

# REGENT'S NOW

2011 - 2012

Regent's Park College is a Permanent Private Hall of the University of Oxford

## FEATURE

**MEN'S EIGHT:  
SEVEN BUMPS  
IN EIGHT RACES**

## FEATURE

**HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND  
GRANT FOR THE ANGUS  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE**

## PLUS

**SPORTS TEAMS  
JCR & MCR REPORTS  
THE FINAL FLING  
STAFF NEWS  
ALUMNI NEWS**



## TELETHON

**WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE A  
TELETHON STUDENT CALLER?**

## THE EMMANUELLE SOCIETY

**HOW TO GIVE AN EVERLASTING GIFT TO EVERY  
FUTURE GENERATION OF REGENT'S STUDENTS**





# Welcome to Regent's Now

## Nostalgia may not be what it used to be, but the past year has seen a number of events which have jogged my store of Regent's memories.

I've been back on the staff at Regent's for 11 years but my earliest memories of the college are not as a student or a staff member but as a younger brother coming up to visit my older brother Chris in 1968. In my memories of Oxford then I'm sure that the traffic was lighter and the tourists fewer, but memory plays odd tricks.

I particularly remember visiting his room in Main Block, and also watching the students (in 1970 or thereabouts, I think) stage a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's Trial by Jury in Helwys Hall. Regent's continues to have a great tradition of music and drama. Over the last few years, our students have excelled in these spheres in the University and beyond and this year was no exception. In opera, in the a cappella group "In the Pink", at the Oxford Playhouse and in almost every other theatre space in Oxford, writing, acting, directing, producing and promoting, our students have achieved at quite remarkable levels.

My other recollection from those early visits was coming up to watch my brother row; I vividly remember his sense of triumph at his boat winning blades. At the Ministerial Gaudy in June, Michael Ridgeon (1967–1970) presented the college with the bow of the boat my brother and his fellow oarsman rowed to victory. It was fitting to be photographed with Michael in front of the chalk inscription celebrating the triumph of this year's Men's VIII. Seven bumps in eight races is quite an achievement for our 2012 oarsmen.

As I recall, the Final Fling began when I was an undergraduate. This year was a record breaker, with tickets selling out quicker than ever. A little earlier in Trinity Term of 2012 the college hosted the second Recognition Dinner, where students are recognised for their work outside college. His Honour Judge Melborne Inman (1975–1978) was the guest of honour and, in his speech, we finally got an eye-witness account of how Emmanuelle arrived at Regent's. Mel told a story of how he and three other members of the JCR went to the pet shop in the Covered Market and took all the tortoises out of the crate, put them on the floor in the middle of the room and waited to see which was the quickest. The purchase completed, they named him Emmanuel. It soon transpired that he was in fact a she, and she was thus renamed Emmanuelle. Year after year she won the Oxford Tortoise Race. She won it so often that now whenever Emmanuelle enters she is awarded second place as a matter of honour; incidentally, in this year's race she chose not to move at all!



SEVEN BUMPS IN EIGHT RACES IS QUITE AN ACHIEVEMENT.

I am struck repeatedly by what a privilege it is to have studied at Regent's and now to work in Oxford, to be part of the University and to continue to be a member of the unique Regent's community. Tim Pottle, the Development Manager, recently said to me that he sees part of his job as making sure alumni and friends know they are still part of the Regent's community and by so doing expanding the college community to encompass many places near and far. Over the next 12 months we will hold alumni events in London on Wednesday 19th June 2013, at the Baptist Assembly on Sunday 5th May 2013 and on Saturday 21st September 2013 as part of the University Alumni Weekend. Tickets are already on sale for each of the events at [www.buytickets.at/regents-park-college](http://www.buytickets.at/regents-park-college).

This year, we have had another sterling set of results with our students gaining four firsts, 31 2:1s, and one 2:2. Whilst we have celebrated the academic success of our Finalists I am acutely aware that higher education funding has never been so precarious and that this year's Freshers will pay £9,000 a year in fees with very little of the increase in revenue finding its way back to Regent's (around £250 per student). Please do consider making a gift to support the college as it provides a transformative educational experience for our students. You can make a gift online at [www.giving.ox.ac.uk/regents](http://www.giving.ox.ac.uk/regents).

I would like to express my thanks to everyone who has given to Regent's in the past year either financially or in the many other ways in which alumni and friends give back to this wonderful college. Your generosity is valued not just in pounds and pence but in the companionship that such support provides.

With best wishes,

**Robert Ellis, Principal**

## THE FINAL FLING

### Katie Allen: 2nd year English and Phoebe Williams: 1st year Philosophy and Theology

The Final Fling reached unprecedented levels of popularity this year, selling out more than six weeks before the event to people from all over the university. There was a Roald Dahl theme and the quad was transformed into a giant candy garden with chairs in the shape of liquorice allsorts and a giant candy-cane hill. The eight-foot Wonka Factory gates at the entrance to the main marquee proved a popular photo opportunity, a BFG stilt-walker crafted balloon hats for the guests and a woman dressed as a (very) giant peach handed out sweets. Mark Rippington (Catering Manager) and the kitchen staff really outdid themselves on the catering, including a chocolate cake with real gold flakes.

The theme provided ample creative options for drinks and food, and staff from Cowley's popular Café Tarifa made cocktails and drinks through the night. The night passed almost without hitch, and we were grateful for the positive feedback and thanks we received from many of the guests. Putting so much work and effort in, it was lovely to see how much everyone enjoyed themselves!

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THE QUAD WAS TRANSFORMED WITH A ROALD DAHL THEME

## THE EMMANUELLE SOCIETY

Launched in 2009, the Emmanuelle Society has 24 members who have given almost £9,600 to the Emmanuelle Society Endowment Fund. For each gift of £400, which can be given over 20 months, a book will be bought in your chosen subject every year, forever. Each book will have a name plate inside the front cover with your chosen inscription. If you prefer to dedicate your books to someone else, we would also be pleased to do that. A commemorative name plate will also be placed in the Emmanuelle Society Book.



### New members of the Emmanuelle Society

**Mr Jason Gain**

**Ken Batty**, in loving memory of Robert Batty (1911–1989):  
subject area: PPE

**Tom Fearon**, subject area: PPE

**Professor Paul Weller**, subject area: Inter-religious dialogue

**Adrian Thatcher**, subject area: Christian Liberal Sexual Ethics

**Andrew Goodliff**

**Robert Thiele**, subject area: Christian Theology and Contemporary Thought

**Gregory Pang**, subject area: History

**The Friends of John Voon**, subject area: Theology

**Eileen and Denis Clifford**, subject area: English Literature and Poetry

**If you would like to become a member, please email [alumni@regents.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@regents.ox.ac.uk) or go to [www.giving.ox.ac.uk/regents](http://www.giving.ox.ac.uk/regents)**



# JCR/MCR REPORTS

## JCR REPORT

### Jack Watson: 2nd year Geography, JCR President

The JCR has gone from strength to strength once again this year with a number of notable achievements across all arenas of college and university life.



The hot topic of the college sporting world this year has to be rowing. Under the leadership of Chris Shaw and the coaching of former Regent's student Pete Bond, the men's rowing team have truly excelled; achieving blades in Torpids and narrowly missing out on them in Summer Vllls. In addition to this, a number of students in the college have continued to play for Blues teams at the university level in sports ranging from Tennis to Netball.

The Final Fling has to be the highlight of the annual college calendar, and this year's event must be applauded for being a splendid success. Katie Allen

and Phoebe Williams did a fantastic job of pulling off the Roald Dahl theme, with the sweets hung on trees in the quad being

a particular favourite! More non-Regent's students than ever attended this year's event and it truly was a great exhibition of the college to the wider university.

Regent's students continue to be active in the voluntary sector, and the three charities supported by the JCR this year all have direct links to Regent's Park students. The university-wide charity football tournament was once again organised by a committee of JCR members in memory of Antonia Bruch, with 32 teams participating and just less than £1,000 raised for the Meningitis Trust.

The now-annual Recognition Dinner took place for the second time this year, and really highlighted the achievements of individual JCR members in the wider university (see below). There are too many to mention specifically, but it is worth noting that Regent's has continued to excel in the theatrical arena. A number of Regent's students have starred in or directed major productions at the Oxford Playhouse this year, and others have even written plays of their own. Adding to this, I mustn't forget to mention the instrumental role that two Regent's students had in organising Oxford's first city-wide Shakespeare Festival, which was a resounding success and was even 're-tweeted' by the Sunday Times!

**Overall, it has been a pleasure to be President of such a diverse community of talented people this year. Regent's continues to punch above its weight in every respect, and long may this continue!**

## THE FOLLOWING WERE HONoured AT THE RECOGNITION DINNER:

- Gillian Appau** - Oxford Afro-Caribbean Society, President
- Timothy Bateman** - OICCU, President
- Frances Beaton** - RAG, Social Secretary
- Ashley Cooke** - University Drama (Producer)
- Frances Denny** - University Drama (Producer)
- Elena Gaddes** - University Drama (Producer)
- Johanna Harrison** - University Drama (Actress)
- Maggie Henderson-Tew** - Real Tennis Blue
- Sam Hodge** - U21 Rugby Blue
- Ben Hudson** - Oxford Caving Club, Expedition Leader
- Laura Jenkins** - Netball Blue
- Gui Kiralyfi** - Cross-Country Blue
- Oxford Investment and Finance Society, External Relations Officer**
- Victoria Lim** - Cherwell, Editor
- Jamie MacDonagh** - University Drama (Actor and Director)

- Alasdair Maher** - Kenya Education Partnerships, Fundraising Officer
- Ed Marr** - Oxford Investment and Finance Society, President
- Eleanor Mason** - Oxford Investment and Finance Society, Vice-President
- Alex Mills** - University Drama (Writer and Director)
- Rebecca Nicholls** - In The Pink! Musical Director
- Alice Porter** - University Drama (Actress)
- Hannah Robertson** - English Plus, Coordinator
- Rebecca Roughan** - Oxford Shakespeare Festival, Assistant Producer
- Ruby Thomas** - University Drama (Actress)
- Amy Watson** - RAG, Secretary
- Jack Watson** - Jacari, Teaching Officer
- Timothy Wickenden** - Oxford Shakespeare Festival, Assistant Producer

## MCR REPORT

### Christopher Shaw: DPhil candidate, Theology

It was a lively year for the Regent's Park College MCR. Starting the academic year off with a fantastic barbeque from our Antipodean gastro-connoisseurs, Andrew (DPhil candidate, Theology) and Elf Dunstan, we aimed to set the tone for a strong emphasis on community building amongst the graduate student body, and, looking back at the year, we succeeded. Stringing together an eclectic array of events and discussions, our MCR output was just as diverse as the members comprising this talented student body.

As an MCR we focused on coming together as a community within a community, promoting a welcoming and active network for some of Oxford's best minds to come together and appreciate an intellectual lifestyle.

Similar to the way the year began, we closed the 2011-2012 academic year with another spectacular barbeque, this time serving up a near 60 kilogram hog for our MCR, their families, and their friends. It was a great way to finish what has been a solid year of communal engagement and academic excellence.

**Regent's Park College is a truly unique place to study at the post-graduate level and we hope to continue emphasising how our college can be a special place to foster advanced thought in providing the most conducive atmosphere to promote such thinking for years to come.**



## MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

### Emma Maggs: PG Dip

The academic year began with several life-changing ministerial events – the third years' trip to Kathmandu, Nepal with BMS World Mission and the arrival of two ministerial babies, both born to third-year students!

The Nepal trip involved teaching in a Nepali theological college as well as visiting Nepali churches and preaching through translators. Vanessa Rye wrote this in her journal:

"The smells and sounds of the city soon assailed our senses, the sights astounded those who had never experienced Asia. Whole families and many goods carried on both motor and push bikes. Crossing the road in Kathmandu is a risky business with motorbikes weaving in and out of the cars and trucks; putting your hand out to stop the traffic is the local way but you still have to be quick and very alert...

...I found the whole experience exciting and encouraging, to be part of the world church and especially where God is working in an amazing way was spiritually uplifting. I was challenged by the way the students were expected to go out onto the streets after church on Saturdays and Sundays to talk to people about faith. It seems that in Nepal although Christianity is regarded as a foreign religion people are happy to talk about spiritual things."

The current second-year students are preparing for a trip to Rio de Janeiro in September. Doubtless you will hear about it in the next issue.

This year we have been pleased to develop closer links with the college's Christian Union. It is often a challenge for ministerial students to get involved in wider college life when so many of us are only around on Mondays and Tuesdays. We have held several joint services during the Tuesday prayer slot and a couple of socials involving tea, biscuits and (once) bacon sandwiches, food being an important social glue!

Despite the demanding formation process, some of our ministerial students have found time for some wonderful creative endeavours. Ewan King's innovative jazz mass has received much interest, being featured in the Church Times. And in the field of literary achievement, Gareth Garland has published a children's book called *Hurst Castle and the Martyr King* (available on Amazon!), in which he combines his love of history and his desire to share his Christian faith.



# Seven bumps in eight races...

## MEN'S BOAT CREW

**Christopher Shaw:**  
DPhil candidate, Theology

The beginning of the 2011–2012 rowing season was not without its challenges. As the sole returning member of the 2010–2011 Regent's Park Men's Crew, I was aware of the difficulties of the road ahead, but with a commitment to succeed and a touch of good fortune, we began to rebuild our men's crew from the foundation.

As the men's crew started to take shape, we found our image to be representative of the college community itself. Members of the JCR, MCR, and visiting students began to emerge from their distinct academic positions to combine as a single and cohesive unit with a common goal in mind – to bring back a winning tradition to our boat club and to represent our college with a sense of pride and confidence. As an (almost) entirely novice boat, we set to the water on the very first day of Michaelmas and never looked back.

A rigorous training programme and an emphasis on team unity began to establish a winning attitude. Our racing strategy had us focusing entirely on Torpids, meaning we decided, as a team, to by-pass the Michaelmas novice event, Christ Church Regatta, replacing this with sustained entries into the Isis Winter League. Finally, Torpids was upon us and we were ready to realise what we had been training so hard to accomplish. We proceeded to bump every day and were awarded blades.

As Trinity came around, we looked forward to pushing the point home that Regent's Park College Men's Crew was not something to be disregarded, rather we were dead set on promoting our college as one of the toughest boats in our division. And so it went; our qualifying round for Summer Vllls was brilliant and we finished, on-the-day, as the fastest boat on the water. Carrying that momentum into the regatta, we started Summer Vllls with a row-over (the best outcome given the circumstances) and followed that clean performance with three consecutive bumps to finish our combined regatta effort (Torpids and Summer Vllls) having bumped seven out of eight days with one row-over.



As captain, I have found this year a great learning experience on so many levels. I am very proud of our crew and their tremendous accomplishments and I hope that Regent's rowing will continue to have success in the years to come.

**Special thanks to our coach, Peter Bond (2000–2003): in the good form of a Regent's alumnus, Pete gave his time and attention generously to our boat club. Without Pete's contribution, we simply would not have been able to accomplish what we did.**

**AS CAPTAIN, I HAVE FOUND  
THIS YEAR A GREAT LEARNING  
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## WOMEN'S BOAT CREW

**Hannah Robertson: 2nd year English**

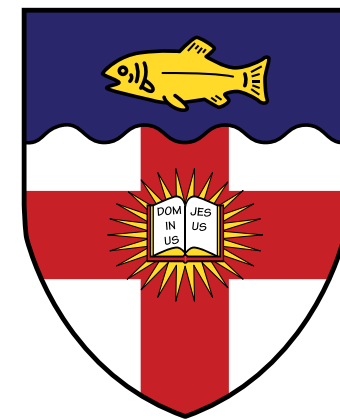
It has been a mixed year for Regent's Park Boat Club. Whilst in Hilary the boys enjoyed Blade glory in Torpids, there weren't even enough girls to fill a boat. Despite being low in numbers, however, the girls showed 100% dedication and enthusiasm throughout the year and not being able to gather a full VIII means that the women's team now contains some of the most competent users of erg machines Oxford has to offer.

Nevertheless, by Trinity we had a full boat and were ready to show the Isis what we could do whilst clad in Regent's Red, so the Regent's Shark finally took to the water. Unfortunately, the red of the onesies was not the only red on the Isis during the run up to Summer Vllls, as the terrible weather meant that the river was red flag and out of bounds for the majority of the training period. By this time we were all so used to the ergs and other land training that, with great help from our fantastic coach Pete Bond, and what felt like several thousand tank sessions, we miraculously managed to get ourselves in the position to race in Oxford's prestigious summer regatta.

## THE GIRLS SHOWED 100% DEDICATION AND ENTHUSIASM

The week itself saw the sun come out, for what felt like the one and only week of Trinity Term, which was very lucky. The crew did amazingly well considering that we had only managed to get on the water about five times prior to having to compete against much more experienced crews. We were punching well above our weight and unfortunately got bumped on three occasions, one of which was spectacular, with our stroke coming into contact with the bow ball of the Lincoln crew chasing us. But, in the final race we sped away from the team behind, managing to row-over, hold our position and, most importantly, avoid spoons! The team think this was largely due to our wonderful mascot, the inflatable shark, which attracted much attention from the other crews and the crowded banks. Our row-over was a great achievement considering that even getting on the water was looking unlikely just the week before and copious amounts of Pimms (what else?!) helped us celebrate this success.

**Despite the adversity we have faced, Kirsty (my co-captain) and I have had an oarsome time in captaincy and hope that RPC BC continues to build on everything it has achieved this year.**





# In the pink

## A CAPPELLA MUSIC

### Rebecca Nicholls: 2nd Year Geography

Wandering around Fresher's Fair in my first week at university really was a surreal experience. Amid the constant barrage of voices from all directions, trying to convince me that this sport, activity or society would truly transform my life, I was left bewildered at the endless opportunities available to me; how would I ever decide what to pursue? After putting my name on as many sign-up sheets as possible, it was purely by chance that I ended up auditioning for 'In The Pink', a 14-strong, all female, university-wide a cappella ensemble. Having absolutely no idea prior to my audition, I thought it best to do some research on what a cappella actually is – the creation of music purely through the use of voice. After several successful auditions I found myself a member of Oxford's finest all-female a cappella group, of which I have been a part for two years, this year taking on the role of Musical Director.

Throughout the academic year, In The Pink perform at various events within university

life and further afield. This year has seen us feature at many society events, for example at the Oxford Union, Oxford Investment and Finance Society, Oxford Women in Business and larger non-university events, such as the Tri-Service May Ball. One of our most exciting events of this year has been In The Pink's first ever tour, to the vibrant and a cappella-loving City of Berlin. Whilst in Berlin, we had some fantastic performance opportunities, including a joint concert with German a cappella group Popkon and a 10-hour vocal festival with some of Germany's most talented a cappella choirs.

Another exciting project that I have been fortunate enough to lead is the creation of In The Pink's most recent CD, released in July 2012, just in time for our ninth run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August. The Fringe Festival is a fantastic opportunity for us to reach out to a wider audience, enhance our performance skills, and get to know other performers, many of whom are also from Oxford.

During this academic year, I also took on the role of Advent Choir Master, a privilege when considering the many talented singers Regent's houses. Over the course of the year, through these two roles, I feel as though I learnt some valuable lessons that I will take with me after university life. Not only have I had some amazing performance opportunities, I have also had a chance to lead and encourage students in their singing pursuits. I have seen the hard work and countless rehearsal hours of many students and indeed SCR members translate into stunning performances, a prime example of which was the Regent's Advent Service.

**Most of all, I have had the opportunity to work with many talented individuals, both throughout the university and in Regent's, making great friends and having bundles of fun along the way.**

**To find out more about In The Pink or to hear their music:**

Subscribe to their YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/user/inthepinkoxford](http://www.youtube.com/user/inthepinkoxford)

Follow them on Twitter:  
[@inthepinkoxford](https://twitter.com/inthepinkoxford)

If you are interested in purchasing In the Pink's new CD, or would like to enquire about pricings for an event, please email [itp@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:itp@hotmail.co.uk)



## STATON ESSAY PRIZE

### Earlier this year, Regent's launched the Annual Staton Essay Prize.

This is an interdisciplinary essay competition open to all students studying in Year 12. One prize will be awarded in each of three categories in the competition: £250 to the best overall essay, and two prizes of £150 each to two other essays. Prize winners and their parents or carers will be invited to a special Awards Dinner at Regent's.

The prize is designed to give entrants the opportunity to explore connections between the subjects they are currently studying or are interested in, develop their independent research abilities, and encourage them to apply for undergraduate courses that may be interdisciplinary.

We hope those secondary school students who enter the competition will learn a little about Regent's and, if they are applying to study at Oxford, will consider putting Regent's as their first-choice college.

For further information about the Staton Essay Prize, please go to our website: [www.rpc.ox.ac.uk/essay](http://www.rpc.ox.ac.uk/essay)

## ENGLISH PLUS

### Hannah Robertson: 2nd year English

Oxford is a tale of two cities when it comes to education. Whilst walking amongst the dreaming spires and the sub fusc-clad Oxonians it is easy to forget that, outside of the 'Oxford Bubble', the surrounding schools have some of the lowest attainment rates in the country. English Plus is a branch of the Schools Plus initiative which was launched to help local secondary school students achieve the best that they can across a broad range of GCSE subjects. With a team of around 10 volunteers for each session, English Plus sends a mixture of dedicated Oxford and Brookes students into two of the local comprehensive schools to boost confidence and increase grades. It is tremendously rewarding for all involved and the teachers are highly complimentary of the work that is carried out.

The first school is the Oxford Spires Academy in Cowley where there is a weekly revision session for students on the C/D borderline, giving often disengaged students an hour with volunteers who are highly enthusiastic about the English language and its literature. The second is the Oxford Academy in Blackbird Leys, where there are two separate programmes. The first is a relaxed study cafe where Year 11 students can bring in revision, homework or anything else they are currently struggling with for the volunteers to go through with them. The second is a more structured mentoring session whereby Year 10 students are paired with a volunteer mentor who takes them through the whole term. Here there is more scope for the volunteers and mentees to work together and get to the root of what is problematic. The volunteers enjoy being able to tailor these sessions for the individual needs of their partner.

All this could not be carried out without the invaluable support of the Oxford Hub, which is the powerhouse of all the charitable endeavours for students in the city. Its suave location within the Turl Street Kitchen attracts huge numbers, but very few know about the hard-working team that sit in the offices above the cups of steaming coffee and plates of locally sourced cuisine.

**With the help of the Hub and the coordinators of the other Schools Plus branches, English Plus and its siblings are hoping to go nationwide, spreading an enthusiasm for education across the UK.**

**IT IS TREMENDOUSLY  
REWARDING FOR ALL INVOLVED**





# Sports teams

## WOMEN'S REAL TENNIS

### Maggie Henderson-Tew: Finalist English

The headline news is that Oxford Men and Women's real tennis teams won both their respective Blues and Seconds Varsity Matches. The Double-Double Varsity win is a feat never before achieved by Oxford. To put this in historical context, the Real Tennis Varsity started in 1859 (The Boat Race began in 1829), albeit in a very different format to now. In that year, F Ponsonby of Oxford beat G Barclay of Cambridge by three sets to love. There has only been a Women's Varsity match since 1992 and the Second Team Varsity was instituted in 2006. So, a little bit of history has been made this year.

The Women's Blues Varsity teams, captained by Maggie Henderson-Tew from Regent's, play their four singles on the first day and doubles on the second, and thus either team could take an unassailable lead in the match, if all are won. With the score 3–1 after the first day of this year's match, the first doubles on Saturday could, and did, determine the Oxford win. The next doubles was neither as exciting, nor, happily for Oxford supporters, as nerve-wracking, as Oxford ran out winners in two sets: 6–5, 6–2. Oxford won 5-1 overall, repeating their winning margin in the 2011 Varsity Match, also under Maggie's captaincy.

**The photo below shows the team** (L to R: Sophie Dannreuther, New, Cameron Ormsby, LMH, Maggie Henderson-Tew, Regent's, and Vicki Ormerod, Merton) with their prizes and trophy, at the post-match dinner (the Varsity Match, dinner and prizes being most generously sponsored by Pol Roger) in The Long Room at Lord's. The match takes place on the MCC's court at the Lord's Cricket Ground.



## REGENT'S LADIES FC

### Bethany McCrave: 2nd year Philosophy and Theology

Regent's Ladies FC has just completed its third joint year with Balliol College Ladies FC continuing this brilliant partnership! Playing with Balliol is a great opportunity for us to meet and have fun with new people outside of Regent's, and our 'anyone can play' policy has given lots of ladies the chance to try their hand (or feet!) at the beautiful game. This year the team saw a massive influx of fresh talent including the best that Regent's female finalists had to offer. We were also delighted to bag the tallest first year (clocking in at six foot plus) to take care of things in goal. Numbers from Balliol also grew stronger and by the end of the season the word 'squad' was even bandied about! This year we have enjoyed every single game and, although some have been more successful than others, after starting the year newly promoted to Division 3 in the 11-a-side league we have retained this position and finished with a strong mid-table result after two terms. As always, we look to start next season with a view to being promoted! Friendships with Balliol continue to grow, and the team continues to welcome the outstanding skill of the American visiting students, whilst weekly training sessions provide much laughter and fun and the occasional stunning goal. Everyone who has played has given their all for the team and it has been a joy to lead the girls this year – I now bow out and look to the incoming first years to keep up the good work!



## TENNIS

### Ashley Cooke: 2nd Year History

Football and rowing are sports long established at Regent's, and each year we try our luck at rugby 7s and coppers croquet. However this year, for, as we understand it, the second time, Regent's fielded a tennis team in both the inter-collegiate knockout coppers tournament and the tennis league. Last year, myself and a few others bought membership to the grass courts in Parks, starting a regular four and deciding the time was right to order tennis stash. A trip to Elmer Cotton yielded some brilliant tennis whites proudly displaying the Regent's logo and then, building on last year's triumph, I stepped up as tennis captain this term to lead a talented and determined Regent's Park College Lawn Tennis Club (RPC LTC) through a very successful season.

First up was a coppers match against St. John's. As a college with more than three times the number of undergraduates as Regent's, we were not feeling particularly confident as we trudged along Woodstock Road toward their courts. Nonetheless, after several hours of tennis, we had secured a comprehensive seven sets to five victory, and left with a euphoria far greater than that experienced after finishing Prelims. Spirits were high as we went into Round 2 but sadly we were beaten by a very strong St. Catz team, who went on to reach the semi-finals.

RPC LTC fared rather more successfully in the tennis league. As this was our first year we were placed quite low down, in division 5 of 8, but we soon discovered that our capabilities lay higher. An 8–4 defeat of Mansfield and a 12–0 defeat of Lincoln, both college first teams, were great victories for Regent's. Unfortunately, most other colleges fielded second teams in the division, apparently over-stretching themselves and rendering them unable to muster enough players, giving Regent's three 12–0 walkovers. This ensured we came top of the division and have been promoted for next season, but it sadly reduced the number of matches our tennis-hungry team played.

The 2012 season has been a great re-start for inter-collegiate tennis at Regent's. Next year I hand the captaincy over to the mighty Harrison Denner, a soon-to-be second year and our strongest player. Sadly leaving us this year, however, are three devoted RPC LTC members. Oli Watson's passion on court has been contagious; his fiery presence and loud exclamations motivate the rest of the team, and his volleying is just something else. Fran Girling is our most consistent player with solid groundstrokes and a good eye for an angle; her contributions have been vital. Last, but by no means least, Ollie Sheerin has had a brilliant season; his height facilitates a powerful serve and his endurance was proven in a long and arduous singles match (think Isner vs. Mahut at Wimbledon 2010) against Mansfield, leaving with a very respectable draw – and a back injury. All three will be greatly missed, and RPC LTC would like to take this opportunity to wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours, tennis-based or otherwise.

**Here's to another successful Trinity of tennis next year.**

## NETBALL

### Katie Allen: 2nd year English

Regent's Women's Netball had a rather mixed year in the 2011–12 season. A serious shortage of players saw a rather unsuccessful Michaelmas, with several instances of teaching baffled first-time players the rules of the game as we played! Fortunately, the team stabilised in Hilary, and our newer players vastly improved. As a result, we had a few truly excellent games (and some hilarious ones), and really enjoyed ourselves. Hopefully the incoming Freshers will be keen, and able to replace Abbie Cavanagh, Fran Beaton, and Rachel Third who graduate this year. Three of the most consistent and reliable members of this year's team, they will be greatly missed!



## CHRISTIAN UNION

### Timothy Bateman: 2nd Year Theology

Regent's Park Christian Union (CU) is a loving community that welcomes all people to investigate faith in Jesus Christ. The CU is part of a wider network of 31 undergraduate colleges in the Oxford Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (OICCU). OICCU is the third-largest society in the university, made up of approximately 400 members who are committed to living the Christian lifestyle and sharing how God has changed their lives. Furthermore, OICCU is a society that is a great testimony to the wider Church, uniting Christians from multi-denominational backgrounds that share the same truths and convictions. I currently serve as the President of OICCU, which is a massive privilege, but also seems to take up the time equivalent to doing another Oxford degree!



# JCR Charities

## CHARITIES

### Trisha Soneji: 2nd year Philosophy and Theology

It can safely be said that charity events and fundraising form a big part of life at Regent's. Students are always coming up with new and creative ways to support both the JCR's elected charities and causes of their own. Last Trinity alone saw a plethora of activities, which were successful and fun despite the less-than-reliable weather!

The annual summer fete and barbeque attracted many a hungry fresher, and drew the finalists away from the library momentarily for a much-needed break. The water guns and frisbees were put to great use, even if they did mean Emmanuelle making a speedy retreat back to her tortoise house!

In Trinity Term, two first-year students, Johanna Harrison (English) and Harrison Denner (Law), put their talents to good use putting on the "Harrison and Harrison" concert hosted in the chapel, in aid of the JCR charities. Johanna's breath-taking singing was accompanied by an equally brilliant piano accompaniment by Harrison. Their combined effort certainly sent shivers down my spine, and was greatly enjoyed by all who came to watch. It was a privilege to see such talent engaged for a good cause.

On Friday of 6th week, Regent's JCR played host to a charity Casino Night co-ordinated by Oxford RAG. After formal hall, students and guests alike put their skill to the test at poker and blackjack, only to be interrupted briefly by the men's rowing team proudly mounting their newly purchased blade on the wall! It soon became apparent that beginners luck seemed to triumph, with a self-confessed novice walking away with the first prize of a £40 cosmetics hamper kindly donated by Lush.

In addition to this, the termly Charity Lunch put on by the kitchen staff, as well as the generous regular chapel collections, helped to boost Regent's fundraising totals. This year, the JCR chose to support three charities, which are doing tremendous work in Oxford and beyond. The first of these was Jacari, a student-run charity providing home tutoring in Oxford for children aged 4–16 who don't speak English as their first language. As well as donating money to Jacari from events such as this, many Regent's students have been involved in tutoring the children. Secondly, students chose to support the Global Chalkboard Project, an educational charity that enables children to help children by creating sister-school connections between schools in the USA and UK and schools in crisis-hit areas. The organisation's current project is working towards aiding the Mixte Victor Hugo School in Haiti, close to the



LAST TRINITY ALONE  
SAW A PLETHORA  
OF ACTIVITIES...

site to which most refugees were evacuated following the recent earthquake. Finally, JCR members voted to raise funds for The Gatehouse, an Oxford-based drop-in centre for the homeless and poorly housed that provides hot food, shelter and access to the internet and newspapers.

Perhaps the biggest event of the year was the university-wide, 5-a-side football tournament Regent's hosted alongside Oxford RAG. The annual tournament is a special and poignant event for those at college as it is held to commemorate the tragic and sudden death from Meningitis of first-year student Antonia Bruch, who would have taken Finals this year.

We hosted 35 teams as well as an enthusiastic gaggle of spectators, on pitches rented from the University Club. The barbeque and raffle held throughout the day were also a great success, and the sun even managed a brief appearance! The enthusiasm and hard work of all those involved certainly paid off, with a great sum being raised for the Meningitis Trust again this year.



# Regent's Telethon

## TELETHON

### Rachel Third: Finalist Philosophy and Theology

Our first calls to alumni as part of the telethon this January were characterised by nerves. There was much rustling of paper and last-minute desk organisation as we plucked up the courage to dial the first number. Everyone was secretly hoping to be put straight through to answerphone on their first call! But soon conversations filled the room and we quickly settled into them. The voices on the other end of the phone were warm and friendly, delighted to be able to grill a current student about the well-being of Emmanuelle, the rowing team,

the state of the JCR and, of course, the memorable habits of favourite tutors.

It quickly became clear to me that the telethon is all about storytelling. Alumni have a platform to share their stories and current students get a sense of what Regent's was like before they arrived. Those who have left get the chance to see how the Regent's story continues in those who have taken up the baton, and every alum is given the opportunity to contribute and help Regent's move on to the next chapter of its life, just as they have moved on to the next chapter of theirs.

The people I spoke to hailed from all over the globe. I called alumni in Canada, the US, China and Japan.

One of my colleagues even struck up a conversation in Spanish at one point. Some were recent leavers who I remember from my time at Regent's, others remembered Regent's when there were just five students in each year group. I felt like I'd learnt more about Regent's during the telethon than during my entire three years at Oxford. I learnt that brew in the JCR, for which the undergraduates now congregate religiously at 11am and 4pm each weekday, used to be conducted in a more ad hoc fashion, with whoever fancied a cup of tea at whatever time of day simply ringing the bell and loudly yelling "Brew!", causing everyone to drop what they were doing and flock to the JCR. I learnt that the name 'Emmanuelle' actually has some rather raunchy connotations for anyone paying attention to French film in the 1970s. I learnt that the flat I lived in in Wheeler Robinson House at the far end of the quad was where one alum's baby was born, and that my room overlooking the quad was actually the nursery.

Fiona Floate (the Principal's PA) remembers everyone, and sat with us in the evenings looking along the list of names that I would soon be calling, singing the praises of past students. Rob Ellis and Tim Pottle were also often at our side encouraging us, and the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford even came to look in on us, get to know us and support us. The whole experience influenced me even more

than I realised at the time. As a result of working on the Regent's telethon, I now have a place on the CASE Europe Graduate Scheme where I will be trained to support various universities' alumni relations and fundraising. In short, I've become totally sold out to the cause!

Now I'm a leaver myself, and have driven away from Oxford with the boot piled high with suitcases and books for the last time. Regent's has waved off my year group into the big wide world, to begin the next chapter of our lives. But at Regent's the story continues. And one day soon, I hope that a current student will get in touch with me, to give me the opportunity to play my part in that story again. I don't know whether it will be in two years or ten, but I'm really looking forward to that call.





# ALUMNI NEWS

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### Ian Kemp (1947–1949)

Ian Kemp completed a five-week mission visit to India and Malaysia in early 2012. He went at the invitation of the Bishop of East Kerala to preach at the annual Spiritual Life Convention in the East Kerala diocese. He also spent time in Bengaluru, Mumbai, Pune, and Kuala Lumpur.



### Rev Dr Edward Williams (1953-1955)

My memoirs have just been published: *Building Bridges, Crossing Cultures: A Life Shaped by India and by Inner City Birmingham - Memoirs of a Physicist, Missionary and Minister*.

### Mr James Bradnock (1959-1962)

Now ten years retired from Wellington School, I continue to coach hockey and sing with the Chapel choir. In 2011, on behalf of Churches Together Wellington, I organised a 400th anniversary reading in public of the complete King James Bible.

### Prof Adrian Thatcher (1962-1966)

I am now Editor of *Modern Believing* - the Journal of Theological Liberalism. My most recent book is *God, Sex and Gender* (Wiley Blackwell, 2011). SPCK publishes *Making Sense of Sex in the Summer of 2012*.

### Robin Attfield (1964–1966)

Robin recently (March 2012) published with Continuum of London and New York a textbook for students, *'Ethics: An Overview'*, together with a companion website. A preview is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/7eauglx>

In May 2012 he gave a lecture at Salamanca University, Spain on 'The Ethics of Climate Change' and a presentation at the 17th Business Ethics Symposium, University of Navarre, held at Barcelona, on 'Meaningful Work and Business Ethics'. Robin is a semi-retired Professor of Philosophy at Cardiff University.

### Caroline Harrison (1981–1984)

Caroline has been elected to the Bench of Lincoln's Inn. The Benchers form the governing body of the Inn, and they select their own members. She was 'Benched' on Monday 18 June, which involved being dragged, protesting, from the body of the Hall by two Benchers, who

then took her up to the Bench table as a successful 'capture' from the members of Hall.

### Dr Philip Ryken (1992-1995)

In 2010 I was named the 8th President of Wheaton College, a leading evangelical liberal arts school. This is after preaching for 15 years (1995-2010) at Philadelphia's Tenth Presbyterian Church.



### Steven Porter (1993-1994)

### & Jodi Porter (2002-2003)

Our daughter Ruth Lilian Porter was born May 1, 2011. Presently we reside in Waco, TX, where Steven is serving at George W. Truett Theological Seminary (Baylor University) as Assistant Professor of Missions and Global Christianity.

### Ian Tomlinson (1997)

Ian has recently completed his DThMin at King's College London. His thesis was entitled 'What's happening to me and why?', a question asked of those in ministry, by Dr Wesley Carr, Pastoral Theologian. Dr Wesley Carr supervised Ian's

MTh whilst he was at Regent's and he used Carr's writings to consider his approach to Applied Theology in ministry, in relation to society, by the use of critical incidents in his work.

Ian has been Rector of a group of rural parishes in northwest Hampshire for 33 years, Diocesan Adviser in Pastoral Care and Counselling, and Diocesan Chair of the House of Clergy.

### Dr Anna Campbell (1997-2001)

I obtained my Ph.D. in Medieval Church History in 2011: 'The Career, Cult and Canonization of St Colette of Corbie'

### Mr David Castles (1998-2001)

Is living just outside Oxford and working at Aylesbury Grammar School as Assistant Headteacher.

### Sarah Sellars (McMillan, 1999-2002)

Is living in Oxford. After graduating, Sarah worked in the charity sector for several years before returning to university to study law, subsequently qualifying as a medical negligence solicitor in 2009. She is married to Simon Sellars and is mother to Joel (and expecting the newest addition to the family in February 2013). Sarah recently started her own business hand-making greeting cards which can be ordered online: [www.nannycards.co.uk](http://www.nannycards.co.uk)



## THE Angus Library and Archive

## BAPTIST HISTORY: THE HIDDEN TREASURE OF A NATION AND BEYOND

### Emma Walsh (College Librarian)

The Angus Library and Archive, housed at Regent's, has over 70,000 printed books, pamphlets, church histories, manuscript letters and other items from the late fifteenth century to the present day. The collection relates to the life and history of Baptists in Britain and the wider world. Alongside this unique insight into Baptist and non-conformist history there is also a considerable amount of material from non-Baptist sources relating to issues and controversies in which Baptists were involved. Funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and The Pilgrim Trust, The Angus Library Team has undertaken a full review of the condition of the collection and has done some important preservation and cleaning work. We have also been looking at how to make the treasures contained in The Angus available to more people.

If you have a look at the back of a five pound note, you'll find a picture of Elizabeth Fry (1780–1845), who was an English prison reformer, social campaigner and Christian philanthropist. During the work we found a number of previously unknown items (take a look at <http://anguslibraryandarchive.blogspot.co.uk/>), which included an undiscovered collection of tracts about slavery belonging to Fry. The items have Fry's personal annotations in the margins, giving a unique insight into her thoughts on a number of subjects.

The research we conducted as part of the HLF grant identified a number of areas where we can help people to learn from and participate in the heritage contained in The Angus. If we are successful in securing second-round funding, we will create image-rich lesson starters and in-depth teaching resources for History students at key stages 3 and 4. We will also develop year 10 and year 11 archive taster sessions with IntoUniversity, which will enable students aspiring to go to university to learn how to use a range of original material in an academic setting.

Alongside the work with secondary-school historians we will hold biennial lectures and exhibitions linked to national events like Fair Trade Fortnight, Black History Month and International Women's Day. We will digitise all the BMS World Mission missionary paper archives and make them available to the public online. We will work with churches to run a programme of training courses highlighting the need for simple best-practice archiving of church records and artefacts so that these important documents are preserved for future generations. We will also run courses on writing church histories so that congregations can record their histories and tell the story of their church. In order to deliver all these exciting activities we will recruit and train volunteers from amongst Regent's current students and alumni and from the local (and not-so-local) area.

If you would like to know more about volunteering or want to hear more about the school history resources please contact [angus@regents.ox.ac.uk](mailto:angus@regents.ox.ac.uk) or send a letter to Emma Walsh, College Librarian at the address on the back of Regent's Now. Oh, and before you put the fiver you looked at back in your pocket – why not consider sending it to Regent's to support the library? With gift aid that fiver is worth £6.25!



THE COLLECTION RELATES TO THE LIFE AND HISTORY OF BAPTISTS IN BRITAIN AND THE WIDER WORLD.



## RPC CHAPLAINCY TEAM 2011-2012

### Myra Blyth, Chaplain

College chapel reviews are normally filled with a wide-ranging catalogue of events that represent the interests and enthusiasms of student life and this year is no exception.

The choir that forms each year in Michaelmas Term to prepare for the Advent service was larger than ever and the recital in Trinity Term by Harrison and Harrison saw the launch of a new tradition of charity concerts by talented and gifted RPC musicians in support of the JCR charities. Chaplaincy dinners, which took a break this year, will return again in 2012–13, seeing top academics welcomed to an intimate candlelit dinner in the chapel to speak passionately about their subject and its relation to religion and moral life. Hilary Term saw another first with the introduction of a Lent pilgrimage to nearby Dorchester Abbey. Christian Together events and Taize prayer occasions provided further opportunities to widen the circle of those able to enjoy chapel hospitality.

This year was different in one particular respect and that was that the chaplaincy team at the outset of the year decided they wanted to make Friday evening chapel the particular focus of their energy. To this end, a group of JCR and MCR chapel regulars met for lunch

every Monday and attempted amidst soup and sandwiches to imagine and plan together worship services which they hoped would make for an unconditional welcome to students and staff. Hospitality was the guiding idea and this translated into creating

a space where friendships and relationships might be nurtured week by week based on a regular and simple pattern and rhythm of prayer. The desire was not to be High Church or Low Church, nor to be precious about worship styles and genres, but to stay simple and authentic, practicing a life of prayer that is sustaining and renewing.

Oxford College chapels are renowned for always having a choir and occasionally having a congregation. RPC reverses that pattern. This year has seen a core group of 20 regular chapel attenders (i.e. more than 50% of Friday chapel services) and an additional 10–15 occasional attendees (up to 25% chapel services). Add to this guests and visitors and the result is a very

good-sized weekly congregation. Much more important than footfall, however, is that those who want to tap into a rhythm of prayer which is ancient and to enjoy the hospitality and unconditional welcome of a worshipping community will find this at the heart of their college community.



[www.rpc.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rpc.ox.ac.uk)