

Sundial

The newsletter for and about
Corpus Christi Alumni
ccc.ox.ac.uk

Corpus Christi
College Oxford 

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Welcome

A Pelican’s Eye View
Professor Richard Carwardine FBA



Welcome to the *Sundial*, a twice-yearly newsletter intended to keep Old Members and friends of Corpus up-to-date with what’s happening in the College. We hope you will find it both informative and entertaining.

This Michaelmas Term sees the arrival of the first generation of undergraduates to face the new tuition charges of £9,000 a year, following the withdrawal of government funding. Naturally, Corpus is determined to ensure that no student with the academic ability is deterred by cost or background from studying here. To that end, and in concert with other colleges, we are offering the most generous financial support of any British university, through a combination of reduced tuition fees and bursaries to help with living costs. Thanks to our endowment and the generosity of alumni, Corpus is able to supplement these University-wide measures with additional schemes to tackle cases of special and unexpected hardship as they arise. I want to reiterate the College’s special thanks to all our Old Members who have made this possible.

It is recognised that universities generally will be under intense scrutiny from those paying the new fees. Corpus welcomes this, of course, since we cherish our teaching and believe we do it well. The tutorial remains the fundamental part of what we do, an unequalled means of developing intellectual independence and individual responsibility. At Corpus, in part because we are small but also, more importantly, because of the commitment of our Tutorial Fellows, all our undergraduates can count upon receiving tutorials from College Fellows who are actively engaged in front-line research, something which is no longer true of all colleges. Our

undergraduates express consistently high levels of satisfaction with their academic experience.

Students, of course, have expectations beyond the academic. With that in mind, the College continues to review its quality of accommodation. As I write, our contractors have begun building a new residential block on a Corpus site in the developing student quarter beyond Oxford Castle. As you will see from the feature on page 10, this will give us forty-five additional study bedrooms next year and provide the space to evacuate and fundamentally refurbish the 1960s Powell & Moya ‘New Building’ in Magpie Lane. When both projects are complete, Corpus will offer some of the best student accommodation in Oxford.

We are on the threshold of not just of a new academic year but also of what promises to be a historic quinquennium, as we move towards our big anniversary in 2017. The five hundred years of our history deserve to be celebrated with joy and in style: we aim to do just that. Several projects are already underway, including a much-needed modern history of the College, which Professor Thomas Charles-Edwards is writing with the aid of Julian Reid, our archivist. Others are in the advanced planning stage. Of these, the most ambitious is a proposed extension of the Library to provide more study space and house the College’s magnificent collection of manuscripts and early printed books. The gift of the early presidents, these collections express the Renaissance purposes of our Founder; of incalculable scholarly value, they deserve to be made more much accessible to readers.

Equally, we intend our Quincentenary to be a time for Old Members to return to enjoy a wide range of festive events – academic, cultural, sporting, and of course gastronomic. We may lack the resources to emulate Danny Boyle’s opening Olympic ceremony (and I have no plans to travel by zip-wire across the front quad) but we do want this to be a memorable episode in our history. So, as we shape our programme for 2017, I warmly welcome your ideas and very much look forward to hearing from you.

Richard Carwardine

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Editors
Nick Thorn
above, right
nick.thorn@ccc.ox.ac.uk

Sarah Salter
above, left
sarah.salter@ccc.ox.ac.uk

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COVER: The sundial at
Corpus Christi College
Photography by Peloton Design

Profile

Professor Lucia Zedner
*Professor of Criminal Justice in
the Faculty of Law and Law Tutor*

Corpus Fellow Professor Lucia Zedner, Professor of Criminal Justice in the Faculty of Law and Law Tutor was one of just 38 academics to be elected to the Fellowship of the British Academy this year. *Nick Thorn* took a moment to talk to her about Law as it is taught at Corpus.

What was your route to Corpus?
I’ve been teaching at Corpus since 1994. I returned to Oxford (having spent time as a doctoral student at Nuffield College) after a stint teaching at the LSE.

What is your specialist area in Law?
It has changed over time. Originally I trained as an historian, but I moved into the study of crime, particularly the study of criminal justice and criminology, before re-training as a lawyer. In recent years I have focussed on criminal law and criminal law theory.

What do Corpus students get out of studying Law at Corpus?
They are lucky to be taught by research active (and research-passionate!) tutors. My colleague Dr Liz Fisher and I are also fortunate to be supported by a full-time Graduate Teaching Assistant. The students are taught criminal law and jurisprudence by me and administrative law and EU law by Liz. Our GTA teaches private law subjects like Contract and Tort Law. This means that the amount of law that is taught ‘in-house’ is pretty substantial and we can really get to know our students as individuals.

Do you get the chance to shape the students’ courses to fit your own interests?
Not really. The subjects taught in the law course in Oxford (as at other universities) are prescribed by the profession’s own governing bodies, but of course you try to bring your own areas of interest to bear within that framework.

What are the challenges ahead for Law students in Oxford?
The real challenge is the contraction in the market for lawyers at the same time as an oversupply of new law graduates. Fortunately, Corpus students have always shown an interest in following quite a diverse array of career paths after graduation. Some have joined the clergy, one trained as an opera singer and a number go into public service. I think the great thing is that law gives you such a good intellectual grounding that the possibilities after Corpus are wide open.

Were you surprised at being elected a Fellow of the British Academy?
I certainly was delighted and surprised, but I was even more surprised to be asked by the Academy to supply material for my own obituary. I hope they won’t need it any time soon!

“
I am thrilled to have been elected as a Fellow of the British Academy and honoured to join such a distinguished and important academic institution. I was just a little surprised to be asked, on election, to supply material in preparation for my obituary.



Charity events

The Tortoise Fair

This year's Tortoise Fair, held on Sunday 3 June, shared the same day and, therefore weather, as the Queen's Jubilee. However, there were still queues into Merton Street and the Tortoise Race went ahead undeterred. This year, Bishop Fox faced competition in the lettuce leaf surrounded circle from Oscar de la Tortoise (Magdalen), Percy (Univ) and Sampras (Christ

Church). Joining them in the centre of the circle, were tortoises from Brasenose, Regent's Park, Jesus and Worcester. In the end, Worcester's aptly-named Zoom left the other tortoises, quite literally, standing, reaching lettuce and victory with quiet determination.
The Fair raised a very creditable £1059.77, which though slightly less than last year, was very impressive, given the appalling weather. The JCR voted to send the money to Reprieve, a charity which assists prisoners facing the death penalty and those held beyond the rule of law.



Corpus retirement

Dave Yeatman bids farewell

After nine years, Dave Yeatman is retiring as Corpus's Head Porter. Dave has welcomed thousands of visitors to his Corpus domain and baffled more than a few of them with his ironic replies to their enquiries.
His career began with the Oxford City and then Thames Valley Police where he worked for 32 years, the last 15 of which were spent with Special Branch, partly in overt and then latterly in covert operations. Through his work, Dave met all the senior members of the Royal Family, including the Queen, the Queen Mother, Prince Charles and Princess Diana. Rejoining civilian life can be a difficult transition, but he soon settled into a new role as Head Porter at Balliol where he stayed for 12 years. Dave brought his constable's bearing to his role as a University Bedel (preceding the Vice-Chancellor during the Encaenia procession) and other occasions where he met many famous honorands, including, most recently, Aung San Suu Kyi.

However, Dave insisted that his most satisfying and enjoyable job, has been working at Corpus. "The warm, friendly environment and the kindness and good humour of my colleagues in the Lodge have made this a very happy time for me," says Dave. His retirement plans include holidays in the Canaries and the USA and spending time with his grandchildren while keeping up with his gardening and woodworking.
Corpus will miss its ebullient and genial head porter.



Corpus capers



LEWIS
As staff arrived one morning during the summer vacation, they were a little startled to see that the College had changed its name. Was this the result of some revolutionary rebranding exercise, some dirty deal contracted with a dubious donor or some manifestation of Presidential megalomania? All became clear as Detective Inspector Lewis emerged from the Chapel, and Corpus (or Benison College, as it is better known) found itself embroiled in yet another grizzly murder.

College faces

Robert Patterson
Hall Manager

Interview by Sarah Salter

Silver Service

There is an atmosphere about dining in Hall which comes partly from the soaring 16th century roof and partly from the light glinting off the silver ware that parades down the tables, but where did these pieces come from and what is their history?

I went to see Robert Patterson who has been Hall Manager since 2001. As well as being in charge of the cellar and the Hall, his many responsibilities include looking after the College silver and its appearance on College occasions.
My visit to the walk-in safe was a revelation. As we looked at the shelves of carefully organised and beautifully polished items, it became obvious that as well as being highly decorative, they also represent the spirit of generosity among our Old Members, which was clearly very active, long before the arrival of the Annual Appeal.
There are some items which, despite their age, are still used every day. For example, there is a collection of small tankards, dating from 1753, which the Fellows regularly use for water on High Table. Then, there is the elaborate two-handled silver gilt Mosely cup and cover (1736) by Paul de Lamerie which is always placed in front of the President. Another fine cup is the 1924 Swiney Prize, awarded to Sir Paul Vinogradoff, a Russian émigré and a Corpus Professor of Jurisprudence, for his work on *Historical Jurisprudence* (1920-2). Not all the silver however relates to academic pursuits... There is a wonderful collection of squat, often heavily ornate, lidded sconce pots. These were a way of imposing penalties for breaches of etiquette during a meal, the offender being required to drain the contents of the sconce. The earliest of these dates from 1685 and is inscribed 'William Schlater'. Sconcing came to an end in the 1970s, but the pots bear witness to this three-hundred-year-old tradition.
Turning to food, my favourite object was a George II soup tureen with, on its lid, a carefully sculpted half-open rose, nestling on 3 leaves. There is also a fine range of mustard pots each sporting a pelican, as well as gravy boats and pepper mills. And then of course, the essential candelabra... Robert admitted that he had found one of the finest, a 1930s triple branch pair by Ramsden & Carr, tucked away at the back of a cupboard.
It is clear from the collection that not all the gifts were specifically commissioned for the College and that some were even hand-me-downs from great houses. However, when asked about making a gift today, Robert politely suggested one proviso, that the donor should check what was needed before presenting a gift – and, apparently, at the moment, we are short of ladles!

➡ **The collection**
The Founder's Plate and other major pieces from the Corpus Collection are now on permanent display at the Ashmolean Museum.



Contacts
Golf: Development Office 01865 276738
Rugby: The Blues Victor Village
www.thevarsitymatch.com

➤ **Upcoming sports events**
The Varsity Match – 6 Dec



Rowing

Interview:
Joe Dawson

Joe Dawson, is a third-year Classicist with ambitions to row in the Blue boat.

Four years ago I was a rather misfit 16 year old, watching the Beijing Olympics on TV, having accidentally flicked it to the right channel at the right time, to see the men’s coxless 4 – GB’s top boat – win the Olympic final. Like many future rowers, I had never been very good at the school sports of Rugby and Football, so on a whim, I decided to give this somewhat niche sport a try.

After 18 months of rowing with the local club on a 700m lake, I was coming to Corpus to read Classics. At the college fresher’s fair, the rowing team’s few but enthusiastic members had set up a rowing machine (an ergometer, or ‘ergo’), and were inviting people to row as low a split as possible for 30 seconds. I stepped up, a tall gangly fresher in a t-shirt and jeans, and promptly produced a score that only the incumbent captain could match.

“So... um... you’re in.”

I was introduced to the Corpus training routine, which involved getting up (before the sun) at 5:30 to row in the cold darkness on the Isis, running the Three Bridges or Headington Hill runs, circuits, and of course, ergos. By

the time Torpids came around, I was stroking the first boat, and over the 4 days, we moved up 5 places, heartbreakingly missing out on blades. After a disappointing Summer Eights, I was keen to keep rowing, and so joined Development Squad of the OUBC.

Having had a disappointing month with them, where I failed to make any boats, I decided to trial nevertheless and see how long I could last before getting cut. Much to my surprise, I never did get cut, won several seat races, knocked 45 seconds off my 5000m ergo test, and made the 5-seat of the Reserve crew Isis. We beat Cambridge, set the reserve course record, and remain the third fastest winning crew in the history of the Boat Race.

Afterwards, I returned to row with Corpus for Summer Eights. On the last day, we set off from the Corpus Boathouse in blistering heat and rowed past the thousands of people who had turned out to watch. As you row up Greenbank, towards Longbridges, you get a fantastic view of all of Boathouse Island, and on that day, I looked up to see the yellow and blue Pelican banner of Corpus snapping in the

breeze. Ten minutes later, we bumped Linacre in front of that banner, to the cheers of most of the College who had turned up to watch. The pride of rowing with College and the adrenaline of bumps racing was, and remains, the highlight of Corpus College life.

At the time of writing, I am for the second time attempting to balance academic commitments with trialling for the Boat Race Squad. The OUBC is playing host, not for the first time, to Olympians, two of whom got medals (of different colours) in the Men’s 8 at London 2012. The post-Olympic year usually sees the strongest athletes of the four-year cycle turn up to trial, and from my vantage point at the start of the season, the squad looks to be one of the strongest Oxford has seen in recent years. The squad and the year will however be judged in very binary terms by an eager public, on the 31st March and it will be up to the athletes, far more than it will the punters or supporters or even the coaches, to determine how we will be judged.

Golf

Annual Alumni Golf Match

The rain held off for the annual Alumni golf match against St Edmund Hall, but nonetheless, by the end of the day, Corpus spirits were severely dampened as they trailed their Queen’s Lane rivals for the second year in succession. One rare glimmer of golfing sunshine was provided by Richard Atkinson (1978), who came third overall. The Corpus performance wasn’t helped by the fact that we were only able to field a team half the size of the Teddy Hall side. Corpus captain, Bill Morris (1964), issued a rallying call to Corpus golfers, “It is imperative that the trophy is returned to its proper place in 2013. If you can play, your College needs you!” If you want to keep up to date with details of forthcoming Corpus golf events, contact the Development Office.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Richard Atkinson, Bill Morris and SEH Captain, Chris Atkinson.

YOUR COLLEGE NEEDS YOU

The College is always keen to hear about the sporting achievements of its Old Members, whether that is marathon-running, climbing Mont Blanc or scoring a hole-in-one. If you have any photos please include them with a brief report of your success. We will endeavour to include at least one story with every future issue of the Sundial.



Rugby

Reunion at The Varsity Match

The Varsity Match at Twickenham in December has been the focus of Oxford and Cambridge rivalry since 1872. Corpus has this year, like other colleges, entered into a partnership with The Blues Village, who are organising tickets and catering for our Old Members. The Corpus Development Office will be on-hand to make sure everything goes smoothly.

The Blues Village in the West Car Park will be the place for the Corpus reunion at Twickenham, with dedicated University and College meeting points in heated marquees in the shadow of the stadium. Tickets for the Blues Village are just £50.00 including a top-price match ticket and your first pint/glass of wine is free.

With live music, great food and beer at only £3.60 a pint, the Blues Village is open from 11am to 7pm (kick-off, 2pm) making it the perfect place for your reunion alongside Blues rugby legends, and the Oxford team (after the game only!).

Access to The Blues Village is by pre-purchased ticket only. Call The Blues Village booking line on 0844 847 2492 and ask for ‘The Varsity Match Blues Village’ or go to *www.thevarsitymatch.com* to book your tickets.

The big picture

Escaping Colditz

Flt Lt Dominic Bruce MC

Flt Lt Dominic Bruce MC (far left), cox to the 1947 Men's First VIII, was also the most prolific escaper from Colditz Castle during WWII. His diminutive stature allowed him to hide in a tea-chest which was removed by guards from the British dormitory to a storage room. From there he was able to escape to Danzig, where he was recaptured. Flt Lt Bruce was later portrayed by David McCallum in the popular BBC drama series, Colditz.



CORBIS ARCHIVES

New accommodation

New building underway

In response to the increasing demand for good quality undergraduate accommodation, a brand new building is being constructed for the College on site of the old Cantay warehouse off Park End Street. The new building will comprise 45 en-suite rooms, arranged in groups of five around a common kitchen and dining area. This part of the city has proved popular with Oxford undergraduates in recent years, being close enough to college and university facilities, within a short walk of the railway station and close to most of the student night-spots. A number of other colleges have already invested in student housing in the area and the development of the Corpus building means that more peripheral accommodation, which is expensive to operate and maintain, can eventually be released. JCR representatives have been closely involved in the design of the rooms, which will be light and comfortable and sound-proofed from the evening hubbub of this lively area.

The cost of the new development is being met through the sale to a private buyer of 8 Park Town, a Victorian building which currently houses just twelve students. There is an increasing demand for modern summer accommodation from international summer schools and it is anticipated that the letting of rooms in the new building will add to the College's income during the long vacation. If the work proceeds to schedule, the first students should be moving in at the beginning of the 2013/14 academic year.

BELOW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Colin Holmes, Richard Carwardine, John Harrison



Colin Holmes, the College's Domestic Bursar said, "This is an extremely exciting development, adding to the College's stock of excellent student rooms within the City centre, and we hope that it may also give us the opportunity to modernise the 1960's Powell & Moyer 'New Building' in Magpie Lane after the Park End Street rooms come on stream."

Demolition work on the old warehouse which forms the main part of the Corpus site has already begun and the President, Professor Richard Carwardine, was on-hand to play his part in proceedings.

This is an extremely exciting development, adding to the College's stock of excellent student rooms within the City centre.
Colin Holmes,
Corpus Domestic Bursar



Corpus Association Biennial Dinner

Biennial dinner

Bookings were brisk for the Biennial Dinner this year and so it was no surprise to see the hall brimming with Corpuscles from an extraordinarily broad range of years from Rolf Christophersen (1939) to Glen Smith et al (2001). The unexpectedly warm and sunny weather meant that pre-dinner drinks could be served on the Handa Terrace, above the new MBI Auditorium, with its fine views of the gardens and Christ Church meadows all suffused with an early autumnal glow. After dinner, Bill Morris, Chairman of the Corpus Association, replied to the President's welcome and expressed his pleasure at being back at Corpus, amongst old friends and new. This year, there was a break in tradition and the festivities continued in the newly-refurbished JCR Bar with some of the younger cohort reliving past sporting triumphs and taking advantage of the table-football, dartboard and pool-table.

The next morning, there was a chance to see the new Corpus-made documentary *The Treasures of the Corpus Christi Library*. This was followed by a joint presentation from the President and the Bursar about preparations for the College's Quincentenary in 2017. This ranged from a discussion of the form the celebrations will take (there will be plenty of them throughout the year!) to the projects which the College hopes to have underway, or even in place, to mark this significant date. The Bursar, John Harrison, described the proposals for an extension to the Library to house and display our manuscripts as well as the acquisition of the Park End Street building (see adjacent story) and ambitious plans for the refurbishment of the Chapel. The aim of these developments would be to strengthen and enhance the College's next 500 years.

From the present and future of the College, the morning then turned to a look at past relations between the Dutch and the English. In a lecture entitled *The Best of Enemies*, Geert Janssen, Fellow in Early Modern Dutch History, gave a thoughtful and very well received talk on the Anglo-Dutch wars of the 17th century (see opposite page).

The Corpus Papers 01

In this new series of articles, a Corpus academic is asked to comment on one item from the College's collection of manuscripts and early printed books. *Geert Janssen*, Senior Research Fellow in Dutch History, looks at the famous Amboyna pamphlets.

The Best of Enemies
Geert Janssen

Corpus' Special Collections of early printed books and manuscripts are a true treasure trove for scholars of the early modern period. Among its lesser-known yet intriguing items is a collection of seventeenth-century pamphlets. Printed on thin, cheap paper three of them are dedicated to a violent clash between Dutch and English merchants on the island of Amboyna in 1623 (see picture). At the time, England and the Netherlands were fierce commercial rivals in the East Indies. The island of Amboyna, part of present-day Indonesia, played a key role in the lucrative trade in spices. In 1605 the Dutch had established a trading post and fortress on the island, but English traders claimed access to Amboyna's spice markets too. When in 1622 rumours spread about an English conspiracy, the Dutch governor acted swiftly. He had several Englishmen arrested, questioned and tried. According to the Dutch trial records, the men confessed as charged and were executed for treason. Interestingly, the engraving appears to show an early form of 'waterboarding'.

When the news about the 'Amboyna massacre' reached England the following year, it caused an uproar. The English East India Company sent a formal complaint to the Dutch States General and a long diplomatic battle followed. It coincided with the launch of an anti-Dutch media campaign, of which the Corpus pamphlets are striking examples. Interestingly, the Amboyna pamphlet war would flare up several times during the seventeenth century, especially in periods when relationships between the Dutch and the English were tense. It is typical that Corpus also holds 'Amboyna pamphlets' from 1651 and 1652, the starting-point of the First Anglo-Dutch war. The gruesome Amboyna story thus served propagandist purposes, re-emerging in the English press whenever war with the Dutch was looming. Like tabloid papers today, pamphlets could be produced quickly and cheaply and were able to kindle popular discontent and shape public opinion.

The Amboyna pamphlets may not be the most visually spectacular items of Corpus' rich special collections, but they are important sources for scholars interested in public debate and the history of the British press. Just like the tabloid papers of the twenty-first century, they only tell you half the story. For example, the pamphletist's tendency to picture the relationships between England and the Netherlands purely in terms of conflict and rivalry was, in fact, misleading. In the seventeenth century the two countries also had a great deal in common. As two Protestant nations, they often shared the same enemies (Spain and France) and maintained numerous cultural, intellectual and economic links. The English-Scottish house of Stuart and the Dutch house of Orange were intermarried. In recent years, historians have stressed that in the seventeenth century the North Sea did not so much serve as a barrier, but as a unifying space. After all, it was much easier and quicker to travel over sea than over land. Seen from this perspective, the English Channel served as a cultural highway, facilitating close and regular contacts between the Low Countries and the British Isles. Corpus' special collections show some of the fascinating outcomes of this ambiguous relationship.



TOP: Geert Janssen
ABOVE: Engraver's impression of the Amboyna torture scene

Research

Professor Peter Nellist
Tutor for Materials Science

SEEING IS BELIEVING

How electron microscopes make better materials

Professor Peter Nellist explains how, by using electron microscopes to look at atoms, new advances in the efficiency of LED lighting are being made possible.

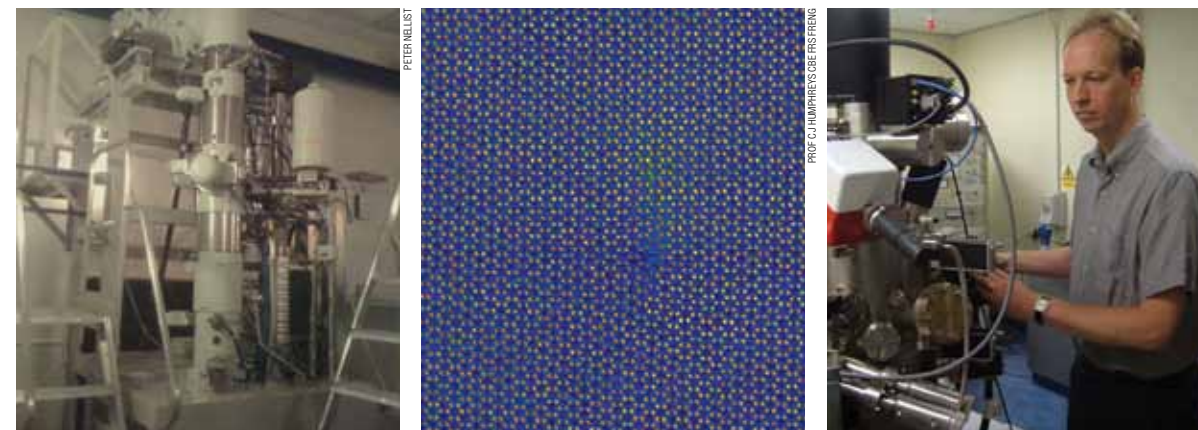
Atoms are the fundamental building blocks of all matter. As a Materials Scientist, one thing that particularly excites me is our ability to measure where the atoms are in a material and how they bond together. Relating this atomic detail to the measurable macroscopic properties of the material, understanding the so-called structure-property relationship, gives us an opportunity to develop ways to process materials to modify their atomic structure and thereby improve their properties. Indeed, improving materials properties and processing has been one of the cornerstones of our development as a civilisation. For example, the development of metals processing allowed us to move on from the stone age through the bronze and iron ages. Today, we are improving semiconductor materials to develop new solid-state lighting technologies that are aiming to be 10 times more efficient than conventional light bulbs, reducing our demand for energy.

As a schoolboy I can remember being told that it was impossible to see atoms – they were simply just too small. Indeed they are small. If we magnified an atom so that it was the size of a ping-pong ball, the ball, similarly magnified, would be the size of the earth. I do, however, now derive a great satisfaction

from proving my teachers wrong and devoting my research activity to ‘seeing’ atoms. The key is that I can access some of the world’s most powerful electron microscopes, and I would like to illustrate the importance of electron microscopy by describing how it has been used in the study of a particularly common feature in the atomic arrangement in materials, the dislocation.

The vast majority of materials that we use are crystalline to some degree, which means that their atoms are arranged neatly in periodic rows and columns. Until the middle of the last century, a particular puzzle was why metals could be so easily bent. This so-called plasticity is of crucial importance – you really don’t want the wing on your aeroplane to bend easily! With the atoms all sitting nicely in their periodic arrangement, calculations suggested that the force needed to get these rows of atoms to slide over each other to allow the metal to bend should be much higher than that found experimentally. A type of defect in the crystal, known as a dislocation, had been proposed as a way of explaining the observed plasticity. In one type of dislocation, an extra plane of atoms exists in just part of the crystal and where this plane terminates is known as the dislocation

BACKGROUND IMAGE: An electron microscope image of dislocations in stainless steel. This image was taken by M.J. Whelan, P.B. Hirsch and co-workers in 1957.



ABOVE: One of the most powerful electron microscopes currently available: the Oxford-JEOL 2200MCO located at the Begbroke Science Park.

CENTRE: A modern electron microscope image of atoms in gallium nitride. The atoms appear as bright blobs (sample courtesy of Professor Sir Colin Humphreys CBE).

FAR RIGHT: Professor Peter Nellist.

core itself. Like pushing a kink across a rug to move it easily over a carpet, movement of the dislocation through the crystal allows the atoms to move over each other.

The existence of the dislocation was hotly debated with indirect evidence slowly mounting for it. In the late 1950s, Peter Hirsch in Cambridge led a group that decided to put a thin foil of metal into one of the newly developed commercial electron microscopes that had been developed during the post-war years. They were able to see the dislocations (see image above, centre) as lines in the microscope image, and much to their surprise, watch them move as the foil of metal deformed slightly. This observation was one of the key developments in Materials Science, and has led to using impurities in metals, forming alloys, that can help to stop dislocations moving and preventing metals bending. Aluminium alloys are now one of the main materials used for aircraft frames. Peter Hirsch later moved to Oxford (1966) and became the Wolfson Professor of Metallurgy, successfully building up what, at that time, was still a very new department.

In the 21st century, electron microscopy is now undergoing a new revolution in performance. Electrons are focused using lenses formed from

magnetic fields, and technology has been developed that significantly improves the quality of the lenses available. Observing the arrays of atoms in crystals is now possible and I am able to use these new instruments in the study of dislocations, but this time of the material gallium nitride. The question this time is not of plasticity, but in the way dislocations reduce the efficiency of solid-state lighting, which relies on gallium nitride. Finding ways of reducing the density of dislocations will improve the efficiency and extend the life of these new lights, and the processing involved with doing this relies on detailed studies of the structure of the dislocation. The image shows a recently recorded image of a dislocation in gallium nitride viewed along its edge in projection, and a challenge to the reader, in this more complicated structure, is to identify the extra half plane of atoms. The microscopes needed to observe features like this are multimillion pound instruments, and providing and maintaining these crucial capabilities at a research intensive university like Oxford is becoming increasingly challenging during a time of tightened research funding. Nonetheless, I find these pictures of atoms in materials to be things of beauty, and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to look at nature at this scale.

Regulars & Fundraising



New portrait

Thomas Hornsby

The College has just acquired a copy of a portrait of Thomas Hornsby, who was admitted as a Fellow at Corpus in 1760. Hornsby was one of the College's most eminent early scientists – Reader in Experimental Philosophy, Savilian Professor of Astronomy, Sedilian Professor of Natural Philosophy and the first Radcliffe Observer, as well as serving as Radcliffe Librarian. He was to spend the rest of his life in Oxford and marked his election to the fellowship by constructing his own observatory in the College.

Having been impressed with the results of a very expensive 32 inch mural quadrant which he had acquired for himself, he set about petitioning the Radcliffe trustees to build a new observatory for the university, capable of holding an even larger telescope. Building work began in 1772 and continued for five years under Hornsby's personal supervision. Although he suffered regular epileptic fits, his dedication to the project was unstinting. Once the new telescope had been installed, Hornsby could not resist an expression of personal pride, 'I scruple not to call it by far the best instrument of the kind in the world'.

Thomas Hornsby died in 1810 and was buried at St Giles'. In 1973 a lunar crater was named in his honour.

MORE CHAIRS

Following the success of the sponsorship of the new chairs in the Hall, the College now has plans to commission a set of fourteen chairs for the Founder's Room. (NB The previous scheme was oversubscribed). To register your interest in the scheme (and avoid disappointment) please contact the Development Office.



Fundraising

The Corpus Telethon 2012

The Corpus Telephone Appeal 2012 came to a close on the night of Sunday 7 October. The seven Corpus undergraduates who made the calls were based in the University Development Offices in Wellington Square, alongside teams from Wadham, Hertford and Mansfield. To help them make the best of their opportunity, the students had a half day of training in College and then another two days with members of the University Development Office who are running this year's Telethon. As the two weeks progressed, there was plenty of friendly rivalry between the Colleges over amounts raised, but in the end, the Corpus team came a very respectable second (after Wadham) having raised over £92,000 through a combination of single and regular gifts. Donations are still coming in, so we confidently expect the final total to be more than £100,000.

As well as raising a significant amount of money, the Corpus team clearly enjoyed their conversations with Old Members very much and learnt a great deal about the world after Corpus.

A huge thank you to everyone who has taken the time to talk to a Corpus student and also for your very generous contributions.

New arrivals

The Michael Brock Junior Research Fellowship

Following a lunch to celebrate the 90th birthday of their former tutor, Michael Brock, a number of Old Members thought it would be a good thing to do something tangible to acknowledge all that Michael had done for his students during his 16 years as Fellow and Tutor in History and Politics at Corpus. They also wanted to acknowledge his later contribution to the wider academic world, as Vice-President and Bursar of Wolfson College, and then as Warden of Nuffield College and Editor of the *History of the University of Oxford* (1800-1914).

They approached the College with the suggestion that they might collectively fund a three year Junior Research Fellowship in History, to be named after Michael. They were keen that this should also provide a springboard for the career of a promising young historian. The College eagerly agreed and set about searching for a suitable candidate who specialised in nineteenth/twentieth century history, reflecting Michael's own particular area of interest.

Following a superb fundraising effort among their contemporaries, a sufficient amount was raised to make the appointment possible. In the face of strong competition, Dr Ben Mountford, an Australian-born historian, was appointed to the post. His interests centre on modern British history and the history of the British Empire. His research project will investigate the evolving relationship between Britain and the rest of the British World from the 1850s to the early twentieth century. It will focus on the imperial tours of a number of prominent metropolitan Britons, starting with Lord Salisbury and Sir Charles Dilke. As a mark of Michael's and the College's appreciation of the generosity of his former pupils, a special lecture will be given by Ben in 2013 to which all donors to the fund will be invited.

RIGHT: Dr Ben Mountford



Listing

Offers for Alumni



Conference

Discount on Conference Facilities for Corpuscles

The College has a range of meeting rooms available for hire, mainly during the vacations, but also some limited availability during term-time. Room capacities range from 10 to 120 people and the College also offers comprehensive catering and audio-visual facilities. Old Members are entitled to a 20% discount on the College's standard room hire fees. Please contact Colin Holmes (colin.holmes@ccc.ox.ac.uk) for further information.



Hotel

Oxford Hotel Discount for Old Members

The College has arranged a discount for Old Members on rooms at the newly-refurbished Head of the River at Folly Bridge. Double en-suite rooms with full English breakfast, normally priced at £180 per night, will be available at just £95. Bookings must be made through Sarah Salter in the College Development Office (sarah.salter@ccc.ox.ac.uk).

Corpus Christi College Alumni events



November 2012

Tuesday 27 November London Drinks

Annual drinks party for Old Members based in the London area. Generously hosted by a Corpus Alumnus. Further details to follow.

December 2012

Saturday 1 December Carol Service for Old Members

The perfect start to Christmas. Details of how to book for this very popular event will follow.

Thursday 6 December Varsity Rugby Match

Let battle commence! See page 7 for more information. To book, call The Blues Village booking line on 0844 847 2492 and ask for 'The Varsity Match Blues Village' or go to www.thevarsitymatch.com to book your tickets.

Friday 14 December Gaudy for 2002-2004 Matriculands

Invitations to this black tie reunion dinner in College will be sent out shortly.

February 2013

Saturday 16 February The Michael Brock Lecture – 11am

New arrival, Ben Mountford (see page 15), delivers a lecture in honour of former Tutor and Fellow in History and Politics, Michael Brock CBE, in the MBI Auditorium.

April 2013

Friday 26 to Sunday 28 April Oxford University European Reunion in Madrid

Following the huge success of the University Reunion in Paris in 2011 (for pictures, please see www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/page.aspx?pid=728), the Madrid Reunion promises to be even more spectacular. The programme of events will include a reception at the British Embassy, as well as a private dinner for Corpus Old Members. If you are interested in this event, please email Sarah (sarah.salter@ccc.ox.ac.uk), so that we can start to gauge numbers.

May 2013

Date to be confirmed New York Reunion Dinner

New York in the spring time... The President will be hosting a Dinner in May for Corpus Old Members and their partners. Details of this event to follow.

Saturday 25 May Eights Week Lunch

After lunch in College, come down to the river and cheer on the Corpus teams from the vantage of the Boat House.

June 2013

Friday 21 June Gaudy for 1959-64 Matriculands

A not-to-be-missed Gaudy, as for many it will be, it 50 years or more since they first set foot in Corpus!

October 2013

Friday 4 October Decade Dinner for 1990-99 Matriculands

A Gaudy – but on a larger scale...