

the brick

THE NEWSLETTER FOR KEBLE ALUMNI • ISSUE 64 • TRINITY TERM 2017 • WWW.KEBLE.OX.AC.UK



A Floating House

The temporary works to retain the Grade II listed section of Acland House as part of the H B Allen Centre project are now well under way, treating onlookers to the spectacular sight of the house suspended five metres in the air on piles.

This is of course a temporary condition, and the house will be reconnected to the permanent structure of the basement in the next month, with all involved in the project breathing a sigh of relief.

The first and second stages of the process involved the demolition of surrounding structures and the instalment of internal bracing and mini piling beneath the building. A concrete transfer slab was then formed under the building transferring support from the existing foundation to the new slab and piles.

Stage three began with the excavation of the basement to expose the mini piles, and the casting of a basement slab. Shortly,

reinforced walls will be constructed and the load will be transferred to the new walls and basement slab, allowing the demolition of the mini piles.

Work across the rest of the project is also progressing well. A large proportion of the excavation is now complete, with nearly 65,000 m³ of dug material removed from the site. The lower ground floor slab has been completed and construction of the basement and reinforced concrete frame are ongoing.

Timelapse video footage of the basement excavation is available at www.keble.ox.ac.uk/campaign/the-h-b-allen-centre/construction-updates.

Interview

In our series of interviews about the building of the H B Allen Centre, the Bursar interviews Derek Farrow from Bidwells, who is managing the project for Keble from start to finish.

Why do we need a Project Manager on a project like this? After all, BAM have a Project Director and Manager, the architects have a Project Architect, etc.

Historically, the lead architect would have run everything, but that was in a time when we built differently – it would take as long as it took, and there were not the same commercial pressures as there are today. As pressures to deliver have become greater, there has been a general reduction in the scope and scale of what everybody does – what their deliverables are for a client – and the architects have withdrawn from their oversight role. This void has since been filled by the project manager who acts as the client's intermediary for the primary contractors involved, including the builders and the architects. Everybody in that group recognises where I sit as a conduit to the client. None of them works for me – they all work for separate companies – none of them need to pay any heed to me, but because the project relies on that central guidance, everybody listens.

What are the specific benefits of this?

I am in the position to directly influence how the College's money is spent without being wasted. Because I do this day in and day out, it makes Keble into an informed client, so no one will pull the wool over your eyes. You won't get any of the usual – the equivalent would be having someone coming to your house to fit a boiler, and they stand there and look and suck their teeth and say, "well, you know...", and you are completely in the hands of the specialist. Because I know all the links in the chain below me, we can get much more control over the process of building.

[cont'd page 2]

in this issue:

college news • student life • interview • alumni news • forthcoming events

The Garden Party

The Keble bunting was hung with pride as Keble hosted its largest ever Garden Party on Saturday 3 June with over 400 guests enjoying the sunshine in Newman Quad. Second year students and their parents were invited, along with alumni, to enjoy tea and cakes in the company of the Warden and Fellows. It was wonderful to see alumni who matriculated from the 1950s spend the afternoon with our current 2015 cohort, sharing stories about their times at Keble.



Interview *[cont'd from cover]*

What do you think it is that makes for a successful project – one that comes in on programme and on budget?

There is an essence in there that, if I could bottle, I could make a fortune! It is a perfect storm of things that have to happen. The H B Allen project is unique and fascinating. There is an element of pride to be involved. Everybody gets it, which creates a great spirit, which in turn helps interaction run smoothly. There are the usual disagreements on site, but these are not allowed to escalate. All sides are willing to meet in the middle. Although not guaranteed, it is those sorts of characteristics that help make a project a success. It comes down to team ethos and a collaborative approach. For example, the project team is about to go punting and, although that might not sound very important, it is actually essential. These sorts of things will keep the team together and underpin the fact that this is a project that is something quite special.

Roger Boden
Bursar

Engineers' Lunch

The College celebrated Professor Paul Taylor's appointment to a new chair in Ocean Engineering at the University of Western Australia, as well as his Keble teaching career of almost 20 years, with a special lunch. Over forty guests gathered for a light-hearted celebration, saying a fond farewell and wishing Paul all the best with his new adventures. The event brought together several generations of Keble Engineers, including alumni from as far back as the late 1950s, recent graduates, current students and a number of current and Emeritus Engineering Fellows, including Dr Colin Bailey, Professor Martin Oldfield, Professor Stephen Payne, Dr Felix Leach and Professor Richard Darton.

Professor Taylor will be taking up his new post later this summer and will be continuing his research into waves with applications to oil platforms, marine renewable energy and coastal protection.



Martin Oldfield, Paul Taylor, Warden Sir Jonathan Phillips and Ailsa Roberts (2010) enjoying the lunch.



Tudor Photography

Geoffrey Rowell

The College is very sad to announce the death on Sunday 11 June of the Right Reverend Geoffrey Rowell, an Emeritus Fellow and Chaplain of Keble from 1972 to 1994. He was consecrated as a bishop in 1994, becoming Bishop of Basingstoke in the Diocese of Winchester and then, in 2001, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe. He retired in 2013. A memorial service will be held in Keble Chapel on Saturday 21 October at 4pm, followed by a reception.

Biblical Awards

The Society of Biblical Literature's prestigious annual awards in Hebrew Bible and New Testament Scholarship have this year gone to outstanding early mid-career scholars with Keble connections, Carly Crouch and Courtney Friesen respectively. Carly was appointed to the Liddon Fellowship in 2008, while Courtney was an energetically engaged Lecturer in New Testament Studies here in 2013-2015.



Public Engagement

Dr Lucy Kaufman has won an Early Career Researcher award in this year's Vice-Chancellor's Public Engagement with Research Awards, which celebrate public engagement work across the University. The announcement was made at an awards ceremony at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History on 28 June hosted by Vice-Chancellor Professor Louise Richardson.

Dr Kaufman won her award for her work with the National Trust during their renovation of The Vyne, where Henry VIII visited his Lord Chamberlain, Sir William Sandys, in the summer of 1535. Dr Kaufman says the project has changed her fundamentally as a scholar, crystallising new ideas about her own research and discovering new ways of sharing it with audiences.

Choir in Singapore and Hong Kong

Fifteen members of the College Choir and Director of Music Matthew Martin performed in Hong Kong and Singapore as part of the University Alumni Weekend in Asia 2017. The visit also served as a key part of a cultural exchange between students of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Keble, an ensemble of eight musicians from CUHK having visited Oxford earlier this year. The Choir gave some excellent performances at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, St John's Cathedral in Central, at two Keble alumni receptions, and the finale at the University's Gala Dinner at the Flower Dome in Singapore.

We are delighted to announce that ten Choral Scholarships have been endowed by our friends and supporters in Hong Kong and Singapore, and wish to extend our warmest thanks to those donors. If you are interested in learning more about music at Keble and supporting the Choir, please contact Director of Development, Jenny Tudge.

With grateful thanks to the supporters of the Choir Tour 2017: Edward Cheng, Sutat Chew, Jinjae Park, The Abe Family and The Keble Association



Honorary Fellows

The College welcomed three alumni to Honorary Fellowships this term. There will be a formal celebration in the Autumn. A full list of Honorary Fellows is available at www.keble.ox.ac.uk/about/keble-today/current-honorary-fellows



Anne-Marie Imafidon, MBE (2006)
Anne-Marie is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of STEMettes, a social enterprise promoting women in STEM careers.



Cressida Cowell (1985)
Cressida is an author and illustrator popularly known for the novel series, *How to Train Your Dragon*, which has sold over 8 million books worldwide and is also an award-winning DreamWorks film and TV series.



David Norwood (1988)
David is the founder of IP Group and co-founder of Oxford Sciences Innovation, an investment vehicle focused on innovation stemming from Oxford University.



It's a Double!

Keble Rugby FC Men's 1st XV were crowned College Cuppers champions at Iffley Road Stadium on the 6 May, defeating long-time rivals Teddy Hall 20-10 in what was a closely fought game. Keble historian Will Wilson (2015) was named man of the match.

This rounds off a great season for KCRFC, who have gone unbeaten and won both the Michaelmas and Hilary Leagues to add to their Cuppers triumph.

Scott Geelan
2015 History

The Keble Warden flanked by Will Wilson with the Cup and Captain Scott Geelan holding the League Shield.

Sporting Drinks

The Warden invited students of exceptional individual sporting achievement on a University level (awarded Blues and Half-Blues), and members of the winning College teams to celebrate a year of great Keble sporting success at a Drinks Reception at the end of Trinity term. It has been a year of both team and personal triumph for our Keble members with great results on a College level and 18 Full Blues and 9 Half Blues (at time of printing) awarded to our students. Many congratulations to all who have contributed to Keble's vast sporting successes this year.



Under the Sea

Students and alumni alike partied until the early hours at the Keble Ball on 6 May, a College event that has been taking place since 1947. The theme this year was 'The Abyssus Theory' and the College was transformed into an underwater wonderland with aquatic lantern puppets and glowing jellyfish on Liddon, designed and made by students.

Summer Vllls

KCBC built on their Torpids success with Summer Eights. W1 reached fourth on the River, which is the highest position ever for a Keble women's crew and a good place to start pushing for Headship next year. All four men's crews moved up the table with M3 achieving blades.

The M1 campaign for Headship started with intense training just after Easter when the four Keble University rowers returned to College. The boat was completed by two former M1 rowers and two extremely talented novices. Bumping Oriel on the second day, M1 was chasing Christ Church on Friday and Saturday to gain headship – despite being the faster crew and closing up to half a length, Keble remains second and will return for Headship 2018.





Lord Sumption Visits

In May, the Harris Society was delighted to host The Rt Hon Lord Sumption OBE, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. He came to College to deliver the first in an annual series of lectures which the Society has established in memory of The Rt Hon Sir Donald Farquharson (1947 Law, JCR Treasurer), who served as a Lord Justice of Appeal between 1989 and 1995 and was an Honorary Fellow of Keble.

Lord Sumption spoke about the interpretation of contracts (his lecture may be downloaded from the Supreme Court's website). Afterwards, he had dinner in the SCR with Dr James Goudkamp, a group of undergraduates, and alumni Phil Linnard (2000 Law) and Tom Grodecki (2007 Law), who represented the event's sponsor, Slaughter and May.

Sebastian Bates
2014 Law



Phil Linnard (2000), Sebastian Bates (2014), Lord Sumption, James Goudkamp, Tom Grodecki (2007)

Fringe Talent

Finalist Ell Potter (2014) is heading off to the Edinburgh Fringe this summer to perform in two plays. The first is Henrik Ibsen's poetic classic, *Peer Gynt*, staged by the Gruffdog Theatre (www.gruffdogtheatre.com/peergynt.html). The second is *HOTTER*, a show she has written with friend Mary Higgins, which documents a completely uncensored version of the female experience (www.notyournicegirl.com/hotter).



RGS Award

Recent graduate Alex Henry (Geography 2013) was awarded the Royal Geographical Society's prestigious Alfred Steers prize for the 'undergraduate dissertation judged to be the best in 2016'. It has been about 10 years since the prize was awarded to an Oxford student. Alex's dissertation work was on low level jets in the central Sahara using aircraft observations from the 'Fennec' Saharan Climate System campaign.

A Keble Myth

JCR elections this Trinity Term saw some excellent challenges, all well documented on student social media via Facebook and YouTube.

For her JCR Arts and Publishing Rep hustings challenge, Mila Fitzgerald (2016 Engineering) had to create and illustrate a Keble myth.

Here is the superb result.



Distinguished Friends



The Distinguished Friend of Oxford (DFO) Award was initiated in 1997 to provide the University with a means of formally recognising individuals who have acted as exceptional volunteers for the benefit of the wider collegiate University.

Recipients of the 2017 Awards were honoured at a ceremony at Keble on 18 May and we were delighted to celebrate awards presented to Gus (Keble, 1981) and Jenny Rose Carey (LMH, 1981).

Since the mid-1980s, Gus and Jenny have formed meaningful and productive relationships with the Ashmolean, Botanical Gardens, Museum of Natural History, Bodleian, and the Saïd Business School, in addition to their tireless support for the work of both Keble and LMH. They are generous supporters, leading volunteers in their home area in Philadelphia, and highly-valued friends of the University.

Gus and Jenny Rose Carey pictured at the event.

Singapore Drinks

In April, a group of Keble alumni based in Singapore met for drinks at The Lantern bar in the Fullerton Bay Hotel. Organised by Minerva Lim (2013) and Adele Tee (2010) and supported by Robert MacVicar (1973) and Sutat Chew (1993), the event was a great success with alumni across a wide range of year groups sharing their experiences and reminiscing over their happy memories at Keble and at Singapore's Hwa Chong Institution. We hope to organise similar events in the future.



Quelle coïncidence!

In my last year of teaching French at the London Oratory School, I helped to prepare a highly promising student, Alastair Lane, for Oxford entrance.

He was successful in his application, being offered a place at Keble where I had studied French and German some 40+ years earlier. I was delighted for him and

felt there was a certain pleasing circularity about this as my teaching career came to end and he was setting out on his study of French at Keble.

Having retired last summer, my wife Frances and I moved back to Oxford (where we had met all those years ago) and I have enjoyed seeing some of my former students who are currently studying in Oxford. Alastair kindly helped me recently to move some furniture and on that same day Frances and I attended a lecture in the chapel. Afterwards we called in on Alastair as from his description it seemed that he was in the very same room that I was in for my first two years in college. Indeed it was and how odd it was to be back there after all those years. So many happy memories (not to mention the spectre of the odd essay crisis) came flooding back.

John Stobbs
1973 ML

West Midlands Mayor



Congratulations to Andy Street (1982 PPE) for his election to the Mayoral seat in the West Midlands.

Young Alumni BBQ, featuring Jack and Joel



We were delighted to welcome so many Keble Young Alumni back to College on Saturday 27 May for a barbecue in Hayward Quad. Young Alumni and recent leavers enjoyed a fun and relaxed afternoon with friends and family. The weather improved across the day; some people lingered in Hayward, played croquet on Pusey or headed to the river and cheered on the Keble crews in Summer Eights. We were treated to phenomenal entertainment provided by Jack Remington (2013) and Joel Fisher (2013) aka Jack and Joel – catch them at their debut headline show at the O₂ Islington on 19 July (<http://bit.ly/2snvQgD>).

We look forward to the next Young Alumni event which will be the OXmas Drinks in London in Michaelmas term.



Barney Norris

Barney Norris (Keble 2006) has followed the success of *Echo's End*, *Eventide* and *Visitors* (winner of the Critics' Circle Award for Most Promising Playwright) with *While We're Here*, the latest play from his theatre company, Up In Arms. The play is a story about the way we look after the vulnerable in our country, as well as a story about human vulnerability, human weakness, human joy, and the tightrope between laughter and sorrow.

His first novel, *Five Rivers Met On A Wooded Plain*, was a Times bestseller. He is an Associate Artist at Oxford Playhouse and the Martin Esslin Playwright in Residence at Keble, and has been named by the *Evening Standard* as one of the 1,000 Most Influential Londoners. His second novel, *Turning For Home*, will be published in January 2018, and his play *Nightfall* will appear in the inaugural Bridge Theatre season in April 2018.

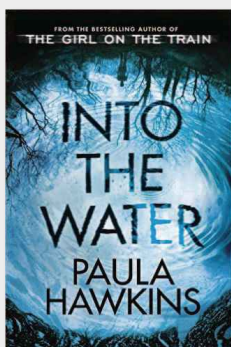
Glastonbury Calling

For any Keblites lucky enough to have had tickets to Glastonbury this year, perhaps you spotted Jonathan Downing (2009) who played keyboard with his band Silences twice, once on the Rabbit Hole stage and once on the Greenpeace Stage. Silences have received critical acclaim for their three EPs, 'Nevernames', 'Sister Snow' and 'Luna'. The Irish-based alternative indie rock band have received considerable support from the likes of Annie Mac, Huw Stephens, Phil Taggart (BBC Radio 1) and Gary Lightbody (Snow Patrol). Their music has been streamed over five million times on Spotify and they have become one of the most talked about acts from Northern Ireland.



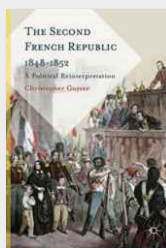
Jonathan, second from the right

Old Members in Print



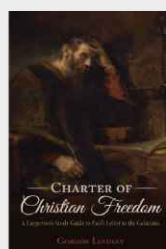
Into the Water

Paula Hawkins (1992) follows up her runaway bestseller, *The Girl on the Train*, with *Into the Water*, a psychological thriller exploring how we remember the past.



The Second French Republic

Christopher Guyver (2001) traces the story of the Second French Republic from its idealistic beginnings in February 1848 to its formal replacement in December 1852.



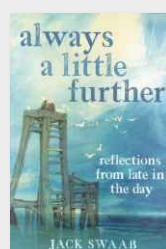
The Charter of Christian Freedom

Presbyterian minister Gordon Lindsey (1968) has published a study guide to Paul's Letters to the Galatians for people without a formal theological background.



Endean

In *Endean*, Michael Burns (1976) tells the unjustly forgotten story of Russell Endean, a cultured and highly talented white South African sportsman who played and fell in love during the pitiless apartheid era.



Always a Little Further

Our oldest known Keble alum, Jack Swaab (1936), records his thoughts, memories, reflections and insights into the world around him in *Always a Little Further*.

Keble College Music Society

see www.keblemusic.co.uk for Events

Old Members welcome



Saturday 16 September

1975-84 Keble Reunion

Invitations sent in June to alumni who matriculated in the years 1975 to 1984 inclusive. Lecture by Professor Tim Besley (Keble 1981). The reunion is the same weekend as the Oxford University Alumni Weekend.

15-17 September

UO Alumni Weekend

For booking and programme see www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk. Keble cannot take bookings for University events, but meals and accommodation at the College can be booked by alumni attending.

Tuesday 19 September
London Drinks (3rd Tuesday)

The Temple Brewhouse, 46 Essex St, London WC2R 3JF



Friday 22 September

Douglas Price Society and Talbot Society Dinner and Concert

With *Musica Poetica*
<http://musicapoetica.co.uk>

Invitations have been sent. Enquiries to Veronika Kovacs.

Friday 22 September

1967 Year 50th Anniversary Lunch

Invitations have been sent. Enquiries to Veronika Kovacs.

Saturday 7 October

Ghosts v College fixtures

Please note: Alumni playing in or supporting the Ghosts matches (except 2017 Finalists) are not permitted in College or the College Bar after the fixtures have taken place.

For alumni events and booking forms see

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

Enquiries to alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

Men's Football Match

College Sports Ground
Alumni wishing to play, please contact:

Andrew Tingle
andytingle@hotmail.com or

Brian Johns
briandavidjohns1@hotmail.com

Women's 7-a-side Football Match

College Sports Ground
The College side is a Keble-Hertford team. Alumni wishing to play, please contact:

Kate Dickinson
katedickinson23@gmail.com

Men's Rugby Match

Keble Rugby Pitch, University Parks
Alumni of all abilities interested in playing or providing vociferous support, please contact:

Jonathan Mitchell
j.h.mitchell@btconnect.com

Women's Netball Match

College Sports Ground
Alumni wishing to play, please contact:

Sarah Levisour
sarah.levisour@gmail.com

Tuesday 24 October tbc

Entrepreneurs Evening

Smith and Williamson, 25 Moorgate, London, EC2R 6AY. 6.15pm. Notification of online booking will be in the Michaelmas Term E-Event calendar. Enquiries to alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

November

Young Alumni OXmas Drinks

The Yorkshire Grey, 2 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PN 6.30pm. All matriculation years from 1998 onward welcome.

Richardson Lecture

Details to be confirmed.

London Lecture

Details to be confirmed.

**2018
Reunion
Date**

1985 - 94
Saturday 15 September



follow @KebleAlumni



find the Keble College Oxford Alumni group



join the Keble College Oxford Alumni group and/or the Keble Entrepreneurs group

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 and Development Office Data Protection Statement go to: www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni/data_protection

Your email address: As postal costs become more expensive it would be very helpful to email event invitations. If you have not already done so, please let the Alumni and Development Office know your email address or inform us of any change to your email address.

Contacts:

Alumni and Development Office
Keble College
Oxford OX1 3PG

www.keble.ox.ac.uk/alumni
dev.office@keble.ox.ac.uk
alumni.events@keble.ox.ac.uk

Jenny Tudge (Director of Development) jenny.tudge@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272794)
Camilla Matterson (Deputy Director of Development) camilla.matterson@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282506)
Veronika Kovacs (Alumni Relations Manager) veronika.kovacs@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282338)
Martha Baskerville (Alumni Officer) martha.baskerville@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272799)
Philip Clarke (Data Manager) philip.clarke@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282303)
Sharon Thomas (Executive Assistant) sharon.thomas@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 272794)
Rebecca Greeves (Major Gifts Officer) rebecca.greeves@keble.ox.ac.uk (01865 282036)

the brick

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

Editing and setting by Boriana Boneva (Communications Manager).
Published by Keble College, Oxford. Printed and distributed by Hunts.
Proofreading by Les Hearn (1968).

the brick is copyright © 2017 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: Ana Arce, Sebastian Bates, Markus Bockmuehl, Roger Boden, John Cairns, Cressida Cowell, Derek Farrow, Mila Fitzgerald, Scott Geelan, Alex Henry, Melissa Hinkley, Anne-Marie Imafidon, Sven Jaeschke, Minerva Lim, Rebecca Logan, Grace Matthews, John Mclean, David Norwood, Lesley Paterson, Ell Potter, John Stobbs