



COLLEGIUM · DOWNINGENSE
IN · ACADEMIA · CANTABRIGIÆ
GEORGIUS · DOWNING · DE · GAMLINGAY · IN · EODEM · COMITATV
BARONETTUS
TESTAMENTO · DESIGNAVIT
OPIBUSQVE · MVNIFICE · INSTRVXIT
ANNO · SALVTIS · M · DCC · XVII.
REGIA · TANDEM · CHARTA · STABILIVIT
GEORGIUS · TERTIVS · OPTIMVS · PRINCEPS
ANNO · M · DCCC.
HEC · VERO · EDIFICII · PRIMORDIA
XV · CALEND: IVN: ANNO · M · DCCC · VII
MAGISTER · PROFESSORES · ET · SOCI
REGIO · IVSSV · CONSTITVTI
POSVERVNT.
QVOD · AD · RELIGIONIS · CVLTVM
IVRIS · ANGLICANI · ET · MEDICINÆ · SCIENTIAM
ET · AD · RECTAM · IVVENTVTIS · INGENVÆ
DISCIPLINAM · PROMOENDAM
FELICITER · EVENIAT.

Downing College 2007

Downing College

Association Newsletter and College Record
2007

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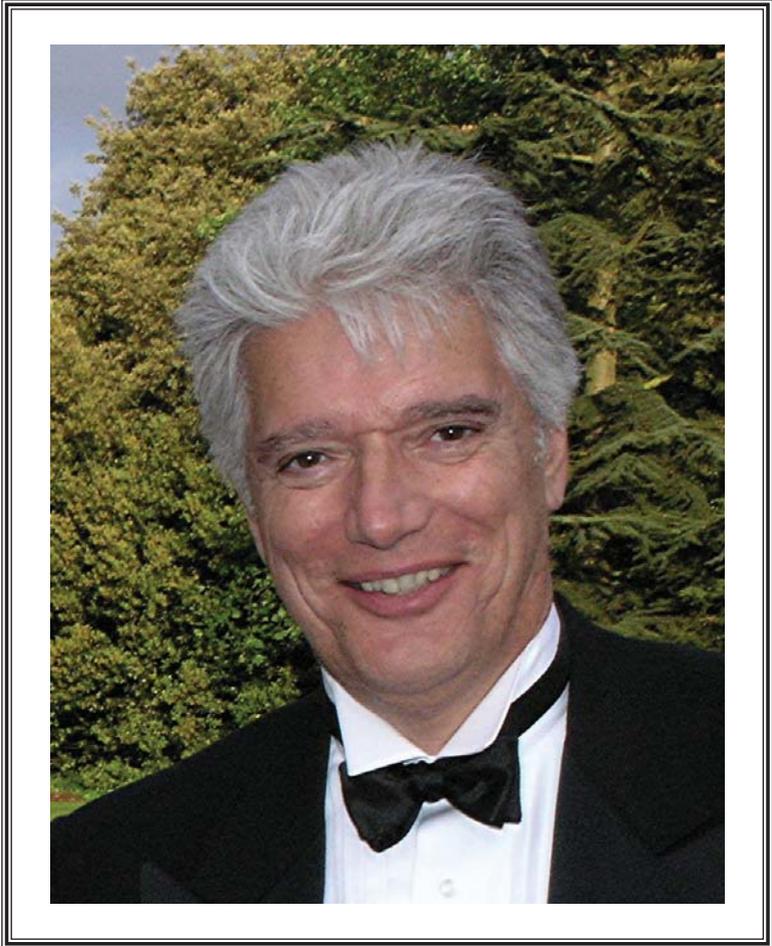
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Downing College Association

Founded 1922





The President. Julian Childs MA

■ Officers and Committee 2006–2007

PRESIDENT

J B Childs MA

PRESIDENT ELECT

Q S Blake CBE, MA

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The President

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The President–elect. (Q Blake MA LittD OBE)

The Honorary Secretary & Editor (J G Hicks MA FREng)

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R J Stibbs MA (College Record)

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I Redding BA

H Hedgeland MA PhD

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G J Virgo M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon), (Senior Tutor)

T Sadiq BA (Durham) MSc (LSE) (Development Director)

R J Stibbs MA (Fellows' Steward)

Honorary Auditors

D A Blackadder MA DPhil(Oxon)

M J Mays MA PhD FRIC

■ President's Foreword

The aim during my Presidency has been to continue the good work done by my predecessors specifically in the areas of promoting the Association as effectively as possible to undergraduates and postgraduates, increasing our merchandising sales in order to further bolster the Student Support Fund and to co-opt younger members, especially females, onto our board so that we have a better representation of the College as it now stands.

With the 'opt-out' clause now back in effect it was very encouraging to note that not a single fresher had decided to exercise this right so, for the 2006 academic year, we can boast a 100% joining rate. As for the students that did not join during the short 'opt-in' period we will do our best, with the help of the Senior Tutor, to invite them to join the Association before they leave the College.

Having had the above success it is clear that we do need to continue to promote the Association amongst the newer members. We are doing this by inviting both the Presidents of the JCR and MCR into our meetings, by sponsoring College events and by links to our web site. Furthermore, we would like to see more alumni in the 25–45 year age group enjoying Association events despite the fact that this is a time when jobs and family related events may have to take precedence.

Merchandising sales are well up on last year and we shall shortly be unveiling our new range of products which will include numbered and signed editions of the Quentin Blake print that was on the cover of last year's Association Newsletter. Print No 1 will be auctioned at the Annual Dinner on September 22nd.. We would like to thank you all very much for your support of this initiative and for the purchases you have made. I reiterate again that all profits go to the Student Support Fund. Quentin has also made a very generous donation to the Fund so the amount we will be able to donate this year will certainly surpass what we were able to give last year.

We are also taking a look at the Association Rules which were last revised over 20 years ago in order to bring them more in line with the College as it now is.

After returning from a long stint abroad and enjoying semi-retirement, my own links with the College have further developed over the last eight years or so via the Segreants, the Downing Enterprise Initiative and, now, the Association. All these have given me great satisfaction and the chance to repay the College, in some small way, for the fine springboard it gave me many years ago.

In closing I would like to thank all the members of the Executive Committee and, in particular, John Hicks, Peter Thomson, Frank Weiss, Holly Hedgeland, Colin Howes and Roy Farmer who have put in much time and effort in furthering the aims of the Association. May I also thank Sara Brinkley, Helen Limbrick and Susan Luton of the Development Office who play a major part in organising our events and help us in a myriad of ways.

Julian Childs

■ Association News

For many years we offered small grants to undergraduates for the purchase of books and other academic media. More recently we have offered such assistance to both undergraduates and postgraduates and extended it to cover travel for conferences and other academic work related functions as well as accommodation in a vacation where this has been required. This year's President, Julian Childs, has driven the Association's ambition to develop further the opportunity for extending the role of the Association in assisting current students who have difficulty in paying for specific items or activities in pursuit of their course of study. This function has received the support of members through the AGM. The article by Ben Davis in this issue of the Newsletter describes his visit to hospitals in India for which he received assistance from our fund. To acquire the increased funds necessary for this function we have enhanced the range of our merchandise. The purchasing, shipping, storing, selling and record keeping has been down to the enthusiasm of members of the Executive Committee and Frank Weiss (1950) who volunteered to undertake this task which, despite demands of family matters, he has done with enormous energy.

Our President himself has contributed directly to the fund by commissioning solid silver cufflinks and pendants to a value of some £2000 which we are already selling. To cap all this achievement we have received encouragement in the form of a most generous donation of £10,000 to our Student Support Fund by our President-elect Quentin Blake. This is in addition to his giving us his consent to reproduce, without fee, his illustration which formed the cover of last year's Newsletter and College Record as a limited print run, each signed by himself.

As well as the Student Support Fund the 2006 AGM concerned itself with the life subscription which would be set for the next two years at £3-50 per term for nine terms and pro-rata for shorter periods of residence. It was made clear that the subscriptions pay for the running costs of the Association and do not go into the Student Support Fund. The Annual Dinner following was attended by some 150 members including a number of recent graduates. Members had also been able to take part in the events arranged by the College as an Alumni Day on Saturday 23rd September. The Chapel service in the afternoon included remembrance for our late President and Master Stephen Fleet who sadly had died earlier in the year. The weekend closed with Holy Communion in Chapel and then the usual grand College breakfast.

May we remind members that the Association web pages are carried on the College website at www.dow.cam.ac.uk through "information for – alumni". On this will be found a brochure and order form for Association merchandise. There are also some new items comprising silver cufflinks and a silver pendant as well as framed and a signed limited edition print of Quentin Blake's cover illustration for the 2006 Newsletter.



Cufflinks in solid silver
£68 plus £1 p&tp.



Pendant in solid silver
£46 plus £1 p&tp.



Signed and framed limited edition print of the Griffins by Quentin Blake
£75 plus £6 p&tp.

See our web pages for the full range:
www.dow.cam.ac.uk through 'information for – alumni'.

■ The Secretary's Diary

Over the past few years the activities of the Association have been expanded as we mention elsewhere. Your Secretary is pleased to observe that the expansion has been initiated and supported by the members of the Executive Committee who have taken onto themselves the execution of various functions. Their commitment and energy has been notable.

In College a new type of event has been the termly Graduate Seminar in which three graduate students each address their peers and the Fellows for twenty minutes about their research. The breadth of subjects is truly remarkable and the depth of analysis can leave the layman lost in admiration, and sometimes



Danu – The May Ball. The 1955–56 contingent and their ladies prepare for the night. Ian & Betty Mitchelson, John & Janet Hicks, John & Meg Hazelwood, John & Jan Hall, Gordon & Margaret Hall.



The 1967 narrow boaters with their ladies at Ely on their way to dine at High Table.

understanding! The music recitals in the drawing room of the Master's Lodge and in the Chapel by current and past students have continued in the intimate atmosphere which makes them very special. The talent displayed by the performers is quite remarkable, especially when one finds that many do not read music as their academic subject.

Meeting members at this year's College Reunion was again a privilege. Those attending were from Matriculation years ending in 7 as well as 1950 and earlier years. Organised by the College this event was notable in attracting some 45 people from the 1997 vintage. This was a magnificent achievement in the light of the historic difficulty which almost every similar body finds in attracting the "younger" generations to such events.

At the end of Easter Term came the May Ball which required that the College be transformed into a Celtic Paradise under the touch of Danu, a Celtic deity, the personification of the earth. Under a clear and warm June sky some 1000 people enjoyed food, music, dancing, drinks, crazy golf, chair-o-planes, swing boats and some wonderful fireworks as well as having the opportunity of having their hair done or watching a range of classic films. The casino in the Howard Building was a continuous attraction offering the chance of winning a prize for the highest roller, but no real money changed hands.

Whenever an event took place in College this year one was bound to encounter Richard and Eleanor Wilson. Richard has been this year's Thomas Jefferson Visiting Fellow and both he and Eleanor hold chairs at the University of Virginia. They have extended the conversational spectrum at many a College function.

■ The Master writes:

Is it really a year since I last wrote my overview for the Newsletter? At least it has been a year during which we have been blissfully free of major building works on the domus, having completed the first phases of what we call the 'West Range Project'. We have superb new kitchens, buttry, servery, administrative offices and disabled access to the Hall and Offices via B staircase. But this relative calm will not last and more of that below.

I wrote last year about the ways in which we were trying to refine our admissions process in order to maximise our ability to select those students who have the potential to thrive here. A key aim of these efforts is to try to help our undergraduates to meet the challenges posed by the widening gulf between the

teaching and learning approach that they experience at school through GCSE and A levels and the very different expectations and demands they will encounter here as undergraduates. The Senior Tutor has written at length about the very great success of our students this year, to which I can add that the Tompkins Tables published this week place us third among Cambridge Colleges. While pleasing, of course, the Tompkins metric is not to be taken at face value, but our progressive improvement academically over the past couple of years is encouraging as it indicates that our approach and efforts are moving in the right direction. The goal posts will move and we must anticipate that. But we are all delighted that our students have enjoyed so much success. The social cohesion and friendliness that has, I think, always been a characteristic of Downing has been especially evident these last few years and this may well contribute to the firm base upon which our students can explore and fulfil their potential.

Downing students have also been successful in other domains. We have had wonderful musical events during the year, both larger concerts and smaller Master's Lodge recitals. Not only do our current students offer to perform in the Lodge, but our former students have been enthusiastic about returning to perform as well – most recently, Hannah Rosenfelder who sang beautifully about sirens, a theme emerging from her earlier studies in classics. The College drama society has been very active and successful, including an atmospheric and wintery production of *Dracula*. The various College Societies – Danby, Whitby, Maitland, Cranworth and more, have also been very active with meetings and social events. It has been an excellent year in sport: Downing women's teams won rugby cuppers, lacrosse league and cuppers, hockey cuppers and with additional successes in netball and badminton. The men's rugby team stayed up in the 1st division and went on to win the 'Doxbridge Plate' in Dublin at Easter, while the men's basketball team came 2nd in the 1st division. The Boat Club had a more difficult year, beginning with a win in the coxless IVs and an excellent Fairbairns, followed by a less successful Lent bumps, but a consolidating Mays saw a very strong performance indicating that the men's and women's first Vllls are on the way back up. The women's 2nd VIII won their blades and also established themselves in the first division. The Griffins Club is, I am delighted to say, thriving again and has its first female President, Jurate Karciauskaite. An additional annual dinner in London has been initiated and I encourage all Griffins to try to attend that or our Lent Term dinner here in Downing. It has been an excellent year in every way for our students. Indeed, the College also held its first May Ball for many years and this, too, was a total success and was held on just about the only dry night in May week.

Among the Fellows, our Senior Tutor, Fellow and Director of Studies in Law, Graham Virgo, was promoted to a Professorship this year to the delight of the entire

Fellowship and students in residence. Dave White, our Fellow in Engineering was promoted to a senior lectureship after having been in post for only 2 years. He is currently on research leave in Australia. Ian Roberts, our Professorial Fellow in linguistics was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. Dr David Pratt, our College Teaching Officer Fellow in history, published a major book, 'The Political Thought of King Alfred the Great' and which we celebrated at a launch party in the College. As the academic year began, we admitted several new Fellows: Bill O'Neill as Fellow in Engineering, who was promptly promoted to Reader in the University; Amy Goymour as the first Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law; Simone Lacqua as Research Fellow in History and who submitted her PhD thesis in June; Adriana Pesci as Fellow in Mathematics. These were all outstanding recruitments to the Fellowship. I am also delighted to report that on October 1st 2007, we will admit Amy Milton as Research Fellow in Natural Sciences, Brigitte Steger as Fellow in Oriental Studies and Franco Basso as Fellow in Classics. Our Bye-Fellowship community has continued to grow (details may be found on the Downing Website). Many of our Bye-Fellows are postdoctoral researchers who otherwise would not necessarily be closely associated with a Cambridge College. They are actively engaged with Downing, many of them undertaking very important teaching roles. We were again fortunate to have an outstanding Thomas Jefferson Fellow from the University of Virginia, Professor Richard Wilson. Richard specializes in the history of architecture and gave an excellent seminar on the relationship between the architecture of Downing and that at Charlottesville, as well as the supposed influence on Thomas Jefferson of Downing's architect, Wilkins. Richard's wife Ellie, a Professor of Education was also energetically and actively engaged in the College, especially the music society.

We have been very fortunate to elect and admit four Wilkins Fellows during the year: Professor Ralph Lewin, Mr Tim Cadbury, Dr Janet Owens and Mr Richard Williams. Tim and Richard have generously supported the restoration of the Hall; Ralph has generously supported research in plant sciences over many years, as well as our endowment, while Janet's generosity supports our teaching Fellow in English, greatly enhancing the fund established previously by her husband, R.J. Owens.

The recently introduced termly Graduate Seminars, at each of which 3 current graduate students give talks on their research, have continued to be a great success. Our graduate community has become more and more actively involved in College life, although this remains a challenge because of their diversity and wide dispersal within and outside and outside Cambridge in their various research environments. A series of excellent Presidents of the MCR and their active committees have worked closely with the Fellowship to enhance the environment, both academic and social, for all graduate students. A key aim is to provide better facilities for them, especially additional accommodation on the domus to match the Singer building that was built at the turn of this century.

I was delighted again to have had several opportunities to meet with Old Members during the year, both at Association and reunion events at Downing, and further afield. Our annual London Event was held at the Royal Society of Medicine last October and was attended by 300 or so Downing members. The annual Reunion Dinner, held in the spring was again a great success as almost all alumni present were celebrating a significant decade of years since they were here. This formula seems to work very well. There have been two more meetings of the City Group, one at the Law Society at which Luke Nunnely spoke and another last week that was hosted by Calvin Walker at the beautiful new Allen and Overy building in Bishopsgate. At the latter event there was a guided rooftop historical tour of the East End and its peoples. There were also gatherings in Bristol (for our south-west alumni and where Richard Stibbs gave a talk), Brussels (hosted by Julia Harrison) and in Edinburgh in July. We now have an excellent new website (<http://www.downingcambridge.com/development>) where you can quickly check and register for all our events and also make contact with old friends

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the College, which you can read about in an article by David Pratt elsewhere in this issue. I am therefore delighted to report that the wonderful generosity of Downing members has allowed us to proceed with the restoration and redecoration of the Hall, commencing in December of this anniversary year. Adam Caruso of London architects, Caruso St John, has produced an elegant and compelling scheme that emphasizes the original Wilkins design while including later additions, such as those from the Barry scheme in the late 19th Century, but with major enhancements in acoustics and lighting and a new stone floor. The Hall will be closed for the Lent term 2008, when students will take their meals in the SCR and new Parlour (now named 'The Fleet Room'), while Fellows will move to the West Lodge. Thereafter, the Hall will partially re-open and the decorative and restoration work will proceed, one wall at a time, behind screens. This will mean, of course, that the Hall will not be an optimal place for reunion and Association dinners next year, but we are confident the discomfort will be worth it! The Hall should be completed by January 2009.

On a personal level, it has been another interesting year. My daughter has survived and enjoyed her first year as an undergraduate at Wadham College in Oxford. Jane Sterling, my wife, having been promoted to Senior Lecturer has been as busy as ever, not least in trying to sort the mess out that is the medical training application scheme (MTAS), specifically for dermatology posts in the East Anglia region. And that is not over yet. I had the initially somewhat worrying, but ultimately very enjoyable, experience of having my portrait painted by the brilliant artist, Paul Brason, which was shown at the annual Royal Society of Portrait Painters exhibition in London. A committee is now deciding where it will

be hung! I was also honoured and delighted to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and was admitted just last week.

My sincere thanks to Julian Childs for all his work as President of the Association this year and to the Committee, especially to John Hicks for his tireless work as Honorary Secretary and Editor of the Newsletter, and Peter Thomson as Treasurer. Finally, my best wishes to all Members of the Association. Please stay in touch and do plan to visit us here, or at one of the reunion venues, during the coming year.

Professor Barry Everitt ScD FRS
Master's Lodge, July 2007

■ The Senior Tutor writes:

In the year of the Bicentenary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone there has been a great deal to celebrate in the College. You can read elsewhere of exciting building and refurbishment plans for the College, of the successful May Ball and of various sporting and cultural successes. But at the heart of the College as an academic institution success is measured by academic achievement and this has been (as far as records and collective memory inform us) the most successful year academically in the history of the College.

If success is judged solely by the number of firsts and distinctions obtained, then this is undoubtedly the best year ever. Ninety nine of our 400 candidates who took University and College examinations obtained firsts and distinctions. This easily beats the previous record of 85 firsts and distinctions. And this is not because of grade inflation. For a number of years broadly the same number of firsts and distinctions have been awarded throughout the University. This year a larger number of Downing students have been awarded such results.

This academic success is reflected throughout the cohort of students who took exams this year. There were substantially fewer lower seconds and many of the candidates who obtained upper seconds were ranked high in their respective class lists. This means that, on most of the measures used by the University and Colleges, Downing ranks in the top third of all the undergraduate Colleges.

Of course, as in every year, there were some results which were disappointing for individual students. There are also some subjects where there is some evidence of consistent underperformance. But this cannot distract from the many successes. Chief amongst these is the conspicuous success of the second year in virtually every subject, with the quality of the first year results not far behind. It is also pleasing to see a spread of firsts through many different subjects, including Archaeology and Anthropology (all 3 of the first year candidates), Chemical Engineering (3), Classics

(3), Engineering (9), Geography (4), Law (13), Mathematics (3), Medicine (16), Natural Sciences (26) and Social and Political Sciences (5).

Behind these dry statistics there are numerous individual successes. Six candidates obtained starred firsts in a pleasing range of subjects (and many subjects do not award such a mark of distinction): Alex Smith in Part IB Classics, Videsh Seereeram in Part IB Engineering, Aaron Dine and Cat Gerrard in Part IB Geography, Thomas Frater in Part I History and Paul Davies in Part II Law. The Governing Body was able to recognise 14 candidates who had performed with special distinction by being placed in the top 2.5 % of the class list, with Videsh Seereeram, Alex Smith, Paul Davies and Luke Church (Computer Science) each being placed at the top of their respective lists. Videsh and Alex, and also Thomas Frater who was ranked second, were awarded the Whalley-Tooker Prize for the candidates who have performed the best in a Tripos examination in their penultimate year and Paul and Luke obtained the Association Prize for the candidates who have obtained the best examination result in their final year.

Other notable successes includes one candidate who obtained a first despite having to use an amanuensis for all of his exams in a highly technical subject and Matteo Schirmer, a first year lawyer, who is the first non-native English speaker for the Law with French course (the Double M^aîtrise) to be awarded a first by the University.

This is very pleasing. However, in the course of the year there have been further signs of a growing problem which has been apparent for some time, namely the difficulty some candidates face with the transition from school to University, both as regards writing and learning skills and their ability to cope with the pressures of Cambridge exams. This is a matter of real concern for all the Colleges. At Downing we are seeking to address this issue by providing additional assistance as regards writing and learning skills, assistance which already appears to have had a positive effect on a number of students. Support and assistance is provided throughout the year through the College's pastoral team (Tutors, Nurse, Chaplain and members of staff within the Tutorial and Admissions Office), but with particular focus during the examination season. There is more work to be done, but we take seriously the importance of ensuring as smooth a transition as possible between the demands of school and university.

The Fellowship as a whole takes great pleasure in the successes of our students. I am particularly grateful for the very hard work of many Fellows, external Directors of Studies, College Lecturers and Bye-Fellows who between them admit, supervise and nurture the students. But finally I must acknowledge that it is the students themselves who have worked hard, and in many cases played hard too, to fulfil their potential. Their achievement is its own reward and all members of the College I am sure take real pleasure in that success.

Graham Virgo

■ Development Director's Report

The past year saw the successful completion of the Hall Restoration Campaign, raising more than £1m in a year. This magnificent achievement was made possible by the generosity of more than 650 alumni and highlighted the importance of many people giving at all levels. The work on the Hall will start in December 2007 and will see the complete transformation of the interior including new furniture, lighting, a stone floor and an acoustic ceiling which will make it much easier to hold a conversation in the Hall without the noisy reverberation which many of you will probably have experienced. The new oak furniture and the adaptable lights will be specially designed for the Hall. Most of the major work on the floor and the ceiling will take place between December and the end of April 2008 and after that sections of wall will be restored and repainted. During the early period students will eat in the Senior Common Room and the Fleet Room (Parlour) which Fellows have gallantly given up for the duration and from May the Hall will be available for use but with reduced capacity. We're looking forward to the day when it's finished, hopefully by December 2008, and we will hold an opening party for all those who gave to this vital project soon afterwards.

The Mays Wild Fund continued to make great progress raising £450,000 at the time of writing towards its £500,000 target. The first Mays Wild Fellow has been appointed and the funds now being raised will be used to support students needing funds for vacation research in the natural sciences. The College owes its thanks to Associate Fellow John Hawkins (1952) who has been leading the Mays Wild Committee and the fundraising effort.

The three student teams funded in the first Downing Enterprise Competition have made great strides in developing their inventions and are all now building and testing prototypes with the help of the alumni on the Downing Enterprise Board. A fourth team was also selected for funding in May 2007 and they are now working on refining their business plans.

In 2007, the Development Office was able to design and launch a new Alumni website complete with online events bookings, alumni profiles, forums and networking groups as well as a new, cleaner look. All alumni were sent a username and password to access their personal alumni areas and many have already logged in and set up their profiles. We encourage as many of you as possible to do this and to use the service to contact your friends and contemporaries and create an online Downing Community.

We held our usual schedule of alumni events including the Alumni and Association Day in September with talks by P D James and Downing Fellow, Jay Stock; and two more meetings of the Downing City Group with talks by Luke Nunneley (1981) at the Law Society and a talk organised by Calvin Walker from the rooftop

of the new Allen and Overy building in London on the history of the East End and its people by Mike Lear, a professional local tour guide. We also visited Bristol, Edinburgh and Sussex for regional alumni receptions as well holding our regular Cambridge gatherings including a talk by Professor David Feldman about his work on the constitution in Bosnia. The Master also took the opportunity to dine with American alumni in New York as part of an academic visit.

We were delighted to welcome many of our donors to the annual Donors' Garden Party and to unveil new names added to the Benefactors Board and to hold our second annual 1749 Society Garden Party for members benefiting Downing in their wills. A very special ceremony was held in the Master's Lodge on 4 July 2007 to elect four new Wilkins Fellows to thank those who have made exceptional gifts to the College.

■ Around the College

After 18 months of disruption while the kitchens and the upstairs admin offices were remodelled and renovated, we could have hoped that the building passion might revert to the more habitual 14 week summer rush. However, this is not to be and, thanks to the generosity of our Alumni, and specifically to Dr Alan Howard, the next 2 years will see some of the most concentrated periods of building in the College's history.

Following site preparation works during September 2007, excavations will start in earnest for the Howard Theatre at the southern end of the West Lodge Garden. This fully state-of-the-art building will provide theatre and conferencing facilities for up to 170 audience/delegates, as well as additional catering space, break-out rooms and dressing rooms. Quinlan Terry is again the architect and while, externally, it will harmonise with the classical Howard Building and Howard Court, internally it will meet modern environmental standards being heated/cooled using ground-source energy and roof-mounted solar panels. This project will take 2 years to reach completion, during which time disruption and loss of conference business will be a major concern.

In order to demonstrate our flexibility, the Hall will be refurbished during the same period, with works scheduled to last from Dec 2007 until Dec 2008. Staff and student catering for the whole of Lent Term 2008 will be based on the SCR and Fleet Room – with the Fellows displaced to the West Lodge – while the floor and ceiling are renewed. Work on the walls will be on a rolling programme with parts of the Hall partitioned off to enable it to be used for its normal functions.

'Smaller' building tasks include the total gutting and rebuilding of 50 Lensfield Road (due completion in Sep 2007) to provide 7 improved undergraduate rooms, while simultaneously converting the upper 2 stories of 76 Regent Street from offices to 4 new graduate rooms. Life in the Maintenance Department will not be boring for the next 24 months!

Dick Taplin
Domus Bursar

■ College sport

By the JCR Sports Officer

Downing sport has consistently been at a high standard this year, including both individual and team successes. A number of our teams have done well in intercollegiate competitions, and coupled with this, many students have also contributed to University sport, representing Cambridge in the Varsity matches this year. Firstly, special mention goes to the teams that either came top of their league, or won in the coppers competition. Teams that won their divisions include mixed netball, women's hockey, women's 2nd netball, mixed lacrosse, women's basketball and the men's 1st tennis team. Coppers champions include mixed lacrosse, women's hockey, skiing, women's rugby and men's basketball. A number of other teams also performed well over the year. The pool team was promoted from the 2B division, and also reached the semi-finals of coppers. Men's hockey finished second in their division. The men's rugby team took a group to Dublin to compete in the Doxbridge plate, a competition between Oxford, Durham and Cambridge universities, and emerged champions. The women's 1st netball team were runners up in their league, and the men's basketball were second in the 1st division. The men's 2nd tennis team deserves a special mention for coming 15th on the overall tennis ladder, which places them highest out of all the 2nd teams, and above 8 of the 1st teams.

All in all, the 2006–2007 season has been a very successful one for Downing, and I'm sure we can build on our achievements in the coming year.

[The Rugby Club's progress can be found at www.crazyaboutsport.com]

■ Next year's President

I was flattered to be asked to take on the role of President of Downing College Association for the year 2007–8, though I fear I am not a very associative sort of person and am not very confident about the skills I bring to the situation. Probably not business or management sense, though over the years I have come to realise that being a freelance illustrator is in a sense running a small business, in my case the work at the sharp end is in the capable hands of a literary agent. So I look forward to being guided in meetings.

On the other hand I spent twenty years at the Royal College of Art working with postgraduate students, and I am still a visitor there, so students aren't entirely an alien people to me, and I hope I have the opportunity of talking to the Downing version in the coming year. I have also retained an awareness of students' financial challenges and difficulties, and am particularly interested in what the Association is doing to help them. As an illustrator I have already had some involvement in the area of merchandise, and I hope that together we can look again to see if there are such ways of usefully raising money at the same time as adding an extra touch to our sense of community. Perhaps duvets and underwear in Downing colours are just around the corner?

Quentin Blake

■ Forthcoming events

The Association's 80th Annual Dinner and the AGM will be held on Saturday 22nd September 2007. As last year the Association Weekend will be augmented by the College's Alumni Day which includes events such as lectures and wine tasting. By the time this Newsletter is published members should have received a notice and application form. At the Annual Dinner we shall be putting up for auction the first of the limited print edition of Quentin Blake's griffins which adorned the cover of last year's Newsletter.

■ 1807: The Laying of the Foundation Stone and the Making of Downing College

by David Pratt MA PhD. Fellow Archivist and
Director of Studies in History

Following the bicentenary of the College's establishment, marked in 2000, this year has seen a further important milestone, the 200th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone, which took place on 18th May 1807. It is this date, indeed, which the College remembers annually in its Service and Dinner for the Commemoration of Benefactors, rather than the formal passing of the College's Charter on 22nd September 1800.¹ This intimate connection with the College's founding gave a special resonance to this year's events of Commemoration, which the College also marked with an exhibition, displayed in the Library, of material from the Archives. This issue of the Newsletter provides a further opportunity to reflect on what was in many ways Downing's true starting-point. For, as her early proponents had painfully come to realize, a College was nothing without buildings. The association of the foundation stone with the College's benefaction is a measure of Downing's slow and often halting physical construction in these early years, hindered among other encumbrances by the limits of her endowment at the time of foundation.

Such realities were barely reflected in the elaborate ceremonial of stone-laying, the climax of much deeper and highly contingent processes which lay behind the College's establishment. By 1807 more than fifty years had passed since the death of the founder, Sir George Downing, third baronet, whose will had ultimately provided the basis for the College's foundation. Though Sir George had raised the prospect of a College 'called by the name of Downing's College', such an outcome had been contingent on his four named heirs dying without legitimate children. This in itself had been a very unlikely event, but was miraculously completed on the death of Sir George's cousin, Jacob Gerrard Downing, in 1764. As is infamously remembered, the University had additionally had to contend with the legal claims of Jacob's widow, Lady Margaret Downing,

1. This piece is dedicated to the memory of Stephen Fleet (1936–2006), now also poignantly associated with this date, who took a keen interest in the College's formative years. In what follows I have been guided by the standard histories, namely H. W. Pettit Stevens, *Downing College* (1899); S French, *The History of Downing College Cambridge* (1978); S. French *et al.*, *Aspects of Downing History*, 2 vols. (1982–9); C. M. Sicca *et al.*, *Committed to Classicism* (1987); D. Watkin and R. W. Liscombe, *The Age of Wilkins* (2000); and now T. Hochstrasser, 'A College in the Air': Myth and Reality in the Foundation Story of Downing College, Cambridge', *History of Universities* 17 (2001–2), 81–120, supplemented by Venn, the History of Parliament series, and other standard sources of biographical reference. Citations below are necessarily selective.

at great cost to the College's eventual resources. After her death in 1778, she in turn passed on her claims to her second husband George Bowyer and her nephew Jacob John Whittington, in a spiralling sequence of litigation. From the 1770s, the prime mover in favour of the College's foundation had been another distant member of the Downing family, Francis Annesley (pronounced 'Ainsley' by contemporaries; 1734–1812), who, as an heir-at-law to Sir George by female descent, could be held to exercise responsibility for the fulfilment of his testamentary wishes. Annesley's victory further extended when, at the passing of the Charter in 1800, his efforts were recognized in his confirmation as the College's first Master.

Yet it was nearly seven years before building could commence. Though the Governing Body (here comprising the Master and five founding Fellows) had control of the Downing estates, it remained answerable to the Court of Chancery for its expenditure, with much capital tied up in an increasingly optimistic building fund. The College even lacked a satisfactory site. To satisfy legal requirements for the Charter's granting, Annesley had purchased a tiny plot called Doll's Close, near Jesus College, overlooking Midsummer Common, manifestly unsuitable for the scale he had now come to envisage. An alternative site, Pembroke Leys, had long been suggested as a larger and more fitting location; only with access to the Downing resources could this plot be purchased by the College, a lengthy process involving the area's enclosure by an Act of Parliament, and not formally agreed by the Master in Chancery until 31st January 1804. An additional complication was the vexed question of an appropriate architect and design for the College, part of a complex story whose wider importance for the history of architecture is well known.

Schemes of various kinds had been solicited since the 1770s, but by 1804–5 the Governing Body, subject to the oversight of the Court of Chancery, was contemplating the designs of no less than five competing architects, of varying character and merit. The contest appears to have been highly factionalized, with three architects receiving powerful support, offering an intriguing window onto the interests and affiliations which seem to have shaped the College's early decision-making. Crucially, all three supported designs exhibited Neo-Classicism of a strongly Greek flavour: the published attack by Thomas Hope (1804) on an earlier scheme by James Wyatt appears to have established some important aesthetic benchmarks. From around this time, both Annesley and the Professor of Medicine, Busick Harwood, seem to have favoured the hiring of the College's eventual architect William Wilkins (1778–1839), having had sight of Wilkins' first set of designs for the College, which have unfortunately failed to survive. The pair are conventionally identified as 'Graecophils': these preferences are perhaps best regarded as expressing a broader range of reforming commitments,

underpinned by shared secular experience, Harwood as a physician, Annesley as a trained, though non-practising, lawyer. Of independent means, Annesley had from 1774 held the parliamentary seat of Reading; without party affiliation, his voting generally supported Pitt's government. Both the abandoning of Wyatt and the promotion of Wilkins had an important context in the Society of Antiquaries, London, of which Annesley (1759) and Harwood (1783) were long-standing Fellows. In the 1790s Wyatt had aroused criticism over his 'restoration' of several cathedrals, for which he and several of his pupils were blackballed.² One victim was William Porden, another would-be architect of Downing, whose startling Gothic design for the College may be best regarded as a sophisticated lampoon. The successful election of Wilkins to a Fellowship in this same period (1800), lends further significance to his connection with Harwood, listed among his sponsors.

Yet Wilkins' selection was far from inevitable. For a significant period in the process the more likely candidate had been George Byfield (c.1756–1813), a more modest practitioner of Neo-Greek architecture, and at the time involved in the construction of several gaoles, including that in Cambridge (1802–7). Byfield's lofty elevation owed much to an alternative network of patronage centring on Philip Yorke of Wimpole Hall, 3rd Earl of Hardwicke (1757–1834), a major Cambridgeshire landholder and stout Whig, whose family had long exercised influence over the College's destiny.³ In the 1760s, Philip's father, Charles Yorke, as University MP and government law officer had played a leading role in pursuing the Downing cause on the University's behalf, efforts halted by his premature death in 1770. Byfield, in addition to his prison work, had undertaken projects for Philip's uncle, the 2nd Earl, also called Philip (1720–90). Byfield's proponents within the College were also indebted to the 3rd Earl's patronage. The Professor of Law, Edward Christian (remarkably the brother of Fletcher Christian, leader of the mutiny on the *Bounty*) had also been a counsel for the Downing cause and had advanced almost every step of his career through the Yorke's protection and support. Byfield's other supporter was Dr William Craven, Reader in Arabic, who as Master of St John's not only had special responsibilities under the College's Charter, but also held a position nominated by the 3rd Earl's uncle, James Yorke, bishop of Ely.

The question was further complicated by a third focus for support, in Lewis Wyatt (c.1788–1853), nephew of James Wyatt, whose work Hope had so condemned. The design, in a light Neo-Greek style, was Lewis' first for a major

2. J. Evans, *A History of the Society of Antiquaries* (1956), pp. 204–14. I am grateful to the Society's Assistant Librarian, Adrian James, for supplying some further details of Fellowship elections.

3. Also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (1791), and patron of Sir John Soane; for Philip's education and Grand Tour, see P. Searby, *A History of the University of Cambridge, III: 1750–1870* (1997), 545–61.

public building, and may be interpreted as a reassertion of his family's architectural reputation. What is striking is the source of Lewis Wyatt's backing, not from within the Governing Body but from certain of Sir George Downing's heirs-at-law, who appear to have petitioned the Court of Chancery in 1806 against Wilkins' selection.⁴ If one rules out Annesley himself, this would leave Sir George and Lady Cornwall, John and Mary Ranby, and William Henry Scourfield, as the heirs-at-law named in the College's Statutes of 1805. All are in fact plausible candidates for intervention. John Ranby (1743–1820), a Tory pamphleteer, is known to have taken an active interest in the College's design, writing at length to Annesley in c. 1797, in terms which included criticism of some of his proposals. Sir George Cornwall (1748–1819), son of a wealthy banker Sir George Amyand, derived his surname from his marriage to Annesley's cousin, Catherine, daughter of Herefordshire Tory, Velters Cornwall (?1697–1768). Sir George had continued this tradition in a long career as MP for Herefordshire from 1774. William Henry Scourfield (1776–1843), a cousin of Mary Ranby, was a Pembrokeshire gentleman and had recently been appointed captain commandant of the Haverfordwest fusiliers. From 1818 he would hold the seat of Haverfordwest. 'Ye heirs at law' are notably plural in the document recording their intervention. It is highly likely that Wyatt's scheme represented a rearguard 'Tory reaction' against the prospect of Wilkins' recruitment, the more remarkable for its timing, after Byfield's scheme had been fully jettisoned.

Yet the final decision lay with neither the heirs-at-law nor the Governing Body, but with the Master in Chancery, Francis Stratford. Stratford's decision to seek the advice of three professional assessors, in the form of architects Samuel Pepys Cockerell, George Dance the younger and James Lewis (the first two also Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries), outwardly sought to ensure a judgement reached purely on architectural merit, but must also reflect the continuing depth of tensions over the College's future shape. In the event, the centre held: both architects were judged to have produced designs 'fit and proper for Execution', but the 'general decorations of Mr Wilkins' design adopted from Grecian models' were held to 'possess more grandeur, simplicity and classical effect than those of Mr L. Wyatt'. The bold intervention of the heirs-at-law had failed; the verdict, formally expressed on 31st July 1806, was doubly convenient for Stratford in confirming the expressed will of the Governing Body and Annesley's own preference as Master.

The selection of Wilkins was thus, above all, a personal triumph for Annesley, secured against rival sources of interest and local patronage. Work could finally begin in the winter of 1806–7, with the construction of sewers and drains, and

4. Sicca, *Committed to Classicism*, pp. 47 and 132, note 2.

the digging out of foundations; the scene was set for the laying of the first stone, for which careful preparations appear to have been made involving the Junior Fellow, William Frere, and Annesley himself.⁵ The appointed date, Monday 18th May (Whit Monday), was selected primarily for its convenience to the Vice-Chancellor, holding no deeper significance; the College's main priority was haste in advancing to the day's elaborate ceremonies. These began with a service in Great St Mary's, with a sermon by the Public Orator, Dr Outram, which included pointed criticism of some defects commonly experienced in appointments to Fellowships and scholarships: in particular, their restriction to certain families or localities. Once elected, Downing Fellows and Professors would in addition be 'effective members', the latter giving lectures open to all members of the University. The message chimed with Annesley's own preferences for a College rooted in lay Fellowships and in secular and professional learning, which he had pursued quite insistently within broader parameters set by the University. After the service, the company proceeded to the Senate House to hear a Latin speech delivered by William Frere, echoing the sentiments of the day across sixteen pages.

There was then assembled the grandest possible University procession from the Senate House to Pembroke Leys, as befitted the first new College for over 200 years, attended by vast crowds from the town and neighbouring countryside. The University contingent included not only the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Francis Barnes, Master of Peterhouse, but also the 3rd Earl of Hardwicke, prominent in his capacity as High Steward, here witnessing the scene of his defeat; behind whom filed orders of noblemen, Doctors, Professors, Proctors and Librarians, Taxors and Scrutators, all guiding the Downing contingent to their new home, in the form of Annesley, the 'Chaplain' (otherwise unknown), the Professors and Fellows, followed by Wilkins himself as architect. On arrival at the foundation stone, the Master, attended by other members of the College, 'making a suitable address in Latin, deposited in the stone specimens of the different coins of the present reign', and placed over them a plate, upon which was engraved a short inscription recording the founding of the College, the granting of her Charter, the laying of her foundations by the Master, Professors and Fellows, and her purposes in 'religion, the knowledge of English law and medicine, and the right instruction of free-born youth'. This plate is illustrated on the front cover of this issue of the Newsletter with a translation of the inscription on the back cover. Later in the nineteenth century, tradition asserted that the stone had been laid in the future location of the Hall, rather than the Master's Lodge, the first building constructed.⁶ Also deposited was a stereotype printing plate, the first cast in Cambridge, supplied by

5. See Appendix, no. 3, below.

6. R. Willis and J. W. Clark, *The Architectural History of the University of Cambridge*, 4 vols. (1886) II, 764–5.

the University Printer, Mr Watts, and dedicated to the Vice-Chancellor and Heads of Houses. On completion of the ceremony, the University contingent processed back to the Senate House. Then at four o'clock the Vice-Chancellor and some sixty or seventy Doctors and University Officers, including the Earl of Hardwicke, reassembled at the Red Lion for an 'Entertainment' hosted by the College.

After nearly forty years' toil for the Downing cause, how had Annesley secured this most belated of triumphs? Thanks to important work by former Fellow Tim Hochstrasser, we now have a clearer understanding of the delicate complexities which dogged any fulfilment of Sir George Downing's will.⁷ Never cut and dried, the struggle against Lady Downing and her heirs may be better understood as a three-way conflict, rapidly enervating rivalry over the fate and leadership of the prospective College. Central to this was the rather awkward position of the heirs-at-law, whose involvement Charles Yorke, acting for the University, had strenuously opposed.⁸ Whether the will was upheld or not, the heirs-at-law had been effectively disinherited by its terms: any role would not only underline this, but potentially expose the bearer to suspicion of personal gain. Annesley was perhaps the best equipped of the family members to evade such perils. His wealth, owning houses in Reading and Mayfair, appeared to limit any financial interest in a nascent College; unmarried, and a learned amateur and connoisseur, he offered interests credibly suited to collegiate leadership. In addition to his activities in the Society of Antiquaries he was a renowned bibliophile, with a large collection of classical literature, and held a position as hereditary Trustee of the British Museum (then still in its old building, Montagu House) through his grandfather, the Cottonian librarian William Hanbury.

In his political and other worthy responsibilities, Annesley's career appears to have been punctuated by declarations of his own incorruptibility and rectitude, rooted in the basis of his support as MP for Reading, a previously venal borough. Yet behind these seemingly straightforward gestures, one may suspect the grip of a well connected and sometimes shrewd political operator. His position in Reading hinged on the connections of his brother, Martin, in the town's corporation; he also paid his election expenses direct. Annesley's dealings with the Yorkes may well have had a further dimension within the British Museum, an important arena of Hardwicke patronage during the Trusteeship of the 2nd Earl (1753–90) and 3rd Earl (from 1802).⁹ Annesley's competing activities could, moreover, be convenient, well shown both in this rivalry and in his ultimate retirement from the Reading seat in 1806. In 1780, when approached by the 2nd

7. Hochstrasser, "A College in the Air", esp. pp. 84–97.

8. *Ibid.*, pp. 91–7.

9. A. Esdaile, *The British Library: a Short History and Survey* (1946), pp. 18, 33 and 323; D. M. Wilson, *The British Museum: a History* (2002), pp. 28, 33 and 37.

Earl to give support to his nephew, Philip Yorke (the future 3rd Earl) as prospective MP for Cambridgeshire, Annesley declined, ironically pleading that 'my present connection with the Downing Estate does not, I fear, with any propriety, give me a right to interfere'.¹⁰ The statement may be a poor guide to Annesley's actual methods: in time, as Master of Downing, he appears to have drawn support amounting to a balance of power within the College. In addition to Busick Harwood, there was the lawyer Frere (1775–1836), very possibly a deliberate counter-weight to the Yorkes' man Christian. Perpetually ambitious, Frere had been a late inclusion in the College's Charter, an alteration seemingly secured through the influence of his brother George, who in 1797 joined Forster and Cooke, the legal partners who had long represented the Downing heirs-at-law. Another ally was again Annesley's brother, Martin, rapidly granted the receivership of the College's estates.

There was however one battle which Annesley seems to have lost. As Hochstrasser has shown, early plans for the College reveal that, remarkably, from the late 1770s onwards both Annesley and the University authorities appear to have envisaged a College lacking undergraduates, perhaps consciously evoking the precedent of All Souls, Oxford.¹¹ The idea seems to have emerged as a messy path of least resistance satisfying, severally, the University's goals of additional salaried posts for teaching purposes; Annesley's priorities of lay and professional Fellowships; and financial constraints from the diminishing resources of the Downing estates. Only in 1796 did a new draft Charter refer to resident junior members; this appears to have been a further compromise for Annesley, now satisfying the Court of Chancery over the full and proper use of the Downing legacy, connected with a final settlement with the heirs of Lady Downing over rent arrears.¹² Indeed, much of the Court's subsequent power over the Governing Body lay in its direct control of the College's building fund, a measure designed to ensure appropriate expenditure on construction. Yet, quite apart from the law's depredations, the Downing estates were in poor shape, suffering from neglect and chronic under-investment. In practice Wilkins' building costs were barely met by the College's income, and, initially, Annesley and his colleagues were forced to forego their stipends, which the Charter had designated at generous levels, with £100 per year for a Fellow, £200 for a Professor, and £600 for the Master.

It is revealing to observe the College's operation in response to these pressures, played out against all earlier tensions over its future shape. For whereas Annesley had the means to be benevolent, others may not have been so well placed: Frere for one regarded his stipend as central to his social advancement, alongside his

10. Letter quoted by Hochstrasser, "A College in the Air", pp. 96–7.

11. *Ibid.*, pp. 97–106.

12. *Ibid.*, p. 106.

salary as Deputy Recorder of Bury St Edmund's, secured in 1803.¹³ As if in recognition of the collective sacrifice, the first phase of building work focused entirely on accommodation for the Master and Fellows, starting with the Master's Lodge and the East Lodge (residence of Harwood as Professor of Medicine), with a set of six chambers between the two (now T and U staircases) serving as temporary accommodation for the other Fellows. The programme was however challenged, unsurprisingly, by Professor Christian, objecting to the delay this entailed in constructing the West Lodge, his assigned residence as Professor of Law. His appeal to the Visitor, Lord Eldon, seems only to have protracted the Lodge's eventual construction. Annesley and Harwood, meanwhile, peppered Wilkins with alterations to their respective Lodges; another change was the shift from four to six columns on the front of the Master's Lodge, seemingly for technical reasons (though this also matched Hope's principles in his 1804 pamphlet). Then on 17th April 1812 the elderly Annesley died, never to occupy the Lodge. Tensions further emerged in the election of his successor as Master, with Frere defeating Christian (the former securing the votes of both archbishops through his cousin, the bishop of Lincoln): the hapless Christian again appealed unsuccessfully to the Visitor. From 1806, stipends were finally paid, sometimes at a reduced level: the situation would bring embarrassment to George Frere who, with finances still tight, wrote to his brother in 1816 in terms strongly critical of Frere's 'negligence' as acting Bursar.¹⁴ This was the context for a further compromise with the Court of Chancery over future building. Wilkins was required to submit a reduced scheme, compatible with the College's purposes, with more manageable building costs; in return, the Governing Body was authorized to secure a loan of £20,000, mortgaging a significant portion of future income. The Hall, West Lodge and a reduced West range were duly completed by May 1821.

Only at this stage did the College begin to admit undergraduates, an initial cohort of twenty-one arriving in the course of 1820–1. The number matched expectations as they had finally been agreed; around twenty would remain the maximum number of resident undergraduates for the rest of the nineteenth century. Yet, by a variety of means, the College had begun as Annesley had first planned it to be, without the pattering feet of junior members. Not that the early Fellowship was academically inactive: both Professors gave lectures, publishing extensively in their respective fields, while Frere diligently edited a set of case reports for four years of the reign of George III. Yet the abiding impression given by the College in its early years is that of a rural, pastoral idyll, her sundry and august buildings surrounded by extensive fields, variously assigned to the Master

13. Letters quoted by B. S. Frere, *A Record of the Family of Frere: of Suffolk and Norfolk* (1982), pp. 324–8 and 339–42.

14. *Ibid.*, pp. 346–7.

and other residents. This is the scene in Ackermann's famous aquatint of Downing, showing the Master's Lodge with a view of King's College across parkland with cattle: published in 1814, the depiction may already reflect the interests of Frere and his wife, Mary, who stocked the Master's fields with cattle, sheep and pigs. Wilkins' plan of 1822 showed the boundaries of 'Downing College and Pleasure Grounds', with Frere's 'Farm Yard' opposite Downing Terrace. There were soon protests that the Master had appropriated land rightly for the use of Professors and Fellows as ornamental grounds, 'as is the custom in all other colleges'. Only in 1825, with the intervention of the Visitor, did the Governing Body secure the present Fellows' Garden. The Master's Lodge, meanwhile, resounded to the musical entertainments and public breakfasts of Mary Frere, attractions acknowledged by the early 1830s to rival those of Lady Hardwicke in wider Cambridge society.

Such were the forces which shaped early Downing. In a sense, one should not be surprised at the many machinations surrounding the College's construction: at every turn, the complex webs of patronage show the full force of England's *ancien régime* in local politics and society, clearly as alive within the University as across the Downing landholding, in which so many rival hopes, interests and ideals were ultimately invested. What remains striking is the sheer depth of contestation over the College's future, principally fought between Annesley and the Yorke family, and its longevity, extending at least as far as the deaths of Christian (1823) and the 3rd Earl (1834). At stake was not merely the architecture and design of the domus, but also to some extent local political power, and certainly, in Annesley's professionalizing agenda, the entire character and leadership of the College. Hard won, Annesley's victory inevitably had some victims, as well as beneficiaries, while the very presence of undergraduates was at best an afterthought. Far from any single vision, the Downing that emerged also owed much to the Court of Chancery, juggling financial constraints with interesting, wider questions of the College's public acceptability. For the making of Downing was also highly 'public', contested not only in law but in 'national' institutions, from the Royal Academy to Parliament itself, each a forum for debate and intensive lobbying. In Cambridge also the foundation stone attracted the witness of a wider local populace. Patronage operated within, as well as without, such 'public' structures. Alongside Annesley's principles and Wilkins' reforming aesthetics, we may place Downing ever more firmly in her rich and complex historical position, on the delicate cusp of modernity.

Appendix: select items from the College's Archives and Rare Books collection

1. Royal Charter of Downing College, passed on 22nd September 1800. The original document is highly impressive, handwritten on vellum and extending across five pages, 700mm x 540mm, each with printed decoration, accompanied by the royal seal in black wax. A purpose-built box, finished in embossed leather, also survives. The Charter is preserved with the University's formal assent to the founding of Downing College, dated 27th April 1786. [DCGB/C/1/1]

2. T. Hope, *Observations on the Plans and Elevations designed by James Wyatt, architect, for Downing College, Cambridge; in a letter to Francis Annesley, Esq. M.P.* (1804). The College's copy, in fine full burgundy morocco binding, bears the bookplate of Hope's son, Alexander James Beresford Hope (1820–87), and may well have been the author's own. A gift to the College Library by W. L. Cuttle in 1937. [Cuttle 151]
- 3.. Letter by William Frere to Francis Annesley of 20th March 1807, making suggestions for the foundation stone ceremony. Much of the initiative seems to have lain with Frere, outlining a divine service with sermon, a meeting in the Senate House and then 'a procession, as it is called in academical language'. [DCPP/ANN/4/5]
4. Single-sheet programme for ceremonial to be observed in the laying of the foundation stone, 18th May 1807. Several such programmes survive, which were presumably produced in large numbers for publicity purposes. [DCAR/2/3/1]
5. Facsimile of the inscribed plate placed on the foundation stone, taken in stereotype metal (see front cover and caption). [DCAR/2/3/1]
6. Full text of the Latin oration given at the Senate House on 18th May 1807 by William Frere, in his own hand. The speech rehearses at length the many merits of the new College, the first since Sidney Sussex: especially highlighted are the distinctiveness of the terms for Fellowships and Professorships, the generous provision for stipends, and the singular nature of her architecture in establishing 'the pure and uncorrupted beauty of the Greek arts in the land of Britain'. [DCPP/FRE/1/4/1]
7. Unattributed account of the events of 18th May 1807, also probably by Frere. Reveals that Frere's speech was given before the procession, departing from the order indicated in the printed programme. [DCPP/ANN/5]
8. Manuscript copy of a poem entitled 'The Metamorphosis of Downing College', written at the time of the laying of the foundation stone. Of some wit, the poem muses on the transformation of Sir George Downing into a College, and may be the work of William Meeke or Samuel Grove. Donated to the Archives in 1973 by P. Barnwell. [DCPP/FREN/1/2/11]
9. Governing Body Minute Book for the period 1800–7. Leather-bound volume includes full printed edition of the Charter and Statutes, then handwritten summaries of proceedings for the years 1800–5, and actual minutes for 1806–7. Early meetings were held in London; that of 19th May 1807 took place in the Provost's Lodge, King's. [DCGB/M/1/1]
10. B. d'Herbelot, *Bibliothèque orientale, ou Dictionnaire universel contenant tout ce qui fait connoître les peuples de l'Orient*, rev edn, 4 vols. (1777–82). First published in Paris, 1697. The College's copy bears a French inscription recording the book's presentation to 'Francis Annesley, doctor of Laws, Master of Downing College ... for the use of the students of that College, by his obedient servant Thomas Philipe, London 26th December 1809'. Thomas Philipe was a London print dealer with close connections to the British Museum. This is the only book associated with Annesley's Mastership, and has a strong claim to be the earliest surviving acquisition by the College Library. [Downing 939–942]

■ The Schieffelin Leprosy Research & Training Centre, Karigiri, Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India

by Benjamin Davis

As well as reading Medicine Ben Davis was Senior Organ Scholar. He received a grant from the Association's Student Support Fund towards the cost of his journey.

Since working with paediatric HIV/AIDS in Kenya last year, my interest in Global Health has been steadily growing and this, combined with a desire to visit India, made the opportunity to visit a hospital in rural Tamil Nadu irresistible. I spent four weeks in total at Karigiri Hospital, which was originally a leprosarium and then a leprosy research centre set up in the 1950s. With the rapid decrease in the incidence of leprosy, the hospital has diversified into a general rural hospital, which continues to care for many leprosy patients. I chose to spend two weeks with the Community Health Department, and another two weeks in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. I completed the Preparing for Patients C part of my 2nd MB whilst at the Community Health Department. I was less interested in the clinical medicine than the numerous supporting activities which provided excellent examples of fully integrated socio-economic community development with a very wide compass. I spent time visiting the many social development projects in the panchayats (villages) surrounding the hospital. Travelling by motorbike, I was shown many examples of fully integrated care. The department rebuilds houses, provides nutrition to those in need, health education to women's groups, sets up support groups for those affected by HIV/AIDS, self-help groups for those affected by disability and runs income generation projects – setting up small loans for individuals and communities. A good example was a 75 year old woman I met, who was cured of her leprosy but had been left severely disfigured. She lived in very poor conditions and her family had disowned her and actively avoided her every time she visited the well or approached them. They lived only a few metres away from her. This had been continuing for 30 years. The department highlighted her case and rebuilt her a water-tight house and began health education in her village, including information on leprosy – how it can and cannot be transmitted. Over time, her family have begun to accept and support her. Her health has improved massively because of better self-care. My time with the department was invaluable in demonstrating how health and social care must be fully integrated, and how successful it can be. Without adequate social care, patients would continue to present and continue to need treatment without improvement. I also spent time with a psychologist and psychiatrist, looking at the psychosocial effects of leprosy, particularly the effect of depression and emotions on self-care.

The second half of my time I spent in a paediatric unit in a nearby hospital and then in obstetrics. These are two areas I am interested in, particularly in the context of low-income countries. I shadowed the main Obstetrician and Paediatrician on ward rounds and in ante-natal clinics. I also assisted in the labour room and in theatre. I saw many caesarean sections, various difficult deliveries, and several gynaecological procedures. It was a great education in practising medicine in a context where every commodity is precious and necessity is the mother of invention. I was faced by many cultural issues for example the gender prejudice by husbands against male obstetricians and the very different way in which women give birth in India. I spent many evenings in the labour room trying to offer support, encouragement and care. There was no analgesia or sedation, and healthcare was very much about clinical rather than holistic concerns. I found this difficult and tried to understand as well as challenge these practices.

I spent the last two weeks travelling around Tamil Nadu and Kerala, which was a very different experience. These are two prosperous states, which often leave you wondering where in the world you are. They challenged my perceptions of India, and served to illustrate the massive diversity which *India* represents. Travelling alone is challenging but has provided an incredible experience and as I've found before, allowed me to fully integrate into the culture and interact with those around me. I met some truly amazing people both in my work and in day-to-day life – on buses, trains and the street. I have never been in such a welcoming and friendly culture and I felt very sad and quite distressed in returning to London. Having fallen in love with the people and culture of southern India, I am determined to return to the subcontinent to explore further. It has really spurred my interest in sociology and global health, which I hope to explore in my Part II and I am extremely grateful for all the money I have received which has made this experience possible.

■ The University Board of Scrutiny

Readers will have seen in last year's issue that Mr Richard Stibbs (Fellow) was appointed, for a second time, to the University's Board of Scrutiny. The Board of Scrutiny is a relatively new body in the University which began operating in 1995. The Board was set up on the recommendation of the Wass Syndicate, which reviewed the government of the University in 1989. That Syndicate proposed the transfer of certain powers from the Regent House to the Council, and further

proposed the establishment of a Board of Scrutiny as a means of ensuring the continued accountability of the Council to the Regent House.

The role of the Board of Scrutiny is to examine the way in which the University is run, and to comment on this to the University's governing body, the Regent House. Each year the Board is required to look at the University's accounts, the Allocations Report, and the Council's Annual Report, and it may then investigate any matters that arise from these documents. In doing so, the Board is empowered to consult any official document and to make enquiries of any officer.

The Board has no executive power. Instead, it acts as a review body, to look retrospectively at what has happened in the University over the previous year. The Board is composed, in essence, of interested amateurs. It comprises eight elected members of the Regent House, together with the two Proctors and the two Pro-Proctors. The elected members serve for four years, with half being elected every two years (in the Easter Term of odd years). In each biennial election, one of the elected members must be under 35 years of age. Senior administrative officers of the University are excluded from membership of the Board. The members of the Board then elect a new Chairman each year, and also a Secretary (who may serve for longer than a single year).

The Board is empowered to report to the University, meaning that it can publish Reports in the *University Reporter*. The Board has chosen to publish an annual report. This report is put down for discussion in the traditional fashion in the Senate House. The University Council then considers the Board's Report, together with any remarks made at the Discussion, and in due course publishes a response in the *Reporter*.

■ How to get a place at Downing in 1946

by Anon

In August 1946, the War Office suddenly announced it would consider sending us Regular Officers in the Royal Engineers to Cambridge again – if we could find our own places. I telephoned the Headmaster of my school who arranged for me to meet the tutors at two colleges. They were both very friendly but had no spare places and advised me to try again the following year. So that was it: I had tried and failed to get a place. Not having been to Cambridge before I decided to look at some of the famous buildings. But the centre was crowded with people

celebrating "Salute the Soldier" in honour of the two battalions of the Cambridgeshire Regiment who had spent over three years as prisoners of war. So I turned round and went the other way: the most important "about turn" in my life, as it happened. I walked past Christ's and Emmanuel and came across a porter's lodge in Regent Street. I asked the porter the name of the college and when he said "Downing" I remembered that several boys from my school had been there. I nervously asked the porter if the tutor dealing with engineering was available and, after telephoning, he said Dr Wild would see me.

The first thing Dr Wild said to me was how pleased he was to see I was wearing the Eighth Army medal ribbon. He explained that he had been responsible for developing the thermite bomb we left on the engines of abandoned vehicles. That was a good start but then the questions got sharper. When I said I had got a place at Oxford just before the war to read Chemistry which had to be declined for financial reasons, he replied "You don't think getting a place to read Chemistry at Oxford cuts much ice here, do you?" About ten minutes later he said he would give me a place and signed a letter saying so. I couldn't believe my luck!

So I came up to Cambridge and sat down again to lectures after a break of six years.

I well remember our first practical period. Six of us were assigned to a huge Robey Uniflow steam engine with a demonstrator sitting by the fly-wheel. He was standing no nonsense and after ordering one undergraduate to remove his scarf handed us cards telling us to measure the dryness of steam in the cylinder. Then someone whispered in my ear that the demonstrator was the Master of St Catharine's College [Col. Donald Portway, a Downing man. Ed]. In my room that afternoon trying to work out the "dryness of steam" I wondered where I had come to. A generation later my son came up to Downing to read Natural Sciences by a more testing route!

My purpose in writing this account is to record my appreciation of the man to whom I owe the most – Frank Wild.

Editor's note: The author graduated in 1948 with a first in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos and was elected to the title of Exhibitor.

DIECI PER TAVOLA GRANDE

(Ten for High Table)



An Opera Buffa in Five Acts

Music: Mendelssohn, Verdi, Berlioz, Mascagni, Puccini, Orff,
Sibelius, Wagner, Beethoven, Balakirev, Tchaikovsky

Librettist: John Dickinson

Cast

Ray Wilson (Admiral of the Fleet)

Val Wilson (Admiral's mate)

Various Captains, Midship-persons, Mates, and Quarter-persons:

Alan Billing

Helen Billing

John Dickinson

Christine Dickinson

Frank Gilchrist

Hilary Gilchrist

Howard Turner

Jen Turner

With Guest appearances from Fellows and students of Downing College,
And a cast of thousands.....

Prelude to Act 1

*The Opera opens to the music of Mendelssohn's Overture:
The Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage*

Scene: A meeting at a house set deeply in suburban Chorley

Four couples are eagerly discussing the possibility of celebrating in some appropriate fashion the fact that it will soon be forty years since the four men had graduated from Downing College. In a moment of rashness, stimulated by the intake of excellent food and a modest amount of alcohol, a daring plan is hatched to launch a water-borne armada from March to Cambridge via Ely in May 2007. Ray Wilson is immediately appointed Admiral to the strains of a wild chorus of acclamation. (We realise later in the performance how daring this venture is, when it becomes increasingly obvious that no-one has much of a clue about narrow-boats other than Ray Wilson). A motion is put and carried unanimously to recruit Alan and Helen Billing, resident in Toronto, to the crew. All exit singing what sounds suspiciously like the “Brindisi” from Verdi’s *La Traviata*.

Act 1

Scene 1: Fox's Narrowboats and Marina, March (near Peterborough)

Time and space have moved on, and we find ten souls joyfully meeting, and loading sundry bags, boxes, and casks on to three narrowboats. An air of quiet expectation, bordering on trepidation, is conveyed by a chorus of gentle humming. Under the tutelage of Fox’s jolly tars the three boats edge their erratic way into open water and set a sort of course for Salter’s Lode.

Scene 2: A (Fairly) Quiet Waterway

Later that same day, as evening falls, we find our brave ten sharing a meal – and, it has to be said, a fair amount of grog – aboard the largest of the three boats. Amidst much hilarity, and the swapping of increasingly bawdy tales of deeds long ago, the sun sets and all fall into restless sleep. The dreaded crossing of the Great Ouse is scheduled for the following morning. The act closes with “The March to the Scaffold” from Berlioz’ *Symphonie Fantastique*.

Act 2

Scene 1: Somewhere near Littleport

The tension from the previous night is immediately dissipated when we note that the armada has negotiated the Great Ouse without mishap. However, the tension is relaxed only for a moment as a powerful wind rises and does horrid things to our

sailors' attempts to steer in a straight line. One of the boats – Friendly Fox, crewed by the Billings and Dickinsons – encounters particular difficulties and before we know it the vessel is aground. A rousing chorus of the “Song of the Volga Boatmen” from the other two boats accompanies the crew's efforts to refloat, and amongst the cries of encouragement the occasional ribald comment can be heard. The scene closes as Captains Dickinson and Billing abandon ship and from the vantage point of (more or less) dry land try to push the boat into open water. An old timer is heard to mutter “I've been sailing narrowboats for years and I'd never have been underway in a wind like that.....!” Dramatic passages from the score of “Titanic” and “The Poseidon Adventure” punctuate the entire scene.

Scene 2: Ely Cathedral, later the same day

We are treated to a moving scene where the gathered crews, clearly now saved from the potential perils of earlier in the day, are attending Choral Evensong. An element of thanksgiving is evident as all stand for the prayers and hymns. The scene closes with a rousing rendition of the “Easter Hymn” from Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*.

Act 3

Scene 1: Jesus Lock, Cambridge

Much to-ing and fro-ing is apparent between the three boats as they fill up their water tanks to the opening bars of Puccini's “La Boheme”. This proves a disaster for two of them when it is realised that they have filled their tanks with non-potable water. The third boat's crew – the Dickinsons and Billing's – catch on in time and use the correct water. They recover some of the street cred which they had lost in the previous Act, and all shed their nautical clothes to dress for dinner at High Table in Downing.

Scene 2: Downing Senior Common Room

Our ten have now been joined by Trevor and Mary Hewson and Derek Raine, the two men bringing to seven the group of 1967 graduates. The bonhomie escalates rapidly as the thirteen are entertained by Dr Millett and his colleagues over the pre-prandials.

At the invitation of the customary gong all file into Hall and new heights of camaraderie are reached over excellent wine and food. Verdi's “Brindisi” from *La Traviata* can again be heard. (In fact this music, together with selections from Orff's “*Carmina Burana*”, form something of a leitmotif throughout the entire opera).

The cast exit at the behest of a second gong, and the revelry continues for some time in the SCR. Night gradually falls as all begin in great good humour to wend their erratic ways back to nautical rest.

Scene 3: Cambridge

Our heroes and heroines enjoy a day at leisure in Cambridge. Nostalgia is heavily in the air as couples wander at will through College grounds, and the city's sites and streets. Meeting up for lunch at the Mill an understandable, but – as it proves – unfortunate decision is made to go punting.

The scene dramatically changes to the windswept Backs and torrential rain. A sense of foreboding fills the air. To loud cries and the noise of violent splashing Admiral Wilson can be seen being rescued from the waters of the Cam....All goes dark: sneezing and shivering can be heard....

Act 4

Scene 1: A stretch of quiet Fenland of waterway.

As three boats glide slowly past, two cyclists can be seen wending their way along the towpath. All is serene and tranquil. Aspiring to ever greater speed on her bicycle Christine's attention is momentarily diverted from the path ahead. She is catapulted spectacularly into the air, landing upside down on top of her steed in a bed of nettles and groaning appropriately. The armada comes to a halt, and – dressed in the manner of Florence Nightingale – Hilary, a nurse in disguise, administers to the fallen. Christine stands up to a fanfare from the opening bars of Brahms Fourth Symphony and the armada proceeds after a brief pause.

Scene 2: Denver Sluice

An air of eager anticipation, mingled with dread, fills the stage again as three boats can be seen awaiting the return crossing of the Great Ouse. Casual conversation is interspersed with sorties to the nearby old mill for the purchase of its excellent breads, but no mention can be heard of the collecting storm clouds and the quickening wind. The opening bars of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony set the mood.

Scene 3: The Great Ouse

To the accompaniment of drum rolls and music from Sibelius' "The Tempest" we witness one of the more dramatic scenes from the opera as Captain Billing strives against insuperable obstacles, lashing rain, failing light, and a stormy wind to head for Slater's Lode. To the sound of triumphal passages from Wagner's "The Ride of the Valkyries" he successfully makes port. Wagner gives way Beethoven and the thanksgiving after the storm from his Pastoral Symphony.

Act 5

Scene 1: Near March

The final Act opens again with all crew sardined into the lounge of the largest boat. Bottles of wine, beer, whiskey, and headache pills can be seen strewn around the table.

Clearly this is an emotional occasion as the voyage draws to a close, miraculously without death or serious injury. Raucous laughter disturbs the quiet waters of the Fens and we draw a sigh of relief as silence eventually settles over the waters to the strains of Balakirev's "Lullaby".

Scene 2: Fox's Boatyard and Marina

It is the next day and the bustle of unloading luggage, packing cars, and of affectionate farewells fills the stage. Gradually, one by one, the couples depart until none are left. The tone of an emotionally charged finale is set by the dying swan theme from Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake". Stage lights dim and the curtain falls....

NOTES

This opera buffa had its first performance in early May 2007. It immediately had rave reviews despite a simple but largely incoherent plot line. Ignoring the poor quality of the singing and the totally plagiarised score it was clearly seen as a substantial testimony to a raft of enduring friendships, forged in the spring heyday of youth and carried undiminished into the autumn (well...perhaps late summer) of life. A sequel is already planned for premiere in 2017, but will undoubtedly be pre-empted by a regular series of smaller compositions over the intervening years.



■ News of members

As we go to press Jazzwise magazine website has as a headline:

"Drummer dressed as Elvis steals show at BBC Jazz Awards"

This refers to **Tom Bancroft (1985)** who with his band won the *Jazz on 3 Award for Innovation*. The item continues:

"The most surreal moment of the night came when **Tom Bancroft**, the winner of the innovation award, accepted his award dressed as **Elvis** before performing with his Kidsamonium band who had craftily subverted the proceedings by handing out kazoos to the audience for an impromptu singalong which added a unique flavour to the awards."

Gwyn Bevan (1948) had a great Downing day on April 6th when **Dr Dewi Roberts (1948)** was invested as High Sheriff for Gwynedd. Gwyn tells us that the ceremony was at Beaumaris next to the castle in glorious sunshine.

Michael Crouch (1953) was a second generation at Downing, he then went to Lincoln College, Oxford 1957–58 on the Overseas Service cadet course. He served in the Aden Political Service from 1958–67 and was the last Resident in the Eastern Aden Protectorate. He settled in Western Australia in 1967 as he says “to avoid becoming a casualty statistic in South Arabia” and subsequently worked in commerce, heavy industry, management training/consultancy, secondary teaching, environmental management, as well as writing [see Publications Ed.]. He is currently researching towards a PhD in Victorian Social History at the University of Western Australia. Married (2nd wife) Jenny 1998. He has three children and numerous grandchildren. They live in central Perth, Western Australia where he cycles daily to the university.

Keith Malcolm Denison (1964) was, from October 2006, appointed Chair of the Corporation of Coleg Gwent, the largest Further Education College in Wales with 37,000 students, 1,460 staff and an annual turnover of £49M.

Dr George Dissanaïke (1950) completed his work for the PhD degree at the Cavendish Laboratory during the period 1950 to 1953. He spent two sabbatical years, 1961/62 and 1991, continuing his work at Cambridge. His distinctions and publications appear in the appropriate sections below.

■ Publications

Michael Crouch (1953)

An Element of Luck 1st edition. Radcliffe Press. IB Tauris. 1993 ISBN 1-85043-739-4.

2nd revised edition. Rowlhouse Publishing, Western Australia. 2001. ISBN 0-9587406-4-X. Both essentially out of print. The author may have a few copies.

The Terrorist (a novel – 1stBooks 2003) published & distributed exclusively in the US ISBN 1-4107-6499-0(e-book), 1-4107-6498-2 (paperback) & 1-4107-6497-4 (Dust Jacket)

Bwana Safari (commissioned biography) – Rowlhouse Publishing. 2003. ISBN 0-9587406-6-6

The Literary Larrikin (biography) – University of Western Australia Press. 2003
ISBN 1 920694 39 0.

G Dissanaïke

Painting the sky red, *New Scientist*, Vol.132, No.1791, October 1991;
The Sun shows its true colours, *Physics Education*, October–December 1997
Teaching physics today, *Physics Education*, July–September 2001;
Sunrise from high altitudes in clear and polluted skies, *Physics Education*,
October 2001–March 2002
Colourful skies, sunrise, and atmospheric pollution, *Physics Education*, July–
September 2006.

Margot Holbrook

We noted in last year's issue of the *College Record* that Margot, wife of **David Holbrook**, Fellow Emeritus, was to publish *Where do you keep? Lodging the Cambridge Undergraduate*. This is now available from the address below.

Margot Holbrook was the Secretary of the Lodgings Syndicate for almost twenty years and as such is uniquely placed to provide this fascinating study of the Cambridge University lodging house. Student accommodation at Cambridge has been a thorny problem ever since 1231 when Henry III had to admonish the town officials for overcharging. As student numbers increased in the middle ages, hostels and inns were built, some of which became in their turn the first colleges of the university. However, accommodation in the colleges for all three undergraduate years was invariably insufficient, and the university quickly established its authority over the licensing of lodgings. This was partly to regulate living conditions and prices but primarily to exercise discipline over those students not living within the college walls. Her detailed survey includes an account of the notorious Spinning House where the university incarcerated women whom it felt were a danger to the morals of young men. The return of soldiers after both world wars and national service, older in age and sometimes married, created its own problems, as did the acceptance of women undergraduates and the more recent metamorphosis into mixed colleges. She concludes with extensive reminiscences written by undergraduates who found themselves at the mercy of a wide variety of landladies, usually kind and generous, but occasionally inhospitable and cold-hearted.

Where do you keep? ISBN10: 1-902918-36-3. £14-50 inc. p&tp.

May be ordered on-line at <http://www.cappella.demon.co.uk/cappubs.html>
or through any bookshop via Gardner's Books POD service or by mail from the publishers:
Cappella Archive, The Steps, Foley Terrace, Malvern, WR14 4RQ
Cheques payable to Cappella Archive.

G V Lees (1971)

Drug Discovery: from Bedside to Wall Street. Tamas Bartfai & Graham V. Lees. Elsevier/Academic Press, London & San Diego. ISBN: 0123695333
\$29.95/£19.95

John Meddemmen (1959)

La dinamica delle riscritture nell'epopea partigiana di Fenoglio, *Il Confronto letterario*, n.44, 2005, II, anno 44, nuova serie, pp.531–554.

La fine di Johnny. L'inglese e gli inglesi in Fenoglio, *Alchimie famigliari. Studi su Beppe e Marisa Fenoglio*, edited by Anne Begenat-Neuschäfer, Peter Lang, Frankfurt am Main 2006, pp.59–71.

Ricordando Cisterna sessantun anni dopo, *Il Platano, rivista di cultura astigiana*, anno XXXI, Asti 2006, pp.162–168.

Beppe Fenoglio describe gli inglesi, *Il Cavallo di Cavalcante*, anno 3, numero 5, novembre 2006, pp.22–24.

Metamorfosi e "trasmogrification" in Harry Potter e altrove, *Il Confronto letterario* n.46 – 2006 – II, anno XXIII – Nuova serie, pp.409–429.

Le rovine, scavandoci sotto. «Ralph Richards, the Miser» di Jefferys Taylor (1821), *Strumenti critici*, a.XXII, n.2, maggio 2007, pp.227–238.

■ **Appointments, retirements and distinctions**

Dr George Dissanaïke (1950) retired in 1995 as Senior Professor of Physics, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. His achievements are as follows:

Fellow, National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka, 1990. Fellow, Institute of Physics, Sri Lanka, July 1994. Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya from March 1996. Ceylon Delegate, Conference on Status of the International Atomic Energy Agency, at the United Nations, NY, September 1956. C.A.A.S. Delegate, Summer Physics Colloquium of the Peking Symposium, at Peking, China, July/August 1966. Guest Scientist, Winter College on Fundamental Nuclear Physics, International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, February 1984. Guest Speaker, Seminar in Physics & Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, India, April 1987. Delegate, ASPEN Regional Workshop on Secondary School/University Physics Interface, Colombo, September 1987. Participant & Chairman of a Session, ASPEN Conference & Workshop on the Teaching of Optics, at the University of Melbourne, Australia, September 1989.

■ Marriage

Andrew Macintosh (2003) married **Jessica Hrivnak** (Fitz 1999, Darwin 2003) on 14th April 2007 in the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs and the evening reception was held in the Howard building in Downing. Jess read Architecture as an undergraduate; they met on the MPhil "Environmental Design in Architecture" and both completed their Architecture Diplomas here as well. They are now both living and working in London.

Glynn Jones Scholarships for Business and Management Education

Members of the Downing Association are reminded that they are eligible to apply for Glynn Jones Scholarships. These valuable scholarships are for those wishing to further their education for careers in the business and management fields. Any who have already embarked on such careers are welcome to apply if they consider that further education and training are likely to improve their career prospects. Typically, Scholarships have been awarded to help fund MBA or equivalent courses in this country or abroad, but the awards are not restricted to such courses. Scholarships of up to £10,000 per annum, for courses of up to two years' duration, have been made in the recent past. Further information about the awards and application forms are available from the Tutorial and Admissions Office. (email: senior-tutor@dow.cam.ac.uk).

■ News of College Staff

The Head Porter, **Ron Dailly**, retired in June 2007 after 13 years' service, 7 of them as Head Porter. He has been succeeded by **Peter Hammond** formerly Deputy Head Porter; **Keith Bullock** is now Deputy Head Porter.

Jacqui Cressey arrived in February 2006 to take up the post of Conference Services Manager in succession to John Rook who had moved to a similar role on a university scale at Southampton.

■ Visiting Cambridge

Visiting Downing

People who have been undergraduates or graduates at Downing are now known as Members out of Residence and are most welcome to visit Downing at any time when it is open. Limited parking is available and to make arrangements please telephone the Porter's Lodge on 01223 334800.

Business meetings in Downing

The College makes its facilities available for conferences and meetings; for Members out of Residence the College offers rooms, subject to availability, for meetings during term time. For further information contact the Conference Office on 01223 334860 or fax 01223 467934.

High Table Dining Rights

Members out of residence in the categories below are welcome to dine at High Table twice per full term, the first occasion being free of charge. Appropriate gowns can be obtained on loan from the College on the evening, but you may wish to bring your own.

You are eligible for dining rights if you have one of the following:

- a Cambridge BA and 19 terms have passed since you matriculated at Cambridge.
- a Cambridge MA or higher Cambridge degree.
- any other Cambridge postgraduate degree, and 19 terms have passed since you began your first degree.

For further information please telephone the Conference Office on 01223 334860 or e-mail: dining@dow.cam.ac.uk (Unfortunately members may not bring guests to High Table.)

Visiting other Colleges

As a graduate of the University you are entitled to a Cambridge University "Camcard" which permits you and four guests to free entry into all of the colleges of the University when they are open. For further information telephone or write to the University Development Office, 1 Quayside, Cambridge, CB5 8AB. Tel. 01223 332288 or e-mail to enquiries@foundation.cam.ac.uk

■ Obituaries

Stephen Allcock (1952)

Stephen Allcock died very suddenly on 6 February 2006 at the age of 72, leaving his wife Barbara, daughters Susan and Katharine, and elder brother Raymond. After attending Kirkham Grammar School in Lancashire and doing National Service in the RAF at Biickeburg in Germany he read Natural Sciences. He also sang in the chapel choir, carrying on the family tradition of church music, and played the trumpet in a skiffle group. Stephen initially worked for Marconi at Chelmsford as a graduate apprentice, but then moved back to Lancashire and joined the Electronics Department of the then English Electric Company (Aircraft Division) at Warton. Here he stayed, throughout the various guises of the company which became today's BAE Systems, until he took early retirement in 1988 at the age of 55. The highlight of his career was probably the time he spent as one of the first engineers to work on an early digital computer, the DEUCE. This enabled him to help out at other companies in the pioneering days of computing, including the installation of BP's first computer in the City of London and also work at Shorts and Harland in Belfast. Subsequently he progressed to the design and management of the ground station for flight test data recording for five military aircraft programmes, the Canberra, Lightning, TSR-2, Jaguar and Tornado. Outside work Stephen was very interested in local history and was actively involved in the management of the Lytham St Annes Civic Society. He also serviced Talking Book machines for the RNIB and had a lifelong love of travel. In 2001 Stephen and Barbara moved to Headcorn in Kent to be near their grandchildren Liam and Daisy. Stephen found plenty of interest in the local history society, the wartime airfields and the building of the Channel Tunnel rail link – and was also able to attend a couple of reunion events at Downing. He was devoted to his family, friends and the public good, and is fondly remembered and sadly missed by all who knew him.

Mrs Barbara Allcock

Martin John Kjolsen Blomley (1977)

David Blomley (1949) wrote to tell us of the death of his son Martin who died of malignant melanoma at the age of 46 in April 2006, at the height of his career. From Theale Green School he followed his father to Downing at the age of 17 on an Open Exhibition in Economics. When he saw the first year work he realised he'd done most of it at school anyway so he switched to maths and got a first in his Finals. After travelling in the USA and working in San Francisco he decided to leave computing and study medicine at the London Hospital. His career led him to radiology and here

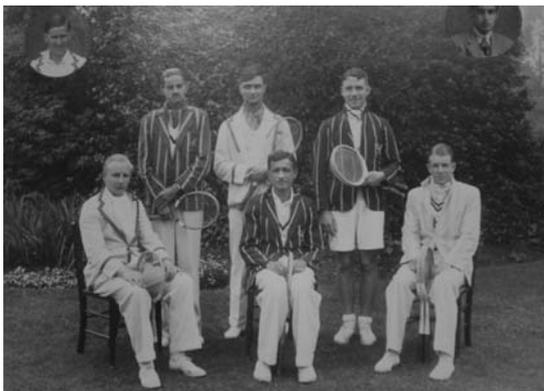
his mathematical background was invaluable. He began to make important contributions to functional imaging using both CT scanning and ultrasound, and he developed very ingenious uses for microbubbles. These were originally intended for displaying the shape of the chambers of the heart but Martin used them to show secondary liver cancer, and built up a team working on their use for drug or gene delivery to specific regions of the body. He changed medical practice world-wide in more than one area. He was awarded the Finzi Prize of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1993. The distinction he was most proud of however was being invited to give the first Sir Godfrey Houndsfield lecture (named after the inventor of CT scanning) in 1997 and being given the Houndsfield Prize. He had been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Science but died before he could be admitted. Martin's department at the Hammersmith Hospital achieved an international reputation and attracted many research grants. He became Joint Academic Head of Imaging and was awarded a personal Chair at Imperial College at the unusually early age of 42. There have been many tributes to his character. Professor Chris Higgins, Director MRC Clinical Sciences Centre and Head of Division of Clinical Sciences at Imperial College wrote "...I can honestly say that I have never heard anyone say a bad word about Martin, professionally or personally—an accolade almost unheard of in competitive academic circles and testimony to his personal charm and diligence.". He was very well read in many fields. Outside of work he loved to travel, always looking for something new whether in South America, India or dozens of other countries, preferably away from tourist areas. If you wanted to know the best way to travel on the upper Amazon, or the best airline to Nepal, he was your man. He spent much happy time in his mother's country of Denmark where he was greatly loved. He leaves his wife, Julia, whom he met at the London Hospital.

Stanley Philip (often known as Peter) Chapman (1935)

Stanley Philip Chapman came from Ilminster Grammar School, Somerset to read English and Modern languages and completed his teacher's certificate in 1939. He first studied under Leavis but fell out with him and was taken in by the director of studies at Emmanuel. He was a keen sportsman, playing tennis and squash for the College. Even in his 80's he still possessed his Downing sports blazer, scarf and shield the latter now in the possession of his great niece, Susan Elderkin, who read English at Downing 50 years later. He briefly taught at Dulwich College before war broke out, he then enrolled as an Officer in the Royal Artillery in 1938 and was later invited to join the Intelligence Corps, leading to a 7 week crash course in Urdu before sailing to India. Four happy years were spent in the Indian sub continent and he was immensely proud to receive the Burma Star. In 1946 he returned to England and taught English, French and German at St Albans School, and from 1950 taught at Crewkerne Grammar School, retiring in 1971. He was also an examiner for French

papers and Oral English, examining an inmate in Dartmoor prison on one occasion. Stanley was a man of wide ranging interests; he took part in many extra curricular activities including sports coaching, drama and boy scouts. He was a District Councillor, Churchwarden, a keen member of his local dramatic society and tennis club and a champion of the survival of village schools. He belonged to the Society of Dorset men and the Thomas Hardy Society. His family, friendships, faith and service were very important to him all his life. He died in May 2004 in the Royal United Hospital, Bath, surviving his wife by a few months. He leaves behind 2 daughters who meant so much to him.

This obituary was prepared by his daughter Margaret Birch.



Downing Tennis Team 1937

J Chopra, S Singh, S P Chapman.

T H Jackson (Hon Sec), A L Rai (Captain), F M P Knott

Inset: A G Rattray, A C Chopra



Downing Squash Team 1937

C Mack, M C Hudson-Bennett, G C Greenfield

A Straker, C Galloway, S P Chapman.

Desmond Dowling (1949)

Prof. Des Dowling died on June 23rd 2006. He was born in Rowena, New South Wales, Australia. He spent his childhood at Rosebery Downs, near the township of Muttaborra in Queensland's central west where he rode his horse 8km to school each day. He continued his education at Mount Carmel College, Charters Towers, and went on to study veterinary science at Sydney University, from which he graduated in 1940. After serving as a veterinary officer in the Army with the Northern Territory force, he completed an honours degree in science at Sydney University. Having won a scholarship he came to Downing and completed his PhD in less than two years, in the process pioneering new methods in animal reproductive technology. Following his return to Australia, Dr Dowling joined the CSIRO and in 1961 took up a position as Professor of Veterinary Science at The University of Queensland. He was originally appointed chair of animal husbandry and later Professor of Veterinary Biometeorology. He left the University as Emeritus Professor. He was a member of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, the first president of the Australian Association of Cattle Vets and was a founder of The University of Queensland Rotary Club, later receiving a Paul Harris Fellowship, the highest Rotary tribute. Professor Dowling is survived by his wife, Therese, seven children, 14 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Rex Gooch (1958)

Mrs Anne Gooch has told us that her husband, Rex Grenville-Gooch has died.

Peter Handley Gooderick (1944)

The Reverend Peter Gooderick died on January 10th 2007. We hope to be able to publish an obituary in the 2008 issue of the Newsletter.

Paul Isherwood (1972)

Paul arrived at Downing from school in Bolton to read history, especially Oliver Cromwell and Josiah Wedgwood. But he stood out in two ways: he had a girlfriend, no mean feat in the then all-male college. More importantly, he also had a car, almost unheard of in those days. But as a family hand-me-down [it was beige], Paul had clearly got it for nowt or as a pretty keen bargain, always an important consideration to him.

After Downing he returned to the family firm where he continued to learn much about enterprise. His lessons for those of his contemporaries that had, more typically, joined the public sector or the professions were succinct. "There are only two things to remember about carpet-fitters: their knees go, and the taxman gets them."

But he hankered after something to better fit his scholarly skills. His career as Manchester Airport's archivist did that admirably, allowing him to blend his interest in historical documents with aviation and travel, two of his many other interests. He visited all the continents bar Antarctica, and all the American states bar Alaska. He was also a film buff as well as the owner of a significant collection of early beer mats.

This all contributed to Paul's engaging ability to talk with anyone, of any age about almost anything. And more than that, he'd put them at their ease. He was rightly proud of that. We learnt at New Year that Paul had been diagnosed with cancer. He and four of his 1972 contemporaries – Max Craft, Kevin Mulholland, Jamie Storrar and myself – met up in March. Whilst he was poorly, his sense of humour hadn't deserted him. And he was clearly getting much love and care from his wife Carol, Eric [his father], Dave [his brother] and their families through this time and up to his death just short of his 53rd birthday in June. He really was at home, and for all his globe-trotting he always seemed at ease there.

Many of Paul's friends will still raise a glass and commune with him. It may not always be the holiest form of communion. But it will, at least from him, be well-informed, always friendly and interrupted by much laughter. And we will always be very grateful to him for that.

Nigel Armstrong [1972]

Richard John Jacob (1965)

Richard died on December 5th 2006 aged 63. He had been suffering for at least three years from AL amyloidosis, a rare condition which he faced with enormous bravery. He did not want sympathy and few knew how ill he was. He would have been pleased that he spent two hours in his office on his last day. Richard came up from Newport Grammar to read Geography, converting to Law in his final year. He rowed for the College Third Boat. Richard retained an interest in developments at Downing, attending a number of reunions and particularly enjoying a Special Cranworth Dinner in honour of John Hopkins in 2004. After articles at Stanley Tee and Co. in Bishops Stortford he joined Hill and Perks in Norwich's Cathedral Close where he built up the first specialist probate department in the city. By 2002 the firm had become part of Eversheds, a national partnership focussing on business law. Richard moved, with a number of colleagues and the majority of his clients, to Norfolk-based firm Hansells. A dedicated and highly respected lawyer, he was a founder member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners and served on the committee of the local Law Society. A trustee for a number of local organisations and charities, he was also a founder member of Norwich Castle Round Table and Honorary Treasurer of the Friends of Norwich School. He enjoyed

maps, travel, birdwatching and walking and was a keen supporter of musical events. A man of common sense, unobtrusive kindness and sharp wit, he embraced his adopted city with enthusiasm and over 600 attended his memorial service in the Cathedral. He leaves a widow Margaret, daughter Elizabeth, sons Mark and Peter and three granddaughters. Seldom seen without a tie, even on holiday, his Downing collection held pride of place!

Margaret Jacob

Arthur James Pierce Lockyer (1938)

Arthur Lockyer died on 20 January 2007 at the age of 89. Born in Northern Ireland he came to Downing from King's School, Canterbury to read Archaeology and Anthropology. He was a keen athlete and became an expert in jiu-jitsu. After graduation he served for seven years in the Army, attaining the rank of captain. Four of those years were spent in the Middle East, where he was able to apply his linguistic talents and his eye for detail to intelligence work and, later, to administration on secondment to the War Office in Egypt. On return to civilian life, Arthur settled in Staffordshire, where he worked in a commercial office before his appointment, in 1951, as administrative assistant in the School of Medicine of Leeds University. He can have had little idea of the great changes that would take place during his stay at Leeds. At that time the annual intake of students was sixty; by the time Arthur Lockyer retired almost thirty years later this number had risen nearly three-fold. Clinical facilities expanded proportionately, the most notable aspect of this being the development of St James's as a major teaching hospital, with students undertaking placement work not just across the city but throughout the Yorkshire region. Arthur's title was soon changed to Secretary to the School of Medicine. Whilst devoted to his role within the School of Medicine, Arthur Lockyer also made the time to pursue his academic interest in the Arab world through formal postgraduate study at the University's then Department of Semitic Languages and Literatures. He had tremendous physical as well as intellectual energy, and always kept active walking across his beloved fells and Pennine hills; an activity which continued after he took early retirement in 1980. Even after retirement, however, his work for the School continued, and his knowledge of both its history and its students proved invaluable in the organisation of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the School in 1981, which he stayed on to support. After retirement, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Medical School, the University conferred upon him a Life Fellowship, a very rare distinction for a member of the academic-related staff. He is survived by his wife of sixty-one years, Kay and their son Michael and his family.

Claire Louise Cutler, née Morgan, (1989)

Claire was born on 20th March 1970. When she arrived at Downing in 1989 to read Law her elder brother, Mark, was in his final year of Medicine. Claire enjoyed her legal studies and obtained a 2.1 in all three years. She contributed to college life as a member of the JCR executive committee and co-editor of the Amigo magazine. She played goalkeeper in the Downing Ladies' football team, rowed and made plenty of life-long friends. She also had an adventurous spirit and during university holidays travelled widely in India, China, Africa and South East Asia.

She did her Legal Practice Course at the College of Law in York and then trained with Holman Fenwick & Willan in London, specialising as a maritime lawyer. She moved to the firm's Beijing office in 1996 and in 1998 to Hong Kong where she met her future husband, Andrew Cutler, a fellow maritime lawyer in the same firm. They were married in May 2001. Their daughter, Eleanor, was born in Hong Kong in 2003 and their son, Kit, was born in 2005. Also in that year, the family moved back to the UK, to a beautiful 18th century house in Yalding, Kent.

Claire was diagnosed with cancer whilst still pregnant with Kit and battled the illness with remarkable bravery and strength of character. In her last months, she managed to travel to Venice and Sri Lanka, visited many friends and made plans for her family's future life without her. She died on 9 May 2007 and is buried in the church cemetery at Yalding.

Claire was a very loving and kind woman, an intelligent and successful lawyer. Her adventurous spirit took her far beyond the predictable career path of her peers and her strength of character remains an inspiration to her friends.

M. T. Parker (1931)

Tom Parker died on 25 February 2006, aged 94. He came up to Downing from Paston Grammar School in Norfolk as an Exhibitioner, reading Natural Sciences with specialism in Pathology, gaining firsts in both parts of the Natural Sciences Tripos. He then completed his medical studies at Charing Cross Hospital, London, qualifying MB, BChir (Cantab) in 1937, and continuing there as a House Physician. In 1938, he began a Studentship in Pathology at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School and gained the Diploma of Bacteriology (London) with distinction in 1939 from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine under the exacting standards of W. W. C. Topley and G. S. Wilson. The Second World War interrupted his academic studies. He enlisted in the armed forces at the outbreak of war in 1939 and until 1945, he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps as a specialist pathologist, initially in the UK and then in India and Burma with the rank of Major.

He made lasting friendships in India with memorable colleagues including James Rhind, Jerry Morris and Reg Passmore. He had graphic stories of his experiences in Lucknow and Calcutta and in his travels when on leave, with sad accounts of the terrible famine and the diseases that he witnessed at first hand. In Assam, his hospital unit supported Field-Marshal Slim's advance and he was especially proud of his laboratory's record in ensuring prompt diagnosis and effective treatment of the many patients who developed the debilitating infections that went with military operations. He became one of the inspirational figures of postwar medical microbiology in addressing our increasing concerns about staphylococcal and other healthcare-associated infections. His work on *Staphylococcus aureus* – initially the type 80/81 epidemic strain that caused severe hospital infections in the 1950s and later the increasing antibiotic resistance amongst hospital isolates leading to the MRSA problems of the 21st century is as relevant to medical practice today as when he led the Public Health Laboratory Service (PHLS) Cross-Infection Reference Laboratory from 1961 to 1978 when he retired. He was a Founder Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists. He edited the profession's journals and the standard text which latterly became *Microbiology and Microbial Infections* as well as other works.

This obituary is an extract from that published in the Journal of Medical Microbiology (2006), 55.

Marmaduke Peter Goodwin Rawlinson (1933)

Peter Rawlinson died on 29th May 2006. He came up to Downing from Epsom College. He read Natural Sciences and after graduation attended Westminster Hospital Medical School, qualifying as a doctor in July 1940. He served in the Royal Army Medical Corps 1941–46. He obtained his Diploma in Public Health, and emigrated to Canada with his young family in 1949. He worked for the Alberta Government Health Department for five years, and then for the Public Health Department of the Canadian Federal Government, serving mostly in England but also in Germany and Hong Kong. During his time at Downing he enjoyed riding in point-to-points. Horses and riding were long-term interests; he became a dedicated member of the Civil Service Riding Club, serving on its Committee and becoming President. For several years he was Director of the annual London Riding Horse Parade in Hyde Park. He was appreciated for his encouragement to novice riders, and generally for his patience and good humour, which he maintained even during recent years of ill-health. He is survived by his wife Mary, son Jeremy and daughter Ann.

John Raynes (1954)

We learned from Jos Bird in June 2007 that John Raynes passed away recently.

Keith Southan (1930)

Keith Southan died on 1st September 2006. He came up to Downing from Wolverhampton Grammar School as a Buchanan Exhibitioner. He joined the Boat Club and the University Rover Scout Crew. He was also in the College chess team (and later in the Worcester County team). His hobbies already at that time included ornithology and natural history, particularly trees and fungi. He often said that these years shaped and influenced his future life as a teacher. Former pupils have written to say how he enriched their lives as well. As Boat Club Secretary, and later Captain, he won oars. He was secretary of the Amalgamation Club and, in his final year, President. He was awarded the Pilley Scholarship for distinction in sport and academic work, enabling him to stay on for a fourth year to read French as a post graduate. His Tutor William Cuttle summed up the value of his contribution to College life in the following terms: *"He has earned the gratitude of the Governing Body for what he has done. His influence has, from the first, been exerted on behalf not merely of winning races, but also of promoting common sense and decency in the Boat Club and in the College generally"*. After Cambridge he gained teaching experience by spending several weeks in Wolverhampton Municipal Secondary School and a year in Brighton (Hollingbury Court Prep School), moving on to Worcester College for the Blind in 1935. There he had to deal with a wide age-range of pupils (from 8 or 9 years old through to university scholarship aspirants of 18 or over), but was able to develop the teaching of Classics, as a Braille version of a useful Latin book had just been published. Greek teaching there was limited to New Testament Greek, as learning this language with the help of Braille was not straightforward! While senior resident master at Worcester, he even experimented with the possibility of teaching carpentry to blind boys. He also learned to fly and got married, just after call up, in December 1939. After wartime service as a pilot in Coastal Command in which he survived extremes of danger, he went to Tiffins School in 1946 to teach Classics. Keith was awarded the Silver Acorn by the Chief Scout in 1975 'for distinguished services to the movement', and, even after his retirement, he edited the local Scout newsletter for many years. In 1985 he was awarded the bar to his Silver Acorn at Windsor Castle.

Jenny Deeprise (Daughter)

Philip John Strick (1958)

Philip Strick, who died on 7th October 2006, came up to Downing from the City of London School to read History, then English. His daughter Alexandra says it was a miracle that he fitted in any study at all, with so much of his time being filled with other pursuits. As a talented musician, he was the leading light of a skiffle group. And as a keen actor, he took part in a more or less continuous series of theatre appearances, many of them with members of that amazing generation of performers like Ian McKellen, Peter Cook, David Frost, Clive Swift and Trevor Nunn(1959). And of course much of his time was already being spent in reviewing films for the university newspaper. It was also at University that Philip met Lizanne (at a rehearsal of Wesker's *The Kitchen*) and they married at St Bride's, Fleet Street in 1964. Philip's professional career started with a job as a sub-editor at the City Press (where he soon expanded the film section from a couple of lines to a full column). Then came publicity for Gala Films and then the British Film Institute – where he was head of distribution. After the BFI he became a director, with David Puttnam and Sandy Lieberman, of a new film production company, Visual Programme Systems, before founding and becoming managing director of Harris Films – a 16 mm film library. As well as managing a company and writing for various film publications, he was also running everything from Country Music weekends to adult education courses in Science Fiction. He was a longstanding contributor to "Sight & Sound" and the "Monthly Film Bulletin" amongst other magazines and journals, and very recently was writing film notes to accompany a series of DVD releases of Bergman films. He was also responsible for a variety of books – he wrote "Science Fiction Movies", he edited "Antigrav" (a Science Fiction anthology – stories with humour) and he re-worked a Japanese publication into a glossy coffee-table book, "Great Movie Actresses". In his private life, Philip was passionate about the natural world and the Thames (he especially appreciated his boat and his home on Eel Pie Island in Twickenham). He was a man of eclectic tastes (he loved Mozart – but also Willie Nelson, he loved Bergman and Antonioni – but also Tommy Cooper and Father Ted). A comment that has come up time and time again in people's memories of Philip over the last few weeks has been how much they will miss his gentle friendliness and keen sense of humour. Above all, he loved – and was loved by – his small but close family.

Martin Ward (1957)

Martin Ward came up to Downing from Dame Alice Owen's School, Islington, after National Service with the Royal and Mechanical Engineers in Germany, to read Natural Sciences, with Physics as his main subject. He rowed in and coached the second boat, was a member of the Methodist Society and an officer of the University United Nations Students' Association. On graduation he joined GEC Telecommunications in Coventry, as a graduate apprentice. His life was centred on his family, his Christian faith and his work, in which he made a distinctive contribution to the development of telephonic communications in this country. He rose to become Technical Director of GEC Telecommunications and its successors, GEC Plessey Telecommunications and Marconi Communications. He was the firms' lead representative on the group which defined the project by which telecommunications switching was moved from electro-mechanical to digital hardware and which resulted in the electronic exchange system which still forms the heart of the telephone network today. He became the director of this decades-long project, of enormous technical and organisational complexity, impressing his colleagues with his wide technical and business acumen, his determination and tenacity, his high work-rate and his inter-personal skills. Not personally ambitious, he was an excellent team-player. 'His natural good humour' a colleague writes 'warred with impatience, sharp intelligence and combativeness in argument'. 'An exceptional engineer and manager', he was 'an astonished observer' of the 'dot-com boom' which brought the demise of Marconi. Having himself always had a deep concern for recruitment and for enabling others to develop their own gifts he was saddened by this destruction of long-term assets of skills and capability. In 1964 Martin married Janet; they had three daughters and two sons, forming, with their three grand-children, a close-knit family in whom Martin delighted. Nurtured in the Christian faith in Methodism and enriched by a stimulating Christian environment in late 1950s Cambridge, he was received into the Roman Catholic Church in 1961. He served the church diligently and with love, not least as a Governor for many years of the local Church Comprehensive School and as national President of the Newman Association. He was also a Governor of Coventry University. He had a love of hill-walking, classical music and jazz. He produced a stream of vegetables and flowers from his allotment, and was often to be found subsequently relaxing in a pub with a pint of Bass. Though he suffered for many years from an illness that attacked his immune system Martin continued to work till his retirement in 2001. His retirement years were marred by a particularly difficult cancer, which he endured uncomplainingly. He died peacefully in May 2006 aged 70. The presence of 400 to 500 people, from many circles, at his Requiem Mass was testimony to the affection and respect in which he was held.

Bruce Wear Wardropper (1936)

Prof. Bruce Wardropper died in the USA on January 6th 2004. He came to Downing from King Edward VI High School, Birmingham to read Medieval and Modern Languages followed by a Certificate of Education.

David Garnett Downing Yorke (1939)

David Yorke died on 17th December 2006, aged 85. He came up in 1939 to study Geography. His son Michael Richard Downing Yorke followed him to Downing to read Modern and Medieval Languages in 1965.

■ Editorial acknowledgements

This publication, combining *The Association Newsletter and College Record*, relies on contributions from Association Members, Fellows, current students and College staff. In particular Richard Stibbs, Fellow, Fellows' Steward, Secretary to the Governing Body, Praelector, and a Member of the University Board of Scrutiny (nothing to do with F R Leavis) holds the editorial whip for the College Record. That's all in addition to his day job as a University Senior Computing Officer and Supervisor in Mathematics. From the College departments Jane Perks, Manager of the Tutorial and Admissions Office, with her colleagues gives us the joining students, examination results, awards and the Blues. The latter not in the emotional sense, indeed far from it; two seconds in Jane's company lifts any flagging spirits. Even this year when she underwent surgery she was still buoyant and we are pleased that she is looking fit and well again. Tricia Beer, College Secretary, supplies us with the names of the Fellowship. Sara Brinkley, Helen Limbrick and Susan Luton of the Development Office keep us in touch with the alumni database and assist us in a myriad of matters. Peter Thomson (1953), Association Treasurer, and John Hall (1955), Assistant Editor, help with proof reading and compiling obituaries.

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Address :

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Appointments:

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2006 – 2007

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Dr J Sterling*

Ms C Northeast*

Mr N Allington*

Mr R G Bates

Education (PGCE etc)
Engineering

English
Geography
History
History of Art
Land Economy
Law
Law (LLM)
Linguistics
Management Studies
Mathematics
Medical and Veterinary Sciences
Modern & Medieval Languages
Music
Natural Sciences (Biological)
Natural Sciences (Biological)
- Assistant DOS
Natural Sciences (Chemistry)
Natural Sciences (Physical)
Natural Sciences (Physics)
Oriental Studies
Philosophy
Social and Political Science
Theology and Religious Studies
Veterinary Medicine

** External Director of Studies*

Mr J Raffan*
Dr W O'Neill
Dr L Xu
Dr C Phillips
Professor W M Adams
Dr D R Pratt
Dr D A Oldfield*
Dr J S L McCombie
Mr G J Virgo
Ms P Nevill
Dr A Ledgeway
Dr J S L McCombie
Dr S Demoulini
Dr N Coleman
Dr I R James
Dr S Barrett*
Dr S Bray
Dr S Ellington*

Dr D Wales
Dr R O'Reilly
Dr P J Duffett-Smith
Mrs H Laurie*
Dr M Cameron*
Dr J Browne
Dr R R Manning*
Mrs J Pearson*

College Lecturers

Classics
Economics

Law
Modern & Mediaeval Languages (Spanish)
Modern & Mediaeval Languages (German)
Music
Philosophy
Veterinary Science

Dr C A Roth-Murray
Mr N F B Allington
Mr R G Bates
Dr F V Comim
Mrs C A Hopkins
Dr R C Clark
Dr C Woodford
Dr S J Barrett
Dr M Cameron
Mrs J Pearson

College Lektor

German Mr M P Rohde

■ James Norman Birch (Fellow Emeritus)

Norman Birch died on October 1st 2006. The Chaplain conducted his funeral in the Chapel on Friday, 13th October.

Norman was born in Ayrshire, in 1919, and was the eldest of four brothers. He attended a village primary school and then went to secondary school at the Ayr Academy. It was a tumultuous time to grow up: he'd been born soon after the end of the First World War, and war was again approaching as he entered adulthood. Norman volunteered for the Royal Engineers at the outbreak of the Second World War, and he began a very distinguished period of military service. As a young officer, he started to display the great talent for leadership which he showed through his later career. He was promoted to captain and then major at an unusually young age. Early in the war, he was with the British Expeditionary Force in France, and was part of the Dunkirk evacuation. Later, he was sent to the Far East and posted to Burma. In the army, Norman learned to lead men, some of whom were considerably older than him. He earned the trust of his soldiers, and inspired them to honour the trust that he placed in them. Another officer commented that 'his men would follow him to the far side of the moon'. As well as adventures around the world, wartime also included romance for Norman. It was at this time that he met Monique in Southampton. She had come to England as a refugee from Belgium, and was also in the army, working on an anti-aircraft battery. When the war was over, Norman and Monique were married, and he took her back to Scotland where they went to live in Newton Stewart. And it was there that their three children were born – Karen, Katherine and Derek. Norman now put his engineering and leadership skills to work as a civilian. He became a structural engineer, specialising in foundations and piling. This work brought him south to England. In 1951, the family moved to Woodford Green, in Essex, and then in 1965 to Cambridge. Norman worked for companies including Mowlem, Rattee and Kett, and French Kier. He was always hard-working and meticulous. He had both an impressive technical knowledge, and a great ability to deal with people. He kept a careful eye on all the details of each building project, and on the workforce. He was frequently to be seen out and about on the site, and knew his workers well. He was good at resolving conflicts and dealing with fraught situations, and became a qualified arbitrator. He showed unfailing courtesy, consideration and gentleness. But he also had a strong sense of the right path to take, and could be very firm with any who were failing to pull their weight. In all things, he showed clear wisdom and sound common sense. In 1981, Norman's career took a different direction when he became Domestic Bursar of Downing. He loved the College and he modestly said that he applied with no expectation of getting the job. He himself had gone to war at the age when he might have

gone to university, and he was astonished and overjoyed to find himself here in a Cambridge college as a Fellow. But he was the right man for the job, and he was able to put his many gifts to use in this new context. He kept an eye on the construction of the Howard Building for the college. When the foundations were being put in, he found that he knew all the workers on the building site by name from his previous projects. Another reason for his success as a Domestic Bursar was that he genuinely liked young people; even when they hindered rather than helped him in his work. He was unfailingly good tempered in dealing with students, as well as colleagues. He continued to solve problems with fairness and wisdom and worked hard to keep the College running smoothly. He regarded his time at Downing as the happiest in his working life, and enjoyed the friendships he made here. He is remembered in Downing also for his wonderful fund of stories about his time in the Royal Engineers and in the construction industry. Sadly, he was never persuaded to write his memoirs. Since he himself had not really known what to expect when he joined the Fellowship, he always made a point of seeking out newcomers and making them feel at home. College dinners were a highlight; at his splendid retirement dinner, he winked at Paul Millett and announced in Latin, quoting Cicero, that he intended now to enjoy *otium cum dignitate* i.e. dignified leisure! And this turned out to include tending the beautiful garden in Barrow Road, and playing games of bridge and rounds of golf and always caring very lovingly for Monique. He remained full of determination, drive and energy to the end of his life, dying suddenly and unexpectedly in his sleep.

■ The Richmond Lecture

The 2007 Richmond Lecture entitled "Daumier's Children: Illustration and Magazines in Paris at the end of the 19th Century" was given on February 23rd 2007 by Quentin Blake (1953), Honorary Fellow of the College and President Elect of the Association. He described how he had been particularly influenced by the work of Honoré Daumier and André François amongst the French illustrators and political cartoonists of the late 19th century. The Richmond lectures were started by Sir Herbert William Richmond, Naval Historian, Master of Downing (1935–1946) as a series of lectures on foreign affairs and the progress of the Second World War for the junior combination room. Following his death they were continued as an occasional public lecture given by a distinguished lecturer chosen by the JCR/MCR.

■ Memorial service for the late Dr Stephen Fleet

In the 2006 issue of the College Record we recorded the passing of Dr Stephen Fleet, Registry Emeritus of the University and former Master. The Fellows and many others had said their farewells at the funeral in the Chapel on 26th May 2006. Then on the morning of Saturday 7th October 2006 the Vice-Chancellor, many Heads of Houses, the Downing Fellowship, the Mayor of Cambridge and a host of other people filled Great St Mary's Church to remember Stephen's life. The service was led by the Chaplain of Downing, The Reverend Keith Eyeons, assisted by The Reverend Bruce Kinsey, a former Chaplain. The Vice-Chancellor and the Master of Downing gave addresses; lessons were read by the Master of St John's College, Stephen's undergraduate college, and the Master of Fitzwilliam College of which Stephen was a Founder Fellow. The Choir comprised past and present members of the Downing Chapel Choir and the organists and choir directors were current and past organ scholars. After the service a reception was held in College.



*Dr Stephen Fleet. From the Order of his Memorial Service.
Reproduced by kind permission of Mrs Alice Fleet*

Ophelia Redpath

■ Oon International Award for Preventive Medicine 2006



Professor Farrar receives the Oon Award from Dr Oon Chong Jin.

On Tuesday 14 November 2006 Professor Jeremy Farrar FRCP DPhil OBE, Director of the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit at The Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Vietnam, was presented with the Oon International Award for Preventive Medicine, the Ch'hia-Tsio Project. This followed his lecture *Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Implications for International Health*. This Award is made possible through the generosity of the late Oon Khye Beng (1927) and his family and is made every two years.

Present in the audience in the Howard Building were the three sons of Oon Khye Beng, Dr Oon Chong Jin, Dr Oon Chong Teik and Dr Oon Chong Hau H. For the past ten years Professor Farrar has been director of the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. His work has put him at the forefront of tackling avian flu, in a country with 93 diagnosed human cases of the disease. So far this year there have been 73 deaths worldwide from this virulent form of influenza. This is more than in any previous year since the current outbreak started in 2003. What scientists really fear is an airborne mutation of H5N1, which could potentially lead to a pandemic on a scale not seen before. Professor Farrar showed that in comparison with other diseases there were currently very few deaths from avian influenza but it is probably the only infectious disease we know about that has the potential to cause a global pandemic since it can affect everybody, whether rich or poor, and in any part of the world. However Prof Farrar argued that there are reasons why such a pandemic will not necessarily occur. Prof. Farrar acknowledged the financial support from various bodies and in particular the Wellcome Trust.

■ 200 Years the Symbiotic Architecture of Wilkins' Downing College and Jefferson's University of Virginia

A summary of an address to the Fellowship by Professor Richard Wilson, Thomas Jefferson Visiting Fellow, on May 16th 2007.

Richard Guy Wilson holds the Commonwealth Professor's Chair in Architectural History at the University of Virginia (Thomas Jefferson's University) in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he is also Chair of the Department of Architectural History. His specialty is the architecture, design and art of the 18th to the 20th century. He was the College's 2007 Thomas Jefferson Visiting Fellow.

The idea of a connection between the design of William Wilkins' Downing College and Thomas Jefferson's the University of Virginia has been noted by numerous scholars and observers in recent years. Frequently it is asserted that Wilkins' design must have influenced Jefferson since they appear so similar and also they date from approximately the same time period: Downing 1805–1821, and Virginia, 1814–1825. A comparison of aerial views of both complexes shows the parallels. Both are large three sided compositions with houses for professors and students stretching along the sides and a major structure—chapel at Downing—a library for Virginia—in the centre of the enclosed (north in both cases) end. The problem with this art historical type of visual—"this looks like that, hence they must be related" analysis, is that it ignores certain facts.

Wilkins' original design for Downing was quite different in that it was a giant quadrangle measuring 350 by 300 feet with a giant portico or propylea at the north end, and the library, hall and chapel at the south end, with the housing for students and faculty around the sides. However, this complex was never built; only the east and west sides or ranges were constructed between 18 May 1807 when the corner stone was laid and 1821 when building ceased. Downing only took its present form in the 1950s when the north end with the chapel in the centre was constructed after designs by Sir Herbert Baker and Alex Scott. They loosely interpreted Wilkins' classicism but the location of the facilities was very different from his original intentions.

Jefferson's design for the University of Virginia began in 1814 with a proposal for the Albemarle Academy to be located near Charlottesville. It was for a large-257 yards (771 feet) across three sided complex of nine professors' houses-or pavilions as he called them, interspersed among 196 rooms for students, the whole connected by a covered walkway. In the next several years Jefferson modified the plan when he obtained a site—which was a ridge where the big plan would not fit, to two parallel

rows of 10 professors' pavilions with 100 student room. The two wings were 120 feet apart and at the north or closed end he located the library, known as the Rotunda. The south end was left open for further expansion. Behind the two rows of student rooms and professors' pavilions were gardens with curvilinear walls and then outer rows of more student rooms and hotels connected by arcades for eating. A cornerstone was laid for the University on 6 October 1817. The complex was built between 1817 and 1825 when the first students entered. In the 1890s after a fire in the Rotunda the south end was closed off with a complex of buildings.

The two campuses while having some similarities also contained major differences. Downing after 1821 until the 1950s was essentially two parallel rows of buildings while Virginia was a U shaped composition.

Another issue is how did Jefferson know of Wilkins' design? Jefferson lived in France between 1784 and 1789 and closely observed architecture. He visited England several times most notably during the spring of 1786. He visited Oxford (not Cambridge) and viewed notable English gardens and a number of houses including Blenheim and Chiswick, Wilkins' design is of course much later, 1805–06. A few views of the completed Master's Lodge were published in 1812 and 1814 but they show nothing of the projected scheme. Sometime later a view was published of the long south front with three porticos, and also one of the northern entrance, the portico, or propylae. While it is possible that somebody told Jefferson about Wilkins' scheme, the question remains who? Jefferson was a noted correspondent who kept copies of all his letters, and along with those who wrote to him. There is no reference in Jefferson's vast correspondence to the Downing scheme, nor to Wilkins, and he never owned the various books that illustrated it. It is possible he was told about it either orally, or in writing, but to date no evidence has been found.

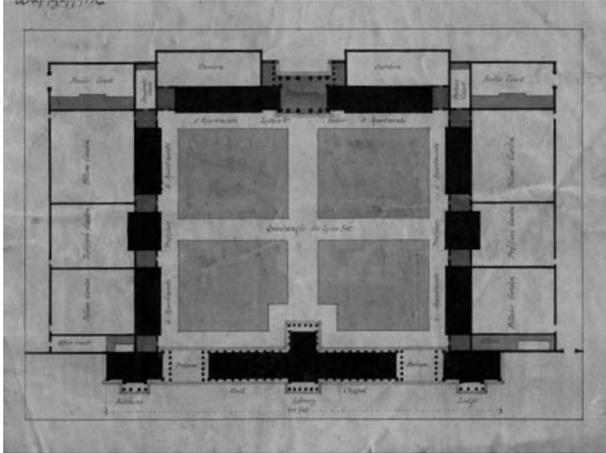
More important is that Downing College and the University of Virginia are both products of a classical sensibility. Both Jefferson and Wilkins were classicists but of different types. They subscribed to the concept that architecture was bound by rules and concepts that first emerged in Greece, were passed on and elaborated by the Romans, and then re-discovered in the 15th–18th century by architects such as Alberti, Palladio, Jones, Ware, and many others. Classicism meant to both individuals that correct architecture was governed by the orders, proportion, and it should show symmetry, balance, hierarchy, and wholeness. Wilkins was a significant re-interpreter of classicism with his books such as *Antiquities of Magna Graecia (1806/07)* *The civil architecture of Vitruvius, (1812)* and *Athneiensia, or remains on the topography and buildings of Athens (1816)*. He was a member of the Grecophile group and very important in introducing the Greek Revival into England. Wilkins' Greek interest meant he rejected the five orders employed since the Renaissance for a more strict employment of the three Greek orders. In a sense, Wilkins was avant-garde for his day.

In contrast, Jefferson was a Palladian and by architectural standards in both England and the United States in the years 1810 onward, old fashioned. He spurned the new interest in Greek architecture promoted years earlier by James Stuart and Nicholas Revett's *Antiquities of Athens* (1762), and never owned a copy of their book (nor any of Wilkins). Instead Jefferson preferred the much earlier book *The Architecture of A. Palladio*, (London, 1715, 1721, 1742), translated by Giacomo Leoni. He refused to use the more updated volume on Palladio by Isaac Ware and sponsored by Lord Burlington, and instead used what was considered a "corrupted" edition, the Leoni.

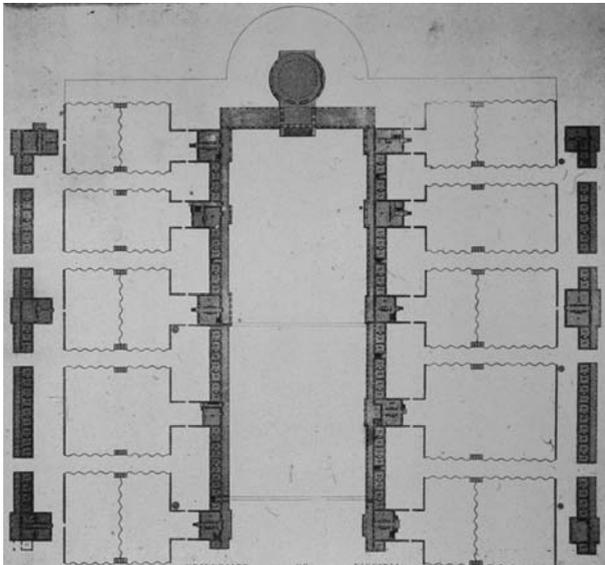
Central to Wilkins' and Jefferson's designs were some autobiographical elements. Downing reflects Wilkins' recent studies in Sicily and Greece and also his Cambridge background. He knew well the Cambridge quadrangle scheme having been a student at Gonville & Caius, and his original plan for Downing was a regularized, enlarged, and classicized Cambridge square. He had a gate, a chapel, a library, and rooms for the master, fellows and students, similar to most other colleges. Jefferson's design for the University reflects his own collegiate background. He attended the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg 1760–63. All the students—some 40 young men—and the faculty—mostly Anglican clergymen—lived in a single large building where they ate, slept, and took classes. Descriptions of life at William & Mary included rutty behaviour and one of the clergymen liked to liquor up the students and lead them on "charges" against the town's people. Another clergyman during Jefferson's student years fathered an illegitimate child.

In succeeding years Jefferson became a tireless advocate for public education introducing a bill in 1778 to the Virginia legislature for the state to assume responsibilities at the primary, secondary, and collegiate level. Also he argued that colleges should not be controlled by the church. Again while president he advocated a national university. But in both cases nothing happened.

However his reputation as an education advocate led to solicitations for advice and his response indicates his rejection of the College of William and Mary prototype of a single building. In 1805 to a request he wrote: "large houses are always ugly, inconvenient, exposed to the accident of fire, and bad in cases of infection. a plain small house for the school & lodging of each professor is best. These connected by covered ways out of which the rooms of the students should open would be best. These may then be built only as they shall be wanting. in fact an University should not be an house but a village. this will much lessen their first expences [sic]." A few years later in 1810 to another inquiry he wrote that each professor's "small and separate lodge" should contain "only a hall below for his class, and two chambers above for himself; . . . the whole of these arranged around an open square of grass and trees would make it, what it should be in fact, an academical village, instead of a large & common den of noise, of filth, & of fetid air. It would afford that quiet retirement so friendly to study."



William Wilkins' original block plan of the Downing College buildings.



Thomas Jefferson's plan for the University of Virginia.

The consequence was that when Jefferson finally got his chance to design an institution of higher learning it was located several miles away from the small town of Charlottesville, so the students would not be distracted, and it was a village type of arrangement with individual pavilions for the professors and students, room in-between and the whole connected by a covered walkway. His initial proposal in 1814 for what was called Albemarle Academy became in 1816 Central College and in 1819, the University of Virginia. As noted above his plans changed somewhat over the years with the rows of buildings moved closer together and the large Rotunda for the library placed at the upper end. Other individuals helped him on the revised plans but the scheme as largely completed in 1825 harkens back to his initial description of 1805.

Downing College and the University of Virginia are related in the sense that both are results of a classical sensibility. They are also related in that their purpose was to reform higher education and also that the architecture was seen as an important element.

■ News of the Fellowship

Barry Everitt, Master, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in May 2007. He has given several special lectures during the year, including at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Lausanne, as well as at the International Basal Ganglia Society and the European Brain and Behaviour Society. His portrait was completed and was shown at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters annual exhibition at the Mall Galleries.

Peter Mathias, Honorary Fellow and former Master continues his distinguished academic career twelve years after his formal retirement. In the past two years he has become President (formerly Chairman) of Great Britain–Sasakawa Foundation, been appointed International adviser to the President of Keio University, become Chairman of the Advisory Board of Central European University Press, Budapest, gave an invited lecture course at the Institute of Philosophical Studies, Naples and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Kamsai University, Japan.

David King, Honorary Fellow and former Master has been appointed President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Quentin Blake, Honorary Fellow and President Elect of the Association was the guest on BBC Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs* on October 1st 2006 and also on *You and Yours* in May 2007.

In January, **Peter Duffett-Smith's** company Cambridge Positioning Systems Ltd. was sold to Cambridge Silicon Radio (the people who make Bluetooth chips). CSR has also bought a GPS company, and it will use its new acquisitions to produce GPS products for mobile phones which, without Peter's technology, would not work inside buildings.

The professorship held by **Bill Adams** was endowed this year by a gift from James and Jane Wilson in honour of Mr Wilson's father, Lord Moran, who is a committed conservationist. Bill now holds the Moran Chair in Conservation and Development. This is one of three new chairs in conservation created in Cambridge this year as part of the 800th campaign (<http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/news/dp/2007060501>). Bill also spoke on the BBC Radio 4 programme *Planet earth under threat* in March 2007.

Graham Virgo has been involved in the publication of an introduction to the study of law, entitled *What About Law?* ed. Barnard, O'Sullivan and Virgo. Hart Publishing, 2007. for which he has written chapters on Criminal Law and Equity. He was an invited speaker at the Obligations III Conference in Brisbane, July 2006. He has published a variety of papers on the law of restitution, especially concerning the recovery of overpaid taxes. He has been promoted to a personal chair in the Faculty of Law and has taken the title Professor of English Private Law.

Trevor Robbins spoke about drugs which can change cognitive performance on the BBC Radio 4 *Today* programme on Thursday February 1st 2007.

Stafford Withington has been appointed as Honorary Visiting Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Manchester. This visiting appointment is in addition to his Cambridge Chair.

Ian James published a book with Routledge on the contemporary French thinker of technology, Paul Virilio. He co-edited (with Russel Ford) a volume of essays on the late essayist and novelist Pierre Klossowski, *Whispers of the Flesh!* Diacritics, vol. 35, no. 1. He also co-edited (with Patrick French) a volume of essays on the contemporary French philosopher Jean-Luc Nancy, *Exposures* (Oxford Literary Review, Volume 28).

David Pratt's book *The Political Thought of King Alfred the Great* was published by Cambridge University Press in May.

In December 2006 **Ian Roberts** was awarded a LittD degree by the University. In January 2007 he published two major new works: a textbook, *Diachronic Syntax*, for Oxford University Press, and a six-volume edited collection entitled *Comparative Grammar: Critical Assessments*, for Routledge. He has also published several articles on comparative and historical syntax in various learned journals, and was invited to give a series of lectures as the Distinguished Scholar in Linguistics at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

David Feldman has been elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

Marcus Tomalin has continued to pursue his interests in a range of different academic disciplines. He is currently in the process of completing the text of a monograph about literature and linguistic theory during the Romantic period, and a few initial ideas about the topics considered have been aired in journal papers such as *Vulgarisms and Broken English, The Familiar Perspicuity of William Hazlitt. Romanticism 13.1. 2007*. Marcus' ongoing research into the mathematical basis of contemporary syntactic theory has continued unabated: he published the article *Reconsidering Recursion in Syntactic Theory. Lingua. 2007.*; he was an invited keynote speaker at the *10th Conference on Mathematics of Linguistics*. Los Angeles, July 2007, and he has written an entry on Generative Grammar for the forthcoming *Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the Language Sciences*.

Amy Goymour joined the fellowship in October 2006 as the first Hopkins-Parry Fellow in law. Having read law as an undergraduate at Downing (1999–2002), she spent time as a research assistant at the Law Commission before studying for the BCL masters degree at Jesus College, Oxford. In 2004, Amy returned to Cambridge to take up a college lectureship at Fitzwilliam College which she held for two years before returning to Downing. Amy's teaching and research interests lie primarily in property law and the law of restitution although she also teaches Civil (alias Roman) law. She has recently been working on the way in which rights over land can be created through the effluxion of time – in particular rights of way and village greens.

Simone Laqua joined the fellowship in October 2006 as a research fellow in History. She finished her D.Phil. on *Women and the Counter-Reformation in early modern Münster, 1535–1650* at Balliol College, Oxford. Part of this study has been published in the *Past & Present Journal*: Concubinage and the Church in early modern Münster in Lyndal Roper and Ruth Harris (eds), *The Art of Survival: Essays in Honour of Olwen Hufton* (Oxford, 2006). Simone continues her work on social and religious history by making a comparative analysis of piety in Northern and Southern Europe.

■ College clubs and societies

Athletics

Captain: Clare Palmer

It was another strong performance for Downing College in the 2006/07 athletics season. The October coppers saw Downing secure four event wins and eight top three performances in total. The girl's team came away with an impressive 3rd position. In the cross country College league, Downing finished in a respectable 9th position. Special mention should be given to those Downing athletes who represented the University in the striking 3-1 victory over Oxford in this year's athletics Varsity match. For the Blues teams, Andy Bennett once again gave an impressive performance in the high jump and Clare Palmer competed in the shot putt, discus and javelin. For the Alligators (Women's second team) Phoebe Bointon won the triple jump whilst Katie Irgin and Kristina Clark secured second place in the 100m hurdles and javelin respectively. The captaincy team due to take hold next season is bursting with enthusiasm and determined to take our previous successes onto a higher level and to dominate as a Downing force at the October coppers.

Men's Badminton

Badminton Captain and Coach: Alex Smith

In Michaelmas, our eyes were set on promotion out of the lowly 3rd division. A few early narrow defeats put paid to that idea as the new team got used to match play. At times, the pressure got to us and we under-performed, finishing around mid-table. Lent term started off, despite our optimism, with a narrow defeat to Girton. So, we got proactive and mixed the team around in an attempt to balance it for more wins. The new system allowed more flexibility in the pairings and, despite still not quite being at our best, we came away with a crucial win against Churchill to at least ensure that we can stay in the 3rd division and try for the second next year. Cuppers was not particularly successful with both men's and mixed teams losing out in the first round. Nevertheless, getting together with the girls for mixed was an entertaining experience and we hope to integrate the two teams more next year.

Therefore, it was a solid year in general, setting us up for some promotion possibilities next year. The team spirit at Downing has been brilliant; from socials to training even to the matches themselves. As for the awards: Richard Turner and Tom Ash attained colours while Jamie Wilson moves to captain us next year in another bid to bring Downing Badminton back up the league.

Thanks to all the team for a great year.

Women's Badminton

The first team began the year in the third division, comfortably won all their matches in Michaelmas term and were promoted to the second division. During Lent term they also played well and missed promotion to the first division by a hair's breadth (a single game). The profile of women's badminton has definitely improved this year (for example, a second team was established) and looks set to go from strength to strength next year.

Women's Basketball

Captain: Michi Wong

2006–2007 has been a very successful year for the Downing women's basketball team. The joint team with New Hall performed excellently throughout the year winning all but one match in the college league and came top of the league this season. From the Downing side we have seen the consistent contributions from key players Frieda Mansfeld, Jurate Karciauskaite and Vicky Lister; we have also seen a number of new promising players Camille Paxton and Geidre Motuzaitė-Matuzevičiūtė. It has been a season of development and achievement thanks to everyone who played, and we are looking forward to another great season ahead.

Boat Club

Captain of Boats: Nicholas Woods

Ladies' Captain: Anne O'Leary

This year, we once again had a large intake of novices taking more women than men into the club in October. This greatly helped strengthen the women's squad, who despite having an inexperienced crew in comparison to previous years finished the Fairbairn's Cup races with a commendable 6th place. The men's first VIII had an excellent race, with a crew comprising of both experienced senior oarsmen and some with a little less experience and finished a very respectable 3rd place behind Jesus (winners) and LMBC. A scratch coxed four finished 4th out of 13, despite two of the crew having not picked up an oar all term and two others having raced in the VIII moments earlier. As always the term was rounded off by a very enjoyable Fairbairn's dinner and it was pleasing to see so many of the Segreants in attendance. Earlier in the term, a men's coxless IV raced Jesus in the final of the Cambridge University IVs races. After a gruelling race, a dead heat was achieved, and under the CUCBC rules of racing, both crews were declared winners.

In a change from previous years, the club travelled to Banyoles in Spain for the January camp to make use of the excellent weather and training facilities. It

was good to see so many novices join us on the camp, and their technical ability rapidly improved. All who attended had an excellent week and this gave the Lent term training for both crews a kick-start. However, we were hampered by a lack of experience in both squads as we prepared for the bumps. Despite this, both crews acquitted themselves well, with W1 falling just one place to finish in 6th and M1 falling two places ending the week in 5th.

A composite crew from Downing and Jesus travelled down to the Head of the River Race in London, but much to our disappointment, the race was cancelled at the last minute due to treacherous conditions (over the half of the crews they started did not finish). Two Downing men were also selected for the lightweight boat for the Henley Boat Races – George Blessley and, for the second consecutive year, Ian Sealey.

The club celebrated a highly successful Segreant's Day in April, with the usual fun regatta on the Long Reach. The headship crew of 1982 however dominated the races, causing a slight "embarrassment" to the younger members of the club. Yet this shows some hope for all of us, 25 years down the line! The Club also named its three new boats – two Janousek pairs ("Susan Lintott" and "Barry Everitt") and a new coxless four, which won in the University IVs ("Clive Anderson").

Throughout the May term the club struggled with a lack of participating oarsmen and women. However, those that remained rose to the challenge ahead of them for the May bumps. M1 progressed week on week and there could be no doubt that by the start of bumps week, the crew were as fast as they were going to get. Similarly, W1 who did not start the term with 8 women made significant progress once a crew had been found. M2 made more progress than anybody thought possible, and thanks must go to all those who coached them through this difficult period. At the end of bumps week, M1 remained level in 9th place, W1 went down two to 11th place and M2 went down two to 7th place in Division two (with only three College 2nd boats ahead of them). Our women's lower boats had a particularly successful week – W3 finished up one and W2 finished up four, earning themselves blades and securing a position in the women's 2nd division. Such successes can only bode well for the women as they prepare for next year. Regrettably, due to a lack of men, the 4th men's boat had to be withdrawn from the bumps.

The final action for the club saw a composite with the Cambridge University Lightweight Rowing Club racing in the Ladies Challenge Plate at Henley Royal Regatta. The crew, stroked by Ian Watson raced in the new Filippi VIII, named the "Keith Southan" in memory of the late Keith Southan (Captain of Boats 1933–34). Unfortunately, the crew was drawn against Brown University, USA who weighed in at 1 stone per man more. The crew had an excellent race, and despite a blistering pace being set, going off the start at 48 strokes per minute, we were knocked out. (Brown obtained the fastest time that day and made it to the

Semi Final). It was a pleasure to see so many Segreants supporting us on our Henley campaign and hopefully a Downing boat in the regatta will now be a regular occurrence.

It is with regret that Alan Inns stepped down at the start of this year from his role as Chief Coach. Thanks go to him for his many years of hard work with the club, and also best wishes for the remainder of his career in the sport. Ian Watson took up the role of Chief Coach in October and particular thanks go to him. He has already started to make significant changes to the way we train and compete, which will certainly benefit the club in years to come. Thanks also go to Professor Barry Everitt and Dr. Susan Lintott and to all those ex-members of DCBC who, each year, give their time to coach club crews. And finally, good luck and best wishes to the club for the coming year!

Danby Science Society

Chairperson: Sonya Pemberton

Danby has had another successful year with many talks and social events, including a garden party, Freshers' Meal and quiz to test our scientific and general knowledge. Our guest speakers included Prof Peter Lipton who spoke on "Prediction and Prejudice" in scientific theories; Dr Faye Dowker who talked about the "Science of Time"; Prof Lindsay Greer who discussed his work on metallic and other glasses; and Prof Bill Clyne of this college who kindly brought a jet engine into the Howard Building to teach us about the Materials Science issues in optimising gas turbine engines, along with a rather noisy demonstration. This year also saw the introduction of Danby Seminars where fellows of the college; Prof Barry Everitt, Dr Peter Duffett-Smith, Dr Zoe Barber, Dr Paul Barker, Prof Chris Haniff, and Dr Marcus Tomalin, gave short talks on their research interests. All this activity was rounded off with the Annual Dinner, where the new committee was introduced to the society. I would like to thank my committee for all their help during the year and wish the new committee, and particularly their chairperson Lauren Evans, best of luck for next year. I am confident that they will continue to ensure the success of the Danby Society, with help from its active membership.

Womens' Hockey

The women's hockey team began the season newly promoted to the first division. The introduction of four very talented freshers helped the team to begin strongly with an impressive victory against St. John's in the league. We carried on our success throughout the league season beating Jesus, Corpus/Peterhouse, Trinity, Newhall and Girton and drawing to St. Catherine's and Churchill to give us a very

commendable second place finish and an unbeaten record. Our cuppers run was even more successful culminating in a 1–0 final victory over St. Catherine's who had done the double in the two previous seasons and were prevented from doing the same again by a very spirited team performance. Special mention has to go to Siobhan Brady who scored the winning goal that day and also received the Player of the Season award. University colours went to Tash Close, Jenny Stevens and Nuala Tumelty who all played in the 2nds Varsity match and college colours were awarded to Siobhan Brady, Jenny Stevens and Clare Palmer. Congratulations to Sarah Donaldson who was voted as next season's captain.

Lacrosse

The Downing Ducks Lacrosse Team has had its most successful season to date this year, winning both league and cuppers inter- college competitions. In the league, we came top of our group to play Clare in the semi-final. The game looked a bit ropy to begin with, not helped by the fact that we were finding it difficult to catch, but we managed to pull through towards the end of the first half with two goals scored just before the whistle was blown. However, it turned out that the first half had only been 10 minutes instead of the prearranged 15 minutes, so we decided to go on a play 3 10-minute halves! The next two halves were dominated much more by Downing, leading us to victory against Clare 5–0 and a place in the final.

Meanwhile, on the other pitch, Johns were playing Churchill in a match that was 1–1 at full time. John's finally won with an extra time golden goal, and so we went on to play them in the final. John's started off much more strongly than Clare had, with a few worrying moments in front of our goal. We remained calm, however, and went on to win the final 2–0 and so were crowned league champions.

The ultimate challenge of the lacrosse inter-college tournaments is cuppers. After winning the league the pressure was on to "do the double" and win this tournament as well. We all started out feeling a little nervous, and although we won our first game against Newnham, it wasn't as convincing as the last time we'd played them, where we'd won 12–0. We improved as we got our confidence, going on to win our group, and getting through to the semi-finals. The semi-final was against Selwyn, who were determined, but we managed to fight back and win against them too. The final was against Queens, who we had already played in the group stage. They had a huge number of supporters, who insisted on banging saucepans together, and shouting at all of us, in an attempt to put us off! They didn't succeed however, and we went on to "Do the double", cuppers and league champions 2007.

Music Society

President: Mark Browne

The past year has been a very successful one for Downing College Music Society. A total of twelve concerts took place, featuring a wide variety of performers and ensembles. Michaelmas term's freshers' recital included a number of accomplished performances, while the orchestral concert that term featured Tom Oldham's spirited rendition of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto. The main concert in Lent term was another Mozartian affair: pianists Andy Bennett and Phoebe Bointon performed the Concerto for Two Pianos, while the first half comprised the little known Duo for Violin and Viola, superbly performed by Brendan Gillis and Ian Goh. The year concluded with the annual leavers' concert, and we are grateful to all performers who played on that occasion and wish them well for the future. In addition, there was a full series of recitals in the Master's Lodge, which were typically well attended. As always, the music society is extremely grateful to the Master and his wife, not only for hosting the Master's lodge recitals, but also for their kind and generous support of music in Downing.

Rugby

Captain: Peter Knipe

The season began, as all college sport seasons do, with an assessment of the old players lost to graduation, and the new players gained from matriculation. Almost every member of the large Downing pack that had dominated the first division for several years was lost, while several younger, more athletic forwards entered the team. The new season also gave the opportunity for some of the second and third year players who had fought hard but failed to secure a steady place in the 1st XV in previous years to become regular players.

After an easy win against a weak St. Catherine's side, our league campaign hit a slump, with several successive losses leaving us vulnerable to relegation from the first division, which we had occupied for at least the past 8 years. However, a hard fought and very close match against Trinity Hall, and a win the following week against Girton before the Christmas break left us confident that our place amongst the elite of Cambridge college rugby would be secure, although there was clearly still a lot of work to be done.

In the New Year, the Cuppers competition began, but an unlucky draw meant Downing did not proceed, having no Blues ourselves and facing a Trinity team with strength and depth, we never really had a chance. The league season carried on concurrently, and a win against St. Catharine's left the table very open indeed. St Catharine's, having won no matches, were sure to be relegated, but the second

relegation spot could yet be taken by any of the teams from 2nd to 5th in the league standings. Downing's final stand came in the form of a postponed match against Jesus College, who had beaten us convincingly early in the year. A win would see us take a respectable 3rd place in the league, while a loss would relegate us. A week of hard training and a team spirit stronger than ever meant the result was never in doubt. The team pulled together to play their best rugby of the year when it mattered the most, with every player giving all they had for their college and their team. The annual Rugby Dinner was held that evening, and the brilliant result earlier in the day meant the event was one not to be forgotten. As a final flourish to finish off a season in which the team's strength had grown hugely, a tour was arranged to Dublin, to enter the annual 'Doxbridge' competition, in which Durham, Oxford and Cambridge colleges compete with each other in a variety of sports. Downing won the plate competition, aptly by beating the Trinity Hall team we had also relegated to the second division back in Cambridge.

Special mention for the season goes to Dan Moualed, Ed Taylor, Sam Shribman and Jamie Saunders, all of whom were awarded colours for their exceptional contribution to the team. Under the leadership of Jamie Saunders, the newly appointed Captain, and Jim Moyle, the new secretary, it is hard to imagine that the team will not go from strength to strength in the coming years. For any alumni who wish to follow the progress of the team, results are published each week at www.crazyaboutsport.com.

Squash

Downing Women's Squash team have entered two teams into the league this year. Our 1st team continues to do well in the 1st division, and the 2nd team is looking to improve on their performance last year. We have a good turn out at practices and a lot of beginners interested in taking up the sport. Hopefully they will continue to improve and further our successes next year.

Tennis

Captain: Jamie Pollard

As in previous years, the Men's First Team's campaign began with a resounding Round 1 Cuppers victory. However, an unfortunate draw against Robinson I in Round 2, who, at the time of writing, have disposed of last year's Runners-up, and look set to be Champions, spelt a swift exit from the competition. Hopes subsequently turned to the College Ladder. Despite challenges from Jesus I, Downing I once again managed to retain their premiership, finishing first in the

competition for the fourth time in five years. Particular mention must go to Douglas Maslin, a Fresher this year who has risen through the ranks of the team and performed consistently well against strong opposition. The Men's Second Team's season somewhat mirrored that of the First's; although plagued by Prelim matches and draws against First teams, which ultimately forced them out of the Cuppers and Shield competitions, the Ladder proved more fruitful. A victory over Corpus Christi I, mean that Downing II now occupy 15th position, a formidable achievement given that this makes them the highest ranking Second Team and places them ahead of eight College First Teams. Credit must go to Ed Graham, who after three years of loyal service as Downing II Captain will be graduating this year. Regrettably, Ladies' Tennis produced few noteworthy results. However, this was not due to lack commitment, a fact which will hopefully act as a foundation on which a more successful season can be built next year.

Whitby Society

President: Catherine John

Secretary: Sam Shribman

The Whitby Society began the year by welcoming nineteen new medics and vets at our annual Freshers' Drinks. Our guest speakers in Michaelmas and Lent terms had a clinical emphasis, including Dr Deena El-Shirbiny and Paul Whitelegg from Médecins du Monde on the charity's work in London and how students can get involved, and James Wood on the role of community pharmacy in medicine. Following the talk from Médecins du Monde, we were inspired to hold a joint formal with the Danby Society where we successfully raised over £160 to support the charity. As usual, the highlight of the year was the Annual Dinner, where Dr Andrew Bamji, President of the British Society for Rheumatology, gave an entertaining and enlightening speech on the political aspects of working in the NHS. My thanks go to Sam for all his help throughout the year – I am sure the society will thrive during his year as president, ably assisted by Jessica-Anne Hudson as secretary.

The front cover of this issue reflects the important milestone passed by the College this year, the 200th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone. It shows a facsimile of the inscribed plate which was placed on the foundation stone in an elaborate ceremony on 18th May 1807 described in an article in this issue by Dr David Pratt, Fellow Archivist of the College.

The Latin inscription reads

Downing College in the University of Cambridge was ordained by the will of George Downing of Gamlingay, baronet in the same county, who furnished her munificently with wealth in the year of salvation 1717. At length the College was established under royal charter by the best ruler George III in the year 1800. These foundations of the building were laid on 18th May 1807 by the Master, Professors and Fellows, appointed by royal command, that it might proceed successfully with a view to the cultivation of religion, and the knowledge of English law and medicine, and in promoting the right instruction of free-born youth.

Photograph of the plaque kindly arranged by Sarah Westwood, Downing College Archivist.

Photo by Neville Taylor of University of Cambridge Photography & Illustration Service.