

the brick

THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI • ISSUE 54 • TRINITY TERM 2012 • WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK

New Information Engineering Professor

It is so good to be at Keble and not just because it is close to the Department of Engineering! As a sixth former visiting Oxford on one of its open days, I remember sitting in the quad talking to Professor Martin Oldfield - it became clear to me what a proud engineering tradition Keble sported.



How wonderful then to find myself a Fellow having joined as the BP Professor of Information Engineering. I hope I can somehow contribute to its tradition of engineering excellence. Sir Mike Brady, whom I replace, leaves a big hole and big footprints. His contributions to Information Engineering and education are huge. I clearly remember the first time I met him after a computing lecture in 1993 during my 2nd year as an Engineering Science undergraduate. He mentioned how there had been a recent theft from the robotics/vision lab. Thieves had broken in, opened up computers and removed memory chips - such was their value. Interesting indeed that last week at a conference, as a marketing freebie, I was given 2048 times that storage on a key chain. It is this wild explosion in computing power that makes my research possible. At last we can begin to do the sums we want, at the speed we need, on unwieldy and vast streams of data. For me this means allowing robots, and more recently smart cars, to perceive and understand their surroundings using cameras, lasers and radars. At the heart of this lies an ability to navigate for ever, for a machine to know where it is, what surrounds it and what might happen next, day and night. As a consequence of this, sane decisions on how and where to move can be made. This simple statement, I believe, encapsulates a technology that will have a profound effect on society. For how long will we insist that cars must be driven by us regardless of our fatigue, ability or weather conditions? How long will we tolerate congested roads, stupid accidents and frustration in traffic jams? Well for me the answer is clear: no longer than it takes to develop smart machines that know where they are, and what is where. Figuring out how to do that is the rather wonderful job I now have. Truly exciting.

Professor Paul Newman

Professor Paul Newman obtained an MEng in Engineering Science from Oxford University in 1995. He then took a PhD in autonomous navigation at the Australian Centre for Field Robotics, University of Sydney, Australia. In 1999 he returned to the UK to work in the commercial sub-sea navigation industry. In late 2000 he joined the Department of Ocean Engineering at MIT where as a post-doc and later research scientist, he worked on algorithms and software for robust autonomous navigation for both land and sub-sea agents. In early 2003 he returned to Oxford as a Departmental Lecturer in Engineering Science before being appointed to a University Lectureship in Information Engineering and becoming a Fellow of New College in 2005, and a Professor of Engineering Science in 2010.

in this issue:

college news • student life • news of old members • forthcoming events





Dame Gillian Weir

Dame Gillian Weir plays the College organ

On 12 April the Chapel was filled for the second time this year for a concert given by a world-class artist. On 30 September 2011 Jeremy Filsell played the opening recital, and in April Dame Gillian Weir performed. In her final year of public performances, the College was delighted and privileged to host so distinguished a musician and her recital again showcased the wonderful new organ. Dame Gillian played repertoire based on the requirements for the Royal College of Organists examinations, including pieces by Purcell, Bach, Brahms, Franck, and Saint-Saëns.

Simon Whalley

2011 Lundbeck Foundation Talent Prize winner

Dr Thomas Sørensen, Research Associate of the College and key member in the Imaging Cluster, has won the prestigious 2011 Lundbeck Foundation Talent Prize for younger scientists.

His research in the Department of Chemistry here in Oxford and at the University of Copenhagen is focused on producing new chemical compounds particularly dyes. These compounds which can absorb light and emit fluorescence, bind to biologically relevant substances allowing them to be tracked and monitored. Their use, for instance as contrast agents when imaging human lungs and brains, has enormous potential.



Dr Thomas Sørensen



Dr Apala Majumdar

Liquid Crystal Prize

Dr Apala Majumdar, who is Research Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics and a member of the College's Complexity Cluster, has been awarded the British Liquid Crystal Young Scientist Prize for 2012.

Since coming to Oxford in 2006 she has worked on a number of diverse problems, specializing in mathematical modelling in the context of materials science, with special emphasis on liquid crystal science. It is in recognition of her significant contribution to the latter that she was awarded the prize.

Dennis Nineham drawing



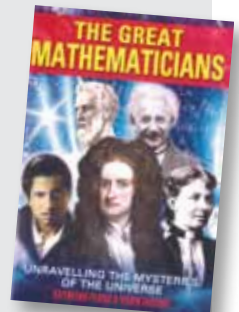
A pen and ink drawing of Dennis Nineham (Warden 1969-79) has been done by Bob Tulloch. It will hang with portraits of Professor Dame Averil Cameron (Warden 1994-2010) and Dr George Richardson (Warden 1988-94) in the Warden's Lodgings.

Maths in History

Robin Wilson (former Fellow by Special Election in Mathematics), has been elected President of the British Society for the History of Mathematics. He has produced two new books:

The Great Mathematicians, co-authored with Raymond Flood, outlines the life and work of over 100 mathematicians and is lavishly illustrated. Published by Arcturus Press, ISBN 978-1-84837-902-2

Mathematics in Victorian Britain, co-edited with Raymond Flood and Adrian Rice, contains chapters written by well-known experts on topics ranging from astronomy, logic, algebra, statistics, and calculating machines. Published by Oxford University Press, ISBN 978-0-19-960139-4





Plenary session of political talks in Northern Ireland, February 2010 – the Warden is 4th from the left.

The May London Lecture

Sir Jonathan Phillips arrived as Keble Warden fresh (sic) from eight years serving first Tony Blair and then Gordon Brown as Political Director and subsequently Permanent Secretary to the Northern Ireland Office. He thereby gained a unique first-hand insight into the inner workings, frustrations and triumphs of the Peace Process.

The large audience assembled at The British Academy on 10 May were privileged to hear the Warden's candid and often trenchant observations on many of the key players involved on all sides. His long-standing belief that successful conflict resolution requires considerable background understanding was amply demonstrated by his cogent analysis of many of the key issues underlying both The Troubles and their eventual resolution. The lecture stimulated many interesting questions and observations from the floor to round off an exceptionally enjoyable evening.

Peter Rawlins (1969)

Qatar Book Project

Dr Julie Scott-Jackson, Senior Associate Member of the College and Director of the PADMAC* Unit, has secured funding from the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI) to publish a book about the work of Hogar Kapel, who in the 1960s, with the help of the Qatari government, discovered many archaeological sites



and important tools produced by the early inhabitants of Qatar. The project was launched in April with a signing ceremony between the QCCI Chairman Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani and Dr Scott-Jackson (pictured). The book, *Hogar Kapel and the Stone Age of Qatar* will be published in English and Arabic. <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~padmac/>

*PADMAC - Palaeolithic Artefacts and associated Deposits Mapped as Clay-with-flints



BBC Radio 3 vans in the College

Unusual sightings in Liddon Quad

In April the broadcasting vans of BBC Radio 3 were seen in College to make a live recording of Evensong from the Chapel. A week earlier two alpacas were brief but curious visitors at the 2012 World Alpaca Conference held in College.



Rowing Update

Eights Week was an adventurous time for the Keble boats and notable results included W1 who started at the top of Division II and after bumping New College and Oriel finished 12th in Division I, and M2 who managed to overbump Exeter from six lengths behind on the final day to finish 2nd in Division IV.

In the Boat Race the Isis crew, with Julian Bubb-Humfryes (2007) at 3 seat, posted the 3rd fastest time in the 158 year history of the race and the record for a reserve crew.



Fairisle Keble

Alice Floyd (2011 PGCE Mathematics) immediately saw the potential knitting pattern in the Keble elevations when she came for an interview and vowed to knit a jumper if she was accepted.

The jumper is a now a reality. She studied the bricks trying to find a defining pattern but concluded that there is none and chose her favourite patterns from between the windows of Liddon quad, the upper walls of Hall and the Lodge. Using her engineering background, gained at Bristol University, she set up a spreadsheet to map out the pattern.

She is pleased with the outcome and only recently discovered that Keble is known as the Fairisle College. She is currently writing the pattern so others can knit their own.



back l to r: John Harkness, Mike Fedosiuk, Tal Evans, Aran Keeble-Kinsella, Barney White. front l to r: Vyas Adhikari (VC), Hugo 'Big Cat' Batten, James Nottage, Patrick Smith, Oakley Cox, Ed Hellier. In repose: David Shields (C)

Rugby 7s Triumph

On Saturday 23 April the 2nd XV shone for one glorious day after a relatively quiet year. Freshfields Bruckhaus Derringer LLP, the team's shirt sponsors, put on a 7s tournament at Iffley Road. Fuelled by hog roast and beer (they really are generous sponsors), the team was helmed by rookie captain David Shields to great success, beating Brasenose, St Peter's, and Freshfields' own team of menacing associates with an enterprising brand of rugby to win the inaugural prize, and two bottles of Moët.

James Nottage

Right-minded

Three Oxford finalists dominated a national essay writing competition, The London Library Student Prize. Keble student Caroline Criado-Perez (2009 English) was a runner-up and received £1,000, which she says will go towards her Masters next year, plus a short internship with The Times over the summer and a free year's subscription to the newspaper. Caroline's entry with the given title *The future of Britain lies with the right-hand side of the brain* can be viewed on the College website at: www.keble.ox.ac.uk/about/news/student-english-student-shares-major-writing-prize



Caroline Criado-Perez

The Croquet Cuppers Cup...



... is in the hands of the MCR team who defeated Mansfield College in the final. From l to r: Laura Howieson, Harry Guinness, Thomas Dunton (2005 DPhil and MCR President 2011-12), Ricklef Wohlers (2006 DPhil) and Daniel Guinness (2008 DPhil and MCR Croquet Captain).

Image impact

We were delighted with the range and quality of images submitted for the College Photography Competition in Hilary Term. Natalie Wallen's (2009 Law with Law Studies in Europe) image of Hayward Quad under a dramatic sky was the winning entry. The short-listed images can be viewed at: www.keble.ox.ac.uk/students/activities/photo-competition



On Paris, Women, and the Big Wide World: a conversation between Jo Woolf (1992) and Louisa-Claire Dunnigan (2009).

Both read English and Modern Languages (French).

Jo: *Where are you in France at the moment and how are you finding it?*

Louisa: I'm in Paris and loving it - one of the best things this year has been exploring the city with new friends, getting to know the best cafés, bars, and benches, and really feeling that I live here. I'm working full-time, which was a bit of a shock at first - I'm used to it now, but definitely beginning to miss the flexibility of student life.

Whereabouts were you, and how do you feel about the year abroad? Without the internet, did you manage to keep in touch with college friends/life?

Jo: I was also in Paris. Both at the time and looking back it was one of the best experiences of my life! I worked for two and a half days in a school in St Denis – quite a rough suburb at the time. I lived in the 18th arrondissement, in proper picture perfect Paris. I felt like I was getting an insight into two worlds, and I enjoyed that. During my free time I wrote and directed two Anglo-French plays, hung out in cafés, went to mime classes, and tried to meet as many new people as possible. I lived with a French girl, and got to know her and her friends.

I used to make phone-calls back home from a phone-box in the street. I was always out and about so nobody could ever contact me – it was only when I felt like speaking to someone that I gave them a call. A few people came out to visit, which was lovely. But I certainly didn't envy anyone who was back there, studying for their finals!

What do you hope to do after university? Are your peers nervous about getting jobs in the current economic environment?

Louisa: I'm really interested in publishing, and that's what I've been doing my internships in, but after 9 months I want to try something different before making the final decision. A lot of my friends are choosing to do masters rather than plunge into the depleted job market, while those who have taken the plunge are mostly heading towards teaching. People are nervous, but we don't know what it would have been like to graduate in a stable economy, so it's hard to say whether the nerves are caused by the economy or just the normal fear of job-hunting.

Did your year abroad affect the job choices you made after university?

Jo: I work as a television producer on factual entertainment series - mostly BBC1 and BBC2. When I finished university I really wanted to use my French so I doggedly pursued the very specialised area of Anglo-French feature films – and did actually manage to get a job on one of these, amazingly enough. I then moved on to film documentary production. My first proper TV job was working as a researcher on the first ever series of *A Place in the Sun!*

I think career-wise a lot of educated women like us have to make two lots of very big decisions - once when they graduate, and again if and when they have children. I've managed to find a way of balancing my home and work-life, but it has been a struggle.

Do the women in your year think about their lives once they have families? How does this affect their decision-making?

Louisa: Being at university and looking at career options can be a bit crushing for both genders, and the women I know are just as confused or inspired as the men; certainly there is a spirit that we are not that different, and the opportunities will be there for us all. Fulfilment in everything – it's what we signed up for at matriculation. Having said that, I think women are more aware of potential life-career struggles, especially with all that has been written on the subject recently – but it's not something that you can allow yourself to think about, otherwise you bypass doors before you've even tried to open them.

Do you have any words of wisdom for those of us about to return to reality?

Jo: My advice for going back to uni is just to make the most of Oxford, as you made the most of Paris. This is your last chance to enjoy what it has to offer - the beautiful quads, libraries, parks, opportunities. Yes, you need to work hard during the final year, but when you enter the real world you want to remember more than the fact that you spent a lot of time with your head in books.



Jo Woolf



Louisa-Claire Dunnigan



Olympic Chaplain



Andrew Wingfield Digby (1969) has been appointed to head the team of 20 international chaplains at London 2012.

No stranger to either sport or the Olympics, he played cricket for Dorset in the 1970s and 80s, and served as Chaplain at the Seoul Games in 1988. He said of the appointment, 'it will be a real privilege caring for the athletes as people and has nothing to do with praying to win'. Andrew is Vicar at St Andrews Church in north Oxford.

First Olympian

History Scholar Charles Gmelin came to Keble in 1891 and represented the College's first teams in Football, Cricket and Athletics.

When athletes were invited in 1896 to take part in a new competition, he found himself at the starting line of the first heat of the 100m, the first event of the first Olympic Games of the modern era. By finishing third he didn't progress to the final but became Britain's first competing athlete. Disappointed he entered the 400m and later



that day ran in the heats to qualify for the final. He was beaten by two Americans to finish third but sadly had nothing to show for it as medals were given only to first (silver) and second (bronze) places.

Impromptu Reunion at Science Fair



From l to r: Laura Sutherland, Ally Potter and Bryony Frost

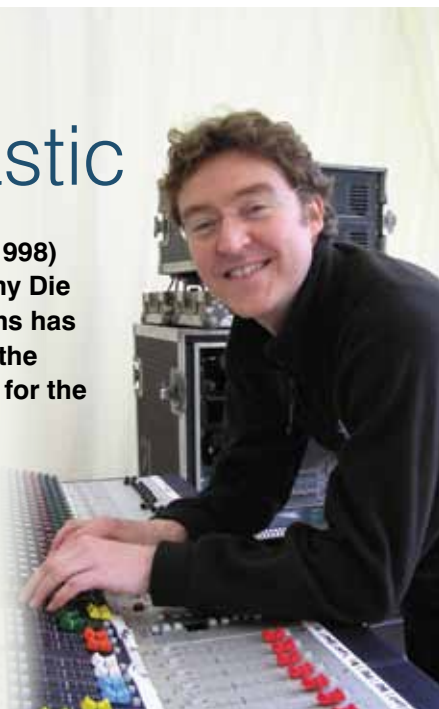
The Big Bang is the UK's biggest celebration of science and engineering for young people and was held this year at the NEC in Birmingham in mid-March. Over 50,000 members of the public

attended. I was there as PR & Communications Officer for URENCO (a nuclear fuel company which operates uranium enrichment plants), Bryony Frost (2007) as Physics Outreach Officer for Queen Mary University of London, and Laura Sutherland (2004) as Education Officer for ARKive (which promotes the conservation of the world's threatened species). We bumped into each other completely by chance - out of hundreds of companies exhibiting, the chances that the three of us would be chosen to represent our organisations was minute. No doubt one of the scientists there could have worked out the probability!

Ally Potter (2005)

Light Fantastic

John McLean (1998) with his company Die Hard Productions has been providing the light and sound for the Keble balls for some years and the Phantom of the Opera ball this year was no exception.



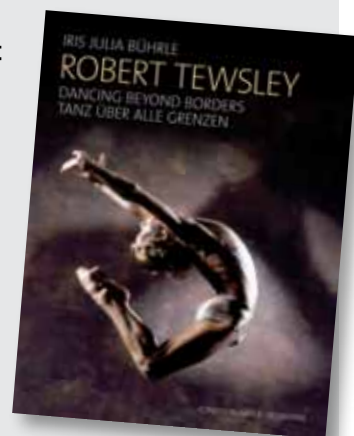
Dancing Beyond Borders

Iris Julia Bührlé (2006) has written a book about Robert Tewsley, former Royal Ballet Principal and nowadays a world-renowned freelance dancer.

Entitled *Robert Tewsley: Dancing beyond borders* it retraces the unusual career of an exceptional dance-actor and 'ambassador of the English style'.

Published, also in German, by Königshausen & Neumann

ISBN 10: 3826046064





Keble Alumni gather in New York

In April Keble Old Members gathered in New York as part of the University's North American Reunion.

The Warden and I were pleased to host two Keble tables at the University lunch at the Waldorf Astoria. The Keble Party, generously hosted by George Evans (1978), was well attended by 40 alumni and guests spanning 60 years – Richard Rosenthal 1946 and Nathan Bennett and Rosie Worrall from 2006. Thank you to everyone who came along and made the party such a success; we are already looking forward to the next one!

Jenny Tudge



L to r: Timothy Lemmer (1972), George Evans and Ed Schneider (1971)

Centenarian

We wished Walter James (1930) many happy returns on his 100th birthday on 30 June. Having graduated with a First in History, he joined the *Manchester Guardian* as a leader writer but spent most of his working life as Deputy Editor and then Editor, for 17 years from 1952, of *The Times Educational Supplement*. However, he says 'no success in later life gratified me more than being awarded First Eight colours in my first year for coxing Keble to victory in the 1931 Clinker Four'.



The Douglas Price Society Lunch



The Douglas Price Society members met in the College for lunch in April. They were entertained with a recital by Organ Scholar Leonard Sanderman (2010), and a demonstration of the range and ability of the Tickell Pipe Organ. The photograph shows old friends who met up at the lunch, from left to right: Pat Downing, Gordon Bjork (1957), Susan Bjork, Chantal Brown, Barry Downing (1956) and Robert Brown (1957).

Recent Films by Keble Directors



Elizabeth Stopford (1997)

Film director Elizabeth Stopford (1997) was thrilled that *We Need to Talk About Dad*, her recent film for Channel 4, was nominated for a BAFTA. The story is of an apparently normal family who get back together to confront terrible events from their past, which were witnessed by teenage son Henry. In 2009 her film, *I'm Not Dead Yet* received a Grierson Award. She has established her own production company, White Rabbit Films. www.whiterabbitfilms.com



John Bridcut (1971)

John's most recent film, *A Jubilee Tribute to The Queen by The Prince of Wales*, launched the Jubilee weekend on BBC One and was watched by over 7 million people. Continuing his series of films on British composers, *Delius: Composer, Lover, Enigma*, was broadcast on BBC Four in late May. His production company is Crux Productions. www.cruxproductions.com

Keble College Music Society

See www.keblemusic.co.uk for Michaelmas Term Events. Old Members welcome

For more details of events and booking forms see:

www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni/events



Saturday 28 July

Retirement Dinner for Dr Simon Hunt

Invitations were extended to Old Members who studied Medicine and related subjects in April
Enquiries to Philip Clarke

Saturday 15 September

1982-86 Reunion

Invitations were sent in May by email, or post to those for whom we have no email address

Enquiries to Ruth Cowen

14 - 16 September

OU Alumni Weekend

For booking and the programme see

www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk. The Keble Alumni & Development Office can take bookings for meals and accommodation in College for Old Members attending. A booking form is at www.keble.ox.ac.uk

Friday 28 September

1962 Year 50th Anniversary Lunch

Invitations were posted in early July

Enquires to Ruth Cowen

Saturday 6 October

Ghosts Football Match

Players and supporters meet in The King's Arms at 11.30am on the day. **Old Members wishing to play, please contact Andrew Tingle:**

andytingle@hotmail.com or Brian Johns:

brian.johns2@ntlworld.com

Saturday 6 October

Ghosts Rugby Match

Old Members interested in playing or providing vociferous support. **please contact Max Cole: max.cole@glencore.co.uk**

Thursday 18 October

Donor Drinks Party

Dr Johnson's House, Gough Square, London Friends, Patrons and members of the Warden's Court. By invitation only

Enquiries to Ruth Cowen

Friday 9 November

Richardson Lecture

5.30pm Pusey Room

Lymphocytes are singular individuals. But are there patterns in the crowds?

Dr Simon Hunt

Former Fellow & Tutor in Immunology

Thursday 15 November

Keble London Lecture

Delete: Forgetting in the Digital Age

Professor Viktor Mayer-Schönberger



Professor of Internet Governance and Regulation UBS, Liverpool Street, London. Re-scheduling of the March 2012 Lecture. Invitations will be emailed in September

2013 Reunion Dates

1987 - 92

Saturday 22 June

1993 - 97

Saturday 21 September

Data Protection Statement

Your data will be used by Keble College and members of the Old Members' network solely for organising events, producing and distributing publications, careers advice and fundraising. The data will not be passed without your permission to external organisations or individuals other than those acting as agents of the College or contracting to provide services to the College that entail access to the data. The College does not sell any data to third parties. For a copy of the College's full Alumni & Development Office Data Protection Statement go to: www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni/data_protection

Your email address: In our continued efforts to minimize costs, it would help us to have email addresses of Old Members. If you have not done so already, could you please inform Philip Clarke in the Alumni & Development Office of your email address or any change to it.

Contacts:

Alumni & Development Office
Keble College
Oxford OX1 3PG
www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni
dev.off@keble.ox.ac.uk

Jenny Tudge (Director of Development) jenny.tudge@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282308)

Duncan Macintyre (Associate Director) duncan.macintyre@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282506)

Ruth Cowen (Alumni Relations Manager) ruth.cowen@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282338)

Camilla Matterson (Deputy Director of Development) camilla.matterson@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272794)

DB Lenck (Development Officer) db.lenck@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272799)

Philip Clarke (Development Assistant) philip.clarke@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282303)

the brick

the brick is written, designed and produced by the Alumni & Development Office with the assistance of current Keble students.

Producer/Designer: Hunts - people in print

Alumni & Development Office: Ruth Cowen, Jenny Tudge, DB Lenck, Camilla Matterson, Duncan Macintyre and Philip Clarke

Published by Keble College, Oxford. Printed and distributed in the UK by Hunts - people in print.

the brick is copyright © 2012 Keble College, Oxford, OX1 3PG. All rights of the individual contributors are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or translated in any form, by any means mechanical, electronic or otherwise, without prior consent of the publisher. The views expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the Governing Body of the College.

Contributors and photographers: Gordon Bjork, Boriana Boneva, John Bridcut, Iris Julia Bührle, John Cairns Photography, Alan Cooper, Caroline Criado-Perez, Louisa-Claire Dunnigan, Thomas Dutton, Alice Floyd, Sophie James, Harrison Photography, Steve Kersley, Apala Majumdar, Paul Newman, James Nottage, Alexandra Potter, Peter Rawlins, Elizabeth Stopford, Simon Whalley, Natalie Wallen, Robin Wilson, Ricklef Wohlers and Jo Woolf