My imminent retirement, on 30 September, lends these habitual prefatory words an inevitably valedictory tenor. At least in personal terms.

This issue of *Optima* serves to remind me what a pleasure and privilege it has been to be part of Fitzwilliam for so many decades.

I was first elected as a Fellow of the College in 1973. I have thus been witness to a large part of the half-century since the move to the Huntingdon Road site ten years before. We have celebrated that special anniversary this summer in the shape of a superb architectural exhibition and a reunion of the Golden Matriculants of 1963, also timed to welcome Lord Sainsbury, as Chancellor of the University and our own Visitor, to officially name The Olisa Library. Even those of us associated with Fitzwilliam for a long time saw the College anew as its successive architects detailed the narrative of its (literal) building, in itself a remarkable achievement in which alumni can take enormous pride.

Yet, however much we may marvel at its physical transformation, the College is obviously much more than that. *Optima* continues to testify to the richness of its life and work. Its Fellows exemplify research innovation and academic distinction. Its students, past and present, excel in sport, organize major international occasions, win prizes in many disciplines and places, publish books, enlighten us in the media. Fitzwilliam now has a vastly increased number of postgraduates and they too are engaged in the public domain, some of them as far away from Cambridge as it is possible to get. And readers will find here yet further evidence of the personal generosity of alumni all too aware that, with the withdrawal of taxpayer support, we have to help ourselves if we are to sustain what is so valuable about a collegiate education and experience. On the other hand, it was always thus.

The commemorative volume, *Fitzwilliam: the First 150 Years of a Cambridge College*, to be published in September tells (through both its text and wonderful illustrations) a remarkable story, in which so many of the current activities have precedents. Masters come and go. What is as certain is that Fitzwilliam will go from strength to strength.

**Professor Robert Lethbridge**

**Master (2005 -13)**

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**New Master**

In March, the Governing Body elected Mrs Nicola (Nicky) Padfield MA Dip Crim DES as the next Master, to take office on 1 October 2013. She has been a Fellow of Fitzwilliam since 1991 and is Reader in Criminal and Penal Justice in the Faculty of Law at the University of Cambridge. She was called to the Bar in 1978, and is a Recorder of the Crown Court and a Bencher of the Middle Temple.

“I am delighted and honoured to be entrusted with this responsibility. I am eager to devote much of my energy over the coming years to Fitzwilliam, building on the outstanding work of Robert Lethbridge. The College is an extraordinary community of talented people, extending well beyond its current students and beyond Cambridge. On a more personal level, it will also be a happy return for my husband, Christopher - who was an undergraduate in the College.”

Her first trip, as Master, will be to Hong Kong and Singapore where she will be hosting receptions in early January.

**New College President**

Professor Richard Hooley has been elected as the next President of the College. The President deputises for the Master in the latter’s absence or illness. A University Lecturer from 1993 to 2003, Richard then moved to King’s College London as a Professor of Law. He has been a Fellow for 23 years and has held a variety of posts including Director of Studies in Law, Tutor, Steward and Senior Tutor. He continues to supervise second year law students for contract law.

“Nicky Padfield and I have worked together as Law Fellows for 22 years and I very much look forward to continuing to work with her as she takes up her new position as Master.”

Richard takes over from Professor Nigel Slater on 1 October.

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**Contact the Editor**

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Please feel free to contact me with comments, contributions and suggestions for the next issue.

Read more on page 5.

For the latest College news, visit www.fitz.cam.ac.uk
Fellows in Saudi Arabian collaboration

Professor David Cardwell and Professor Nigel Slater are two of the four principal investigators on a £1.9 million project supported initially for three years by the King Abdulaziz City of Science and Technology (KACST). KACST, which is based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, has awarded the funding to support a joint collaborative research centre, based in Cambridge, to be directed by Professor David Cardwell (Department of Engineering, Cambridge) and Professor Ibrahim S Al-Mssallem (KACST).

Last year, Professor Cardwell attended, by special invitation, the Prime Minister’s Seminar on Nano and Advanced Materials at 10 Downing Street and has the picture to prove it!

Professor Slater has been appointed an Honorary Professor of the Tianjin University of Science and Technology in China and an Advisor to the Tianjin Joint Academy of Biotechnology and Medicine.

Fellows organise food security debates

Fitzwilliam Fellows Dr Bhaskar Vira and Dr David Nally organised three public debates in London earlier this year as part of the Cambridge University Strategic Initiative in Global Food Security. The aim was to engage the public, industry and policy stakeholders in some of the pressing questions regarding the security of food in the global context. The debates were on: Biotechnology, IP and 21st Century Crops; Smallholder Farming and the Future of Food and The Right To Food. The debates gave people the chance to hear from and question politicians, researchers and journalists on the issues.

Foundation Lecture – Thursday 7 November 6.00 pm

‘Double standards: Perspectives on life in public companies and public office.’

This year’s Foundation Lecture is to be given by Ken Olisa OBE (Natural Sciences, SPS and Management 1971).

Palmes Académiques for Master

Professor Robert Lethbridge was honoured as a Commandeur dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques, the highest rank in the Order, by the French Ambassador His Excellency Bernard Emié on 12 February 2013 at the French Embassy in London.

Professor Lethbridge also lectured on ‘Manet and the Writers of his Time’ at the Royal Academy in London in March.

To listen to the lecture go to: www.royalacademy.org.uk and search for Lethbridge.

New prospectus

Fitzwilliam Admissions Office launched a new undergraduate prospectus and course booklet to coincide with the Arts and Sciences open days in April. Written by Admissions Tutor Mary Young, the prospectus has also been viewed online more than 2000 times.

Have a look on the website and let us know what you think.

Freshers from 2012 were photographed in subject groups to illustrate the course booklet.
Fitzwilliam Access initiative

In July, the inaugural week-long summer school run by the Kent Academies Network opened its doors at Tonbridge School to twelve talented Year 9 pupils – and four Fitzwilliam students who acted as their learning mentors.

The summer school scheme is the brainchild of Ceri Jones (History 1988), Second Master atTonbridge School and a driving force in the Kent Academies Network (KAN), an innovative collaboration between six independent schools (including Tonbridge) and six academies from across Kent. In partnership with the Sutton Trust and Fitzwilliam College, KAN aims to help academically bright, ambitious young people successfully apply to top ranking universities in the UK. Students from low- and middle-income backgrounds in Year 9 are selected from the participating academies – which are non-selective schools – based on their academic potential. Once the students win their place in Year 9, they are then supported for the rest of their school career.

Ceri Jones said: “There is nothing like this collaboration happening anywhere else in the UK and it is to be celebrated that Fitz is at the forefront of a new model of partnership that can only benefit bright and disadvantaged pupils from the state sector.”

Mary Young, Admissions Tutor (pictured) said: “This scheme is absolutely in line with Fitzwilliam’s philosophy and I’m thrilled to be able to support it and be involved. Ceri raised the idea with me after attending Fitzwilliam’s annual Alumni Teacher conference, where the importance of finding talent wherever it lies was the hottest topic of debate.”

Music

The 2012-13 season has seen another very busy round of events, with two performances from our ensemble-in-residence the Fitzwilliam String Quartet, a special 80th birthday concert for composers Hugh Wood, Alan Gibbs and Malcolm Lipkin, a week-long run of Gilbert & Sullivan’s Princess Ida, two Alkan anniversary recitals from pianists Tom Wakefield and Jonathan Powell, and a Festival celebrating the 450th anniversary of the great Elizabethan composer John Dowland. This latter event in May drew performers, scholars and instrument makers from all over the world, culminating in an extraordinary final concert featuring Dame Emma Kirkby, the Rose Consort of Viols (pictured) and three of the world’s finest lutenists, Nigel North, Paul O’Dette and Elizabeth Kenny.

Francis Knights, Director of Music

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Follow the links at www.fitz.cam.ac.uk/book to order online, or order by telephone from the publisher TMI Ltd on +44 (0) 20 7336 0144 during UK office hours. £40 plus p&p.
Winter Ball success

Nine hundred guests stepped through the wardrobe into Fitzwilliam’s ‘Narnia’ Ball on Saturday 29 November. The Ball saw The Grove transformed into ‘Mr Tumnus’ Cave’, the Dining Hall into ‘Cair Paravel’ and the Auditorium into the ‘White Witch’s Castle’. And the entrance to the Ball was, of course, through a wardrobe. Main stage acts included Truly Medley Deeply, Denim, and The White Ties. Congratulations to Simon Johnson (History 2010), President, and all the Winter Ball Committee!

Photos: Alan Davidson

Simon Johnson – President of the Winter Ball Committee
Virtual network computing

**Dr Andy Harter first developed Virtual Network Computing (VNC) in 1995 and now the software protocol is being used in more than a billion devices.**

If you’ve been on the receiving end of IT support, then you’ve probably benefited from Virtual Network Computing (VNC) without even realising it. The technology allows a computer screen to be remotely accessed and controlled from another device.

Fitzwilliam’s IT department uses it to provide technical support to staff and so does Intel who integrate VNC on chips for PCs and laptops; and Google, who license VNC technology and expertise to enable remote access functionality from its Chrome products. It is available on virtually every type of device that has a screen, making it the most widely ported software application. It is now an official part of the internet, alongside web and email protocols and at the forefront of innovation in the automotive industry, where it is the standard for integrating smartphones with in-vehicle infotainment systems.

VNC’s algorithms minimize the amount of data that needs to be sent – ensuring responsiveness and stability across any network and the internet. The underlying technology means that VNC software can be adapted to any device that outputs graphical data – which means that the software is also fundamentally ‘future-proof’ and is likely to be fitted as standard on many devices and in many operating systems for years to come.

Dr Andy Harter and colleagues founded the company RealVNC in 2002 to commercialise the technology they’d developed. He appeared in *Optima* as the winner of the Royal Academy of Engineering’s Silver Medal in 2010 for his outstanding personal contribution to British engineering, and the company received its third Queen’s Award for Enterprise in April 2013.

Now RealVNC has received the Royal Academy of Engineering MacRobert Award. The award – a gold medal and £50,000 cash prize – is the longest-running and most prestigious in the field of engineering and was presented to CEO Dr Harter and his colleagues by HRH The Princess Royal in a ceremony at Battersea Power Station in July 2013.

John Robinson FREng, Chair of the judging panel, said: “RealVNC was selected for the MacRobert award because of the engineering excellence and tenacious entrepreneurship required for them to have opened the door to countless new markets for new products and services. For a relatively small UK company with no external investors to have grown to work with the world’s biggest technology companies is truly inspiring.”

Dr Andy Harter (Maths and Computer Science 1980) was Director of Engineering and Research at the AT&T Cambridge Laboratory where he led many hardware and software projects and their successful commercial exploitation. He is responsible for VNC and its seminal role in establishing the remote access market through open-source initiatives.
Technology to protect friendly bacteria

*Fitzwilliam Fellow Professor Nigel Slater is one of the researchers behind new vaccine technologies.*

Professor Nigel Slater’s BioScience Engineering Group has been developing oral live bacterial vaccines to protect against Typhoid, Enterotoxigenic *E. coli* (ETEC: travellers sickness) and other infectious diseases. They have discovered a new technique for delivering the live bacteria to the intestine in a way that protects the desiccated bacteria from bile.

The challenge for any oral vaccine capsule is in surviving enough of the digestive system to reach the lining of the lower intestine. Professor Slater’s group has found that if dried bacteria in a vaccine capsule are mixed with bile-acid-absorbing resins (BARs), the bile in the lower intestine will be held back long enough for the bacteria to rehydrate and trigger the immune system.

Professor Slater explained: “On rehydration, [bacteria] regain their natural protection to bile. When we started the project, this wasn’t known. But the finding opened a door to how we could create an oral vaccine that could survive in the digestive system and didn’t require cold storage. We realised that we needed a technology that would allow dried bacteria to rehydrate before the bile reaches it.”

The vaccine itself consists of attenuated *Salmonella* bacteria that have been engineered to carry proteins from the bacterium that causes traveller’s diarrhoea – sometimes called ‘Delhi belly’. *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi is used because it is unusually good at passing through the wall of the intestine to lymph nodes where it induces a strong immune response.

The research has been done in partnership with biotechnology company Prokarium, and Phase I clinical trials are planned. One goal of the research is a dual vaccine for Enterotoxigenic *E. coli* (ETEC – travellers sickness) and Typhoid. ETEC causes more than 350,000 deaths a year, and typhoid as many as 200,000 – both principally in the developing world. Professor Slater’s colleague Krishnaa Mahbubani explained the need for oral vaccines: “Needle-free vaccination strategies are suited for use in developing countries – where needle-based vaccination can pose logistical challenges due to the lack of a cold supply chain.”

Bar enables live bacteria to colonise the gut and provide effective vaccination.

Professor Slater said: “This is a great example of the University working with industry, interpreting needs to create a viable product using real science. This formulation has the potential to be distributed to the four corners of the earth.”
I have been witness to a large part of the half-century since the move to the Huntingdon Road site in 1963. We have celebrated that special anniversary this summer in the shape of a superb architectural exhibition and a reunion of the Golden Matriculants of 1963, also timed to welcome Lord Sainsbury, as Chancellor of the University and our own Visitor, to officially name The Olisa Library.  

Robert Lethbridge, Master


The exhibition ‘Building Fitzwilliam College 1963-2013: an architectural journey’ opened on 25 June with a well-attended symposium focused on Sir Denys Lasdun and the work of his successors: MacCormac Jamieson Prichard (now MJP Architects); van Heyningen and Haward; Allies and Morrison, and Edward Cullinan Architects (now Cullinan Studio). An introductory lecture, ‘Courts and community: Denys Lasdun’s Fitzwilliam House’ by architectural historian Dr Barnabas Calder, re-assessed Fitzwilliam’s place within Lasdun’s body of work. A panel discussion followed with architects Bob Allies, Joanna van Heyningen, Oliver Smith (who worked with Sir Richard MacCormac on the Chapel) and Johnny Winter of Cullinan Studio (project architect on The Olisa Library). Professor David Dernie (Architecture 1982 and former Fellow) was in the chair. Sadly neither Ted Cullinan – who had worked with Denys Lasdun on the original buildings – nor Sir Richard MacCormac were able to attend the symposium, but interviews with both architects are featured in the short film by Helen Bettinson and Benedict Clancy (NatSci 2009) which forms part of the exhibition.

The film and lecture are available at www.fitz.cam.ac.uk/about/50th-anniversary-exhibition

The College wishes to thank Lady Lasdun for permission to reproduce Denys Lasdun’s drawings and plans. The Denys Lasdun Archive is held at the RIBA Drawings & Archives Collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the RIBA Photographs Collection at 66 Portland Place, W1. A new website, Lasdun Online will go live in summer 2014.
The exhibition, which runs until 11 October, celebrates Fitzwilliam’s 50 years on the site. The curator, Professor Richard Marks – who is also Keeper of the College Works of Art – outlines its scope.

Half a century ago staff and students of what was Fitzwilliam House relocated to a new site on the Huntingdon Road. In concept and scale, the buildings they occupied were a far cry from the Georgian house on Trumpington Street. Designed by Denys Lasdun, the architectural vocabulary was that of Le Corbusier. Still functioning as they were intended, Lasdun’s courts and Central Building have set the tone for the subsequent development of the site, including the most recent addition, The Olisa Library.

As part of the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the College’s taking possession of the new buildings, there is an exhibition in the chapel crypt devoted to its architectural development to the present day. The display focuses on the design and construction processes of the successive architectural practices involved, drawn from their records and the College archives – but the primary exhibit is of course the College itself.

The exhibition has three elements. Firstly a chronological display of plans, designs and photographs of the successive phases of expansion, from the Grove Estate on the site, through Denys Lasdun’s Central Building and two courts fronting Huntingdon Road to New Court, the Chapel, Wilson Court, Gatehouse Court and Auditorium and The Olisa Library. Not overlooked is the contribution made by the imaginative landscaping and planting of the site, as a result of which there is an almost seamless fusion between the traditional Cambridge formal grassed court and a garden rich in different species of plants and flowers, so conceived that each open space and cluster of buildings retains its own discrete character. The final section sees the wheel come full circle and is devoted to the planned refurbishment of Lasdun’s Central Building.

The second feature is a series of architects’ models of the site and specific buildings: the third consists of film and slide shows. One screen shows enlarged and supplementary images (including unexecuted designs for the enlargement of the College) and places the first building phase in the context of 1960s architecture in Cambridge and the new universities; the second screen shows a 15-minute film featuring specially-recorded interviews with almost all the architects and Christopher Pratt, former Bursar, who were involved in the commissioning and execution of the successive phases.

Cambridge architecture of the 1960s on the whole has not enjoyed wide critical acclaim – the ‘New Brutalism’ is a common epithet. Recently a revisionist view has begun to emerge, one which sees the buildings of this epoch as historically significant, indeed ground-breaking, and of aesthetic merit in their own right. Fitzwilliam College is a prime document of this period, one which, while it has evolved in a softer fashion from Lasdun’s original concept, nonetheless has remained faithful to his scale, proportions and materials, a heritage which the College has always striven to maintain.

It is not on the traditional Cambridge tourist map and hence is largely unknown to visitors – even students from other colleges. For them and even current students and alumni it is hoped that the exhibition will be revelatory and the buildings and their settings be given their rightful due. In the words of a recent critic, Fitzwilliam “is well-preserved, carefully-detailed, beautifully-gardened.”

Although each subsequent phase in the College’s development has its own distinctive imprint and is of its time, the matrix was established by Lasdun’s design, scale, materials and palette. Professor Richard Marks
The 50th anniversary celebrations on Friday 5 July included the naming of The Olisa Library by Lord Sainsbury, the cutting of the turf for the new extension and a reception and dinner for alumni from 1963, Fellows, students and staff.

“Lots of lovely memories particularly of our time at Fitzwilliam – thanks heaps for all that and for keeping me in touch through emails. It was very special for Anne as well, she loved staying at the College and for me it was the first time I had stayed there because I was in digs for three years.”

Peter Rahr (Engineering 1963) lives in New Zealand.

“It was a great pleasure to be able to join in the celebrations and to hear Ken Olisa’s moving address. I also very much enjoyed renewing acquaintance with my contemporaries from all those years ago. I must compliment your Development Office on the commemorative booklet – an inspired idea which told me more about my friends than I would ever have gleaned about their careers over any casual chat over dinner or in the bar.”

Graham Jones (Economics 1963).

Thanks...

From Ken Olisa’s after-dinner speech

“A Darwinian question – on a scale of 1 to 10, how selfish are you? Don’t mislead yourself. We are all tens – driven by behaviours that give us satisfaction. What differentiates us is how each ten manifests itself. Some people mainly derive pleasure from disadvantaging others. The self-absorbed enjoy themselves regardless of anyone else. The rest are delighted by helping humankind. Respectively: sadists, introspectives… and philanthropists. The survival of our species depends on the kind outnumbering the mean. Fitzwilliam has been generous to Julia and me over the years and we are delighted to help assure its longevity with this gift.”
1963-2013
Celebrating 50 years
And looking to the future

After half a century of continuous service Lasdun’s Central Building is in need of some serious refurbishment and upgrading.

The first phase of the College’s plan to breathe new life into this fifty-year-old was marked by the Chancellor, Lord Sainsbury, cutting the turf for a new extension in the northeast corner of Fellows’ Court on 5 July.

Alumni from 1963, Fellows and staff admire the digging.

Domestic Bursar Tim Heath demonstrates turf cutting technique, while the Bursar, Andrew Powell runs through his notes.

Cullinan Studio’s visualisation of the new extension to the left of the Central Building. The extension will provide a direct link from the existing kitchens to the Old Library, to provide a new multi-purpose suite for dining, teaching and conference use.

The new building nearing first floor level in August 2013.

Donation kick starts the refurbishment of the Central Building

The refurbishment of the Old Library, due for completion Spring 2014, has been brought forward thanks to a £100,000 donation from 1979 matriculants Doug and Rachel Webb. Doug said: “We remember the Old Library from thirty years ago when we were undergraduates – lots of books and shelves and tables and not-so-hushed voices! It now feels incredible to kick-start this transformation that is just one part of the College’s phenomenal development.”

The College’s plans for the rest of the Central Building including the Dining Hall – currently in progress with Cullinan Studio, architects of The Olisa Library – will be unveiled by the new Master next year.
That was then, this is now

When we published a list of Fitzwilliam Olympians, we managed to miss Paul Fishwick (Law 1956). Paul played in the GB Hockey team as goalkeeper in Rome 1960 and Tokyo 1964. Optima asked for his ‘then and now’ thoughts.

Sport was a big part of the life of almost every youngster in the 1950s, and “The Olympic Games” still had a magic ring to it – and invitations from the British Hockey Board “to be a member of the GB hockey party for the Games” in Rome 1960 and in Tokyo 1964 were magic too. I was ecstatic – despite in 1964 having to forfeit a week of holiday each year for the next three years to compensate for the time I needed.

That’s one big difference, as big business and sponsorship has now made most athletes at least semi-professional. The impact has been great in terms of performance standards and has probably been a great help to the development of minority sports. Has it been detrimental? Perhaps not, for most athletes are only interested in being better than their opponents on the day and would run, fight, jump, lift, ride or play for nothing just to have the chance to do so.

Some things are still unchanged: the sheer joy and satisfaction of performance and achievement felt by athletes and spectators alike, and the personal satisfaction, as a competitor, of rubbing shoulders with iconic names and feeling that you are to your sport what they are to their own. In Rome, I found myself in the athletes’ stand sitting next to Emil Zátopek on the day that his wife Dana won the silver medal for Women’s Javelin. When I asked for an autograph, he created a cartoon that they both signed, and then asked for my autograph. It was a great moment.

“I played for Harborne Hockey Club in Birmingham, for Staffordshire, for the Midlands and then for England and Great Britain and the Olympic Team all in one fantastic year after graduating in 1959. I still tremble with excitement just writing that and remembering how it all happened.”

The differences are clearly reflected in the statistics for growth and globalisation: in 1960 there were 5,348 competitors (11% women) from 83 nations in 150 events. In 2012, there were 10,903 competitors (44% women) from 204 nations and 302 events.

The end of ‘amateur–only’ status, the need to create spectacle for the worldwide TV audience, and the use of the Games as a platform for politics have all put at risk the Olympic ideals visualised by Pierre de Coubertin. Olympic notions of peace and understanding through sport may be fragile, but the people, the spectators and the athletes seem to be having the last word. Sport is a great force for good. So long as the Olympic Games retain equality of opportunity for all players, impartial refereeing and judging, and fair play for winners and losers alike, it will continue to be so. Long live the spirit of London 2012.

Paul came up to Fitzwilliam House after two years of National Service, where he first played serious hockey. He captained Fitz Hockey, played for the Wanderers and the University, earning a Blue in his final year. He joined the KGN Group on a graduate apprenticeship, had a long career in general and senior management followed by board appointments elsewhere in the industry and business consultancy with the DTI.

*Paul in action at Hurlingham Park against Wales in March 1960.*
A glimpse into the world of Candomblé

In response to the Summer 2012 anthropology feature, Paul Williams wrote to Optima about his time researching the Candomblé religion in Brazil.

In the late 1960s, shortly after discovering I was not cut out for banking, I travelled with my wife (a Girtonian) to Brazil to start including Yoruba people, brought their beliefs with them when they were shipped to Brazil during the slave trade in the sixteenth century. It is still very much alive and has over two million followers.

Candomblé is a generic term referring to the whole pantheon of Yoruba deities each of whom ‘controls’ a different part of the world ranging from fertility and love to war, thunderbolts and hunting. Each god is associated with different herbs for healing all manner of ailments from general malaise to serious life-threatening illnesses. Ceremonies take place at night in cult houses when drumbeats, chants and the scents of herbs invoke the gods to come down and incorporate themselves in the bodies of the faithful. The belief is that when someone falls into a trance they forsake their normal identity and become a god with considerable power to heal illness.

Initially the practice of Candomblé was banned but slaves soon learned how to appease their masters by calling each of their gods by the name of a Christian saint. They discovered at least one feature, however insignificant or small, that established a link between the Yoruba god and a specific Christian saint. Oxossi, for example, god of hunting, understandably became associated with Saint George the dragon-slayer as there is an obvious association between the two; the beautiful fertility goddess Oxun finds a parallel in the Virgin Mary.

The slaves’ quarters were the first centres of Candomblé operating late at night after the day’s labour. Those slaves most highly skilled in the traditional practices became the first priests and priestesses who, on liberation in 1888, established permanent cult houses wherever there was a need. The richest houses came to feature on glossy tourist maps but there was no point in our visiting such places: their work was well documented; they had distinguished patrons among whom a renowned novelist, University professors and even the State Governor.

Our business was with poorer cult houses where we could observe how the lower strata of Brazilian society in suburbs and outlying villages used the cult house as a source of healing. Some priests immediately welcomed us; others, more reticent, guarded their secrets, feeling, quite understandably, that a secret divulged might result in less-efficacious cures. Speaking the language and involving ourselves in their everyday concerns gradually helped us gain their confidence and eventually we were allowed into as many cult houses as we wished.

We saw a whole range of remarkable cures: one man with very severe elephantiasis seemed dead when he arrived strapped to his horse and had to be cut out of his clothes, but after two doses of herbal treatment he rode away unassisted. Another healer laid hands on cancer patients and arrested the onward creep of the disease. There were countless other examples. We were the first outsiders to witness these extraordinary practices and what we learned was so new at the time and so unusual that we often wondered where it would all end. Hopefully this book will stimulate further attempts at understanding the remarkable forces at work.

Paul Williams (Modern Languages 1965) did his PhD in Afro-Brazilian Studies at St Andrews and taught for many years at Winchester College. Now retired, he divides his time between a former chocolate factory, just yards from Winchester Cathedral, and an olive mill in the hills between Granada and Málaga. His memoir The Banker who Turned to Voodoo was published in 2012.

www.thebankerwhoturnedtovoodoo.com
www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/candomble
Members’ news

Social Enterprise

City Gateway

Eddie Stride (Geography 1999) planned to join HSBC when he left Fitzwilliam, but an encounter with street violence near his Tower Hamlets home made him change his mind.

“I grew up in a poor family richly imbued with community activism, and that incident reminded me that I wanted to go back to my roots and make a difference.”

When Eddie Stride joined City Gateway, the charity was on the point of closure. But the organization’s work with disadvantaged young people in London’s East End struck a chord, and he raised £40,000 from corporate sponsors to keep it going. Soon, he was appointed CEO by the charity’s trustees. That was in 2003. Today, City Gateway has an annual turnover of over £7 million, employs over 160 staff and offers the chance to learn skills, get on the career ladder and develop business ideas. Most of the young people that City Gateway works with are “NEETS” – Not in Education, Employment or Training – and the charity’s efforts have seen NEET numbers in Tower Hamlets fall from 15% of young people to just 6.7%.

London City Steps

In 2009 Loona Hazarika (Economics 1988) co-founded London City Steps, an UnLtd award-winning social enterprise that trains young people from London’s poorest boroughs to become history tour guides – and then employs them.

London City Steps has trained over 100 people to give specialist subject walks and have so far guided government departments, school kids, big businesses, charities and countless tourists. The young people acquire new skills, grow in confidence, value teamwork and have knowledge of their local community – skills which are valued by employers and stand out on a CV. Loona first volunteered at the British Museum as a tour guide for four years and then did a six-month VSO assignment as Marketing Adviser for the Genocide Memorial Centre in Rwanda where he set up an audio guide system and developed the country’s first NGO online donation capability.

“In saw first-hand the power of business in building lives shattered by the genocide – and I set up London City Steps when I got back to London.”

www.londoncitysteps.com

In September 2012 City Gateway partnered with the London Evening Standard to encourage leading international firms to help combat youth unemployment and take on paid apprentices. To date over 250 NEET young people have started in life-changing apprenticeships at leading businesses including banks, financial service firms, law firms and even the House of Commons. But Eddie acknowledges that this is just the start: “My heart breaks when I see young people out of work and all their amazing potential going to waste. We will do our bit to make them job ready, but we desperately need more companies to respond…”

www.citygateway.org.uk

Eddie Stride photo: Matt Writtle

Do you have an inspiring social enterprise story to share? Email optima@fitz.cam.ac.uk
All for the love of tennis

Philip Brook (Maths 1974) became Chairman of the All England Club in 2011. At the time he said: “Some people have described it as the best job in the world. If you enjoy tennis as much as I do, it probably is.” Alison Carter finds out more.

Just over a month after the end of the 2013 tournament, with its historic conclusion for British tennis, Philip Brook is already busy preparing for next year.

“Once the tournament is over, we review what worked well and what worked less well and think about how to improve. This starts in September after we’ve been to the US Open – to share ideas with our opposite numbers.”

At Wimbledon, they have just finished implementing an 18-year master plan – including the new Centre Court roof; and the next 15-year master plan is under development. Everything they do is designed to maintain The Championships as the premier tennis tournament in the world and on grass. “Improvements will involve a roof for No 1 Court and other ways to enhance the player and spectator experience – there’s a long wish list.”

So what does the best job in the world involve? “There are two main aspects. I’m the Chair of the organising committee of The Championships. We have a board of 12 – all members of the club – and a chief executive, Richard Lewis; and 150 permanent staff, including 25 ground staff; 15 ticketing staff, a marketing and IT department. But the buck stops with me.” And when the tournament is not running, it’s a members’ club. Membership is limited to 500, and there’s a very long waiting list. Each year’s singles champions are invited to join as Honorary Members. “It was wonderful to see how delighted Marion Bartoli was with her purple circular Members badge!”

Although Philip Brook says it’s not the same as running a company because change can only be made once a year, they made £40m profit last year – ploughed back into the Lawn Tennis Association to develop British tennis. The profit comes not only from the TV rights (a peak audience of 17.3m watched Andy Murray defeat Novak Djokovic in 2013) and ticket sales, but also from catering for close on 500,000 people who attend each year, drinking, amongst other things, over 25,000 bottles of Champagne. Wimbledon is the largest single annual sporting catering operation (1800 staff) carried out in Europe.

And what about that famous win by Andy Murray, the first for a British man in 77 years? “Our primary objective is to run as good a tournament as we can, for it to be impeccable and excellent. But of course we loved it!”

Philip Brook, a former actuary, was Yorkshire tennis champion in 1978, and in the three preceding years was a member, and captain, of the Cambridge team which ran up a hat-trick of victories over Oxford.

Philip Brook was the guest speaker at the Sports Dinner on 14 September 2013.
Poles apart

When student telephone caller Hannah Malcolm rang Pippa Whitehouse she was fascinated to hear about her work in the Antarctic ... then Fellow Adam Chau mentioned graduate student Mia Bennett's Arctic project. Here are their stories.

From Algebra to Antarctica

I remember two things about my interview to read Maths at Fitz: the first was managing to flick the pen lid across the room whilst thinking about an answer – luckily Dr Potter seemed unfazed by this. The second was ending up discussing how melting ice contributes to sea-level rise ... strangely this now forms the focus of my research!

I study how the Antarctica Ice Sheet has changed in response to climatic changes over the last 20,000 years, and how this has affected global sea level. The ice sheet has shrunk by over 3 million km$^3$ during this period, and removing this mass of ice causes the land beneath to slowly rebound upwards at a few millimetres a year for several thousands of years, like a big balloon filled with treacle. In late 2011 I was lucky enough to travel to Antarctica to measure this rebound for myself.

I spent 6 weeks on the ice as part of the POLENET project, which is installing GPS receivers across Antarctica to measure this slow rebound. 24-hour daylight and glistening snow in all directions made for a welcome change from an office filled with computers, and with internet access limited to a 50kb email connection, it was a fantastic chance to escape from modern life for a while. The GPS receivers are left in place for several years to reduce the error bars on this tiny measurement, so as the data start to come in it’s time to check whether my calculations match reality...

Who owns the Arctic?

For the past year, I’ve been cycling down from Fitzwilliam to Cambridge’s Scott Polar Research Institute to study changes in the Arctic. The area around the North Pole is on the front line of climate change, a topic many of my colleagues study. But the region is also on the front line of experiments in governance, which is my area of research.

Perhaps surprisingly, the seafaring states of China, Japan, and Korea seek to gain a foothold in the Arctic due to their commercial interests in shipping, hydrocarbons, and fisheries. The Northern Sea Route could shorten transit time between the Far East and Northern Europe by up to 40 per cent, while Russia’s Far East is home to large deposits of natural gas.

East Asian interest in the Arctic is pressurising the Arctic Council, the region’s pre-eminent multilateral organisation, to reconsider how it cooperates with states traditionally perceived as non-Arctic – those without territory north of the Arctic Circle. In my masters dissertation, I challenged the assumed dichotomy between Arctic and non-Arctic states. Flows of capital, goods, and people are connecting Chinese consumers with mineral deposits in Greenland, for instance. Beyond that, however, the North Pacific Ocean actually forms an area that I argue constitutes Asia’s Arctic near-abroad, with China, Japan, and Korea all having a historic presence in its waters. Thus, even territorially, Asia is not as far from the Arctic as it seems.

Mia Bennett (MPhil Polar Studies 2012) presented research on Korea’s interests in the circumpolar north at the Arctic Frontiers conference in Tromso, Norway with support from Fitzwilliam and the Gates Cambridge Trust. She is pursuing a PhD in Geography at UCLA in her home state of California.

Pippa Whitehouse, née Archer (Maths 1996) is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at Durham University, and has recently been awarded a 5-year NERC Independent Research Fellowship to study postglacial rebound in Antarctica. After this she will take up a lectureship in the Geography Department of Durham University.

pippa.whitehouse@durham.ac.uk

Possibly the world’s most scenic bus parking lot. Tromso, Norway. January 2013.
Re-reading the English riots of August 2011

Acts of abandon or social abandonment? Sam Strong outlines his approach to understanding England's own moment of political unrest and its ongoing consequences.

The recent focus on the 'Arab Spring' uprisings in the media may have led us to forget about the five days of violence which occurred across our own urban spaces in August 2011. Rioting occurred in London, Birmingham Manchester, Liverpool, Bristol, Nottingham, Leicester, Gloucester and many other places; there were five deaths, 186 police officers injured, an estimated £200 million damages and more than 3,000 arrests.

Using landscape and discourse analysis my project seeks to reconnect the 'acts of abandon' of the 15,000 English rioters with 'social abandonment'. By 'social abandonment' I refer to the tendency to remove the riots from the spaces and histories in which they were grounded. This erasure of geographical context has been used both during and after the riots to match broader political agendas. By reducing the riots to a morality story of good and bad, the actual and emergent events have been ignored, certain groups expelled for 'criminality, pure and simple' and others celebrated as resilient and defiant citizens – often through familiar markers of gender, ethnicity and class.

My research re-assesses the riots and associated events by re-humanising and re-politicising all those involved, and considers not only the victims of the riots, but those who gained from events. Using a critical geographical framework, the polarised presentations of the riots are pluralised through a recognition of the numerous actors and places involved. I do this by focusing on the question of moral and political responsibility.

Two years have now passed since the riots, allowing a critical and reflective appreciation of what they meant and how they continue to be discussed – or altogether ignored. Whilst acts of violence are hard to excuse, I argue that failure to engage with the geographical (in the broadest sense of the word) reasons behind their occurrence may increase the likelihood of further similar episodes. We need to understand why people acted as they did in order to address not only the effects but the causes of geographical inequalities in contemporary society.

Sam Strong (Geography 2009) is completing his MPhil in Geographical Research before embarking on a PhD. He gave a talk about his work to alumni attending the 1869 Foundation Lunch in May 2013.

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Re-reading the English riots of August 2011

Friends don Fitzwilliam hats

Robin Ellis (History 1961, left), who is best known for playing the leading role in the BBC series Poldark, now lives in southwestern France with his American wife and a menagerie of animals. His life-long passion for cooking plus a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes led to writing his first cook book, Delicious Dishes for Diabetics: A Mediterranean Way of Eating.

John Willis (History 1965, right) was appointed Chairman of The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) in July 2012. John said: “Fitzwilliam was the perfect place to learn about cinema because every imaginable masterpiece, old and new, was available in Cambridge. So I spent most of my first year in darkened rooms watching movies. It is now standing me in good stead.”

Listen to Robin Ellis talking about the international appeal of Poldark on 10 August 2013 on Radio 4’s Saturday Live www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01dz0by
Books by members

THE FORGIVEN
by Lawrence Osborne
| September 2012 |
www.randomhouse.com

Publisher’s description: For the sake of fun and friendship, and a few days under a fiercer sun, David and Jo Henniger accept the invitation to attend the annual bacchanal of old acquaintances at their home in the Moroccan desert. On the road, darkness has descended, directions are vague and the couple begin to argue. When two young fossil sellers suddenly appear from the side of the road, hawking their wares, David – inebriated and irritable – fails to stop the car as it collides with one of the young men. The stage is set for a weekend in which David and Jo must come to terms with their fateful act and its shattering consequences.

Lawrence Osborne (English 1978)
is the author of one previous novel, Ania Malina, and six books of non-fiction. The Forgiven was one of The Economist’s best novels of 2012, and was one of Lionel Shriver’s two stand-out novels in The Guardian. He has written for the New York Times Magazine, The New Yorker, Harper’s and other publications and lives in Bangkok.

EXCUSE MY FRENCH!
By Rachel Best and Jean-Christophe van Waes
| March 2013 | Viking
www.kylebooks.com

Publisher’s description: Life together in a bi-lingual relationship for Rachel and Jean-Christophe created many amusing miscomprehensions and often sheer bewilderment. How do you translate, ‘Don’t beat around the bush’, and why does ‘to be left high and dry’ in English become ‘rester en carafe’ in French? Excuse My French! is their solution to all this conversational confusion. Packed with quizzes, glossaries and interesting detail on the historical contexts for how phrases were coined, and illustrated throughout, it will promote the Entente Cordiale between tourists, students and business associates.

Rachel Best (MML 1990) explained the origins of the book: “Excuse my French! is a direct result of my MML studies. If I hadn’t studied French, I would never have met Jean-Christophe and we would never have written this book… a good example of the amorous potential and practical business opportunities of studying languages! We are already collecting expressions for a second book, so we would be delighted to hear any English/French favourites from Optima readers.”

MUSIC & MONARCHY
By David Starkey and Katie Greening
| July 2013 |
Gerald Duckworth & Co.
www.randomhouse.co.uk

Publisher’s description: From sacred choral works to soaring symphonies, Music and Monarchy looks at how England’s character has been shaped by its music. Works such as Handel’s Water Music and Tallis’s Mass for Four Voices were more than entertainment – they were pieces signalling political intent, wealth and ambition. David Starkey and Katie Greening examine England’s most iconic musical works to demonstrate how political power has been a part of musical composition for centuries.

David Starkey CBE (History 1964) is an Honorary Fellow of Fitzwilliam. He is the author of Elizabeth, Six Wives: The Queens of Henry VIII and Henry: Virtuous Prince. He is a winner of the Norton Medlicott Medal for Services to History, and of the WH Smith Prize, and is well known for his television series focusing on the Tudors, monarchy and Britain, and for his radio appearances.

Katie Greening is a writer, journalist and television producer. She studied music at New College, Oxford, and worked on the development and production of David Starkey’s Music and Monarchy.
Publisher’s description: Geraniums were first collected by seventeenth-century Dutch plant hunters near present-day Cape Town, and before long wealthy collectors and enterprising nurserymen were competing for this latest rarity to grace their hothouses. But the geranium was not destined to be a fashionable exotic for long: scarlet hybrids were soon to be found on every cottage windowsill and in every park bedding display and the horticultural backlash began. In Geranium, Kasia Boddy details how the geranium remains a plant that many love and others love to hate, but above all it is a flower that is seldom ignored. Geranium explores the ever-changing image of the plant as portrayed in painting, literature, film and popular culture worldwide.

Kasia Boddy is a Fellow of Fitzwilliam College and lecturer in the Faculty of English. She has published widely on British and American literature and film. She is the author of Boxing: A Cultural History (Reaktion, 2008) and The American Short Story Since 1950 (2010), and is editor of The New Penguin Book of American Short Stories (2011).

Publisher’s description: Appealing to a broad range of sports fans, this is the genuine and emotional story of how highly successful sportsman Alastair Hignell faced up to a devastating illness and became one of the most inspiring personalities of our age. Higgy’s has been a tough journey, and his story is a fascinating example of strength and determination when faced with adversity. Winner of the Rugby Book of the Year award at the British Sports Book Awards 2012.

Alastair Hignell CBE (History 1974) was the first person to captain both the rugby and cricket first teams at Cambridge, and has had three highly successful careers in sport: as an England rugby player, a county cricketer and a sports broadcaster. A much-loved figure in the sporting world, he retired after being diagnosed with MS. He returned to Fitz in 2011 to be guest speaker at the alumni Sports Dinner.

Publisher’s description: Christopher Martin-Jenkins – CMJ to his many fans as well as listeners of Test Match Special – was perhaps the voice of cricket: an unparalleled authority whose insight and passion captured what it is that makes the sport so special. In this memoir he looks back on a lifetime spent in service to this most bizarre and beguiling of sports and tells the stories of the players, coaches and fans he met along the way.

Christopher Martin-Jenkins (History 1964) was the Chief Cricket Correspondent of The Times. He is the author of several previous books including Australian Summer (Faber & Faber, 1999). He died after a long illness on 1 January 2013. The Daily Telegraph obituary said: “As a bowler of brisk off-spin, using the long levers of his spare frame, and a stylish batsman, Martin-Jenkins captained Marlborough in his last year at school and Fitzwilliam in his last year at Cambridge. Winning the inter-college cup was his proudest on-field achievement.” An obituary will also appear in the next Fitzwilliam Journal.
It's been a busy 12 months for the Development Office, helping organise 50th Anniversary events and the exhibition. Those of you unable to visit College this year will get a flavour from our centre spread and I hope you'll follow the link on the website to see the film we made with our architects. Alumni (like myself), who knew only the original Lasdun buildings, can take pride in what the College has achieved in subsequent years through the sustained generosity of our members. We really are 'The College That Built Itself'.

2013 is a landmark year for another reason: saying goodbye to the present Master and welcoming our first female Head of House. Robert Lethbridge has played a vital role in launching and shaping the 150th Anniversary Campaign and we now look forward to working with Nicky Padfield. Her first trip, as Master, will be to Hong Kong and Singapore where she will be hosting receptions in early January.

Personal highlights this year have included working with the Billygoats to establish The John Adams Fund (and sitting next to John at the Fairbairns Dinner!), the naming of The Olisa Library and the 1963 Golden Matriculants’ Reunion in July.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Helen

PS: We are currently revamping our web pages and the next Campaign Council Report to demonstrate the impact of your donations, large and small, on the life of Fitzwilliam and our students.

Dr Helen Bettinson (History 1982)
Development Director
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The Howard Anderson Bursary

Howard Anderson and his wife Fiona were the first members of their families to attend university. Howard came to Fitzwilliam in 1967 to read Economics and Philosophy, and Fiona was a student at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. Both seized the opportunities that came with such an education, becoming producers at the BBC, where they met. During his 30-year career Howard produced many programmes, including the BBC current affairs programme Newsnight and Channel 4 News.

Sadly, Howard became ill three years ago and died in April 2012. His legacy lives on at Fitzwilliam - not only in the minds of his many friends who remember his ebullience with affection, but also in the practical shape of the Howard Anderson Bursary, established with his £20,000 bequest.

Howard was able to take up his Cambridge place thanks to a generous Local Authority grant – a situation unimaginable to today’s students. He and Fiona were in a position to help their own daughters, Rachel and Sarah, through university, and felt strongly that talented children from less fortunate backgrounds should not be deterred from applying to Cambridge by lack of funds.

Fiona said: “We are very pleased that Howard’s legacy will help support students struggling financially now and well into the future.”

The Howard Anderson Hardship Fund is an endowed fund that provides maintenance awards. The College is extremely grateful that Howard’s and Fiona’s generosity will support Fitzwilliam students for many years to come.

Remembering Fitzwilliam in your will

Many of the great things that make Fitzwilliam a thriving community – from bursaries to buildings to benches – have been made possible through the generosity of Members’ bequests.

In addition to helping future Fitzwilliam students, leaving a legacy to the College benefits your estate because of our charitable status. By remembering us in your will you can reduce the taxable value of your assets: any estate which leaves at least 10% to a charitable cause can take advantage of a reduced rate of inheritance tax, from its current level of 40% down to 36%.

Whilst it is helpful to leave money to the College that is ‘unrestricted’ – that is, for General Purposes – we welcome bequests for specific areas of life, as in the case of Howard Anderson. Please contact Helen Bettinson in the Development Office if you would like to discuss this further.

1869 Foundation

The 1869 Foundation honours those who decide to remember Fitzwilliam in their will, and currently has over 150 Members. Each May, Members and their guests are invited to the Foundation lunch, a friendly and informal occasion that’s followed by academic presentations from students, a concert and tea. The Foundation lunch is the College’s way of thanking Members for their intended gift.

Dr Helen Bettinson (History 1982)
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Career initiatives take off

From people who've experienced what current students are going through, is invaluable. Alumni can provide this by signing up to attend the Careers Fair. Of course, you can also let the College know about work experience opportunities in your own organisation. Fitz graduates work in a huge range of industries, and informing current students about opportunities can be enormously helpful.

How have you found your role of President of the Fitzwilliam Society?

It's been a lot of fun. It's a big year for the College: the 50th anniversary of the move to Huntington Road, the Master's stepping down, and Nicky Padfield (a lawyer, like me!) being elected as his successor. We had great turnouts for the London Drinks and Dinner, and the September Reunion is a sell-out again. The formal duties of the President aren't terribly onerous and it's been fun to engage both with alumni and with current students – and to be a ‘fly on the wall’ in the life of the College.

Dick Tyler has served as President of the Fitzwilliam Society since September 2012. In September 2013 he will be succeeded by Jeremy Prescott (Economics 1967).

The Robert Lethbridge Studentship in Modern Languages

In recognition of the Master's decades-long service to Fitzwilliam, the College is establishing an endowed fund in his name to support postgraduate linguists. The arts and humanities have suffered severe cuts in recent years, and graduate students are finding it especially difficult to secure funding. Director of Studies, Susan Larsen, said, “A studentship will honour the intellectual interests and teaching legacy of Robert Lethbridge at Fitzwilliam by attracting the best linguists of the future to apply to Fitz.”

The Robert Lethbridge Studentship Fund was launched at the MML 40th Reunion Dinner in April, attended by more than 160 alumni and their guests. Over £35,000 has now been raised towards our target of £50,000. If you would like to make a contribution please send a cheque, payable to Fitzwilliam College, with ‘Lethbridge Fund’ on the back. Or contact the Development Office for more information.

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Whatever career path you have taken, the Fitzwilliam Society will be delighted to welcome you to the Careers Fair. The broader the range of careers represented, the more valuable the Fair is to the students. This year we’re particularly interested in hearing from alumni who work in the not-for-profit, engineering, science, and technology sectors. Please get in touch.

“I felt a real buzz in the room, it was great that all the alumni were so keen to chat and help out.”

Fitz student on the 2012 Careers Fair

A big thank you!
The following Members of the Fitzwilliam Society have been responsible for the career initiatives: Sarah Asplin (Law 1979); Judith Bunting (Natural Sciences 1979); Rosie Cook (English 2007); James Harrington (History 2008); Peter Howard (Law 1970); Jack Lassman (Chemistry 1951); Carl Meeweezen (Modern and Medieval Languages 1994); Jeremy Prescott (Economics 1967); Zoë Shaw (English 1979); Dick Tyler (Law 1978); Rachel Webb (Natural Sciences 1979).

Get involved

If you'd like to be involved in any of the career initiatives please get in touch with the Development Office at careernet@fitz.cam.ac.uk or 01223 332018.
First the Cambridge crew beat Oxford in the ‘Varsity Regatta’ on 6-7 April. And then, on 8-11 April, Cambridge finished second to Southampton in the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS)/ British Universities Sailing Associations' (BUSA), University Yachting Championships at Gunwharf Quays, Portsmouth. Over 200 student sailors, in 26 teams, from 17 British universities took part, racing in Sunsail 40s.

Jack said: “There were really good competitive crews to race against. We are very pleased to finish in the first group against well-drilled south coast teams.” As the Cambridge team’s tactician, Jack was the major decision-maker on the boat during racing. The last time Cambridge was in a medal position was a 2nd in 2006.

Jack also sails with Team Jugador – a young sailing team founded in March 2013, racing the J/70 yacht Jugador. They have been competing in events including the J/70 Nationals, Cowes Week, the I-Cup, and other smaller regattas. The team are all members of the British Keelboat Academy, which is an RYA and UKSA initiative designed to produce world class keelboat sailors ready to compete at a professional level. They came second overall in the 8-day series at Cowes.

Look for "Jugador170" on Facebook

Fresher Jack Davies (Geography 2012) sailed for Cambridge during the Easter Vacation this year.

The Cambridge boat (front, no 4002) racing at Port Solent. 
Full crew: Dan Murray (Mast), Tim Worrall (Upwind Trim), Matt Deacon-Smith (Helm/Skipper), Barbara Muehlemann (Pit), Jack Davies (Tactics), Imogen Whittam (Downwind Trim), Piran Tedbury (Bow), Eddie Romano (Main).
Fitz win football Cuppers…again

Fitzwilliam triumphed in football Cuppers for the second consecutive year in 2013

The Men’s first team won 2-1 against Jesus College in the final. Scorers were Donald Bogle and Sam Court. The game was played at Grange Road stadium in difficult conditions, and went well into extra time before Court scored the winning goal for Fitz. This victory marks the eighth occasion on which a Fitz team has brought home the Football Cuppers trophy.

Team captain Donald Bogle said: “We have a remarkable team spirit … all year we have come through to win games when the odds looked to be against us. Jesus were the better side for large parts of the game but we defended well and took our chances when we got them. The support we had from the stands was amazing.”

The Fitz women’s first team achieved a very solid second place in the women’s football Cuppers final on Saturday 9 March, and finish the season at the very top of the first division.

Alex Coburn (Goal Keeper); Donald Bogle (Captain); George Plakoutas; Simbah Mutasa; Carl Plane; James Rhodes; Joe Painter; Sam Hobbs; Mehdi Golozar; Daniel Lobron; Sophus zu-Ermgassen. Subs: Simon Court; Joost Renes; Alex Houlding; George Brown; Robbie Bennett.

Watch this space

Fresher Hanna Tarver (Chemical Engineering 2012) has been setting records

It’s been a very promising year for Hanna. She set two new match records in the 400m and 800m in the first Varsity match of the year in November 2012. Fielding a strong team, Cambridge won nine out of the ten track events and Hanna won the Achilles medal for ‘Outstanding Fresher’. Hanna represented England for cross country in 2012, and holds four club records (Wirral Athletics Club).

She won the inter-college Cuppers XC race and in December was part of the Cambridge team for the Varsity XC race – gaining a Full Blue. She went on tour to America at Easter, competing for Oxbridge against Cornell and Pennsylvania in the ‘Transatlantic series’. Originating in 1894 it’s the oldest international athletic series in the world, predating the modern Olympics. Though Oxbridge didn’t win the series, Hanna won the women’s 800 metres.

In May she came 2nd in the British University Championships (BUCS) 800m. Representing Cambridge for the first time in a major competition Hanna said: “I really felt a great sense of achievement having beaten athletes from all other universities excluding Loughborough – who have extensive athlete scholarship schemes and top class facilities.”

2013 has been her first year in the U23 age group, and she’s now ranked 4th in the UK and 2nd in England for 800m. In June she won the Senior Northern Championships 800m, achieving a personal best of 2.05.4 – a 3sec improvement on last year. In July she competed in the British Senior Championships (and world trials), qualified for the hotly contested final, which was BBC televised, and finished 8th. The top two athletes from this race went on to the World athletics Championships in Moscow.

Talent-spotted in Year 7 by a teacher at Wirral Grammar School for Girls, Hanna says she applied directly to Fitz because “it seemed like a friendly college that accepted a large number of state school applicants, it was off the central tourist trail, close to the Wirralforce road track and the West Cambridge site where departments seem to be migrating to.” Her ambition is to become a chartered Chemical Engineer in the oil and gas industry, and her aim for next year is to make the British team for the U23 European Championships.
5-star kitchens!

Head Chef Richard Wayman and team preparing the Graduation Dinner.

Catering Manager Rob Clarke is delighted to report that the College kitchens have been awarded a Food Hygiene Rating of 5 by the Food Standards Agency – the highest rating available. Rob has also started using the ‘Saffron’ software system to monitor the nutritional values of all food prepared and served in the Buttery. He explains: “Diners can now see at a glance the calories and salt, sugar and fat content of every dish on the day’s menu.” Fitzwilliam is Fairtrade-certified too. Even those who regularly dine in Hall might not be aware of the scale of the catering operation. “The College kitchens serve nearly 120,000 meals each year, and for a typical College feast the catering team will polish and lay out 5,800 pieces of cutlery and glassware.”

Fitzwilliam’s art collection online

Thanks to the Public Catalogue Foundation (PCF) and their partnership with the BBC’s “Your Paintings” website, the College’s pictures (only the oil, tempera and acrylic paintings for the moment) can now be viewed and enjoyed by all. “Your Paintings” has put the UK’s entire national collection of over 210,000 oil paintings online. The Fine Arts Committee oversaw the project and Professor Richard Marks, Keeper of the College Works of Art, wrote the introduction. But Clare Jordan, the Bursar’s Assistant, was on the front line, coordinating photography and permissions. “It’s been fascinating tracking down all the College’s paintings and helping to resolve provenance queries,” she said. “It’s a great digital resource and we’ve already had several visits from researchers.”

Why not look for yourself?
Go to www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/ and search for Fitzwilliam College.

Why not think about holding your own special event or conference at Fitzwilliam? Contact the Conference Office on +44 (0)1223 332040 or email conference.office@fitz.cam.ac.uk