



A detail of the restored Hall.
Photography by Ioana Marinescu.



A scene from the University's 800th Anniversary Light Show.
By courtesy of the 800th Anniversary Team.

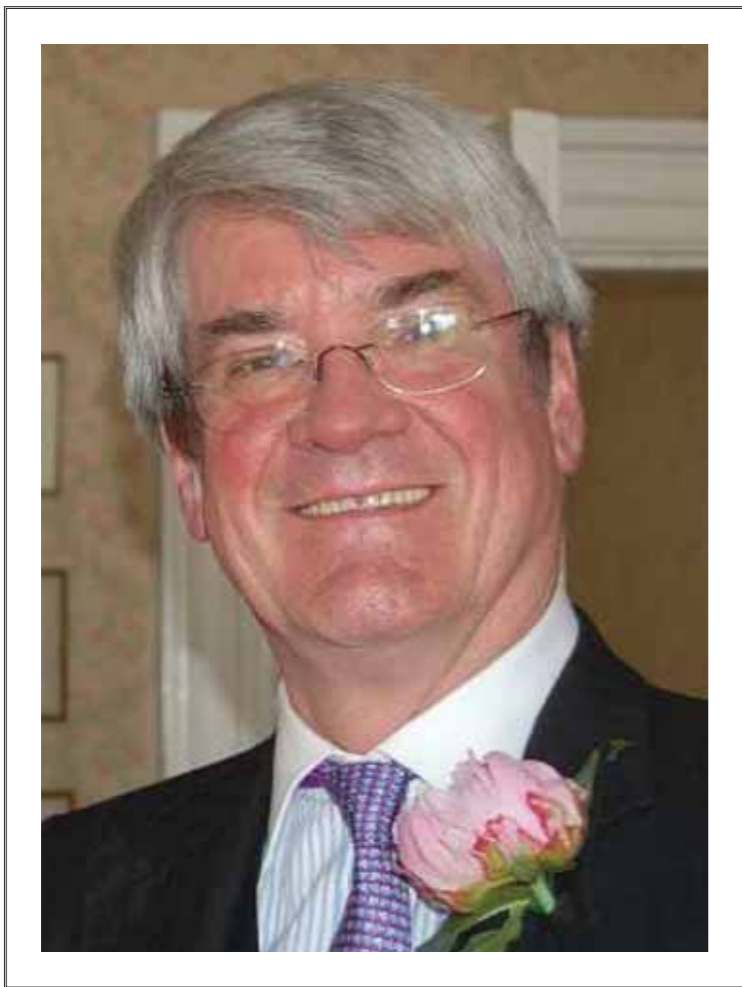
Front cover: The Chapel Choir 2009 with the composer Bob Chilcott. See page 24.
Photography by Richard Stibbs.

DOWNING COLLEGE 2009

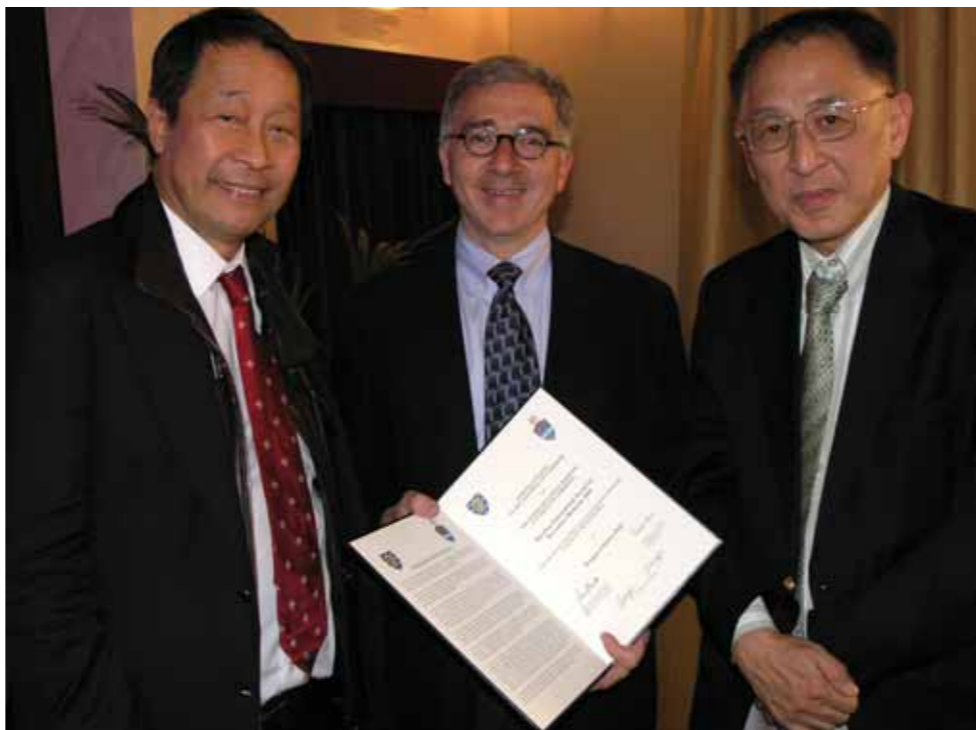


DOWNING COLLEGE 2009





Mr Bill Tudor John. President of the Association 2008-2009.



Dr Douglas Melton receiving the Oon Award from Dr Oon Chong Jin (1958) and Dr Oon Chong Hau (1966).



Members in Western Australia -
Brian Trenbath; John Prince; Michael Crouch; John Hicks; Cecil Walkley; Jeff Bowen.



Members in Canberra -
John Hicks, Susan Mitchell (1980) and Eric Wainwright (1964).



Kenneth and Dorothea Hall near Lady Canning's Seat, 6 miles from Coonoor, the next town to Ooty on the Blue Train line. See the article *A Life in the Day of a Senior Volunteer*.



Downing College

*Association Newsletter and
College Record 2009*

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Downing College Association

Founded 1922

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2008-2009

PRESIDENT

Bill Tudor John MA

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The President

The Immediate Past President (Q S Blake CBE MA)

The President-elect (P Thomson MA)

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

Assistant Secretaries

W J Hall MA

R J Stibbs MA (College Record)

The Honorary Treasurer

N Berger MA

Committee Members

D Parr MA MB BChir FRCS FRCSE

H Hedgeland MA PhD

K Dyer MA MB BChir DRCOG MRCP

K Storey MA

J Argasinska MA PhD

Ex-officio Committee Members

S Lintott MA, PhD(UKC), (Bursar)

G J Virgo MA, BCL. (Oxon), (Senior Tutor)

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

Honorary Auditors

D A Blackadder MA DPhil(Oxon)

M J Mays MA PhD FRIC

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

For a number of years after graduating in 1966 my concentration on carving out a career for myself meant that my contact with the College was minimal. However, my fond memories of Downing remained unabated and my continuing interest in what was going on there and in news of my contemporaries was satisfied by the annual arrival of the Association Newsletter. The reports from the Master and Senior Tutor, together with the entries from the College's clubs and societies, gave me my yearly boost of catch-up on Downing affairs. Thus, my then impression of the Association was that of the disseminator of news to alumni and the organiser of an annual dinner.

The Association, though, was then, and is now, much more than that. Quite apart from letting us know what's happening in College, it serves as a vital link to and between alumni and alumnae; it works alongside the Development Office in searching for ways of raising the funds so necessary for preserving Downing's pre-eminent position as a place of learning; it encourages us, through the annual dinner, to renew old friendships; and, through the sale of merchandise to members, it raises the funds which enable us to provide grants to needy undergraduates and postgraduates – some £12,000 during this academic year.

The Association's merchandise deserves more than just a passing mention. My predecessor, Quentin Blake, produced griffin prints in his inimitable style and they were an enormous success; they even adorn T-shirts which we sell. Quentin's predecessor, Julian Childs, introduced silver jewellery which also proved popular and he has been instrumental in extending our range of products this year. I feel a sense of inadequacy looming inside me.

I visit the College more often now than in days past and as I look about much seems the same, but much has changed too since my days as an undergraduate. Thanks to generous benefactions we have marvellous new buildings and a refurbished Hall, not to mention bedrooms with en suite bathrooms. The campus, which always inspires pride when bathed in sunshine, gives Downing a unique appearance among Cambridge colleges. I am proud to have been the President of the Association of such a place.

The Association would not achieve what it does without the hard work of a number of individuals. I hope the other members of its executive committee will not be offended if I single out some – John Hicks, our secretary, for all his help; Norman Berger, our treasurer; Peter Thomson, past treasurer and my successor; Frank Weiss, our merchandising organiser; and Roy Farmer for his help on our website – my thanks to them and to the rest of the committee.

Bill Tudor John

ASSOCIATION NEWS

THE 2008 AGM

Around fifty members attended the 2008 AGM in the Howard Building on the afternoon of Saturday September 27th 2008. The President, Quentin Blake, reviewed the activities of the Association in particular pointing out the continuing growth of the Student Support Fund which this year was planned to distribute £10,000 with a possible increase to £12,000 depending on merchandise sales.

The Treasurer thanked Mrs Kay Martin and Mr Mike Haddock of the Bursary for their help during the year, and Drs Blackadder and Mays for auditing the accounts which were again split between general activities and the Student Support Fund. As for the former, membership contributions had provided a small surplus, reduced to about £400 deficit after writing off old prints. The Fund had seen a dramatic rise, due to the work of Frank Weiss and others, in boosting merchandise sales especially of the Quentin Blake print which was currently accounting for a third of the total. The initial grant allocation for 2007-2008 of £8,000 had been increased to £10,000. The Treasurer or the Honorary Secretary saw all applications, and it was clear that the sums ranging from £50 to £500, which are given for academic related needs only, gave significant help to students. Sales of the Quentin Blake print were unlikely to be so high in the coming year, but nevertheless he felt able to recommend a £10,000 Fund allocation now, with the possibility of an increase to perhaps £12,000 after an end-of-year review. He added that four years ago Fund grants had amounted to only £1000. The Association has offered up to £5,000 to be spent on a President's chair to complement the new tables and chairs with which the College has furnished the newly restored Hall.

In the evening following the AGM the Annual Dinner was held in a Hall under late stages of its restoration. This had temporarily reduced the seating capacity to 130 so that the Executive Committee, reflecting on the attendance in 2007 of 171 comprising 112 members and 59 guests, was faced with deciding how the members wishing to attend in 2008 could be guaranteed a place. The solution was to revert to the practice of the 1990's when the guests had their own meal, a "fork supper". This had been initially offered by a Master's wife until ladies in such a position were elected "ex officio" members of the Association and attended the dinner in their own right. The guests were then left on their own to enjoy a meal in College. Such was the 2008 arrangement for 21 people hosted by Janet Hicks, wife of the Honorary Secretary, while 81 members dined in Hall under the eye of the President, Prof. Quentin Blake (1953). Addresses were given by the President and the Master, Prof. Barry Everitt. The President then vested the President Elect, Bill Tudor John (1963) with the badge of office. His first and only task that evening was to announce that the bar in the Howard building was open where many members continued their conversations.

Throughout the year sales of merchandise have continued at College events and by mail order. The total income this year was over £15,000, close to last year's figure which was enhanced by the new products which Quentin Blake initiated for us. Frank Weiss has looked after the acquisition and selling of merchandise whilst Julian Childs and Roy Farmer, former Presidents, have been energetic in the identifying and procuring of new products and merchandise promotion respectively. As a result the Student Support Fund has been maintained at its planned level. We are grateful for the help which members of the Executive Committee give in the selling of our increasing wide range of goods.



Members preparing for the 2008 Annual Dinner in the (partly) restored Hall.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members of the Association's Executive Committee beaver away unseen and revealed only by their names on election at an AGM and in the list at the opening of this Newsletter. We thought that members would like to know a little about the real people behind the names so here are their own views of some of themselves.

Joanna Argasinska (2000) obtained her PhD in the Department of Biochemistry and currently works for a small Cambridge-based biotechnology company. In her free time she enjoys playing volleyball, scuba diving and travelling.

Norman Berger (1952) is at present working as a Property Consultant for Cambridge Estate Agents Tucker Gardner. Married to Cynthia and has four grand children. Recreational activities include sailing, jazz and wine tasting.

John Hall (1955) lives in Letchworth Garden City with his wife Jan, and has three daughters. His main non-family interests are friends, holidays, walking, croquet, bridge, golf and gardening. Long retired from paid activities (industry and then Government service) he does voluntary work for Age Concern and is an elected governor of the Letchworth Heritage Foundation, a private charity responsible for most aspects of the town's management.

Holly Hedgeland (1999) read Natural Sciences at Downing before staying on for a PhD in experimental physics (2003–6). Holly now works as a post-doctoral researcher in surface physics at the Cavendish Laboratory and was a Downing Bye-Fellow until she was elected a Fellow of Robinson College this year. When away from troubleshooting bits of oversized Meccano she continues to spend time messing about on the river, as well as ongoing attempts to cultivate a rather reluctant wisteria and veg patch.

John Hicks (1955) pursued a career in engineering, initially in the aircraft industry, and for the last 33 years has been a consultant welding engineer and is now slowly retiring. Lives in a village near Cambridge with his wife Janet and has two sons, David aged 38 and Peter, 24, who did a PGCE at Downing last year. When not editing this Newsletter and attending to other Association matters John is a parish church organist, a trustee of the village charity and treasurer of the Cambridge Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society. A poor shot at clay pigeons he has more success in growing vegetables, often winning prizes at the Elsworth Show, usually when he is the only one in the class.

Karen Storey (née Houston) (1982). Married to Miles Storey (1982). One daughter, Eleanor, aged 11. Left the law in 2006 to set up business, *Homespace*, specialising in staging properties for sale and helping people to declutter and reorganize their homes.

Graham Virgo (1984) is Downing's Senior Tutor, Director of Studies in Law and Professor of English Private Law in the Faculty of Law. Married to Cally, former Fellow, who is Dean of Gonville and Caius, two children: Elizabeth (14) and Jonathan (12). Interests: amateur dramatics, gardening, walking.

Frank Weiss (1950) is currently the oldest member of the Executive Committee, occupied with trying to sell Association Merchandise for the benefit of the Student Support Fund, and active supporter of the research functions of the Alzheimer's Society. Otherwise, trying to stay reasonably healthy, and be a good father and grandfather.

THE SECRETARY'S DIARY

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose might be the motto of the Association's Secretarial and Editorial functions. So much goes on from year to year as members' lives advance and eventually sadly end but the buildings of the College remain the same, or better, and the dedication of the Fellowship continues unabated while our members retain their sociability. The College has adopted this thought in its latest appeal named *Catalysis* through observing that while presenting a stable visual, educational and cultural aspect the College acts as a catalyst¹ in developing the intellects of its students who then move on to change the world.

Some might be said to change the world with the work they do in the United Kingdom whilst others move to, or return to, other countries. Towards the end of 2008 my wife, Janet, and I spent two months visiting her family and our friends in Australia where, after a four year gap, we met again some of our members in Western Australia. Michael Crouch (1954), John Prince (1946), Brian Trenbath (1954) and Cecil Walkley (1948) and ourselves were entertained in their home in Subiaco by Jeff Bowen (1961) and his wife Sue. Seven weeks later we reached Canberra where we met Susan Mitchell (1980) and Eric Wainwright (1964) whilst we were staying with Malcolm Gerloch, Fellow Emeritus of Trinity Hall and formerly of the Department of Chemistry and his wife Gwyneth.

Building works have continued within the College. The Hall restoration has been completed; the atmosphere overall is light and the hues in the entablature are brilliant. As guests entered the Hall on February 14th 2008 for a celebratory lunch the sun, as if on cue, broke through and gave a brilliant illumination to the interior. Dr Paul Millett, Collins Fellow in Classics, tells me that such brilliant colours were a feature of ancient Greek architecture but have not in general survived the millennia. Less satisfactory has been the attempt to improve the acoustic qualities of the Hall, conversation at table is still difficult.

Whilst on the subject of College donors I am reminded of the response of the man who confessed "I started with nothing and I have most of it left".

The construction of the Howard Theatre proceeds apace and ahead of programme. A formal topping out ceremony was conducted on March 16th 2009 followed by a lunch to celebrate the 80th birthday of the donor, Alan Howard (1948). The theatre should be in use early in 2010.

Looking at the wider academic front, over the last few years we have read in the press of students currently entering universities having an inadequate grasp of mathematics. Evidence of Cambridge University's assistance to such students

¹ For those who may have forgotten their School Certificate, O Level, GCSE or other chemistry syllabus a catalyst is a substance which speeds up a chemical reaction but is not changed by the reaction.

was seen in a Natural Sciences Tripos paper which I invigilated this year. The paper had ten questions, all of which had to be answered in three hours. A rubric at the beginning of the paper ran –

Suggested time: 18 minutes per question.

NEXT YEAR'S PRESIDENT



I came up to Downing fifty-six years ago from a grammar school via the Royal Air Force. St John's and Sidney had turned me down but, fortunately, the interviewers at Downing must have been having an off-day when I applied, and I was relieved to get in. Having originally intended to read physics, I wound up reading Part I Mathematics and Part II Economics, which allowed plenty of time for sport and a social life. A series of hapless but hard-working supervisors made sure I got a degree, and I am grateful to them. Besides making a number of lifelong friendships, I met a Girtonian whom I subsequently married and I look back on those three years with fond memories. I can fairly say that Downing changed my life.

After going down I worked in industry, first with ICI Paints, where I was heavily involved in the early development of the Dulux brand, then as the group marketing director of Courtaulds before being managing director of a group of office furniture businesses here and in France, where I reinforced my fondness for food and drink. For the last twenty years I have worked with a series of smaller firms, usually as a non-executive chairman or director.

Like a number of people, I started to come back to Association dinners in my forties and became a reasonably regular attender. At one dinner, about fifteen years ago, possibly having had too much of the claret, I bent Peter Mathias's ear on what I thought were the College's shortcomings in fund-raising. He rather cleverly responded by inviting me to chair a small group of alumni to advise the College, and the outcome was the establishment of the Development Office. More importantly, from a personal point of view, I got to know a bit about how the College works and to meet and become friendly with a number of the Fellows.

When my wife died in 2001 I decided to come and live in Cambridge, partly because my son worked for the University but also because I had got to know a lot of people here, both in and beyond the College. I got myself a flat overlooking Fenner's and, when Stephen Fleet got to know I was here, he promptly invited me in to dine and to meet Alice, to whom he had just got

engaged. I was at once welcomed into the Downing family and soon found myself Treasurer of the Association and a Fellow-Commoner, so that at both ends of my adult life I have found myself having a great time at Downing.

As well as getting to know the Fellows, I have had the pleasure of meeting students, who are far more hard-working than we were but delightful and fun to be with. Wandering around, you get the feeling of a vibrant and successful community and I am convinced that the College is even better now than half a century ago, not least because of the civilising influence of women, and I would urge all alumni (and alumnae) to take every opportunity to come back and visit.

While I can't begin to repay what the College has given me, in my year in office as President I shall do what I can to strengthen the ties between it and the old members, so if anyone has any ideas or suggestions on that subject should be glad to hear from them.

Peter Thomson

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

This year's Association weekend will be on September 26th and 27th. The dinner will be in the completely refurbished Hall which will accommodate both members and guests.

THE MASTER WRITES:

The University's 800th anniversary year got off to a spectacular start in January with a light show depicting the history of the University. The highlight of the show was without doubt Honorary Fellow Quentin Blake's drawings of Darwin and Newton, zooming across the front of the Senate House (Darwin riding a turtle). The show can still be viewed on the University's website. In Downing, the year has been marked by the opening of the beautifully restored Hall in February, attended by many of the 750 donors. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of all those alumni who supported this ambitious scheme. The result is quite simply breathtaking. The new Howard Theatre was topped out on Dr Alan Howard's 80th birthday and it, too, is a spectacular building with a sumptuous interior. It is well ahead of schedule and will be handed over to the College by the start of the new academic year and will be in use before Christmas. Tempering these enhancements on the Domus is the impact of the financial crisis that has engulfed us during this year and, like many of you, Downing has not been spared. We are all focused on weathering this difficult

period and economies are being sought throughout the College whilst trying to ensure that our students, undergraduate and graduate, are still provided with an environment that will enable them to thrive.

As you will read from the Senior Tutor's report, the year has been a mixed one so far as academic achievement is concerned. There have been bright spots of course, the 4th year graduating students have continued to be exceptional. But there has been a real dip in 2nd year performance while a very promising first year has perhaps not fully translated potential into performance – with the remarkable exception of the medical students, more than half of whom gained 1sts. Enabling the transitions that successful school pupils must make in order to become equally successful students here is a constant challenge for the Senior Tutor, Directors of Studies, Fellows and other teachers. This year we must deal with the uncertain value of the new A* grades at A2 in providing the ability to discriminate between the many students who apply. We are also concerned that this may disadvantage students from some schools and we must not allow that to deter them from applying and gaining the chance to study here.

It has been an excellent year for music in the College and a key reason has been the energy and enthusiasm of the senior organ scholar, Millie Godlee. The choir has been reinvigorated as a result and has also benefited from our ability to make choral awards through a legacy from Sir Arthur Watts, a distinguished Honorary Fellow who died last year. A new setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, called 'The Downing Service', composed for the choir by Bob Chilcott, was commissioned by Millie's father, Rickman Godlee. The work was sung for the first time at this year's Commemoration Service and will hopefully feature in that event every year. A series of superb recitals by our undergraduate and graduate students has been held in the Master's Lodge and other College venues during the year. The Drama Society has also been active, but is eagerly anticipating the new theatre, which will greatly enhance the options for new productions.

It has been an excellent year for sport, but I should perhaps mention first the major success of alumna Annie Vernon, who gained a silver medal at the Beijing Olympics in the quad sculls. A joint Griffins and Boat Club dinner was held in November to celebrate her achievement. The Boat Club has had an excellent year in Lent and May bumps, the women's 1st VIII winning blades in the latter, as well as a series of wins in regattas during the months leading up to the Mays. The men's football team, which gained promotion to the 1st division last year, won the league this year. The rugby team has retained its place in the first division, which is a major achievement in the face of teams containing older and physically larger graduate students from some Colleges. The women's and mixed netball teams have again been at the top of their leagues and the women were unlucky to lose a closely contested Cuppers final. The women's

athletics team retained their place as Summer Cuppers Champions. I am constantly impressed by the breadth of talent of our students and their commitment to their sports and other activities as well as to their studies.

In April, biochemist Dr Phillip Rubery retired from the Fellowship after 35 years. Phillip was a devoted teacher and has enabled literally hundreds of medical students to come to grips with his subject – as well as being a Tutor, Admissions Tutor, Praelector and long-term member of the Finance Committee during his years here. I worked extremely closely with Philip for over twenty years when I was Director of Studies in medicine and no doubt some alumni reading this will remember their thrilling admissions interviews, as well as supervisions, with the two of us. We are extremely grateful for all he has done for the College. Professor David Feldman was awarded a Doctorate in Civil Law by the University of Oxford, his alma mater. Drs Kathy Liddell and Paul Barker were promoted to Senior Lectureships and Dr Guy Brown to a Readership, although sadly Guy has decided to leave the Fellowship in order to concentrate on his research. New Fellows that have joined us during the year are Tariq Sadiq, our Development Director (who was also elected as a County Councillor in the May elections), Dick Taplin, our Junior Bursar, Dr Jie Li (Fellow in Engineering) and, arriving in October, Sophie Harrington (Research Fellow in Materials Science) and Dr Subha Mukherji (Fellow in English). Dr Simone Laqua-O'Donnell, our Research Fellow in History, is leaving us this summer to take up a lectureship at Birmingham University. Honorary Fellow, Lord Collins of Mapesbury, has been appointed Lord of Appeal in Ordinary and has taken his seat in the House of Lords. Lord Collins is a most distinguished lawyer and was the first solicitor to take silk and to be appointed to the High Court Bench. He will be one of the first Justices of the Supreme Court as it comes into being later this year. Wilkins Fellow, Rumi Verjee, was awarded a CBE for his charitable works in the Queen's Birthday Honours list in June. As you will read in this issue, Wilkins Fellow and distinguished psychologist Ralph Lewin died in December last year after a brief illness. Ralph was an exceptional marine biologist as well as a poet and author. He and his wife Lanna fund a research studentship in the College and within the Department of Plant Sciences in the University.

We have again had three exceptional overseas visiting Fellows during the year. Visiting from Keio University as our Keio Fellow was Professor Toshiyuki Takamiya, an internationally celebrated collector and student of English medieval manuscripts and early printed books, who has taught a generation of talented Japanese medievalists who have made major contributions to their discipline both in Japan and Britain. This was in fact Keio University's 150th anniversary (it is the oldest University in Japan) and I was fortunate to visit Keio in November, along with former Master Peter Mathias, to take part in the celebrations as representatives

of Keio's oldest academic partner. Professor Charles McCurdy, known for his research on the history of the constitution, was the Thomas Jefferson Fellow visiting from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Finally Dr Chris Chin, a classicist working on ekphrastic poetics, was the Pomona Fellow visiting from the USA. Professor Joe LeDoux, visiting from New York University and renowned for his work on emotional learning and memory was a visiting Professor at Downing while spending a sabbatical period of research in my laboratory.

I have been able to meet alumni on several occasions again this year – here at the Association Dinner in September, at the Reunion Dinner in April and at the donors' garden party in June as well as several smaller lunches and dinners during the year. In September I visited alumni in Singapore and held a reception that was generously facilitated by Robin Tomlin (1963) in the Arts House in Old Parliament Square. In March, I visited Hong Kong with Tariq Sadiq and attended a wonderful reception at the home of Lucy Lord (1981) and Ashley Alder (1982) with superb views over Central far below. This visit coincided with a University 800th reception attended by the Vice-Chancellor along with three other Heads of Cambridge colleges. Tariq and I had a series of meetings with many alumni and I am very grateful to them for their time, advice and support of the College. The City Group continues to thrive and this year held a compelling meeting with the theme "Apocalypse Now: banking after the credit crunch" which was addressed by Brian Lawson (1976, who hosted the event) and Bill Tudor-John (1963). I'm not sure that anybody left the room with profound feelings of optimism about the future.

It has been another eventful year for the residents of the Lodge. My daughter Jessica was 21 and left Oxford not long after a successful Summer Eights. As I write she is visiting friends in Montpellier, calling home a couple of nights ago to tell us that she had gained a 1st in her finals. We are all thrilled. She begins an MA at Goldsmiths in London in September. Jane remains extremely busy and just became busier this week as she took up office as the Vice-President of the British Association of Dermatologists. I was personally honoured and delighted to be awarded an honorary D.Sc. degree by the University of Hull, where I read zoology, psychology and chemistry as an undergraduate. I return to Hull for the graduation ceremony next week, my first visit in over 30 years. We are looking forward to a summer vacation in France where the three of us will be joined by my son, daughter-in-law and three grandchildren. I'll probably need another vacation to recover from it.

Finally my thanks are again extended to the Downing Association, especially to President Bill Tudor-John, Treasurer Norman Berger, Honorary Secretary John Hicks and the entire executive committee for all their hard work. The merchandise operation becomes increasingly successful and the proceeds

continue to provide generous and essential financial support to our undergraduates. We are extremely grateful for all you do. I look forward to seeing many of you here at the Alumni day and Association dinner in September and many more during the year ahead.

*Professor Barry Everitt ScD FRS FMed Sci
Master's Lodge, July 2009*

THE SENIOR TUTOR WRITES:

Higher education in this country is increasingly affected by regulation through acronym and Cambridge generally and Downing specifically are not exempt. Perhaps we have been lucky and only now are catching up with the regulation which has been affecting other institutions for many years. But over the last year the regulatory and administrative burden has increased dramatically. The quality of academic research has been judged through the RAE (Research Assessment Exercise) and we are already planning for the REF (Research Excellence Framework) in 2012; we are reviewed by HEFCE (the Higher Education Funding Council for England), and have various QA (Quality Assurance) exercises to complete; we are bound by admissions agreements with OFFA (the Office for Fair Access); student complaints can be taken to the OIA (the Office of the Independent Adjudicator); we are in the process of having to register with the Charity Commission which will regulate what the College does by reference to SORPs (statements of recommended practice) and Fellows will become charitable trustees, with consequential changes to their responsibilities; supervisors complete on-line supervision reports on CamCORS (the Cambridge Colleges Online Reporting System for Supervisions: although as Chairman of the CamCORS Management Committee I can vouch for this being a good thing) and the University and the Colleges are making the gradual, and rather traumatic, transition to a student information database: CamSIS. In addition we constantly have to consider regulations relating to health and safety and the assessment of risk; as well as make provision for the regular FOI (freedom of information) requests and data protection requirements.

All of this can distract us from what we are actually here for. However, one benefit of preparing for registration with the Charity Commission is that we are required to identify our objects, to ensure that they are charitable, and justify that what we are doing is of benefit to the public. Our objects are clearly charitable: to advance education, research and learning. That we are benefiting the public is equally clear, through the education we provide to those who apply and are admitted to the College; the financial support for those suffering hardship

(including the invaluable support provided by the Downing Association fund which enables students to buy textbooks, undertake research projects and travel abroad in connection with their studies); the tuition in study skills; the support for research of graduate students, post-doctoral researchers and Fellows; and the architectural and cultural heritage of the College available to all to enjoy, augmented by the stunning renovation of the Hall and the nearly completed Howard Theatre.

That we have been successful in advancing education this year can be readily established by looking at our examination results. This year 85 of our students have obtained firsts and distinctions, which is the third highest number in the College's history beaten only by the last two years. Some of the results in particular subjects have been outstanding, notably the first year Medics, where 9 out of sixteen students obtained firsts, and the second year Economists where 75% of the students obtained firsts. The results of fourth year students are also the best we have ever seen by that year group. We have had a pleasing spread of firsts and distinctions across a wide-range of subjects, including Archaeology and Anthropology (2), Chemical Engineering (2), Classics (1), Computer Science (1), Economics (7), Engineering (11), English (1), Geography (3), History (2), Land Economy (1), Law (6), Mathematics (3), Medicine (15), Clinical Medicine (4), Modern and Medieval Languages (1), Natural Sciences (21), Oriental Studies, now changing its name to Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (1), and Social and Political Sciences, now changing its name to Politics, Psychology and Sociology (3).

Each year the College awards prizes of special distinction to candidates who are ranked in the top 2.5% of their respective class lists. This year the College awarded 17 such prizes. They were awarded to Michelle Jin (Economics) who also was awarded the Whalley Tooker prize for the best performance by a student in their penultimate year; Rodrigo Queiro (Engineering); Madeleine Ito (Geography), Joseph Poore (Land Economy), Sean Aughey and Jenny Macleod (Law); Deepti Lobo, Ben Peirce, James Stafaniak, Jessica Wong and Sean Zheng (Medicine); James Hall, Oliver Lupton, Anna Masson and John Morgan (Natural Sciences); Thomas Mann (Oriental Studies) and Alex Brown (Politics, Psychology and Sociology). Four of these students were awarded Association Prizes, for the best examination performances in their final year: Sean Aughey, James Hall, Anna Masson and Ben Peirce. The range of subjects in which these prizes were awarded is a matter of particular pleasure.

The quality of these performances is exceptional and many other students have performed well. There are, however, certain trends which are concerning. The second year results as a whole have been disappointing and already Directors of Studies and I have been discussing why there appears to be relative underperformance in this cohort. Early indications during the academic year revealed that the first year students as a cohort were on track to perform well.

This early promise was not consistently reflected in their examination results, although Directors of Studies and Tutors consider that there is a great deal of promise in this year group. It is the finalists, both third and fourth years, who have performed especially well this year.

The administrative and regulatory burden which the College will have to face will no doubt increase, but we will not let that distract us from what we are here to do. Our overall success in advancing education in all its forms is reflected in many ways, not simply with the raw statistics arising from the examination results. The success is shown by the graduating students who come out of the Senate House newly graduated and beaming with pride and pleasure and who, by recent tradition, shake hands with the Senior Tutor on the steps outside. The success is also shown by the impressive seminars given by graduate students who communicate their enthusiasm for and significance of their research; by sporting success; by musical and theatrical excellence; and by the organisation of a May ball which has been described by many as the best May Ball in Cambridge this year.

We can fill in the forms to prove to the Charity Commission that we are advancing education and benefiting the public, but the real evidence is in the progress and achievements of our students.

THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This year the Development Office was delighted to see the completion of the restoration of the Hall and to mark its opening at a special event in College on 14th February, attended by donors, craftsmen and women, contractors, staff, Fellows and the architects, Caruso St. John. Everyone who has seen it cannot help but be impressed by the quality of the work and the elegance of the design. The named tiles proved extremely popular and now nearly every single tile is either named or waiting to be named and every chair is named. The entrance from the A Stair doorway leads to a bust of the original architect, William Wilkins, with the names of our most generous benefactors engraved in the stone plinth and painted on the wall.

So what now? Well, as ever, the College's needs do not diminish and every year brings fresh challenges. This time of course it is the credit crunch and the recession. Optimism is in short supply and it has somewhat affected our plans for our next major appeal, the launch of the Catalysis Endowment Campaign to raise £20m for the College over the next six years or so. Inclement economic conditions have affected the income we derive from endowment and it has clearly proved what we always knew; that our endowment of around £30m isn't sufficient to protect us from global shocks and we need to strengthen it.

Our alumni are very generous. Even in this year of recession, the annual telephone fundraising campaign had its best ever year achieving just under £259,000 received to date and beating last year's total by £45,000. A clearly magnificent response when it would have been justifiable for members to reduce their giving in difficult times. So even though £20m is an ambitious target for a College like Downing we know that it is possible because of the commitment of our members and the affection in which they hold the College. The Catalysis Campaign is all about celebrating the achievements and character of our Downing members both past and present and character is what we need now to propel the College forward, stronger and fitter, to face the future and whatever it may bring.

Preparing for such an undertaking requires a huge amount of preparation not least in our internal organisation. Though not part of our plans, many of you will have noticed some changes in staff during the past year: Sara Brinkley has been on maternity leave and is due to come back to us part-time in September after giving birth to her daughter, Phoebe. Helen Machin (née Limbrick) took maternity leave in June and we expect her to deliver in July and return to us in about a year's time. Natalie de Biasi is currently providing maternity cover and I would also like to thank Serena Fidgett and John Spence who both at various times came in to help us keep the show on the road. In the meantime, by the time this is published we will have appointed a new Deputy Director of Development to help manage all of our alumni relations activities and to assist me in raising money for the College. Other changes will probably take place as well but at this time I want to thank all our old members for their patience and forbearance whilst we manage change and transition and I hope you will not have noticed too much disruption in the service we offer you.

Technology advances at a rapid pace and even those of us who thought ourselves relatively youthful find it hard to keep up. We do however want to use technology carefully to improve our service and to save money and resources where possible. We have started promoting online booking for nearly all of our events and are, wherever possible and appropriate, issuing invitations by email. By the time you read this we will have started an e-newsletter to keep you in touch with developments and goings-on in College (no gossip mind you). We also plan to issue Dow@Cam only once a year rather than twice but it will become a larger issue and may change a little in character and content although its spirit and essence will remain the same. This is partly to do with saving money but also to make room for complementary initiatives like e-newsletters. We hope not to overwhelm you with unwanted information and I hope that your constructive feedback will help us strike the right balance.

We are moving ahead with plans to complement the Cranworth Law Society with the Cranworth Law Alumni Network (CLAN) to be launched at the end

of July which we hope will offer an informal network, underpinned by a Facebook group, to encourage everyone who studied Law at Downing to either strengthen existing connections or to make new ones. The City Group continues to thrive, holding a fascinating talk about the credit crunch and the future of banking at Nomura in March and looking forward to an insight into Russia and oil at Shell in London at the end of November 2009.

Finally, a note of thanks to the Downing Association and its Executive Committee which has done marvellous things with merchandise and is making an extremely valuable contribution to College student support funds. If you have not already done so, buy something!

Tariq Sadiq

THE JUNIOR BURSAR'S REPORT

(Previously known as the Domus Bursar and before that the Domestic Bursar)

With the value of its endowment portfolio down by over 30% and commercial letting income in freefall, Downing College is far from immune from the current credit crisis. As a result of these negative effects, plans to develop a number of properties on Regent Street have had to be put on the back-burner until economic conditions improve. That said, a lack of commercial tenants in 70 Regent Street has encouraged us to turn the upper 2 floors of that building into new student accommodation, and we will have an additional 6 graduate rooms available for the start of the Academic Year 2009/10.

Our major new-build project, the Howard Theatre, is also moving rapidly towards completion, and should be ready for use in late October 2009. The sunken garden was reinstated in time for this year's graduation, and this adds positively to the elegance of this Court, surrounded by buildings donated by Dr Alan Howard and the Howard Foundation. The Foundation has also given very generously to provide the West Range with a new disabled ramp so that the West Lodge and Maitland Room will be fully wheelchair accessible from the next academic year.

On a more minor level, V Staircase is finally being refurbished, using Richard Monument (the Buildings' Manager) as the Clerk of Works to manage in-house and sub-contracted labour. This is the last of the historic buildings requiring modernisation - however, like the Forth Bridge, we now need to start again at the beginning in order to conserve our building stock for future generations. The project is also creating a major upheaval for the Downing Association room which is to be relocated.

Dick Taplin

COMMEMORATION OF BENEFACTORS

Each year, on the anniversary of the laying of the College foundation stone on 18th May 1807, the College holds a service in Chapel in which benefactors throughout the history of the College are remembered. This year the choir sang, as its world premiere, the *Downing Service* by Bob Chilcott, a setting of the Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis. The choir was conducted by Camilla Godlee, Senior Organ Scholar, and the organist was Dean Ryan, Junior Organ Scholar. Bob Chilcott was a King's College chorister and later a member of the King's Singers. Since 1997 he has worked as a full-time composer. He is Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers and has conducted many other leading choirs in 23 countries. The choir and the composer are shown on the cover of this issue of the Association Newsletter and College Record.

THE AMERICAN SUB-PRIME CRISIS AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Nigel F.B. Allington

The author is a member of the Cambridge Centre for Economic and Public Policy, an Affiliated Lecturer in the University Department of Land Economy. He is a Bye-Fellow of Downing, Director of Studies and College Lecturer in Economics. He is Professor of Finance, Ecole de management, Grenoble University.

INTRODUCTION

The American sub-prime crisis is merely the latest, albeit a potentially more serious, financial crisis to hit the world economy. Indeed, only Canute-like politicians could believe that economic cycles had been eliminated and he only paddled to prove the limits to political power. This particular crisis has its origins in lending in the US to house purchasers with poor credit histories with those loans repackaged and sold on to other investors throughout the world economy. In a recent paper, Reinhart and Rogoff (2008)¹ demonstrate that banking crises of one kind or another have been pretty frequent since the 1800s, with a rather obvious connection to the growth of international capital mobility. This particular crisis, however, is potentially more serious, with the losses incurred by US banks estimated to be in the region of \$2tr., equivalent to 14% of US GDP. As a proportion of GDP the Asian financial crisis of 1997/9 was worse,

¹ Reinhart, C. M. and K. S. Rogoff (2008), "Banking Crises: An Equal Opportunity Menace", *National Bureau of Economic Research, Working Paper 14587*. Kaminsky and Reinhart find that equity prices and house prices are leading indicators of crises in countries experiencing large capital flows, "The Twin Crises: The Causes of Banking and Balance of Payments Problems", *American Economic Review*, 89, pp.473-500.

with bank losses standing at 35% of the region's GDP and the Japanese banking crisis accumulated losses worth 15% of GDP.

THE CAUSES OF THE CRISIS

The crisis might have started in America with sub-prime lending, but its causes are much more complex. First, the repeal of the US's Glass-Steagall Act (1933) in 1999, that separated commercial banks from investment banks in America, permitted commercial banks to engage with risky new financial instruments such as derivatives that ultimately undermined their solvency. Second, the operation of monetary policy under former Federal Reserve Chairman, Greenspan meant that asset bubbles were allowed to develop and burst before interest rates were adjusted: stock market and housing bubbles were never 'managed'. Third, the regulatory authorities in both the US and UK failed to exercise sufficient scrutiny of the operation of their domestic financial institutions with too much attention focussed on the adequacy of their capital base and too little on the attendant risks associated with holding particular assets. And governments encouraged the institutions to pursue securitisation. Fourth, moral hazard meant that financial institutions believed any crazy business plan, if it turned sour, would lead to a bail-out by the government or central bank. This had happened in the US with the Savings and Loan companies in the 1980s and Long Term Capital Asset Management in 1998. Fifth, and importantly, global financial imbalances, represented by surpluses on the current account of the balance of payments in China, Japan and the Middle East, allowed America to consume more than it produced financing a capital account surplus by selling US Treasury bonds to these governments. Finally, credit rating agencies such as Standard and Poor, Fitches and Moodies gave these new financial instruments, including Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS) and Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDO), triple AAA or top investment status so that financial institutions throughout the world bought them with too little scrutiny as investments. A good rating that leads to lower capital requirements became a more desirable commodity than an accurate rating.

SUB-PRIME LENDING

Sub-prime loans to potential house owners in the US with low incomes, poor credit histories and a shaky employment record accelerated in the late 1990s. Whereas these represented 5 per cent of total loans in 1994 they had accelerated to 47 per cent by 2007. This riskier lending occurred for a number of reasons. The Community Reinvestment Act (passed in 1977, but revised in 1995 and amended in 2005) required that financial institutions lend more to this sector, mainly blacks and Hispanics, to create a more inclusive property-owning democracy. Although the Act was pursued more vigorously under the Clinton

administration it was scaled back under Bush, but the lack of regulation in the mortgage sector remained a serious flaw.

The lending was also immoral. Naïve borrowers were offered interest-only loans with a range of repayment plans that included deferral with the balance added to the capital debt at compound interest. Borrowers were not properly vetted and encouraged to lie about their circumstances, while unscrupulous brokers working on commission persuaded borrowers to mortgage for more than the value of the property, frequently consolidating credit card debt and motor vehicle purchase debt into the loan. If property prices rose the debt became less of a burden, but if they fell the house of cards could easily tumble down.

SECURITISATION

Financial institutions were willing to engage in dubious lending because they would rapidly securitise (and indeed resecuritise) their loans into MBS and CDOs and sell them on as top-rated investment stock. In 2006 securitised loans were worth \$3,187bn equivalent to 23 per cent of US GDP (the UK figures were \$241bn and 12 per cent). Credit Default Swaps (CDSs) could also be purchased as insurance should any of these instruments fail. Lehman Brothers and American International Group (AIG) specialised in this area of insurance against which they held no assets to meet contingent liabilities.

FAULTY MONETARY POLICY

And falling interest rates led to a borrowing frenzy that fuelled a house price boom. House prices rose as interest rates fell from 6.5 per cent at the end of 2000 to 1.8 per cent in 2002 and 1.2 per cent in 2003 after the Dot Com bubble burst. But an International Monetary Fund (IMF) model recorded only a modest 'house price gap' or bubble of 12 per cent (thirteenth highest) for the US for the period 1997 to 2007, compared with Ireland (first) with a 34 per cent gap and the UK (third) with a gap of 28 per cent. Very belatedly in 2004 interest rates started to rise as forecasts for inflation rose.

A so-called Taylor Rule can retrospectively indicate whether the interest rate policy pursued by a Central Bank was correct for a given target for inflation and output (or unemployment). This indicated that interest rates in the US should have risen from the end of 2001 from 1.8 per cent to a little over 5 per cent in 2005. Thus lax monetary policy stimulated a house price bubble and lower reserve requirements for commercial banks resulted in higher levels of lending. The UK similarly had a loose monetary policy that allowed a more serious bubble to develop in the property sector.

While house prices were rising the value of the debt reduced and households felt wealthier. Between 1997 and 2006 house prices rose 124 per cent in the US. However, once the housing bubble bust, mortgage defaults and repossessions

accelerated and the value of the securitised debt and the financial instruments based on them collapsed, causing first a liquidity crisis for the banks, followed rapidly by an insolvency crisis. Because foreign banks had bought the now worthless derivatives they experienced a similar liquidity and insolvency crisis.

THE SIZE OF THE CRISIS

The IMF currently estimates the sub-prime losses at \$1.5tr of which only \$815.6bn has been revealed. Bloomberg's records the three largest losses in the US as Wachovia with \$97.9bn, Citigroup \$85.4bn and Merrill Lynch \$55.9bn. In the UK the three largest are HSBC \$33.1bn, Royal Bank of Scotland \$14.8bn and Barclays \$14.7bn and even the hapless HBOS only records a loss of \$9.3bn. Until the full extent of the losses are revealed, trust between institutions will not return and inter-bank lending will not resume on any significant scale. Governments and Central Banks have responded to the crisis in a number of different ways using a mixture of monetary policy and fiscal policy.

BAIL-OUT

The crisis became acute in August 2007 when interest rates rose and in particular LIBOR, the inter-bank lending rate, reached historically high levels. The Overnight Index Swap indicates what the market expects the gap between the Federal Funds rate and LIBOR to be over a three month period taking account of risk and liquidity effects. And the measured difference has widened since late 2007 raising the cost of loans and securities because many of these are indexed to LIBOR. Monetary policy effectively becomes more contractionary. Whether the higher spread was due to liquidity or counterparty risks (in other words the transparency of the banks' balance sheet) has important implications for corrective policy responses. Given that the evidence indicates lack of transparency rather than liquidity (Taylor, 2008)², the subsequent bail-out, designated TARP and its successor (developed by Geithner) under Obama, seems to have been ill-conceived and threatens to prolong the crisis. It also worsens the government's fiscal deficit. In the UK the government has also bailed out the banks and some building societies and, like the US, has offered some support for supposedly strategic industries such as car manufacturing.

REMEDIES FISCAL AND MONETARY: THE US, UK AND EUROZONE COMPARED

The world's three major monetary authorities have responded to the crisis with varying degrees of rigor and inventiveness not to say courage. Interest rates have

² Taylor, J. B. (2008), "Housing and Monetary Policy", paper presented at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City Symposium on *Housing, Housing Finance and Monetary Policy*, Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

been lowered, down to 0.8 per cent in the United States, 1.0 per cent in the Eurozone and 0.5 per cent in the UK. Like the Bank of Japan in the 1990s, the authorities have cut nominal interest rates almost to the zero bound, with the only possibility for further cuts creating an inflation rate higher than the nominal rate that produces negative real interest rates. A significantly negative real rate of interest should stimulate consumption and investment. However, in the absence of inflation this policy has proved to be inadequate because of the debt overhang in the banking sector. In fact monetary policy has become 'detached'. As interest rates fell, the whole term structure of interest rates (the yield curve) in the economy extending from short-run lending rates to long run lending rates, should move in the same direction, but the distrust between banks has actually led to the term structure moving in the opposite direction: all rates have risen.

Consequently a more experimental policy of quantitative easing has been tried in the United States and more cautiously in the UK. By buying Treasury bonds the Central Bank raises the liquid asset ratio in financial institutions and this ought to stimulate lending. Given that lending is the objective, however, it would have been better to buy top-rated corporate bonds thereby bypassing the lending blockage in the banking sector. An equally contentious policy has been the fiscal expansion through TARP and its successors in the US and in the UK bail-outs, tax cuts (a useless reduction in VAT), cash injections in the motor industry and elsewhere and accelerated public investment programmes. These might have worked in a moderate recession, but given the severity of this one and the previous profligacy of the Labour government with year-on year real increases in public expenditure, a ballooning fiscal deficit (now forecast to rise to 12.5 per cent of GDP next year) threatens to undermine the country's credit rating. This would raise the cost of borrowing and even make the sale of further Treasury bonds problematic.

The Eurozone has been more cautious in its operation of monetary policy and while it is pumping liquidity into the banking sector it is maintaining a hard line on any fiscal stimulus. However, the severity of the crisis in Ireland and the Baltic States means that it might be necessary for either the German government on behalf of the Eurozone, or indeed the ECB itself to sell bonds to offer a bail-out to overstretched governments with little capacity or creditworthiness to borrow themselves.

NEW REGULATIONS

While a new regulatory framework is required, the authorities must exercise some caution to ensure that financial innovation is not entirely smothered. The key elements are that all leveraged institutions must be regulated since Glass-Steagall-type regulation is no longer possible. Larger amounts of equity capital must be held and the originators of financial instruments should hold equities equal to a fixed proportion of any securitised loans. There must be minimum

capital requirements and these must fluctuate counter cyclically. More clarity must be provided by the ratings agencies, information must be as complete as possible and transparent and they must not be subject to any conflict of interest – they should not be linked to any financial institution. All derivatives should be listed on the stock exchanges in countries where they are traded. Financial institutions should be subject to regular stress tests, not conducted in house, but independently and regularly by the central bank in the country where their headquarters are based. Finally, the financial rewards paid to employees should be more closely aligned with the financial health of the institution. Bonuses should cover an extended period, certainly not be paid annually, and might be paid in shares which could not be cashed in for a number of years. The imperative is to curtail the excessive risk-taking identified by Minsky. As Keynes noted (1936) “When the capital development of a country becomes like the byproduct of the activities of a casino, the job is likely to be ill done (p.2)”.³

WILL IT WORK?

The answer is yes and no. The bail-outs will undoubtedly work given enough time but more capital injections will undoubtedly be required. Fiscal deficits will remain a serious problem for many countries and the UK in particular, were painful decisions will have to be taken to cut expenditure, including sacred cows like education and health, and raise taxes. This might have been mitigated had decisive action been taken in the first place. The Governor of the Bank of England, Mervyn King, should have followed his early economic judgement which was to force the failing banks into bankruptcy to avoid future moral hazard. The shareholders and directors who had failed to exercise the appropriate level of scrutiny over the rapid expansion of the financial sectors’ activities should have lost their investments and their jobs. Savers would, of course, have been protected and this is important because savings are at the very heart of the financial system.

IS CAPITALISM DOOMED?

Quite simply, no. Only the market, with the proper level of supervision, regulation and transparency can deliver higher living standards in the future as it has in the past. Amartya Sen, the Nobel Prize winning economist, made this abundantly clear in a recent *Financial Times* article where he wrote “The economic difficulties of today do not ... call for some ‘new capitalism’, but they do demand an open-minded understanding of older ideas about the reach and limits of the market economy. What is needed above all is a clear-headed appreciation of how different institutions work, along with an understanding

³ Keynes, J. M. (1936), *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*, Collected Works, Volume XIV (1973), Cambridge University Press.

of how a variety of organisations – from the market to the institutions of state – can together contribute to producing a more decent economic world”.⁴

I TOLD YOU SO: STABILITY BREEDS INSTABILITY

In an important book, *Stabilising an Unstable Economy*, published in 1986, the Keynesian economist Hyman Minsky provided a prophetic account of financial crises that resonates particularly well with the current crisis. He identified the precursors of the crisis to be a period of rapid economic growth accompanied by low inflation and low interest rates thereby engendering macroeconomic stability which breeds complacency and a predisposition towards risk-taking, particularly by financial institutions. Here he refers to innovative financial instruments including securitisation and largely unregulated or more probably loosely regulated, financial markets. Minsky specifically mentions house price bubbles as a symptom of financial risk-taking. In order to recover, he argues that asset prices must fall, the private sector has to deleverage and that losses inevitably accumulate in the financial sector with the recapitalisation of many financial institutions becoming necessary. The lessons to be learnt are that risk management has to be performed more prudently and executive pay that leads to excessive risk-taking has to be controlled. Government has a role to play and should regulate the financial system more rigorously, but also legislate for counter-cyclical capital requirements – financial institutions should hold higher levels of capital in a boom (restrict their lending) and lower levels of capital in a slump (increase their lending). In this way the economic cyclical, while not eliminated, does at least have a lower amplitude.

THE RESUMPTION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

The outlook for economic growth looks decidedly bleak at the present time. The latest figures from National Statistics report that the UK economy shrank by 2.4 per cent in the first quarter of 2009 due to collapse in the construction and service sectors giving annualised growth of -4.9 per cent – the biggest fall since the 1930s. Growth is estimated to be flat in 2010 by the OECD (2009).⁵ Growth in the US in 2009 is forecast to be -2.8 per cent (0.9 per cent in 2010) showing the effectiveness of the Bernanke monetary strategy. In the Eurozone the OECD forecasts growth in 2009 of -4.8 per cent (-5.0 per cent in Germany and -3.0 per cent in France) and flat growth in 2010. The position in Japan, still the world’s second biggest economy, is even worse with -6.8 per cent in 2009 and 0.7 per cent in 2010. In an interesting paper, Spence (2008)⁶ analysing thirteen

⁴ Sen, A. (2009), “Adam Smith’s Market Never Stood Alone”, *Financial Times*, 10th March.

⁵ OECD (2009), *Economic Outlook 85*, Paris.

⁶ Spence, M. (2008), *The Growth Report: Strategies for Sustained Growth and Inclusive Development*, Commission on Growth and Development, The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Washington.

countries that averaged growth of 7 per cent over the last twenty five years identified five key points that accounted for that growth: they exploited world economic opportunities, had macroeconomic stability, high levels of savings and investment, allowed the market to allocate resources and had credible governments. The important ingredients for future growth were then identified as among others, strong government, high levels of investment using domestic savings rather than relying on the international capital markets, with an emphasis on investment in education and technology transfer. Competitive labour markets, openness to trade as well as environmental protection and equal opportunities. In other words what Olson (2000)⁷ has called ‘market enabling’ government policies are to be preferred. To be avoided are energy subsidies, fiscal targets, price controls, exchange rate depreciation, low pay and export bans to lower domestic prices.

CONCLUSIONS

The crisis was caused by faulty and outdated economic policy making that still cannot deal with asset bubbles. The institutional framework for regulation and rating risk was also too accommodating to financial innovation. Central Banks enfeebled by politicians with conflicting agendas also failed to deal with moral hazard problems that had proved so central to the Asian crisis of 1997. In the case of the UK, this is in addition to the acute problem of a large fiscal overhang that will require painful tax rises and expenditure cuts, even in politically sensitive areas of the public sector. This is further proof of the necessity of taking more economic policy making out of the hands of politicians. At the very least a new independent fiscal authority must join the independent Bank of England to provide a stable macroeconomic environment to underpin future growth.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A SENIOR VOLUNTEER

Kenneth Hall (1953)

Our designation was ‘Senior Volunteer’. There were five of us at Hebron School, Ootacamond, known as Ooty, in the Nilgiri Hills, a hill station which was the former summer seat of the Madras government in the days of the Raj. Ooty is remote, being six hours by car (up 36 hairpin bends) from Bangalore and three hours from Coimbatore, the nearest big city. To call it a hill station is slightly misleading, in that it is highly populous, sprawling over a wide area and cascading down the slopes with terraces of houses, vegetable patches and

⁷ Olson, M. (2000), *Power and Prosperity: Outgrowing Communist and Capitalist Dictatorships*, Perseus Publishing.

tea plantations. The centre of Ooty is anything but Raj-style. It has lost almost all of its former rural charm and is now a hotchpotch of dusty, dirty, bustling and noisy streets, lined with mostly inelegant shops, which nevertheless often provide an excellent service, and filled with jaywalking people and a few roaming goats, cows and horses. Yellow auto-rickshaws, cars, ancient-looking buses, polluting lorries and a multitude of motorbikes, ridden un-helmeted and often with a woman seated side-saddle on the back and sometimes with a child in front of the driver as well, ply up and down, vying for any available space which is claimed largely by hooting in as aggressive a manner as possible – the rule of the road here is that there are no rules! There are notices calling inhabitants and visitors to avoid litter and never to use a plastic bag, but neither the aural nor the visual environment seems to matter and the concept of Health and Safety appears to be totally absent. There are daily electricity cuts, fortunately restored by the school generator which cuts in after twenty seconds. Nevertheless none of this detracts from the sheer glory and beauty of the Nilgiri Hills, which you discover as you drive out just a few miles. Nor does it take away the affection which we feel for the Indian people.

We were: a lady musician from Australia, a Business Studies teacher from South London with his wife who did English and Special Needs, as well as Dorothea and myself, teaching German and French. In addition there was a group of International Guests, also volunteers, who were typically young people taking time off from their university studies or doing part of a gap year. Nearly all of us were there for a 5-month semester. All together there was a very large staff, with a very generous teacher-student ratio, and an enormous number of domestic staff. Teachers were all paid the same salary, which was described as ‘sacrificial’, but those of us who lived on the campus got our board and lodging free.

The day usually started very early, partly due to insomnia. For some reason – maybe it was the altitude – we found it hard to sleep. Around 5 am we might hear the Muslim call to prayer, especially in Ramadan, although it must be remembered that this is Tamil Nadu, a predominantly Hindu area. More prominently, at precisely 6 am, the whole neighbourhood received its reveille call from a World War II siren – fortunately the ‘all clear’, when we quietly thanked the Lord that the raid was over! Our own alarm went off at 7am and we had the inevitable cup of tea. We were in a tea-growing area, as the climate is ideal, and a tea factory could be seen from our campus, up the hill opposite. Nilgiri tea is gentle, aromatic and delicious. It is drunk by the locals with warm milk and sugar. We had above us a dormitory of 11/12-year-olds who made their presence felt very early, especially on a Thursday, their inspection day. We called them the ‘baby elephants’! From early on, too, lorries and other vehicles were straining up the steep hill which terminated opposite our building, so the chances of a lie-in,

had we been free to have it, were slim. We took our breakfast in our bedsit rather than in the dining-hall, and some of the ingredients, such as milk and bread, were supplied free of charge. We had a 'traditional' English breakfast, with corn flakes and toast, having managed to buy a toaster in town, and even marmalade.

Shortly after 8 am two school buses arrived, depositing girls from their boarding-house on the other side of town. These then returned to pick up another two busloads. The first obligation of the day, on 3 days of the week, having checked our pigeon-hole for messages or 'cover', was to attend assembly in the hall. This was always unapologetically Christian, as the Gospel is at the very heart of the school, which draws many of its students from Christian workers (who used to be called missionaries) in various parts of the world, mostly SE Asia. At least once a week there was a speaker from the staff or outside. Frequently there would be a class-led assembly, put together and acted by the students, which from time to time could be very amusing! We invariably sang a hymn or worship song, the sound of which could be extremely moving. There were notices from prefects and staff and a true sense of family prevailed.

In the autumn and early winter the mornings were invariably sunny and warm, without being hot. Frequently more senior groups could be seen sitting outside with their teachers. There were 8 periods of 40 minutes in the day, 5 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon. Our base was a staff workroom, down the hill, where we had a joint desk, in the main three-storey teaching block. Carting our books up and down the steep path kept us fit. We took classes from Standard (year) 8 to Standard 13 (A level), the preparation and marking for which were a real challenge, largely because of our lack of recent school experience. We took lunch in the staff canteen, or sometimes with the students, and on sunny days quite often ate outside. The fare was usually South Indian, well spiced and mostly delicious. There were meetings and activities during the lunch hour. One of these was the school choir, which I directed. At the end of school there were frequently sports matches on the excellent dirt pitch or on the smaller grass area. Inter-school matches or athletics meetings were usually during class time. There was an abundance of activities of all sorts which frequently took groups of students to other parts, especially at weekends. The aim was to give an 'holistic' education and this included the spiritual aspect. There was a huge Drama Festival in October, involving no less than seven separate productions, the senior of which was 'Blood Brothers', directed by the students themselves with amazing skill. On Sundays they all had to attend a service of some sort. The younger ones went to Union Church in Ooty, where the school usually organized the worship. Others could attend an 'alternative service' in the school chapel or go to the Anglican-style church in Ooty. There were also Christian activities run in the school, usually on a Sunday evening.

In the afternoon if we were free, Dorothea and I, in the warm weather, often managed a swim in the open-air pool, which was most refreshing. In the evenings we caught up with marking or preparation and frequently made a fire in our open hearth, using wood supplied by the kitchen. You could not buy firelighters but fortunately the oil-laden eucalyptus leaves from the abundant trees surrounding us, which were not native to these parts, burnt enthusiastically. On one evening in the week we attended a Bible study group in the flat of one of its members and on another we went to a staff meeting, the greater part of which was spent in worship and prayer. There was a wonderful spirit of fellowship, mutual support and unity here amongst the staff, who came from traditions as different as Brethren to Roman Catholic. We received many invitations to a meal in their accommodation. A part of the pastoral care was for our health and well-being. There was a sanatorium, called 'The Hoz', which not only provided beds for sick students and staff but also arranged appointments at clinics and hospitals. The nearest big hospital from here was at Coimbatore, which we had occasion to visit twice, using a taxi hired for the day. Although you pay for it (at very moderate rates), the Indian health system is excellent.

We made some memorable excursions at weekends, although our workload allowed us relatively little free time. Our half-semester break took us to a Scripture Union family centre on the east coast near Chennai (Madras), which gave us warmth, peace and some fascinating outings. Part of the experience was a trip on the narrow-gauge rack-and-pinion 'Blue Train' through the spectacular Nilgiri hills, with an unscheduled halt of two hours due to a breakdown, to link up with the overnight Nilgiri Express to Chennai. A more local trip was by 'auto' up a very bumpy pot-holed road to the highest point in the Nilgiris, Dodabetta (8,600 feet), and a five-mile walk down to Ooty.

Our damp and dark bedsit was rendered more habitable by an oil-filled heater giving constant background warmth. We washed in a bucket, as there was no plug for the basin which would fit, having drawn undrinkable water from the tap and heated it on a gas stove. For our teeth we had to use the filtered water which we collected every day from the kitchen. We were allowed three showers a week. These were primitive conditions, but luxury to many an Indian. We were happy to sink into our large double bed, suitably warmed up by an electric blanket, praying that we should feel renewed and refreshed for another day as Senior Volunteers in the morning.

To call this 'the time of our life' would be an understatement. It was demanding, unexpected and enriching. We just thank God that we were given the strength to do the task to which we feel we had been called.

THE ASSOCIATION'S PAST PRESIDENT AND THE CAMBRIDGE 800 LIGHT SHOW

On the evening of Saturday 17th January and the following two evenings a piece of light art especially commissioned for the University's 800th anniversary was projected onto the Senate House and Old Schools. It featured iconic images from Cambridge's history and superb illustrations by Quentin Blake including brand new drawings of two of the University's most famous alumni, Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin. The light display coincided with a worldwide bell-ringing event. In the central Cambridge churches of Great St Mary, St Bene't, St Edward King and Martyr and St Andrew the Great was rung a new peel composed for the occasion by Clare College alumnus Phil Earis (2000) whilst the sound of bells celebrating the University's octocentenary also reverberated across the world as churches in the United States of America, Canada, India and Australia marked the occasion. World-renowned light artist Ross Ashton, who produced the light show, has worked on large-scale projections across enormous surfaces. These have included a mountain in Oman and New Year's Eve celebrations in London, as well as The Queen's Golden Jubilee at Buckingham Palace and the Edinburgh Tattoo.

GRIFFIN MOVES AGAIN

In the 2000 issue of the Newsletter we reported on the restoration of the Griffin statue which had until then lurked in what was the West Lodge garden. Griffin had been given to the College by a group of members to mark the golden jubilee of the Association in 1972. To make room for the building of Howard Court she had been moved to the south wall of the garden. (We use the feminine because it seems that in heraldic matters male griffins do not have wings.). Since then she has been moved yet again to make room for the Howard Theatre and now resides besides the entrance to the rose garden adjacent to the Master's Lodge.

OLYMPIC SUCCESSES

Annie Vernon (2001) who read History, continued her glittering rowing career by gaining Silver in the quad sculls at the Beijing Olympics. Annie came to Downing from Wadebridge School in Cornwall, one of three counties with which Downing has a special relationship



for widening participation. Annie took a 2.1 in History whilst taking part in rowing at the highest University level. She was in the 2003 Women's Boat Race crew competing against Oxford.

Rod Chisholm (1992) rowed in the Australian men's Lightweight Four who gained Bronze at Beijing. He read Natural Sciences and has since become an Australian citizen.

Downing's earliest Olympic participant was **Rex Salisbury Woods (1911)** who represented his country in the shot-put in the 1924 Paris Olympics and the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics. He stayed closely associated with University sport throughout his life whilst practising as a GP in Cambridge.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

We welcome news of members, just a short note on the form in this Newsletter is sufficient. Your contemporaries and others might be more interested in your life and achievements than you think. Sadly we often learn more about people after they have died than during their lifetime.

Air Commodore Steve Abbott CBE (1995) was made Commandant General of the Royal Air Force Regiment and Air Officer Royal Air Force Police on 2 January 2007. We believe that since the founding of the Royal Air Force Regiment in 1942 it has been customary for its Commandant to be selected from General Duties Branch, i.e. aircrew. Steve Abbott has therefore achieved a first, having been a Regiment Officer for all of his career.

Mark Bishop (1977), who came up from The Leys School, has been appointed a Circuit Judge in London. He read Law, and, whilst an undergraduate, was President of the Cambridge Union Debating Society. He was called to the Bar by Middle Temple and has practised continuously at the Bar at 1, Temple Gardens. He is a distinguished ecclesiastical lawyer, Chancellor of the Diocese of Lincoln and, in 2002, was ordained deacon and in the following year a priest of the Church of England.

James Davidson (1949) was a Royal Naval officer studying Russian at Downing from 1949 to 1950, receiving a Certificate of Competent Knowledge of Russian. He was a member of the College team which won the athletics Cuppers in that year. After an unusually varied and active life which has taken him to many

parts of the world, as well as being a Member of Parliament and a TV presenter, James Davidson lives in the Highlands of Scotland. He has recently published his autobiography which is reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

Paul Davies (2002) has been appointed a Fellow of Caius. He came to Downing from Nottingham High School and read Japanese for Part I of his Tripos in which he took a first. He then took starred firsts in both parts of the Law Tripos.

Matthew Dyson (2001) has been appointed a Fellow of Jesus. At Downing he took a first in the Law Tripos and has just finished a PhD in comparative law.

Holly Hedgeland (1999), a member of the Association's Executive Committee, has relinquished her Downing Bye-Fellowship on being elected a Fellow of Robinson College.

Peter Hicks (2007) took up a teaching post at Dean Close School, Cheltenham after being awarded a PGCE in 2008.

Gerard Keating (1966) says "I took early retirement from teaching politics and Latin at Newcastle Royal Grammar School in 2005. I now concentrate on three activities - my position as a councillor in Newcastle for over 27 years - indoor rowing at which I am surprisingly good despite never having rowed on the water - and reading voraciously. I occasionally see my former Director of Studies, Dr John Derry, who lives in Newcastle, and I turned up at Downing for the 2006 bash."

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).

Air Marshal Sir Stuart Peach CBE (1996) was made Chief of Joint Operations in the Permanent Joint Headquarters on 13 March 2009.

John Roberts (1963) retired from the IT industry in 2002 and in the same year was appointed a magistrate in Hertfordshire.

Nicholas Roberts (1973) gained a PhD in Law at the University of Southampton in 2008 and in 2009 became a Principal Teaching Fellow in the School of Law at Reading University.

Air Commodore Andrew Steele (1999) was made Head Delivery on the RAF Transformation Team on 31 August 2007.

John Hopkins, Emeritus Fellow, notes that as a Circuit Judge, His Honour Judge Rev. Worshipful Chancellor Mark Bishop joins a notable group of members of the College who are also Circuit Judges.

They include Their Honours Judges -

Robert Brown (1963), Arnold School, Blackpool,
Stephen Davies (1981), Baines School, Poulton-le-Fylde,
David Grant (1970), Gresham's School, Holt,
Anthony Hallgarten, Q.C., (1957), Highgate,
Peter Murphy (1962), Q. E. Grammar School, Blackburn,
Peter Smith (1963), Arnold School, Blackpool,
Ian Trigger (1965), Ruthin School, UCS Wales, Aberystwyth,
Christopher Walton (1967), St Cuthbert's School, Newcastle,
Nicholas Webb (1968), Nottingham High School,
Judges Brown and Trigger were called to the Bar by Inner Temple, the others by Middle Temple.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF?

In the accompanying College Record we report the appointment of Lord Collins [**Lawrence Collins (1960)**], as Lord of Appeal in Ordinary. Lord Collins is the second Downing man to have been a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary. The other member of the College to have been so appointed was also, coincidentally, a Collins: Richard Henn Collins, Rt. Hon. Lord Collins of Kensington [1842 - 1911]. **Henn Collins (1863)** took a distinguished degree in Classics in 1865, was elected Fellow in that year and Honorary Fellow in 1885. He took to the law, was called to the Bar by Middle Temple in 1867 and practised at the Bar

for some 25 years, becoming Queen's Counsel in 1883. In 1891 he was appointed to the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court and in 1897 to the Court of Appeal. He was appointed Master of the Rolls in 1901 and promoted to the Judicial Committee of the House of Lords in 1907 when he assumed the title of Lord Collins of Kensington.

He successfully represented Great Britain in the arbitration with Venezuela over the boundaries between British Guiana and Venezuela and was chairman of the Commission of Investigation into the notorious miscarriage of justice concerning Adolf Beck. The report of that Commission led to the establishment of the Court of Criminal Appeal in 1907. He was also the first President of the Classical Association and was Chairman of the Historical Manuscripts Commission. In 1864 he won the Brickwood sculls.

John Hopkins

PUBLICATIONS

When, under News of Members above, we were drafting the appeal for members to tell us about their lives little did we expect such a rapid response, albeit coincidental, from one who had just published his autobiography. **James Davidson (1949)** sent us a copy of his book *Thinker, Sailor, Shepherd, Spy?* which we are pleased to review here and which has been placed in the College library.

Firstly perhaps we should explain that during and for some years after the Second World War the University and Colleges provided facilities for teaching and training service people in specialised areas. One such was the teaching of Russian for which James Davidson, as a naval officer, came to Downing for a year. This involved reading for Part I of the Modern Languages Tripos in one year instead of two. He took part in College life to which he contributed particularly in athletics by being a member of the team which won Cuppers in 1950.

His life story is fascinating and varied and one to which the cliché "roller-coaster" might well be applied. After education at the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth he entered active service in 1944 as a seventeen year old midshipman in HMS Anson.

He served on various ships in the Mediterranean and the Pacific eventually entering Tokyo bay on the day the Japanese signed the surrender document ending the Second World War. He was a naval attaché in Moscow during some of the gloomiest years of the cold war. James Davidson OBE MVO FRAGS is from a well established Highland family and after retiring from the Royal Navy spent some years farming in Aberdeenshire. He became a Member of Parliament from 1966 to 1970 and was for many years a TV presenter on

farming matters. He initiated a campaign for a healthier Scotland and made his first parachute jump, for charity, at the age of sixty-six and took part in a conservation project on river otters in Chile at the age of seventy four. This is a very well written book which I read in virtually one sitting such was its fascination for me. With real lives like this to read about why do people read fiction?

JGH

Thinker, Sailor, Shepherd, Spy? ISBN: 978-1-84748-424-6 Pages: 248. Price: £7.99 (US \$12.95).

Among other books he has written are *Scots and the Sea* and *Admiral Lord St Vincent Saint or Tyrant?*

Distributed in the United Kingdom by Gardners and in the USA by Ingams and Barnes and Noble. For further information please contact Athena Press, Queen's House, 2 Holly Road, Twickenham TW1 4EG Tel: +44 (020) 8744 0990 Fax: +44 (020) 8744 3100 E-Mail: info@athenapress.com .

BIRTHS

John Roberts (1963) has two sons born in 1970 and 1972.

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.

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.
- a Cambridge post-graduate degree or qualification and have reached the age of 24 years.

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*](mailto:enquiries@foundation.cam.ac.uk)

OBITUARIES

We receive notification of deaths of members from a variety of sources. Some are accompanied by obituaries or eulogies from relatives or friends. Where we receive no such material and we find a published obituary we may use extracts from that with the publisher’s permission which has never been withheld. There are some members for whom we have only the basic facts sent to us by solicitors. Overall we try to include information which will be of interest to the contemporaries of the deceased as well as matters which may be of wider interest.

A S Abrahams (1946) has died. He served in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1946 and read Natural Sciences.

Kenneth John Maynard Andrews (1946) has died. He came as a postgraduate from University College London and was awarded a PhD in 1948.

Guy William Anthony Barker (1978) died on March 30th 2009. He read Law.

Michael David Kighley Baxandall (1951), who died on 12 August 2008 aged 74, was one of the most important and influential art historians of the twentieth century. His work ranged widely across the middle ages, the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, and was characterised by its opening up of new areas of enquiry in the history of art, relating the practices of artists to the social, psychological and intellectual contexts of their own time. Born in Cardiff in 1933, he attended The Manchester Grammar School, before coming up to Downing in 1951 where he read English under the tutelage of F R Leavis. Though Leavis's teaching proved influential on his intellectual development, his true calling lay not in literature but in the interpretation of art, a subject which he initially pursued during short-term placements at Pavia, Sankt Gallen and Munich. The turning-point in his career came in 1959 when he took up a junior fellowship at the Warburg Institute to study for a PhD under Ernst Gombrich. This led to a position at the Victoria and Albert Museum cataloguing German sculpture, and, from 1965, a lectureship at Warburg in Renaissance Studies. He never completed his PhD but his research supplied the foundation for his first book *Giotto and the Orators* (1971), a ground-breaking study of the relationship between art and rhetoric in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. He then published, just a year later, *Painting and Experience in Fifteenth-Century Italy*, turning his attention to the practical skills of artists and their technical knowledge, a subject which had hitherto been neglected. His concept of 'the period eye', referring to an artist's visual acuity, working within the technical and social constraints of the artist's world, proved especially influential. These approaches he pursued further in *The Limewood Sculptors of Renaissance Germany* (1980), for which he was awarded the Mitchell Prize for the History of Art. Then, in *Patterns of Intention* (1985), and *Tiepolo and the Pictorial Intelligence*, co-written with Svetlana Alpers (1994), he moved beyond the study of patronage and social context to focus upon the mental activity of the artist. In a final phase of study, his interests shifted to the physiological understanding of sight and its significance for the procedures of individual artists, pursued most influentially in *Shadows and Enlightenment* (1994). He was appointed to a Professorship in the University of London in 1981, and elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1982. From 1986 to 1996 he held a part-time post as Professor of the History of Art at the University of California, Berkeley, dividing his time between England and the United States. In his latter years his health was increasingly affected by Parkinson's, a condition which, while he bore it

with fortitude, also encouraged his intellectual interests in science and neurology. He has justly been placed alongside such figures as Panofsky and Gombrich for his originality and extensive influence in the field of art history. He is survived by his wife Kay, one daughter and one son.

Roger G. Bennett (1961) died suddenly on 14 October 2008 at his home on the island of Fjelberg, Norway. Jeff Bowen (1961) has written to say that Roger came from Ashby de la Zouche to read Geography and for his first two academic years studied a wide range of subjects within the Part I syllabus. However in the summer of 1963 he was a member of an expedition to the arctic coast of Norway which generated for him a tremendous interest in arctic geomorphology and a love for Norway which was to last for more than forty years. Thus in his final year, for Part II of the Geographical Tripos, he concentrated on geomorphology and at the same time began to seriously learn the Norwegian language. This enabled him to obtain a position at the Norsk Polarinstitut in Tromsø in 1965. Two years later Roger was appointed Amanuensis in the University of Oslo's Geography Department and during the course of this tenure published numerous papers on glaciology and glacial geomorphology in the Norsk Geografisk Tidsskrift and in other Scandinavian scientific journals. Roger moved to the University of Bergen's Geography Department in 1973 to take up the position of Lecturer in Glaciology. At a later stage, as Associate Professor, he broadened his interests to encompass cartography, environmental sciences, coastal zone management, ecotourism and resource studies. He was highly innovative and constantly searching for new applications for geography; his colleagues and students invariably referred to him as a truly inspiring teacher and supervisor. Furthermore, on field trips he was renowned for his cooking skills, coming up with delicious dishes based on local vegetables, herbs and whatever kind of basic foodstuffs were available! In due course Roger was appointed Head of Department and also Head of the Education Board at the Faculty of Science. It was in Bergen that he met Brit and married her in 1976; they had two children, a son, Christopher, and a daughter, Ingvild. Roger retired in 2006 in order to concentrate on the restoration and renovation of an old house dating from the 1830s. This was located on a small island south of Bergen, and he spent much time there, quickly winning the friendship and confidence of the hundred or so 'natives' who asked him to be their spokesman when the municipality had to be approached on matters of planning and land use. He was on the island, mooring his boat for the winter, when his heart failed.



Susanna Twiddy (née Burch) (1992) died on the 26th March 2008 at the age of 33.

Sarah Leonard (née Clay) (1992) has sent us these edited extracts from the eulogy read at Sue's funeral by her brother Pete Burch.

Susanna was almost always late. In fact, there were two occasions on which she was actually early. The first was her birth – she was born 9 weeks premature on 24 June 1974 at Freedom Fields hospital in Plymouth weighing 3 lbs 7 oz. In those days, survival of such tiny babies was much less certain – however Sue's mettle showed from the start. Sue grew up in Devon, her exceptional intelligence first shining through when she taught herself, unaided, to read by the age of 3 using the books her older sister brought home from school. This was the start of a lifelong love affair with the written word – her primary school teacher commented on her ability to pull up a chair in the middle of the classroom, kick off her shoes, open a book and leave the real world behind. Sue also developed a passion for sailing at an early age, later becoming a dinghy instructor, and a keen racing yachtswoman who joined the early morning Sunday migration to the Solent, participated in Cowes Week and completed the Fastnet race.

Sue went to St Margaret's school in Exeter. Casting an eye over her school reports from those days reveals characteristics that all those who knew her will recognise – a highly intelligent 'A'-grade student, individualistic yet sociable, a charming, humorous girl prone to *serious* disorganisation. Susanna was adventurous yet not conventionally sporty – she completed the Ten Tors twice, and during her A-level year when she did not have time to participate herself, she encouraged disabled kids to discover the moor she loved so much. Susanna's days at Downing College, where she read Archaeology and Anthropology, were amongst her happiest. She blossomed – throwing herself wholeheartedly into most aspects of college life. She was captain of the college Ladies rowing eight, a Lady Orchid, and a stalwart of the Cow Tipping society. A keen ball-goer, her friends recall the sense of humour and complete absence of vanity that enabled her to attend a Halloween party dressed as a pumpkin...and still manage to look good. Downing choir provided an opportunity for travel – touring to Prague, Budapest and Boston. Sue also managed to do some work (when she wasn't colouring in the anatomy textbooks in the college library), and left in 1995 with a first class degree. After Downing, Sue moved to Oxford, where she edited scientific journals at Oxford University Press. It was during this period that Susanna had the first of a series of seizures that would lead to her being

diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour. On the day on which she was due to start an MSc in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Sue was undergoing a biopsy at the National Hospital. Nevertheless, despite a course of radiotherapy, and the requirement to teach herself advanced statistics, she completed her Masters. Sue then spent a year in London as the assistant editor of the 'European Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology'. During this time she won funding for a PhD at Magdalen College, Oxford into the Molecular Epidemiology and Evolution of Dengue Fever. However in the course of her research, Susanna experienced a relapse of the 'beast', as she described it, and underwent aggressive chemotherapy. Nonetheless, she conducted fieldwork in Vietnam and Senegal – gathering specimens of the *Aedes Aegyptus* mosquito, whose genes she would subsequently sequence. It was also during this time that she met her future husband Will. In Will she found love with a man who appreciated the woman behind the illness; who shared her sense of the absurd as exemplified by their mutual passion for Molesworth; who enabled her to imagine a future, and who gave her the security and support she craved at a desperately difficult time of her life. She was radiant on their wedding day in April 2001. What Susanna found most difficult about her illness was the way in which the ability to do the things she loved was gradually removed from her as the disease progressed. She was certainly determined – when no longer able to write with her left hand, she taught herself to do so with the right, when her mobility became restricted, she taught herself to knit. Nonetheless there were certain aspects that she found particularly hard to come to terms with. Sue was almost certainly every doctor's worst nightmare: a patient who genuinely knows more about her condition than they do. She was active in a number of internet forums, attended medical symposia, and followed the latest medical developments in a field of cancer research that she felt did not receive as much attention and funding as it deserved. She lobbied her MP, and travelled to Westminster to discuss the issue with the government's National Clinical Director for Cancer. She raised a considerable sum of money for the cause – including running 5km in the 'Race for Life' when previously she had struggled to walk down the garden. She would not hesitate to refer her consultants to scientific papers they may have otherwise been unaware of. However, she also had the greatest of respect for certain of those who treated her. In the twelve years during which she was ill, Sue managed to cram in a great deal more than many. The second occasion on which Susanna was early was for her untimely death on the 26th March 2008, aged 33. The last weeks and months were indescribably difficult for her, Will and her parents, and yet she faced this time with enormous courage and dignity. One can but imagine what, to borrow a phrase from Bridget Jones, one of our 'top people' would

have gone on to achieve had she not been cruelly taken from us. Sue's mother once asked her why she wanted to do everything before her 21st birthday... Susanna's response was that "you're dead for a very long time", an eerily prescient remark given the way things turned out. In many respects, it was this attitude that defined her and which particularly struck her friends and acquaintances – to live every day to the full, to seize everything on offer, and to take every opportunity as a gift to be relished.

A special umbrella fund has been set up in Sue's name as part of the Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. This will make it possible to carry on funding the cause that Sue was so passionate about. For more details or to make a donation see: www.braintumourtrust.co.uk/SusannaTwiddy



Pieter Adriaan van Buuren (1948) died on 28th March 2008.

He read Law and was at one time the Dutch Ambassador to South Africa.

Louis Cartz (1944) passed away on 23rd December 2008, surrounded by his wife and 4 children at his home in a small village in France. Mr Jean-Philippe Cartz tells us that his father was born in Mile End in the East End of London and attended the Coopers' Company's School in London which was evacuated to Frome in Somerset during the war. At Downing he read Natural Sciences in Chemistry and Physics. At Birkbeck College, London, he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 1948, a Master of Science in Crystallography in 1950 and in 1954, a Doctor of Philosophy in Science of Crystallography. Dr Cartz was elected an associate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry in 1951 and an associate of the Institute of Physics in 1955. Throughout his life, Dr Cartz kept his passion for research and discovery. In 1947 he was employed in the Kodak Research Laboratory on "work of national importance". From 1954 to 1958, he held a series of post-doctoral appointments in the Department of Physics at Cambridge; from 1954 to 1955 research in the Structure of Coal project at Cavendish laboratories, then from 1955 to 1958 research on glass structure under Philip Bowden. In 1958 he took up a visiting research post at the glass manufacturers Saint Gobain in Paris, France. There he met his French wife-to-be Françoise. Together they returned to Cambridge in 1959 where Dr Cartz

then worked as a research scientist for The Morgan Crucible Company in London until 1963. He was fully dedicated to research and did not hesitate to travel the world for new opportunities. In 1961 he spent 4 months in Buenos Aires and Bariloche for the Argentine Atomic Energy Commission. With his wife and 2 young children, Dr Cartz moved to Chicago in the summer of 1962 to work at the Illinois Institute of Technology. In 1966, they settled in Milwaukee where Dr Cartz worked as a professor at Marquette University. There he established the department of Materials Science and lectured until June 1996 when he retired. Whilst at Marquette University, Dr Cartz was also consulting for a number of organisations such as NASA, EATON Corporation, and Johnson & Johnson. During this period, he was granted access to research facilities at Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago, the Centre for Nuclear Research in Grenoble, France (CNEG) and the University of Poitiers. Dr Cartz spent a year at the Department of Physics at the Middle East Technical University (Orta Dogu Teknik Universitesi) in Ankara, Turkey from 1969 to 1970. In an epic journey in the spring of 1969, he drove his family of four young children and two pet gerbils in a 1960 yellow Chevrolet “station-wagon”, from Ankara, Turkey to Perpignan, France, crossing the full length of the former Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. From 1974 to 1976 he worked at the University of Limoges to carry out research on ceramics. From 1985 to 1987, he worked for the American government, based in London, responsible for allocating research funds for scientific meetings across Europe. Dr Cartz had four children, and he was proud to have brought them up bilingual in French and English. He was very discrete about his work. His family only heard of his dental research when his brother-in-law was informed by a dentist that he could be cured thanks to a new dental treatment recently developed by Dr L Cartz. He was also very dedicated to his doctorate students, and on several occasions provided funding personally. During his life, Dr Cartz was always eager to remain in contact with past colleagues, friends and students – a worldwide correspondence ensued. He travelled to the United Kingdom on several occasions to attend various reunions at the Cooper’s Company Grammar school in Frome and at Downing. These events always brought him much joy. It was with great regret that these last few years he was unable to travel and was forced to decline these invitations. Although modest, Dr Cartz would have liked to be remembered for his work. He submitted papers from 1952 to 1993 in multiple journals including Dental Research, American Ceramic Society, Applied Crystallography, the Institute of Physics and the International Society for Optical Engineering. Articles have been re-published as recently as 2005. Dr L Cartz also holds a number of patents, and authored a book *Non-destructive Testing – Radiography, Ultrasonics, Liquid Penetrant, Magnetic Particle, Eddy Current*. ASM International. 1995.

Colin Christison (1949) died on 23rd August 2008.

Claude E Channon (1942) passed away on 9th July 2008.

Robert Edward Coles (1953) passed away on June 3rd 2008. We noted this in the 2008 issue of the Newsletter since when Mr Jamie Coles has written of his late father:

One of the tutors would teach the undergraduates croquet and this is where Bob's enjoyment of the game started. He was a keen oarsman, having started at Reading School and continued at Cambridge and rowed in the Downing 1st Boat. He would have achieved greater rewards if an injury hadn't prevented him. He worked in the Cavendish Laboratory in 1956-58 where he met Margaret his wife to be. On June 22nd 1958 they married in Black Bourton Oxfordshire, where Margaret's family farms were. Bob then worked for Sigmund Pulsometer Pumps in Reading in Oxford Road and a son James was born in September 1959. At the time they were living in Eldon Square just a cricket ball throw from the School! In 1960 Bob, Margaret and James moved to Westwood Glen in Tilehurst into a 400 year old thatched cottage that Bob lived in for the rest of his life. In 1963 a daughter Victoria was born and Bob was then employed by the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston and stayed there until he retired early in 1993. During his time at Aldermaston his love of croquet continued and he was a founder member of the Staff Croquet Club. In 1979 he also reached the All England Area Handicap Croquet finals. In retirement he continued his love of croquet and gardening and every day Bob would be in his immaculately looked after half acre garden or sitting in his favourite armchair at home smoking his pipe, sometimes of his home grown tobacco! Margaret passed away in November 1989.

E H Collins (1945) passed away in December 2008



Richard Alan Colombo (1967) died in November 2008. Martin Goldsworthy (1967) and other friends have told us about Dick who was born in London and attended the John Fisher School in Purley. He had a rich cultural inheritance as both his parents were Italian and his mother was brought up in France. He read Natural Sciences. He was calm, modest, self-deprecating, open and a good listener; these attributes contributing significantly to the development of the Downing

community of which he was a valued part. He too valued the friendships formed at that time, and later in life, despite living in the USA, he liked to return to Europe for Downing events and to see his friends. He had a wide range of interests and many of his contemporaries remember being introduced to some of these. One example is Indian food, which was then new to Cambridge. Dining well with friends – feasting – remained an interest for the rest of his life, building perhaps on early experiences with his grandparents in France. He played bridge well, and also Go – the oriental board game, but these interests did not prevent visits to the Film Society, and even rowing for a while. During the long vacations he spent some time working in Canada and the USA, where he met Molly, who he later married. After Cambridge he moved to London, where until 1982 he brought his statistical acumen to bear on sampling and analysis for the Social Survey Division of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. There too he made many lifelong friends. He also studied statistics for a while at the University of Hull. He then moved to New York, where he gained an MBA and his PhD from Columbia. He became a dedicated professor, teaching at Columbia, NYU and Yale. For most of his academic career he was a Professor of Marketing at Fordham University. He contributed there to the development of several programmes, including on entrepreneurship and the global components for the MBA. In the latter capacity he taught in China and travelled extensively to help develop collaborations with academic institutions in Europe. He published many papers on marketing theory and was co-developer of the Colombo-Morrison brand-switching model. At Fordham he was always generous with his time, supporting students and colleagues as well as serving on numerous committees, including the University’s Faculty Senate. He is remembered there as having brought with him distinctive British charms; these including an understated wit covering a sharp intelligence. His research and teaching generally involved questions of marketing, branding and consumer behaviour, but he applied his eclectic mind to a wide range of subjects. Some of his research reflected his lively interest in social studies and politics. He also investigated Fordham itself, interpreting student evaluations in order to uncover their implications for the refinement of the teaching. He developed cancer of the prostate and between treatments he used some of his remaining time to visit old friends in Europe. He eventually died at his home in Connecticut, not long before his 61st birthday, but having seen his wish come true that Barack Obama would be elected. He is survived by Molly and his three children. He brought pleasure and richness to many people’s lives. He is sorely missed and warmly remembered.

Laurence Vondy Lavery Corkill (1946) died on 30th December 2008.

Hardy Albert Creswell (1948) died on October 20th 2007. He read Geography.

Claire Causton (née Cunningham) (1992) Claire Cunningham came up to the College from Frodsham in Cheshire in 1992 to read Law. Claire loved her time at Downing and whilst showing a greater dedication to her studies than most of us this simply meant coming down to the bar an hour later rather than not at all! This ability to balance work and play is one many of her friends envied and is why no one begrudged her the well deserved First in her finals. She still found time to play her flute (beautifully) and to row (badly – as she would have been the first to admit...). I will never forget the look of horror on her face when we were told at 11.30pm the night before May Bumps (and somewhat far from sober) that one of the boats in the bottom division had pulled out and therefore that the Downing Ladies 2nd Eight would be putting in an appearance....Claire was very proud of her wooden spoon that resulted from us finishing at the bottom of the river!

As well as graduating with first class honours Claire was awarded a Senior Harris Scholarship and was joint President of the Cranworth Law Society. She was called to the Bar by Middle Temple and undertook her pupillage in Birmingham where she obtained a tenancy in what was to become St Philips Chambers. She developed a formidable reputation in the Midlands circuit in commercial and chancery law. Indeed, at her thanksgiving service her head of chambers said that this is the year that rather than writing an obituary he would have been writing a recommendation for her to start on the ladder of judicial appointments.

She settled in Moseley, Birmingham and in 2003 married Peter Causton, a solicitor. Their first son, Alexander, was born in December 2004, and on Claire's return to work she happily juggled the demands of motherhood with those of a busy and successful practice at the Bar. Toby, a much longed-for second child, was born in November 2007, but in the weeks after his birth Claire became increasingly unwell. She was found to be suffering from skin cancer, a condition for which she had been treated some 10 years earlier with apparent success. From then onwards Claire battled bravely against the illness, and volunteered to undergo experimental treatment at Christie's Hospital in Manchester.

Claire's illness came on very quickly and was particularly aggressive. Notwithstanding the grim prognosis, Claire wanted to fight and fight she did – with a tenacity, good humour and grace that impressed all but did not surprise those closest to her. Right towards the end, my inevitable first question of "How

are you?" would be met with a response that she had talked about it quite enough and I was to tell her what was going on with me. This attitude typified Claire who remarkably, but wholly in character, was positive in outlook, down to earth about her condition and uncomplaining to the end. Unfortunately, although the treatment seemed to have an encouraging effect on some tumours, Claire's overall condition became progressively worse. She moved to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd in Backford in mid-July, and passed away in the early hours of Saturday 26th July 2008.

That so many people travelled up to Cheshire for Claire's funeral that many had to stand in the church is testament to the affection in which she was held by so many people and how much she is and will be missed.

Catey Thomas (née Clarke) (1992)

John Philip Davies (1975) died in July 2008. He was barely 50 at the time of his death. He was an outstandingly able lawyer who tragically sustained severe and debilitating ill-health for over 20 years before his untimely death. John came up to Downing from Morecambe High School - which sent a number of first rate young lawyers to the College for a number of years. John was by no means the least able of them. He took very high first class honours in all parts of the Law Tripos, became an articled clerk with Rotheras, a good firm of solicitors in Nottingham where he swiftly qualified and, at a remarkably young age, became a partner. He practised there for the whole of his all too short professional career and, it should be added, supervised for the College in the law of contract for a time. But in July 1988, aged 30, he suffered a severe and debilitating stroke from which, physically, he never recovered. He underwent a kidney transplant in November 2007 and died in the following year. He was a delightful man whom the writer, who was his tutor, director of studies and one of his supervisors, remembers with genuine affection. He had a long and superficially slightly lugubrious face, frequently lit up by the most engaging smile and an infectious laugh. And his sense of humour was truly memorable: two examples must suffice for the present. Shortly before he was due to take Part IA of the Law Tripos, he came to see me and said that he was very worried about the forthcoming exam "because I'm afraid that me mind will go blank in it". Sherry was duly produced and he was told that his mind would almost certainly go blank on seeing the first paper but that "you must then pull yourself together, sit back, take a deep breath - and write like bloody hell". After the Tripos was over, he returned and informed me that that had proved to be "good advice for me mind did go blank. I sat back, took a deep breath, heard you saying 'pull yourself together and write like bloody hell'". So he did - straight into the first class. And then, shortly after graduation in 1978, he took the Law Society's

final examination – in the middle of winter, in the unheated Great Hall of Alexandra Palace in North London. That Hall has a large glass roof and, at the relevant time, the weather was bitterly cold and the winter sun shone brilliantly. As John put it, “I never thought that I’d be dripped on by melting ice and almost blinded by the sun at the same time!”. A devastating stroke notwithstanding, John never lost his sense of humour which, to the end, remained infectious. He continued to play a good deal of bridge (he was an excellent player) and, as a true Lancastrian, maintained his enthusiastic support for the Lancashire Cricket Club, taking great vicarious pride in the professional career of Michael Atherton. In 2003, he moved back to Lancashire where he was looked after by his devoted sister, Elizabeth, a doctor who read Medical Sciences at Selwyn, and by her family. John Davies’ all too short life was a triumph of character over adversity. He will long be remembered.

John Hopkins

George Alexander Dissanaik (1950) died on 4th July 2008, shortly after his 81st birthday. He was Professor of Physics Emeritus at the University of Peradeniya (formerly, the University of Ceylon) and a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Physics, Sri Lanka. He was also a past President of the Institute of Physics. George entered the University of Ceylon as an undergraduate in 1945. After graduating with a BSc degree in Physics in 1949, he was awarded the Ceylon Government University Science Scholarship for postgraduate studies at Cambridge. George came up to Downing in 1950 as a research student in experimental nuclear physics. He had fond memories of Downing. He represented the College in Badminton, and turned out for the second team. George spoke of having to use ten blankets to keep warm in the winter, and had vivid memories of the rationing just after the war. The College Kitchen staff used to give him an extra egg because he was from the tropics and needed additional energy to keep warm! George obtained his PhD from the Cavendish Laboratory in 1953. On hearing of George’s death, his former PhD supervisor, Professor Burcham FRS, wrote to say, “George was one of my most able research students and collaborators. I also distinctly remember his deadpan humour and excellent command of the English language.”

Ceylon won her independence from Britain in 1948, and George belonged to a generation of Ceylonese academics who chose to return to their country to play a part in the development of her university system which was, incidentally, inextricably linked to Oxbridge. In fact, George’s association with the Sri Lankan university system spanned over 60 years. Nevertheless, he also periodically held visiting professorships or faculty appointments at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the University of California at

Santa Barbara, the University of South Carolina, and the Universities of Cambridge and Surrey. George's publications covered nuclear physics and energy; the scattering of light, sunsets and air pollution; and science education. He also published several papers on physics and biology, together with his parasitologist brother, Prof. Stanley Dissanaiké, DSc (London). Many tributes were received after his death, of which the following are just two:

Professor Sir Arnold Wolfendale, FRS and Astronomer Royal (1991–95): *"... a very fine man; a thinker and a very good physicist. His wise guidance will be missed by all – and there were many – who knew him."*

Professor Anthony French, Emeritus Professor of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA: *"... an excellent scientist, a wonderful man and one of my oldest friends."*

George's wife, Vijayalakshmi, lives in Kandy, Sri Lanka, and his son, Gishan, is a senior academic at the University of Cambridge.

This obituary was sent to us by John Moore, an Oxford man: "I first met George in the 1960s (through the church) when he came on sabbatical to Cambridge. I was then a visiting researcher in Cambridge but I now live in retirement in Edinburgh. We have been family friends ever since we met over 45 years ago."

Alan Dransfield (1956) died on 20th December 2007. He read Modern Languages.

Robert (Bob) Drayson (1938) died on 15 October 2008, aged 89. Born at Ramsgate, and always proud of being a "man of Kent", he came to Downing in 1938 from St Lawrence College in that town to read Modern Languages. When war intervened he joined the navy as a rating before taking an officers' course at HMS King Alfred in Hove. After volunteering for coastal forces he served in motor torpedo boats throughout the war, and played a major part in a famous action on 13 October 1942 in his first operation as acting commander of MTB236. She was one of eight MTBs, together with four Hunt-class destroyers, set to ambush the German auxiliary cruiser Komet during its attempt to slip through the English Channel. Off Cherbourg Drayson successfully launched two torpedoes at close range, sinking the Komet and being awarded a DSC for his "great skill and bravery". In 1943 he married Rachel Jenkyns, then a Wren, and at the end of the war he returned to Cambridge, where he switched to History. A hockey Blue, he had an England trial and later captained Kent from 1947 to 1956. After teaching at his old school he moved to Felsted in Essex as assistant house master in 1950, and five years later became headmaster of Reeds School in Cobham, founded for boys whose fathers had been killed in the war. During his headship of Stowe from 1964 to 1979 the school flourished both

academically and on the sports field. Drayson introduced girls into the sixth form, and a requirement that all boys should perform some service in the local community. He also developed a close relationship with the National Trust, leading to the splendid restoration of the Stowe Landscape Gardens. After retirement, as a man of deep Christian faith, he spent five years as lay chaplain to the Bishop of Norwich, Maurice Wood, with whom he had served during the war. Later moving to Sandhurst in Kent, he became a lay reader at the church and was fully involved in many village activities. He was survived by his wife, his son and two daughters.

Brian Goldstone Edwards (1942) died on 4th January 2009. He read Natural Sciences.

Derek Evans (1949) read Classics and took a Certificate of Education in 1953. He was Secretary of the Lord Guildford Classical Society and won half colours for athletics in 1950–1951.

Andrew Fletcher (1994) died on Sunday 28th September 2008 at the age of 33 from a heart attack following a 10km run. Andy obtained a first class degree in Part II Physiology (1994–1997). He then became a PhD student in the Department on the Foster Studentship from 1997–2000 before transferring to medicine. His PhD work was on the effects of glucocorticoids in the developing cardiovascular system. His PhD work produced 11 papers published in *The Journal of Physiology*, *The American Journal of Physiology*, *Endocrinology and Pediatric Research*. He finally graduated from the Clinical School at Addenbrooke's in 2003 with a double distinction in Medicine and Surgery having collected a BA, MA, PhD and MB BChir degrees from the University. In 2006, Andy became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. In 2007, he became a member of the Royal College of Physicians and in 2008 a member of the College of Emergency Medicine. Andy also specialised in anaesthesia and he was working as an anaesthetist in the Intensive Care Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn. Alongside this exceptional career trajectory, Andy always found time for the human touch and was deeply committed to his charitable work.

Dino Giussani and Abby Fowden

Leonard C N Harly (1933) has died.

Douglas Harret (1946) Read Natural Sciences and became a MB and BChir in 1952. His son Douglas tells us that Dr Douglas Harrett died on March 8th 2008

aged 80. “Dad was proud of his time at Cambridge and looked back with some affection. He went on to have a career of some distinction in medicine in Wales and was made a Queen’s Honorary Physician.” An obituary was published in the *British Medical Journal* of 5 July 2008.

John Harrison (1954) died in 2008. Philip Tordoff (1956), Organist and Coordinator of Organ Recitals at Halifax Parish Church, wrote: “We had not only been good friends at Downing, but had kept up the acquaintance ever since. He read Natural Sciences at Downing, but was a passionate music lover who introduced me to many worthwhile compositions. He cared for his aged mother who died at the age of 98 quite recently. He is survived by a sister. He had a teaching career from the age of his late 20’s, when he suffered a stroke, he had to work to a reduced timetable.”

Algy Houghton (1947) died in 2008. He served in the Royal Navy in the mid-1940’s and while waiting to come up to Downing to read English he taught at Avisford Prep School in Sussex. On graduating he taught at Ampleforth and after 20 years founded near Dumfries, Lothlorien, a therapeutic community based on co-operative living.

John Heilmann (1949) was born in Malaya and died at his home in Charlottesville, USA on September 17th 2008. John was the older brother of C. Flemming Heilmann (1954) who has given us this obituary which he wrote for the Danish-American newspaper *The Danish Pioneer*. John is survived by his wife, Inge-Marie (née Nielsen), two daughters and two sons. He was educated in Australia and England, reading Economics and Law at Downing where he was a member of the Griffins Club, the XI Club and the Law Society. Johnny was a retired businessman, who had a long, international career in the beverage industry in South Africa, Mexico and the USA, most recently as President of Somerset Importers Limited, a subsidiary of the Norton Simon Group in New York City.

Throughout his career, he was active in the Danish community in whatever city he was currently a resident. He was Denmark’s Olympic Attaché at the 1968 Games in Mexico City, and was shortly thereafter honoured as Ridder af Dannebrog-ordenen (Knight of the Order of Dannenbrog). In New York, he later served as a director and then President of the Danish American Society, and as Denmark’s Vice Chairman of the American-Scandinavian Foundation. His family’s home at that time was in Greenwich, Connecticut. More recently he was appointed by the Governor of Virginia to various boards and commissions addressing issues relevant to his own interest, in the forestry and

softwood plantation industries. John and Inge-Marie only recently moved to Charlottesville from their home of more than 20 years at Old Norwood Plantation, Wingina, Virginia, on the James River. John was a Danish citizen for most of his life, until he became a naturalized American in the mid70's.

Æret voere hans minde

C F Hingston (1941) has died. He read Medicine.

J.R.Holligan (1943) has died.

Clifford Anthony Ingram (1940) died on 10 April 2009.

Warwick Wookey Isle (1956) FCIB, FRSA, read Economics.

Laurance David Jacobs (1961) died on May 25th, aged 72. Having been rejected on health grounds for national service and awaiting his place at Downing College to read Natural Sciences he spent one year as a lab technician at Imperial College. Wanting to broaden his educational horizons he took up a scholarship at Harvard College, where the broad curriculum suited his passion for all types of knowledge. He declined the opportunity of completing his undergraduate studies at Harvard, returning to Cambridge, where among other achievements he met his wife, Myrna. After he gained his degree they left for the United States, where he gained his PhD in high energy experimental physics at Berkeley, University of California, based on experience gained from his research at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. Three research positions in different countries followed: Senior Research Fellow at CERN, Geneva; Research Assistant at SACLAY, France; Senior Lecturer at Tel-Aviv University. After 12 years abroad and now the proud father of a son and daughter it was decided that the family would return to England. Laurance moved into Computer Science, gaining an additional degree at Brunel University and working as Technical Consultant at the London Stock exchange, where he built their real time systems. Feeling the need to return to academic life, he became Senior Lecturer at Middlesex University, where he lectured to large classes on three campuses for 18 years. Laurance always maintained a positive outward-looking attitude, although health issues may have deterred a lesser man. Had he survived two more months he would have celebrated the 20th anniversary of his heart transplant. Nineteen months of dialysis, necessitated by the effects of anti-rejection drugs, never stopped him from engaging with the world on his i-phone. His many doctors described him as interesting, complex – and nice.

Robert Trevor Jones (1936) died in Bangor in 2007. He read Law.

David John Joseph (1948) passed away on 5th April 2009 aged 81. He was a teacher, lecturer, naval officer, political activist and university administrator. Born in London, he was educated at St Olave's school in Southwark, where he was taught by his own father, a classics teacher. In 1945, he joined the Royal Navy, an experience he always looked back on with fondness. He read English at Downing where he made many good friends, met his future wife of 56 years, Mavis, and was taught by F R Leavis. He returned to the navy in 1952 and spent time on HMS Ganges prior to a period at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. In the late 1950's he settled in Cambridge, where he taught at the Cambridge College of Arts and Technology (now Anglia Ruskin University) and became an active member of CND and the Labour party. Then, at Hornsey College of Art in London, he revelled in the creative, political and social life of the institution, siding with the student body in the famous sit-in of 1968. He joined the Open University in its early days and would spend the rest of his working life attending meetings at its headquarters, Walton Hall, in Milton Keynes, and at summer schools around the country. He retired as director of the East Anglian region in 1986. His retirement was spent happily in west Wales surrounded by his loving family, friends and golden retrievers. David is survived by his wife Madie, five children, Rowena, Lucinda, Toby, Caspar (who wrote this obituary) and Amelia, and 14 grandchildren.

With acknowledgment to The Guardian.

Richard Wilhelm Francis Kroll (1972), Professor of English at the University of California, Irvine, and highly-regarded scholar of Restoration and eighteenth-century British literature, passed away at his home on 5th February 2009 due to complications from pneumonia at the age of 56. Although his health had been in decline for some years due to an underlying neurological condition, he maintained a stoical dignity throughout his illness, courageously persisting in his scholarship, and vigorously engaging with the world around him. He was in all things he undertook passionate; an avid classical music lover, gardener, cyclist, traveller, and collector of decorative art. He was also a tremendously loyal friend, as well as a devoted uncle, father, son, and husband, and a man deeply committed to his Christian faith. His death comes as a devastating shock to all who knew him. Grandson of the renowned classicist Wilhelm Kroll, Richard Kroll was born 14th January 1953 in Nakuru, Kenya, to Philip Wilhelm Ulrich Kroll, the Chief Agricultural Officer, and Thusnelda Kroll (née Welle), founder of the first multi-racial school in East Africa. Kroll attended Pembroke House in Gilgil until 1965, when his father was murdered in his home by an

itinerant farm labourer. His family moved to Bristol the following year and Kroll left behind what he always considered his homeland. He attended Christ's Hospital in Horsham, West Sussex, and would ever after characterize the years he spent there as having saved his life following the traumatic disruption occasioned by his father's death and the family's relocation. Before going up to Downing, Kroll taught for a year at the Starehe school for orphans in Nairobi. He then read law for two years, but in his third year changed to English, under the guidance of Mark LeFanu. He stayed on at Cambridge a further year to work on a Certificate of Education. Always a keen traveller, Kroll toured the US by Greyhound bus in the summer of 1976. The following year, he began graduate study in English literature at UCLA, where he met his first wife, Victoria Silver, a Renaissance scholar. In 1984, Kroll completed his doctoral degree. Influenced by the interdisciplinary editing of Dryden's work at UCLA at the time, Kroll's dissertation, *Words and Acts: The Naturalization of Discourse in the Restoration and Early Eighteenth Century*, saw the historical study of language as a form of political engagement and ethical practice, an understanding that shaped his teaching career. Dr. Kroll held positions at Princeton University, Hofstra University, and, ultimately, the University of California, Irvine, where he taught from 1992 until his death, and where he met his second wife, Allison Kroll (née Garey), a modern British literary scholar. As a teacher, he was fiercely dedicated to the cultivation of the entire person as a moral entity and political actor. He oversaw an MA programme for secondary-school teachers, taught large introductory courses and inspired several generations of PhDs who have since assumed teaching posts around the world. Feared and admired for his intellectual standards and erudition, he was affectionately teased for his penchant for bolo ties and Hawaiian shirts. Dr. Kroll's first book, *The Material Word: Literate Culture in the Restoration and Early Eighteenth Century* (1991), scrutinizes "forms of knowledge" seen to have gained new efficacy in the print culture of the later seventeenth century and includes intricate discussions of such figures as Davenant, Hobbes, Rymer, Dennis, and Dryden. It remains an essential work in its field. His second book, *Restoration Drama and the "Circle of Commerce"* (2007), is a revisionist study of tragicomedy as a crucible for new forms of economic, political, scientific, and even architectural thought. Other publications include *The English Novel, 1700 to Fielding* (1998), *The English Novel from Smollett to Austen* (1998), articles on Pope, Behn, Dryden, Davenant, Congreve, and (with Perez Zagorin and Richard Ashcraft) *Philosophy, Science, and Religion in England, 1640–1700* (1992). At the time of his death, he was at work on a study of the political contexts of the seventeenth-century writers, Aphra Behn, Margaret Cavendish, and Lucy Hutchinson. As a scholar, Dr. Kroll will be remembered for his integrity, insight and the imagination with which he

brought political and symbolic practices to bear upon one another. Richard Kroll is survived by his mother, Thusnelda, his half-brother, Achim, his sister, Anita David, his son, Theodore, and his wife, Allison. He will be profoundly missed.

From an obituary by Professor Jayne E. Lewis and Allison Adler Kroll

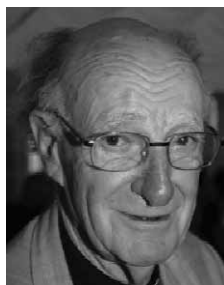
Philip Ian Lewin (1967) came to Downing as a Postgraduate from Queen Mary College London and was awarded a Certificate of Advanced Study in Engineering. He died in November 2008.

Robert Edward Loder (1935) died on 6th Sept 2007. He read Anatomy.

Peter Mazzotti (1957) died on 17th October 2008. He came up to Downing to read for the Mechanical Sciences Tripos. Stephen Dixon (1957) sends us this tribute taken from his address at the funeral:

“He had been at the Oratory School near Reading. Peter made the most of his time at Cambridge, both academically and socially, making many life time friends. He became Captain of Boats; Downing was not then a great rowing college but Peter worked hard and was respected for embracing a style of rowing which did not rely on years of training. I have no doubt that he sowed the seeds of Downing’s rise through the ranks of Cambridge rowing. He was proud to have been asked back, a couple of years ago, in recognition of his contribution, but was amazed to find that a fairly ordinary table, which he had made for his rooms in college, had been passed down through the generations of Captains of Boats as some sort of badge of office. After Cambridge, Peter joined McAlpines and then Streeters of Godalming, a construction company. In 1967 he met and married his Danish wife Kyle. Hugh Carlisle, a Downing contemporary and subsequently an eminent barrister was his Best Man. In 1964 Peter went to the Channel Islands on a friend’s new boat. Having filled up with petrol in St Peter Port, the starter button was pressed. The boat exploded. Peter, standing immediately above the explosion, was injured which gave him an occasional and almost imperceptible limp. In his job, as a director of Streeters, he became an expert on tunnelling. In 1968 Annabel was born, followed in 1970 by Sophie who had conditions which required extensive surgery performed by Tim Morley, a lifelong friend from Downing. Peter was asked as a tunnelling expert to help with the Barcelona underground being built for the Olympics. The Spanish had started their tunnel at both ends and then realised that they would not meet in the middle. They could not get the tunnelling shield to turn and Peter was commissioned to solve their problem. If you ever use the Barcelona underground you may notice a slight jolt as it turns the “Mazzotti

Bend". It was while he was in Barcelona that he contracted a virus which affected his heart. Some seven months later he was diagnosed as suffering from pericarditis requiring major surgery and a further two months absence from home. Again Peter brushed off this, to him, minor setback and resumed his life as if nothing had happened. In due course their third child Alex was born, a baby boy. Peter and Kylie were overjoyed. Then tragically Alex died at the age of 3 months; an inexplicable cot death. Peter's ashes, in accordance with his wishes, will be buried next to Alex in Greyshott churchyard. In 1975 Peter and Kylie went to Saudi Arabia for two years with Streeters to construct new main drains in Jeddah. At around this time Streeters were taken over by Costain and Peter left and started his own businesses. First there was a restaurant in North London, then he imported a German drainage system and finally he started to export dairy products from Holland to the Philippines. The brand became highly desirable as a special occasion gift. Success followed with this 'Marca Pina' brand when a batch of cheese destined for the Christmas market was exported without having been properly aged. It rotted in the warehouse. A Phillipine company used the name and there was an extended court case which Peter eventually won. This business survives Peter. In 2008 Peter having been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma and between chemotherapy sessions he and Kylie drove to Denmark to work to stabilise a cliff on which Kylie's summer house sat. This herculean effort certainly tired Peter out, and we all hoped that the chemo was working and that he would be restored to his former self. Sadly it was not to be. They moved a couple more times before settling at their home in Graffham. He was always cheerful and optimistic, never bitter. Perhaps with a touch of "stiff upper lip old school" about him. He made and kept many friends. Gregarious, personable, modest, hospitable, intelligent and clever, with a wonderful sense of humour and great fun to be with. A skilful and practical engineer. I cannot think of any mean or negative action by Peter. I and many of those here today, are the better for having known him. I loved that man as a true and constant friend."



Francis McCarthy (1949) passed away in Southport Hospital, Freshfield, on 18th December 2008, at the age of 85. He attended many Downing events, travelling even from Liverpool to Cambridge in his latter years. The following is taken from the website of St Joseph's Missionary Society – *Mill Hill Missionaries*.

Francis was born on 20th May 1923 in Fethard, County Tipperary, Ireland, to Francis McCarthy and Johanna O'Brien. He had four sisters. He studied at

Freshfield between 1937 and 1943. In 1943 he went to Burn Hall for his philosophical studies and to Mill Hill in 1945 for his theological studies. He took his Perpetual Oath on 29th May 1948 in Mill Hill and was ordained a priest at St Joseph's College, Mill Hill by Archbishop Mathew on 10th July 1949. After his ordination he went to Downing and graduated in Latin, French and History in June 1952. He was appointed to the teaching staff at Lochwinnoch. In 1956, Frank was appointed to the Diocese of Buea in Cameroon. He taught at the Sasse College. He was recalled on 8th July 1962 to join the teaching staff at St Peter's College in Freshfield. He was appointed to serve on the vocations team for Mill Hill on 31st March 1972 when the College was closed. At the same time he became a member of the Education Committee of the National Missionary Council. On 2nd November 1972 he was appointed to be the co-editor of *Missions and Missionaries*, the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) – Mill Hill magazine. While on the vocations team he took on the post of Information Officer. In 24th January 1974 he was appointed to do organising work in the dioceses of Northampton, Nottingham and East Anglia. He moved to Mill Hill and took over the editorship of *Millhilliana* at the end of 1974 and remained the editor until 1995. One of the most striking features in *Millhilliana* were accounts of his wanderings as an APF applier. In June 1977 he was asked to take over the Chair of the newly formed MILCOM, Mill Hill Communications Committee. He also became the editor of *Outlook* magazine and contributed to *Mission Today* and took over the editorship later on. In 2002, the General Council commissioned him to produce a booklet on the martyrs of Mill Hill for the 2003 Society Assembly. He left St Joseph's College to carry on his work from Herbert House, Freshfield, just before the College was sold at the end of 2006. Frank became ill in the latter part of the summer of 2008. He could not eat and suffered from a bad back. After various hospital tests and scans with a spell in hospital in November, he was diagnosed with cancer. He returned to Herbert House and on Tuesday 16th December, his health deteriorated rapidly. He was taken to Southport Hospital where he was treated for a chest infection among other things. He received Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick in the morning of Thursday 18th December 2008. He died peacefully at about 4.00 pm the same afternoon in the presence of some members of his family.

Peter W Mole (1955) died on 13th August 2008. Peter Benner (1956) tells us that he came up to Downing from Guildford Royal Grammar School to read law and then qualified as a solicitor. He spent some time practising in Hong Kong. On returning to the United Kingdom he joined the firm of Ellis Wood Bickerstaff and Hazel in Burgess Hill where he later opened his own practice. Latterly he acted as a consultant to another local firm and had only recently finally retired.

Peter Mursell (1932) passed away on 30th August 2008. Gwyn Bevan (1948) reports a conversation he had with Sir Peter Mursell early in 2008 in which he described his main breadwinning activity as fruit farming, this carried out mostly in Sussex. He came up to Downing to read Agriculture. During the war he flew a wide variety of aircraft serving in the Air Transport Auxiliary. Returning to fruit farming he devoted much time and energy to chairing the West Sussex County Council for which service he was honoured with a Knighthood in the 1970's. En-route he had earned an MBE. His son James came up to Downing in 1976 to read Natural Sciences with Botany in Part II.

Wilfred John Oldham (1941) has recently passed away. His daughter, Hilary Humphrey, says "He has always been a supporter of Downing and up until his death I was reading the college magazine to him."

Simon S Parker (1945) came to Downing in 1945 from St Christopher's School in Letchworth to read Agriculture. After he graduated in 1949 he went to the West Indies before working for the Colonial Service in Nigeria. He returned to the UK in 1953, having married Judith the previous year. They bought Callestick Farm, near Truro in Cornwall, and over the years built it up into a thriving 400-acre business, latterly manufacturing the famous Callestick Farm dairy ice cream from their herd of over 100 cows. Simon and Judith had three sons, one of whom (Daniel) studied Veterinary Science at Downing from 1977 to 1983. They also had twelve grandchildren and one great granddaughter. His funeral was attended by his family and by many friends and representatives from all parts of the local community, including farmers, Rotarians, and members of the local council, rugby club, golf club and Bach Choir, of which he was an active member. I shall always remember Si's happy, smiling face - always unfailingly cheerful and polite, he was both well-liked and much-respected by all his contemporaries at Downing in those immediate post-World War II years.

W A Pike (1945)

Arthur William Preston (1947) died in April 2009. He read Geography.

John Richardson (1940) died in June 2007. He read English.

Christopher Harold Lester Rigby (1954) has died.

Malcolm Rowe (1957) was accepted at Downing to read Maths, provided he obtained an 'O' level in Latin. However, National Service intervened and between 1955 and 1957 he served in the King's Dragoon Guards in Germany

and Malaya where his role was to guard food convoys. He was probably the only serviceman to take a Latin exam in a tent somewhere in the Malayan jungle! And so Malcolm came to Downing, where he quickly established himself in the Boat Club as a cox, an oarsman and a coach. The Boat Club at that time, aided by Downing engineers, also made a major contribution to the College's Poppy Day efforts by producing large, complicated floats, notably 'Polly's Ales' and the 'Downing Dairy', from which smoke and steam billowed profusely. Malcolm was in the thick of float construction activities – could these have helped persuade him to switch from Maths to Mechanical Sciences at the end of his first year? Having specialised in thermodynamics, he graduated in 1961 and went to work for Brown Boveri in Switzerland, which also provided him with many opportunities to enjoy mountain walking and skiing. He returned to Downing in 1963 as a research student to study the flow of fluids around bends and it was during this time that he met his wife, Margaret, who was a computing assistant at the engineering laboratories. After completing his PhD, they moved to Seattle where Malcolm took up employment with Boeing on their Supersonic Transport project, America's response to Concorde. Whilst there, he witnessed the first ever flight of the 747 'Jumbo' jet and wangled a cockpit ride on one of the early test flights. The family, now with two daughters, returned to England by boat through the Panama Canal and, in 1972, Malcolm joined the Central Electricity Research Laboratories (CERL) in Leatherhead as a research engineer. Amongst other project activities, he was instrumental in working out ways of improving the thermodynamic efficiency of the CEGB's steam turbine installations; this resulted in many visits to power stations to set up and tweak equipment. Malcolm was a dedicated family man and, despite his busy life at work and the arrival of a son and a third daughter, he always found time to attend all his children's school plays and other activities. Following the privatisation of the CEGB, Malcolm worked part time commuting to Swindon before retiring at the age of 59. Never one to sit still, he volunteered as a helper in the woods at Polesden Lacey and thoroughly enjoyed this outdoor occupation until a worsening lung condition forced him to leave after 10 years. Alas, Malcolm's health deteriorated rapidly following a series of chest infections and he died on 18th February 2009. He is survived by Margaret, his four children, four grandchildren and many friends, all of whom are left with many happy memories.

Roy Farmer

Robert Rowe (1946) has died. He read History and was Director of Leeds City Art Gallery.

William Barrie Shuker (1954) passed away on June 1st 2008. He read Law.

Kenneth Till (1938) who died on 8th July 2008, was born in Stoke on Trent and grew up in Poole. The only son of an impecunious pottery designer, he did not attend school until he was 7. After winning a place at the local grammar school he proceeded to Downing with an open scholarship. He qualified in 1944 after clinical training at St George's Hospital and served as a medical officer in the Royal Air Force, where his interest in neurosurgery was aroused. He recounted how as a very junior doctor he ventured into the operating theatre at Atkinson Morley's Hospital, Wimbledon, where Wyllie McKissock, the doyen neurosurgeon of his day, was so amazed to see anyone interested in neurosurgery that he offered him a house surgeon post. Among his duties he was responsible for the children's ward at Atkinson Morley's Hospital, then separate from the main St George's Hospital site. There he was made vividly aware of the childhood prevalence of tumours of the central nervous system and of hydrocephalus, for which there was no effective treatment. Then, as now, head injuries were also unacceptably common in these young patients. After completing general surgical training and obtaining his FRCS in 1953, Kenneth was appointed Wyllie's first assistant at Great Ormond Street. This coincided with the opening of a properly equipped neurosurgery unit, the first such department in a children's hospital in the United Kingdom. A sabbatical year in Chicago Memorial Children's Hospital in 1956 was followed by his appointment as consultant at Great Ormond Street in 1959. There he worked single handedly until joined by Norman Grant in 1970. These demanding conditions meant that he was perpetually on call except when on holiday away from London, and was required to routinely indicate his whereabouts to the box office in theatre or concert hall. Encouraged by Roald Dahl, whose infant son had hydrocephalus after a road traffic accident abroad, and in collaboration with Stanley Wade, a hydraulic engineer, he developed a low pressure valve, which became known as the Dahl-Wade-Till valve. At that time cerebrospinal fluid was shunted into the heart, and the new valve was used to prevent reflux of blood into shunt tubing, being particularly effective in hydrocephalus in young infants, and a considerable advance on the unrefined shunt valves of the late 1950s. He was a deft and speedy operator and also had the advantage of being ambidextrous. With a growing international reputation, he was a founder member of the International Society of Paediatric Neurosurgeons in 1972. Kenneth's textbook on paediatric neurosurgery, written for paediatricians and neurosurgeons, was published in 1975. It was a major contribution and for several trainees provided the incentive to specialise in paediatric neurosurgery. The development of brain computed tomography followed closely by magnetic resonance imaging transformed clinical practice. Kenneth was active in obtaining funds for a CT scanner at Great Ormond Street, thus securing priority access for his patients, a facility that others

with less pressing indications were willing to concede. Furthered by this development, he was part of the team which advanced craniofacial surgery in the UK. He was admired and respected in equal measure, known for his kindness and humanity and skill in communicating with his patients and their families. These were important assets in sharing with parents the awfulness of so many of the conditions which his position in a centre of excellence attracted. After his retirement from Great Ormond Street in 1980, he remained active in medical publishing and was on the staff of several journals, including *The Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Psychiatry*. He shared a happy retirement in rural Somerset with Morwenna, his wife of more than 60 years who was formerly engaged in leukaemia research at the Institute of Child Health. He also leaves four children and grandchildren.

Ronald Wakefield (1934) has died aged 92. He read Natural Sciences.

Alan Weir (1950) died on 19th May 2009. His daughter Helen passed to us some notes which he made on his life and on which the following is based. He was at the Royal Liberty School 1940–1947 where he was School Captain and Captain of cricket and football. In National Service 1948–50 he was a Sergeant radar instructor in REME. At Downing he read Natural Sciences in mineralogy with geology. He was a research scientist at Rothamsted, Harpenden from 1953 until his retirement 1989, working on trace elements in soils, then clay minerals and finally on the growth of winter wheat using computer modelling. He served as Honorary Chairman of the Clay Minerals Group and Treasurer of the Mineralogical Society. He married Edna in 1954, had four children, Mark, Helen, John and Rosemary, and considerably later, six grandchildren, Francesca, Rebecca, Abigail, Luke, Samuel and Joseph. One feature of their family life together was a series of annual holidays, always in self-catering accommodation, and frequently in the Highlands of Scotland. Alan joined Dagnall Street Baptist Church in 1969, and later served St Albans Council of Churches on the Social Service Section as Chairman, then Chairman of St Albans Council of Churches itself. He helped to start and then was the first Chairman of the St Albans Good Neighbour Scheme. He joined Kai and Muriel Kipgen at the start of the Manipur School project and has served on the Committee, briefly as Chairman, ever since. He had always played games: cricket, football and tennis and then at forty, golf, which had he had give up last year. Alan sang in choirs, starting when he was in the army, then with CUMS at Cambridge with Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Mass in B minor. In St Albans it was the Bach Choir for many years and recently very happy years with Dagnall Street's choir and Quorum. Choral. "Singing really is one of the great pleasures of life. So, it has been a busy life, but a very happy one. I have been most fortunate."

Derek Pinnock White (1950) read Classics and was Secretary of the Lord Guildford Classical Society in 1951–1952.



John Wilkinson with his parents at his graduation.

John Robert Ferrier Wilkinson (1934) died on 31st October 2008. After reading Classics at Downing he taught briefly at Kelly College in Tavistock until the outbreak of the Second World War. On returning from service in the Army in North Africa in 1945 he joined the staff of Truro School. He moved back to Cambridgeshire in 1951 and in 1954 he took a post with Gabbittas Thring (now Gabbittas Educational Consultants) who then had offices in Bene't Street, Cambridge. John subsequently took up a teaching

post at the Cambridgeshire Technical College and School of Art (now Anglia Ruskin University) where he championed the teaching of Classics at degree level for the rest of his working life. He was a man of immense intellectual energy even to his last days when he became physically frail. His wife Nancy, a Girtonian (who died in 1999) matched his intellectual capabilities and had worked at Bletchley Park during the war. In 1972 she won the first Mastermind television quiz and then the Supermind contest between the first four winners. They lived in the former Rectory, originally a medieval house, in the village of Kingston near Cambridge, where John made visitors welcome with tea and biscuits and challenging conversation. His funeral was in Kingston Parish Church on November 10th when he was buried alongside Nancy in the churchyard just outside their garden gate. The College was represented by Richard Stibbs, Fellow, and the Association by John Hicks (1955) Honorary Secretary. John is survived by his brother Stephen (another brother, Martin, predeceased him) his daughter Elizabeth, three adult grandchildren, and Liz's husband Anthony. There are also numerous cousins, nephews and nieces, and friends and former students, who will always remember him and the encyclopaedic knowledge which he imparted freely and with great enjoyment.

Mark Winn (1938) of Aldby Park, Buttercrambe died on 20th October 2008.

James Winstanley (1948) died on April 17th 2009. Born in Salford, he went to Salford Grammar School. He had a place at Manchester University but lost this to ex-servicemen coming home from the war. Through a son of a friend of his father he decided to try for Cambridge and was offered a place at Downing where he read Mechanical Sciences. He was a good tennis player and played and captained the 2nd team for the 3 years he was at Cambridge. According to his tutor a Blue was considered worth more than a degree and as a result he focussed his attentions towards his tennis rather than his studies, but sadly never made the first team or subsequently a Blue – but he did get his degree! On leaving Cambridge he went to Metro Vickers in Trafford Park, Manchester, earning £6-4s-6d a week to pay down his student overdraft proving that some things don't change. He then moved to a job as the PA to the chairman of the British Thermostat Company in Sunbury-on-Thames and subsequently as commercial manager at Stones Engineering. He was 27 at the time and was a particularly accomplished tennis player at St Georges Hill, Weybridge and rugby player at Esher Rugby Club. He carried on his sporting achievements throughout his life playing tennis, real tennis, squash and golf and kept in contact with many Downing alumni through his sport. This included many shooting parties with friends in Northumberland. In 1960 he joined Perkins Engines and quickly established a reputation for dealing with overseas factories making diesel engines. He went to the Perkins Plant in Brazil in 1964 at the request of Sir Monty Pritchard then Chairman at the time and he returned to become a director and plant manager at Perkins Engines Peterborough. He went to restructure Perkins European operations in Madrid and Barcelona in 1966/1967. In 1967 he married Bridget in Ross-on-Wye and had two children, Guy and Claire, shortly after. He moved to the AE Group (including Wellworthy, Hepworth & Grandage) to run their international division mainly based in South Africa where the family moved for two years. He subsequently returned to the UK and looked after the group from the UK Headquarters, settling with his family in Warwickshire. He left AE in 1980 and spent the remaining years of his working life as a business consultant for Dupont, Volkswagen, McKecknie and Kronospan. He retired to spend more time travelling and to pursue his passion for tennis, real tennis, squash and golf. In 1996 he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and subsequently battled the disease for many years before 2003 when he really started to suffer from the condition. He remained positive with the disease until finally passing away peacefully this year. He leaves a wife, Bridget, children Guy and Claire, and 5 grandchildren, Ella, Max, Jake, James and Callie.

EDITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication, combining *The Association Newsletter* and *The College Record*, is built on contributions from students, past and present, Fellows, and College staff. Richard Stibbs (Fellow), Assistant Editor, *The College Record*, collects contributions from current students and the Fellowship as well as, with the College Secretary, compiling the list of the Fellowship which changes from year to year. From the College departments Jane Perks, Manager of the Tutorial and Admissions Office, with her colleagues, gives us the list of joining students, examination results, academic awards and the colours and Blues. Serena Fidgett, Helen Machin and Susan Luton of the Development Office have kept us in touch with the alumni database and assist us in a myriad of matters. Peter Thomson (1953), President Elect, and John Hall (1955), Assistant Editor, help with proof reading and compiling obituaries.

This year the Executive Committee reviewed the nature of communications between the Association, the alumni, the Fellowship and current students. It noted that there were three vehicles which might be seen to have some overlap, the *Association Newsletter and College Record*, *Dow @ Cam* and the *College Annual Report*. It found that such overlap as there was did not duplicate material unnecessarily and it was decided that the *Association Newsletter and College Record* should remain much the same as at present. However Quentin Blake as our President, and later Past President, offered his professional advice on improving the presentation of the publication without significantly increasing its cost. We are most grateful to him and hope that readers will find the improvements make their reading more comfortable.

Finally we have for many years enjoyed the company of the University Press in its role as Cambridge Printing Services Limited in producing this publication. However, whilst we were preparing this issue (an activity which continues throughout the year) the University Press announced that it was ceasing to offer a printing service other than to the University, this with only two months' notice. Fortunately Mr Andrew Harvey, formerly Head of Customer Services at Cambridge Printing Services, with whom we have dealt with for many years has, with a colleague, set up his own printing business and we look forward to a seamless transition to his firm H2Associates Design and Print Management.

ASSOCIATION MEMBER RECORDS

Please help us to keep an up-to-date record of your activities and achievements by providing below any information which has not been supplied previously or which has changed since your last return.

Name (Block Letters): Matric year:

Address:

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Please state whether this is a new address: YES / NO

Marriage, birth of children (year):

Appointments:

Publications:

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Any other information: (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

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Downing College
2008-2009

DOWNING COLLEGE 2008–09

THE PATRON

THE DUCHESS OF KENT, G.C.V.O.

THE MASTER

BARRY JOHN EVERITT, B.Sc.(Hull), M.A., Ph.D. (Birmingham), Sc.D., F.R.S., F.Med.Sci., Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience.

THE FELLOWS (IN ORDER OF ADMISSION)

PHILIP HUSON RUBERY, M.A., Sc.D. University Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry. (retired 31/3/09)

CHARLES PORTER ELLINGTON, B.A. (Duke), M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S. (*Senior Fellow*) Professor of Animal Mechanics.

PETER JAMES DUFFETT-SMITH, M.A., Ph.D. (*Dean*) University Reader in Experimental Radio Physics.

PETER DAVID EVANS, M.A., Sc.D. (*Tutor*) Fellow in Physiology, Principal Investigator, Babraham Institute.

RICHARD JAMES STIBBS, M.A. (*Praelector, Secretary to the Governing Body and Fellows' Steward*) University Senior Computer Officer.

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DAVID JOHN WALES, M.A., Sc.D., Professor of Chemical Physics.

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SARAH JANE BRAY, B.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. Professor of Developmental Biology.

MARGERY ANN BARRAND, B.Sc., Ph.D. (London) (*Tutor for Graduates*) University Senior Lecturer in Pharmacology.

STAFFORD WITHINGTON, B.Eng. (Brad) Ph.D. (Manchester) Professor of Analytical Physics.

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- KENNETH McNAMARA, B.Sc., Ph.D., University Lecturer in Earth Sciences.
- TARIQ SADIQ, B.A. (Durham), M.Sc. (LSE), (*Development Director*) (w.e.f. 26/02/09).
- RICHARD KEITH TAPLIN, M.B.E., B.Sc. (LSE), (*Junior Bursar*) (w.e.f. 26/02/09).
- JIE LI, B.S. (Wuhun), M.S. (Paris), Ph.D. (Paris), University Lecturer in Fluid Dynamics (w.e.f. 22/05/09).

THE HONORARY FELLOWS

- GILES SKEY BRINDLEY, M.A. (London), M.D., F.R.S.
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- DAVID REES, Sc.D., F.R.S.
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MARTIN JOSHUA MAYS, M.A. Ph.D.

BARRY CHARLES MOORE, M.A., M.Sc. (London School of Economics)

PHILIP HUSON RUBERY, M.A., Sc.D. University Senior Lecturer in
Biochemistry. (w.e.f. 1/4/09)

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NEVILLE TAIT, M.A.

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RUMI VERJEE, CBE, M.A.
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RICHARD KEITH TAPLIN, M.B.E., B.Sc. (London School of Economics and
Political Science) (Until 25/2/09)
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25/2/09)

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LUCIE SALWICZEK, Ph.D.

JONATHAN NEWTON, B.A.

VICTORIA JONES, M.A., M.B., B.Chir.

MARIA TERESA RUIZ-TAGLE

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Architecture	*Dr T. Chenvidyakarn
Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic	Dr D Pratt
Chemical Engineering	*Dr K Yunus
Classics	Mr F Basso (Part IA & Part IB) Dr P Millett (Part II)
Clinical Studies	*Dr J Sterling
Computer Science	*Dr R Harle
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*External Director of Studies	

COLLEGE LECTURERS

Economics	Mr N F B Allington
	Mr J Newton
Modern & Mediaeval Languages (German)	Dr C Woodford
Physics	Dr R Bolton
Social & Political Sciences	Dr H Wydra
Veterinary Medicine	Mrs J Pearson

COLLEGE LEKTOR

German	Mr Kranert
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NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The University of Hull has conferred upon the **Master** the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa.

Former Master and Honorary Fellow, **Peter Mathias**, represented the University in November 2008 at the 150th Anniversary of Keio University giving a presentation in the presence of the Emperor and Empress. Keio is linked with Downing and Peter Mathias tutored the Crown Prince during his time at Oxford. In March 2009 he lectured in Rome to commemorate Amitore Fanfani and during May/June gave a course of lectures at Institute of Philosophical Studies in Naples. He is General Editor of Volume VI of the *History of Humanity*. UNESCO 2008. and has published *L'idea di Europa*. Pitagora Press, Naples.

Richard Stibbs completed his term as Chairman of the University's Board of Scrutiny and completes his eighth and final year on the Board in September 2009.

In July 2008 **Bill Clyne**, Professorial Fellow in the Mechanics of Materials and Director of Gordon Laboratory was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, FREng.

Cathy Phillips was awarded the Gerard Manley Hopkins Society's O'Connor Literary Award in July 2008.

Graham Virgo delivered a paper at the Obligations IV Conference in Singapore in July 2008. The completed paper, entitled *Demolishing the Pyramid: Presence of Basis and Risk-Taking in the Law of Restitution* will be published in *The Goals of Private Law* ed. Robertson and Tan. Hart Publishing, 2009. He has contributed to the 30th edition of Chitty on Contracts. He has given key-note lectures at the Chancery Bar Association Annual Conference and the Northern Chancery Bar Association Conference.

Trevor Robbins has given a number of special lectures in the last year, beginning with the Mental Health Music Festival at the Napa Valley in California, last September, where he was on the same bill as the Pointer Sisters! He also gave a keynote address at the International Behavioural Neuroscience Festival (Nassau, Bahamas) and the Sluckin Lecture at Leicester University. He was elected as President of the British Neuroscience Association in April for 2 years. Trevor edited a special issue of the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* on the Neurobiology of Drug Addiction with the Master as a co-editor.

Professor Sarah Bray was honoured this year with election as a Member of The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO).

David Feldman was awarded the degree of Doctor of Civil Law by the University of Oxford in 2009, and elected Vice-President of the Society of Legal Scholars for 2009–10. In the early part of 2009 he came to the end of his terms of office as Chairman of the Faculty of Law and Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina (of which he remains a Judge). In 2008 he provided written evidence to the Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on the Draft Constitutional Renewal Bill, and gave oral evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Constitution as part of its inquiry into the impact of surveillance and data protection on citizens' privacy. He has been conducting research into and publishing on (among other things) the constitutionalisation of international law

and the internationalisation of national, constitutional law in the light of the activities of the UN Security Council in connection with international peace and security. Conference papers and public lectures have included a paper on national security and human rights at the Anglo-Canadian Judicial Exchange at the Supreme Court of Canada, Ottawa (September 2008), and the First Cambridge Law Lecture of the Cambridgeshire and District Law Society, on the impact of fundamental human rights on private law in England and Wales, in May 2009.

Marcus Tomalin's monograph *Romanticism and Linguistic Theory*, Palgrave Macmillan, appeared in early 2009. In addition, Marcus has published a wide range of articles upon such diverse topics as Christopher Smart's interest in Greek and Hebrew orthography, the professional interactions that took place between missionaries and anthropologists working along the Pacific Northwest Coast in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and the impact of morphological decomposition on Arabic automatic speech recognition systems. In June 2009 he was an invited speaker at the annual Hazlitt Day-School at Hertford College Oxford, where he spoke about William Hazlitt's scepticism concerning the usefulness of syllogistic reasoning. Marcus has given several lute concerts during the year, including a performance of 16th century Spanish lute duets at the Fitzwilliam Museum, and a recital of selected pieces from Thomas Robinson's *The Schoole Of Muscike* (1603) in the Master's Lodge.

Bill O'Neill continues to head the centre of Industrial Photonics, was re-elected to Directorship of the Laser Institute of America, re-appointed to the Board of the National Laser Centre, South Africa, and was awarded the Mazak International Foundation award for his work on laser cutting. This year has seen a number of new research interests in the fields of high power laser technology and materials processing. Outputs include: nano-structuring techniques for surface engineering; supersonic metal deposition technology for large scale metal-on-metal applications, and a record breaking high efficiency cutting process for heavy industry. Research grants awarded this year include an ESPRC funded study to create engineering tools for applications in Synthetic Biology, a collaboration with **Dr Paul Barker** (Downing, Chemistry). In addition, a multi-institutional TSB funded project to develop a novel laser ablation system using genetic control algorithms and intelligent decision making. It has been a busy year with many new industrial collaborations and keynote talks given around the world. As much time is spent travelling to international meetings, he is currently engaged in a pan European project to deliver live lecture feeds and laboratory demonstrations using internet based interactive controls. It might just be the answer he is looking for and if successful may give him more time to pursue his other interests.

Simone Laqua-O'Donnell has continued working on her first book on women and religion in early modern Münster and she has given papers on aspects of this project at seminars in Bochum, Stuttgart, Münster and Paris. At the end of the summer 2009 Simone will finish her Research Fellowship to take up a post as Lecturer in Early Modern Religious History at the University of Birmingham.

Amy Milton has continued to research the persistence of memory, and whether disrupting memories might provide a novel form of treatment for some psychiatric disorders. Last August, one of her publications addressing this question, in *The Journal of Neuroscience*, received some media attention. She has given invited talks in the *Reconsolidation: The Next Generation*, a mini-symposium at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington DC, and in Nice at the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology *Workshop for Young Scientists in Europe*. She has also engaged in outreach activities, including a talk for the student-run Triple Helix society, explaining the scientific issues addressed in the film *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*.

Brigitte Steger has been elected into the councils of both the European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS) and the Japan Anthropology Workshop (JAWS). With Lodewijk Brunt she has published the book: *Worlds of Sleep*. Frank & Timme. 2008.

Ken McNamara has been Acting Director of the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences since October 2008. A highlight of this will be the opening in July 2009 of the *Darwin the Geologist* display. Ken also entered into the Darwin spirit with a lecture on Darwin, evolution and the fossil record to the Ashmolean Natural History Society in Oxford. Other talks on Darwin will be given in Australia in October. Ken's research highlight was finishing his book *The Star-crossed Stone*, in May, after more than 10 years research and writing. The book deals with the archaeology, mythology and folklore of fossil sea urchins and will be published by the University of Chicago Press in 2010. Ken was also a major contributor to a Dorling Kindersley book on prehistoric life due for publication in October. He also completed new editions of three of his other books, dealing with stromatolites, karst geomorphology and extinct Australia megafauna. His children's book *It's True! We Came from Slime* was published in Korean in May and a contract has been signed for a Chinese edition.

An RAF child, **Dick Taplin** spent much of his youth moving from base to base both overseas and in the UK. As a result, his education was somewhat varied, and he attended 11 different schools prior to the first of his 4 universities, Nottingham, where he read Chemical Engineering. Two years later, he moved on

to LSE to read Economics and, on graduating in 1972, attended the RAF College Cranwell where mixed academic study, with sport (swimming and waterpolo), a mix which he has subsequently maintained. Dick spent 30 years in the RAF, serving throughout Europe. He had three tours “in command” – the last as Officer Commanding the Supply Squadron at RAF Cottesmore – as well as a range of staff tours, as a systems designer on the RAF Central Supply Computer System, and 4 years as a lecturer in IT and project management. Throughout this time he continued to educate himself, taking day-release courses at Trent University for a Diploma in Management, and the University of Westminster to qualify as a Government French Interpreter (2nd class!). Other courses with the Open University, with a range of professional bodies, and at local Colleges added to his rag-bag of qualifications which range from Accounting, through Travel Agency Management, to Fellowship of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. He was awarded an MBE in 1992. In 1999, a 30-month civilian re-education with Cable & Wireless preceded his coming to Downing College as the Domus, now the Junior, Bursar in 2002. Outside work, he has been involved in national charities over the years, specifically the MS Society and also the RAF Association, serving on its Central Council for 8 years. He has also helped to organize British skiing for the past 30 years, and currently chairs the International Speed Skiing Committee. Since coming to Downing he has learned to play croquet, and now makes every effort to beat Richard Stibbs, his teacher! Dick’s wife, Nan, is his intellectual and linguistic superior, and works for the Cambridge Italian Department. They have 4 sons known collectively as JANE: James, Alexander, Nicholas and Edward. Three of these sons are married, and Dick and Nan now also have 4 grandchildren with another due in September 2009.

Bill McGrew was awarded the 2008 Osman Hill Medal of The Primate Society of Great Britain, the Society’s highest honour. In May 2009 he was awarded a personal chair at Cambridge as Professor of Evolutionary Primatology. During the year he relinquished his Bye-Fellowship of Downing when he was elected a Fellow of Corpus Christi.

The wider Downing family increased by three this year with the birth of Mark Belokurov-Mora to **Dr Natalia Mora-Sitja** and Dr Vasily Belokurov in October 2008, Esme to **Dr Michael Bravo** and Emma in February 2009 and Jack Filipe Tavares Williams to **Dr Guy Williams** and Joana in June 2009.

Rt Hon Lord Collins of Mapesbury, PC, LL.D, FBA (1960) is an Honorary Fellow and sometime Scholar of Downing. His career in the Law is unique, not only amongst members of Downing, but also in the history of the legal

profession. Lawrence Collins came up from City of London School to read law. He did so with conspicuous success, taking starred firsts in the Law Tripos, including the University's George Long Prize for Jurisprudence, and in the examination for the degree of LL.B (now LL.M) and was also awarded the University's McNair and Whewell Scholarships in International Law. In 1964–65 he spent a highly successful year at the Columbia Law School, taking a characteristically distinguished LL.M.

On his return to England, he qualified as a solicitor at Herbert Smith, the great London firm and probably the leading litigation firm in England, where he became a partner at the age of 29. He rose swiftly to become head of its litigation and arbitration department. In 1997, he was appointed Queen's Counsel (the first solicitor ever to be so appointed) and in 2000 was the first solicitor ever to be appointed to the High Court of Justice. He sat in the Chancery Division of the High Court until 2007 when he was appointed to the Court of Appeal as Lord Justice and was sworn of the Privy Council. And in 2009 he rose to the Olympian height of being appointed Lord of Appeal in Ordinary (a member of the Judicial Committee of the House of Lords). He will become a Justice of the Supreme Court in October next; that will be a new tribunal to take over the appellate functions of the House of Lords.

But these are by no means all his achievements. He has attained high academic distinction, being, *inter alia*, Fellow of Wolfson College Cambridge, Professor of Law at Queen Mary College London, Lecturer at the Hague Academy of International Law and Member of the Institut du Droit International. Further, his literary output is enormous and hugely distinguished. He is editor in chief of several editions of the standard work in English on the Conflict of Laws, now Dicey, Morris and Collins, and he is author of the standard work on the effect of European Community Law in English law. His published collected papers on International Litigation and the Conflict of Laws run to over 500 pages and he is on the editorial boards of the *Law Quarterly Review* and of other prominent law journals. He is also Doctor of Laws of the University of Cambridge, Fellow of the British Academy and Bencher of the Inner Temple. He is further, it should be added, a devoted member of the Cranworth Law Society and memorably addressed the Society in the course of the present academical year. In imitation of Oliver Goldsmith it may rightly be said of him that others stare at him in wonder

“And still the wonder grows
That one man's head can carry all it knows”

John Hopkins

Rumi Verjee, Wilkins Fellow, was made a CBE in the 2009 Birthday Honours for his charitable work.

OBITUARIES

Professor Sir Derek Bowett, CBE, QC, LL.D., FBA, (1948), Honorary Fellow and sometime scholar of the College, died in Cambridge on 23 May 2009. He had been, *inter alia*, President of Queens' College and Whewell Professor of International Law. Derek Bowett had been at William Hulme's School Manchester and came up in 1948 to read Law, aged 21, on an accelerated Tripos course (2 years rather than the normal 3 for those who had been in the armed forces of the Crown). He had served in the Royal Navy and, indeed, was officer of the watch on a ship immediately behind the ill-fated cruiser blown up by Albanian or Russian mines in the Corfu Channel in 1946. He took the BA degree in 1950 and the examination for the degree of LL.B. (now LL.M.) in 1951 when he was awarded the University's Whewell Scholarship in International Law. Whilst an undergraduate he won a lacrosse blue.

He lectured at the University of Manchester 1951–1959 where he took a PhD and, after a spell as a Legal Officer of the United Nations in New York, returned to Cambridge in 1960 as University Lecturer in Law and as Fellow of Queens' College. At Queens' he was Tutor and Director of Studies in Law and was elected President (i.e. Master) of the College in 1969, an office which he held until 1982 when he was appointed Whewell Professor of International Law and elected Professorial Fellow of Queens'. He retired from these posts in 1992 when he was elected Honorary Fellow of Queens'; he continued to hold a number of offices in international organisations. Called to the Bar by Middle Temple in 1953, he was elected Bencher of the Inn in 1975 and became Queen's Counsel in 1978. He was awarded the LL.D. degree of Cambridge and elected Fellow of the British Academy. His publications were substantial and influential and include the classic *Self-Defence in International Law*, *The Law of International Organisations* (the standard work on the matter), *United Nations Forces* and several works on the Law of the Sea. He was also co-editor of the British Yearbook of International Law, the principal publication on the subject in the English language, 1982–1992.

Sadly afflicted by severe ill-health in his later years, inevitably he became something of a recluse but was tended by his devoted wife, Betty, whom he had married in 1953. She survives him as do their two sons and daughter.

Derek Bowett was one of those remarkable and distinguished Downing lawyers much influenced by Professor Clive Parry. They also include Professor Sir John Smith, Sir Arthur Watts and Lord Collins, Honorary Fellows all as was their co-mentor, Sir Robert Jennings.

John Hopkins

Ralph Arnold Lewin (1939), Wilkins Fellow, read Natural Sciences and was made ScD in 1972. He died in November 2008 and had prepared his own obituary:

A quintessential mediocrity

I was born and brought up in Willesden Green, NW London. I was not enrolled in Mora Road Council School until I was almost seven. Class sizes then were around 50. I never came top of the class, as usually did Peter Ewing, and I once came as low as 30th. In the Big Boys' school I was one of very few who were never made a prefect. At Kilburn Grammar School I likewise achieved no renown, winning no points for my house, Keith, but on leaving I was somehow offered a £35-a-year fellowship at Queen Mary College, which I never took up.

On 1 September, when Germany invaded Poland, Britain anticipated immediate aerial bombardments with mayhem like that inflicted on Barcelona in the Spanish civil war. (It didn't start for a year or so.) So we at KGS, with our boxed gas-masks, a few other essential items and name labels, were marched to the station and taken to Market Harborough. There I was billeted with a childless couple, the Carters (Mr C. was a carpenter), Gill with the Tilleys (Mr T. was a dustman) and two brothers were billeted somewhere further down Station Road. In a rural county town, wooded lanes and the weekly cattle-market I found especially interesting.

On a State Scholarship I then went to Downing College, Cambridge, apparently because it was too late in the year to apply to any of the wealthier colleges and some bright lad had created the vacancy at Downing. There I joined no social club such as CUMS or CUDS (music and drama were too peripheral to science. I might have joined a CUBC, being interested in badminton, but I think it didn't exist at that time). My room-mate's friend Leo Jolley, with whom we frequently had tea, could whistle lower than I could. He taught me a lot about bicycling, and jazz, and Khachaturian, and Mayan pictographs, and all sorts of other things too. (His room-mate was later shot down and died during WW-2.) Leo and his girl-friend Jess were bronze-medal ballroom dancers. (Many years later, I was especially sorry to learn that he'd died of a heart attack.) Being definitely a non-rower, I achieved no "blue" of any sport, but by some wangle I got a first in Natural Science Tripos Part I. Then I went into "war work" – surveying for seaweeds, and then trying to control pestilential wood-pigeons – until called up into the army. As a pacifist I was put into the Non-Combatant Corps (a branch of the Pioneer Corps) along with 37 Plymouth Brethren, one Open Brother, an unorthodox Irishman and a peeved Cypriot. First I learned how to march, then I weeded lines of the Shropshire and Montgomeryshire Light Railway, and then, unwilling to continue stooping, took a short typing course in London. On graduating I was posted to POW camps in Ledbury, Herefordshire, and Tarporley, Cheshire, where as a private I served as an orderly room clerk, a sick bay orderly and an accounts-office clerk. From my many POW friends I learned Italian. On discharge, 3 years later and still a private,

I had reached the rank of “leader”, though I led nobody. I went back to finish my 3-year stint in Downing, financed by a generous post-war government, and somehow got another “first” in Part II Botany. My final discourse on sow-thistles was certainly too long and probably very boring.

Since I had no further plans, an American friend urged me apply to somewhere in the USA for post-graduate support. I wrote to all four American universities of which I had heard, and despite the late date – July 1947 – one offered me a teaching fellowship and one a Sir John Dill scholarship (in its first year, apparently nobody else had yet applied). So I took tourist-class accommodation on the “Queen Mary”, and a few days later landed in New York. There I was greeted by a cousin of my grandfather, from Brooklyn, who spoke about “goils” and “boids” just like a comedian. Other family friends put me up for a few days in their Riverside Drive flat, and then I took a train to New Haven where I started as a teaching grad. student in the Botany School at Yale. (That wasn’t hard, since in my last year at Cambridge I’d learned more botany than Dr Naylor needed for his course.) My assigned tutor, Dr Cutter – surprisingly, he asked me call him Vic – was a mycologist, so he couldn’t help me very much since I wanted to go on with seaweed research. I started trying to grow the zonate tetraspores of *Agardhiella*, collected on the coast at the end of a long tram ride. However, they didn’t grow, so I changed to something that did grow well, a species of *Chlamydomonas* which Dr Luigi Provasoli kindly provided. At the time he was in the Haskins Laboratories in New York, as was Dr Seymour Hutner. Those two guided my research pretty well. But my attempts to study the pathway of photosynthesis in *C. moewusii* came to nought because, despite considerable efforts by myself and a fellow graduate-student, Joyce, every mutation that we could induce to block photosynthesis proved lethal. (Paul Levine and Bill Ebersold and Ruth Sager were shrewder (or luckier); their *C. reinhardtii* could be grown heterotrophically even when its photosynthetic systems had been blocked.) My new wife, a good plant physiologist called Joyce Chismore, likewise failed to grow *C. moewusii* in the absence of light. I then went on to study paralyzed mutants which couldn’t swim because they which had something wrong with their flagella, and I located a few responsible genes. (I might have learned what was biochemically or structurally wrong if the two electron-microscope colleagues whom I’d later engaged hadn’t respectively become involved in some shady bank business and succumbed to muscular dystrophy.)

Together with Professor G.E. Fogg I proposed to the International Commission for Botanical Nomenclature that a pure culture of an alga might be formally designated as taxonomic type, rather than, say, the currently acceptable drawing, but our proposal was immediately shot down.

I was moved up to a junior position on the faculty, but after a couple of years a couple of colleagues and I left Yale for personal reasons. I was offered a job in the National Research Council at Halifax (which, I later learned, is on the East

coast of the continent), and migrated to Canada. Being a British subject, I had no administrative obstacles to overcome, but I don't think I did much good to the sorry state of the Maritime Provinces. I remained more interested in unicellular algae than in the harvesting of Irish moss, and after three years returned to the USA as an NIH grantee in the Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory. (I had a research grant from the Institute of *Allergy* – which I suspect someone might have identified with *Algae* – and Joyce got a job with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute). Three years of Massachusetts winters proved more than enough for us, and when Dr Roger Revelle asked over the 'phone whether I'd be interested in a post at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, I – in the Gilbertian phrase – hesitated not. We packed up everything in our new Chevrolet *carryall*, and Joyce drove us by a devious route across the country *via* Kingston, Jamaica (!) to La Jolla, California, where I still live. (Joyce, having been disallowed from working in the same lab as her husband, had to work with another professor whom we thoroughly distrusted. Eventually, divorced, she moved up to Seattle while I stayed on the faculty in what later became UCSD.

Here I went on with the *Chlamydomonas* work, and lectured on algae both macroscopic and microscopic. In 1962 my department chairman called me into his office and asked what original research I'd done recently. I explained that I'd been pretty busy editing a book on algal physiology and biochemistry. "Yes, but what *original* work have you done recently?" I explained again that I'd been pretty busy with the book, so he told me that he couldn't recommend my stepwise promotion that year. For many subsequent years that kept me down a rung on the academic ladder. I had a personal algal herbarium which I eventually donated to Cambridge, but which, since they didn't want it, was passed on to Kew. I also organized an algal herbarium for SIO, but when I retired that, too, wasn't wanted here, so it was transferred to the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Although I was now committed to research in phycology I had originally thought of becoming an entomologist. So ultimately, *faute de mieux*, I found one at a conference in Jerusalem, a Singaporean Chinese, and in due course married her. (Confronted with a choice between post-doctoral research and teaching in Waterloo, Ontario, and moving down to an unpaid job but a more congenial climate in Southern California, Lanna chose the latter. That was almost 40 years ago.)

One summer, on an expedition to Baja California, I happened to discover a symbiont in a colonial ascidian, cells of which looked like green algae without nuclei, suggesting that they might be regarded as models of ancestral symbionts that became chloroplasts. I called them *Prochloron*, and tried several times to grow them in culture, but never had any success. (In fact, to my knowledge nobody has been successful in this.) Algae with similar features later turned up in lakes in The Netherlands and Norway, and even in marine plankton. We called such algae

Prochlorophyta, a class now generally discounted. More recent evidence from molecular biology indicates that that theory was probably wrong. Disliking the complicated way one had to represent light intensities, I suggested a new term, “albert”, which went down like a lead balloon. We once found a little marine algal cell that stored a lot of lipid, possibly useful as a potential bio-fuel; but, when it was calculated that one would need about a billion dollars to set up a reservoir and a physical plant to grow and harvest it economically, that idea, too, got nowhere.

After retiring, I turned my attention to writing light verse, and with much difficulty had found editors to publish four volumes of compilations. An undergraduate seminar on the subject has just been cancelled, since no-one signed up for it.

So, here and in England, we potter around in the gardens. There probably are eminent and successful experimental phycologists, but evidently I can't be included among them. Potential obituarants, take note!

Robin (Robert) Guthrie (Trinity 1958) son of the late Professor Keith Guthrie, the Master of Downing from 1957 to 1972, has died at the age of 70.

THE OON INTERNATIONAL AWARD IN PREVENTIVE MEDICINE 2009

This Award is made every two years through the generosity of the late Oon Khye Beng (1927) and his family. On Wednesday 29 April 2009 Dr Douglas Melton, Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor of the Natural Sciences at Harvard Stem Cell Institute, was at Downing to receive the award. He delivered his award lecture, *How to make pancreatic insulin-producing cells*, in the presence of the Master, Prof. Barry Everitt, Dr Oon Chong Jin (1958), Dr Oon Chong Hau (1966), Fellows, distinguished guests, and students. We give a synopsis of the lecture here.

Adult tissues and organs are continuously replenished by the differentiation of new cells. These new cells arise from the differentiation of stem cells or the replication of pre-existing specialized cells. Understanding how to control and manipulate these processes is likely to be very useful in finding new ways to repair and renew our bodies. In addition it will help to design new treatments for diseases where one kind of cell is missing or dysfunctional. For example, this lecture considers the case of insulin-dependent (juvenile) diabetes, a disease in which the insulin-producing pancreatic beta cells are absent. Studying the development and turnover of pancreatic beta cells has provided information on genes and signalling pathways that can be applied to human stem cells with the aspiration of making pancreatic beta cells for diabetics. Results on the directed differentiation of embryonic stem cells and the reprogramming of other adult cells are discussed.

COLLEGE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE BOAT CLUB

The boat club has had another fantastic year, with success throughout. This commenced in Michelmas with both senior IVs winning The Autumn Head. The club gained more success in IVs on both sides – the women winning University IVs and the men showing strongly at IVs Head Of The River (highest Oxbridge college). This success was continued in the Fairbairns races with both men and women racing twice (IVs and VIIIs) and all crews finishing in the top 3. Whilst the seniors were dominating the Cam, the LBCs were recruiting a substantial group of enthusiastic novices, many of whom went on to take their place in senior boats later on in the year. Notably, the 1st novice men boat came 5th in Novice Fairbairns the best result for Downing novice rowers for 5 years.

The Christmas break saw some more relaxed rowing, but nevertheless a scratch Downing VIII entirely dressed as snowmen managed to win Christmas Head. This desire for more rowing meant that the, now annual, Banyoles trip was a great success as well as highly enjoyable. Highlights include the 1st men leading CUBC for most of a 2k race. (no discussion of any headstart need occur).

Lent term provided most of us with an opportunity to overcome challenges, including a flooded boathouse and a number of serious injuries to senior rowers. Nevertheless, both senior boats went up and the 1st men showed enormous character and came closer (a canvas) to bumping FaT off the headship than any boat has for the last two years. For an inexperienced set of lower boats, the results did not reflect the determination and effort put in.

The 1st boats maintained the momentum over the Easter break, with the women winning the novice category at the Head Of The River and the men winning the same category at the Kingston Head. Downing also had 4 lightweight rowers in the Varsity Boat Races, which gave the senior squads a significant boost going into the final term.

May term both saw excellent senior rowing and mass participation, with 8 crews training, including a rugby boat and graduate boat. Notably, the senior squads raced significantly more off the Cam than previous years. The men's 1st IV won at Wallingford Regatta in the novice category near the start of term and continued to enhance Downing's reputation by winning the IM3 category at the Metropolitan regatta alongside maintaining their hold over a number of regattas in Cambridge. Not to be outdone, W1 won the novice category at Bedford Regatta.

The May Bump results offered a large range of results with the 1st Women achieving blades with some brilliant rowing (now 5th) and the 3rd Women achieving spoons with some spectacular crashes. The 1st Men had a disappointing week, moving up 1 overall, a result which did not reflect the quality of the crew which proved itself consistently faster than any other college. The 2nd Men had a fantastic week, bumping