

# the brick

## GLITTERING PRIZES

Keble students play hard and work hard! Of the 134 students who sat Finals in summer 2005, 89% obtained Firsts or Upper Seconds.

These excellent examination results pushed Keble up the Norrington Table to joint 9th place alongside Christchurch.

The Norrington Table, originally devised by Sir Arthur Norrington, a former president of Trinity College (1954–70) and Vice Chancellor of Oxford University (1960–2), ranks colleges each year on the basis of degree results. Nowadays, most tutors agree that the Table is of limited significance, given the small number of students involved per college, the narrow spread of scores, and the

variations between subjects in the proportion of Firsts awarded.

Even so, Oxford University students continue to monitor their college's Norrington Score with keen interest. Keble undergraduates had a good year; 6 students obtained first class marks in Honour moderations and another 16 were awarded Distinctions for their performance in Moderation or Preliminary examinations.

On the strength of these impressive results, Keble students (pictured) collected several prestigious University prizes this year:

James Knoedler — Gibbs Prize for the best performance in Final Honour School (FHS) examinations in English Language and Literature.

Michael Coulson — Royal Academy Engineering Prize for excellent design in a 4th year project; Maurice Lubbock Prize for the best FHS examination performance in Engineering; Sharp Prize from the Society of Oxford University Engineers for his final project.

Daniel McGowan — Scott prize for outstanding performance in 'Teaching and Learning Physics in Schools' option.

Omar Eljadi — Slaughter and May Prize for the best performance in Mods examinations for Law.

Victoria Stoll — Matilda Tambyraja Prize in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Lastly the Hertford Prize for the best performance in Mods examinations in Classics (Latin) was awarded to Benjamin Lay, who — according to Fellow and Tutor in Classics, Adrian Hollis — obtained Keble's best ever results overall in these exams.

Keble graduates also had cause to celebrate: 72 graduates successfully completed their Masters degree last summer, 11 of whom were awarded a Distinction. Last, but certainly not least, 20 Keble graduates were awarded D.Phil. degrees during the course of the academic year 2004–5. Most of these students have now left Oxford to pursue careers elsewhere. However, two are still in Oxford. Dr George Southcombe was recently appointed to a Praelectorship in Modern History at Lincoln College and Dr Jennifer Cooper is now training for ordination at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, but still finds time to teach our Theology undergraduates.

Still on the subject of Keble's academic success, we are delighted that former Keble student Bob Cowan (Greats 1997) has been elected to a tutorial fellowship in Classics at Balliol College; we continue to think of Bob as one of our own.

Well done and good luck!

□ Sonia Mazey



### Norrington Table 2005

College	Score (%)
1 Merton	74.0
2 St John's	73.9
3 Balliol	72.3
4 Magdalen	72.3
5 University	70.3
6 Hertford	69.7
7 Exeter	69.1
8 St Anne's	68.7
9 Christchurch	68.7
10 Keble	68.3
11 Wadham	67.6
12 Somerville	67.5
13 Jesus	67.3
14 Trinity	67.3
15 New	67.0
16 Corpus Christi	67.0
17 Pembroke	67.0
18 Brasenose	66.6
19 Mansfield	66.2
20 The Queens	66.2
21 Worcester	65.7
22 St Catherine's	65.3
23 St Hilda's	64.7
24 St Edmund Hall	64.0

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29 Lady Margaret Hall 57.6  
30 Harris Manchester

# DIARY

<b>Jan</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Friday 27</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Friday 17</b>
	<b>Hilary Term Begins</b>	<b>London Dinner</b> <i>Cavalry &amp; Guards Club,              127 Piccadilly London</i>  <i>Booking Form was enclosed with The Record 2005, also available on the College website in Diary of Events.</i>		<b>Richardson Lecture</b> <i>5.30pm Pusey Room</i>  From apologising to admiring, architectural achievement at Keble, 1870–2003  <i>David Yandell, College Architect</i>



<b>Mar</b>	<b>Thursday 21</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>Friday 7 – Saturday 8</b>
	<b>London Drinks Party</b> <i>The Arts Club, Dover Street, London W1</i> <i>6.30–9.30pm</i>  <i>Booking Form enclosed, also available on the College website in Diary of Events.</i>		<b>Reunion Weekend</b>  <i>For Old Members who matriculated in the years 1957–62 inclusive. If you have not received your invitation please contact Ruth Cowen.</i>



**Reunion dates 2006**

1957–62  
7–8 April

1968–72  
30 June – 1 July

<b>Apr cont.</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Sunday 23</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Saturday 6</b>
	<b>Trinity Term Begins</b>	<b>St Mark's Dinner</b> <i>St Mark's Day Service in Chapel is followed by Dinner for present members of the College, including all classes of Fellows.</i>		<b>Degree Day for 2005 Finalists</b>  <i>Invitations will be sent out early in 2006.</i>



<b>May cont.</b>	<b>Friday 12</b>	<b>Saturday 27</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Saturday 3</b>
	<b>Eric Symes Abbot Memorial Lecture</b> <i>Chapel, 5.30pm</i> <i>The Very Revd Viv Faull, Dean of Leicester.</i>	<b>Rowing Society AGM and Dinner</b>  <i>Invitations will be extended to all members of the Rowing Society. If you have not received your invitation by the end of March, please contact the Development Office.</i>		<b>Garden Party</b>  <i>Old Members can apply for tickets from the Development Office. Invitations will be extended to second year undergraduates and first year graduates to invite their families.</i>  <i>(NB Change of date, not Saturday of Eights Week)</i>

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

## Global Links with Oxford

Wherever you are in the world you will never be far from a branch of the Oxford University Society (OUS), the University's official alumni organization.

There are more than 160 branches worldwide with some forming or reforming in Dublin, Frankfurt and Moscow and very strong groups in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and San Francisco. All welcome visitors to their events. <http://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk>

Argentina... Australia...

Iceland... India... Ireland...

Philippines... Poland... Portugal... Republic of Ireland... Romania... Russia... Saudi Arabia... Serbia... Singapore...

Switzerland... Taiwan... United Arab Emirates... Uganda... USA... Vietnam...

# THE BRICK INTERVIEW: ANDREW ADONIS

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*Lord Adonis is the Minister for Schools and is influential in education policy at the Number Ten Policy Unit. Andrew came to Keble in 1981 at a time of change: in 1979, women had been admitted to the College and in his year there were more women than men reading history. Although the College had its first non-clerical Warden, Christopher Ball, the High Church tradition was still strong. He talked to a group of PPE students this term and was interviewed by Mark Brough (2005), Kate Egan (2005) and James Wibberley (2004).*

## **Do you feel that your own schooling had a role in shaping your views towards education?**

I went to Kingham Hill School which sent almost no-one on to Oxbridge, and few to university. It made me realise that we had — and still have — a long way to go to create a genuinely meritocratic society in Britain, where those with ability from non-university families are encouraged to go into higher education. The perception of universities like Oxford and Cambridge was that they were closed institutions, requiring money or connections to get in. But once I got to Oxford, everyone was pretty much on a level and background counted for little or nothing — which was another lesson in what we can achieve if our school system does its job properly.

## **Were you involved in student politics?**

I had a fantastic time at Keble. It was a great melting pot — in all kinds of ways. I got very involved in politics in my second year when I was President of the OU Social Democratic Party (SDP), which you may not even have heard of these days because it descended into complete obscurity and then abolished itself in the late 1980s. In my third year, however, I decided that getting a decent degree was the most important thing, so I gave up politics almost entirely. When I came back to Oxford as a graduate, I was an SDP local councillor in Oxford, but when my party ‘vanished’, I had to decide which party to join as I held elected office but had no party!

## **Have your politics changed since being at Oxford?**

Not much. The SDP was a proto-New Labour party. Roy Jenkins, David Owen and Shirley Williams were in the radical reformist tradition of social democratic politics within the Labour Party in the 60s and 70s and broke with the far left which took over after 1979. The SDP stood for much the same values and policies that New Labour has come to stand for — progressive, modernising, centre-left, without any of the outdated ideological baggage which held back the Labour Party.

## **What advice would you give to current students wishing to get involved in politics?**

I don't think you need to start at university. Politics at university can be pretty inconsequential — and I'm not sure that the time I spent on it

was particularly worthwhile, as opposed to the time invested in getting a decent degree and broadening my experience in other ways. However, being an elected local councillor here in Oxford for four years when I was a graduate was the single most formative factor for me in becoming a politician. It gave me a real taste of public office, at the age of 23, dealing with important issues of local planning, transport and housing. I even devised and championed a tram system for Oxford — to no avail, but its day may still come. I found the Council extremely absorbing, and I would recommend becoming a councillor to anyone serious about politics and making a difference in their community.

## **What do you think about Peter Vardy's moves to have creationism taught in the academy schools that he sponsors?**

Peter Vardy, although a committed evangelical, doesn't actually have creationism taught in his schools, in the sense of seeking to indoctrinate students with this — that's a media myth like so many others. His schools teach the National Curriculum, including different points of view within religious education, and are given outstanding Ofsted inspection reports, so there isn't a particular issue here.

## **Looking back, is there one single thing which strikes you?**

Yes, I am particularly stuck by how few contemporaries went into teaching. A keen concern of mine has been to encourage top graduates into teaching, in particular in Oxford, with the Teach First scheme ([www.teachfirst.org.uk](http://www.teachfirst.org.uk)). I would strongly encourage Keble undergraduates to consider Teach First — it is a great opportunity to learn new skills and make a real difference immediately after graduation.

## **How does it feel to be described as one of 'Tony's Cronies'?**

Anyone who is at all close to a Prime Minister inevitably becomes a 'crony'. You can't avoid it.

## **Finally, do you find your portrayal in Bremner, Bird and Fortune insulting?**

I've never seen the sketch though I've heard several accounts of it. I regard it as wholly flattering that people think I'm sufficiently interesting to feature in Rory Bremner's programme.





## The Best Little Gym in Oxford

Jorick van der Hoeven (left) and Richard Massey

Alexandra Potter



Early November saw the opening of a place endearingly known as the 'best little gym in Oxford'. Emerging from the depths of the Chapel crypt, Keble Gym now finds its home under the Clock Tower in the former Shaw Stewart Room. The Gym is fully equipped with two bikes, a treadmill, a cross-trainer and four Ergs for all those early morning rowing sessions. There is also a good range of weights equipment and a separate stretching area, complete with exercise balls and a 'Boxing Bob' (a man-shaped punch bag).

The Gym is open seven days a week; it can accommodate up to twenty at a time and the only restriction on use is that College teams have priority between 4-7pm.

□ Isla Jeffrey and Roger Boden

## Guest Who's Coming to Dinner? Royal Recitals

Michaelmas has seen the return of an old tradition to College life — student guest dinners, which are an opportunity for all MCR and JCR members to bring a guest to dinner twice a term. The first was a great success although there was some confusion with the dress code, which varied from high heels and cocktail dresses to t-shirts and shorts. As the uptake of tickets for the second dinner was rapid, it looks as if they will become an accepted feature of College life. The student guest dinners form part of the Governing



Body's plan to create space in the calendar for more academic related social events.

□ Richard Bliault

The Music Society has joined forces with the Royal Academy of Music to showcase Academy graduates. In October, Fellows and students were treated to a passionate rendition of Rachmaninov's *Etudes Tableaux* and Prokofiev's *Fourth Sonata* by pianist Daniel de Borah, prizewinner at the Sydney International Piano Competition. In November, 'cellist Louisa Tuck and pianist Julia Hsu (pictured) performed an eclectic and thrilling programme of works by Bach, Britten, Rachmaninov and Popper.



The Music Society hopes to continue the association next term with a recital series, and masterclasses by Academy stars for the benefit of Keble musicians. For more information, contact Society President, Matthew Niblett, at [president@keblemusic.co.uk](mailto:president@keblemusic.co.uk).

□ Matthew Niblett

## Evensong at Salisbury Cathedral



Christian Stobbs  
△ (Organ Scholar) and Choir

In October the chapel choirs from Keble and Oriel colleges sang together at Evensong in Salisbury Cathedral. They sang *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis in F* by Peter Aston. The anthem was *A Pilgrim's Hymn* by Stephen Paulus.

□ Tessa Stanley Price

## Travesties Triumph

Keble Drama Society put on a sell-out debut production of *Travesties* by Tom Stoppard in third week in the O'Reilly Theatre, with an all Keble cast and production team.

□ Marie Houghton



## Cinderfella

In November, Keble staged its very own college-produced pantomime, *Cinderfella*, in the O'Reilly Theatre. A 'pantomime of sexual mis-identity in two acts', was produced, acted and directed by members of the JCR and MCR and featured the traditional three Ugly Sisters, a Fairy Godmother and a pantomime horse. The event raised nearly £500 for RAG, and will be distributed to various charities before Christmas. Watch out for next year's production!

□ Tessa Stanley Price

◁ James McWilliam, James Atkinson and John Evison



## Keble College Music Society

College members were able to survey the rich depth of musical talent at Keble this term through two well-attended concerts hosted and funded by the College Music Society.

## Freshers' Flair

A concert featuring some of the Freshers' musical talent was held in October. The range and quality of the music was indicative of the great musical potential in Keble. Twelve performers played a diverse range of pieces skilfully accompanied by organ scholar, Oliver Walker. Music scholars Paul Wee and Bethany Gardiner-Smith played *Scriabin's Etude Op. 42 No. 5 in C# minor* and a contemporary flute piece *Night Soliloquy* by Kent Kennan respectively. Choral scholar Zoe Elliot-Shircore sang Schumann's *Er, Der Herrlichste Von Allen*.

□ Jemima Kettle

## Music Abounding

At the termly Warden's recital in November, an appreciative audience enjoyed performances of Rachmaninov and Honneger, as well as a dazzling rendition of Schubert's *Wanderer Fantasy* played by Paul Wee. Special mention should be made of composer Tom Collins, a Keble graduate student, who delighted listeners with part of his song cycle on poems by Paul Verlaine. With such talent on offer, the future of music at Keble looks bright.

□ Matthew Niblett





# SPORT

# 6

## 1st Division Rugby in sight



An outstanding first match back in Division II for Keble men's rugby saw Exeter defeated 96–0. The newly-promoted side, captained by Jack Wills, has proved unstoppable this term, thundering through Division III with victories of 69–12 (Worcester), 30–0 (Christchurch), 62–7 (Merton/Mansfield), 45–12 (Pembroke) and 48–0 (St Anne's/St John's). New back row strength from MCR's Robert Pittam; dynamism from fresher Simon Ackroyd at No 7; incredible pace from Paul Selvey-Clinton on the wing; dedicated play from prop Tom Ouldrige and accuracy from Richard Massey's boot on the conversions delivered a dynamic pack capable of winning a good quick ball for the exciting backs.

□ Abi Stone

## Christchurch success for Keble

Christchurch Regatta, the annual novice rowing event, was a challenge more against the weather than opposing crews. Despite heavy fog on the opening day, both Keble's 'A' crews progressed easily to the latter stages and when the penultimate day's rowing was abandoned due to strong winds and icy conditions, their hopes rested on a strong Saturday performance. Their results gave heart to all concerned as the men's crew finished fourth overall and the women managed a top sixteen finish.



□ James Wibberley



## Ian Tucker Memorial Award

The Ian Tucker Memorial Award for excellence in rugby was set up in Ian's memory by his family after he died during a University match against Saracens in October 1996.



Peter Jenkins, Acting Warden Dr Tim Jenkinson  
Anthony Knox (Full Back, Varsity Match 2005) and  
△ Jonathan Lamb.

## Netball shoots

The Keble women's netball A team have won five out of seven matches this term and are fighting for promotion to Division I next term. Their most convincing win was 22–5 against Linacre and they hope to reach the final in Cuppers next term. The B team are doing well in Division IV and have won three of the seven matches played this term, notably beating Oxlip 25–20.

□ Tessa Stanley Price & Georgina Homer

## Talbot's resting place



Sholto Heberton and Robert Brown (1957) pictured beside the tomb of Edward Stuart Talbot, the College's first Warden (1870–88), at Southwark Cathedral where Talbot was Bishop from 1905–11.

## Gritty Rugby Ghosts

A Ghosts side, comprising two Blues, met Keble's XV in October, anxious to avenge their 2004 defeat. The Ghosts won 37–28, in a particularly open game, but the College side ran them all the way.

Particularly impressive were the performances of Nick West (1993), whose sidestep has become even more deceptive since turning 30 and Tim McAllister (1994), with Oliver Julyan (1998) visible in all areas of the game. The College XV is a very strong pack, with a fine crop of freshmen.

Our thanks to Nick West who initiated the Ghosts match last year and organised the day. If you wish to play in the October 2006 fixture, please contact Alistair Watson and Dan Hudson (1996), who are taking the reins, via the Development Office. We are particularly keen to see more 1997–9s.

□ Alistair Watson (1998)

## Wombat tour



Malcolm Holmes (1974) (centre), from Sydney, and his fellow Wombats toured Britain this summer taking on teams comprising lawyers and barristers from across the land. At the fixture at the Keble sports ground, they clearly won on style at least.

## Ex-Ed gets wed



Ex Editor of *the brick*, Mike Talbot with bride, Ruth, on Canada Day  
△ 2005.

## Football Ghosts 2005 2nd XI

Back row (l-r): Andy Airey, Adrian 'lino, you should be carpeted!' Grayston (linesman), James Cope (goalkeeper), Nick Talbot, Andy Williams (captain), Jon Williams, Andy Hallsworth, Charles Chapman, Dave Kerner, Ed Balls (resplendent in a Forest Green Rovers FC shirt borrowed from their occasional supporter Brian Johns), Grant Mitchell, Phil Routledge, Murray Hunt.

Front row: Brian 'Mourinho' Johns (Manager), James Gilchrist, Tim England, Phil Heseltine, Kevin Jones, James Hayhurst





# AND FINALLY...

**Oxford  
Reunion  
2006**



**30  
Years  
On**

## 1975s – 30 years on

This is the first University-wide year Reunion. 1975s from all colleges have been invited to this event on 23–25 June 2006. Hopefully it will attract a large Keble contingent, particularly

as many of the activities will be taking place here in College.

See [www.oxfordreunion2006.com](http://www.oxfordreunion2006.com) or contact the Development Office.



Nearly 40 years separated the two impromptu speakers at the Summer Dinner in July, Douglas Henschley (1930) and Chris Tamplin (1998). △



## Trans-Atlantic Target

Whilst rowing at Keble, Crispin Latymer (1974) had vaguely considered a transatlantic crossing. Now thirty years later, three years after buying the right boat, two years after real planning started, one year after the physical training began and six months after reading *Your First Atlantic Crossing*, he set off in November after a diesel maintenance course a week before departure!

He is raising funds for Save the Children. If you would like to contribute, please visit [www.justgiving.com/solotransat](http://www.justgiving.com/solotransat).

## Henley History



Jasper Hasell (2000) was in the winning crew when Henley Rowing Club won an open event for the first time at Henley Royal Regatta in July this year. ◀

## Oxshorts Red Carpet

Recent graduates Stephen Littger (2002) and Sam Leifer (1999) were involved in screenings for up-and-coming film talent, described as a 'red carpet event for Oxford' by *Cherwell*. Director Ken Loach and Oscar winning producer Judy Counihan addressed the audience on life in the film industry.



Stephen premiered his new short *Memories of a Sick Mind*, for which he received assistance from the UK Film Council, and the KA. Sam Leifer, shortlisted for the 2004 BBC Best Newcomer in Animation award, showed *The Unsteady Chough*.

◻ Richard Bliault

## Oxford Reunion Ball

The Oxford Reunion Ball will take place in London on Saturday 15 July 2006 and is primarily aimed at graduates leaving Oxford within the last 10 years.

Featuring college-specific bar areas, the event promises a

spectacular night of dance and a varied live music line-up including DJ Yoda and May Ball favourite Chesney Hawkes, plus Wham, Duran Duran and Queen tribute bands.

Tickets are limited: (non-dining) £72 single and £140 double

when booked before February 2006, including all drinks and entertainment.

[www.oxfordreunionball.com](http://www.oxfordreunionball.com)

The **Oxford**  
Reunion Ball  
2006

