

## Celebrating John Henry Newman



John Henry Newman by kind permission of the Warden and Fellows of Keble College

At a lunch earlier this year the Oriel SCR entertained Deacon Jack Sullivan, an engaging American in his 70s, whose miraculous cure from a spinal condition at the intercession of the Venerable John Henry Newman opened the way to the forthcoming Beatification of Cardinal Newman.

Oriel already has a memorial to Newman in the form of the oratory tucked away behind the organ in Chapel, with its large commemorative window. Now the college is preparing further celebrations of one of the great Fellows from an outstanding period in Oriel's history. Newman, who had been an undergraduate at Trinity, was elected to an Oriel fellowship in 1822. He had performed poorly in Schools but benefited from an examination which gave more weight to intellectual potential; he described his election as *'the turning point of his life. It raised him from obscurity and need to competency and reputation'*.

During his 23 years at Oriel Newman was active in college life, serving as Dean, Chaplain and Librarian. As a clergyman he acted as curate at St Clements before becoming Vicar of the university church of St Mary's for fifteen years. His sermons and lectures *'in a thrilling voice'* drew large attendances. For six notable years he and his fellow tutors worked to enlarge the role from

mere instruction to one which attended to the religious and moral welfare of his pupils; an approach later developed in his *The Idea of a University*. He was at the heart of the Oxford Movement and wrote many of its Tracts. His last act as an Anglican was to resign his Oriel Fellowship six days before his conversion.

The Beatification of Cardinal Newman will take place on 19 September during the forthcoming visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Britain. Oriel is preparing to establish an annual commemoration of Newman, to be held on October 9th which is the anniversary of the day on which he was received into the Roman Catholic Church in 1845. Arrangements are being made to cope with the likely influx of visitors.



The Newman Window in Oriel Chapel

Robin Harland (1951)

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## A Note from the Provost



*Sir Derek and Lady Morris in New Zealand*



*Lady Morris with Sir Zelman and Lady Cowan*

During the course of 2009, my having completed six years as Provost, the college very graciously agreed to grant me sabbatical leave for Hilary Term 2010. Sue and I duly set off for Australia and New Zealand, via Singapore and Malaysia, in early December. Getting there was, alas, not straightforward. I had not noticed that my passport had only five months and thirty days to run, one day less than the six months on which, it turns out, Singapore insists. My first day was therefore spent, not as planned lunching in the Raffles hotel, but walking the streets of Peterborough as I waited in hope that the regional Passport Office located there might produce a new passport on the spot. Returning to Heathrow, they then pointed out that my Australian Visa did not match my (new) passport.

It is probably best to pass over the full circumstances that ensued but, suffice it to say, we eventually made it to Singapore, to Malaysia and on to Australia; and more particularly, Perth, Margaret River (purely on behalf of the College's Wine Committee – the sacrifices one makes) and Sydney. Here we met up with a sizeable number of Orienses, and attended an excellent and convivial dinner at the Union University and Schools Club, kindly hosted by David McBride (1986).

We then progressed to New Zealand, spending time with the recently retired Vice-Chancellor at his home; and with economists with whom I used to work, on the Chinese Economy and other topics. In the meantime, Sue and I walked, nay hiked – all our belongings in backpacks – for five days along the Millford Trail; and kayaked around seal-inhabited islands. Then we returned to Australia, first visiting Melbourne. Here we had the great pleasure of meeting up with Sir Zelman, Provost in the 1980s, and Lady Cowan. Zelman and Anna were their usual charming, entertaining and hospitable selves, despite advancing years. I was able to tell them much of Oriel in recent years; and they were very keen that I should convey their best wishes back to the College, for which they clearly bear an intense affection.

Our final destination was north of Brisbane, where we learnt to body-surf – Sue turned out to be an absolute star at this, despite the considerable battering we took from some of the Pacific rollers. In all this we were extraordinarily fortunate with the weather – two hours rain in four months – while we read about the worst winter in over sixty years that we had, equally fortunately, missed in England. A further piece of luck was getting back shortly before the Icelandic volcano erupted, thereby avoiding an unplanned three weeks in Singapore.

Arriving back in Oriel, I was somewhat dismayed to find in what a very satisfactory a state the college was, it having clearly survived my absence with worrying ease. I naturally put this down to the people and structures I have sought to put in place in recent years, but I suspect it is mainly to do with the quiet efficiency of the Vice-Provost, acting in my place while I was away; and I would like to record my sincere thanks to Mark Philp, our Tutor in Politics, for running with this baton during my absence. More generally, results in the First Public Examinations in Hilary look very good, we are on track to meet our budget for the financial year; and progress is being made towards a prudent but realistic budget for next year. Perhaps I should go away more often!

*Derek Morris*

## New arrivals in the Senior Common Room

The College is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Kathryn Murphy as the new Fellow in English, following the retirement of Dr Glenn Black at the end of this academic year. Kathryn currently holds a Junior Research Fellowship at Jesus College. Her research focuses on seventeenth-century prose, especially Francis Bacon, Thomas Browne, Robert Burton, and Thomas Traherne, and she also has a keen interest in modern poetry. She was an undergraduate at the University of Glasgow, studying Czech and English Literature, and came to Oxford in 2004 to take up a Snell Scholarship at Balliol College.

Those of you who know Glenn will be pleased to hear that he is deferring his departure from Oriel having accepted the role of Senior Tutor in the College for the academic year 2010/11.



*Dr Kathryn Murphy*

## Celebrating Fellows' successes

The largest European prize for multiple sclerosis (MS) research has been presented to Professor Lars Fugger, Mary Machin Fellow at Oriel and Professor of Neuroimmunology in the University's Department of Clinical Neurology.

The €100,000 Sobek Prize is awarded annually to European scientists demonstrating outstanding research into the mechanisms that lead to MS. 'I am delighted to be presented with this award as it shows that our research is appreciated by MS patients,' says Professor Fugger.

In addition Professor Fugger has just been elected to a Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences and will be formally admitted to the Academy at a ceremony on Tuesday 22 June 2010. Academy Fellows are elected for outstanding contributions to the advancement of medical science, for innovative application of scientific knowledge or for their conspicuous service to healthcare.

Colin Macdonald, Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics, has been awarded the 2010 Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics Richard C. DiPrima Prize, making him the 11th recipient of the award. The SIAM Richard C. DiPrima Prize is awarded every other year to a junior scientist for outstanding research in applied mathematics based on their doctoral dissertation.

John Barton, Oriel and Laing Professor of the interpretation of Holy Scripture, has been awarded a Major Research Fellowship by the Leverhulme Trust to undertake a research project on Ethics in Ancient Israel. The Fellowships are designed to enable researchers in UK universities to devote themselves to a project of outstanding originality and significance.



*Professor Lars Fugger*



*Dr Colin Macdonald*



*Professor John Barton*



*Revd Dr Robert Tobin*

Following the departure of the Revd Dr Mark Harris to take up the role of Vice-Provost and Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, the College has appointed a new Chaplain. Revd Dr Robert Tobin, currently Episcopal Chaplain at Harvard University and a faculty member at the Harvard Divinity School, is no stranger to Oxford having completed a doctorate in Modern History at Merton College, following a Fulbright scholarship to study Irish literature and history at Trinity College Dublin. During his time at Oxford he was accepted for ordination training in the Church of England at Westcott House in Cambridge, accompanied by a second BA in theology at Emmanuel College. As part of his ordination training, he also spent time working at Belmarsh Prison in London, St Philip's Interfaith Centre in Leicester, and at Manchester Cathedral. Most recently, he served as a curate for a group of Anglican churches in Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

# Oriel's Finances in Future Years

Oriel, in common with most Oxbridge colleges, faces what is euphemistically known as 'challenging times'. In the last two years our endowment capital value has been hit by the impact of the recession, but we are now seeing substantial recovery and, more importantly, our endowment income has remained strong. This is partly due to our investments in property, which together with our investment strategy is designed to reduce risk and maintain our income through the worst of the recession.

A critical issue for the future will be government funding. There are two aspects to this. The first is the amounts of money which come down to Oxford and thence to Oriel from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), while the other concerns the future of student fees. On the former, only next year is at all clear, while on the latter, all is highly uncertain – a situation within which it is extremely difficult for institutions such as Oriel to plan ahead.

We now know that government funding of teaching at Oxford will rise by 0.5% in nominal terms next year, representing a cut of around 2.5% in real terms. But HEFCE's prioritization of Science, Technology, Engineering and Medicine subjects, where a larger percentage of the funds goes to the central university rather than the colleges, threatens to hit us much harder.

The situation is, however, just about manageable, given that government income is only around one-third of our total revenue. Provided our room and meal charges, conference fees, returns on endowment and further fund-raising stay strong, then, together with our constant search for efficiency gains, we can construct a balanced but feasible budget that still protects the tutorial system, our support for students, the research environment and our historic buildings – albeit the last of these at nothing like the rate of renovation which we should be achieving.

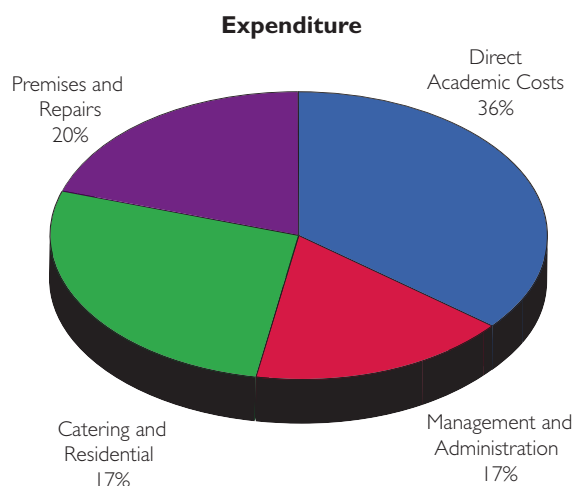
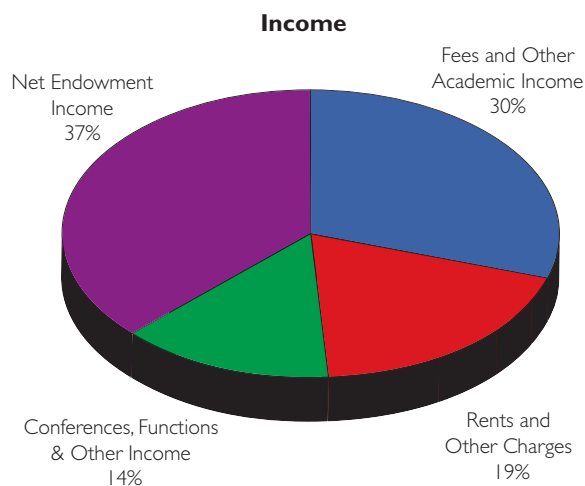
Beyond next year, we have no idea of what will happen, except that the squeeze on public spending is likely to be very severe for Oxford. Oriel, like all other colleges, will need to think very carefully – and well in advance – about how it hopes to cope from 2011 onwards. We are beginning to look at this in some detail, starting, as ever, from our academic priorities, together with detailed costing of everything we do.

In a slightly longer time frame – though change may be only a year or so later – there is the issue of student fees, currently being reviewed by Lord Browne. At present, each student on average in Oxford costs around £15-16,000 to educate per annum, but brings in, directly from government or via the current £3,290 fee, around £8,000. However, it would be both misleading and simplistic to believe that we therefore need – and without a fee cap would charge – a fee of around £10,000 p.a. to balance the cost of teaching. In the first place, Oxford remains committed to needs-blind admission and study, so that any such increase in fees would require a large increase in student bursary expenditure. How much would depend on the extent to which a graduate tax, or other arrangements, might be used to supplement direct government funding. Second, colleges do have endowments, the income from which can be and properly is used to help finance the teaching of students. Fees do not need to recover the full amount – just more than at present or, more importantly, in the imminent future.

There are of course legitimate arguments to be had as to whether the state or individuals should finance university teaching – or in what proportions – but it has been a long-term failure of governments of all political persuasion that they have neither provided the funds needed nor permitted universities to charge what is needed to cover the costs.

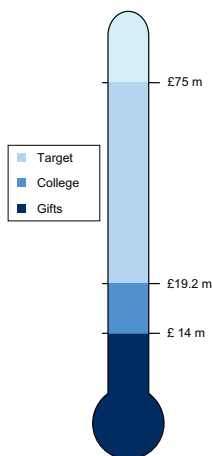
However, I am optimistic that the forthcoming report by Lord Browne will lead to some easing of the current constraints, and will be an important element in dealing with the public expenditure pressures to come. Let us hope so!

*Derek Morris, Provost*



# Funding the future – Oriel's 2026 Campaign

In light of the financial challenges that Oriel is likely to face in the coming years, as outlined in the article on page 4, it is clear that support from Orielenses and other friends will be increasingly important. Whilst other Colleges are now catching up, Oriel for some time has been at the forefront of fundraising, as witnessed by the generosity of over 1,300 Orielenses and other supporters who have made gifts to the 2026 Campaign. Launched in 2003 with the aim of securing the College's financial future by its 700th anniversary in 2026, the Campaign has raised some £14 million to date in support of student bursaries and grants, building refurbishments and academic posts.



A brochure summarising the achievements of the first six years of the Campaign and outlining the priorities for the next five years was sent out to all Orielenses earlier in the year and can also be found on the College website at [www.oriel.ox.ac.uk](http://www.oriel.ox.ac.uk).

**Oxford Thinking**  
The Campaign for the University of Oxford



All gifts to Oriel count towards *Oxford Thinking: The Campaign for the University of Oxford* which was launched on 28 May 2008 with a goal of a minimum of £1.25 billion and is the largest fundraising campaign in European university history. A total of almost £875 million has now been raised across Colleges, departments and libraries.



Professor Andrew Hamilton  
(Photo by Phil Sayer)

Professor Andrew Hamilton, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, said: 'To have raised £875 million in such a short time, in a difficult economic climate, is testament to the extraordinary generosity of Oxford's donors, and their faith that this University is capable of tackling the issues most important to them. We are grateful to the many thousands of alumni, individuals and foundations that have chosen to support our work.

They come from 80 different countries, and have made gifts from a few pounds to tens of millions, for a whole range of different areas of the University's activity. Every gift has been valuable.'

## Legacies in Action

Peter Baldwin (1960, Classics), who died in 2007 left a substantial monetary legacy to Oriel along with his collection of valuable classical books. Mr Baldwin expressed a preference that his legacy go towards creating or supporting bursaries and that the collection of books return home, as many of them were prizes awarded to him by former Provost, Kenneth Turpin, or were books he had been able to purchase as an undergraduate as a result of qualifying for a Scholarship award in 1965.

John Russell (1951, PPE), who died in 2008 also made generous provision for Oriel in his Will. Mr Russell left a 21.5% share of his estate to the College. With regard to how his legacy should be used, Mr Russell wrote in 2005, 'I have not specified any purpose for this will. If I have any preference I think it would be, because of my own background, for the provision of bursaries for those who would not otherwise be able to become undergraduates at Oriel!'

## Adam de Brome Society

The Adam de Brome Society held its annual lunch in glorious sunshine on Saturday 13th March, to which all those who have pledged a legacy to Oriel in their Will were invited. Adam de Brome ties and scarves adorned the 100 strong crowd in Hall and the College was delighted to welcome back both old friends and new. The day began in the Harris Lecture theatre with an update on the College's finances from the College Treasurer and followed with a fascinating talk from former Provost, Revd. Professor Ernest Nicholson, on 'Oriels ascendancy under Provost Eveleigh and Copleston (1781 – 1828)'. Guests then made their way to Hall for lunch where, surrounded by tables festooned with Broom, the Provost spoke on life in College today.

## How you can help

Oriel's foundation, its long history and continued vitality all stem from the vision of its founding benefactors and the many Orielenses who choose to continue this great tradition. Therefore all types of gifts in your Will are vital to Oriel. Gifts of a specified amount, a share of your estate or leaving assets in Trust that will benefit Oriel after the death of your spouse or dependants are just some of the ways in which you can help.

If you would like further information about including Oriel in your Will please contact the Development Trust on 01865 276 599 or [development.office@oriel.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development.office@oriel.ox.ac.uk)

## Edward II Play



*The Rococo Players in Full Edward II Costume*

Edward II was the first English monarch to recognise the value of education and to actively promote it. His legacy is an important one, not least as the founder of Oriel College in 1326. Oriel College was therefore the perfect setting for the magnificent production of Christopher Marlow's *Edward II* Play performed by The Rococo Players in Hall from Thursday 15th April – Saturday 17th April.

The plot of the play expresses the defeat and eventual horrific murder of the king by powerful barons, supported by Queen Isabella. The Oriel Society hosted a buffet supper for Orielenes and College members before the Saturday Performance. During the interval, drinks were served in the Champneys room giving everyone a chance to discuss their views of the play.

The Hall provided an intimate venue for the play with seating down each long side. The performers cleverly made use of the tight space and the balcony above the Hall entrance.

## Champagne Concerts

On Friday 7th May 2010 the College organised a further concert in its series of hugely popular and prestigious Champagne Concerts. Oxford's Pavlova Wind Quintet performed in the Senior Library with Malcolm Pearce on piano. The exciting programme, ranged from Mozart's superb Quintet for Piano and Wind ("the best thing I have so far written in my life"), to the glorious Poulenc Sextet, with some delightful amuse-bouches in between.

The October 2009 concert featured Oriel's very own talented former student, Soojin Han. The prize winning violinist performed a varied programme which ranged from Bach to Beethoven.

As these concerts are proving to be exceptionally popular we recommend you make a note in your diaries for the next concert which takes place on Friday 29th October. The Piatti String Quartet will be performing in the Senior Library. All concerts include a Champagne interval in the Senior Common Room - Why not make the evening complete by joining us for a pre-concert buffet in the Champneys Room?



*Soojin Han (2006)*

## Oriel Society Prize



*Oriel Society Prize Winners Rosanna Hardwick (Physics) & Deborah Potter (Classics)*

The Oriel Society is delighted to be able to support the College and students with the creation of a new award for those who perform best in the first Public Examination. At the recommendation of the College, first prize was presented to Deborah Potter (2008, Classics) and the second to Rosanna Hardwick (2008, Physics). Both awards were presented to the students at the St George's Day Gaudy on 25th April 2010 by the President of the Oriel Society, John Albert (1956).

The Gaudy, which is for all second years, is an opportunity for them to celebrate their progress through their university careers from the Freshers' Dinner to their Finals dinners, and is the result of a magnificent benefaction from George Moody (1932). At his request we dine on goose; and the evening concludes with a toast to the Queen our Visitor, Oriel, England and St. George.

The evening was particularly enjoyable for everyone attending because George (Moody that is) was able to join us. Now in his 97th year, and despite having experienced some illness recently, he was in his usual good spirits and, as ever, most entertaining company. We all hope George will join us for many more such occasions.

## Telephone Campaign March 2010

The last two weeks of March saw a team of eleven enthusiastic Oriel students picking up the phones once more for Oriel's fifth annual telephone campaign. The team was able to share information on the College today and learn from Orielenses about times past, as well as update Orielenses on the College's varied events programme and fundraising plans. The generosity of Orielenses from across the UK, Europe and the USA was greatly appreciated, with an average commitment of over £1,000 and a total of £142,553 pledged by the end of the two weeks of calling. An impressive £633,000 has now been raised over the last five years, so thank you to all of you who have decided to support the College or hope to do so in the future as a result of your call!

As one of the student callers says: "I really enjoyed the experience of phoning up alumni. It was fascinating getting to hear about all of their experiences of college and finding out how much had changed. It was also interesting hearing about what career choices they made once they left – it has given me plenty to think about!

What the whole experience has given me is a better understanding of how the College and University in general work – asking people to help by giving money felt more worthwhile as I now know all the fantastic causes the donations go towards. I look forward already to getting my own call when I am an alumna and giving back to the College."



Oriel Calling Team 2010

## Oriel in the Big Apple



Lauren Kendall, Oriel's Development Officer, talking with Richard Williams (2000)

Over the weekend of 16th – 17th April, despite the best efforts of Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano, the biennial North American Reunion was once again a resounding success attended by Orielenses and Oxonians alike. A varied and thought provoking academic program over the weekend included talks from distinguished Oxford speakers on the significance of the Magna Carta, the staging of Shakespeare's plays, the education and empowerment of women, recent discoveries about sleep and circadian rhythms as well as a drinks reception and dinner on the Friday evening and lunch and a Q&A session with the Vice-Chancellor, Andrew Hamilton on the Saturday.

Orielenses also enjoyed a fascinating tour of Grand Central on Friday, organised by Bill and Hope Eakins, and an Oriel dinner at the Yale Club was enjoyed by over 30 Orielenses and their guests.



## Oriel Society Annual Weekend 24th – 26th September 2010

This year the highlight of the Oriel calendar, the Society Weekend, will again be run in conjunction with the Oxford Alumni Weekend. Oriel will be hosting a range of events and we look forward to welcoming Orielenses back for this exciting occasion.

The high point of the weekend is the Oriel Society's Annual Dinner which will be held in Hall on Friday 24th September. Hosted by the Provost, the evening will begin with a service in Chapel, followed by the Society's AGM and pre-dinner drinks. A five course dinner in Hall will be followed by wines, port, coffee and liqueurs in the SCR. Bed and Breakfast (student accommodation) will be available in College. Further details and a booking form can be found in the Alumni section of the College's website [www.oriel.ox.ac.uk](http://www.oriel.ox.ac.uk).

The Oxford Alumni Weekend 2010 will be focusing on 'shared treasures'. The 'hidden gems' strand of sessions, including talks, demonstrations and behind-the-scenes tours has been a highlight for many visitors to previous Oxford Alumni Weekends. In 2010 the University will be bringing these treasures to the fore and uncovering just some of the tens of millions of objects in the University's collections, as well as looking at how these items are conserved and shared, and the impact that their study has on a range of academic disciplines at Oxford and around the world. For further information on the events please visit [www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk](http://www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk).

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2010

### June

Midlands Lunch .....19th  
1987-1989 Gaudy .....25th

### July

Henley Drinks Party .....3rd  
Wilton House Tour .....15th  
Oriel Society Cricket .....17th & 18th

### August

Royal Day (Tours) .....23rd

### September

Oriel Golf Day .....20th  
Oxford Alumni Weekend .....24th-26th  
Oriel Society Annual Dinner .....24th  
1999-2001 Gaudy .....25th

### October

Foreign Office Tour .....7th  
Young Members Drinks Party .....15th  
Champagne Concert .....29th

### December

Oriel Carol Service .....4th  
Varsity Rugby Match .....9th

\*Please note that for all events in College, we now have an induction loop permanently installed in Hall.

**For further information regarding any of the above events, please contact Hannah Leadbetter, Alumni Relations Officer**

**Tel: 01865 276 585**

**E-mail: [hannah.leadbetter@oriel.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hannah.leadbetter@oriel.ox.ac.uk)**

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