pusey Quad—Blanket to Blooms

The College was blanketed in snow in early February. In grateful thanks to members of the College, who (by and large) refrained from despoiling the lawns and borders, the Deans initiated a photographic competition inviting the best pictures of the College in snow. Richard Lowkes' photograph of Pusey Quad won 'highly recommended' in the Nature category.

By early March the scene was transformed with blue hyacinths, blossoming from the planters in Pusey Quad, filling the air with a heady scent.

www.flickr.com/photos/17993396@N00/
for more photographs.



Ruth Cowen

Keble Past and Present

A new illustrated history and portrait of Keble College is to be published in November 2008. A brochure has recently been sent to all Old Members who are encouraged to send contributions and place an advanced order.

Email: keble@tmiltd.com or send memorabilia to The Warden, Keble College, c/o Third Millennium Publishing, 2-5 Benjamin Street, London EC1M 5QL.

