INTELLIGENCE GATHERING
KING'S AS A RECRUITING GROUND FOR BLETCHLEY

A TIME TRAVELLER'S LIFE: BACK TO THE BIG BANG WITH A LEADING COSMOLOGIST

BODY AND SOUL: A STUDENT'S TAKE ON PHILOSOPHY AND ANATOMY

IN MEMORIAM: TONY JUDT
I’ve always thought the best thing about being a journalist is that you get a chance to talk to interesting people about work they’re passionate about. Never have I felt this more acutely than since I was appointed the new editor of King’s Parade. For my first issue I was privileged to spend an hour in the company of a very busy cosmologist, hearing his thoughts on dark energy, string theory and the dizzying idea that we live in just one universe among an infinity of infinite universes. Read all about it from page 4.

I also enjoyed chatting with King’s PhD student Louis Carol outside the British Library one morning. Louis introduced me to the fascinating subject of his PhD, the 17th-century anatomist Thomas Willis. Never heard of him? Neither had I, yet his ideas about the mind were more influential than those of Descartes. Meet Louis – and Willis – on page 12.

I did my own PhD at Emmanuel, but as I’ve got to know King’s better I’ve discovered why so many students at other colleges cite it as the college they wished they’d applied to. A progressive haven for free thinkers such as the late Tony Judt (page 13) and brilliant eccentric such as Alan Turing and the many other Kingsmen at Bletchley (see pages 6-7), King’s really is special. If you’ve got any stories that illustrate what makes this place really is special. If you’ve got any stories at Bletchley (see pages 6-7), King’s

**Brian Sloan:**
**College Lecturer**

Family and property law specialist Brian Sloan has been appointed the first Bob Alexander College Lecturer in Law.

Sloan, who will provide ten hours of college supervision a week, is finishing his PhD on the use of private law remedies to support informal carers.

King’s has a long history of producing some of the UK’s most senior legal professionals, including the President of the Supreme Court, Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers, the former Master of the Rolls and current Supreme Court Justice, Lord Clarke, and the British Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the European Communities, Eleanor Sharpston QC.

Yet until now, King’s has never had a fully funded Fellowship in Law. The new Fellowship was created in memory of Kingsman Bob Alexander QC, who died in 2005.

“King’s is a nice fusion of the sort of history and tradition associated with Caius and the progressive values I encountered at Robinson.”

**Jeremy Morris:**
**The new dean**

In March, Reverend Dr Jeremy Morris was elected as the college’s new Dean. Dr Morris, who will officially take up the post in October, joins King’s from Trinity Hall, where he served as Chaplain from 2003.

“I’ve moved from the smallest chapel in Cambridge to the biggest,” he says. “King’s feels more cosmopolitan, open and diverse but also a bit more laid back.”

Dr Morris studied Modern History at Balliol College, Oxford, and after what he describes as a ‘brief and ingenious’ spell in the City, came to Cambridge to read Theology at Clare and train for the Anglican priesthood at Westcott House.

Of his new role, Morris says: “It’s important for the chapel to serve the college. A lot of my work will be about maintaining a good relationship between the two.”

**Julie Bressor and Tessa Frost**
**Development Office**

Julie Bressor has started as the College’s new Director of Development.

Julie will work closely with the Provost, Fellows, Development Board, King’s Members and Friends to raise funds in support of the College. She will also work with the Development Office team to manage alumni relations, King’s Members programmes, the Friends of King’s and a variety of other special events and activities.

“I am delighted to be at King’s”, says Julie. “King’s community is remarkably open and welcoming, and the Development Office enjoys a strong base of support from King’s Members, Fellows and Friends.”

Before moving to the UK, she was Associate Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. Julie, who began her career as a special collections librarian and museum director, has also served on a variety of museum and library boards in Vermont.

The Development Office welcomes Tessa Frost as Development Officer. Tessa is responsible for Reunion and other Member events, the Annual Fund and Telephone Fundraising Campaign and the online community and general alumni relations.

She replaces Chiara Ferrara (KC 2004), who is the Clinic Manager at HeadStart Sports Injury and Performance Clinics and the online Community Project Manager for the Cambridge Benefactors.

**Hazel Trapnell**
**New 1441 Member, Fellow Commomner**

Hazel Trapnell has been admitted as a new Fellow Commoner. Mrs Trapnell is widow of the late Roger Leigh Trapnell, a mathematician who studied at King’s in the 1920s and went on to work with economist John Maynard Keynes in the 1930s.

The Leigh Trapnell Chair of Quantum Physics was established in 2002 as a result of a generous donation by Mrs Trapnell in memory of her husband. She endowed the Leigh Trapnell Professorship and is a member of the University’s Guild of Cambridge Benefactors.

**Mark Pigott, OBE**
**Fellow Commoner**

Earlier this year Mark Pigott was admitted as a Fellow Commoner of the College. Mark is Chairman and CEO of Seattle-based PACCAR, a world leader in the design and manufacturing of trucks.

For over 30 years, the Pigott family has championed education, and Mark has continued this tradition by establishing Masters’ and undergraduate scholarships at King’s. In recognition of his lifetime of support, he has been elected to the University’s Guild of Benefactors.

**Professor Herman Waldmann**
**Honorary Fellow**

The renowned immunologist Herman Waldmann has been elected to an honorary Fellowship. Since 1994, Professor Waldmann has been Head of the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology at the University of Oxford. He had previously held the personal Chair of Kay Kendall, Professor of Therapeutic Immunology, while he was a Fellow at King’s.

He is best known for his work on “re-programming” the immune system so that patients might more readily accept organ transplants, as well as in the fight against diseases such as multiple sclerosis and diabetes.

He has been a Fellow of the British Royal Society since 1990 and a Founding Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences since 1998.
For Professor George Efstathiou, the most revealing questions about our cosmos are usually the most basic. Here, he tells Clare Lynch how the Planck satellite will provide answers to the most basic question of them all: how did it all begin?

The profound but childlike questions Efstathiou is asking right now all relate to the earliest moments of the universe – and by “earliest” he means the tiniest fractions of a second after the Big Bang (10^-35 of a second, to be precise). And as with Olbers’ Paradox, simple observations can lead to profound discoveries. By analysing the temperature differences that were formed at the beginning of the universe, he and his Kavli colleagues are hoping to discover more about the physics that generated all of the structures that we see in the universe today – stars, galaxies, the whole lot.

Efstathiou’s boyish sense of wonder extends to the fact that such discoveries are even possible when so many real-world problems are so hard to solve, such as predicting when a volcano will erupt or finding a cure for cancer.

“I find it amazing that you can actually think of observations that would probe physics at those very early times and actually learn something about what happened,” he says.

The observations that will provide the answers he seeks are being made by the Planck satellite, which the European Space Agency launched from French Guiana in May 2009. Efstathiou watched the launch from 6.5 kilometres away and says it was one of the most spectacular things he’d ever seen. But while the dignitaries who’d been invited to the launch partied on the beach, he and his colleagues spent a nervous ten hours glued to laptops as they cooled the satellite down, opened valves and switched on various critical functions.

“If anything goes wrong at that point the mission could be killed,” he points out. “So would you be in the mood for a beach party and champagne? It was only after the satellite was past the moon and there was a full activity that we were able to relax.”

But there’s been little time for relaxation since. Readers may recall the first images sent back by Planck that were splashed across the national press earlier this summer. The pictures revealed the striking beauty of the ancient cosmos – but interpreting the images is a considerably less romantic process than the newspaper commentary would have you believe. For this modern stargazer, discoveries aren’t made by peering down a telescope, but by devising computer code that can make sense of the reams of data Planck is beaming back to earth.

“I spend a lot of time at the computer screen writing the code that can make sense of the reams of data Planck is beaming back to earth,” Efstathiou says of his day-to-day work. “We need to be finished by October 2012 and it really is at the level now that I could work night and day and still wouldn’t be getting through it.”

The rewards of that work could be huge.
"What I’m really hoping for is a serendipitous discovery – something that is unexpected," he says.

"That," he laughs, "would be revolutionary."

While there’s lots to be done, there are grounds for optimism, because when it comes to backing winners, Efstathiou has form – and not only because he and his two football-mad sons were supporting Spain in this year’s World Cup (he spent nine years at Oxford before returning here in the 1990s).

Efstathiou and a small group of research students had planned to map the distribution of galaxies, a project that took several years. But when the results came back, they didn’t agree with the theories of the time.

"That’s a very interesting position to be in because you have to make a judgement – if you publish, most of the scientific community is going to say that you’re wrong. And so we purposely withheld publication and spent another year checking."

It was a brave call, given the short-term nature of modern scientific culture in which funding bodies want to see quick results. But the wait was worth it. Not only were the results correct, but they could only be explained if most of the stuff in the universe were to comprise a mysterious form of dark energy. It was a highly controversial thesis at the time, but it was correct.

"Everybody knew dark matter dominated over ordinary matter," he says. "But most of it was in dark energy. And this hadn’t been said before – not with observational evidence. We did two very significant things – we pushed the boundaries of the observations and we arrived at a theoretical interpretation."

Sadly, even when you’re observing what happened nearly 14 billion years ago, time isn’t always on your side. Efstathiou still smartly to think about the large research project that recently had to be axed because the funding body ran out of money.

"With science, there’s always run-of-the-mill projects and then there are some projects that have the potential to get Nobel prizes. Those are always the ones I try to go for. This was one of those – it had the potential for big discoveries. It was a shame it was cancelled. But we do have Planck . . ."

So, I ask, is the ongoing struggle for funding the crisis for cosmology? That he’s scheduled to talk to peers about later in the month?

Actually, no. Efstathiou is using “crisis” in its original sense of “deciding moment” rather than the modern sense of “disaster.” He believes that at some point – he can’t say when – there will be a revolution in physics to match the quantum mechanical revolution that took place in the 1920s and which created the problem of how to marry the world as it is observed at very small scales with Einstein’s Theory of Relativity.

The next crisis, he says, will stem from the fact that current theories suggest we might live in a “multiverse” – an infinite number of infinite universes. It raises fundamental questions – such as how do you calculate things in a multiverse? And is our universe typical or not?

"There is no solution and there’s not even a framework of a solution," he says. But the childlike questions are already being asked. And if past experience is anything to go by, the answers will be completely unexpected.

On a recent trip to Bletchley Park, Stuart Lyons CBE (KC 1962) discovered that Alan Turing was just one of many kingsmen whose intellect contributed to the defeat of Nazism.

"Kingsmen were all spies," my brother once said dismissively.

“Nonsense,” I retorted. “That was Trinity." I was thinking of the infamous Gang of Five of the early 1950s: Kim Philby, Guy Burgess, Anthony Blunt, and the “Fifth Man”, John Cairncross. Donald Maclean was just down the alley at Trinity Hall.

But my brother was right. A recent visit to Bletchley Park with the Cambridge Alumni brought the truth home. The point was, however, that the Kingsmen spied for England.

I had an inkling of this as an undergraduate. I was secretary of the Greek Play-Reading Society of Professor Sir Frank Adcock. One of my tasks was to take Adcock on his weekly walk. I would listen while he would talk. He had difficulty in pronouncing the letter ‘y’. ‘I’m still wather angwy with Powell,’ he once ventured, pronouncing Powell to rhyme with “Nose”. ‘I wanted him to come to Bletchley.’

Powell was Enoch Powell, who ended his life as a wayward Member of Parliament. That was as much as Adcock told me about his role as a senior recruiter for Bletchley Park. He and nearly ten thousand other men and women kept the secret for almost half a century, until it emerged in the media.

Adcock joined naval intelligence not in the Second, but in the First World War. He was recruited by Sir James Alfred Ewing, a noted metallurgist who had had a professorial Fellowship at King’s. Ewing was in charge of Room 40 at the Admiralty in London, where a group of remarkable academics – half of them Kingsmen – deciphered the coded transmissions of the German navy.

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Ewing died before the outbreak of the Second World War. It fell to Adcock and his fellow Kingsman Dilly Knox to build the UK’s code-breaking effort at Bletchley Park. Bletchley was midway between Oxford and Cambridge, and well suited geographically, if not in its accommodation, to be a centre of operations for Britain’s cryptologists.

The history of the men and women who worked at Bletchley Park is revealed in The Defence of the Realm, the authorised history of MI5 written by Professor Christopher Andrew, the President of Corpus Christi College. It was Andrew who gave our Cambridge Alumni group a one-hour lecture on our May Day visit.

According to Andrew, about a third of the High Table at King’s transferred to Bletchley. One of them was my Director of Studies in Latin, Patrick Wilkinson, who, having been pre-selected by Adcock, arrived at Bletchley within a fortnight of the outbreak of war. The Bletchley register records that his speciality was breaking the Italian naval codes. Sydney Eason, whom he later married, was concerned with Agiers and North Africa. None of them uttered a word about their wartime experiences during the many years I knew them.

The most famous Kingsman at Bletchley was Alan Turing, the extraordinarily bright but eccentric mathematician. Turing invented the first mainframe computer, the Bombe, which was designed to crack the German Enigma. A fascinating exhibition mounted by the King’s archivist at Bletchley Park showed a selection of his letters to his mother and close friends, including one written shortly before his death.

To what extent did the spies of Bletchley Park win the war? Doubtless, the might of America, and Russia’s response to the Nazi invasion, provided the engines of victory. But Bletchley Park produced the intelligence. When the Allies created disinformation to persuade Hitler that the invasion of France would focus on the Pas de Calais, it was Bletchley that reported he had swallowed the bait.

The public image of King’s is of a glorious iconic chapel and a beautiful academic setting. What goes on within our courts seems mysterious to the tourist. Indeed, it is difficult to encapsulate in any single account the achievements over time of such a diversity of individual talents, as is produced by the College. The story of the King’s contribution to the defeat of Nazism shows how fellows from many different disciplines used their intellectual brilliance in a great common cause.

See the back page for details of the upcoming celebrations of the centenary of Alan Turing’s birth.
Out of Silence
by Susan Tomes

Adrian Bejan reviewed it in the TLS:
"Tomes has a particular understanding of humanity rare in writing about music." – John Greven, TLS, Out of Silence.

Buy now at www.susantomes.com

A Book of King's

MP Tam Dalyell, Guardian writer Simon Hoggart, model Lily Cole, and war reporter and former independent MP Martin Bell are among the fifty or so Kingsmen and women who contributed to this illustrated collection of reflections on life at King's. Celebrated photographer Martin Parr provides many of the book's striking images.

"King's is different. This book is different," says Professor Ross Harrison, Provost.
"It is packed with a justling profusion of different ideas, images, and perceptions.

A Book of King's (£40) will be published in November. Order your copy at www.tmilltd.com or call +44 (0)20 7336 0144.

King's Through the Seasons

Enjoy a different view of King's every month with the King's College calendar 2013, which features 12 new photographs of the King's chapel and grounds, many taken by members of staff. And for Christmas, this attractive card depicts a wintery view of the chapel by Cambridge artist Steve Lewis.

Calendar: £6.99 (available now).
Christmas card: £1.99 for a single card or £7.99 for a pack of five (available from mid-October).

Buy online at www.kingssmembers.org or contact The Shop at King's on +44 (0)1223 769342.
All Members receive 10% off.

Cambridge: Treasure Island in the Fens
by Nicholas Chirmes

Nicholas Chirmes graduated from Bristol University and INSEAD, Fontainebleau. He has lived near Cambridge with his wife and four children for over twenty years.

Cambridge: Treasure Island in the Fens offers its reader entertaining insights into an establishment known to many but often only by reputation. This study of both the town and the university mixes a broad history of Cambridge with its idiosyncratic traditions and details. The book takes us from early history to the challenges faced today and includes chapters on the influence of women, both in recent times and as early founders and benefactors. It reveals the extraordinary privileges the University has enjoyed, often to the detriment of the town and Cambridge, and explorers its monastic legacy, cultural heritage and worldwide influence.

The book also features in-depth descriptions of individual colleges and chapels – their origin, layout and reputation. Naturally, King's College Chapel is awarded space in the book befitting its reputation. The chapel of the university mixes a broad history of Cambridge with its idiosyncratic traditions and details.

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An imprint of Hobbs Aerie Publications, Hardback £20

Montacute House
by Lucy Jago

Lucy Jago (KC 1985) graduated with a double-first class honours degree and two scholarships and went on to complete an MA at the Courtauld Institute in London. Lucy now writes full time and is the award-winning author of three books.

In Montacute House, Lucy Jago, the lively chicken girl at Montacute House, is shunned by the villagers because she has never known who her father is. On her thirteenth birthday she finds a precious locket hidden in the chicken coop and is convinced someone has placed it there for her to find. On the same day a body is found by the river, and when her best friend William disappears Cess is accused by the villagers of bewitching him.

Lucy Jago’s debut novel is a thrilling murder mystery, written for young adults, that takes place during the reign of Elizabeth I. It’s a fast-paced adventure involving witchcraft, politics, family secrets and religious ambition.

Lucy’s research into the real-life Montacute House in Somerset and her evident passion for history ensures the book is full of incidental historical detail that brings Cess’s world alive – plague boils and all. Covering subjects such as poverty, plague, Catholic vs. Protestant strife and religious ambition, this richly detailed novel is a thrilling murder mystery.

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An imprint of Hobbs Aerie Publications, Hardback £10.99

The New Separation of Powers
by Eoin Carolan

Dr Eoin Carolan (KC 2002) is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin. He also studied King's as a graduate student and is a former visiting researcher at Harvard Law School. He is currently a barrister and lecturer in law at University College Dublin.

In a clear and readable style, this analysis of contemporary governance explains many of the characteristics of modern democracy and liberal constitutionalism for experts and non-experts alike.

Explaining how changes in modern governance have subverted the principles underpinning the separation of legislative, judiciary and executive powers, Carolan suggests a new approach which has the potential to enhance democratic checks and balances and legitimise the role of administrative and regulatory bodies.

He draws on examples from the United Kingdom, Ireland and the United States to look at how legal and political notions of institutional separation have so far failed to deal with the problems posed by the emergence of quasi-public administrative or regulatory agencies, and how these issues may be addressed in the future.

Far from taking the traditional view that administrative agencies pose a threat to democracy, Carolan argues that such bodies can provide the opportunity to reform public governance in a way which re-establishes the essential principles of democracy.

Interview with Lucy Jago about Montacute House

"It's a fast-paced adventure involving witchcraft, politics, family secrets and religious ambition."

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Tony Judt, historian and former Fellow of King’s College, died Friday 6th August, aged 62. Judt is best known for his controversial essays on American foreign policy, Israel and the future of Europe, and for his critically acclaimed and highly influential Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945.

Judt arrived at King’s in 1966 to study history, and gained both his BA degree (1969) and a PhD (1972) at the college. In his final article for the New York Review of Books, he recounts the formative influence that his time at King’s had upon him — and indeed, his contemporaries at the college — and in particular cites the guidance of his tutor John Dunn (still a Fellow of the college) as a crucial element in his education.

He was elected a Fellow of King’s himself in 1972 and remained at the college until 1978, when he left to teach at the University of California at Berkeley. He went on to teach at St Anne’s College, Oxford, and finally New York University, where he became Erich Maria Remarque Professor of European Studies.

Judt was diagnosed with the motor neuron disorder amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease) in 2008. He continued to work as much as the progression of the disease would allow, and died at his home in Manhattan of complications from the disease.

After learning of his illness, one of Judt’s former students named Saul Goldberg launched Move For ALS, a campaign to raise awareness and funds to fight the disease. Together with his friend Augustin Quancard, Saul recently cycled across the United States from Seattle to New York, raising $7,100 for the cause.

To learn more about ALS and make a donation, visit www.moveforals.com.

Emeritus Fellow Wynne Godley died on 13 May, age 83. Godley had a reputation for being one of the most original economists of his generation.

In the 1970s he was scorned when he predicted that unemployment would rise to 3 million in the 1980s, but his prediction came true. He also attracted the wrath of the Thatcher government for dismissing its economic policies as “a gigantic con trick.”

Despite his maverick status, Godley also worked within the establishment. In 1971 and 1973 he was Official Adviser to the Select Committee on Public Expenditure, and in 1975 he was an Economic Consultant to the Treasury.

He was also a Member of the Treasury’s Panel of Independent Forecasters (“The Six Wise Men”) under John Major’s government.

Godley’s early career lay in music. He studied at the Parnes Conservatoire and became a professional avant-garde musician with the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra. But his musical career was cut short by stage fright. “I was plagued by nightmarish fears of letting everyone down,” he said.

He changed careers and became an economic analyst. In 1956 got a job as a forecaster in the Treasury and in 1970 he joined the Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge. He was elected a Fellow of King’s in the same year.

Tony Judt

Wynne Godley

INMEMORIAM


Sir Frank Kermode

Honorary Fellow Professor Sir Frank Kermode died on 17 August, age 90. Frank Kermode was one of the most respected and influential literary critics of his generation. His collections of essays and lectures became standard university texts, with the most famous being The Sense of an Ending: Studies in the Theory of Fiction (1967, 2000). He was a prolific writer and only last year published a book, Concerning EM Forster.

Kermode was born in Douglas, Isle of Man, in 1919. He rose from humble beginnings to win a scholarship to Liverpool University, where he took both BA and MA degrees. On graduating in 1940 he joined the Royal Navy where he spent most of the war years. Kermode was the last visitor to have lunch on HMS Hood before she was destroyed by the Bismarck. After the war he returned to academia to hold teaching positions at some of world’s most prestigious universities, including Cambridge, Harvard, Princeton and Yale.

He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1973. In 1974 he was elected a Fellow of King’s and became King Edward VII Professor of English Literature at Cambridge University. He remained a Fellow of King’s until 1986, by which time he had moved to Columbia University. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1987 and was knighted for his services to literature in 1991.

Tony Judt

Wynne Godley

INMEMORIAM

The recent drought has revealed the outlines of former buildings of King’s. In the Back Lawn you can see the outline of an old belfry, a bowling green and several old paths crossing the lawn. In the front lawns between the Screen and King’s Parade, you can see the outlines of the old hall and Provost’s study.

The belfry, located in the northeast corner of the Back Lawn, once contained five bells donated by the college founder Henry VI (1421-71). These bells were recast several times, however, because they kept cracking. The Fellows of the college eventually gave up on the unreliable bells, and in 1739 the belfry was demolished and the bells sold for scrap. Proceeds from the sale helped to pay for the Gibbs Building.

Other marks on the Back Lawn show two former paths that led to a bowling green and a kitchen garden, and the shaded trace of the old back drive to the college, which ran through the middle of the lawn. Until 1835, many of the college buildings stood between the Front Screen and King’s Parade. These buildings included offices, the old hall and the Provost’s study. They were pulled down to make way for the Victorian Gothic buildings that now surround the Front Court.

You can find out more about the history of the gardens and King’s in general by looking at the online archive at www.kings.cam.ac.uk/archive-centre.

King’s College Register

King’s is printing a new, limited edition of the King’s College Register. The hardback directory of all living King’s Members who matriculated in 2006 or before was originally scheduled to be published this year, but will now be printed in spring 2011.

With the time-consuming work of gathering, compiling and editing the details of every living King’s Member, it would be easy to lose sight of the project’s ultimate goal: to provide a record of all alumni dating back to 1799.

Also known as the “Purple Book”, the Register was first published in 1903 and last published in 1998, when it included details of every living King’s Member, it gathering, compiling and editing the ultimate goal: to provide a record of all alumni dating back to 1799.

A! Year at King’s College

A new CD celebrates the ecclesiastical year as sung in the chapel and conducted by the Director of Music at King’s, Stephen Cleobury. Out now on the EMI label, A Year at King’s includes works drawn from 600 years of musical history by composers as diverse as Palestrina, Poulenc and Pláňí. It also features such favourites as Allegri’s Miserere and Barber’s Agnus Dei, as well as the first recording of Taverner’s Away in a Manger, written for the 2004 Christmas Eve service.

“I would happily sit in King’s College Chapel listening to this choir sing for the rest of my days.”


A Year At King’s is available at The Shop at King’s 13 King’s Parade, Cambridge CB2 1SP or online at www.kings.cam.ac.uk/visit/shop.html

Price: £15.99

Are You a Cat Person?

King’s has always been known for its feline members, and we’ve recently heard a few entertaining anecdotes about “the King’s cats”. Our favourite is the one about a fellow who, when he was about to come up in 1932, rang the Porter’s Lodge to ask if he might bring his beloved Siamese cat Ming with him. “Certainly, Sir. It’s only women and dogs we don’t allow here,” replied the porter.

Do you have any anecdotes about the college’s furry friends? We’re thinking of featuring them in a future issue so send your stories to kingsparade@kings.cam.ac.uk. If we get enough of a response, the college might even produce a book on the subject.

In the feature on green King’s in our last issue, we asked you to get in touch if you’re working on the environment in some way. We heard back from two NRMs who are helping to transform major cities.

You might have heard of Boris’s bikes, which are encouraging healthier and cleaner commuting in London. Taking up Boris’s baton, Ben Irvine (KC 2002) has launched the London Cycle Map Campaign. Ben hopes to create a single map that’s easy to use and corresponds to a unified network of signed cycle routes throughout the capital – the cycling equivalent of the London underground map.

The vehicle for Ben’s campaign is his magazine Cycle Lifestyle (www.cyclerelifestyle.co.uk), which he set up as a social enterprise in 2009.

Across the Channel, Hélène de Langenteau (KC 1986) is working for the City of Paris, with a mission to transform the French capital into a sustainable, dynamic city with a high quality of life. In 2007 the City of Paris voted for a climate change plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25% in 2020. Promoting clean transport and developing renewable energy are among the initiatives Hélène’s involved in.

Inpiration in Dark Times

These native, fanciful images, recently on show at King’s, were created by Canadian Theology student John Devin (St Edmund’s, 1979). Tragically, mental illness cut short his studies and forced him to return to Canada for treatment.

In order to aid his recovery and express his desire to return to Cambridge, John began to draw sketches from memory, to remind him of happier times.

“Phone a Friend”

The annual Telephone Fundraising Campaign gives current students and NRMs a chance to share their experiences of King’s. In March, 15 King’s students manned the phones and called almost 1,000 Members. As well as bringing together Members young and old, the goal was to raise £175,000 towards the Supplementary Exhibition Fund, the Chapel and Choir, and the Literary and Archives. So successful was the campaign that it exceeded the target by some way, raising over £220,047 so far – an amazing result, and the highest total of any Telephone Fundraising Campaign to date.

What’s more, the callers received career advice, got work placement offers, and heard some memorable anecdotes about King’s from as far back as the 1930s. During the campaign, second year Classicist Mayo wrote about taking part on the King’s blog – here’s what she said:

“The phone campaign has been a delightful foray into life after King’s. Initially, the computer assigns you Non Resident Members (NRMs) who correspond as much possible to your own degree course or interests. So, thus far, I have mainly been calling Classicists.

“This has proved a very life-affirming experience for me, as nobody has had a bad word to say about Cassias at King’s and everybody seems to have extremely good memories of the experience – even if they subsequently went on to follow entirely unrelated career paths. One NRM, whilst professing to have spent very little time at university doing any work at all, admitted that when I phoned him he had just been on the soft reading Ovid’s Metamorphoses – in Latin! Another gentleman, aged over 80, began quoting the Iliad to me in original Homeric Greek, translating as he went. I hope I can still quote the Iliad when I am 80!”

“The phone campaign has proved a very life-affirming experience for me, as everybody seems to have extremely good memories of King’s.”

“When the computer brings up man after man after man, I have to remind myself that this is not a technical glitch but that there actually were no female students at King’s before 1972. It’s been interesting to hear about life at King’s before women, and pleasantly surprising that everybody I have spoken to has been extremely positive about the fact that women are here now.”

You can donate to the campaign at www.kingsmembers.org/donations.

Wheels of Change

In the feature on green King’s in our last issue, we asked you to get in touch if you’re working on the environment in some way. We heard back from two NRMs who are helping to transform major cities.

You might have heard of Boris’s bikes, which are encouraging healthier and cleaner commuting in London. Taking up Boris’s baton, Ben Irvine (KC 2002) has launched the London Cycle Map Campaign. Ben hopes to create a single map that’s easy to use and corresponds to a unified network of signed cycle routes throughout the capital – the cycling equivalent of the London underground map.

The vehicle for Ben’s campaign is his magazine Cycle Lifestyle (www.cycelifestyle.co.uk), which he set up as a social enterprise in 2009.

Across the Channel, Hélène de Langenteau (KC 1986) is working for the City of Paris, with a mission to transform the French capital into a sustainable, dynamic city with a high quality of life. In 2007 the City of Paris voted for a climate change plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25% in 2020. Promoting clean transport and developing renewable energy are among the initiatives Hélène’s involved in.

“We fixed upon King’s as my favourite college and decided to embellish the buildings there in my imagination.”

John Devin
**Women’s Event**

Zadie Smith, King’s alumna and tenured professor of fiction at New York University, was the pre-dinner speaker at this year’s women’s event. She joined speakers including Dr Jude Browne, King’s Fellow whose research interests include gender, sex segregation and political and social theories of equality; Alison Maitland, King’s alumna and former *Financial Times* journalist; Dr Elizabeth Murchison, King’s research Fellow; Sally Muggeridge, Chief Executive of the Industry and Parliament Trust; and Cheryl Campbell, Cambridge graduate and CEO of film company TVE.

Attendees also enjoyed an exhibition of Virginia Woolf and Vanessa Bell’s writings, art and correspondence, from the King’s College archives, alongside an exhibition of female students’ art.

**Engineers’ Event**

In June, over 100 engineering students, Fellows and alumni from matriculation years 1941–2009 gathered for a day of seminars and socialising.

Professor John Young (KC 1977) kicked off the talks with his session, “The Road to Thermotopia”, immediately followed by Dr Tawfique Hasan (KC 2009) with his session, “Nanotechnology – the future is small!”. Later, Dr Stephanie Lacour (KC 2006) spoke on “Electric circuits with a stretch” and Dr Cesare Hall (KC 1992) talked about “Future aircraft engines for reduced emissions”.

Later, dinner gave everyone an opportunity to continue their conversations, catch up on any news and to reminisce about their time at King’s.

**Bonfire Night**

Each November, King’s College Choir performs a thrilling programme of music on the College’s Bonfire Night.

**2012 Alan Turing Celebrations**

Celebrations are being planned to mark the centenary of mathematician Alan Turing’s birth (KC 1931). Proposed events include conferences, lectures, an education day at Bletchley Park, and a relay race between Ely and Cambridge, along the route that Turing used while training for his marathons. King’s College will host a conference in June 2012 that will look at Turing’s contributions to a range of scientific fields – from mathematics and computer science to philosophy and developmental biology.

The events are being coordinated by The Turing Centenary Advisory Committee (TCAC), an international collection of academics and cultural organisations. Fuller details of the year’s events can be found on the TCAC website at www.mathcomp.leeds.ac.uk/turing2012.

See page 7 for more on Alan Turing and his King’s colleagues at Bletchley Park.