

REGENT'S NOW

2010 - 2011

Regent's Park College is a Permanent Private Hall of the University of Oxford

FEATURE

FROM WALL STREET
TO PUSEY STREET -
CHRIS GRAHAM ON HIS
REGENT'S EXPERIENCE

FEATURE

I CAVED, I SAW,
I CONQUERED - VICKY LIM
ON TAKING UP CAVING

PLUS

SPORTS TEAMS
JCR & MCR REPORTS
INTO UNIVERSITY
CHRISTIAN UNION
STAFF NEWS
ALUMNI NEWS
& MUCH MORE

TELETHON RAISES £45K

AN OPPORTUNITY TO GATHER
STORIES, TO SHARE, TO REMINISCE
AND TO HELP PEOPLE REMEMBER
WHY THEIR TIME AT REGENT'S WAS
SO SPECIAL.

THE EMMANUELLE SOCIETY

HOW TO GIVE AN EVERLASTING
GIFT TO EVERY FUTURE GENERATION
OF REGENT'S STUDENTS



From Wall Street to Pusey Street

VIA THE OFFICE OF DR TIMOTHY BRADSHAW

(Chris Graham, History and Politics Finalist)

Dr Timothy Bradshaw, Regent's Senior Tutor and Tutorial Fellow in Christian Doctrine, is also in charge of college admissions, which he oversees from a sort of scholastic bunker near the library. His bunker teems with books, papers, cricket bats, discarded early drafts of the Bible and portions of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Dr Bradshaw's computer looks to be diesel-powered and starts with the help of a crankshaft... Anyway, this is my attempt to contrast the mysterious lair that would receive my anxious enquiry on undergraduate admissions and the place of origin of the application, a serious and sparkingly efficient law firm office with views of the Brooklyn Bridge, most of lower Manhattan and the Wall Street Helipad, where the President of the United States parks his helicopter before heading uptown to the United Nations.

Prior to matriculating at Oxford, I had spent two years practising corporate law in New York City, primarily helping US banks and investment companies react to the financial crises that started in the autumn of 2007. While undoubtedly an exciting time to be a corporate attorney – and correspondingly less so to be a client thereof, which is a kind of malignant irony on the entire legal profession – the stuff with which we filled our days was not nearly so captivating as I'd envisioned. The days were generally shorter than most people seemed to think but the standard deviation was outrageous, and so the false dichotomy of a work-life balance was doubly unattainable.

Dear Dr Bradshaw, My life is being measured out in coffee spoons and the drawer is almost empty...

A mentor of mine, the former Chaplain of Acadia University in Nova Scotia, Canada, had been to Regent's in the 1970s (Roger Prentice, 1979-1983), which is how I came to apply to Regent's directly. I had no particular plan other than to leave my current work and land somewhere with ample time to read, write and listen carefully for something like a calling. After much help from Dr Bradshaw and the inestimable patience of the College Secretary, Marion Paine, I arrived in 2009 to read for a second BA in History and Politics.

At this point, I've been asked to give an account of my activities at Oxford, which have focused primarily on student journalism and which I will come to below, but, by way of context or segue or self-conscious deflection, I will pause for a moment and ask you to think seriously about why it is that the pages of this magazine read



the way they do. Why it is, that is, that Regent's students seem to punch so far above their weight in drama, music, sports, student government, charities, and all manner of clubs and societies. For there is no denying Regent's is one of the smallest colleges in Oxford – in fact, that vague and nebulous thing, a Permanent Private Hall – and lacks unpredictable affiliations with the college's comparatively small diaspora, meaning Regent's is rarely a first choice on Oxford undergraduate applications.

So, here is a theory: it goes without saying, at least amongst alumni, that Regent's is a close community. The benefits of this, in terms of fast friendships and strong moral support, are frequently referred to in describing or remembering the college. There is, however, another aspect that is also valuable but much less observed, which is the impetus that our close – small – community gives to our members to explore and embrace the life of the wider university. The energy and spirit of our students far exceeds what the college could ever hope to sustain. This is true in terms of teaching, with most Regent's students taking some tutorials outside, of the extra-curricular side of things and even of personal relationships. Put another way, it is hard to imagine that a student could satisfy all of their interests and ambitions – not least their desire for new and lasting friendships – within Regent's alone.

The tradition here has therefore been towards ever-wider engagement with the university, as each new class follows the example of its seniors. It is in this way that our small size has become one of our greatest strengths.

You are of course free to make of this theory what you will, to impugn it liberally or disregard it entirely, but it has at least been my experience of the college from which I've spent a good deal of the past two years chasing stories for Oxford's student newspapers, the Oxford Student and Cherwell. The editors of these newspapers know Regent's and are even sometimes from Regent's – Louis Barclay edited the OxStu in Hilary 2010 – and so give us both attention and opportunity. To wit, over the past two years I've interviewed the editors of international magazines, attended the National Congress of the Ku Klux Klan, conducted a professional symphony orchestra, posed for an all-female life drawing class and stolen bicycles around the city capturing everything on a hidden video camera. Some of these articles have been adapted and published elsewhere and, on the strength of this experience, I'll take up freelance writing as a full-time career when I return home to Canada at the end of Trinity Term.

The Old World charm of Dr Bradshaw's office notwithstanding, it must be true that few places are as different as Pusey Street and Wall Street. As our alumni can well imagine, the most important difference is not something one could easily spot on a stroll around the quad: you have to get to know our people to see how – and why – Regent's really shines. I'm looking forward to seeing how our future alumni build up this tradition whilst they are here at Regent's.



THE EMMANUELLE SOCIETY

Launched in 2009, the Emmanuelle Society has 15 members who have given £6,000 to the Emmanuelle Society Endowment Fund. For each gift of £400, which can be given over 20 months, a book will be bought in your chosen subject every year, for ever. Each book will have a name plate inside the front cover with your chosen inscription. If you prefer to dedicate your books to someone else, we would also be pleased to do that. A commemorative name plate will also be placed in the Emmanuelle Society Book.

If you would like to become a member, please email alumni@Regent's.ox.ac.uk or go to www.giving.ox.ac.uk/Regent's



NEW MEMBERS OF THE EMMANUELLE SOCIETY:

Mr Peter Lane

Mr Brian Tucker and **Mrs Helen Tucker**, in memory of **Jeremy Keith Tucker** (1996-1999). Subject area: Faith and Culture or Incarnational Faith

Ms Sharon Fraser

Subject area: Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Revd Dr Scott Gibson and **Mrs Rhonda Gibson**.

Subject area: Preaching and Homiletics

Dr Peter Colyer

Subject area: Science and Religion

Mrs Clarice Morgan,

in memory of **Revd Cyril Morgan** (1918-1999)

JCR/MCR REPORTS

JCR REPORT

(*Oliver Watson, JCR President*)

This has been another eventful year in the JCR. On the rowing front, the new boat, purchased using gifts from alumni, has gone down really well with both crews. In summer eights, a good team spirit was maintained even though the boys got spoons and the girls only narrowly escaped a similar fate. In football, the men's team came an impressive third, and the new captain Paul Whelan should be applauded for his excellent contributions. The women's football team also had a few good performances, especially from Rachel Third and Bethany McCrave. The greatest sporting success of the year was undoubtedly on the netball court, with the Regent's ladies unbeaten in the first half of the season and gaining a well-deserved promotion.



The biggest event in the college calendar every year is the Final Fling and this year more tickets were sold than ever before. It was a brilliant occasion enjoyed by everyone who came. With a theme of 'The Seven Deadly Sins', each of the sins was accounted for either by an entertainment act or activity tent. The whole event was skilfully organised by Fran Beaton, Flora Gill and their committee. It really was a splendid occasion and an excellent exhibition of the college to the wider university.

Highlights from the rest of the JCR year include the inaugural Recognition Dinner with special guest speaker Roland Rudd and the charity five-a-side, which again raised almost £2,000, making it the biggest college-organised charity event in the university. The Recognition Dinner was the brainchild of my predecessor as JCR President, James Fox, and his team, who recognised that Regent's is very good at honouring those who do great things in Regent's but not so good at identifying and recognising those who achieve in the wider university.

Once more, Regent's students have continued to achieve great success in representing the college in so many ways. I know that I will inevitably have missed something that someone has done, for which I am sorry! Truly, it has been both a pleasure and a privilege to have been the JCR President of such a vibrant and talented community.

THE FOLLOWING WERE HONoured AT THE RECOGNITION DINNER:

Lauren Adams - University Law Moot Court Competition
Gillian Appau - PPE Society, secretary
Omar Asfar - Oxford Union Consultative Committee, Chairman MT 2010
Charles Bailey - Rugby League Blue
Louis Barclay - The Oxford Student, Associate Editor
Cassie Barraclough - University Drama (Actress)
Rhys Beavan - University Drama (Actor)
Mel Billington - University Cheerleading
Jack Blackburn - University Drama (Actor)
Charlotte Flowers - RAG, Vice President
Ellie Gaddes - University Sailing
Fran Girling - Oxford Development Abroad, Nepal Co-ordinator
Chris Graham - The Oxford Student and Cherwell, Editorial Roles

Maggie Henderson-Tew - Real Tennis Half Blue and Real Tennis Team Captain
Anna Hextal - University Drama (Director)
Chris Little - University Orchestra, Co-principal Timpanist
Jamie MacDonagh - University Drama (Producer)
Ed Marr - Oxford Investment and Finance Society, Vice-President and President-Elect
Mark Michaelides - Oxford University Association Football Men's First Division Top Scorer
Charles O'Halloran - Under 21s Rugby
Didi Ogede - Oxford African and Caribbean Society, Vice President
Lottie Stables - Women's Lightweight Rowing Blue
Ruby Thomas - University Drama (Actress)
Sarah Ventress - University Drama (Producer)
Rebecca Williams - University Badminton

MCR REPORT

(*Rowena Wilding, BTh Theology Finalist*)

This year has been a busy one in the life of the Middle Common Room. Since beginning the year with a coat of paint and a lot of elbow grease to ending the year with an ultimate frisbee tournament, there's been a lot going on. We've welcomed a very college-based community this year, which has included MSt students in a diverse subject range, from anthropology to women's studies. It's been a year of change, seeing the common room redecorated, with a TV and a new Gaggia coffee machine installed; we're still to decide which is more exciting! Our sincere thanks go to the donor of the new coffee machine.

It's also been a year of activity and we've had three terms packed with events! Highlights included our two-week freshers programme; Thanksgiving dinner, in which 20 people were fed from one (very large) turkey, a ham, sweet potato and marshmallow casserole and more potatoes and carrots than could fit on the table; Eurovision, which included food and drink from all over Europe; a whiskey-tasting evening hosted by the former MCR President Read Marlatte and former Vice-President Matt Polisson; and many, many movie nights, games nights and trips to the Eagle and Child.

It's not all socialising though; our MCR members have been pulling their weight academically as well! Students have presented at conferences the world over this year, from Oxford to Poland and New York, on subjects as diverse as phenomenology, salvation and feminist hermeneutics. Our DPhil students have also been working hard contributing chapters to books on natural theology, transhumanism and Immanuel Kant.

We've had also had seven MCR members involved in rowing this year, both in the men's and women's crew, for the Christ Church Regatta, Torpids and Summer Eights, which was a mixed experience. The rest of the MCR had a lot of fun eating doughnuts and cheering on our crews!

It doesn't stop at sporting achievements: Celeste Mottahedin-Fardo (MSt Women's Studies) has been doing her bit in the thespian world, having been marketing manager for the student production of *Trifles* and *Cressida* at the O'Reilly Theatre in Hilary Term, and then marketing manager for *Glengarry Glenn Ross* during Trinity Term.

So, all in all, it has been an eventful year. What I can say without doubt is that being MCR President of such a talented, vibrant and accomplished group of people has been an honour, and the future holds exciting things for each individual and for the MCR as a community.

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

(*Emma Maggs, PG Dip Theology*)

This year has included times of great joy and sadness for our Regent's Park ministerial students. In September 2010, the then second-year students went on a trip to Kolkata, India to experience international mission. There was much hard work, but also times for relaxation and seeing the sights. Some students spoke of how moved they were at seeing the late Mother Teresa's humble room.

Tragically, in December, Paul Beesley – a third-year student who had been part of the team in Kolkata – died very suddenly of a heart attack. While a quiet and unassuming man, Paul brought a wealth of gifts and ability to ministry, as he had done to his career as a teacher, and in particular his gentleness and deep concern for others. His death left a significant gap among the ministerial students, especially within his year group. He leaves behind a wife and young son, and many fellow students who loved him and will miss him keenly. In the last week of Trinity Term, the third-year students planted a red rose in his memory in the quad. The name of the rose is 'Hope', a fitting reminder of the hope beyond the grave which Paul knew and in which his friends put their trust.

It can be difficult for ministerial students to be fully integrated into college life, as most are based in churches for a large part of the week. To address this, the ministerial students and the college's Christian Union (CU) have had a number of joint events, including having afternoon tea together, which was a great opportunity for us all to meet, learn each other's names and find out a bit about each other. Later that term, the CU organised an agape meal to which ministerial students were invited, which was a wonderful social occasion (with lots of great food!). In Trinity Term, we had a joint service together in the chapel, which was a huge encouragement to all and an event we are hoping to repeat in the future.

MINISTERIAL STUDENTS RECENTLY SETTLED IN CHURCHES:

Paul Burnish - Abbey, Reading
Phil Cox - Stubbington, Hampshire
Lynn Davidson - Crouch End
Barry Davis - Amesbury, Wiltshire
Graham Dunn - Barnack, Lincolnshire
Phil Durrant - Clevedon, Bristol
Ian Fowler - Bourton-on-the-Water
Jennie Lee - Carey, Hackleton
Peter Lloyd - Grettton, Northants
Mark Macaulay - Oakridge Road, High Wycombe
Brian Stocker - St Andrew's, Bletchley
Rowena Wilding - Edgeside, Rossendale

Regent's first telethon

(Rowena Wilding, BTh Theology Finalist)

Back in late 2010, there began discussion about an idea: it was not so much an idea to help bring much-needed funds into the college as it was a desire to connect, or reconnect, with those who have had the privilege of studying at Regent's.

I was honoured to be a part of Regent's Park College's very first telethon team, one of three tasked with the responsibility of calling and connecting with Regent's alumni. The brief was clear.

of the number of engaging, educational, and simply humbling conversations I had with Regent's alumni. We spoke to all sorts of people from all over the world, including teachers, lawyers, house-husbands, missionaries, prison chaplains, barristers, lawyers and many others besides! As a woman training for Baptist ministry, I was privileged to speak to the second woman to ever train for the ministry. Throughout the telethon, I found myself astounded by the calibre, the vibrancy and the humility of the people with whom I

ENGAGING, EDUCATIONAL, AND SIMPLY HUMBLING CONVERSATIONS

This wasn't simply about calling people and asking them for money, but rather an opportunity to gather stories, to share, to reminisce and to help people remember why their time at Regent's was so special.

We called for two weeks and over that fortnight I lost count

spoke. I really hope that the conversations we had during the two weeks were enjoyed by the people we called as much as they were by us. I hope that we offered people an opportunity recall the past, to reconnect with good memories and to remember why they loved Regent's.



But I do wonder if it is possible that the effect the telethon had on those called could rival the effect it had on those of us doing the calling. I came away from my two weeks on the telethon team astounded by how profoundly the people I had called had changed me, how moved I had been by the stories, the emotions and the love I had heard for Regent's Park. I'm not sure if I could sum up the experience in one sentence, but I think the best way for me to properly convey what this telethon was about, and what I hope the Regent's telethons will always be about, is to say that I don't remember how much money was raised but I do remember that the

first person I called had a dog called Barnabas! I learned more about Regent's, who we are and what we stand for, in those two weeks than I have in the three years I've been here.

Editor: 140 Alumni were called during the telethon which raised £45,469. Our thanks go to everyone who gave and to those who had such great conversations with Helena, Holly and Rowena.



REGENT'S/BALLIOL WAFC

(Bethany McCrave, Philosophy and Theology 1st year)

Regent's Ladies FC has just completed its second year as a joint team with Balliol College Ladies FC and so far this has been a brilliant partnership! Playing with Balliol is a great opportunity for the team to meet and have fun with new

people outside Regent's, and the team's 'anyone can play' policy has given lots of ladies the chance to try their hand (or feet!) at the beautiful game.

After starting the year newly promoted to division three in the 11-a-side league, the team has enjoyed every single game but has had mixed results. At the end of the season, they

were in the middle of the table so retained their place in the division. Unfortunately, the form of the 5-a-side team only took them to the quarter finals, but their aim next year is to gain promotion. The team's sponsorship deal with the Turf Tavern has now ended (and pub trip socials have since been relocated!) and

the two captains will be doing all they can to secure a new deal. Friendships with Balliol continue to grow, and the team continues to welcome the outstanding skills of the visiting American students, whilst weekly training sessions provide much laughter and fun – and the occasional stunning goal.

REGENT'S NETBALL

(Fran Girling, Theology, 2nd Year)

Netball at Regent's has become an important institution, with the weekly lunchtime run-around to put a last-minute team together always met with enthusiastic responses from unsuspecting freshers, visiting students and novices alike. Not only is it an exhilarating break from the library but it is a great way to represent the college at a friendly and non-competitive level, although this should not detract from the fierce loyalty and commitment shown by all Regent's netballers and it has not been unknown for the odd temper to flare at some 'blatantly biased' umpiring...



Needless to say, this has been another great year for the women's netball team with the girls being practically undefeated, and consequently moving up a division in the inter-collegiate competition. The team plays once a week against other colleges and continues to perform remarkably well considering the small size of the college. It has been great to see so many new people getting involved, as well, of course, as the token male player; ever keen to prove the inferiority of netball to basketball yet inevitably ending up having a great time! The netball team continues to thrive with successful socials and it is looking hopeful that the triumphs of this season will continue into the next.

REGENT'S FOOTBALL

(Oliver Watson, Theology 2nd Year)

Regent's enjoyed another successful season and, despite a mid-season lull, finished third in a 12-team division. Unbeaten at Christmas, the team were expecting a top-two finish, but with games coming thick and

fast at the end of February and prelims looming for a couple of key members of the side, in the end they were lucky to hang on to a third-place finish. The low point of the season was a heavy defeat to St Catz IIs. However, the lows were outshone by the highs in a very good season.

WOMEN'S REAL TENNIS

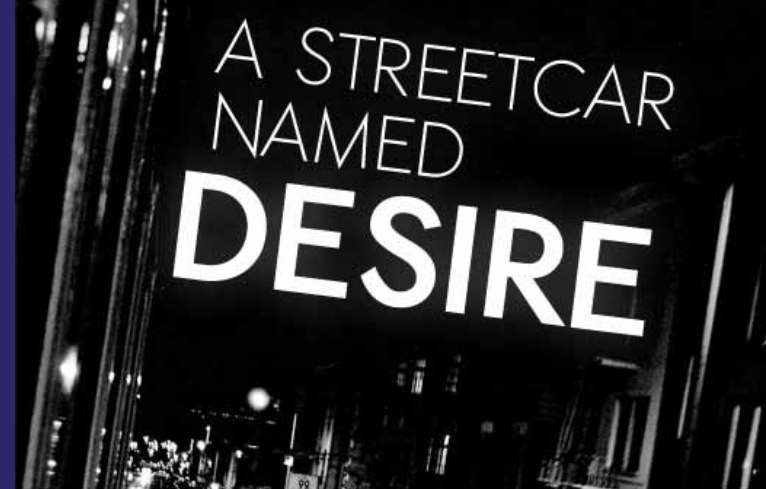
(Maggie Henderson-Tew, English 2nd Year)

The Varsity Match 2011 was played at Lord's over 25 and 26 of February 2011. The Oxford ladies, under the captaincy of Maggie Henderson-Tew (who started playing real tennis before any of the other participants were born!), beat the Cambridge side by 5 to 1. This overturned the total dominance of the fixture by Cambridge since 2006 and represented a fine team performance by an Oxford side that was well prepared and showed tremendous team spirit. For the first time ever, the matches were streamed live by www.realtennis.tv and remain available for viewing on their website.



The varsity successes rounded off a fantastic season for the Oxford women's real tennis side. Their record stands as follows: played 15, won 13, drawn 1, lost 1. Women's real tennis at Oxford is in very good shape. The departure of some of this year's varsity players will mean there will be opportunities for others to come through to vie for those precious places and have the chance of winning a much-coveted Oxford Blue.

I caved, I saw, I conquered



(Vicky Lim, History and Politics 1st Year)

When I began my time at Oxford, I saw myself punting down the Isis in glorious sunshine, playing croquet while enjoying Pimm's on immaculate lawns and, of course, whiling away hours and days in grandiose libraries. What I didn't picture was spending two or three weekends a term grubbing around in dark wet holes wearing what is best described as a heavy-duty boiler suit. No, my student debts haven't reduced me to sewage maintenance work (yet!): I've taken up caving.

Not being a particularly co-ordinated person, sports were not high on my list of priorities at Fresher's Fair. Nonetheless, when a guy wearing a helmet and headlamp, brandishing pictures of stalactites and subterranean waterfalls, and waxing lyrical on the "underground adventure playground" talked to me, I was hooked. My first weekend was to South Wales at the end of second week. We gathered at the caving hut, assembled a bizarre combination of equipment (wellies, washing-up gloves, a fleece onesie, a heavy-duty onesie, a belt, etc.) and piled into a minibus to go.

The caves were epic: vast but with miniscule squeezes you had to wriggle on your belly to get through; steep climbs with jagged

footholds you could stick wellies on; and full of boulder-strewn passages where scrambling on knees or sliding on bums was required to make progress. Beautiful formations, seen by fewer than a hundred people in the world, clung to the walls and thunderous waterfalls crashed past your ears as you followed the sunless streams on their well-worn paths.

Nearly three terms later, I've been on almost every weekend away the club has offered, taken on the role of Social Sec, and been presented with the "Lemming Award" for getting my hair inextricably caught in some equipment while dangling on a rope under a snow-melt waterfall (it's a long story). This summer, I'll spend a month in northern Spain exploring a cave over a kilometre deep and with potential leads to sights no human has ever laid eyes on.

I've done the punting, the croquet, even a little work, and I do love it all, but caving is the one thing I can't imagine university life without. It's challenged me, strengthened me, and actually helped me get through the stress by getting me out of Oxford sometimes and into the tranquil countryside. **While it was not what I looked for at**

Fresher's Fair, I'm glad I found caving because, ironically for a sport which mostly involves going down, it gives me a high I can't find anywhere else.



IT'S CHALLENGED ME, STRENGTHENED ME, AND ACTUALLY HELPED ME GET THROUGH

REGENT'S DRAMA

(Marchella Ward, Classics and English 2nd Year)

"Oh, you're at Regent's. Don't lots of people do drama at your college?"

Anyone who is at Regent's and has been at all involved in Oxford drama will have heard these words at some point this year, evidence of Regent's continued overwhelming presence on the Oxford drama scene. Second and third years continued to direct, produce, write and star in some of the biggest Oxford productions of the year, whilst this year's intake of first years brought new life both to the college plays and to university-wide theatre.

ACTING CONTINUES TO FEATURE HEAVILY AND THERE IS A GROWING GROUP OF REGENT'S THESPIANS

It would be impossible to list all of the plays that students at Regent's Park have been involved in, but there are a couple which deserve special mention. Directing is a popular passion here at Regent's Park and Regent's students have directed three five-star rated productions in Trinity Term alone. Cassie Baraclough's production of *Call of the Wild*, first-year theologian Jamie Macdonagh's Glengarry Glen

Ross and second-year Classics and English student Marchella Ward's *The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek* all received glowing reviews from student and local newspapers alike. Regent's third-year English duo Anna Hextall and Sarah Ventress' *A Streetcar Named Desire*, performed in Michaelmas term, also received critical acclaim both for its direction, by Anna Hextall, and for fellow Regent's students Ruby Thomas and Rhys Bevan who took starring roles in the play. Even smaller Oxford theatre venues remained dominated by Regent's directors, with Cassie Baraclough's *The Shape of Things* and Marchella

also brought classicist Fran Denny's tireless contributions to theatre in Oxford over the past three terms as a producer and production manager, as well as English student Katie Allen's dedication to set design and construction. A new generation of college pantomime actors and actresses also appeared, which this year included Theology students Beth McCrave, Andy Hansford and Lucy Marriott, Law students Hatti Owens and Holly Burne and geographers Jack Watson and Becca Nicholls taking their places among the usual cast and crew of second and third years and staff members.

Acting continues to feature heavily and there is a growing group of Regent's thespians, with second-year English students Ruby Thomas, Rhys Bevan and Cassie Baraclough representing Regent's in innumerable productions across the university and third-year Philosophy and Theology student Jack Blackburn completing his last in a long string of successful university drama appearances with *Troilus and Cressida* in Hilary term. Second-year geographer Charles O'Halloran took his first Oxford role this Trinity Term in an outdoor

production of *Charley's Aunt* and second-year Philosophy and Theology student Ellie Geldard continued to increase her experience as an actress, with roles in *The Courting of Claire*, *4:48 Psychosis* and Oxford's Edinburgh Fringe show *Becoming Lord Byron*.

The college pantomime this year was a resounding success, complete with a pantomime cow and a cast of 23 members of the community (including a particularly enthusiastic staff member!) in an all-singing, all-dancing rendition of the classic tale *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The production raised funds for the JCR's chosen charities and provided a Christmassy feel for all who were involved in it.

Regent's has invariably punched above its weight both in terms of the university theatrical scene and college drama this year, consistently surprising reviewers and audiences with the quality of its members' productions and meaning that all Regent's thespians can proudly say: **"Yes, we are at Regent's. And yes, we do do a lot of drama here."**

OXFORD AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN SOCIETY (ACS)

(Didi Ogede, Theology 2nd Year)

The ACS is a group set up within the university to promote African and Caribbean culture. It is open to everyone and has some 200 (current) members, from all ages, nationalities and backgrounds. Didi Ogede has been Vice-President of the society since June last year and writes about her time as VP:

Being a part of the ACS and Regent's has helped me to experience two different aspects of life at Oxford; it has been really interesting to see the blend of various personalities and cultures. The ACS's main purpose is to bring people together to experience the vibrant nature of African and Caribbean society and culture. It also gives people a chance to have a break from their usual work routine by holding social events. As well as this, ACS holds a number of talks and networking events which provide its members with information about possible future careers.



During my time as VP, I've had the chance to meet Maloire Blackman OBE who is an author of literature and television drama and BECA Best Comedy Newcomer award-winner Eddie Kadi.

In the future, I would like to see more alumni getting involved in the work of the ACS, as I believe the knowledge, advice and support they could provide would be invaluable to students. It also provides a great opportunity for alumni to stay in touch with the university. If you'd like to get involved, please send me an email via alumni@regents.ox.ac.uk

REGENT'S CHOIR

(Fran Beaton, Classics and English 2nd Year)

This academic year has been an exciting one for the Regent's Choir, with numbers and opportunities increasing.

We were particularly fortunate in Michaelmas with the number of talented freshers and visiting students who joined the choir. Once again, Advent Choir was popular and Regent's celebrated the end of term with a beautiful advent concert performed in St John's Chapel, with memorable pieces such as *Adam Lay Ybounden*.

Hilary Term saw the return of Gospel Choir, led by Peter Gunstone. The choir performed in two chapel services and one formal hall, performing the contemporary pieces *He Lives in You* from *The Lion King 2* and *Lifted* by The Lighthouse Family. Trinity Term saw the choir perform on the quad as part of the charity summer fete, performing popular pieces from their repertoire such as *Don't Stop Believing* and *Defying Gravity*. In an emotional formal hall on Friday of 8th Week, the choir did a farewell performance of *Bridge over Troubled Waters* followed by *Defying Gravity* (again), with which a large majority of the undergraduate population, and indeed a few SCR members, sang along.

Although we have had to say goodbye to several valued members of the choir at the end of the year, we look forward to an influx of new and talented freshers.

INTOUNIVERSITY

The efforts of most colleges to help intellectually able young individuals who wouldn't normally apply to study at Oxford focus on those who are just about to take their GCSEs. Through a contact brokered by Keith Riglin (80-83), Regent's is taking a different approach. We are partnering with IntoUniversity, who work with children in Britain's toughest neighbourhoods, with the aim of inspiring them to succeed against all the odds.

Starting work with children as young as seven, IntoUniversity's education programme supports them over the long term, brings out hidden talents, develops confidence and helps them achieve at school and beyond. The charity works with the poorest, most disadvantaged children and aims to change their attitudes towards learning and their school results.

Children from two IntoUniversity Focus Programmes have visited Regent's to discover what a real university with real students and academics is like. The children are asked to give their honest feedback about the programme and to list their favourite activities. Many said that their time at Regent's was top of their list: "The best thing about the Focus Programme was... going to Oxford University because it showed me how a university works and all the nice people I met"; "I liked going to Oxford because it was loads of fun and it makes me want to go to university."

Earlier this year, Regent's was thrilled when the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge chose IntoUniveristy as one of the 26 charities supported by the charitable gift fund set up for those who wished to make a donation to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Plans are already in place to welcome another IntoUniversity group next year.

CHRISTIAN UNION

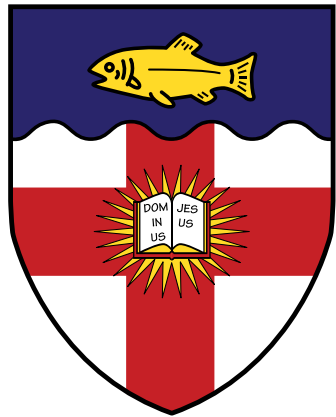
(Kirsty Borthwick, Theology 1st Year)

Regent's Park CU is a thriving, welcoming community within college, and we aim to provide a place where all Christians, and indeed those who aren't Christians, can feel free and comfortable to come together to worship, pray, study the Bible and get to know each other a little better. We're part of the wider Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (OICCU), through which our members have the chance to meet and get to know Christians from around the university, thereby finding friendship, support and encouragement.



This year has been a really strong year for our CU, with our numbers growing and more people getting involved at all sort of levels. Each Wednesday we meet as a group, either in college or at St. Aldates with the rest of OICCU, to pray, explore the Bible, worship and have loads of fun. We also hold prayer meetings every Friday morning, with a free breakfast, which has proven to be a great way to start the day. Our members have also got involved in the CU at university level, and one of our ex-reps now holds an OICCU officer position.

Each term we try to hold some sort of 'open event', which in the past has taken the form of 'pudding and port' evenings and numerous dinners out and pub trips.



THE FINAL FLING 2011

(Fran Beaton, Classics and English 2nd Year)

This year's Final Fling, daringly themed 'The Seven Deadly Sins', took place on 18 June and was a huge success. For the first time ever, the Final Fling sold out and Regent's Park prepared itself to be inundated with 250 students from across the university. With all final exams finished by this time, and the dramatic Fling Launch Party of Hilary Term still in everyone's minds, the atmosphere in college was certainly one of heightened anticipation.

Throughout the week, bizarre props and decorations had gradually been appearing on the quad and, first thing on Saturday morning, a dishevelled and somewhat hungover committee, chaired by Fran Beaton and Flora Gill, joined them, psyched up for what would be an exhausting yet exciting day. The committee worked tirelessly for nine hours, setting up each sinful section and, despite the day bringing typical English summer weather, they were not deterred.

By the time the students had to vacate the college at 5:30pm, all seven sections were in place, the band had arrived and the entertainment was in makeup. At 6:45pm, the doors opened to those lucky enough to have dining tickets. Despite a few hair-related issues, owing to the rain, everyone was in great spirits and hugely enjoyed the champagne reception, with champagne kindly donated by an alumnus. At dinner, Mark Rippington (RPC Catering Manager) truly outdid himself with the steak cooked to perfection.



The atmosphere was electric as the college reached capacity and the guests began to explore all the entertainment on offer. One of the main attractions of the evening was the band Truly Medley Deeply, whose medleys of contemporary songs, performed on ukuleles and other such quirky instruments, inspired the atmosphere of the evening. The band was followed by an ever-popular silent disco, which had not only the guests but also the kitchen and bar staff singing and dancing. Other popular entertainment included the beautiful burlesque dancer, the terrifying fire walker strapped to stilts and wielding flames, and the belly dancer with the python wrapped around her neck.

The positive feedback the committee received made even the clearing up the next day seem bearable.

OXFORD CENTRE FOR Christianity and Culture

The last year has once again seen the centre engage with a wide variety of issues in both culture and society. In Michaelmas Term, the David Nicholls Memorial Lecture was given by Professor Timothy Gorrige of Exeter, and his reflections on 'Politics and Place' provided an appropriate overture to our series on 'Inclusion and Diversity'. We were fortunate to secure a number of high-profile speakers, including Trevor Phillips, Chair of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission, and Christina Patterson, a well-known columnist with *The Independent* who had stirred much discussion through her writing on multiculturalism. The series concluded with theological reflections from Professor Michael Taylor of Birmingham, former Director of Christian Aid, who was also the keynote speaker at a successful day conference on these issues in January, held in conjunction with the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

In Hilary Term, we turned our attention to a major area of contemporary popular culture in reflecting on the place and significance of sport. This was convened by Dr Andrew

Moore, one of our Centre Fellows who, alongside his work on philosophical and systematic theology, is also a keen mountaineer. In addition to Andrew's own reflections on his experience, the series included contributions from Dr Tim Bradshaw, Regent's Senior Tutor and a keen cricketer, and Graham Daniels, Director of Christians in Sport. Moreover, it allowed the Regent's Principal, Dr Robert Ellis, to give us a taste of his forthcoming book on 'Theology and Sport'. A number of the papers from this series will appear as a special journal issue early next year – just in time for the Olympics!

Over the previous year, Centre Director Dr Nicholas Wood has been involved in helping to co-ordinate various events in and around Oxford to mark the 400th Anniversary of the King James Bible. In Trinity Term, Regent's held a well-attended series which played its own part in the celebrations. Several members of our academic team (including Mark Atherton, Larry Kreitzer, Lynn Robson and Deborah Rooke) made fine contributions alongside distinguished visiting scholars, including Professor Helen

Wilcox from Bangor and Dr Roger Pooley from Keele.

As the year began, we were glad to welcome a distinguished Regent's alumna as a new Centre Fellow. Dr Deborah Rooke is an Old Testament scholar who has taught in the University of Wales and at King's College London and is now back in Oxford. She is also a gifted musician who has made a special study of the use of the Bible in the sacred oratorios of Georg Frederik Handel and Oxford University Press will publish this study during the coming year. In Michaelmas Term, Junior Research Fellow Dr Louise Nelstrop spent the term teaching at the United Biblical Seminary in Pune, India, and she and the Director also contributed to some research on Hindu-Christian relations in Britain carried out during the year by the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies on behalf of the Hindu-Christian Forum. We congratulate Louise on her appointment as Director of Christian Spirituality Studies at Sarum College in Salisbury. Dr Wood spent a week of Hilary Term in the USA as an invited participant at the US National Prayer Breakfast and giving a paper at Washington College in Maryland, where the OCCC is developing a partnership with the Institute for Religion, Politics and Culture. We were glad to welcome a small group from Washington College to Regent's for a successful summer school at the end

of Trinity Term. So, from the USA to India and from the seventeenth century to the present day the centre continues its mission of critical engagement and theological reflection.



OXFORD CENTRE FOR Baptist History and Heritage

The CBHH has been reorganised under the Directorship of Dr Anthony R. Cross, has updated its aims and purposes, set up a new Board of Reference, appointed new Research Fellows, begun a publishing programme, started Saturday day conferences, and is planning an international conference for July 2012.

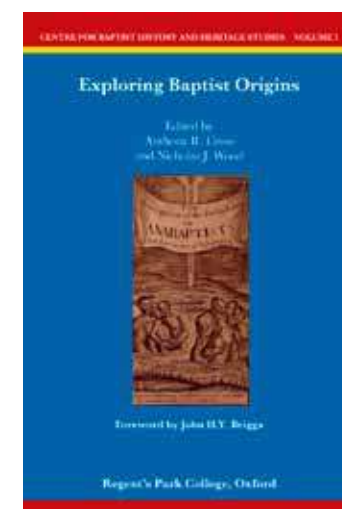
On 23 October 2010 the CBHH held its first Saturday day conference which was followed by a second, held jointly with the Baptist Historical Society.

These day conferences are free of charge to anyone interested in Baptist history and theology. A third Saturday day conference will be held on 29 October 2011 when the speakers will be Dr Robin Parry and Rev. Dr Timothy Welch. These lectures will be added to the College's web pages as audio downloads.

In July 2011, the CBHH held a joint International Conference with The Baptist Historical Society's summer school. The theme of the conference was 'Freedom and the Powers' and was held to mark the 400th anniversary of Thomas Helwys' The Mystery of Iniquity by exploring issues of religious liberty/freedom and liberty of conscience more broadly.

Scan here to go to the publications store ➤

IN THE LAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS THE CENTRE HAS PUBLISHED ELEVEN BOOKS



PUBLICATIONS

Exploring Baptist Origins
(Edited by Anthony R. Cross and Nicholas J. Wood)

Ministry, Sacrament, and Representation: Ministry and Ordination in Contemporary Baptist Theology, and the Rise of Sacramentalism
(Paul W. Goodliff)

'Communion with Christ and his people': The Spirituality of C.H. Spurgeon
(Peter J. Morden)

Questions of Identity: Studies in Honour of Brian Haymes

In the last eighteen months the Centre has published eleven books, all of which are available from:

www.rpc.ox.ac.uk >
Resource Centres > Publications

They are a mixture of monographs, essay collections, occasional papers and a collection of prayers. The Centre's aim is to provide books that will serve the Baptist community from the academic to the popular.

Further volumes are planned.



(Edited by Anthony R. Cross and Ruth Gouldbourne)

A Man sent from God: The Life and Ministry of John T. Hamilton 1916 - 1999
(Brian Talbot)

Baptists and the World: Renewing the Vision. Papers from the Baptist Historical Society Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2008 (Edited by John H.Y. Briggs and Anthony R. Cross)

William Kiffen and his World (Part 1) (Larry J. Kreitzer)

ALUMNI NEWS

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Prof Robin Attfield (1964–1966)

After a career of 42 years at Cardiff University, Prof Robin Attfield retired from full-time work as Professor of Philosophy in 2009, although he continues as a part-time supervisor of doctoral students. To mark his retirement, a conference was held at Cardiff in July 2009, with the proceedings having been published this year. The resulting book is effectively a festschrift, with comments and criticisms on his work from six philosophers and theologians (including a foreword by Mary Midgley) and replies from Prof Attfield.

It is entitled *Creation, Environment and Ethics*, was edited by Rebekah Humphreys and Sophie Vlacos, and is published by Cambridge Scholars Press.

Revd Gill Barrow (1995–1998)

Revd Gill Barrow was ordained a priest in the Church of England in July 2011.

Becky Clarke (2000–2001)

Becky Clarke was awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List for her services to the UK publishing industry.



Mr Mark E Cooper (2002–2005)

Mark E Cooper will be starting his barrister's pupillage at Cornwall Street Chambers in September.

Dr Elena Ene D-Vasilescu (2000–2004)

Dr Elena Ene D-Vasilescu is working on a two-year project on the iconography of St Anna, funded by the British Academy. She is a Research Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Medieval History and attached to the History Faculty in Oxford. She is also a Tutor in Religion and Theology at the Department of Continuing Education in Oxford.

Mr Jim Egli (1976–1977)

Jim Egli is the leadership pastor at the Vineyard Church in Urbana, IL. He finished his PhD in Communication in 2002 and turned his doctoral research on church small group health and growth into a book, *Small Groups, Big Impact*, which was published in February 2011.

Prof Malcolm Evans (1979–1982)

In November 2010, Prof Malcolm Evans was appointed to the Foreign Secretary's Human Rights Advisory Group. The group was established to give the Foreign Secretary the best possible information about human rights challenges and for the Foreign Office to benefit from outside advice on the conduct of its policy.

Revd Nick Fawcett (1981–1984)

Revd Nick Fawcett is now a self-employed editor/author/indexer. He is an Advanced Member of the Society for Editors and Proofreaders and a Professional Member of the Society of Indexers. He has recently written a number of books, including *The Animal Lover's Daily Prayer Book*.

Revd Ian Kemp (1947–1949)

After 13 years in pastoral ministry in New Zealand and 28 years of theological teaching in India and New Zealand, Revd Ian Kemp has been retired for the past 20 years. His wife Elizabeth passed away in 2010, so he lives alone in Auckland. At 85, he is in good health and still active in ministry. His youngest son Hugh has recently been appointed Head of Missions at Redcliffe College in Gloucester.



Mr Wesley Pue (1974–1979)

Wesley Pue was appointed Provost of the University of British Columbia's Okanagan Campus in July 2011. Having completed his undergraduate education at Regent's, he went on to study for his Master of Laws in the field of administrative law at the University of Alberta, and then to York University to study for his PhD in the social history of the legal profession.



Dr Don Sweeting (1981–1984)

In February 2011 Don Sweeting was inaugurated as president of the Reformed Theological Seminary's Orlando Campus (RTS). In March he was elected as a new board member to the National Association of Evangelicals. RTS was founded in 1966 and is one of the largest seminaries in the United States.

Revd Brian Tucker (1957–1960)

As a contribution to the Hitchin Festival, Revd Brian Tucker's church hosted the second Tilehouse Street Lecture. He delivered this, under the title "The Road to Respectability: Hitchin Baptists and their Ministers, 1716-1831". This was a sequel to Stephen Copson's (1984-1988) inaugural lecture last year, "Saints and Outlaws: John Bunyan, Baptists and Hitchin".

Send us your news throughout the year at: www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/rpc

REVD CAROL MURRAY

(Lecturer in Pastoral Studies 1993-2011)

After 18 years of sterling service, Carol Murray has concluded her post as Lecturer in Pastoral Studies at Regent's. She joined the Pastoral Training Team in 1993, a year after John Weaver had succeeded Bruce Keeble as Tutor in Pastoral Theology, and as a new team model for pastoral training was being developed, which also included Grenville Overton (now Regional Team Leader for SCBA) and Nick Wood (now-full time at Regent's), who had very part-time appointments. After over ten years of inner-city ministry at St George's in Bristol, Carol's post was a joint appointment with the rather more rural Haddenham cum Dinton Baptist Church, and alongside her work in college this ministry continued (and will continue for a while yet). This rich and varied experience and her rootedness in pastoral practice gave added credibility to the programme, especially for the majority of students who are also formed for ministry in a church-based context. Carol (and initially Grenville and Nick too) modelled what many ministerial students experienced.

Carol's work continued as a new team was formed under the leadership of Robert Ellis with the addition of Anthony Clarke and Myra Blyth, which brought fresh breadth and energy to the programme. As well as her current practice, students and colleagues alike have valued Carol's wide experience of the variety of Baptist church life, especially through her commitment to the work of BMS World Mission, which she has served as President and Trustee, and which enabled Carol to bring a global perspective to bear on many more local issues. Her regular visits to students in their church settings, and often to their homes and families, have been an important and much-valued part of the programme at Regent's. In teaching too, her special interests in the occasional offices (especially funerals and bereavement care) and in developing a spirituality which sustains for a life of ministry have been much appreciated. As well as continuing in ministry at Haddenham, Carol will also be working as a volunteer in the BMS Archives in the Angus Library and Archive at Regent's, so we will be glad to retain her positive presence in the SCR each week. Thank you Carol for all you have brought to Regent's over the years, and all that you are and continue to be as a colleague, mentor and friend.

[In retaining its commitment to rootedness in practice, the college has appointed three part-time placement tutors – the Revds Dane Baker, Ruth Bottoms and Paul Campion – to work with congregation-based students in their various contexts across the regions we serve.]



GOVERNING BODY CHAIRMAN RETIRES

Bill Johnston was introduced to Regents in the early 1970s by the then Treasurer, Alfred Palmer, who was a long-time friend of the Johnston family. During the 1980s, when the role of Treasurer was going to come vacant, Alfred Palmer put Bill's name forward as a possible candidate to the then Principal, Dr Barrie White. After a short while, Barrie and Colin Saunders [who was then College Solicitor and is still a member of Governing Body] invited Bill for lunch in the SCR and, "like a lamb", Bill accepted the invitation

Bill agreed to serve for five years from 1 April 1988 with the proviso that he would give at least one year's notice if he felt unable to continue. He served as Honorary Treasurer until August 2001, when Prof Paul Fiddes, the Principal of the time, asked him to consider offering himself for the role of Chairman of Council and Governing Body. He was elected Chairman in March 2002. Bill served the College as Chairman for three terms of three years, the maximum time allowed.

"During my time as College Treasurer and Chairman of Governing Body, it has been my privilege to have been involved in the appointment of many senior staff including the last two Principals and to see the College grow in size, reputation and status.



It is very gratifying to see Regents very well placed for its future role in the University and the Baptist Denomination. Whilst it retains some financial challenges which are being worked on and addressed, I am confident these can be overcome.

Working with three Principals has been a particular pleasure, each of whom brought their considerable gifts to the role. I have really enjoyed my time at the College and hope that I have been able to add something of value to the organisation over the 23 years I have been involved with it, but I am really grateful also for all I have gained from my time there. Needless to say, I wish everyone there well for the future." Bill Johnston

The College community is indebted to Bill for the time, expertise and experience he selflessly shared over 23 years. The University has recognised Bill's contribution to the College and the wider University and has made him a 'Distinguished Friend of Oxford'.

"Bill's contribution to Regent's Park College, to its staff and students, is quite remarkable. He has given of his time, energy and ideas so generously for so long. I am delighted that the University is honouring Bill in this way; it will be a proud moment for the College to see him named a 'Distinguished Friend.'" Robert Ellis, Principal.

Bill has been succeeded as Chairman by Prof Malcolm Evans MBE (79-82), who brings to the role a wealth of experience of the higher education sector.



www.rpc.ox.ac.uk