Spring 2006

a newsletter for members of King’s College, Cambridge

The legacy issue
Editor’s Letter

Are we in the midst of an obsession with ‘legacy’? Last November The Wall Street Journal published an article on King’s obituaries, and now the BBC has two obituary strands, Last Word, and Great Lives. In this issue we join in and indulge fully in the pastime.

The cover shows Henry VI, to publicise the KCA Day’s focus on the Founder and his legacy. We carry Karl Sabbagh’s riotous composite King’s obituary, written a while back, with an invitation to have a go at identifying the Kingsman referred to in each sentence. Patricia McGuire, King’s Archivist, reflects on a Kingsman who saved the archives of several Dutch towns during WWII; Peter Jones, Librarian, recounts how King’s once had a nice line in proving wills. Should the phrase ‘leaving a legacy’ strike an unpleasantly ‘Jarndyce and Jarndyce’ note, we hope you will be uplifted by the story of one Kingsman’s decision to leave a musical legacy. (And then again, since dictionary definitions frequently include the figurative use, there’s always the opportunity to leave a legacy of “… mismanagement, dishonour or disease…” — au choix.)

We also include a delightful memoir from William Plowden (1955) about his time with Tony Tanner in America in 1959. This was delivered on 11 March when current and former King’s English students and Fellows gathered in King’s for a day of readings, discussions and celebration.

Information about how to leave a legacy, and how to make a donation to King’s — which you can now do online — is available both on the website and from the Development Office directly.

Sadly, no economist has come forward with a solution to last issue’s sapling question. However, I was advised at the recent Economists’ Dinner to ask a botanist instead.

Thank you to all members for your continuing flow of correspondence, interest and suggestions.

Alison Carter
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Please see the website www.kings.cam.ac.uk for details of all forthcoming events and concerts, or contact the Development Office. development.office@kings.cam.ac.uk

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Cover shows Henry VI King and Martyr: from a window in the Hacumblen Chapel, King’s College Chapel. Anglo – German, c.1525.

COVER PHOTO: ANNA COOK

College news

Provost-Elect

On 2 May the Fellows elected Professor Ross Harrison (1975) as the College’s next Provost. Ross is a Fellow of King’s, and in the past has served both as Director of Studies and Admissions Tutor. As a philosopher, he has taught in Cambridge (where he was also Chair of the Faculty of Philosophy), Bristol, Berkeley (California), and University College London where he is currently Quain Professor of Jurisprudence. He has also held visiting research appointments at St Andrews and the LSE. He has worked in several branches of philosophy; his most recent major publication is Hobbes, Locke, and Confusion’s Masterpiece (CUP 2003). He takes up his duties on 1 January 2007.

The Zukerman Research Fellowship

The College is delighted to announce that following a visit to Cambridge in January by M. E. Zukerman (1966) and his wife Karen, The Zukerman Charitable Trust is giving $50,000 a year in perpetuity to fund The Zukerman Research Fellowship at King’s ‘to support excellence in interdisciplinary research and learning in the humanities and sciences’. Equivalent to a £1 million donation to the King’s endowment, this is a major contribution to research at King’s and all the more welcome coming as it does after several years of reduced funding for research.

Mo Zukerman recalls his time at King’s as a Knox Fellow – page 18.

The Politics of Domestic Authority in Britain, 1800–2000

In 1896, a well known writer on domestic affairs, Mrs Panton, gave a piece of advice to mistresses of male domestic servants. She instructed them to only hire their male servants from old soldiers’ associations, because this gave the mistress an extra power in her dealings with her servants – instead of simply giving them a ‘talking to’ if they misbehaved or took to drink, she could threaten to make a complaint that would lead to the loss of their pension rights. This conference will investigate the practices, resources and dynamics of domestic authority, played out between mistresses and servants, husbands and wives, parents, children and the elderly over the past two centuries.

Supported by the King’s College Research Centre, the conference is organised in King’s by Lucy Delap (1997) Research Fellow, History. The conference is to be held at King’s on July 26 and 27 2006.

http://www.domesticauthorityconference.com
New Music

Cellist Anton Lukoszevieze is the Kettle’s Yard New Music Fellow. As part of the rotating arrangement between colleges he is living in King’s. Working across many media, he is also active as a video/film and sound artist. “Last term I organised a seminar in the Art Room when we shared films, I’m planning to perform in the SCR, and am planning to re-create an experimental opera by Tom Phillips with willing students.” As founder and director of the ensemble Apartment House he is known for his performances of avant-garde, experimental and improvised music. Unique in the UK through his use of the curved bow (BACH-Bogen), he is using this to develop new repertoire for the cello. Anton is the subject of four films (FoxFire Eins) by the artist-filmmaker Jayne Parker, and has performed concerto with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra at the 2001 Aldeburgh festival and the Netherlands Radio Symphony Orchestra. Details of forthcoming concerts on www.kettlesyard.co.uk

Summer courses in King’s for American students

King’s has joined Pembroke College to deliver a programme of intellectually demanding summer courses for American university students. Courses run for eight weeks in July and August 2006, enabling up to 160 students to gain full benefit from the Cambridge approach and style of teaching. Eighteen different courses are on offer. The Pembroke International Programmes have been running for 30 years, originally in conjunction with the University of California. Now they are also recruiting students from East Coast universities including Harvard and Yale.

Tutors from King’s include Peter Jones, Vice-Provost and Librarian, who will be teaching Bloomsbury and 20th Century English Culture, Dr Kim Wagner who will teach ‘Orientalism’ and the Western Imagination and William Grundy who offers Cambridge and the Origins of Analytic Philosophy.

http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/international-programmes/uceap.html

A sub-set of King’s Fellows with new-ish arrivals to their families.

George Efstathiou (1980, FRS, Professor of Astrophysics and Director of the Institute of Astronomy) with his wife Yvonne Nobis, and sons Peter, 18, Frankie, 3 and Alex 8 months.
The English Day would not have been possible without the participation of the following members of King’s in the panel discussions and readings ... thank you.

“English Studies Today.” Elizabeth Eger (1990, Lecturer in Eighteenth-Century and Romantic Literature, King’s College, University of London); Neil Forsyth (1962, Professor of Modern English Literature, Université de Lausanne); John Higgins (1973, Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, University of Cape Town); David Simpson (1976, Distinguished Professor and G.B. Needham Fellow at the University of California-Davis).

“Teatre, Publishing, Journalism.” Will Eaves (1986, Arts Editor TLS); Simon Hoggart (1965, Political sketchwriter at the Guardian); Brigid Larmour (1977, a producer, director and teacher specialising in new plays and Shakespeare); Cressida Leyshon (1988, the deputy fiction editor at The New Yorker).


150 King’s members – and their guests – gathered in King’s on 11 March to celebrate King’s English, attending two of four possible sessions in the afternoon followed by dinner. The day, which was also the occasion of the launch of the Tony Tanner Artist-in-Residence Scheme, was organised by English Fellows Peter de Bolla, David Hillman, Stefan Hoesel-Uhlig and Nicky Zeeman.

David Simpson (1976) was a Fellow and Director of Studies in English from 1976 –1981. He is Distinguished Professor and G.B. Needham Fellow at the University of California-Davis and his latest publication is 9/11: The Culture of Commemoration (University of Chicago Press, 2006). Nicky Zeeman (1995) is a Fellow. “It was very clear that no one person present had a total view of King’s: everyone has their piece of time at the College and their particular experience — but it was rather wonderful having all these multiple perspectives together all at once.”

Brigid Larmour (1977) developed an interactive promenade series of Shakespeare productions for the National Theatre, ‘Shakespeare Unplugged’, and has produced plays in the West End for eight years.

Tristan Hughes (1996) is the author of two novels, The Tower (2004) and Send My Cold Bones Home (2006). He was born in Canada and brought up on the island of Ynys Mon, North Wales, where he now lives. Before becoming an independent producer in 2001, Gwynn Pritchard (1965) was for nine years Head of Welsh Broadcasting with BBC Wales, in charge of all their output in Welsh on television, radio and the internet. “I found the entire day enjoyable and stimulating in equal measure and without being in the least pious, a real tribute to Tony Tanner.”

Elizabeth Eger (1990) is Lecturer in Eighteenth-Century and Romantic Literature, King’s College, University of London. She is currently completing a book, Living Muses: Women of Reason from Enlightenment to Romanticism and is co-curating an exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery on intellectual women and the public sphere during the British Enlightenment. Patrick Sheil (1990) has a book coming out with Ashgate entitled Kierkegaard and Levinas: The Subjunctive Mood. He has worked for a time at English Heritage and is now employed by Cambridgeshire County Council at the Archaeology Field Unit in Fulbourn.
Luke Skrebowski (1996) is currently undertaking doctoral research on the relationship between avant-garde art and technological development at the Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy, Middlesex University. “I think the event served as a great stimulus for intergenerational, international and, more surprisingly, interdisciplinary discussion.” Leo Mellor (1996) is a Fellow and Director of Studies in English at New Hall. His research is focused on descriptions of twentieth century ruins, especially WWII bombsites; interwar fiction, with particular regard to Patrick Hamilton and Edward Upward; and the links between literature and locale. Jay Basu (1996) is a novelist and a screenwriter. The Stars Can Wait was published by Jonathan Cape in 2002, and the award-winning film Song of Songs recently went on release around the UK. “King’s English continues to be a great influence on me, even now. I’m happy to celebrate it.”

John Higgins (1973) was recently elected a Life Fellow of the University of Cape Town for his distinguished contribution to research and he was also awarded one of the first three "A" ratings in the Humanities by South Africa’s National Research Foundation. His most recent publication was a critique of Institutional Culture at South African Universities for the National Council on Higher Education.

Polly Shields (1989) trained as a teacher in 1996 and is now working as a Literacy Consultant for Hackney LEA primary schools. “Teaching is challenging, stimulating and rewarding, but it took me four years after graduating even to consider it as a career. Why does it have such a low profile at Cambridge?”

Nash (1987) completed the BBC TV production training scheme in 1993 and is currently making a series for the Discovery Channel. “It was great to be back at King’s and to see old friends again. Simon Hoggart gave an extremely entertaining speech, there were some very warm tributes to Tony Tanner and the Dadie Rylands filmed interview was both historic and hilarious.” Cressida Leyshon (1988) is the deputy fiction editor at The New Yorker. “When I was studying English at King’s I could sometimes feel as though I was dismantling all the ways I’d once thought about language and literature and starting all over again. There was quite a lot of confusion – and sometimes a bit of pain – in that process, but there are very few times in life that you’ll be surrounded by people who are interested in that confusion, as we were at King’s. It was strangely moving to be in a room full of people who may have undergone something similar, whether forty years earlier or fifteen years later, as well as to learn so much about Tony Tanner, who’d been fomenting some of that powerful confusion for decades.”

Mohammad Shaheen (1968) is a professor of English and Chairman of the English Department at the University of Jordan.

Pat Parrinder (1967) has written on H. G. Wells, science fiction, James Joyce, and the history of the English novel. He is a professor of English at the University of Reading.

The Tony Tanner Artist-in-Residence Scheme.

Tony, who taught generations of English students how to respond to works of literature, was an enthusiastic supporter of the artists in residence in King’s from 1970–90. The new scheme has been kick-started with a donation from Critical Quarterly and contributions have also been received from several King’s members. Our goal is £100,000 to run such a scheme in perpetuity. We are aiming to announce the first residency – for a writer in honour of Tony – in 2008.

To make a donation to the Tony Tanner Artist-in-Residence Scheme, please request a donation form, which includes a Gift Aid declaration, from the Development Office (01223 331443). Full details of ways to give, including online, are available on the website at: www.kings.cam.ac.uk/development/assistance.html

UK Taxpayers can complete the Gift Aid section on the donation form to enable to College to reclaim tax, increasing the value of any gift at no cost to the donor. US Taxpayers should donate through Cambridge in America, P.O. Box 9123 JAF BLG, New York, NY 10087 – 9123.
In the spring of 1958, shortly before graduating from King’s, I heard that I had been awarded a Commonwealth Fund (subsequently Harkness) Fellowship to study and travel in the USA, by the Commonwealth Fund of New York. After some uncertainty, I decided to go to the University of California, at Berkeley.

Later I learned that one PA Tanner, of Jesus College, had been awarded a similar fellowship and that he too was going to Berkeley. We’d never met at Cambridge; in fact Tony told me later that he had disliked the kind of “King’s and Trinity” crowd that he thought I hung out with. I sought him out some time that summer: he was handsome, cool, sardonic. I liked him immediately. We met again in New York in September; I decided to fly to the west coast, he went by train. We joined up in Berkeley, where we found to our dismay that we were billeted in International House, an amiable and probably admirable institution but where we would have to live for a year or more in monastic rooms opening off linoleumed corridors. We weren’t reassured when the first evening’s entertainment was international folk-singing. It seemed likely that we would be asked to lead an evening of British folk-singing. We felt that this wasn’t what we had come to the United States for; we decided to pool our resources, and took a rented apartment. Thus began a 12-month relationship with Tony. I lived with him at closer quarters and over a longer period than with anyone before or since other than my wife. (I went back to Britain at the end of the year, Tony stayed on for another.)

Propinquity began with the apartment. It had one sitting room, one small bedroom with a large double bed. We separated this into mattress and frame, with the mattress on the floor, and took turns to sleep in each. We bought the essentials: radio, record-player, records, bourbon. Some things we didn’t buy: several weeks later I noted in a letter that we had no broom, “and consequently the dust has accumulated under the bed in great woolly balls. However, this will shortly blow out, I expect, and then we shall be forced to act”. Some months later another letter recorded our pleasure in staying somewhere in beds with pillows, another item we’d never got round to.

We soon got into a routine. We took it in turns to make breakfast, as well as to sleep on the floor. Tony bought a lot of Frank Sinatra records and played them very loud. We walked to the campus, where we often lunched together. Evenings we often drove into San Francisco to parties or to little jazz clubs where, in those days, one could literally sit at the feet of Miles Davis, Coleman Hawkins, the Modern Jazz Quartet and others. We called on old friends down the road at Stanford. We both made new friends and shared them with each other. One of my letters records that I was browsing in a San Francisco bookstore late one evening “when I heard some grotesquely English voices in the street: I thought jesus the bloody English with their affected accents, they’re everywhere, and actually went out of the store to see what sort of people they could be. It turned out to be Tony and brilliant poet Thom Gunn. Went with them to a bar, then to a couple of other places, then a jazz club, home around two.” Thom Gunn of course became one of Tony’s closest California friends.

We explored San Francisco, the California coastline north and south, and at weekends the wine country and the Sierras. I remember a weekend in Virginia City, up in the mountains, where we were surprised by
snow and were told we were the only visitors in town. We ate bear stew and for once shared a bed, as the only way of keeping warm. We drove back through the snow, unable to put the chains on our tyres, the car occasionally turning round slowly on the edge of an invisible gulf full of pine trees, Tony “forever drawing breath and clutching the armrest”. We made other visits, to Seattle, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Death Valley. We visited Jack London’s house.

If we were close during the academic year we were even closer when, in June 1959, we set out to drive, a long way round, back to New York. Our serpentine route took us via New Mexico, Mexico City, Texas, Louisana, the deep south, Thomas Wolfe’s and Thomas Jefferson’s houses, Washington DC, Philadelphia, New England – a total of nearly 13,000 miles, ending up in New York after 2½ months. We slept in cheap motels – $5 was our target price – and in our sleeping bags in the open air. I recorded in letters that Tony was anxious about things crawling into his sleeping-bag in the desert, and that in Mexico he cautiously ate mainly bacon and eggs. We shared the driving equally. He ran a red light in Santa Fe; I failed to see a traffic policeman in Guanajato. He was the most equable travelling companion. I don’t remember a harsh or despairing word from him – not when the car stuck in the sand off-road in the Nevada desert, nor when we locked the keys in it and in a very frosty dawn had to jump around in our pyjamas trying to smash a window, when we left our smart suits in a Mexican motel and had to drive back the 100 miles we had just come to retrieve them, when he got a “colossal electric shock” in a Mexican hotel bathroom, when there was a shooting in the next motel room and we were roused out by the cops at 3.00 am.

Tony was endlessly fascinated by every aspect of American life, from small to large: the novels of Saul Bellow, the music, the hot roast chickens sold in supermarkets. He didn’t always approve; he hated the South, and the attitudes and views of whites (often made quite explicit to us as supposedly sympathetic visitors) to blacks.

In fact he was the most equable companion in all circumstances. I can recall only one altercation with him, during our drive or our time together, when driving somewhere in the deepest South I incautiously suggested that American blacks had an innate sense of rhythm lacking among whites. Tony’s indignation at this well-meant but inappropriate generalisation was passionate, deeply sincere and ahead of its time. I suppose that description applies nicely to Tony himself. I had a wonderful year with him, and it left me with memories that I have always greatly valued.

William Plowden graduated from King’s in 1958 and spent the next year as a Harkness Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley. He was subsequently a senior civil servant, a full-time and visiting academic, director-general of the Royal Institute of Public Administration, director of Harkness Fellowships and an independent consultant working in some 20 different countries. He has published books and articles in the field of government and politics.
New faces in the Fellowship: meet Kate Lewis

Kate Lewis is a Royal Society University Research Fellow in the department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience

Dr Kate Lewis (1990) is a Developmental Biologist. She is investigating how different types of neurons (nerve cells) are created in the spinal cords of growing Zebrafish embryos. “Zebrafish spinal cords grow in a very similar way to human spinal cords, and I study how different genes instruct cells to make particular types of spinal cord nerve cells. Our ability to treat people who have brain disorders, neurodegenerative diseases or spinal cord injuries is currently constrained by our limited understanding of how all the different components of the nervous system are made in a growing embryo.” Zebrafish are a powerful system for combining genetic and embryological studies as their embryos are readily accessible and optically transparent. “This allows us to follow the development of individual neurons, observe gene expression in live embryos, and examine the functions of different proteins in vivo. As most genes are conserved between vertebrates, the insights that we gain about the functions of specific genes should be widely applicable, including to humans.”

At the recent Provost’s Seminar, she asked some tough questions about the key issues affecting King’s. “Do you want King’s to be an active community – where Fellows and students interact on a regular basis and even mix socially, or is that an outdated idea?” Although she believes passionately in the ability of the King’s community to develop creative solutions, she takes a pessimistic view of the current situation. “There is a problem with the current arrangement – at least from my perspective as a Fellow. The Fellows at the colleges do all the admissions, the pastoral care and a lot of the teaching, which otherwise the University would have to do. Yet Fellows whose main job is with the University, who have a lectureship or equivalent position – which at King’s is the vast majority – get no credit with the University for anything they do for a College. Spending time on College activities can actually count against academics … My pessimistic view is that unless King’s can come up with new and inventive ways of supporting Fellows - such as buying out some of their teaching time, or paying for administrative or research assistance so that they have more time to create a real interactive community - the College in its present form will die.”

Kate Lewis is a Royal Society University Research Fellow in the department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience (previously the Anatomy Department). She studied Natural Sciences at King’s and spent a year as a Kennedy Scholar at Harvard, taking a variety of humanities and social science courses. She conducted her doctoral research at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London (now Cancer Research UK), and at the same time studied for an MA in Women’s Studies. She returned to King’s two years ago after postdoctoral work in Eugene, Oregon.

www.pdn.cam.ac.uk/staff/lewis/  
http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/katelewis
Spoils of war

New material given by the Balfour family adds poignant detail to our knowledge of Ronald Balfour (1922). Patricia McGuire, King’s Archivist, celebrates a fellow archivist.

In September 2005 the Archive Centre received material to augment the Ronald Balfour collection. Ronald, who had been appointed a Fellow and Lecturer in History for the College in 1930, joined the Ministry of Information at the outbreak of World War II. He had a varied military career, ending in the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives section of the Allied Forces, and most of the new documents concern his work with MFA&A.

Ronald Balfour was killed helping to move sculptured altarpieces from the Christ the King Church in Kleve to the train station for removal to Goch for safekeeping. The only shell to fall on Kleve that day landed in the road occupied by troops and refugees… but it is the only building in the town which possesses roof, doors and windows.”

Fortunately, Balfour’s previous work was more successful: “With his own hands Balfour salvaged from amidst the rubble of destroyed buildings the archives of several towns, including those of Goch, Kleve, Cranenburg and Xanten… Through his bearing he had proved that even when all the furies seemed to be loosened, mankind can still be conscious of the law of noble humanity and high responsibility.” [source: translated from articles in the Rheinische Post, 7 February 1955 and 31 January 1956.]

The Balfour family have been benefactors of the College since Ronald’s death. He left his 8000-volume library to be divided between the University Library and King’s College. Ronald’s brother Nicholas (1934) died in 2002 and his obituary appeared in the 2003 Annual Report. His will resulted in a £10,000 gift to the College, and both brothers were remembered at a Balfour family dinner in King’s in 2004.
Stephen Hugh-Jones is an anthropologist and a man of enthusiasms: warm and friendly, tall, angular and a little eccentric—he keeps snakes. His work among the Indians of northwest Amazonia, undertaken from the late sixties onwards, is an ongoing story. “My work really represents three phases of a project: there’s the early ethnographic documentation, then it broadened out on two fronts – comparative and historical; and at the same time I’m engaged in a politico-practical way, working in collaboration with the Indians themselves.” As his story-telling gathers pace he becomes increasingly mobile, shifting about on the sofa. First he’s reclining full length, then propped up on one elbow, and then – describing the details of his initiation amongst the Barasana – curled up in a corner. He reminds me rather of the much-loved Quentin Blake children’s book character, Mr Magnolia.

“I grew up in Jamaica and I ran fairly wild,” he confesses, laughing. “I was passionate about wildlife and archaeology – on Jamaican beaches you find potsherds and stone axes, the evidence of Arawaks and Caribs.” But by the time he was ten the idyll was broken. “I was sent to prep school in England basically to civilise me – at that age I could hardly read, write or tell the time.” They tried remedial reading, but somehow nothing generated the required momentum until a biology master gave him Wallace’s A Narrative of Travels on the Amazon and Río Negro. “It was full of palm trees and snakes, and I thought, wow! If this is reading I want to know about it. I decided there and then that I was going to go to Amazonia to work and live with Indians.” At 16 he’d written to the Villas Boas brothers (defenders of Brazil’s indigenous peoples who established the Xingu Indigenous Park) saying he’d like to work with them, and was planning to run away.

Stephen had studied physics and chemistry, as well as the zoology he adored, in preparation for what had seemed like an inevitable medical career – his father Philip (1936) is a doctor. “Unfortunately I did get into a medical school – even after making a complete hash of the interview!” He’d actually put King’s at the bottom of his list and when invited to talk about his interest in medicine, he confessed freely to there being none whatsoever. He did explain, though, that he was very interested in Amerindians. So would he like to be interviewed by an anthropologist? “Sure, if he’s interested in what I’m interested in.” He was sent to meet Edmund Leach and found that they did indeed have interests in common. Stephen was offered a place and encouraged to take a year out and go to South America to see for himself. “I was walking on air,” he beams, remembering the moment. He did a stint digging the new Victoria Line, embarked on a banana boat and ended up spending a month living with Cubeo Indians in the Vaupés region of Colombia. He came to King’s in 1964.

By 1967 the structuralist anthropology of Claude Lévi-Strauss, as applied to study of myth, had already had a major impact on anthropological theory in England. Le Cru et le Cuit, the first volume of Mythologiques had come out in Paris in 1964, and Leach was keen to expand the ethnographic basis of this work – what little there was had come from dubious, amateur sources. “Leach’s family money came from Argentinian sugar estates, but he also had an intellectual tie as foremost British exponent of Lévi Strauss.” What was wanted was some empirical fieldwork to test his ideas and Stephen was the man for the job. Lévi-Strauss had argued, correctly, in Stephen’s view, that the myths of...
Amerindian North and South America would all prove to be one big system. “Like Europe in the middle ages – recognisably Christian, but without a Rome,” he explains with a broad sweep of his arms.

In 1968, he and his wife Christine (they had married as undergraduates) set off up the Vaupés into Colombia in search of a suitable group of people to study for their PhDs. Readers with memories of hauling punts over the rollers up to Grantchester may like to re-cast that scenario – carrying canoes over the hills to headwaters in the jungle instead. The people they eventually found were the Barasana, some 500 or so individuals living in groups of 25 in malocas or longhouses. The core groups were brothers, whose wives came from other groups and therefore spoke different languages. The sexes were segregated, with separate entrances at opposite ends of the house. Stephen and Christine arrived with gifts of beads and knives and set about learning the language and becoming accepted. “We followed them everywhere and joined in their dances. We dressed like they did – I just wore a G-string and Christine wore a skirt but no top. We were hippies – it was the sixties after all!”

His book *The Palm and the Pleiades: initiation and cosmology in Northwest Amazonia (1979)* came out of his PhD research and documents the ritual complex known as the Yurupary cult among the Barasana. This is a shaman-led secret men’s cult centred on the use of sacred musical instruments which the women and children are forbidden to see. He was initiated into the cult, an experience involving hallucinogenic substances and a great deal of vomiting. “During the initiation rite, the ‘sensory you’ leaves your body, which feels fine because you can still talk to people. But when I came back I saw my body as a pile of bones, and I had real trouble putting it back together again – to the amusement of the others.”

“During the initiation rite, the ‘sensory you’ leaves your body, which feels fine because you can still talk to people. But when I came back I saw my body as a pile of bones, and I had real trouble putting it back together again – to the amusement of the others.” Missionaries had tried to suppress the cult, destroying sacred ancestral feather ornaments and ritual equipment. At the time Stephen feared that his book might be used to further the process of ethnocide, but the reverse seems to have happened, and it has enhanced understanding.

Anthropologists used to think that they more or less had the reverse seems to have happened, and it has enhanced understanding.

Anthropologists used to think that they more or less had the reverse seems to have happened, and it has enhanced understanding.

...
Foundation Lunch

Over one hundred members from years 1957–60 – and their guests – attended the third Foundation Lunch on 29 March 2006.

Charles Cain has combined a career in banking and over thirty years in politics in the Isle of Man with a lifelong passion for choral music. He spoke about his own time as a chorister, the long-lasting friendships made with Richard Podger and Chris Zealley, his admiration for Dean Ivor Ramsey, the eccentricities of the headmaster, “bog pegs” (to great amusement) and then of his time as an undergraduate. “The College has always been, for me, a beacon of intellectual integrity shining in a world of politically correct nonsense and received balderdash. In this College, there can never been anything which is politically incorrect. Nothing is beyond question. This propensity to question received wisdom is something that has got me into trouble all my life, but I am still grateful to the College for it.” The Dean, Ian Thompson (2004) replied. “I came from Selwyn College because of the reputation King’s has for being a centre of excellence educationally, spiritually and intellectually – and I am pleased to be able to say that its reputation is still well deserved. The College is still a place that seeks to engender the highest standards in its undergraduates whilst valuing their individuality.”

Professor Charles Cain (1958) proposed the College.

Keith Ross, Richard Pike, Rev. John Bayley, and Michael Stewardson, all from 1957, with a photograph taken during their memorable vacation together in Greece in 1959. “We even slept in the theatre at Epidauros...!”

Chris Elston, Richard Pike, Rev. John Bayley, and Michael Stewardson, all from 1957, with a photograph taken during their memorable vacation together in Greece in 1959. “We even slept in the theatre at Epidauros...!”

Works by Members presented to the College Library: 2004 – 2005

MR CHARLES NICHOLL
Leonardo da Vinci: the flights of the mind

MR LAWRENCE NIELD
27º27’S.153º02’E 33º51’S.151º12’E
35º17’S.149º07’E 37º48’S.144º58’E
(Contributor)

MR MARTIN NORTHMORE-BALL
Clinical challenges in orthopaedics: the hip (Co-author)

PROF MAURICE OBSTFELD
International economics: theory & policy – seventh edition (Co-author)

PROF ROBIN OSBORNE
The Cambridge companion to Homer (Contributor)

Greek ritual poetics (Contributor)
The Heresiad catalogue of women: constructions and reconstructions (Contributor)

Mediterranean urbanization: 800–600 BC (Co-editor and contributor)

DR STEPHEN PARKS
The Yale University Library Gazette: October 2003 (Editor)
The Yale University Library Gazette: October 2004 (Editor)

PROF PATRICK PARRINDER
The sleeper awakes / H.G. Wells (Editor)

DR KIRAN PATEL
The epidemic of coronary heart disease in South Asian populations: causes and consequences (Co-editor)

PROF OLIVER PERNROSE
Foundations of statistical mechanics: a deductive treatment

MR JAN PIENKOWSKI
The first Noël: a Christmas carousel (2 copies) 5 Meg and Mog books and DVDs

MR PHILIP PURSER
Lights in the sky

DR ANTHONY REID
Charting the shape of early modern Southeast Asia

Essential outsiders: Chinese and Jews in the modern transformation of Southeast Asia and Central Europe (Co-editor)

Nation-building: five Southeast Asian histories (Contributor)

PROF PROBIR ROY
Theory and phenomenology of sparticles: an account of four-dimensional N = 1 supersymmetry in high energy physics (Co-author)

MS JESSICA RYDILL
Children of the Shaman

DR GEORGE RYLANDS (bequest)
The raven himself is hoarse (2 copies)
Croaked the raven ‘one no more’ (4 copies)

Left to right: Rosemary and Phil Gould (1957) Elizabeth and Michael Sykes (1957)
Members’ news

Toronto: 51st Founder’s Day Dinner

Sixteen Kingsmen and spouses or partners attended the 51st Toronto Founder’s Day Dinner, held at the Arts and Letters Club on December 6, 2005. The silent toast to the Founder “In Piam Memoriam” was proposed by Rick Steinberg (1948), the King’s Grace was said by John Hore (1949) and John Kilpatrick (1947) proposed the Toast to H.M. The Queen. The first event in Toronto in 1955 at “La Chaumière” restaurant was attended by four Kingsmen including Ted Heinrich, then Director of the Royal Ontario Museum, George Marshall, who rowed in two Varsity Boats and had been President of the C.U.B.C., and John Hore. The event has been held every year since. Visiting Kingsmen are most welcome.

Opera Studies

Michael Downes (1987) read Music and English, and now directs the innovative distance-learning Opera Studies degree at Rose Bruford College in London. The programme is the only full degree programme in Opera Studies offered anywhere in the world and is currently taken by more than 200 students worldwide. The programme deals with all aspects of opera — musical, theatrical, historical, sociological — and encompasses the entire repertoire, from Monteverdi to Ads. Michael collaborates with all the leading UK opera companies and many overseas to offer joint study opportunities. For further information, please visit www.bruford.ac.uk or contact Michael on michael.downes@bruford.ac.uk

The Light Opera

William Pennell Rock (1964) writes from California: “The opera work I have done is very experimental — certainly off the King’s radar, but I thought you should know about it. Called The Origin Operas these are innovative from the ground up and are not even pre-composed. A CD of The Light Opera which was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe festival in 1990 is forthcoming in the summer.” www.sacredperformance.com

Southeast Asia connections

Anthony Reid (1961) Director of the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore, spent Michaelmas term at King’s as a Visiting Fellow. He is a historian of Southeast Asia who has worked on political, economic, social and intellectual history, and in particular studies of Aceh, South Sulawesi, Sabah, and twentieth century Indonesia. Yangwen Zheng (1996) a former colleague at NUS, also passed through Cambridge in November and told KP about her new book The Social Life of Opium, (CUP) whose story begins in 1483, in the mid-Ming dynasty, when opium was sent as a gift by vassal states and used as an aphrodisiac in court.

Sixty years on

Edward Gardner (1993) has been appointed music director of the English National Opera. He is music director of Glyndebourne Opera’s touring arm, and a former assistant at the Hallé Orchestra to Mark Elder, who became music director of ENO in the 1980s.

Greek tragedy/Irish tragedy

Ismene, a powerful new play by Stacey Gregg (2002), ran successfully for a week at the ADC in Cambridge in January. Set in contemporary Northern Ireland, Ismene tells the story of a family torn apart by the suspicious deaths of two young men. Gregg uses the myth of Antigone to respond to and re-explore the 2005 McCartney case. “I wanted to expose events taking place right now in the bloody light of so-called myths and stories.” Now studying for a Masters in Documentary Practice at Royal Holloway College, she has been offered a place as a commissioned writer on the Seeds Project with the Rough Magic Theatre Company in Dublin, and with Tinderbox, a new writing company in Belfast. One to watch... ssg28ster@gmail.com

The photograph shows (from left to right) Prof. Stephen Waddams (1963), Dorothy and Chris Tomlinson (1948). Then sitting are Diana and John Hore, Jean and Rick Steinberg, Jean and John Kilpatrick. Standing (left to right) Prof David Waterhouse (1956), Naoko Waterhouse, Dr Robert Chen (1983), Michael and Courtney Beecroft, Margaret and John Moore (1952).

Front row from left: Old friends Trevor Martin, Sir Peter Kitcatt and Lionel Jackson (all 1945) made a visit to King’s in October 2005. Back row: Lady Audrey Kitcatt, Mary Jackson and Anne Martin. They all regretted that their friends Eric Fletcher and his wife were unable to join them on this occasion.

Trevor Martin recalled their student days. “In 1948, a regatta was held between King’s and Clare. I was involved in punt-jousting, with mops, wearing a boat club scarf and a bowler hat. My punt set off encouraged by Philip Radcliffe conducting the Uniformed King’s Silver Tuba Band. I was felled by a deceitfully underhand trick by the gentleman from Clare (surely some oxymoron there?). Peter (later Sir Peter) was involved in the Gallant Race. This required him to leap from Clare Bridge into a passing punt. For some reason he was dressed as Meg Merrilies. In the punt was the maiden he had to rescue. (In those austere days, although there were few ladies at the University, there was an absolute glit of devoted maidens.) Fortunately, for the maiden, Peter and the punt, he missed and fell into the Cam.”
Stephen Vahrman came up to King’s in 1966 to read English literature. Three years later, as part of a campaign against the University examination system, he quietly tore up his Finals papers and left Cambridge having obtained more of an education than he could ever have dreamed of.

I’d spent my gap year on a kibbutz – which was shelled from Jordan every time a particular disputed field was ploughed – and busked my way home across Europe via the vodka-fuelled court of James Baldwin, the black American novelist living in self-imposed exile on the Bosphorus. I thought Cambridge might be dull after this... Then, in my first term, two undergraduates (not at King’s) were seriously injured, gored on spikes while trying to climb into their colleges late at night. Parochial as it might seem now, this lack of basic freedom – and the medieval curfew which still applied – was a matter of life and death for many students. And by the summer of 1967 anyone walking through King’s would have heard Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band drifting through the open windows of rooms throughout the college. Everywhere, well brought-up students were identifying with the irreverence, originality and raw energy of their less polished peers, who were setting the cultural agenda of the decade, rather than with the values of their elders.

Perhaps we were no longer prepared to accept that our elders knew better because there was so little evidence of it. We perceived the American military/industrial complex, raining death and defoliation on Vietnam, to be just the tip of the iceberg. For us, the very goals and values of growth-led capitalist economies were being called into question. The possibility of a different kind of human society was almost tangible. Academic study gave way to ‘praxis’.

We soon found ourselves in a maelstrom of ideological debate, with a constant stream of students passing through Cambridge from Berkeley, London, the Sorbonne and Essex. In the early summer of 1968, King’s JCR briefly hosted a lively Free University of Cambridge. The conclusion we came to – when confronted by the education offered to us by the University, on behalf of a society in which we were intended to become a new elite, and urged on by our parents and our schools, their social status enhanced by our being at Cambridge – was an uncomfortable one. We were there ‘on other people’s business’ not our own. Our refusal to go along with this process became an authentic revolt, even if ignored or derided by ‘the workers’ outside the college walls who had ‘never had it so good’.

In May 1969, in an existential expression of our opposition to the exam system, 150 of us, heavily bandaged and with crutches and musical instruments, took part in a March of the Academic Cripples along King’s Parade to the Senate House, where we symbolically burnt gowns on the lawn outside. It was protest as street theatre, politics as fun, but angry and determined at the same time. The radical movement of the sixties was anti-authoritarian; it included personal and sexual politics, transcending politics as a specialist sphere. In many instances the periphery of this movement was occupied by ideologues of the old left and leftist parties, seeking to shoehorn events into an outdated analysis.

Everyday reality for us included the ‘poverty’ of our own lives as students, and our bleak future prospects as apologists for – or administrators of – a failing social system. Our refusal felt far ‘richer’. But this meant battling, in both our personal and our wider social relationships, with the ‘policemen in our heads’, the ‘mind-forged manacles’ of Blake’s poem. Several friends ended up in Fulbourn, torn between their internalised parental aspirations and their own fledgling selves. For many of us, already disaffected with family life, identification with the possibilities of social change and of different ways of living was almost total. When my parents said that they would disown me if I didn’t sit my exams it simply reinforced my resolve.

The exam system we ended up refusing included no assessment of ongoing course work, and based final results on the seemingly arbitrary judgement of individual examiners, as a report in the Shilling Paper in May 1969 revealed. Half of all candidates had had their papers marked twice and that of those second marks, nearly 40% moved candidates up or down a whole class. But the whole point of refusing what they stood for was that the bigger picture that was unfolding was far more educationally compelling. It was like seeing the mirror-image of the education that immigrant parents (including my own family two generations previously) had valued above all else because it would give their children the opportunities they had never had.

I’ve never had any regrets about my choices, or their consequences, and feel that it was just a part of the process of my becoming my own person. How many of us ‘educated’ by that radical decade still feel our invisible chains (comfortably) secure around our ankles?

Stephen Vahrman took a series of jobs, while writing, printing and publishing pamphlets and translations in collaboration with friends from his time at Cambridge. He later set up (and subsequently sold) a successful specialist payroll and employment consultancy service company. He now writes songs and owns and runs several holiday flats in Venice. www.ourflatsinvenice.com
Nomenclature

For half a century, I have been proud to be described as a Kingsman, but can understand that women might object to being so described. I would not like to be a Kingsperson and would detest the term alumnus. Being described as a Member would make me feel I still belonged. Alternatively, the College could just set up a nomenclature committee to keep things under review. That should shelve the issue for a few decades at least.

Bill Thomas (1948)

I made my first ever visit back to King’s — for the Keynes and Lydia Day — last year. The Provost welcomed us all, expressing particular pleasure at seeing “so many NRMs” gathered together for the occasion. I was puzzled. “NRM” sounded like a new and particularly virulent strain of antipodean bird flu or worse. I then realised that she meant us, the Non Resident Members, whom Americans rather more elegantly refer to as alumni.

Malcolm MacCallum (1963)

Vinyl affliction – out of the shadows

I was the anonymous selector for the folk and rock sections of the Record Library for several early 70s years. The anonymity covered the fact that in the absence of a student volunteer, the task had fallen to a keen user who was a Fellow and Tutor. Responding to borrowers’ wishes and current fashions left significant scope for my own tastes, evolved partly under the knowledgeable influence of Bob Young (1960), Tutor for Graduate Students during my PhD. Geoffrey will not be surprised to learn that the groups he mentioned feature in my iPod. They coexist happily there with other reminders of the King’s musical environment: madrigals, Beethoven quartets, Britten operas and so on. Actually, I quite liked Thin Lizzy, so maybe it’s good for Geoffrey’s taste that I left King’s in 1976.

David Sweden (1963)

Climate change and green dissent

I do accept that the planet is getting warmer, shown by dry statistics of annual temperatures and the visible retreat of glaciers. But that is because the planet is still emerging from the recent Ice Age. For a hundred million years before the recent Ice Ages the planet was warmer than today, with no polar ice caps and with sea level considerably higher than today. But in the last two million years we have had not one Ice Age but four. Clearly the first three came and went without the influence of men and their motor cars, power stations, or aeroplanes. I defy any scientific authority to persuade us that the present changes are a thousand year blip, a million year blip, or a return to long-term normality. We simply do not know.

Michael Gorman (1963)

I will be most grateful for a clarification as to the relative burden on the ecosystem of combustion gases emitted at ground level, compared with those pumped out close to the stratosphere. Another tiny question concerns the disposal of garden and domestic combustibles. Is it more harmful to burn them, releasing carbon dioxide, than it is to compost them, releasing methane? I am very willing to be carbon-prudent; but the processes of pollution have to be identified more clearly and convincingly and the remedies also have to be more precisely targeted than the current proposals.

Mallory Wober (1954)

Reply from Dr. Alexander Orlov, Fellow:

Composting done incorrectly can produce a significant amount of methane – which has about one order of magnitude higher impact on global warming than carbon dioxide. Not being an expert in waste disposal, my humble opinion is that composting, when done properly, can be quite beneficial. Combustion domestic waste can produce toxic chemicals in addition to CO2. I think that increasing the number of central facilities where domestic waste can be processed is probably the way forward, with consumers making an important contribution by decreasing the amount of waste they generate. The impact of emissions can indeed be dependent on altitude. It’s a very complex area – as is the chemistry involved.

There are several atmospheric models developed to address the question but it is still quite difficult to develop unambiguous policy recommendations. www.epa.gov/oms/aviation.htm might be helpful.

Sustainability and Biodiversity

Surrey took an early lead on Biodiversity by publishing an Action Plan in 1999, followed by 10 Habitat Action Plans dealing with both the Natural and Built Environments. The Urban Plan had a target for each Borough to develop its own agenda by 2005. While Epsom and Ewell is 40% open space and has 8 out of the 10 priority habitats, Councillor interest in the environment has never been strong, in spite of intense development pressure. With only intermittent Council support, the Local Biodiversity Plan is only two-thirds written and I wonder how Local Plans are faring elsewhere.

Peter Gilder (1948)

Student representation

I was a little surprised to read Brian Pollitt’s statement in his article that the Garden House Hotel case led to the creation of the Cambridge University Student Union (CUSU). As an undergraduate Kingsman, I was myself involved in the creation of the Student Representative Council in 1963-64. This, after a series of changes, finally developed into CUSU in 1985. The history is set out on the CUSU website (www.cusu.cam.ac.uk/union/history).

None of this is to belittle the importance of “Free Greek Week” and what it stood for. But the process towards CUSU was, I think, rather more gradual than Brian suggests, and the ground for it had been laid rather earlier, just after he left Cambridge in 1963.

John Cooke (1961)
cooke.ja@virgin.net

(It should have read CSU – Cambridge Student Union – not CUSU. Ed.)
Resident members’ news

Rylands Art Competition

Jane Partner (1999) won first prize in the 2005–6 Rylands Art Competition with ‘Saint Lucy’. Jane joined King’s as a graduate and held a Studentship in visual culture in King’s Research Centre. Her recently completed PhD examines how English poets of the seventeenth century used ideas about vision drawn from the visual arts, philosophy, theology and scientific optics to interrogate the nature of perception and truth. “I investigate theories of light, metaphors of reflection and perspective, and the earliest impact of the lens on English culture. My own artistic practise has been fuelled by this research, and my commitment to reassess the intellectual capacity of figurative art has been fostered by King’s art room and life class.” The Rylands Prize will enable her to take classes at the Slade Summer School, and she plans to mount a solo exhibition in King’s next year.

In the top panel of ‘Saint Lucy’ (illustrated) flexible lenses are mounted over a three-dimensional photographic collage to create a face that reformulates as the viewer changes position. In contrast, the lower panel (not shown) is a static drawing of the saint’s body that is glazed to reflect the observer. Saint Lucy was an early Christian martyr whose name, meaning the saint’s body that is glazed to reflect the observer. Saint Lucy’s body is seen at the bottom of the image, with a glowing light emanating from her. The legend surrounding her story tells of her sacrifice of her sight so as not to appear attractive to a heathen suitor.

“Where do we go from here? King’s and Cambridge in the next 50 years.”

Graduate student David Chapman (2001) reports on a Provost’s Seminar-style evening he organised for resident members in March.

The evening was kick-started by Peter Agar, the University Director of Development, with a contextual outlining of the University’s financial structure and plans for the future, followed by ‘visions’ for the future of King’s by fellows Martin


King’s President of the Union

Sarah Pobereskin (2003) was President of the Union in the Lent Term. She joins a short list of Kings members to have taken on the role. “The Terrorism debate — This House believes that military action is counterproductive in the fight against terrorism — was the busiest we have had in years. The motion was proposed by Anas Altikriti, Tony Benn, and George Galloway, and opposed by Charles Skinner, Colonel Tim Collins and Iain Duncan Smith. The debate hall and bar extension with video link were full at 7.15pm for an 8pm debate! In trying to widen the appeal of the Union I have also put on a successful play this term, two boxing matches, free Veuve Cliquot champagne tasting and live Jazz in the bar.”

King’s President of the Cambridge Union Society 1900–2006.

Lent 1900, Mr A.C. Pigou; Michaelmas 1904, J.T. Sheppard; Lent 1905, Mr J.M. Keynes; Lent 1907, Mr E.G. Selwyn; Easter 1912, Mr P.J. Baker; Lent 1924, Mr S.V.T. Adams; Michaelmas, 1938, Mr S.M. Kumaramangalam; Easter 1942, Mr H.B. Dunkerley; Lent 1944, Mr J.S.B. Butler; Easter 1947, Mr I.S. Lloyd; Michaelmas, 1947, Mr R.C.M. Young; Lent 1959, Hon. J.P. St L. Grenfell; Michaelmas 1962, Mr B.H. Pollitt; Easter 1981, Mr R.S. Mitter. Lent 2006, Miss Sarah Pobereskin.
Karl Sabbagh (1961) wrote this composite obituary for a reunion dinner in the 1970s

Horatio Nelson Gibbs was born on May 14th, 1885, in a house in Cheyne Walk shared with Whistler. He was educated at Eton where he constructed a motorcycle. He was the first Etonian and the first Communist to be President of the National Union of Teachers.

In College, he organised nocturnal races, naked except for gowns, on the older Fellows’ tricycles. His most vivid recollection of the College was to be of the Provost’s wife.

After getting a second in the Classical Tripos he set off for Russia. He stayed with the Benckendorffs, was arrested as a spy, attended a wolf-hunt with Maurice Baring, visited Tolstoy and kept a record of the Patriarch’s conversation. On his return he was much involved with Ronald Firbank and with Baron Corvo, who braved travelling in his sidecar despite his insistence (before the days of traffic lights) that the faster you drove over the cross roads the smaller was the mathematical probability that you could have a collision.

After he had had a boring year with a firm selling solar topees war broke out. After passing second MB he served as a surgeon sub-lieutenant in destroyers, based on Malta, and remembered his ship shelling the British lines in Gallipoli, a mistake he attributed to his commanding officer’s breakfasting on port and pineapple chunks.

One day opening the door of his cottage near Bishop’s Stortford he was confronted by Lord Louis Mountbatten and Noel Coward, who wanted a dozen officers ... for a play. (They got them eventually, through the Second Sea Lord.)

Meanwhile, he made heroic efforts of cycling to spend as much of his leave as possible with the choirboys of Canterbury Cathedral.

While at Cambridge he had fallen under the spell of W.H.R. Rivers who took the young Gibbs to a small island off the coast of Malekula and left him there after a week without any adequate guidance on how to cope with a trying tropical climate and tribes only recently tamed. It may be that some misunderstanding was the reason.

He developed blackwater fever and qualified for the Guinness Book of Records by achieving the highest known non-fatal temperature.

On a motorcycle trip to Kenya he became the first person to take an African up Mount Kenya and a woman up Mount Kilimanjaro. Sartorially immaculate, he had a patrician air accentuated by an eyeglass before which head waiters quailed. He had pronounced views on the correct composition of dry Martinis, on which he wrote a pamphlet. He was reserved but his inhibitions were lost in screams of joy when in a front seat of the giant racer at the Battersea Fun Fair.

Horatio had a passion for physical endeavour. When a friend asked him why he bicycled with his brakes on he replied that it gave him more exercise. In fact, he radiated fun and he never lost the sense of mischief which had prompted him as a small boy to write bugger with a pin on a burgeoning vegetable marrow in a vicarage garden.

Retirement came to Horatio in 1947 and he returned to his home near Winchester where he applied all his old efficiency and concentration to such tasks as cleaning his shoes. His friends will remember him as a man of wide interests and a host who delighted in good food and drink even if he gave him more exercise. In fact, he radiated fun and he never lost the sense of mischief which had prompted him as a small boy to write bugger with a pin on a burgeoning vegetable marrow in a vicarage garden.

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Though a bachelor, he was by no means, in Victorian phrase, “unsusceptible”. As an inspired misprint the Times obituary spoke of ‘his numerous nephews and pieces’. At one time he could count twenty-two aunts (one of them translated the Bible into Chinese Braille). He was a keen fisherman and shot: his last recorded words were, “Did I remember to send a widgeon to Lord Stanley at Leasingham.”

Karl Sabbagh is a television producer and writer who started his career in BBC television and now runs Skyscraper Productions. His most recent book, Palestine: A Personal History, published by Atlantic Books, came out in April 2006.
Mo Zukerman came to study History and Economics at King’s aged twenty-two as a Knox Fellow – fresh from Harvard with an A.B. magna cum laude, and at the suggestion of his Tutor, the historian Peter Stansky (1953). “It was Peter who urged me to consider the benefits of studying in England. I applied and was admitted to King’s – out of the blue, so it seemed to me. I didn’t even know Peter had been at King’s. So I think I owe my good fortune to what has been an admiration for – and has since become a lifelong friendship with – Peter.”

Mo’s interest in Africa and public affairs evolved in Cambridge. “I met and befriended a Nigerian student at Clare, Charles Mbanefo, and accepted an invitation to visit his family in Enugu, Nigeria in 1967 to do research and report as a “stringer” correspondent for The Economist on the Biafran War. I met and stayed with his father, Sir Louis Mbanefo, the then Chief Justice of Nigeria and a former World Court Justice, at a critical time in the history of the country.” Sir Louis Mbanefo (1935) was also the first African to come to King’s. Mo’s research resulted in ‘The Economic Impact of the Biafran War’, published in 1968 in the Journal of African History. “I went on to work on African economic development at the World Bank and a year later joined the Office of the then US Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, working on African security affairs.” Later, after attending Harvard Business School, he worked on the staff of George P. Shultz, the U.S. President’s then economic advisor. A change of direction followed. He joined Morgan Stanley, and spent sixteen years in investment banking in New York before founding, in 1988, M.E. Zukerman and Co., a private equity firm investing in energy.

“Mo had stimulating tutors at Cambridge ... I read Indian History with Anil Seal and European History with Christopher Andrew; Joan Robinson among others was a tutor in Economics ... I was a Kennedy liberal when I arrived in Cambridge, and she thought I was somewhere to the right of Louis Quatorze!” Mo also studied Political Theory with John Dunn (1959), while Geoffrey Lloyd (1951) and Peter Avery (1958) became friends and mentors. “Peter taught me declamation – encouraging me to recite A Tale of Two Cities from memory. I loved it at King’s. It was certainly a formative experience then, and the brilliant scholars we met during our recent visit confirm King’s academic excellence now.”
Musical legacy: commissioning a new carol

Inspired by the Advent Carol Services he enjoyed in his time at King’s, Donald Stewart (1941) has recently decided he’d like to fund the commissioning of a new Advent Carol for the College Advent Carol Service. Donald, who grew up in Aberdeen and was assistant organist at St. Nicholas’ Church there before the war, read Architecture at King’s between 1941 and 1946, going on to practise in London. “Harold Darke was the Director of Music then. I was bowled over by the five Advent Services I experienced in my time at College. I found them very powerful and meaningful as a personal preparation for the coming of Christ.” He has raised the proposal with Stephen Cleobury. “The bottom line is that he, as Director of Music, must be free to choose the composer.” His own favourite? “John Tavener’s *The Lamb* is a gem. Tavener describes the music as having been ‘received complete’ and written down in fifteen minutes.” Donald firmly believes this is how music comes to people. He lives ten miles outside Cambridge, and was organist and choirmaster at St. Botolph’s Church in Hadstock for 32 years, organising an Advent Carol Service there along King’s lines each year. If all goes to plan, the Carol should be ready for the College Advent Service this year.

How to give to King’s

To make a donation to King’s, please request a donation form, which includes a Gift Aid declaration, from the Development Office by calling 01223 331443, or emailing development.office@kings.cam.ac.uk. A donation form can also be downloaded from the website. Full details of ways to give, including online giving, are available on the website at: www.kings.cam.ac.uk/development/assistance.html

UK Taxpayers can complete the Gift Aid section on the donation form to enable the College to reclaim tax, increasing the value of any gift at no cost to the donor. US Taxpayers should donate through Cambridge in America, P.O. Box 9123 JAF BLD, New York, NY 10087 – 9123

Legacies

After you have made provision for your family and friends in your Will, please consider leaving a gift to King’s College. If you would like further information please contact Deborah Loveluck, Assistant Director of Development on 01 223 331322 or consult the King’s website on www.kings.cam.ac.uk/development/legacy.html

The probate jurisdiction of King’s College, Cambridge

From the beginning Henry VI seems to have intended to erect in the College of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Nicholas a peculiar jurisdiction, independent of Cambridge University. To this end he procured no less than nine papal bulls from Pope Eugenius IV, dated 29 November 1445, exempting the College from the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop and Archdeacon of Ely, the Chancellor of the University and all other judges ordinary, and placing it under the sole jurisdiction of the Bishop of Lincoln. No other college in Oxford or Cambridge claimed such a jurisdiction.

There are in all 221 wills and letters of administration in the Ledger Books at King’s, spread over nearly 350 years of probate jurisdiction. The first recorded exercise of probate jurisdiction by the Provost took place on 22 February 1451/2, when the 1449 will of a William Roskyn was proved. At first business was slow, only fourteen wills in the fifteenth century. In the next century things picked up, though there were never more than eight wills proved per decade. The last will is that of Edmund Holt Esquire, late Senior Fellow of King’s, proved in 1794.

Why did people want to make use of the College jurisdiction in the first place? Convenience for those living in the precincts was no doubt part of it, as perhaps was cost, though we do not know what the Provost charged for his services. Many of those whose wills were proved in King’s wanted to remember individuals connected with the College, or the College itself, in their bequests, or to take advantage of Chapel burial and post-mortem masses and prayers, before the Reformation swept all that away.

The most important people whose wills were proved in King’s were six Provosts; they lived very well by Cambridge standards in palatial housing on King’s Parade. Most spectacular of all Provosts’ wills was that of Sir Thomas Page, made 3 November 1680. He left lands in Harrow to relatives, and many valuable cups and jewels to Fellows. The most intriguing item was in a codicil, leaving the College a cabinet of curiosities with a huge bezoar stone, three pieces of porcupine stone, and the skeleton of a salamander, all from the East Indies. Alas there is no trace now in King’s of Sir Thomas Page’s cabinet.

Bequests of clothing and of beds are the most common sorts of mobile property represented in the King’s wills; gowns of various colours and feather beds go to relatives or sometimes to fellow scholars, but books and musical instruments also turn up quite often. Most often, though, we see in these bequests the desire to be remembered by friends.

Peter Jones
Acting Vice-Provost and Librarian
Events

KCA and Henry VI Day: Saturday 17 June 2006

The Provisional Programme

10.00 AGM
10.30 Coffee in the Students’ Bar Area
11.00–12.30 Short talks about Henry VI

Dr Alice Hunt: The coronation and investiture ceremony of Henry VI.
Sir Frank Kermode: Shakespeare’s ‘King Henry VI’.
Peter Jones, Vice-Provost: Life, death and disease in King Henry’s College.
Stephen Alford, Fellow: Henry VI – the man in myth and reality.
Francois Soyer, Graduate Student: Dining at King’s in the 15th Century.

12.30 – 1.25
(These talks will be inspired by manuscript records showing what the Fellows and Students ate in College during the reign of Henry VI. Musical entertainment: two specially composed songs by Jonathan Steffen about Henry VI and Joan of Arc.)

1.30 – 2.00 A conducted tour of the Chapel, and/or a rest, and/or a special temporary exhibition about Henry VI in the Archives.

4.00 Tea
4.30 Vespres in Chapel, exclusively for KCA
4.45 Evesong in Chapel, with priority seating for KCA and late 15th c. Liturgy and Music.

2006 Choir and concerts

Monday 19 June
King’s College Chapel
May Week Concert
Beethoven Choral Fantasia
Poulenc Organ Concerto
KCC Choir and King’s College Music Society, Stephen Cleobury conductor.
Followed by wine and strawberries on the Back Lawn. Tickets available from the Development Office: 01223 331247

Sunday 25 June
Barbican Concert Hall, London
Choristers of King’s College Chapel Choir Concert with London Symphony Orchestra
Lilli Passikivi alto, Pavo Järvi conductor
Mahler Symphony No. 3. Tickets from www.lso.co.uk and www.barbican.org.uk/music

Sunday 2 July
Royal Opera House, London
Cambridge Cantata: tbc

Monday 17 July
Fotheringhay Church
Oundle International Festival
Gabrielii, Bach, Mendelssohn & Martin
www.oundlefestival.org.uk
Box Office: 01382 275109

Saturday 22 July
King’s College Chapel
Cambridge Summer Music Festival
Concert with the Academy of Ancient Music
Stephen Cleobury conductor
Handel Messiah. Brochure available from the beginning of May.
Box Office: 01223 357851 opens 15 May
www.cambridgesummermusic.com

Sunday 17 September
Vasa Kyrka, Gothenburg
Church Music Symposium, Sweden
Service & Concert 09.00
Byrd, Weelkes, Handel and Elgar

Wednesday 8 November
King’s College Chapel
Cambridge Music Festival
Choral Concert at 20.00
Mozart & Giles Street
Box Office opens 21 August, Corn Exchange, Cambridge 01223 357851
www.cammusic.co.uk 01223 350544

Sunday 12 November Remembrance Sunday
King’s College Chapel at 18.00
Dunraven Requiem
Admission Free

Tuesday 12 December
King’s College Chapel
Chapel Foundation Concert
Celebration of Christmas
Tickets from the Development Office: 01332 331247

Friday 15 – Tuesday 19 December
Far East Tour to China & Singapore
Friday 15 Beijing
Saturday 16 Shanghai
Monday and Tuesday 18 and 19
Esplanade Concert Hall, Singapore
Programmes tbc. Further details for Singapore www.esplanade.com

Friday 22 December
Royal Albert Hall, London
Christmas Concert
Programme tbc.
www.raymondgubbay.co.uk
www.royalalberthall.com

There is a permanent exhibition about Henry VI, his life and foundation of King’s in the Chapel. Free parking will be available by Garden Hostel.

Ticket Price: £40.
Please return your reply slips and cheques to Deborah Loveluck at the Development Office, King’s College, Cambridge CB2 1ST

If you have any queries about the day, please contact Caroline Davidson, KCA Director, at 5 Queen Anne’s Gardens, London W4 1TU (T: 020 8995 5768, F: 020 8994 2770 E: cdaia@ukgateway.net)

For information about Henry VI, including a chronology of the king’s reign and a sampling of what people have thought about him, suggested reading etc. please visit the King’s College website: www.kings.cam.ac.uk

Mugwump Winter 2005 Solution

Congratulations, and the battle of King’s claret, to John Beard (1970), who found the crossword “elegant and enjoyable”. The Editor received half the usual number of entries this time – and one howl of despair.

John Graham (1939, the Guardian’s Araucaria and compiler of KP’s first crossword) has been listed in the latest Who’s Who. He was also made an MBE last year for his services to the newspaper industry. His books include Monkey Puzzles, volumes one and two, and the Chambers Book of Araucaria Crosswords. Volume three of Monkey Puzzles is due to be published in April.

Visiting King’s?
Main switchboard: 01223 331100
Parking: Richard Nash, Head Porter, richard.nash@kings.cam.ac.uk
Guest rooms and High Table: Hilary Perrott, Vice-Provost’s PA, hilary.perrott@kings.cam.ac.uk or John Buckley, Accommodation Officer: john.buckley@kings.cam.ac.uk 01223 331421.
High Table and wine sales: Mark Smith, Butler. mark.smith@kings.cam.ac.uk 01223 331443
Chapel Services Information line: 01223 331155