**Warden’s message**

There was a preoccupation with happiness in the College this term. More specifically, 2008 began with the Green College lectures, the series this year entitled “Prospects of Happiness?” The sequence provided psychiatric, medical and social science perspectives on the concept — and worked wonderfully well. Each lecture was distinctive. They differed from one another in style and content, yet cohered and resonated in unexpected ways. I was struck by the number of conversations that took place in the college about the lectures: a sure mark of the success of the series.

Next term will begin rather differently. There will be some double takes and gasps when members of the College enter the Observatory building for lunch, or to read a newspaper in the common room. They will find a world upside down – or nearly so. For over the Easter break the furniture will be moved to bring the dining room downstairs and relocate the common room on the first floor.

The reason for the move (which has been contemplated for some years) is simple. The kitchens are downstairs, and every item of food at every meal has to ascend to the present dining room in the service lift. It is not a conspicuously efficient system and imposes extra pressures on the staff. The exchange of levels will have other benefits too. The kitchen will be fully refurbished. The new configuration at ground level will provide a servery for lunch, and there will be two areas with additional seating, one where the kitchen is currently located and the other in what was once the Smokers’ Room. (It always puts me in mind of “the artist formerly known as Prince”: the room has never found a new name that has stuck!)

The extra seating will of course be useful in October when Green Templeton College opens its doors for the first time. We simply don’t know at this stage exactly what the demand for seating will be in the new College which will have almost 500 students and 80 Governing Body fellows. The extra seating at lunch-time may be augmented by a longer lunch hour; and the College may have an extra formal dinner each week.

The reconfiguration of the two rooms is only the first step in preparing the Observatory building for the opening of the new college. The summer ball will be held on June 28th this year; and then the Observatory will be closed while the alterations and building work take place, reopening in late September, in time for the grand dinner to celebrate the new college.

Progress towards that milestone continues. The draft Charter and Statutes for Green Templeton College have been submitted to the Privy Council and they are now making their way through the process of scrutiny and approval. The Privy Council has been granting Royal Charters since the thirteenth century and simply can’t be hurried; but we hope that approval may be granted at its July meeting. Another august institution of medieval origins is the College of Arms, responsible for heraldry. It is finalising the production of a new coat of arms. The dominant features in the new shield are the rod of Asclepius, carried over from the current Green shield; and Templeton’s nautilus shells.

The two colleges are busy appointing a new head of development and fund-raising, to take office in advance of actual merger. He or she will play a vital role in assisting the Governing Body to raise funds and support from outside the new college, particularly to enable us to make a start on the new building.

In the meantime, the first fruits of the “merger dividend” are discernible. A schedule of scholarships and other forms of student support has been developed by a working group headed by the Senior Tutor, Professor Keith Frayn. The decision to merge included a commitment to increase such funding. In addition to what is currently spent by both colleges, the spend on student support and academic activities will rise from £100,000 in the first year of the new college’s existence to £500,000 by the fifth year. Such a scheme will enable Green Templeton to respond very positively to the university’s new emphasis on postgraduates and the plan to create many more fully funded scholarships for such students.

Speaking of students, Green’s Middle Common Room committee and their counterparts, the Graduate Common Room committee at Templeton, have had a number of meetings addressing matters constitutional, sporting, social and culinary. Eve and I were delighted to accept an invitation by Templeton’s GCR to their Mardi Gras guest dinner – and felt immediately at home there because 40 Green College students had also been invited!

I look forward to meeting as many as possible of the American alumni of both colleges at the New York alumni event next month. Green and Templeton will share a stall at the Waldorf Astoria and jointly host a dinner at the Princeton Club. There we’ll discuss the possibility of setting up a formal and active branch of Green Templeton North American alumni; and if this is favoured have some form of launch event there during next Michaelmas term.

One way and another, there are any number of prospects for happiness at the College just now…
New Year honours 2008

**Professor John Bell**, Regius Professor of Medicine and Honorary Common Room member of Green College has been made a Knight Bachelor (KB) for services to medicine.

He is President of the Academy of Medical Sciences and was the Founder of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics. He has been extensively involved in the development of research programmes in genetics and genomics and in the development of a clinical research programme across the UK. His research programme has contributed to a clearer understanding of Type 1 diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis.

**Professor Kay Davies**, Dr Lee’s Professor of Anatomy and Fellow of Hertford College and Honorary Common Room member of Green College has been made a Dame of the British Empire (DBE) for services to science.

Professor Davies is Director of the Medical Research Unit functional genetics unit, Co-Director of the Oxford Centre for Gene Function and a founding Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. Her research interests lie in the molecular analysis of human genetic disease, particularly the genetic basis of neuromuscular and neurological disorders such as Duchenne muscular dystrophy and spinal muscular atrophy.

**Dr Ann McPherson**, University lecturer in General Practice and Governing Body Fellow of Green College, has received the George Abercrombie Award for meritorious literary work in general practice by the Royal College of General Practitioners. Her books are aimed at both a medical and non-medical audience, with Women’s Health, now in its fifth edition, being one of the most successful titles in the Oxford General Practice series.

She is also responsible for two websites: [www.teenagehealthfreak.org](http://www.teenagehealthfreak.org), which offers help, information and advice to teenagers concerned about their health; and [www.DIPEX.org](http://www.DIPEX.org), a large database of individual patient experiences of health and illness.

**Professor Terence Ryan**, Emeritus Fellow will be honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the World Union of Wound Healing Societies at the third World Congress to be held in Toronto in June 2008. Professor Ryan will be the first recipient of this award.

The World Union of Wound Healing Societies is a consortium of associations with a single mission: to enhance the lives of persons with wounds worldwide. The WUWHS executive includes opinion leaders in wound care from Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States.

**Professor Stein Ringen**, Professor Sociology and Social Policy, Governing Body Fellow of Green College has been awarded doctorate honoris causa by Masaryk University in the Czech Republic, ‘for contributions to the rebuilding of the social sciences in the region after 1989’.

Professor Stein also holds the Medal of Merit of Charles University on the occasion of the University's 650th anniversary, 1998 and has been an Honorary Member of the Academic Council of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University since 1994.

**Major General John Pearn**, Honorary Visiting fellow of Green College has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science by James Cook University, Australia ‘For contributions to medical genetics, clinical and experimental envenomation and experimental pathology’.

In December 2007 he was also created an Honorary Fellow of the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine, on whose Executive he has served for the past decade.

**Michael Noble, OBE**, Professor of Social Policy and Fellow of Green College, has been made a CBE for services to social research on poverty and deprivation. His major research interests are in the areas of poverty, social exclusion and income maintenance policy in both developed and developing countries. Professor Noble runs the Social Disadvantage Research Centre (SDRC) and the Centre for the Analysis of South African Social Policy (CASASP) in the department. SDRC has just completed the new national indices of deprivation for England for central government. CASASP works with the South African government to develop high quality evidence-based social policy research to assist in the eradication of poverty and the development of citizenship.
Fellow receives international honour

The J Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine has been awarded to Professor Rory Collins, Co-director of the Clinical Trials Service Unit (CTSU) and British Heart Foundation Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, and Governing Body Fellow of Green College.

The prize, which is awarded annually by the Robarts Research Institute, is presented to the world’s leading researchers in biology, medicine and imaging. Professor Collins’ work has been in the establishment of large-scale epidemiological studies of the causes, prevention and treatment of heart attacks, other vascular disease and cancer. He became Principal Investigator and Chief Executive of the UK Biobank prospective study of 500,000 people in September 2005 and has been co-director, with Professor Sir Richard Peto, of CTSU since 1985. In 2006, CTSU was awarded the prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize for higher and further education.

Professor Collins will be giving a lecture entitled ‘From Richard Doll’s 50,000 British Doctors to UK Biobank’s 500,000 British people’ at the Alumni Celebratory Day on Saturday 20 September, Green College.

What Chance of Happiness?

Happiness is the ghost in the machine. Eagerly sought after and much studied, it remains elusive but of undeniable importance - medically, socially and economically, as the variety of speakers in the 2008 College Lectures, ‘The Prospects for Happiness’, attested.

Kay Redfield Jamison, Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins, kicked off the series in scintillating form with her lecture, ‘Beyond Happiness: Exuberance and Mania’. Believing there has been a ‘sterile retreat from joy in psychiatric studies’, she went on to explore the continuum from enthusiasm through exuberance, joy and ecstasy to the wilder shores of psychopathology, stressing both the addictive nature of exuberance and its many positive aspects.

‘Can money buy happiness?’ asked the Chichele Professor of Economic History, Avner Offer in the second lecture, ‘Should Government Try to make Us Happy?’ All the surveys show remarkably static happiness levels throughout the developed world irrespective of economic growth.

So should government be trying to promote happiness? One approach might be for governments to focus on unhappiness and removing its causes. Another would be for governments to act as ‘commitment agents’ on behalf of their citizens. Citizens find it hard to make appropriate commitments, and markets have difficulty in providing long-term benefits given the long contracting periods involved. The pressing problems of oil depletion and climate change make this government role even more vital.

For more on the lectures visit the Green College website www.green.ox.ac.uk home page Latest News.

British Heart Foundation Professor of Psychology in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at UCL, Professor Andrew Steptoe, demonstrated a clear link between happiness and good health across a wide range of measures in the third lecture, ‘Happiness, Health and Biology’. The precise mechanisms, however, are not yet fully understood, and the pathways between happiness, health and biology should occupy a central place in the future research agenda.

In the final lecture, ‘Dysfunctional Societies: Why Inequality Matters’, Richard Wilkinson, Professor of Social Epidemiology at University of Nottingham Medical School, pointed out that in rich countries we are reaching the end of a period when economic growth brought real improvements in the quality of human life.

‘We are the first generation to have to think what we must do now to improve the quality of life in our societies. Unequal societies do worse in every way – mortality and life expectancy, health – physical and mental, obesity, educational failure, teenage pregnancy, drug abuse, violence and homicide. The effects are not felt solely by the poorer classes. As shown by mortality statistics, people in the middle and above suffer too.

The main factors affecting well-being, he said, are low social status, weak social affiliations and stress in early life, the last of which ‘casts a long shadow forward to affect health in later life’. Status - orderings based on power - contrasts with friendship, which is based on mutuality and reciprocity, are ‘the two sides of the same coin. As a species we not only have huge potential for conflict but also for cooperation and helping one another.’

Peter Snow
Associate Fellow, Templeton College

Student awards

Distinctions were received by the following students:

Marie-Helen Maras
M Phil in Criminology 2007

Lionel Rivet
MBA

Hannah Grainger Clemson
MSc Educational Research Methodology

Domus Merit Awards 2008:

Lee Aye, Jacqueline Cheng, Jing Jane Ding, Paul Kadetz, Robert Massam, Matthew Morton, Teresa Tsakok and Trevor Yeung.
**New Head of Medical Sciences Division**

Distinguished neurologist and stroke specialist, Professor Alastair Buchan and Governing Body Fellow of Green College, will be the Head of the Medical Sciences Division from October 2008.

Professor Buchan, Professor of Clinical Geratology at the University, is both a clinician who treats stroke patients and a neuroscience researcher, whose laboratory interests have the long-term goal of discovering stroke interventions that will both protect the brain and stimulate recovery. He is a leading figure in the UK stroke strategy and the partnership between the University and the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Trust.

The University of Oxford is arranged into four academic divisions, of which Medical Sciences is by far the largest, accounting for one third of the University’s total expenditure and two thirds of its external research income. Oxford is ranked third in the world for biomedicine.

The Division is responsible for medical education and encompasses the full range of biomedical research, from basic science through to testing new treatments. The Division has great strength in global health, with vaccines in field trials for TB, HIV and malaria, and programmes in major non-communicable diseases, including the three biggest killers: cancer, heart disease and stroke.

Professor Buchan is currently Head of the John Radcliffe Division of the University’s Nuffield Department of Medicine and is also Director of the Oxford Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre, a joint research programme between the University and the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Trust funded by the NIH. Professor Buchan joined the University of Oxford in 2005 from the University of Calgary, where he was Head of the Calgary Stroke Programme. With Professor Peter Rothwell and Professor Peter Jezzard he leads the Oxford Acute Stroke Programme, which will bring together different strands of stroke research from across the University to develop a research-driven care programme for stroke patients within Oxford’s John Radcliffe Hospital. An important aspect of the Oxford Stroke Programme is a medical imaging centre to be built next to the emergency department at the John Radcliffe, which will allow faster treatment of stroke patients, thus preserving brain function.

Professor Buchan said: ‘Taking the very best fundamental or basic science research and using it to drive changes to clinical care will help us to provide the best health for our patients, and will result in the best possible Divisional environment to which we can recruit the best and brightest from students to tenured chairs.’

Dr John Hood, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, said: ‘The Medical Sciences Division is world-leading in the quality and global impact of its research, from basic science through to treatment, and it is fitting that it will be led by Professor Buchan, who is a scientist and clinician of international repute. I very much look forward to working with him in his new capacity.’

Trevor Campbell Davis, Chief Executive of the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Trust, said: ‘The NHS in Oxfordshire is pleased that an experienced clinician who understands the needs of patients has been appointed to lead the Medical Sciences Division. I am personally delighted that someone as able as Alastair will be working with me to lead the vital partnership between the Trust and University at this time of change and opportunity.’

Professor Buchan is a fellow of Green College and Governor of Repton School. He takes up post in October 2008. He will succeed Dr Ken Fleming, who has led the Division since 2000.

*Oxford University 17 December 2007*

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**Critical report by Green Emeritus Fellow**

Green College Emeritus Fellow Richard Pring is the lead author of a report published by the Nuffield Review of 14-19 Education and Training, which looks at how the aims and values of education have come to be ‘dominated by the language of management’. The report questions whether we have lost sight of earlier descriptions of education such as ‘the conversation between the generations of mankind’ and ‘the best that has been thought and said’.

The need to measure everything and to find equivalents for different types of education arises from a natural enough desire to achieve value-for-money, and to promote different routes for young people, says the report. But it can also be a straightjacket, implying that all types of learning can, and should, be forced into the same model.

Professor Pring also points out that one of the problems with the General National Vocational Qualifications (GNVQs) - and a future risk for Diplomas - is that in an attempt to achieve parity with GCSEs and A-levels, students were assessed not so much on what they could "do" but how well they could write about and analyse their "doing". Students are forced into a model of academic learning, even when they chose something that had a hands-on and practical approach. The same applies to creativity - measuring levels of which among school pupils is the subject of the latest government initiative.

The Nuffield Review paper concludes that we should recognise, and value, many different aims for education. These include: critical thinking and an introduction to knowledge in the physical and social sciences, the humanities and the arts; development of practical capabilities; preparation for citizenship; and development of the ideals and values needed to face the big issues affecting our communities.

The report was the subject of a BBC News Online item on 16 February. For details see [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7247160.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7247160.stm)

In November 2007 Professor Pring was awarded in Karachi, the Aga Khan University Annual Award of Distinction for the work he has done in the University over 15 years, and also just elected to succeed Lord Hattersley as the President of the Socialist Education Association.

*Peter Snow*  
Associate Fellow, Templeton College
Historic Nurse Leaders’ meeting rekindles Osler tradition

The Osler-McGovern Centre was the venue for the two day inaugural meeting of The Oxford International Learning Collaborative which took place on the 27-28 February. Hosted by Green College, the historic event brought together senior nurse leaders from four continents to explore how nursing can improve the scientific, clinical and practice base of the fundamentals of patient care.

The impetus for the meeting was the establishment of the first Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC) in the UK at Imperial College, London. Nurse leaders from other established and emerging AHSCs converged in Oxford to discuss how the structure and governance processes in the new alignment of patient delivery systems and the pursuit of academic and research excellence, can improve patient’s experience of care and safety.

Welcomed by the Warden, Dr Colin Bundy went on to remind the group of the appropriateness of their mission to the philosophy and vision of Sir William Osler.

A visionary and transformer, Sir William was a passionate advocate for the integration of clinical excellence in medicine with the highest standards for scientific research and scholarship.

“That ambition is aptly demonstrated in this important and visionary initiative and Green College is proud to be associated with it through Alison Kitson, Fellow of Green College and organisator of the event” he said.

Representatives from Canada, the US, Australia, Singapore and the UK enjoyed the warm spring atmosphere of Oxford and the hospitality of Green College. Dr Richard Gibbons, Vice Warden of Green College, also hosted a dinner for the international delegation where the distinguished guests included Clare Chapman, Director General of Workforce for the NHS and Professor Charles Vincent, Director of the Clinical Safety Research Unit at Imperial College.

Local alliances were also forged during the international meeting. Dr Keith Ruddle, Fellow of Templeton College and guest at the dinner, commented on the exciting synergy that such an initiative would offer to the new Green Templeton alliance and Elaine Strachan-Hall, Director of Nursing at the John Radcliffe Hospital, and a participant at the collaborative said “She was thrilled to be part of such an important international initiative”.

The Oxford International Learning Collaborative will be continuing its work and is planning its second meeting.

Anyone interested in further information, email Professor Alison Kitson at alison.kitson@green.ox.ac.uk.

Alison Kitson

Book news

Alan and Marcia Emery have written three books in recent years concerning the practice of medicine and surgery as depicted in works of art. Their 'Surgical and Medical Treatment in Art' in 2006 was Winner of the BMA Illustrated Book Award and also Highly Commended by the Society of Authors.

Their 'Mother and Child Care in Art' in 2007 was also Highly Commended in the BMA Book Awards, one reviewer commenting “the range of coverage in the present volume is staggering, the reproductions are of outstanding quality, and the erudition of the essays that go with each picture is truly remarkable...”.

Professor Emery is an Honorary Fellow of Green College. His latest book to be published shortly by Oxford University Press is a third edition of Muscular Dystrophy – The Facts, which is written specifically for patients and their families, and all royalties and payments are donated to Green College.”

He also exhibits in the Stables Gallery every year.
The bare bones of anatomy

There is an old Viennese saying that if you want the meat, you have to take the bones. Some medics feel this way about clinical practice and the study of anatomy. However, one thing to make the study of anatomy easier is to have access to a good skeleton. The latest addition to the Dr Marvin Lee Weil Equipment Library is a full size ‘deluxe’ artificial skeleton, with details such as muscle insertions painted on one half. He has pride of place looking out of the library window towards the physic garden.

We were thinking about naming the skeleton. Napoleon (Bony Parts) and Fred (Bare) have been suggested (it is a male skeleton). However, whoever makes the next significant donation to the equipment library fund will be offered the final choice of name. I’m sure Marvin would have approved!

In fact that’s a good name…?

The College has added to its collection of paintings and etchings relating to the Observatory with the purchase of a watercolour by E Warrall of the Observer’s House and Tower of the Winds painted in 1940.

It appeared as Lot 966 in a fine art sale at Rosebery’s Auctioneers, West Norwood, London on Tuesday 16 January 2007. Michael Pirie brought the sale to the Warden’s attention and offered to go and bid for it on the College’s behalf (in exchange for a day off!). Estimated at £120-150, bidding was invited at £80, but no bids being initially forthcoming, the auctioneer reduced his starting bid to £40, at which point Michael raised his hand. There being no further bids, the hammer price plus commission came to £46, a very reasonable amount for a painting of such merit and interest.

It is rare to have a depiction of the buildings at this wartime date. A weather vane, in the form of a cockerel, is seen perched on top of Observer’s House chimney stack, making it look as if it is part of the Tower of the Winds. The extension on the roof of the Tower is the weather station built in the nineteenth century and removed prior to the founding of Green College.

The colours remain very fresh, and highlight flag irises and a laburnum tree in the foreground, with scarlet geraniums in window boxes on the front of Observer’s House. The view is framed on the left by an elm or lime tree, quite possibly one of those that were planted in the early years of the Observatory’s existence.

At present the painting hangs in the Warden’s lodgings and we would like to thank Michael for being instrumental in adding this valuable picture to the College’s collection of artwork.

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Common Room members

Mr Charles Foster
Barrister specialising in medical law

Dr Eung Jun Im
The Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine

Dr Gael MacLean
Joan & Richard Doll Clinical Tutorial Fellow

Ms Fiona Reid
Director of the Science Enterprise Centre, Said Business School

Research Fellowship

Mr Roger Street
Technical Director (UKCIP), Environmental Change Institute

Research Association

Dr Neil Carrier
Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine

Dr Lei Clifton
Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics

Ms Lucie Cluver
Department of Social Policy and Social Work

Dr Lisa Marzano
Department of Psychiatry

Visiting Scholarship

Mr John Kelly
Reuters Institute

Dr Renée Lyons

Rt Hon Dr John Reid
Institute for Statecraft and Governance

Welcome new college members

Please find below a link to the college equipment library as detailed on weblearn. These pages have been opened to internet users to view only.

http://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/site/medsci/colleges/green/ clini_tut/resources/library/

Laurence Leaver
laurenceleaver@hotmail.com
Transplant experts lead their field

Oxford was one of the first areas in the UK to carry out kidney transplants, in 1975, and has been carrying out pancreas transplants since 2002. It now has the busiest pancreas transplant programme in Europe. Over the past five years, the transplant service has more than doubled the number of patients it treats each year.

During this time, the service transplanted 200 pancreases and 462 kidneys (a third of which were transferred from live donors). It is also a base for pioneering research, under the leadership of Professor Peter Friend. He said: “Five hundred million people worldwide – 10 per cent of the adult population – have some form of kidney disease.

“Although advances in the treatment of kidney disease mean many thousands each year benefit from transplants, too many people still die from cardiovascular problems linked with failing kidneys.

“Research into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment is moving fast – and in Oxford we’re leaders in the field”.

Courtesy of Oxford Mail, Thursday 13 March

Making a gift to Green College

You can now support Green College by donating through University of Oxford online giving site. Your gift helps the college support clinical teaching, student hardship and the continuing conservation work on the Radcliffe Observatory.

Please visit https://www.oxforduniversityshops.co.uk/donations/ and follow the online instructions.

If you would, however, prefer to make a donation directly the college please contact Sharan Attar, Development Office either by email sharan.attar@green.ox.ac.uk or telephone 01865 274786 (+44 1865 274786).

Every gift makes are real a difference no matter how big or small.

Friends of 13 Norham Gardens

In looking at other contemporary texts we have collected books that were handed down through Sir Thomas Lewis to Sir George Pickering and left behind by the latter when he handed 13 Norham Gardens over to Sir Richard Doll. They include the 1908 Guys Hospital’s The Practice of Medicine written by Frederick Taylor, the 1911 two volume Handbook of Practical Treatment by Musser and Kelly and the John Hopkins three volume The Clinical Diagnosis of Internal Diseases by Lewellys F Barker also written during Osler’s lifetime.

Because I have been asked to provide the historical background to a Systematic Review of Manual Lymphatic Drainage and Elephantiasis it has been interesting to use the 13 Norham Gardens Library as a rich resource though it has to be said that on this topic Sir William has less to say than his contemporaries. Right up to the era of Osler at the Radcliffe Infirmary it was famous for its “Rubber Nurses” because early in the 19th Century the principle surgeon John Grosvenor had made the Radcliffe a Mecca for Massage of a vigorous rubbing kind delivered by nurses. Osler illustrates Elephantiasis with a picture suggesting its origin from venous disease, an interesting point because the exact role of the lymphatics was debated. Within the lifetime of Osler, Elephantiasis graecorum was a term for leprosy. Lepra graecorum was a term for Psoriasis, Elephantiasis arabum was a huge hypertrophy of the tissues due to recurrent erysipelas. Elephantiasis nostras occurring in Britain could be distinguished from the tropical form which Manson had shown was due to Filariasis. Osler writes with clarity and correctly, but briefly, about these tropical diseases. In another bequest from Sir Thomas Lewis, Edward Starling’s Principles of Human Physiology (1915) introduces his earlier conceived Law which informed us of how tissue fluid is controlled. It is Kaposi’s text of 1874 and Unna’s text of 1895 that provides the greatest understanding of how exactly infection, venous disease and lymphatic disease interact to provide these grotesque deformities.

We are always pleased to receive documents pertaining to Oxford’s 20th century teachers. Dorothy Vollom, the daughter of the microbioist Roy Vollom has just donated note books describing trips to Uganda and to Congo when Oxford was exploring the Management of Tuberculous Meningitis and the BCG vaccine. One of these was written by the neurosurgeon Hugh Cairns in 1952 and delightfully describes air travel and dining at that time as well as his opinion of the skills of the people he met.

There is another unusual insight into practice of Oxford’s leading Physicians and Surgeons; that is the script of the annual student pantomime named after Oxford’s first teacher of Medicine Tynchevyke. All the scripts were once held in Osler House but they were lost. One we hold is Handsome and Dettol (1956) which included a scene of George Pickering’s arrival and practice in Oxford. It was after seeing this that he called a departmental meeting to discuss the image he and his team were projecting.

Professor David Speller has just given us the script of his 1960 Lady Chatterley’s Liver and we would like more. They are often not only insightful but the first writings of some distinguished medical writers.

Terence Ryan
Emeritus Fellow

Oxford’s debt to Sir William Osler includes his contribution to tuberculosis control, a topic perhaps which “Town” rather than “Gown” most appreciated. It has been said that he was not great at therapeutics but for TB in Oxford organisation rather than therapy was what was needed. At 13 Norham Gardens the theme of ‘Public Health before and after Osler” has led to the collecting of not just Osleriana, but texts written before and after Sir William and especially by his contemporaries. The Microbiologist Dr Joseph Selkon has provided us with AC Krebs’s 1909 Tuberculosis and a 1904 edition of Tuberculosis entitled Northnagel’s practice.
Green College voted best for academic support

Every year the medical school sends a questionnaire to the final year students about their experiences over the clinical course. One of the questions asks the students to rate their agreement with the statement “My College provided academic support when I needed it”. Answers are scored out of 5 (best). Over the years Green has rapidly improved on this score (see table below) and for the 2007 finalists, Green achieved the highest score of any College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<td>2003</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>4.8</td>
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This is of course excellent news and confirms the College’s commitment to its students. It also provides another opportunity to thank all those involved in College-based Teaching, particularly the Teaching Associates who provide bedside teaching for 1 hour per week to a few students at a time over the whole year (for free). Most of these are junior doctors working locally and many are former Green students. The College recently hosted a dinner for the Teaching Associates at the Ashmolean Museum, which was greatly enjoyed by tutors and students.

I would also like to highlight the enormous contributions from the other Doll Fellows, in particular Dr Neel Patel who has organised all the bedside teaching, as well as provided regular radiology tutorials and help with seminars, and Dr Martin Turner who has provided a great deal of extra bedside teaching in Neurology and general medicine as well as teaching at Tuesday evening seminars. Much time is spent “behind the scenes” with individuals who need extra teaching; helping the drafting of job applications; advising on essays, projects, prizes or electives; writing references; preparing questions for mock exams or on-line resources (The College has its own medical section on Weblearn); and liaison with College Advisers regarding students with difficulties etc. The Doll Fellows and the Teaching Associates regularly feature in the medical school “Teacher of the Month” nominations.

I feel privileged to work with these people and indeed the Governing Body Fellows who have supported us. I am also delighted to have seen another cohort of lovely and talented students from start to finish - a finish that has been gratifyingly enhanced by being at Green.

Laurence Leaver
Senior Joan & Richard Doll Clinical Tutorial Fellow

OBITUARY - Sir John Burnett 1922 - 2007

With the death of Tom Stapleton the Common Room of Green College has lost one of its most distinguished members. He came to Oxford from Kings Canterbury before the Second World War as a Linacre Scholar at University College. One of the few to be given special dispensation not to join the armed services, he qualified in Medicine at the Radcliffe Infirmary during the early years of the war and has provided many anecdotes of that time, including that he himself pinched some of the precious penicillin on trial to give to a sick child.

His first publication was anti-establishment and suggested sulpha drugs were better absorbed than currently believed. His first House job was combined dermatology and paediatrics and in 1943 he joined the RAMC to begin his long association with Asia.

From 1949-51 he returned to University College as Radcliffe Travelling Fellow. Following this he was an Assistant Director of Paediatrics at St Mary’s Hospital, London, and again took an anti-establishment view, publishing that Cow and Gate milk products contained too much Vitamin D.

As Professor of Child Health at the University of Sydney 1960-83, he chaired several WHO panels on Child Health and Nutrition.

Tom’s distinguished career became part of social history and international relations as President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. Well known for his pacifist views and for work in China he received many International Honours including the UNICEF Medal. He was Secretary General, International Pediatric Association, and Honorary Foundation Fellow, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, as well as President of the Paediatric Section of the Royal Society of Medicine.

On retirement, his home in Buckinghamshire became the residence of many Chinese Military Physicians in training who he sponsored. Earlier in the year he was honoured and feted by his many students in ‘The Great Hall of the People in Beijing’.

Terence Ryan
Dr Simon Hay continues his work on mapping malaria which was first featured in Hilary 2007.


1. Defining the global spatial distribution of P. falciparum malaria can be done by triangulating nationally reported case-incidence data, medical intelligence, and biological rules of transmission exclusion, using temperature and aridity limits informed by the biomics of dominant Anopheles vector species.

2. Risk was classified as stable if more than 0.1 case recorded per 1000 population each year, unstable if below this figure and zero if no cases recorded, if within the three most recent years of records.

3. The global distribution of these risk categories is shown below.

4. When overlaid on a population surface for 2007, 2.37 billion people were found to live in areas at any risk of P. falciparum transmission. Globally, almost 1 billion people lived under unstable, or extremely low, malaria risk. Conditions of low risk are typical in the America and the South and East Asian region but were also common in Africa.

5. For one billion people at risk of unstable malaria transmission, malaria elimination is epidemiologically feasible, and large areas of Africa are more amenable to control than appreciated previously.

6. These maps are a snapshot in time and are all provided in the public domain for critique and comment. They can be downloaded at the national level from the Malaria Atlas Project (MAP) website (http://www.map.ox.ac.uk).

7. Feedback about their fidelity is actively encouraged. The MAP is committed to updating this information on a biannual basis and is keen to establish dialogue with regional experts on the fidelity of these mapped products.

8. Population at risk of malaria are provided for all P. falciparum malaria endemic countries are also made available for comment.

9. The paper also summarizes some of the information from the almost 5000 parasite rate surveys collected within these limits. This data confirms some of the conclusions made by examining the limits - that outside of Africa, P. falciparum malaria prevalence is low (less than 10%), with the median below 5% in the areas surveyed.

10. The next major ambition of the MAP is to make a continuous surface of malaria endemicity within these stable spatial limits using these parasite rate survey data. These will be available later this year to help further refine burden estimates and ultimately help decision-making with respect to the appropriate resource allocation for malaria interventions.

Simon H Hay
Malaria Public Health and Epidemiology Group
Centre for Geographic Medicine
KEMRI - Univ. Oxford - Wellcome Trust Collaborative Programme
Hilary Term saw the birth of a promising student-led initiative – Human Welfare & Wine. This informal discussion group meets weekly to contemplate issues stemming from the college’s central mission of improving human welfare in the modern world. The group was begun by a group of freshers who were inspired by the college’s friendly community atmosphere yet felt that a forum of this sort was missing from the College’s calendar of events. A successful application to the College’s Common Room Committee - for funding the provision of wine and snacks - has combined with a solid programme of student-facilitated discussions to result in a very high turn-out and fascinating conversations, many of which spill over late into the night.

Another highlight of Hilary was the term’s Musical Recital, held on Sunday of Sixth Week in the beautiful Radcliffe Observatory. The standing-room-only audience was treated to rousing performances by students, fellows, and their family members, who all played in mixed ensembles. Flute duets ranging from Mozart to Joplin, a wind quartet, soprano love songs, stirring violin pieces, and a bravura rendition of West Side Story by the Green College Choir—the performances demonstrated the breadth of extracurricular talents that make Green College such a unique atmosphere in which to live.

Looking ahead, Green students are eagerly anticipating this year’s Summer Ball which is to be held on Saturday, 28 June 2008. The theme is ‘Stargazers’ Ball’. For any information about the ball, please feel free to contact Lila McDowell, President of the Summer Ball Committee.

I would like to extend a warm thank you to the outgoing MCR committee members who, though their dedication and hard work, have helped to make 2007/8 such a successful year. As the last Green College MCR President to write in this space, I would also like to recognize our predecessors in MCR Committees past, upon whose achievements we’ve been lucky enough to build. Finally, best wishes to the incoming committee members as they oversee such an exciting time of change and excitement at the college.

Rich McKay
Green College MCR President

Message from the MCR

Public Engagement with Science & Technology: Lectures on astronomy

For the third consecutive year three lectures on astronomy for the public were given in the Abraham Lecture Theatre by speakers representing the three collaborating observatories – Charlie Barclay, Blackett Observatory, Marlborough College; Isobel Hook and Roberto Trotta, from the Astrophysics Department, Oxford, and the Philip Wetton Telescope; they were introduced by Jeff Burley, Emeritus Fellow, Green College at the Radcliffe Observatory. The objective of these series is to portray latest science and practice with new developments in a form that the general public (and taxpayers) can understand. The lectures this year achieved this objective admirably with outstanding, beautifully illustrated presentations for audiences of about sixty people including several children.

Roberto Trotta explained that one of the most surprising discoveries in cosmology is that most of the Universe's contents are dark - i.e., 25% of the "cosmic recipe" is made of the mysterious dark matter, while 70% is in the form of an even more puzzling "dark energy", which appears to be ripping the Universe apart. This talk showed how spectacular cosmological observations have revealed the existence of this "dark Universe", and demonstrated that the stuff we are made of is only a tiny fraction of the cosmos.

The lecture discussed the cutting-edge methods and instruments that allow cosmologists to study in detail this invisible Universe, and to shed light on the nature and properties of dark matter and dark energy.

Charlie Barclay used many of the images taken at the Blackett Observatory in Marlborough to demystify the night sky as seen by the naked-eye. Charlie started by covering the drawback of modern professional astronomy - observation done on a computer screen in a warm room, removed as it is from the real experience and knowledge of the night sky. Covering observing techniques and the need for dark adapted eyes, Charles then illustrated a number of familiar objects and pointed out details easily observed but often missed and gave some historical importance and background to them, progressing from the Moon, to Planets to nebulae and then star patterns (asterisms). The importance of shapes rather than constellations for finding one’s way around, was emphasized. Finally, perhaps most importantly, the need to fight light pollution, not only on energy saving grounds, but because it threat to obscure for the next generation our most ancient, untouched heritage of the night sky.

Isobel Hook talked about future giant telescopes. She showed images of the largest optical telescopes in the world today, which are impressive machines with primary mirrors about 10 metres in diameter. However, today's telescopes will appear relatively small compared with the next generation of "Extremely Large Telescopes" (ELTs). She described some ambitious projects that are now underway around the world to design and construct telescopes with diameters in the range 20 to 40 metres. She also showed some of the scientific advances that ELTs are expected to make, for example detecting habitable planets around other stars, and measuring the masses of black holes in distant galaxies.

Finally Isobel described some of the technical challenges in building an ELT, such as using "adaptive optics" to overcome the blurring effect of the Earth's atmosphere to produce dramatically sharper images.

Extending the public outreach of this picture series, Charlie and Roberto acted as co-hosts for the well known Bill Heine afternoon debate and phone-in programme on Radio Oxford. They enhanced public awareness of astronomy, the three observatories and Green College. The Warden and fellows wish to thank the three speakers for their outstanding contributions.

Jeff Burley
Trevor Mostyn joined The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism in October 2007 to take pastoral charge of the Journalism Fellowship programme. He also runs the Wednesday seminar lecture series at Green College with the Institute’s Director, Dr Sarmila Bose. Michaelmas Term Fellows came from the UK, the US, India, Argentina, Sri Lanka, China, Hong Kong, Russia and Georgia. They were introduced to Green College by its Warden, Dr Colin Bundy.

The Institute’s inaugural lecture was given at St Anne’s college by Egyptian journalist Mohamed Hasanayn Heikal, once the right-hand man to President Gamal abd al-Nasser. The first lecture of the Wednesday lectures was given by the crowd-pulling Israeli ‘New Historian’, Ilan Pappe. The seminar room quickly filled and the audience had to move to the lecture theatre where there was not an empty seat. Pappe’s theme (his recent book is provocatively entitled The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine) was picked up by Ghada Karmi in the third week when she outlined her plan for a ‘one state solution’ in Israel/Palestine, the dream of figures such as the late Edward Said.

The media itself was covered by David Schlesinger, Reuters’ Editor-in-Chief, and by Professor Curran of Goldsmiths College. Schlesinger looked at journalism in the age of innovation while Curran studied media systems, public knowledge and democracy. Together they analysed the directions that hard and soft media were following in the West and the extent to which new technologies were dramatically changing the media world.

In its lecture series the Institute aims to maintain a balance between regions and between the media and academia. A former foreign correspondent, Tony Mockler, spoke about white mercenaries in Africa and Iraq while Baqer Moin, the former director of the BBC Persian Service, outlined a plan for a new media in Afghanistan. This has included a Dari/Persian version of Radio Four’s soap The Archers. The University’s Latin America academic Malcolm Deas discussed Latin America and the British Media. In the final lecture of term Shelby Tucker spoke on Burma.

In Hilary Term new Fellows, who included three Heikal Foundation Fellows from Egypt, benefited from the experience of the three remaining Michaelmas term fellows (from Argentine, China and Hong Kong).

The first Fellows’ presentation at Green College was given by Michaelmas Term Fellows Abel Escudero and Yang Wang on the media of Argentina and China respectively. In Third Week Ehab Gomaa gave a brilliant analysis of the Egyptian media, concentrating in particular on the sensitive issue of blogging (a well-known blogger is in prison in Egypt). Blogging is the subject of his own research. Dina Kabil discussed Egyptian newspapers while the BBC’s Annabel Gilling showed extraordinary nature films she had produced in Siberia and elsewhere.

The Wednesday seminar series was launched by Professor Neil MacFarlane, the University’s Head of International Relations, who spoke with great passion on Russia’s relationship with Georgia and other former Soviet countries. The Second Week seminar was a more sensational affair, with the Daily Mail’s colourful Peter McKay speaking on popular journalism (“Peter McKay’s walk down the street of shame”; thank you, Private Eye!). In the third lecture in the series Dr Gene Allen of Toronto’s Ryerson University analysed Canada’s historic media flows. In the following week John Wilkins, the former editor of The Tablet newspaper showed how The Tablet has resisted fierce pressures on its coverage of issues such as birth control, from the Vatican. Meanwhile, on February 1st the Institute hosted “A conversation with Jeremy Paxman”, a packed event.

Continuing the lecture series at Green College, Dr Tammy Boyce from The Cardiff School of Journalism revealed many media misconceptions and resulting scandals when she spoke about the MMR vaccine and the media.

The Fellowship aims not only to be the genesis of a dynamic international media club, but also be an increasingly valuable media resource for the world at large.
New York Reunion – North American Alumni
Friday 4 – Saturday 5 April 2008

You should all have received your booklet giving full details of the programme and registration. If you have not please visit www.oxfordna.org or email events@oxfordna.org.

Both Dr Colin Bundy, Warden of Green College and Professor Michael Earl, Dean of Templeton College will be attending the reunion and hope to meet many alumni from both colleges as we more forward to an exciting new future as a merged college.

Green College Golf Tournament – The Walton Trophy
Monday 12 May 2008

Frilford Health Golf Club
All welcome. Please contact Green College lodge for details and booking.

Green College Open Garden Day
Saturday 31 May 2008

Green College will be opening its gates and holding two garden tours by Head Gardener, Mr Michael Pirie. The tours will take place at 14.30 or 15.45, alternatively just come along and enjoy the tranquillity of our gardens. Refreshments and souvenirs will be on sale.

Green College Society Summer Event
Saturday 21 June 2008

Please join Green College in celebrating the final GCS summer event before the creation of Green Templeton College.

Alumni Celebratory Day
Saturday 20 September 2008

In association with the Oxford University Alumni Weekend, Green and Templeton Colleges will be hosting a day of lectures in celebration of the forthcoming merger of the two colleges and welcoming the future of Green Templeton College. The day of events is open to all alumni of both Green and Templeton and is free of charge.

To view the full programme, please visit the Green College website home page Forthcoming Events. Please note that places are limited to 90 for each of the lectures and 50 for the garden tour.

Varsity Rugby Match, Twickenham
Thursday 11 December 2008

In time honoured tradition but under the new hat of Green Templeton we will be making the journey to the Varsity Rugby Match in the hope of a dark blue win.

Please put the date in your diary and further details will be available closer to the time.

Christmas carols

On Monday 10 December members of Green College gathered in the Common Room to sing carols and enjoy good company and food. This year we were joined by the newly reformed Green College choir lead by Jackie Cheng and accompanied by Ye Chen on the grand piano. The choir sang Carol of the Bells acapella which resonated stunningly throughout the Observatory.

Clubs and societies

Green College Book Club

All meetings start at 6.00pm.

Thursday 22 May - book to be decided at meeting on 3 April.

Thursday 3 July - ‘A Prayer for Owen Meany’ by John Irving, to be presented by Pauline Emerson.

Green College Wine Society

Friday 16 May 2008
Wines of South Australia
Presented by Peter Hofman
Venue: Committee Room,

Green College. Time: 7.30pm
Please book with the Lodge.
Maximum of 3 guests per College member
Varsity Rugby 2007

Oxford 16 Cambridge ...er... 22

Well, it's happened again.

Three in a row for Cambridge despite the strenuous, not to mention wonderfully vocal, efforts of a coach load (Jeff's of course) of Green College supporters and friends. Nevertheless it was another fun expedition to HQ despite a damp day and a North Car Park which looked as if it had been ploughed up specially to put the spectators off. But nothing could prevent us from enjoying the usual lamb and dumpling stew (sorry, casserole) and ham rolls to raise the tempo before kick-off.

Photos of seasoned supporters hoping for an Oxford win

An Oxford Under 21s win got us in the right mood. Then The Match. A ding-dong battle from start to finish. A discouragingly bright opening took Cambridge ahead but Oxford in front by half-time. Then the Cambridge fight back led by a strong and aggressive pack (yes another). Intermittent flashes of what might have been from the Oxford backs but Cambridge ahead into the last quarter. An eye wateringly intense last five minutes of non-stop Oxford attacks. The whistle. A worthy (have to say it) Cantab victory but we'll be back next year for the long but confidently awaited Dark Blue win. Don't miss it - join us!

You know it makes sense. Thanks Sharan for setting up the day.

John Hanson

Oxford Alumni weekend

19 - 23 September 2008
Meeting Minds – Global Oxford

For full details of the Oxford Alumni Weekend, including details of the 2008 programme, useful information for planning your visit and a new e-card feature to share with your friends please visit:
http://www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk/index.html

A link to the booking system will be available on the home page from 15 May. Sign up for a reminder email when booking opens and request a brochure (available from 15 April) from the home page of the site.

Friday 19 September
Dr Colin Bundy will be giving a lecture entitled:
‘Universities and Globalisation: Key Issues’

Growing international staff and student numbers are increasingly altering how universities conceive of their goals and values. The communication revolution, changing immigration patterns and democratisation are giving rise to mass education and at the same time, competition and market pressures pose acute questions for universities.

In this lecture, Dr Colin Bundy, Warden of Green College and formerly Principal of The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and Vice Chancellor of the University of the Witswatersrand, will consider the complex ways in which “globalisation” interacts with the core mission of universities.

Venue: The Rhodes Trust Lecture Theatre, Said Business School
Time: 10.00-11.00
Capacity: 120

Miles ahead

Professor Richard Pring will be celebrating his 70th birthday by running the London Marathon on Sunday, 13 April - his 4th London and 23rd Marathon altogether. Paula Radford will be running with him, although she may be a little further ahead.

Richard is running to raise money for the Oxford based charity, Family Links. The money raised will enable Family Links to train professionals to work with groups of parents and their vulnerable teenage children to build their parenting and relationship skills. Last autumn work with a group of 8 teenage girls & their 5 mums resulted in 3 young people coming off the child protection register, as result of the growing confidence and trust between the parents and young people.

For more information about Family Links and the difference it makes to the wellbeing of so many young people and families, please visit the website at http://www.familylinks.org.uk/

Richard’s training is going quite well, although a weakened iliotibial band is affecting his patella.

If you would like to sponsor Richard, donate through the website at https://secure.efundraising.org.uk/tailored/donation.asp?charity=72967

He promises not to seek any more sponsorship until he celebrates his victory in the 2018 London Marathon.

Richard and his daughter - London Marathon 2006
At Oxford, I got a sense of the challenges and opportunities for social justice and active citizenship. In particular, the course on gender and social policy which touched upon issues of gender equity, welfare and ageing population struck a personal cord. The turning point for this change of consciousness was when I started working as a researcher in an international project on sustainable investment funded by Mistra, the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research. I had the opportunity to interview champions of sustainable investment in the City who, for the last two decades, have been promoting investments which take into account not only financial considerations but also the social and environmental performance of companies. The raison d'être of the project is that institutional investors (e.g., pension funds) have an important role to play in creating more responsible businesses.

Having obtained these experiences, I embraced the challenges of the 2007 Oxford Leadership Prize competition launched by the Said Business School and Templeton College. Trying to envisage how business leaders would address the challenge of sustainability, I argued that sustainability champions should be good translators (employ business language), good story tellers (invoke human values and emotions) and be tolerant to ambiguity while investing organisational resources to implement a long-term vision of sustainability. Besides the delight of having won the First Prize, this competition rewarded me with a self-reflective experience forcing me to maintain a sense of green consciousness in my everyday life. Therefore, I invite all current Oxford students and alumni to participate in this competition and lay the foundations of a forum for sustainability at the heart of Oxford.

Carmen Juravle

Carmen will also be participating in the Alumni Celebratory Day on 20 September in association with the Oxford University Alumni Weekend. For full details please visit the Green College website http://www.green.ox.ac.uk/about-the-college/college-diary.html

Michelle Safer

During the past five years, I have been operating my own consulting company named Scientific Collections, LLC. Presently based in New York, I hope to expand to include worldwide clients. My business mainly consists of researching provenance or ownership history and authenticity of paintings, drawings and sculpture, based on historical documents, interviews and scientific analysis. My specialty is in Old Masters through early 20th century European and American works of art.

Through my work, I am able to live out my passion for art and science. Attending Oxford was a major step on the path to developing the knowledge, drive and background for this career. In 2001, I earned an MS degree in the History of Science at the Museum of History of Science at Oxford. My thesis was completed with the assistance of the British Museum. Having previously earned an MS degree in neuroscience from Cornell University and a BS degree in biochemistry from Brandeis University made Green College the perfect choice for me. I enjoyed being part of the medical community and meeting fellow students with common interests who have become lifelong friends.

While at Oxford, I was fortunate to audit a graduate art history class on Renaissance Art with Prof. Martin Kemp. His background in science and art gave me the incentive and confidence to pursue the possibility of going off in my own direction.

My research has taken me down some very exciting paths over the past five years. In particular, for any single project, I can spend anywhere from one week to two years, traveling throughout Europe and the US, visiting scholars at various universities and world renowned institutions of learning.

What distinguishes my work from the ordinary is the opportunity to interact on a daily basis with fascinating people all over the world. The relationships forged at Oxford made it possible to gain entry into this private world of collectors, families of artists, innovative scientists and scholars worldwide. Thank you, Oxford.

Michelle Safer
Alumni focus

Dr Stephen Potts
(1984-1988)

Stephen wrote about his career as part-time liaison psychiatrist and part-time writer, mainly of children’s books in Michaelmas 2007. With the twists and turns life has to offer we catch up with him as he embarks on new and exciting project. We wish him every success for a long and success future.

Soon after that issue appeared I was “let go” by my publisher: a major disappointment which followed low sales of my latest book, Abigail’s Gift. Mercifully I’m finding that writing careers are much more erratic than their medical counterparts: for no sooner had that door closed than another opened, to promise what might turn out to be the legendary ‘Big Break’. I was commissioned to adapt, as a feature film, The Butterfly Tattoo, Philip Pullman’s Oxford-set novel of a doomed teenage romance. (visit http://www.tbtproject.com for more information).

It is a low-budget independent film made by Dynamic Entertainment, a young Dutch company. It features new actors, a soundtrack of unsigned Oxford bands, and a rising star in director Phil Hawkins. It was shot in Oxford in the monsoon summer of 2007, and finished post-production in March 2008. Philip Pullman has been generous in his support of the project, with visits to the set, and statements on his web-site in praise of the way his story has been captured for the screen. It has been submitted to the film festivals in Edinburgh and Cannes, with hopes of a general release later this year.

I’m now working on two new film scripts, with somewhat bigger budgets: a true-life story and another novel adaptation. Each features a sport dear to Oxford hearts. I’m also in the early stages of a sports biography. I can’t reveal the details until the contracts are signed and hope that I have not blighted my chances by referring to the projects, and teasingly too, in these pages, so soon after the demise of my earlier book.

I’m contributing to the Oxford Alumni weekend (September 19-21) as part of a session focusing on the work of Oxford children’s writers and children’s book illustrators.

Stephen Potts

Oxford University Society - Travel programme 2008

The OUS Travel Programme offers Oxonians, family and friends the opportunity to travel to fascinating destinations in the company of like-minded alumni from Antarctica to Italy.

All trips are accompanied by an expert trip scholar. The new OUS travel brochure for trips throughout 2008 is now available. As space on all trips is limited, early booking is highly recommended.

To view full range of trips please visit www.ox.ac.uk/alumni_benefits/travel_programme.

If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the new 2008 travel brochure or would like to be added to our database and receive our ‘E-newsletter’ with regular updates about the Travel Programme and special offers, please contact travel@ousoc.ox.ac.uk. All Tour Operators make a donation to Oxford University Society for each booking. This money is used to support the continuing work of the Society on behalf of all alumni. We also give travel awards and maintenance grants to current students. Your participation in the programme is therefore greatly appreciated.

If you would like information about the full range of alumni benefits available from the University please visit www.ox.ac.uk/alumni_benefits.
Due to the merger of Green and Templeton Colleges we need to reduce our stocks.

**Don't miss out on having your own little piece of history !!!**

**Green College**

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Please note that all Green College and Observatory souvenirs are sold in aid of the Campaign for the Conservation of The Radcliffe Observatory. Please contact Sharan Attar on 01865 274786 or email sharan.attar@green.ox.ac.uk with any queries or to request postage and package charges if you are unable to collect in person.