# the brick

THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI

issue 2 • michaelmas term 1994

## **CELEBRATIONS PLANNED AS ARCO BUILDING TOPS OUT**



Students, fellows, builders and benefactors mingle at the topping-out ceremony



eble has announced plans to celebrate the opening of the **ARCO** Building next summer, which coincides with the

125th anniversary of the College's incorporation.

The building was topped out in a ceremony on November 30th, a year to the day after ground breaking. Fitting out should be completed by the end of April next year.

Festivities to mark the opening will take place over two days. On June 30th, following evensong, the College will host the Keble Association annual reunion and the Summer Dinner, to which, as is now customary, all old members and their partners will be invited.

On July 1st alumni will have the chance to view an exhibition tracing Keble's architectural development, take sherry with former tutors, watch a play in the afternoon, and even attend a lecture or two-all of which will be followed by the opening ceremony, to be conducted by the Chancellor of the University, Lord Jenkins.

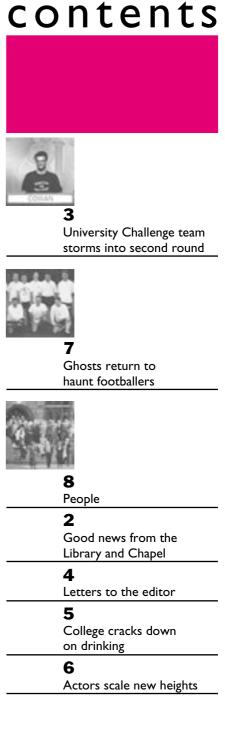
Drinks and a College Feast for benefactors will then precede what will quite literally be the highlight of the festivities: a fireworks display over Liddon Quad.

The opening ceremony will include the naming of a common room in the ARCO Building after Sir Roy Griffiths ('45), following a grant of £200,000 from the Sainsbury Family Trusts for this purpose.

Sir Roy, who read law at Keble, played a leading role in the development of J. Sainsbury during the 1970s and 1980s. Upon his death earlier this year, Lord Sainsbury invited his widow, Wynn, to suggest a suitable memorial. Her choice of Keble reflected not only Sir Roy's close involvement with the College as an honorary fellow and member of the Advisory Council, but also the fact that she met her future husband while he was a student at Keble.

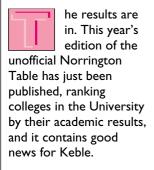
Invitations to the opening festivities will be sent out during Hilary Term.

R.J.B. 🚸



## **KEBLE CLIMBS NORRINGTON TABLE**

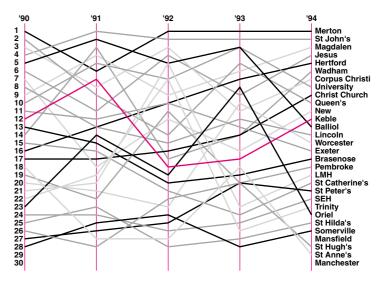
Strong showing for College in University academic rankings



Keble, buoyed by strong results in the sciences, climbed to 12th in this year's rankings, compiled by the student newspaper Cherwell and based upon results in final examinations last term. That represents a climb of five places from last year's ranking of 17th. Keble finished with 22 first-class degrees and 79 2:1s.

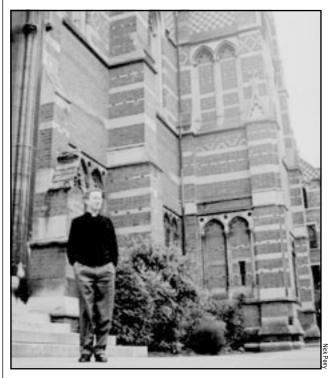
With Keble poised to move into the top 10 for the first time in four years, the pressure is firmly on the tutors and this year's finalists to achieve still bigger and better things.

M.Z.B.T. 💠



## **DAVIES BRINGS NEW LOOK TO CHAPEL**

Chaplain's first term is marked by successes



t the end of his first term as chaplain, the Revd John Davies has brought a variety of new perspectives to the Keble Chapel, introducing a wide range of sermons and discussions.

The term began with the official seating of the new warden, Professor Averil Cameron, who occupied her stall in Chapel and read a lesson at the first Sunday service.

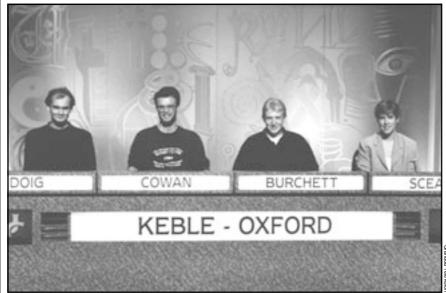
Preachers this term have ranged from the Revd Susan Durber, a feminist minister from Salford Central United Reform Church, to the Very Revd Colin Semper ('58), Canon of Westminster Abbey, who spoke at the Corporate Communion of the College on All Saints' Day.

Under the leadership of Gemma Pearson, the Theological Society has also been revived, with debates on subjects such as Don Cupitt's theological iconoclasm and the historical treatment of women in the Church, the latter being led by the Warden herself.

Overall, John Davies has quickly made his mark, infusing the Chapel with his energy and approachability. It will be most interesting to see how his tenure evolves over the coming year.

## KEBLE KEEP UP QUIZ SHOW TRADITION

University Challenge team roll into second round



The 1994 University Challenge Team: Roger Doig ('92), Robert Cowan ('93), Chris Burchett ('92), and Caroline Sceats ('92)...

eble's University Challenge team, defending their 1987 crown, swept majestically into the second round of the resurrected competition, trouncing Hull University, 265-130, on November 23rd in a first-round match.

The popular TV series has undergone a few changes, with a pristine cut-glass set, teams from the new universities, and the abrasive Jeremy Paxman replacing the smug but pleasant Bamber Gascoigne as host. But what hasn't changed is Keble's fine record in the competition, and to judge from Keble's first-round performance, it doesn't seem likely to change in the near future.

Mind you, the match against Hull wasn't a day in the park, even though Keble have historically done well against their Humberside rivals: in 1973, Keble trounced Hull, 280-135, in the final.

This wasn't 1973, however, and despite having a majority of the

supporters in the Manchester studios firmly behind them, Keble were left behind at the start, with Hull racing out to a 90-30 lead. Indeed, the match threatened to be a repeat of Keble's embarrassing 170-35 rout at the hands of King's College, Cambridge, in the 1962 final.

But this time, Keble quickly overcame their stage fright, with Roger Doig settling the team with a couple of "starters for ten". From there, it was plain sailing, thanks largely to man of the match Bob Cowan, whose knowledge of classical mythology-and practically everything

else—was critical to Keble's success. Vital contributions were also made by Chris Burchett, the captain, and Caroline Sceats, who boosted the Keble score with two correct answers in the dying minutes.

Even though Keble are technically the defending champions of the competition, the victory over Hull made up for Keble's last appearance, a humiliation at the hands of a team made up of Stephen Fry, Charles Moore, John Simpson and Alistair Little in the Pro-Celebrity Challenge, a friendly match held in commemoration of the programme two years ago.

Morale was high as this year's team prepared for their second-round match against Edinburgh University, which was recorded on November 5th. "We are allowed to make one change before the second round," said Burchett. "As the weakest team member, I can tell you that the team will be unchanged."

A repeat of 1987? It's not out of the question.

L.J.S. 🚸



...and the 1977 team: Eric Watson ('76), Paul Noake ('76), Charles Lock ('74), and Martin Slaughter ('76)

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Development Office, Keble College, Oxford OX1 3PG

### DipSocs: in!

#### Sir,

I could not let your article "DipSocs: In or Out?" (Trinity 1994) pass without comment.

Dr Paul Hayes correctly maintains that the Special Diploma for Social Studies (DipSoc) attracts unjustified criticism for lowering academic standards. Surely one would expect a lower academic standard for a qualification that is technically not "a degree at all"?

DipSocs are far more important to the spirit, atmosphere, and general life of the College than just another dissertation. There were eight DipSocs during my time at Keble, and they undoubtedly made my time there one of the happiest in my life. I can also say that they were counted amongst the most popular members of the College.

Rather than questioning their future, we should value DipSocs for their contributions to the College, both at home and overseas.

Yours faithfully, J. DALY (1991), Dublin.

## Gone but not forgotten

Sir,

Many thanks for sending me The Brick.

I have one complaint—please, please, we ancients are not former members, we are old members. In this context "old" means "of greater age than when in residence", and what you should print is "written for Keble's old members by Keble's resident members".

I resent the implication that we old girls and boys are no longer members simply because we are no longer in residence. Most of us assist Keble in various ways, and it is our college just as much as it is yours.

Having said that, I look forward to receiving Issue 2.

Yours sincerely, JOHN V. LONSBROUGH (1944), Milton Keynes.

Letters to the editor which are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may also be sent by the following means. Tel: (01865) 272786. Fax: (01865) 272735. Electronic mail: dev.off@keble.oxford.ac.uk.

#### On the new warden

Sir,

I was delighted to receive The Brick. Do keep it going.

I was also pleased to learn of the appointment of a female warden ("From King's to Keble", Trinity 1994)—we move on!

All the best, ROYNTON BRUNST (1953), Canada.

Sir,

Congratulations—a splendid idea and an excellent, informative first edition, devoid of the biased, axe-to-grind character of the vast majority of the modern news media. Keep it up.

Two points from an oldie:

- I hope the new warden was selected as the best candidate, not because of her sex.
- Keble's "traditionally" strong sporting record is fairly recent. It wasn't in my day!

Best wishes, CLIFF BAYLIS (1934), London SEI I.

Missing Link - 1951-55

Each issue we will devote a small section of *the brick* to the names of those alumni with whom the College has lost contact over the years. If you know the whereabouts of any of the people mentioned, we would be most grateful for your information.

Contact: Margaret Simon, The Development Office, Keble College, Oxford OX1 3PG. Tel: (01865) 272794. 1951 Michael Arthur Andrew Richard Baylis Andrews Donald Burn Bell Frank Berry John Edgcumbe Fletcher David Francis Graham-Evans Stephen Scott Huxley Ernest Charles Frederik Kahle James Latobi Ladipo Robert Lynn David Ronald Mawer Owen Christopher Pegg Jack Vernon **Powell** Allan **Richards** John Andrew **Simmers** Hugh Alexander **Stevens** William Watson Brian **Stoner** 

1952 Alan Guy Bucknall Raymond John Casken Michael Christopher Jenkins David William Judge Robin Gordon Pym Mannock Antony Theodore Raphael Shelton Alfred Francis Trevett John Daniel Wharton Wood Eric Wright

## LIMITS ON LIQUOR

New regulations alter Keble drinking environment



he consumption of alcohol has long been a feature of Keble life, with generations of students whiling away a pleasant hour over a pint in the College Bar. But the golden days of unfettered drinking may well be over after a series of College reforms that have made drink less accessible-and less affordable.

Perhaps the most prominent change came in the first week of term, when the College banned so-called "subject drinks parties". Better known as

had become rowdier and rowdier, and matters came to a head when Geography and Engineering "blinds" resulted in what the Senior Dean, Dr Michael Hawcroft, later described, in humorously euphemistic fashion, as "very considerable vomit pollution".

Many expected Dr Hawcroft's move to unleash a firestorm of controversy. But in fact, the opposite was the case. "Dr Hawcroft has my 100% support," said Andrew Goodwin, the JCR president. "People said there was no

"blinds", pressure to drink, but clearly there was." parties, in The banning of blinds was not the only alteration to the College drinking second-year students landscape this term. Among others: plied their first-year

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counterparts

with an

of free

a longstanding

Keble

tradition.

In recent

years, blinds

abundance

booze, were

- The College raised prices in the Bar, with the price of a pint of lager going from £1.15 to £1.35. Even before the increase, the Bar, one of the few run directly by a college instead of a JCR, was the second-most expensive in the University.
- The College altered its policy on drinks before and after formal dinners. Previously, the organisers of such dinners could supply such drinks at their discretion. But this term, organisers could provide drinks only before dinners and could not charge more than £5.50 per person for such drinks.

These changes have doubtless affected the drinking practices of junior members. But all for the better. After all, the primary purpose of a University education is to develop brain cells, not to kill them. And by encouraging responsible drinking, the College is doing its part to promote that purpose. Now, who took my pint?

K.K.S. 🚸

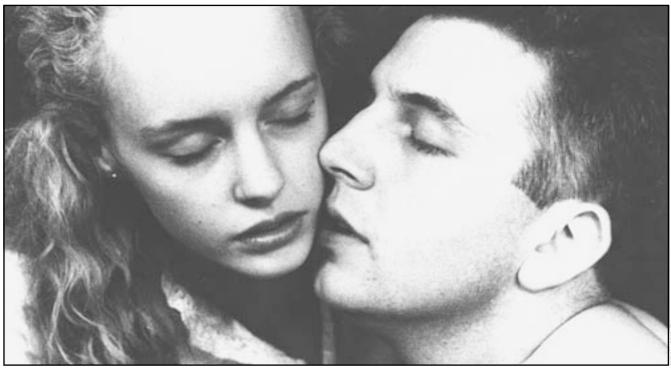
- 1953 John Bernard Brown Harry Cavanagh John Edwin Hobbs Kenneth James David John William Jocelyn Richard Leeson Malcolm Scott Marsden Frederick Joseph Peter Newton David Wallace Partington Victor Stephen Preller Robert Wells Thomas David Stanley Wood
- 1954 Christopher Copeland Cuningham John Francis Day

Anthony Eastman Robin John Christopher Ford Peter James Louis Gaillard Frederick Rowland Leslie Hale Francis Martin Hall Iohn Brian Harrison Trevor Bernard Lucas Nigel Frederick Newson-Smith John Anthony Tregarthen Richards Stafford John Smith Ralph Colin Vause lvar Alastair Watson John Stanley Woodford Michael John Woodhead

1955 Keith Hamilton Brooks Roger John Dimond Brown Michael John Hardy Mohammad Salman Hasan Anthony David Parsons Robert Graham Roe John Stewart Brian Thompson Keith Francis Turner Peter Mark **Wallace** Arthur Norman Atkin Ward Paul Annesley Watkin Greville Francis Watts Donald Williamson Edward Peter Withers

## **KEBLE DRAMA CONTINUES TO FLOURISH**

Old stars, new faces punctuate outstanding term



Thea Tetley and Mark Rawlings in "Romeo and Juliet"

eble drama has continued on an even keel this term, maintaining itself as a force within the University drama community.

Following the departure of Margaret Shade, second-years Sarah Bellamy, Jacqueline Haigh, Philip Trethowan, and Hugh Welchman have taken the helm of the Keble Drama Society. All four have distinctive pedigrees in Keble and University drama, with Haigh going to the Edinburgh Festival with her one-woman show over the summer.

In addition to participating in a number of shows this term, the four have also organized several drama workshops in College, allowing aspiring actors to engage in such offbeat pursuits as pretending to be daffodils.

The first play to emerge from Keble this term was "All Good Men", a

remake of the 1970s television play by Trevor Griffiths. Trethowan played Edward Waite, a septuagenarian MP who abandons his socialist principles only to be confronted with their betrayal by his son (David Waterston) and daughter (Sophie Duggan). Trethowan's characterization of the old man was quite convincing, while Waterston brought fire and passion to the role of the prodigal son. The production was tightly directed by Welchman.

Michaelmas Term also saw the annual Cuppers drama competition for freshers, and this year Keble entered "Beyond Metamorphosis", a play written by first-year English student James Miller and based, unsurprisingly, upon Kafka's "Metamorphosis". The play, which starred Hugh Ridell and Celia Donert, was thoughtful and wellstaged, although Miller perhaps tried to pack too much into a half-hour play. Nevertheless, all three are certainly ones to watch out for.

Finally, this term saw a production of "Romeo and Juliet" by Matt Savage's Naked Theatre Company at the Old Fire Station. The production marked the end of a notable career for Savage, a finalist who will be retiring from the drama scene next term to concentrate upon his studies. With an innovative design using only three colours—black, white and red-the play was a bare yet effective rendition of Shakespeare's classic romance. Although Romeo (Mark Rawlings) and Juliet (Thea Tetley) were competent enough, Joe Murray's outstanding Mercutio completely stole a most striking show.

All in all, Keble drama has got off to a flying start this year and looks set to build on the achievements of recent years.

## **MIXED RESULTS FOR KEBLE TEAMS**

Rugby squad enjoys return to form, but footballers stumble

alk about a hard act to follow. On the heels of last year's successes, this year's Keble sports teams have found that staying on top can be even harder than getting there. From the looks of things, however, they appear to be doing a pretty good job of it.

One team that enjoyed mixed results last year was men's rugby. Although Keble won Cuppers by a massive margin, thanks to a large number of University players, the league team, from which University players are excluded, were relegated to the second division.

This season, however, Keble got off to a good start, with victories in their first four matches, three by huge margins, before losing an end-of-term showdown with unbeaten Exeter. Nick West and Dave McDowell, the captain, have been outstanding this term for Keble, who look almost certain for a quick return to the top flight.

From the rugby pitch to the water, and Keble put out no fewer than 10 boats for the Christ Church Regatta for novice crews in Seventh Week. "I was impressed by the freshers' enthusiasm," said lan Streule, the Boat Club president. A bit higher up the rowing ladder, the men's and women's first boats have been busy training for Torpids, which will take place at the end of next term.

Would that things looked so good for the men's football team. Keble's policy of aspiring to play like Manchester United has been thwarted by every other college's policy of playing like Barcelona. As a result, Keble, last year's League and Cup double winners, have won just one of their opening five matches, leaving them in the relegation zone (see table below). "We've been vastly unlucky, but there'll be an improvement soon," said Howard Rouse, the captain. Funny—didn't Ron Atkinson say that, too?

#### R.C.H.B. 💠

Men's Football: BZW League First Division

	Ρ	W	D	L	F	А	GD	Pts
Jesus	7	5	1	1	12	7	+5	11
Westminster	4	4	0	0	25	3	+22	8
SEH	5	3	1	1	8	6	+2	7
St John's	4	2	2	0	12	5	+7	6
Hertford	4	2	1	1	10	4	+6	5
Exeter	6	2	1	3	11	11	0	5
Christ Church	4	2	0	2	12	9	+3	4
Brasenose	4	2	0	2	7	13	-6	4
Wadham	4	2	0	2	6	13	-7	4
St Peter's	4	1	0	3	5	8	-3	3
New	5	1	1	3	8	15	-7	3
Balliol	4	1	0	3	7	11	-4	2
Keble	5	1	0	4	3	15	-12	2
LMH	4	0	0	4	3	10	-7	0



The Ghosts 1st XI – the team included Dick Yarrow ('59), Peter Tilley ('87), Nick Talbot ('88), Eddie Balls ('87), Matt Edwards ('91), Paul Donovan ('89), John Hollins and Chris Hollins ('93).

#### Ghosts return to old haunts

squad of old members, captained by Dick Yarrow ('59), descended upon Keble Sports Ground on October 8th to challenge the College's current footballers in the annual Ghosts friendlies.

In the first-team match, the Ghosts, despite the presence of former Chelsea and England star John Hollins and his son, double blue Chris ('93), could only manage a 1-1 draw.

A crowd that included the Warden saw Keble's second and third teams record victories over their Ghosts counterparts before the teams retired to a well-earned dinner in Hall.

## PEOPLE

In conjunction with the Keble Association, a group of students have brought a worthy innovation to the College this term: the Keble Careers Seminars.

The Seminars, the brainchild of Desmond Watkins ('52) and Monica Esslin ('79), provide students with the chance to meet old members from a variety of fields, ranging from the civil service to computer science. These seminars have been accompanied by workshops on interviewing and preparing a CV.

Far from dry presentations on stereotypical conceptions of their vocations, the old members have offered frank analyses of their fields, as well as advice on how to break into them.

Now, if only they could offer jobs as well...

More than a hundred old members joined Fellows, family and friends in the Chapel, November 26th for a memorial service to honour Jean Robinson, who died of cancer on July 2nd.

Mrs Robinson served the College for 29 years first as librarian, then as fundraising administrator and counsellor for women students.

In his address, the former Warden, the Revd Canon Dennis Nineham recalled her deep interest in the students, to many of whom she became "guide, philosopher and friend". He paid tribute to her industry as librarian and her effectiveness as Appeal secretary. "It's not often," he concluded, "that a college owes to someone not on the foundation as much as Keble owes to Jean."

L.|.S. 🚸

R.J.B. 🚸



No, it's not a photograph of Liddon Quad at Christmas, but it is a photograph of Keble: the Keble Hills, that is. Dr Lawrence Greenfield ('69), of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, named these Antarctic hills for the College after receiving approval from the international authorities that govern the continent. If you're interested in a package holiday, the coordinates are 78°01'S, 163°51'-164°19'E.



## the brick

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

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