The Master’s message

Last June, The Visitor, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, officially opened the new Gatehouse and Theatre. For us all a thoroughly splendid day in which we were able to witness the fruition of four years continuous effort and the completion of the College site: a truly rewarding moment. There remain plans to build a new library more fitting to the needs of the current student population but in June we were able to sense, to my mind for the first time, a genuine Collegette feel to our site, with a ring of buildings fully encapsulating The Central Building, The Grove and The Theatre in a series of courts. There can be few establishments with such a fine collection of modern buildings – The Central Buildings, The Chapel, The Theatre, Wilson Court, New Court and Gatehouse Court – and even fewer pulled together by such a truly magnificent set of gardens.

Those returning for the recent Reunion weekend in September were full of praise and I genuinely believe that we have a site worthy of Fitzwilliam and one that will service generations of students to come. Of course, we should not become too self-satisfied and certainly we must make every effort to sustain and nurture the Fitzwilliam tradition; one that recognises the importance of education in its very broadest terms and the importance of the added value so important in the traditions of our College. This past year, thanks to the sterling efforts of the Senior Tutor and the teaching fellows, saw us rise significantly in the league table from twenty-second to fourteenth. Quite an achievement in itself but even more impressive when one considers that we were second in the table that monitors at least part of this added value component, so important to a College that has always been actively concerned with ‘access’.

It has always seemed to me that to be a teaching fellow of the College is to recognise that learning starts with the right relationships and that junior members should know the value the community – the College – places on their learning, not from what the politicians say but what they find when they arrive at College. Fellows should convey to their pupils the sense of excitement and worth of learning and combining this with the value of additional skills learnt through music (in all its forms), drama, debate, sport and games. Again, as I watch another academic year begin, I am filled with the same emotional feelings of a new beginning I always experience at this time. As before, I shall urge all of the undergraduates and graduates new and old to discover for themselves and share with others the excitement and worthwhile-ness of a good education; an education concerned not only with advancement in one’s subject but also an appreciation of the value of one’s colleagues and friends learnt through participation and recreation.

This past year I have also been looking up old friends in Australia and New Zealand (more later) and have visited many parts of Great Britain to see members of the College. A thoroughly delightful experience and, as you expect, I heard the most surprising stories about Fitzwilliam House and even more surprising stories about ‘digs’ and Cambridge landladies. Slowly I am building up a record and beware, someday I may publish!

Finally, I shall be in The International in St Martins’ Lane on Friday 19th November for Christmas Drinks for leavers from 2000 onwards. Care to join me?

Best wishes to you all and please write and/or visit. For the umpteenth time let me remind you, at Fitzwilliam, there is such a thing as a free lunch.

Brian Johnson

master@fitz.cam.ac.uk
Fitzwilliam and openness

As I write this, there’s a news story on my screen stating that more than a quarter of UK parents would like to get their children into a good state school. Recent items have dealt with public school acceptances at Cambridge, university financing, top-up fees. Wherever you are in the world, aspects of each of these stories have some local resonance. Education matters. It will be better somewhere, worse somewhere else. Not everyone will get the one they or their parents want.

This college began in the effort to create a more inclusive University: It has never, of course, tried to meet that objective via increased leeway in assessing parental honesty. There’s no need. Fitzwilliam provides a clearly marked encouragement to prospective Cambridge students.

Its message, its reason for being, is simple. If you want to, if you have what it takes, you can. If you want a Cambridge education, and if you’re up to it, this is a college without presumptions. It’s up to you.

My route to Fitzwilliam began not far from where I live now, on the Pacific coast of New Zealand’s North Island, and about as far from Storey’s Way as it’s possible to be. Why did I come to Cambridge, through its generations of achievement, is a global icon. One way or another, it reaches most corners of the earth. It entered my schoolboy mind through love of poetry. I’ve written poetry, I still do, and I’m still so impractical as to see it as one of the most important things in life. At school, the famous Cambridge names, the Milltons, Byrons, Marlowes, were among my passionate interests as, later, were the newer Cambridge figures of Thom Gunn and Ted Hughes.

I won an Exhibition in English, which brought the choice of other colleges. I felt strongly that Fitzwilliam had extended the invitation to me, knew that this was an honour more than any gesture I had known, and packed for Huntingdon Road.

I entered a sought-after world, with Fitzwilliam making its warm, plain, open introductions. In my studies, I met with words. Words I had wanted to meet. Outside of them, I met people. People I was glad to meet. Surprising people. Clever, knowledgeable, amusing people. Scurrilous types. Encouraging people. A few swollen heads. The sorts and numbers of people not met before or since. And I kept trying to write something worthwhile. I made runner-up in the King’s Lynn Poetry Festival. People passed my pieces on. Someone told me that Geoffrey Hill had made favourable remarks. Howard Erskine-Hill, not a tutor, went out of his way to get me to appreciate Don Juan. People said, you must meet this person or that.

Maybe these are the authentic Fitzwilliam words, words of openness, of sharing, of connection, of delight in individuals and pleasure in bringing people together. “You must meet...”

I didn’t come away with a brilliant degree (a failure I regret, like a crude lack of courtesy), but I came away with grown certainty of self. I thank you for this, Fitzwilliam.

Once it was a sought place. Now it is a part of myself. I have crossed that bridge. Others elsewhere in the world will be as I was. Keen. Bringing themselves up on some topic, some figure. Determined. Needing to test themselves in that company, that subject. Unsettled. Needing to get closer to some truth. This is the essential Cambridge spirit. Cambridge, like other institutions, is one of the parts of the world where people are not satisfied with the usual, the current, the given. I feel these things perhaps particularly strongly as a parent, in a world whose prevailing culture is irresponsible, where one needs to guide one’s children past so many intrusive negations of growth. It is quite something to know that the world’s dominant influences care little or nothing for the wellbeing of your children. It is quite something to know that there are places that care.

As a door into the University, as part of the University, Fitzwilliam embodies this boundaryless vision. Its undergraduate proportions reflect and promote it. Inclusiveness is in its very origin. And openness is its continuing strength. It holds out its marvellous invitation, and remains ready with its introductions. It says it does not matter where you start. What matters is where you want to go. And that, in largest part, is up to you.

I don’t know of a finer invitation. I still feel the truth of it. The invitation to try. A couple of years ago, I began writing pop lyrics, and made first of three runners-up in the lyrics section of the UK Songwriting Competition. It’s not easy to do this in the office, but I keenly want a number one.

Doubtless there will be Fitzwilliam alumni reading this who entered the college from countries other than the UK. People, like me, who accepted its invitation and took up its introductions. Perhaps we together could establish some fund to assist non-UK students at Fitzwilliam. If you think this is worthy of consideration, I invite you to contact me at hj@jonespartners.co.nz. Or, if you can write music, and want a number one too, let’s see what we can do.

HAROLD JONES (English, 1978)

Harold Jones is married to Serena, and father of Guy (13), Miles (11) and Helena (7). He is managing director of Jones Partners - a brand marketing firm serving New Zealand and Australia, and past winners of the New Zealand Corporate Public Relations Award - and co-Chairman of Jones Pauffley, a brand consulting practice being developed among professional and academic networks in the EU and US.
The Cuthbert-Edwards Fund

The Medical & Veterinary Reunion Dinner on 16th April 2004 was a poignant occasion with moving tributes to the late Dr Tony Edwards. A much loved teacher and tutor of so many Fitz students, a terrifying Dean of Discipline and a man who is greatly missed.

In 1999, The Cuthbert Fund was established in honour of Professor Alan Cuthbert (Master 1990–95, Sheldon Professor of Pharmacology), after the College received a generous gift from a Member. The Fund is used to support Medical and Veterinary electives and since its formation has been augmented by donations from Members. It stands at £50,000, but it needs to be at least £100,000.

Following the death of Dr Tony Edwards, Professor Alan Cuthbert very kindly agreed that the fund should be renamed The Cuthbert-Edwards Fund. This would help to address the needs of current undergraduates by purchasing some much-needed equipment (a small list of which is below) in addition to supporting electives.

1. Skeletons
2. Microscopes
3. Light Boxes
4. Medical CD Roms
5. We would also welcome financial gifts to fund the opening of a Medical Common Room where Medical and Veterinary students can use the above facilities

If you wish to make a donation to help us to ensure the continuing success of Medical and Veterinary Sciences at Fitzwilliam, please turn to the centre pages for the Giving Form.

Life as a Medical Student

From the dizzying heights of one’s third year, looking back on the two preceding years is nothing short of vertiginous. It is amazing quite how much a Fitz medic can achieve in three short years here, in between working towards second MB, pleasing one’s supervisors, and the mandatory evening sojourns to the fine public houses of Castle Hill.

The first year is a whirl of dissections, bewildering biochemical formulae and ferocious interrogation by supervisors; followed astonishingly quickly by the most difficult exams encountered (thus far) by our intrepid freshers.

A typical first years week is made up of about four hours of dissection, ten or so hours of lectures, three supervisions and a heap of a lot of reading for essays.

However, it is rare for a second year to look back on the first year and complain about the amount of work, for second year MVST at Cambridge is not infamous without cause!

Our protagonists arrive back at college, refreshed after a well-deserved break, keen to build on the successes of the previous year, and safe in the knowledge that if they survived the first year, the second year shouldn’t be too much more difficult. Amusing really, looking back, how wrong we were...

The first meeting of the year is with Dr. Saeb-Parsy, who kindly informs the students that to get the same class at part 1b as at part 1a, they would have to roughly double their efforts. This is, of course, met with a universal sinking feeling, but it doesn’t last long, as soon the second years are plunged into the contradictory world of neurobiology, the seemingly endless drug-names of Pharmacology, the smelly and scary Pathology lab, and the innocence-shattering first Reproduction lecture.

Towards the end of this tumultuous year, the slippery slope of revision, exam stress, and – dare I say it – blind terror, gets ever steeper, leading to the gaping maw of over twenty-four hours of examinations in a single week.

Come May week of the second year, the names are pasted up at Senate house, and a huge collective sigh of relief is let out, as the realisation sets in that 2nd MB is over, and clinical school is just over a year away.

Despite the huge amount of work demanded of Fitz medics, however, they still appear to be one of the most prominent groups on the College scene, having generated in recent years JMA members, college rugby captains, singers, musicians, Blues sportspersons, and high-profile members of many other societies of varying levels of obscurity.

The climb from freshers’ week to graduation is steep, and every step is tough going, but the view from the top, looking back at the accomplishments of the preceding years, is nothing short of breathtaking.

Jim Higginson (2002)
Graham Nutter (Geography, 1966)

Graham Nutter stopped full-time work at Scudder, Stevens & Clark after its acquisition by Deutsche Bank in 2002. He now works 7–8 months in London and 4–5 months at his vineyard (tasting available on site)

Prior to commencing at Fitz, you studied French at the University of Grenoble, and in 1967 while at College visited the USA with the help of a Travel Grant from Fitzwilliam. What impact on yourself and your future professional life did these trips abroad have?

Firstly, going to France in 1966 before University opened my eyes to another language, another culture and other’s customs - all the things you expect when a young (and innocent) student travelled abroad in the 60s. I was smitten by the experience (and the wine) and it gave me a considerable love and affection for France, which meant I later spent 7 years there and eventually married “une francaise”.

I also spent three months in the USA in 1967, two months working at a YMCA camp for underprivileged children and one month with a $99 Greyhound bus ticket where you spent half your time sitting on a bus at 60mph. It certainly gave me a perspective as to what an enormous geography is the USA, something you don’t appreciate sitting on a plane. I got a deeper perspective of the multi-dimensional nature of US society with my “Easy Rider” ticket and, after leaving University, my first place of work was in the US with JP Morgan.

What was your role in the development of Scudder, Stevens & Clark?

Scudder, Stevens and Clark was the third company I worked for in the financial world, commencing in 1992. My role was in Business Development in Europe and the Middle East, contacting government agencies, insurance companies and pension funds with a view to having them as clients to manage their investments. Dealing with the Swedes and then the Saudis gave a real meaning to “variety is the spice of life”.

Having left Scudder, Stevens and Clark after its acquisition by Deutsche Bank, what prompted you to choose a vineyard as your ‘second career’?

I left the company in 2002 but had already bought the vineyard in early 2001. I’ve always had a passion for wine since my time at Fitzwilliam. The Deputy Bursar at Trinity was a friend of my father and would invite me to dinner to ensure I had one decent meal a month. He always had an embarrassing choice of top Cru Bordeaux and Burgundy wines for me, drawn from Trinity’s cellars, which I had to comment on. This introduction, my years living in France, sniffing around the vineyards, and numerous wine tastings gave me the ambition to own a vineyard. As a ‘second career’ though, it has to be approached as a commercial venture. ‘Lifestyle’ arguments etc. don’t pay the bills!

Upon moving to France, was the learning curve as a winemaker a steep one? Are there any mistakes you’ve made along the way?

Yes, the learning curve has been extremely steep. One has to read, listen and question, as well as get your hands dirty! It’s a curious multi-task vocation. You’re a farmer for 12 months, a chemist for 6-8 weeks during harvest and a salesman/marketer for the rest of the year. In addition, it involves major investments in the soil, in replanting vines, as well as building and equipping a winery and underground cellar. I don’t think we’ve made any major mistakes so far, but it’s a 3-5 year programme and it won’t be until 2005/2006 that we begin to see results. However, we’ve won some awards already and received a recommendation from Decanter Magazine earlier this year, so must be doing something right.

What prompted you to give to Fitzwilliam (e.g. your memories of College, your concerns about current students and the financial strains upon them)?

That was an easy decision. I’ve been fortunate in the financial services industry over 30 years, which I feel is as a direct result of having gone to Cambridge. Attending Fitzwilliam gave me a big leg up in life and I strongly believe in sharing one’s success and giving others a similar opportunity, whether it is via a travel award or other financial assistance.

What are you feelings about the role of charities - particularly educational institutions - in society?

If one is fortunate in life, then one should give something back. It’s not an obligation but more an appreciation for having had good fortune come your way. In the US, society gives around 2% of income to charity and in the UK we give c. 0.8%. In Europe, only 0.2-0.4% of income is given. There’s a pattern there. In countries where personal taxes are higher, giving is lowest. The US and UK governments give more favourable other financial assistance.

What are you feelings about the role of charities - particularly educational institutions - in society?

In your College reports, one Fellow described you thus: I can warmly recommend this one. Even by Bill’s [W S Thatcher] standards Nutter is a good chap! (1967). What do you think makes a good Fitzbilly?

Never heard that comment before! In my experience, a good Fitzbilly develops from capitalising on the balance between academic studies and extra curricular activities, sporting or non-sporting, offered at College.
The Boathouse

How can we get from A (above) to B (below)? Since 1997 we have been trying continuously to do something about the dreadful state of the present boathouse. There were abortive attempts earlier, too. Over recent years the main improvements to the fabric have been the installation of the proud Billygoat on the main façade and a new set of doors when the last lot finally refused to open. The Billygoat, made and painted by the Bursar’s own (fair?) hands, was briefly stolen in a Sidney Sussex raid, but returned unscathed after a “quiet word” with their Bursar.

Fitzwilliam is one of the surprisingly few Colleges to have been Head of the River (in our Centenary year, at that), so leaking roofs, crumbling walls, a collapsing balcony and inadequate changing rooms are not acceptable. What is really needed is a new boathouse.

In 1997, on the back of sharp rise in the local housing market, the JMA (which owns the boathouse) asked the architect of the Queens’ and Downing new boathouses to design one for Fitzwilliam. The result, a stylish four-storey scheme with penthouse flats, met opposition from local residents and failed to win planning consent. An Appeal against refusal failed again in 2000. Barely credibly, the Appeal Inspector decided that no case that the building was incapable of repair had been made out. Discussions with local residents about scaling down the scheme to three storeys proved unsuccessful. There followed two years of discussions with local and national developers. These too were abortive. In 2002, a Billygoat generously funded surveys by engineers and building surveyors, which confirmed that the present building is past its useful life.

The stage was set for another attempt on the Planning system and in May 2003, the Billygoats’ President, Ted Bates (1960) presented the scheme shown below, which is simply a new for old replacement. The JMA, the Boat Club and the Billygoats all agreed that it was a good scheme. But how to afford the £500,000 it would cost? The JMA is prepared to put in £100,000 from its reserves and two Billygoats, Geoff Harrison (1955) and John Stanley (1956) each gave £15,000 Gift Aided, to start the ball rolling. Others have since pledged a further £11,000, also Gift Aided, and with other pre-existing funds, there is now £157,000 in hand, or pledged.

But that is a very long way from £500,000. £268,000 short, assuming Gift Aid, in fact. Mounting another Planning Application for the new build would soak up £15,000 of what is now in hand, reducing it to only £31,000 in cash and calling into question the plausibility of a new boathouse in the near future. Some have mentioned legacies, but that will not solve the problem now. The dilemma is whether to go for the glory of the new boathouse, risking losing the £15,000 for Planning Consent, or to lower the sights and aim at a major refurbishment, costing, say, £250,000.

Please give your views (and your cash or pledge), by writing to the Master, Brian Johnson, who has put heart and soul into this project. Billy pride is at stake!
Trevor Dann (History 1971)

Trevor Dann was the breakfast show host on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire until September this year. Optima asked him about his route there.

You put Fitzwilliam as first choice for College on your list when you applied to Cambridge. Do you remember what prompted you to do so?

I went to one of those schools that chose your College for you. I remember that one of the teachers was chummy with the Tutor for admissions so Fitzwilliam it was! At the time I had no idea it was so far away from the city centre colleges and I was always slightly resentful that I was a bike ride away from my mates.

In 1973 you arranged a concert in College (in the Reddaway Room, in fact) and you were part of a band at Fitzwilliam. Do you recall any facilities or venues you wished you’d had for your music at Fitz? Did you find music at Fitzwilliam influenced your future career path?

I think the 1973 event was a rather ill advised effort by a few of us to organise an “alternative” May Ball. The headline band didn’t arrive and someone stole the cashbox. Apart from that it was a huge success!

Between 1971 and 1973 I had a group called Tramp, which featured a truly brilliant flautist from Caius, called Steve, a great drummer from Magdalene called Phil and a very poor singer/guitarist (me). After that I took over the Fitzwilliam mobile disco, which was called Cyclops. My friend Gerry Roots and I renamed it ‘King Hell’ – my what a funny thing to do!

Where did you go after completing College? You studied history, so how did that lead you to a career in music? I wanted to work in radio more than the music business so I went to see my hometown station, BBC Radio Nottingham, to ask if they had any jobs. Amazingly they had a vacancy for a reporter so I did my last exam in Cambridge on the Friday and started as a BBC staffer the following Monday.

I’ve never really used my degree as such although I made several historical series for Radio Nottingham. The first big network series I made was 25 Years of Rock, for Radio One, which became The Rock ‘n’ Roll Years on telly, so my interest in history was lurking in there somewhere.

These days my wife, Maureen, is doing a post-grad in Local History at Corpus, so we’re keeping it in the family.

What sort of memories do you have of your time producing music television and radio shows, that you think must be unique to the music/media industry?

I guess the two things people know me for are Live Aid (1985), which I produced for BBC TV, working closely with Bob Geldof, and becoming “Dann, Dann, the Hatchet Man” (Daily Star) in 1995 during the upheavals at Radio One. I’ve also been really lucky to work with some household names – Noel Edmonds, Chris Evans, Jools Holland, Steve Wright, etc., etc.

Is it easier, or more difficult to interview a person of whom you would consider yourself a big fan?

It’s much easier to interview someone whose music you don’t much like. When you meet a hero, there’s always a danger that they’ll let you down so you can over-compensate and end up with a bland interview.

In the late 1990s you overhauled the music policy of BBC Radio One, and following on from that you developed the Smash Hits Chart and Radio Show. What was your objective in changing and creating these forums for music? Radio One needed a big spring-clean in the mid-nineties. Its audience was very appreciative of it but it had no credibility among its supposed target audience. To get the under 25s the BBC wasn’t connecting with, we needed to change the output to make it appeal to a younger (and smaller) audience.

This didn’t make us very popular with the over 35s who had grown up with DLT and Simon Bates, but it ensured the survival of the station and guaranteed another decade of commercial-free public service music radio.

The Smash Hits chart was designed as a more sophisticated survey of public taste than the over-the-counter Top 40. We introduced TV voting and airplay to bring back chart climbers and stop the pattern whereby singles enter the chart as high as they’ll ever get and then go down.

Do you think UK listeners have become more, or less sophisticated over time?

I don’t know about sophisticated. Certainly they’re less patient with stuff they don’t like and are more promiscuous, zapping about the channels.

What kind of role should the media have in influencing the public’s tastes in music?

Influence, yes. Persuasion, no. Music radio and TV should be there to draw our attention to good stuff and then let us make up our own minds.

If you could do your own Desert Island Discs, what would you choose, and why?

It changes all the time but today I’d go for...

- Beatles: I’m Only Sleeping
- Neil Young: Like a Hurricane
- Bible: Honey Be Good
- Bob Dylan: Like a Rolling Stone
- Steve Earle: Copperhead Road
- Lyle Lovett: If I had a Boat
- Charlie Rich: Feel Like Going Home

What brought you back to Cambridge in 2003?

I’ve lived in this area since 1982 and two decades of commuting is quite enough for anyone! I like Cambridge a lot. My kids were born here, my wife’s studying here and it made sense to “downshift”, as the sociologists call it. David Martin, manager of BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, rang me up and asked me if I’d fancy doing a show. Next thing, the breakfast show host left and I was on the early shift.

I think it’s the most satisfying work I’ve done in a long time and I’m really proud of the show. A listener recently described it as, “more intelligent than Radio Four, more fun than Radio Two and more relaxed than Radio Five”. I’ll live with that.
Completing Fitzwilliam is the overall name for the three-building development, about which there have been articles in each edition of Optima. Gatehouse Court and the Theatre are now in full use and winning plaudits and Awards. Gatehouse Court was runner-up in the national ‘Quality in Construction’ competition, both were featured in the July 2004 edition of Architecture Today (Gatehouse Court on the cover), while the Architects, Allies and Morrison were named Practice of the Year and the contractor, Kier Group, Major Contractor of the Year in the Annual awards of the Journal Building. Watch this space; more Awards are confidently predicted. And we already have the accolade of a Royal Visit – of which more in the next edition of the Journal. The third (and final?) one, the Library/IT building, has planning consent and will start as soon as the anonymous benefactor is ready to say the word.

I was delighted by the response to the request for sponsorship of Theatre seats. All two hundred and fifty now bear a name or words chosen by a benefactor. Shortly, a plan will be on display to enable those benefactors to find their seats without extended stooping tours and cricked necks!

So how is the College finding its new state? How is life after builders? The short answer, on both counts, is wonderful.

There have some unexpected things. The realignment and straightening of the path linking New Court and Wilson Court has made the latter more a part of the College and better-looking than had seemed the case before. The speed at which the gardens have incorporated the new buildings, so that they seem already to have been here always, is astonishing – and gratifying. Somehow, there seems to be more open space than there was before the new buildings.

Other things have been expected. It was often said that the Huntingdon Road aspect of the College was unprepossessing, the interior and the gardens taking by surprise those brave enough to enter. The “bridge” over the sunken garden and the sunken garden itself enchant. The new entrance, from the originally intended direction, is both stylish and inviting. The guiding light of the lantern on winter evenings has already proved invaluable in enabling return to base by revellers. Gatehouse en-suites are prized in the room ballot. Demand for use of the Theatre already outstrips availability. Musicians rave about the acoustics and want sole possession...

Jon Harris’ engaging architectural map of the College has been updated and improved (see left). If you have not yet seen that and the new Fitzwilliam, please come and share what is nothing short of a joyous transformation, for which heartfelt thanks to all who helped bring it about. Oh, and thanks too to those who patiently bore the making of it.

Christopher Pratt
News and Events at Fitzwilliam

It has been an exciting year for Fitz, and the Development Office has of course been heavily involved in matters affecting our members. Below is a brief run-down of what we’ve been up to over the last few months. Remember to take a look at our web pages for news on the College and events which you may like to attend.

Events 2004
Many of you have been back to Fitz already this year and it has been wonderful to meet so many of you at the events summarised below. Fuller reports will be published in next year’s College Journal and our web pages now feature photos from some of the events.

Medics, Vets & Engineers
I hope that all of you who attended our two subject dinners this year enjoyed your trips down memory lane. Medics and Vets returned to see Fitz in full spring glory, whilst the Engineers were treated to the College’s midsummer beauty.

Fitzwilliam Society London Dinner
Another superb London event saw Tallow Chandlers Hall completely full for the first time. Such was the success, we will be holding next year’s event on a Thursday night once again (9th May).

Family Day
The first family orientated event since Fitzwilliam Day in 1994, was a huge success. The entertainers were great fun and there was plenty to do for adults and children alike. It is hoped that this will become a regular part of the alumni calendar.

Past v Present Cricket Match
Although the weather threatened to spoil the day early on, this traditional fixture proved very enjoyable once again. The present team triumphed for, we believe, the first time and the past team have vowed to seek revenge in 2005. A most convivial dinner in the evening finished off a very enjoyable day.

Theatre Opening
One of the highlights of the year so far, was the much anticipated theatre opening. A weekend of events culminated in the formal opening on 21st June. We were honoured by the visit of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh who performed the official ceremony. Professor Alison Richard, Vice-Chancellor of the University was among our guests. Professor Tsuzuki of Daichi University, a major benefactor of the theatre, was guest of honour at the dinner that evening.

Regional Get-Togethers
We’ve had a great response to the Master’s letter inviting members to offer their feedback on regional reunions. Over 25% of members have returned their questionnaire so far. Thank you to each and every one of you. If you have not yet returned yours please do so, there’s still time. We are now collating the responses, and those members who kindly offered to act as coordinators will be contacted soon. The reunions will be held from next spring through to early summer. I do hope you will be attending the event close to you.

Photo Appeal
Our photo archive is nowhere near as complete as we’d like it to be. So, we’re appealing to you all to help us fill in the gaps! There is a real lack of sporting photographs from the 1960s to the present day but we’d also love to receive photos of students, Fellows, porters, the buildings ... anything at all that’s Fitz related from any era. Photographs are used in various publications and on the website so the more variety we have, the better. All originals will be scanned and returned, or alternatively you can send them to us on CD or by email.

We look forward to receiving them!

Did you matriculate in 1967?
Regrettably, we have a few Matriculation photographs missing from our archives. One that we are very keen to get hold of is the one from 1967. If you have a copy, the Development Office would be very grateful of its loan so that we can obtain a copy. Please do contact us if you can help.

Memorabilia
Our website now includes colour photographs of our memorabilia. Unfortunately, online purchasing is not currently available but an order form can be printed and faxed or sent to us. Please do take time to have a look and remember us when you buy your Christmas stocking fillers!

Until next time! Emma, Development Officer
events@fitz.cam.ac.uk

**STOP PRESS**

Pre-Christmas Drinks – 19th November 2004
The Fitzwilliam Society invites recent graduates (from Matric Year 1997 onwards) to an informal gathering at the International Bar, near Trafalgar Square. The bar will be open to Fitz members and their partners. The Master will be there during the evening and looks forward to seeing you. Keep an eye on the Fitz “alumni events” web page or contact the Development Office for further details.

The International Bar, 116 St Martins’ Lane, London, WC2N

Michaelmas Dates for your Diary
12th November Alkan Competition
13th November Alkan Scholarship Recital (in memorium Ronald Smith)
18th November Foundation Lecture – Prof M.J. Millett “The archaeology of social integration in the Roman world”
19th November Pre-Christmas Drinks for Recent Graduates **
21st November Chamber Music Collective in Concert
4th December Fairbairn Dinner
For musical events, please telephone the Porters’ Lodge on 01223 332000 or email Peter Tregear (Director of Music) pjt21@cam.ac.uk
** See above for details

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